

## **Instructions for the Preparation of Posters**

### **STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE, CEHS, UNL**

(Adapted from the AERA 2004 Annual Meeting Guidelines)

#### **General Considerations:**

Plan to set up your display at least 15 minutes before the session is to begin. The presenting author should be available throughout the session and be prepared to have his or her display removed no more than 10 minutes after the end of the session.

Your materials should be mounted on thin poster paper or cardboard. If it seems appropriate, it can be helpful to mount conceptually related portions of your display on backgrounds of the same color, as this will help viewers scan the display efficiently. Posters must free stand or attach to a wall without damage or marking.

The poster should be as self-explanatory as possible so that your main job is to supplement the information it contains. The poster format provides a mechanism for in-depth discussions of your research, but this is possible only if the display includes enough information.

Keep in mind that your text and illustrations will be viewed from distances of more than three feet. All lettering should be at least 3/8" high, 1" for more important information, and preferably in a bold font.

Figures and table should be kept as simple as possible, so that the viewer can readily take away the main message. A brief, large type heading of no more than one or two lines should be provided above each illustration, with more detailed information added in smaller type beneath the illustration.

#### **Arrangement of Materials:**

Prepare a sign containing the paper title and authors' names and affiliations. This information should appear at the top of the poster.

A copy of your Abstract of Introduction (250 words or less) should be placed in the upper left portion of the poster, with a Conclusion in the lower right hand corner. Although there is considerable room for flexibility, it is often useful to have panels indicating the Aims of the Research, the Methods and Subjects involved, and the Experimental tasks. Another panel might highlight the important Results, with a few panels being used to present the main points in Tables or Figures.

When working on the arrangement of your display on the poster, be aware that it is preferable to align materials in columns rather than rows. Audience members who are scanning posters have a much easier task if they can proceed from left to right rather than having to skip around in the display.