GUIDELINES for POSTER & ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Poster: All posters must be attached with velcro hooks. **NO PUSH PINS ALLOWED**
Boards are 4’x4’. Ideally posters will be 3’tall x 4’wide for good visual appeal on the boards.

Oral presentations: 15 minutes (10 minute presentation + 5 minute discussion)

GUIDELINES for PREPARATION OF ABSTRACTS


A) Limit your abstract to 250 words or less, not counting title, name (or names if co-authors), and affiliation information.
B) The author/affiliation information should include full name of the author(s) and their affiliations (department, school, city, state).
C) Underline the name of the presenter for both oral and poster presentations. Put an asterisk (*) behind the name of the student presenter to ensure the eligibility for awards.

Traditionally, an abstract includes the following items:
- Introductory statement—introduces the general subject matter of the study.
- Justification—comments on the ultimate importance of looking at the phenomenon in question.
- Objectives—specifies the objectives of the study (1-2 sentences).
- Methods—principal methods employed, no detail; a couple of sentences.
- Results and Discussion—list most important, specific findings and add an interpretive comment to each.
- Summary and significance—in one sentence summarize the major take-home message of the observations and comment on their significance.

SAMPLE ABSTRACT

**Laura Mirch***(Chemistry, Carroll College, Helena, MT), Steven Soper (Chemistry, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA)

Detection of K-ras Point Mutations With High Clinical Value for Colorectal Cancers Using Endonuclease V/AK16D Ligase and Ligase Detection Reaction Assays

Our research investigates the benefits of utilizing PCR/Ligase Detection Reactions (LDR) coupled with endonuclease V/AK16D ligase treatment for the detection of known and unknown point mutations within genomic DNA. The research focused specifically on the K-ras gene, implicated in the tumorogenesis of certain cancers including colorectal cancer. Identification of point mutations within this gene could lead to early detection and optimization of treatment options, as well as identification those with a predisposition to develop colorectal cancer. An LDR technique was utilized to identify specific, known mutations within the gene sequence, while the endonuclease/ligase treatment identified unknown mutations within this gene sequence. Capillary electrophoresis and slab gel electrophoresis were employed to distinguish the products of both EndoV/ligase and LDR based on the fragments’ size differences. These methods have been found to be highly sensitive and conducive to high throughput applications. Further research should explore the potential to transfer the gel electrophoresis separation to a microelectrophoretic device with the potential for clinical applications.