

## **Student Poster Judging Guidelines**

Evaluation of the Student Posters should be based on the criteria outlined in this document.

It is important that judges keep students' educational level in mind; i.e. poster presenters can be undergraduate, graduate, or post graduate students.

Judges should evaluate (i) Impact, (ii) Clarity of Messaging and (iii) Ability to Convey Key Findings. More specifically:

- The student should be comfortable with the content of the poster and be able to talk through the key points in about five minutes.
- Attention should be paid to briefly explaining the motivation for the work, the hypothesis, an example of the key experimental work, and the takeaway conclusion and/or impact.
- The student should refrain from speaking about experimental details unless asked, especially if employing well-understood techniques; e.g. it is not necessary to focus discussion on the type of electrode, the cell configuration, scan rate, experimental temperature, sample prep, etc.
- It is recommended that the student seek to capture the key message in a single bullet or sentence.

The criteria below should be addressed, as appropriate, in the content of the poster.

### **1. Scientific/Engineering/Technology Approach (35 points)**

- The poster should present the work in a logical framework that makes clear the problem or scientific challenge being addressed.
- In some cases, this will best be communicated through the statement of a hypothesis.
- In cases of more applied work, a problem statement that motivated the work is appropriate.
- Application of the scientific method should be reflected in the connection between the problem, hypothesis, the experimental work conducted, and the conclusions reached.
- If the poster is based on ongoing work, the path to conclude the work should be described.
- Potential future work stemming from the work done may be relevant.

### **2. Thoroughness (20 points)**

- The poster should convey an understanding of the research landscape for the work, e.g., reference to prior studies that the work builds upon or statement of the controlling theory.
- Conclusions should be defensible in terms of the experimental work, simulations and/or theories presented, and should not be speculative. In some cases, a refined hypothesis may be more appropriate than a conclusion.

### **3. Novelty of Approach (10 points)**

- The poster should convey the creativity brought to bear on the problem. This could take the form of a new theory, new experimental approach, new computational simulation or novel application of existing techniques.
- Not all projects will require innovation in approach. However, in all cases it is important that the student understand and be able to convey the rationale for the selections of the techniques brought to bear on the problem.

### **4. Potential Impact on the Coatings and Corrosion Community and/or the Public (10 points)**

- The poster should convey the scientific or technological impact of the work.
- As mentioned above, it is useful exercise to summarize this impact into a single statement. This should be the one big take-away from your work.
- If you only have 30 seconds to talk to someone about your poster, this should be the statement you refer to.

### **5. Clarity and Neatness of Poster (15 points)**

- The poster should largely stand on its own if the student is not present to talk to the audience. However, it should not come across as a technical paper cast onto a 4x8 poster board.
- Statements should be thoughtful, and the flow of the information should be intuitive.
- For key statements, figure captions, axis labels and anything else the audience is expected to read, the font size should be notionally 16 pt or larger.
- References and other ancillary information can be smaller in font size, but there should be no expectation that such text will be read or discussed.
- As with any technical communication, efforts should be made to avoid typos, misspellings and poor grammar.
- All acronyms must be defined, and units specified in equations, on plots and in tables.

Monetary prizes will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place recipients in each of the categories.