**Tips for the showcase:**

* Bring a water bottle. You will probably be speaking more than you ever had in one day,
* Bring Listerine strips or mints, because your breath can go sideways quick.
* Judges may approach mid-way through your poster evaluation, pause and take a moment to shake their hand, and let them join the presentation even if you already started (please don't ignore them, make them feel welcome).
* Give everyone your resume. Even if you have a job lined up, these are all great network contacts. Try to connect with them on LinkedIn and stay 'top of mind' with them... you never know how what can come about.
* Take good pauses to breathe (try to not use filler words 'um', 'and', those should be substituted for breaths). The judge/listener is a lot more comfortable when you're breathing and speaking in digestible sentences. Most importantly breath because you need to pace yourself, it's going to be a long day.
* Last piece of advice is try to keep from jumping into the technical weeds at the beginning. Even with most judges being technical, I have been lost many times as a judge, trying to understand what the project is all about... while the student is already explaining the data model. Those **first couple sentences** of the presentation are so important in stating the scope of the project and setting your presentation pace... so try to make sure those first couple sentences can be said in your sleep without thinking.
* Get good rest and be visibly proud of what you have done, as you should be, finishing a huge milestone in your life and career!

**Reminders:**

* Do bring one complete printed copy of your project final documentation (one per project is sufficient) and make it available to review by your judges while you show a demo of your work to them.
  + When I assign you guys to your stations, I will make sure that those in the same group will be close to each other at the showcase to be able to share the one copy of your project documentation.



