

Guidelines for Poster Presentations at the Graduate Research Conference

Posters will be displayed on free standing boards, numbered and listed in the Program. Posters will not be grouped by topic, School or Faculty but be placed to give a random juxtaposition of subject matter. **Posters that do not adhere to the size and orientation requirements will not be displayed.**

Effective Poster Presentations

Posters should be readable by viewers 1.5m away. The message should be clear and understandable without oral explanation. The following guidelines have been prepared to help improve the effectiveness of poster communication.

1. **Size and orientation** – Posters should be A0 in size (1189 mm high × 841 mm wide) and of a portrait orientation. The posters will be attached to the poster boards by Velcro adhesive dots.
2. **University of Tasmania visual standards** – when using the University logo (the lion), you must follow the visual standards set out by the University of Tasmania brand guidelines.
3. **Your identity – ORCID via a QR code**– All HDR candidates are expected to setup an Open Researcher and Contributor ID ([ORCID](https://orcid.org/)) and the poster is a perfect time to start using yours. We encourage you to create a QR Code* from your ORCID and place it on the lower left corner of your poster. The advisable size for a QR code for your poster is 25mm². *A “QR Code” is a smart-phone-readable barcode that can store pretty much any alphanumeric information, so viewers of your poster with a smart phone and QR Code reader App can scan the code retrieving information about you and your research such as Keywords, Education, Publications, website URLs and your email address.



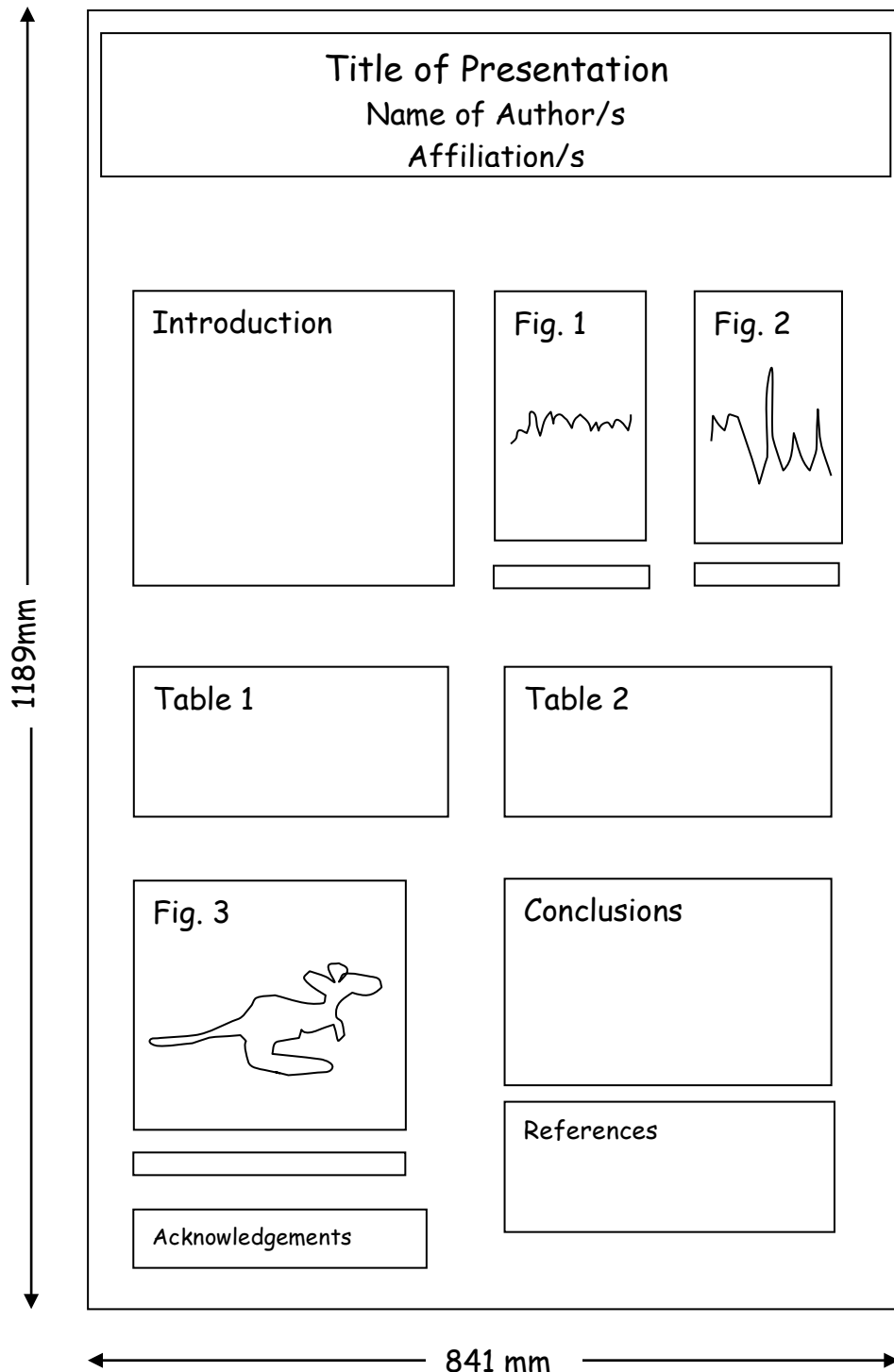
Contact [Research Librarians](#) for guidance in the process of creating and using ORCID or the ORCID QR code.

4. **Initial Sketch** – Plan your poster early. Focus your attention on a few key points. Try various styles of data presentation to achieve clarity and simplicity. Does the use of colour help? What needs to be expressed in words? Suggest headlines and text topics.
5. **Rough Layout** – Enlarge your best initial sketch, keeping the dimensions in proportion to the final poster (see diagram below). Ideally, the rough layout should be full size. A blackboard is a convenient place to work. Print the title and headlines. Indicate text by horizontal lines. Draw rough graphs and tables. This will give you a good idea of proportions and balance.
6. **Final layout** – The artwork is complete. The text and tables are typed, but not necessarily enlarged to full size. Now ask yourself, is the message clear? Do the important points stand out? Is there a balance between words and illustrations? Is there spatial balance? Is the pathway through the poster clear?
7. **Balance** – The figures and tables should cover slightly more than 50% of the poster area. If you have only a few illustrations, make them large. Do not omit the text, but keep it brief. The poster should be understandable without oral explanation.
8. **Typography** – Avoid abbreviations, acronyms and jargon. Use a consistent font throughout.
9. **Eye Movement** – The movement (pathway) of the eye over the poster should be natural, down the columns or along the rows. Remember that people read from left to right, so the

starting point of a poster is on the left edge. Size attracts attention. Arrows, pointing hands, numbers and letters can help clarify the sequence.

10. **Simplicity** – Resist the temptation to overload the poster. More material may mean less effective communication.

11. Schematic example of an **A0 Portrait poster** layout:



Poster Check List

- ✓ The size of the poster is correct (A0), per the above specifications.
- ✓ The orientation of the poster is vertical or portrait, per the above specifications.
- ✓ You have obtained and included your Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID).
- ✓ Your name is on your poster.

- ✓ You have correctly used the University of Tasmania Logo, per the current visual standards policy.

Please note that failure to adhere to the above points may lead to your poster not being included for display.

For more help on poster presentations:

- <http://www.swarthmore.edu/NatSci/cpurrin1/posteradvice.htm> (detailed advice on posters, though please note at the Graduate Research Conference your poster size and orientation should be in line with point 1 above!)
- <http://www.personal.psu.edu/drs18/postershow/postershow.pdf> (step by step to make a poster)

Poster defence:

All posters will be on display over the two days of the conference, with defence sessions scheduled. You will be notified which session you must attend to defend your poster. The defence allows you to share research results with interested students, faculty, or the judging panel who attend your poster.

The objective of the defence presentation and poster session is to share your research findings or planned experiments. You should carefully design your presentation to be concise and practice its delivery to adhere to a short time limit (3 min). Questions asked of you may cover how experiments were done, interpretation of the data, why you chose your topic, what next, etc. You may even be asked about fundamental research knowledge relating to your topic.

What do you do at The Poster Presentation?

A candidate stands beside his/her poster prepared to discuss the topic and content of the poster with anyone who passes and expresses interest in the topic.

Your poster will also be evaluated by assessors (judging panel) so you should be prepared to describe your poster and present your work concisely, then field a question and answer session where you answer or clarify any research-based questions.

Posters will be graded on the following criteria:

- **CONTENT:** Is the content accessible to intelligent non-specialist audience i.e. not too much jargon, technical language? Is the purpose and contribution clearly defined?
- **ORGANISATION:** Does the information have a logical flow/structure; is there integration between text and images; appropriate font size, clear labelling of graphs/figures?
- **PRESENTATION:** Did the poster defence and responses to questions suggest appropriate preparation, presentation style and understanding of the subject/s?

The judging panel will assess both your poster and your oral defence. In appreciation and recognition of the efforts of those who participate and defend their research poster in this year's conference, generous prizes will be awarded.