Assignment 8: Technical Poster

Overview

Your team will create a Technical Poster describing an ECE faculty member's research project. The faculty member your team will work with to create this poster will be assigned in class. The faculty member will meet with you and give you information about their research project. This information may consist of an informal lecture or a list of papers to read. Your team's task will then be to distill that information into a poster approximately 24 inches high by 36 inches wide. The target audience will be people with an interest in technical issues and a college education, including an understanding of calculus and linear algebra. Since these posters will eventually be placed on display to a public audience and on each student's website, however, make sure the poster is accessible to a non-specialist and focuses on only essential concepts.

Content

The poster must contain the following titled sections, (although the exact titles of the sections may be a bit more specific than those listed below):

1) Abstract: This is a succinct statement of the entire project—the "punch line." It should be no more than a few sentences. The purpose of an abstract is to tell the reader what the poster is about so he or she can decide whether to read the entire poster.

2) Background: This section gives motivation for the project and describes what historical work lead up to it. It must include appropriate references to citations. This section also sets the stage for the solution that follows.

3) Solution or Methods or Approach: This section describes how the actual research project solves the problem described in the background section. It is essential that this section focus on the key technical advance made by the research project and describe that advance in the clearest possible way.

4) Results: This section describes how well the project solution works. For some projects, this section may be entitled "Preliminary Results" or "Anticipated Results." For purely theoretical projects, this section might be entitled "Verification" or "Simulation Results". If a project is in its early stages, it is possible that this section may be eliminated.

5) Conclusion: Review the key findings of the research project, and give numerical results as appropriate. This section should be brief but specific. It should also be relatively self-contained. That is, it should not refer to information the reader would have to search for in other sections of the poster.

6) References: List citations referenced in poster.

Format

The poster should be in three or four column format, fit into an area of approximately 24 inches by 36 inches, and use a font large enough to be read from at least three feet away. Fonts and color choices must be pleasing to the eye and make the poster easy to read. All figures, tables, or graphs must have captions that are self-explanatory.

Grading Criteria

- Content: all required sections are present and adequate
- Clarity: key technical advance of project is made clear
- Readability: fonts, colors, and layout enhance readability