Assignment: Clinic Poster

Overview

Your team will create a Technical Poster describing one of last year's industry-sponsored senior project clinics. The final report from one of last year's clinics will be the source of information for your team's poster. Your team's task is to distill this information into a poster 20 inches high by 30 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 public audiences, however, make sure the poster is accessible to a non-specialist and focuses on only essential concepts.

Content

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

1) Title: The title describes the project in the way a newspaper headline describes an article. Directly under the title, identify the clinic team: "Clinic Team: [put names of clinic team members here]". Directly under the team member's names, identify the sponsor: "Project Sponsor: [put sponsor's name here]".

2) 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.

3) 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.

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

5) Results: This section describes how well the project solution worked. 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".

6) 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 exclude references to information the reader would have to search for in other sections of the poster.

7) References: List citations referenced in poster.

8) Poster Authors: List the members of your team.

9) Acknowledgements: If the clinic was supported by a funding agency such as NSF, identify the agency and list grant numbers.

Format

The poster should be in three or four column format, fit into an area of 20 inches by 30 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 be highly legible and 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 enable and enhance readability