University at Buffalo
College of Arts and Sciences

Undergraduate Research Showcase
Short Presentation Judging Rubric

Lightning Talks and Posters

Lightning talk duration: 2 minutes + 1 min Q&A
Poster presentation: 3 minutes + 2 min Q&A

Criterion	2	1	0	Score
Research Purpose	Research idea clearly explained to broad audience	Mostly understandable, some more context needed	Purpose unclear, too technical, context missing	
Key result or idea	Methods/results summarized effectively	Some explanation but incomplete	Not clear, hard to follow	
Significance	Importance of work clearly stated	Some relevance mentioned	Significance unclear	
Organization	Logical and focused, proper flow of information	Some structure; overall flow could be better	Disorganized, jumping around topics, difficult to follow	
Delivery	Clear and confident explanation of the work; engages audience and answers questions clearly within time.	Understandable, slightly rushed, could be more engaging, not very confident in answering questions	Monotone or unclear, went over time, unable to answer or engage with audience	

Total points _____/10

If a presentation falls between two levels, judges are encouraged to assign half-point scores (e.g.,1.5 or 0.5) to more accurately reflect the quality of the presentation.