**HELPFUL GUIDELINES**

Student: 1. Dress in a professional manner; 2. Greet each judge by shaking their hand; 3. Introduce yourself; and 4. Look into the judges’ eyes when speaking. While these will not be scored, they are important aspects of a presentation and should be used in judging the overall presentation.

Students should be able to present clearly the hypothesis or problem under investigation, experimental methods used, results, and conclusions.

There are 4 areas that can be evaluated: presentation, content, visual material and ability to handle questions. Below are some points to consider for each of these areas. Please remember that not all of the questions below should be asked for every project. You certainly are not expected to evaluate each student in each of these possible ways. These are questions to keep in mind while listening to the student’s presentation.

**PRESENTATION**

* Are materials presented imaginatively?
* Is the research presented in a smooth, well-planned, well-articulated manner?
* Is the student confident about his/her research?
* Does the student take adequate time for the presentation or rush through it?
* Was the student present at his/her poster when you approached?
* Is the material presented understandable to those outside the poster topic area?

**CONTENT**

* Is the material presented in a logical manner that highlights the important aspects of the study?
* Are important points well supported with research information?
* Is the experiment designed to answer the question, or does the research discussed respond to the statement of purpose?
* Is the procedure appropriate and logical?
* Is the amount of research done acceptable?
* Are the key components present (hypothesis, methods, results, conclusion)?
* Do the results or research support the conclusions?
* Is the project self-explanatory?
* Is the end, do you thoroughly understand the presentation?

**VISUAL MATERIAL**

* Does the project consist of a display, display materials, and a written report?
* Are there a sufficient number of items on display?
* Are the display items neat and legible?
* Is the data or information clearly presented?
* Is the written material well prepared?
* Are the diagrams, drawings, tables and graphs neat and labeled?
* Is the display colorful and attractive?
* Is interesting and pertinent information included on display?
* Do the aids present information in such a way that is readily grasped?
* Does the speaker integrate the visual material into the context of his/her presentation or is the material used merely for “show” purposes?

**ABILITY TO HANDLE QUESTIONS**

* Does the student understand the concepts that he or she has been investigating?
* How well does the student understand the science behind his/her project?
* Is the speaker able to answer questions concerning his/her research in a direct, concise fashion?
* Can he/she answer questions pertaining to his/her general subject field?
* How well does the presenter handle questions to which he/she has no answer?
* Is the speaker able to explain his/her project to individuals outside the project topic area?