

Recommended Format for Rotation Mini-symposia Presentations

The following are suggested guidelines for preparing presentations for the CMB Rotation Mini-symposia. The audience will consist of your CMB first-year advisor, one other first-year advisor, and the advisees of the CMB first-year advisors in your session.

Consider the following points carefully:

1. Focus on developing and expressing the hypothesis that your rotation was designed to test.
2. Show how your data relate to that hypothesis.
3. Remember: The audience will not be familiar with the details of your studies.
4. Communicate clearly and avoid lab jargon.
5. It is unusual to complete a study during a 10 week rotation, so be sure to comment on your future directions.

The format is for a 20 minute presentation plus 10 minutes for questions and critique. Students should not prepare more than 10 data/text slides. Recognize that you are likely to be interrupted with questions during the talk, so prepare accordingly. Mini-symposia are not graded, but all advisors will critique every presentation, and your CMB advisor will discuss the presentation with you prior to the beginning of the next quarter.

Suggested slide format:

1. Title slide
2. Background bullets that lead to a rationale for the work (1 or 2 slides)
3. Rationale statement
4. Hypothesis and Specific Aim of the rotation research
5. Data slides and Results (3 to 5 slides, maximum)
6. Conclusions or Summary of Progress and Future Directions