

Pointers for RIKEN Summer School Presenters

To help you prepare for your on-site presentation, here are some pointers for you to keep in mind.

Your audience:

You will be addressing a very mixed audience – consisting mainly of PhD students but also Poster Prize Screeners (i.e. post-doctoral researchers and senior scientists) – that come from all fields of the natural sciences. Please take this opportunity to practice explaining your research to a mixed crowd. Don't assume that the audience knows field specific concepts; if they don't know the concept, try to find alternative ways to explain. Find a good balance in being understandable and being correct.

Keep it brief:

There are A LOT of posters to see during the event, especially for the Screeners. Please try to keep your presentation brief and to the point. For example, keep the presentation within Five (5) minutes, then follow with a Q&A session or detailed information for audiences who want to know more. Being able to explain your research briefly will be useful not only in presentations for a mixed crowd but also for audiences from the same research fields.

The basics:

When showing graphs, explain what the axis represents as well as what the graph means. Likewise, when showing equations, chemical formulas or DNA/protein sequences, give a brief explanation of what they mean. This is a very basic point but quite important.

Remember, practice makes perfect. Use this opportunity to brush up on your presentations skills, and have fun!!