SIGCSE NSF Project Showcase

Presenter Information

Thanks for participating in the SIGCSE NSF Project Showcase!

Every year, twenty projects that are currently being sponsored by NSF are asked to present their work in an interactive, personal format during the break sessions and open slots at SIGCSE. The SIGCSE Symposium provides a forum for educators from K-12 through college to discuss issues and new ideas related to the development and implementation of computing curricula, along with other elements of teaching and pedagogy. The goal of the showcase is to share information about programs and research opportunities that attendees might not otherwise hear about. Presenters in the showcase report that they enjoy presenting their work in this format and that the attendees that come through the showcase are interested in learning and interacting with the presenters. We want to ensure that your experience with the showcase is a positive one as well, so we have prepared some pointers for you before, during, and after your presentation.

The Showcase Space

The NSF Project Showcase is in one of the large booths in the exhibitor area at SIGCSE each year. Four presenters will be presenting simultaneously at different corners of the booth. SIGCSE attendees will come and go amongst the hour-and-a-half presentations during the break sessions and during some of the off times. There will be five sets of four presentations during the conference.

We will provide you with a roughly 4'x4' projection area, a projector, power, and an easel and backing for a poster. We will help you print handouts or posters if you send them to us ahead of time. You should plan to bring any material you need for presenting: a laptop, appropriate VGA dongle connector, preprinted fliers or brochures, or other materials.

Before coming to SIGCSE

1. Send in your abstract as soon as possible. Every year, we print a supplementary program that goes in all the conference bags. We need your title, list of authors, and a one to two paragraph abstract to include in the program. It would also be helpful if you could potentially indicate who will be presenting. If you have pictures that illustrate your work, send those on too! We often use those for the cover and in-line images in the program.

2. Prepare a demo (if possible) and handouts. Surveys of showcase attendees have shown that the things people most want to see in a presentation is specifically how they can apply what you are doing in their classes. Having a hands-on demo for attendees is an excellent way to draw people in and show them exactly what you've been doing. If a demo is not applicable, have a handout ready with your contact information and website of your research that they can take with them. If you would like for us to print the handout for you and have it ready when you get there, email it to us.

3. Prepare a poster if you want. While posters are not required, some presenters like to have a poster up either in their presentation space or off to the side on an easel. If you would like for us to print the poster and have it ready for you when you get there, email it to us in camera-ready PPT or PDF format.

4. Prepare slides. We will have a projector ready for you when you get there if you want to do your presentation with slides. Slides are an easy way to have a lot of information ready to show

attendees when they ask specific questions. However, slides are not required; some presenters bring slides already printed out and post them in their presentation area, while some use a poster and a hands-on demo. It is important to remember that the NSF Project Showcase works more like an advanced poster session than it does a normal paper presentation. More interactivity is better!

At SIGCSE

1. Stop by anytime before your presentation to introduce yourself and see the space you'll be presenting in. We can answer a lot of your questions before you even show up to present!

2. Please show up to your presentation time about 10-15 minutes before it begins. If your presentation is one of the 10:00 AM sessions, we can escort you in a little beforehand if needed. One of the booth staff will be there to help you with any setup you might need (wireless, projector, etc). We will already have your poster and handouts out if you sent them in ahead of time.

3. There will be four people presenting during each session.

4. You can expect approximately 10 to 25 visitors to come by your presentation, so prepare accordingly.

5. Right after your presentation, we will have a survey for you to complete on your experience. Please don't leave without filling this out.

Tips and Advice

1. If at all possible, having a hands-on demo is the best way to draw people in to your presentation. If you don't have something specific to demo, videos of students engaged in your research activity or a slide show is also a really good idea.

2. This is not a formal presentation. You are most often going to be interacting with people in a one-on-one or one-on-few environment.

3. Put your title prominently in your presentation area so that people can quickly find you when they step in the booth (and make sure your title matches the one you gave us for the program). Other things to put with your title include the grant program (and grant number) and any keywords that would help people find research they are interested in.

4. Attendees are usually coming through the showcase to find something they can use in their own work and to improve their teaching. Make sure to point out what is new and/or innovative about what you are doing!

5. If you have any questions, please ask! We want to make sure that your experience at the showcase is a positive and productive one!

NSF Showcase Organizers - Contact Information
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