Summary of Poster Presentation From My Perspective

Seeing as this was my first poster presentation, I was fairly bewildered at the whole procedure; what to wear, how in depth to explain my poster, pretty much everything. However, upon getting to the presentation quite early and setting my poster up to a few people I knew, my tension disappeared. People came around and relatively hesitantly asked me about my relatively complex poster. (on ice crystal morphology in cirrus clouds)

Despite the complexity of my topic, I believe that my presentation and summary was able to bring everyone who chatted with me up to speed within five or ten minutes about why researching in my area is important and exactly what my results were. Eventually I became even more comfortable in discussing my topic and didn't just jump into the poster but rather attempted to pique people's natural curiosity in clouds and exploited this fact to help segway into questions that I asked and attempted to answer over the summer.

I had such an enjoyable time that during the presentations a man came up to me and asked that I take part in another science poster presentation for a few of the people who had donated amazing sums of money to help improve the biochemistry suite the week after the one I was currently in. As I was enjoying myself and seeing an opportunity to help show influential donors my worked, I jumped on the opportunity. Later during the presentation, after I had explained my research to a faculty member in sociology who knew nothing on ice crystals, I was invited by him to display my poster in Collins Library over parents weekend to show parents the research opportunities and possibilities in the sciences here at UPS.

Viewing this as another great opportunity for me to be able to get research out there in the world and help educate people, I of course took the opportunity graciously and quickly. Since two people who had never before heard anything about ice crystal morphology asked me to help present in other venues to people who would not necessarily understand what my poster was about upon first glance I do believe that the presentation session went remarkably well and that I was able to articulate all of my ideas quite well. Beyond this, quite a few of my classmates and professors walked by for explanations and I obliged, feeling that each of my presentations gave them something to think about rather than just cold unfeeling data that they couldn't see in any sort of context.

Due to all of these factors, I believe that my presentation went over quite well for myself and for all of the people who attempted and hopefully understood what I was presenting on. The only thing that I would have enjoyed more would be having had more people come to talk to me since I believe that I made my talk quite accessible. However, sometimes complicated posters and titles scare people off.