GUIDELINES FOR URAD POSTER
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH & ARTISTRY DAY (URAD)

URAD IS A SHOWCASE AND CELEBRATION OF THE OUTSTANDING RESEARCH AND ARTISTRY PROJECTS THAT UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THROUGHOUT THE ACADEMIC YEAR. PROJECTS INCLUDE INDEPENDENT STUDY, CAPSTONE PROJECTS, SEF, RESEARCH ROOKIES OR ANY OTHER RELATED RESEARCH/ARTISTRY PROJECTS. STUDENTS WILL PRESENT THEIR WORK THROUGH ACADEMIC POSTERS AND EXHIBITS FOR A CHANCE TO PLACE IN FIRST, SECOND OR THIRD IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AWARD CATEGORY.

ABSTRACT:
• Short summary of your research
• Should match what you submit with registration
• Some disciplines DO NOT put an abstract — check with your mentor

Significance & Rationale:
• Provides an overview of what your project entails
• How your research addresses a topic

Methods
• Overview of how you conducted your project
• Can be understood by an expert as well as someone with no prior experience
• May include images/diagrams

Analysis/Results:
• Highlights what your research shows
• May include graphs, charts, images

Discussion/Conclusion:
• Wraps up your findings
• Provides ideas for future steps
• Final thought you are leaving the viewer with

References & Acknowledgements:
• Reference any citations on the poster using your field specific format
• Acknowledge your mentor, any program sponsors, and funding sources

Poster “Do’s”
✓ 32”x40” (URAD required size)
✓ Include the NIU institutional logo
✓ Use a plain, solid-background
✓ Have 30-40% empty space
✓ Use high quality charts, images, and graphs

Poster “Don’ts”
× Use fancy background options
× Forget to add charts, images, and graphs
× Be text heavy and use multiple fonts
× Use overly technical language
× Forget to acknowledge those that helped you