Tips for Creating a Professional Poster

Congratulations! Your abstract has been accepted and now you are ready to create your poster to disseminate your project/research findings. Before you begin working on your poster, review the poster presentation criteria from the organization where you will be displaying your poster for content, size recommendations, and display method (e.g., upright poster board or table display).

- Key points to remember:
    - If representing LLU, use LLUSN template found at https://nursing.llu.edu/about-us/research/resources/posters-and-presentations
    - Posters should be easy to view and read from a 5 foot distance
    - Fonts should be large enough for ease of reading
    - Poster content should be presented in a logical format: Title, Author(s), Purpose/Aims, Background/Significance, Method (Design, Sample, Results), Conclusions, Implications, References, Acknowledgements (funding source, mentor, etc.)
    - Use bulleted points
    - Use complementary colors
    - Avoid crowding content (white space is good)
    - Models or pictures enhance the poster if they are fitting to the topic
    - Ask for peer review before printing
    - Check spelling, formatting, etc. thoroughly before printing

- To make your poster using ppt template:
    - Contact printing source for specific instructions that will be compatible with their equipment (e.g. ppt vs. PDF file). Also determine what size finished poster they can produce. If you intend to use a picture, be sure to ask what format (jpg, etc.) to use.
        - Click (View, Zoom, 200%) to check image quality before printing
    - The following instructions are specifically if you are sending your poster to a printer who take ppt files.
        - Select ppt template, (per conference specifications)
        - Open and save to work off-line
        - Enable editing
        - Develop your poster using simple, clear fonts (Arial, Tahoma, or template default) or font specified by conference. Be sure the font is large enough to be seen at a distance (i.e. 88 or 96 font for title). You can check how your font will look by clicking (View, Zoom, 200%) to see actual size on the screen.
        - Proof poster on your screen while enlarged. Do not rely on 9 x 12 paper print out as is will print out to small to easily pick up typos and images may appear crisp when in fact they will be blurry at actual size.

    - Send/take file to printer (e.g. LLU Perinatology Center or http://groups.posterpresentations.com/loma-linda-university-research-poster-printing-48x36.html) and make sure they know the dimensions for the desired size of the finished poster.