

## Flash talks

- What is a flash talk?

A flash talk is a very short presentation lasting only a few minutes in which you present a scientific concept or idea in a manner understandable to those outside your immediate field.

A flash talk often functions as a teaser for a poster. It should be a presentation that is easy to understand about your research's background and/or results and/or conclusions. The idea is to "sell your story" in order to attract interested listeners to your poster, where further discussion takes place.

### Rules

- A single, static PowerPoint slide is permitted. No slide transitions, animations or movement are allowed. The slide will be presented from the beginning of the talk.
- No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video) or props are allowed
- Presentations are usually limited to three minutes maximum.

### Tips

- Make it relevant. Make your audience care about your research by showing how it makes an impact.
- Engage your audience. Observe your audience during your presentation. Are they paying attention? Can you adjust your presentation to get their attention?
- Perfect the timing of your talk. Practice, practice, practice.
- Project your voice and command the space.
- Enjoy yourself.
- Keep it simple. Remember, you are presenting to a broad audience and three minutes is a very short time! It is recommended to limit the number of figures and diagrams, to avoid specialized terminology and to focus on only one problem or question.
- It is not recommended to present complicated results during the flash talk.
- Rehearsing your flash talk prior to the PhD Seminar is extremely important, as the limited time leaves little room for breaks and improvisations. It is also important to avoid a rushed presentation with rapid speech.