

Attachment D

**GUIDELINES FOR PRESENTATION OF STUDENT SEMINARS**

- WHY?** To provide students with the opportunity to develop seminar presentation skills.
- To provide faculty the opportunity to evaluate the student's progress on the research aims and to contribute their expertise.
- WHEN?** Second year students will present their dissertation proposals, including rationale and background, aims, any data obtained to-date, and the approaches to be used in the future.
- More senior students will present a progress report each year. The goal is to up-date the department on the aims, progress, and work remaining.
- WHAT?** Important ingredients to include in **all** student seminars:
- Introduction:** presentation of the biological background which leads to the question being addressed.
- Hypothesis:** clear statement of the BBQ (big biological question) and/or your working hypothesis
- Specific Aims:** each specific aim should be presented. For each aim, the student should be certain to note any changes made to the plan, discuss progress and conclusions to-date, note any problems and efforts to circumvent them, and describe briefly future experiments left to perform.
- Summary:** restate progress to-date on all aims. Provide us with general conclusions and implications. What progress has been made in addressing the BBQ?
- HOW?** Students should present a clear, concise seminar which has been practiced first with the mentor!

Slides should be carefully designed and checked ahead of time for visibility. Avoid the use of too much information on a single slide, print that is small and hard to read and colors that are difficult to discern on the background.