NCAR | NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH UCAR | COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

NCAR/UCP Postdoc Research Reviews Presentations

All postdocs at NCAR/UCP are welcome and encouraged to present their research at the biweekly Research Reviews, and ASP Postdocs are required to present one Research Review per year. The purpose of the Research Reviews is to foster scientific exchange and discussion among NCAR/UCP postdocs, to help develop a mutual understanding of the research projects being conducted at NCAR/UCP, to provide advice to the presenter, to develop new collaborations where appropriate, and to provide professional development in scientific communication. The Research Reviews are not intended to be formal seminars and should not overemphasize results. Instead, they should focus on motivation, strategy, and the broad significance of the research endeavor. They may describe research currently underway or plans for new projects, and they should openly discuss questions or challenges a postdoc might have with their current project so others can attempt to make suggestions and give their ideas. Attendees at the Research Reviews include all NCAR/UCP postdocs, the ASP director, and the ASP science advisor.

A few tips for a successful Research Reviews Presentation

1) *Time allotted for your talk*
   - Each talk is 15 min (you will be cut off by the session chair if you go over 15 min.), followed by 15 min of Q&A and feedback. Feedback will be provided on content, research questions and challenges, as well as on presentation style and tips on how to present content more clearly.
2) *Consider your audience*
   - These talks are directed at an audience having diverse scientific backgrounds. With that in mind, keep your talk general. Use jargon only if it is clearly explained. Explain how your research fits in the broad background of earth Systems Science. Why does the subject interest you, and why should it interest others? Do not focus on the results at the expense of clearly explaining your motivation and approach.
3) *Be careful of presenting too much information*
   - Slides should be simple with a few clear points. It's difficult to read and comprehend a lot of text, especially while listening to someone talk. If your audience is confused by something in your slides or overwhelmed by lengthy text, they often simply ignore them.
4) *General use of slides*

- You should use your slides to add to your spoken presentation. In other words, don't read your slides. Use your slides as an outline for what you're going to say; you can go into more detail in your talk. If English is not your first language or you are worried if people will follow a complex issue, add more text to your slides. Do not speak too quickly.

5) *Equations, data, and figures*

- Explain your equations: What does each symbol represent? Is the equation empirical or derived from first principles? How does one solve it? What sorts of data are used, at what temporal and spatial scales, and how are these data obtained? Explain your figures. What do the axes represent, and what are the units? What feature of a function should we focus on? Where is agreement good, where is it bad, and why? Consider how your figure will look from far away, or how an animation might appear in a virtual presentation; choose colors that will show up well, and use thicker lines. Show labeled color bars when appropriate.