Toward More Effective Presentations

Wilma Andrews, Virginia Commonwealth University, wandrews@vcu.edu
George S. Lowry, Randolph-Macon College, glowry@rmc.edu
Catherine L. Franssen, Longwood University, franssencl@longwood.edu
R. Adam Franssen, Longwood University, franssenra@longwood.edu

In this workshop, presenters will engage the audience in demonstration and discussion regarding the preparation and delivery of a variety of presentations. The session will provide insight, both first-hand and referential, from award-winning teaching professionals, presentation experts, and neuroscientists. Attendees can expect thoughts on:

- Content versus Concept: Delivering different formats for different outcomes
- Targeting your message: Tailoring to the background of the audience
- Creating measurable objectives: Ensuring the appropriate take-aways
- Not only for the ADD generation: Facilitating audience engagement and participation, active learning styles
- Pacing and Pausing: Utilizing verbal and nonverbal communication
- Setting the stage: Generating titles, abstracts, and advertisements that grab attention, convey the message, and draw the correct audience
- Not just decorating: Using appropriate color, font, and other aesthetics in every facet of your presentation
- When a speech isn't a speech: Preparing posters and static presentations
- Pros and Cons of PowerPoint: Exploring how technology has changed speech-making
- Using PowerPoint effectively: Applying best practices on PowerPoint
- Perfecting the elevator pitch: Giving a presentation without charts and graphs