Production Strategies for Research Posters

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Information Resources



What Software is used to build posters

- I will focus on PowerPoint
- If using other software, I recommend that the software can:
 - Save files as .pdf
 - Dimensions (width x height) can be set.



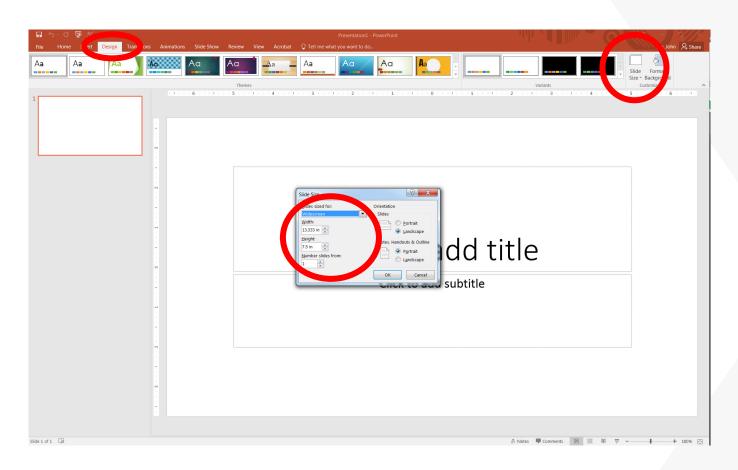
I'm ready to build my poster, what do I do?

- Step 1: Determine the size of your poster!
 - There is no standard size
 - Boards could be 8'x4', 40"x30", or another size.
 - The poster could be portrait or landscape.
 - Does the printer have a size limit?
 - In Information Resources, our rolls of paper are 42" wide



Setting the size of your poster

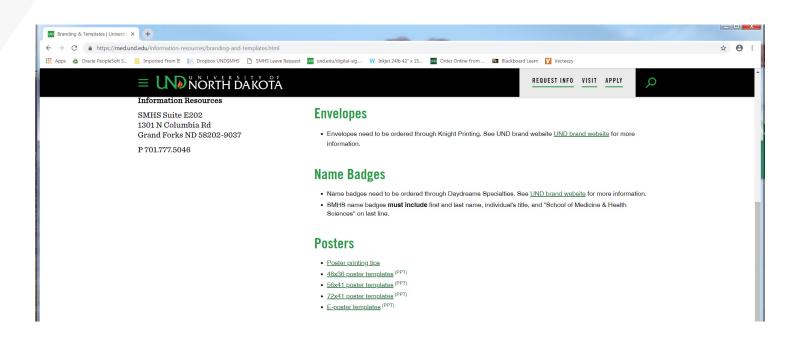
- In PowerPoint, click on the "Design" tab
- Click "Slide Size"
- Click "Custom Slide Size"
- Enter the width and height values





Using a template

- There may be templates available for you to use.
- med.UND.edu/information-resources/branding-and-templates.html





Issues with adjusting the size

- Don't start with the default 13.333"x7.5" size and expect the poster to print large.
- Are there issues with resizing the poster after it's been built?
 - Images (including logos) don't maintain their proportions
 - Text may have to be resized
 - Charts and graphs may have to be adjusted



PowerPoint size limitation

- PowerPoint limits the slide sizes to 56"
- To make a larger poster, the poster can be built proportionally smaller (i.e. half-sized) – just be sure that the printer knows and is willing to print the poster larger

Posters

- Poster printing tips
- 48x36 poster templates (PPT)
- 56x41 poster templates (PPT)
- 72x41 poster templates (PPT)
- E-poster templates (PPI)



Poster Size

Please size posters correctly! Other than the poster's message (data and research) this is perhaps the most important part of poster creation!



Questions on initial set-up?

Does anyone have any questions?



Adding Data

- Type in text boxes
- It's okay to paste text from word and other sources
- Create charts and graphs



Inserting Images

- Insert photos and logos
- Charts and graphs created in third party software may need to be exported as a jpeg and inserted.
 - Pasted images are often linked to a file on the author's computer and may disappear or fail to print when they are opened by the printer's computer.



Inserting Images

- Click the "Insert" tab
- Click "Picture"
- Browse to your images location

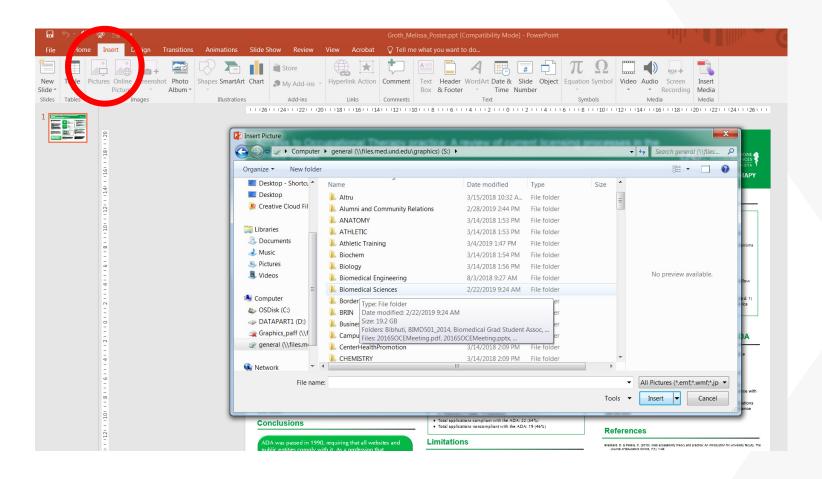




Image Resolution

- Posters are printed large and require high-resolution images
 - Don't download small internet images to use in your poster and expect them to look sharp
 - Image sizes should be at least 1000 pixels x 1000 pixels (that is approximately 3"x3" at print resolution).
 - Internet images may also be copyrighted (don't steal!)



Adjusting Backgrounds

- General Rules
 - Nothing too busy
 - Avoid Intense gradients
 - Dark text on a light background is easier to read in printed materials.
 - The data should be the star, not the background



Design Tab

- Several pre-designed slides are available. Some are better for posters than others
- The designs can be edited (often in the master pages).
- Discover your options





Text guidelines

- Text size
 - Text set at 72 point is almost 1 inch tall (X-height)
 - Body text should be 24 34 point
 - If a poster is doubled in size when printed, the text will also be twice as large (20 pt text becomes 40 pt)
- Not too much text
 - Can data be expressed through photos or graphs
 - 50% text and 50% images is a good blend



The Home Tab

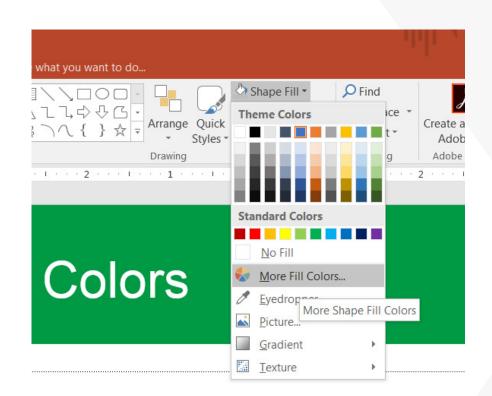
- Text boxes
- Lines and arrows
- Fonts, text size, paragraph alignment





Customizing Colors

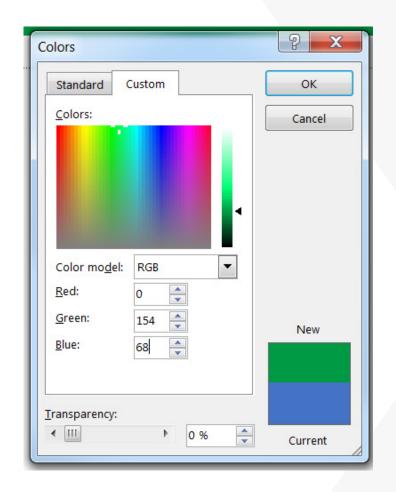
- Choose colors from the "Shape Fill"
 and "Shape Outline" on the home tab
- There are theme colors and standard colors
- Can customize colors from "More Fill Colors?





Customizing Colors

- Create custom colors using RGB values
- The RGB value of UND's Green is 0/154/68





The Format Tab

- Edits Graphics
- Crop Tools
- Align and Rotate Tools





Group Tools







Crop

• Eliminates unwanted data

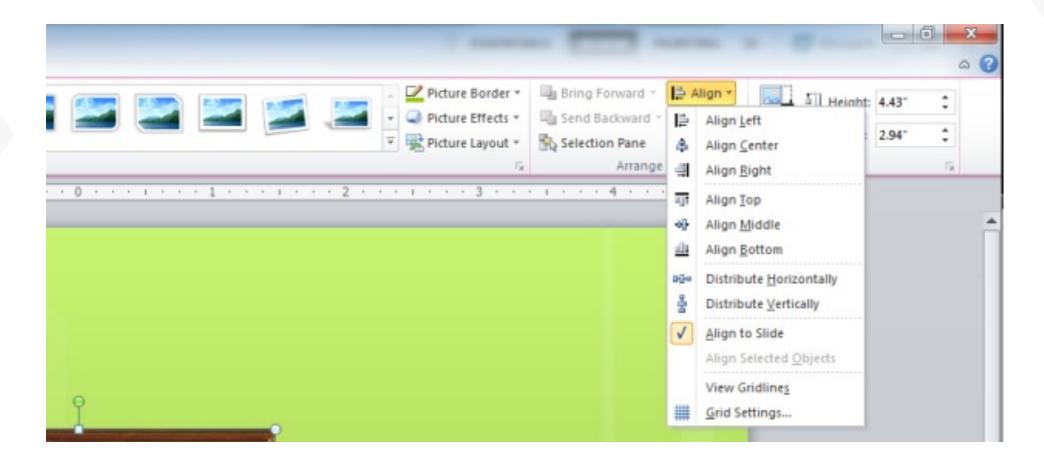








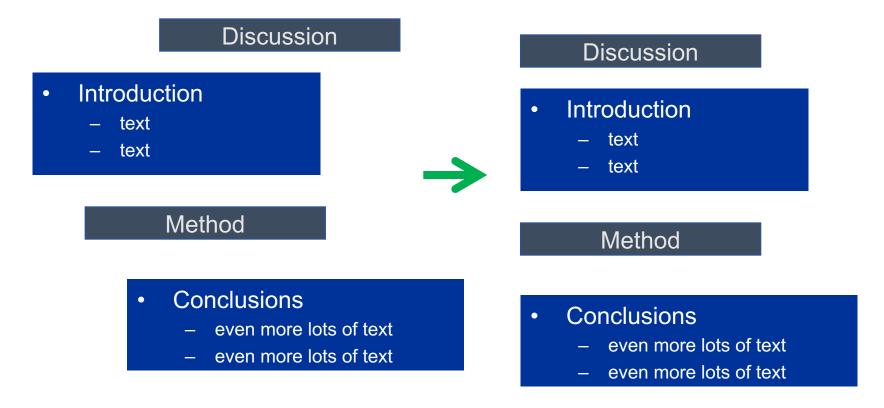
Align Options





Align

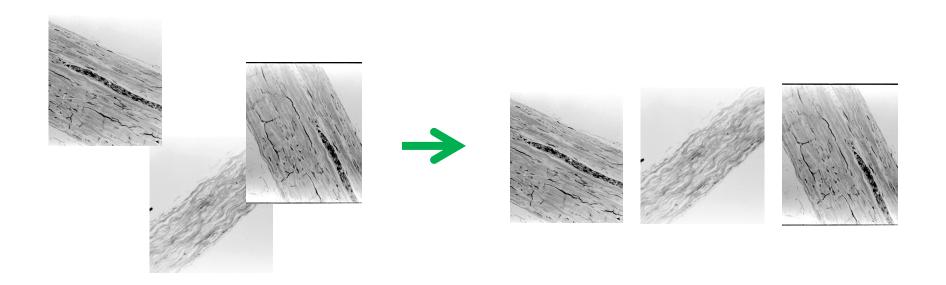
Aligning Text boxes and shapes





Distribute

Spaces text boxes and shapes evenly





Group and Ungroup

- Links shapes, images, and/or text boxes
- This can also be found in the Home tab under arrange

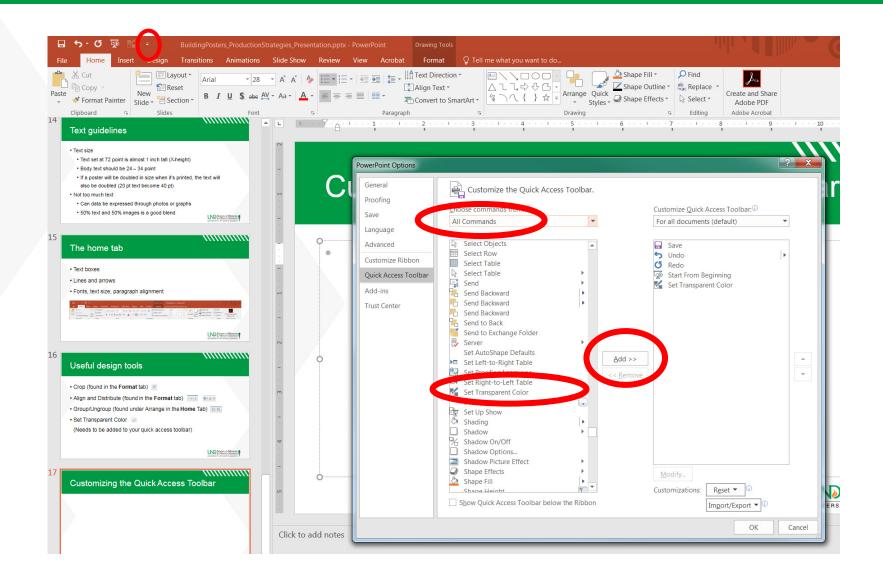


Customizing the Quick Access Toolbar

- To add commands to your quick access toolbar:
 - Click the carrot at the top
 - Click "More Commands" from the dropdown list
 - "Popular Commands" is the default list to choose from. "All Commands" is a more comprehensive list of tools.
 - Select a command and click "Add" to have it available on the Quick Access Toolbar.



Customizing the Quick Access Toolbar





Set Transparent Color

• Choose a color in an image to be transparent



- Useful on logos and charts
- Png and gif files can be placed in a file without backgrounds but are often low resolution









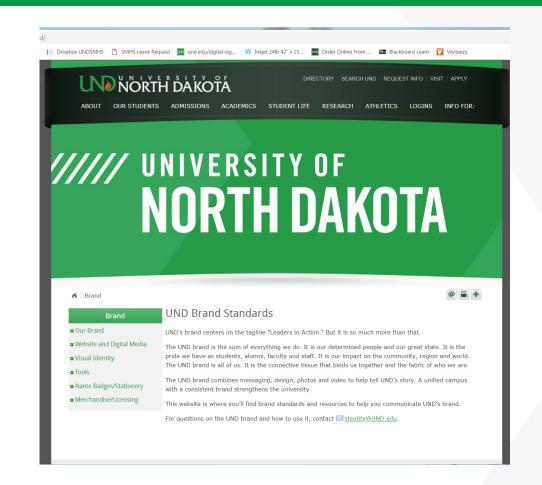
Questions

Any questions about tools or layout



Branding

- Does your poster need to be branded?
 - Are you representing UND
- Brand information can be found on UND's web page
 - http://www1.und.edu/brand/





Branding

- UND Green is the main color
- San serif fonts (Helvetica) are used in text
- UND logo
- If using slashes and arrows, keep them proportional
- Secondary colors (other than green) should be subtle



Branding questions

Any questions about branding



Submitting Posters for print

- Information Resources prints UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences Posters (one/event) for no charge
- Email:
 - john.lee@UND.edu
 - laura.cory@UND.edu
 - und.med.medicalmedia@med.UND.edu
- Dropbox: https://dropbox.med.UND.edu/file



Submitting Posters For Print

- Submit a PowerPoint file
 - If necessary, can be edited by Information Resources
 - A small paper proof is recommended
 - PowerPoint files can change when opened on different computers due to differences in versions, fonts, compatibility of graphics, etc.,
 - Please have only one slide in the poster file



Submitting Posters for print

- Submitting a pdf
 - If confident that there are no changes necessary, Information
 Resources will print this file without a proof
 - Information Resources will not edit a pdf
 - Files should appear consistent on different computers



Proofing

- Fonts
- Bullets (still the same?)
- Super- or sub-scripts (are they still there?)
- Images, charts, graphs (are they still there?)
- Greek characters and symbols (are they still there?)
- Spelling and typos
- Colors (color looks different on monitors than when printed.
 Inks often appear darker.)



Information Resources Print Options

- Information Resources prints on 42"-wide rolls of paper (1/2" is needed for grip – an unprintable area on the margins)
- Regular paper: a green option for printing.
- Acid-free polypropylene: tear-resistant and longer lasting. Inks
 often appear a little brighter and grays a little more true.
- Both options are printed on the same machine with the same pigment-based inks.



Other Print Vendors

- UND Duplicating
- EERC
- FedEx
- Kinkos
- Online vendors



Questions

Any questions?

