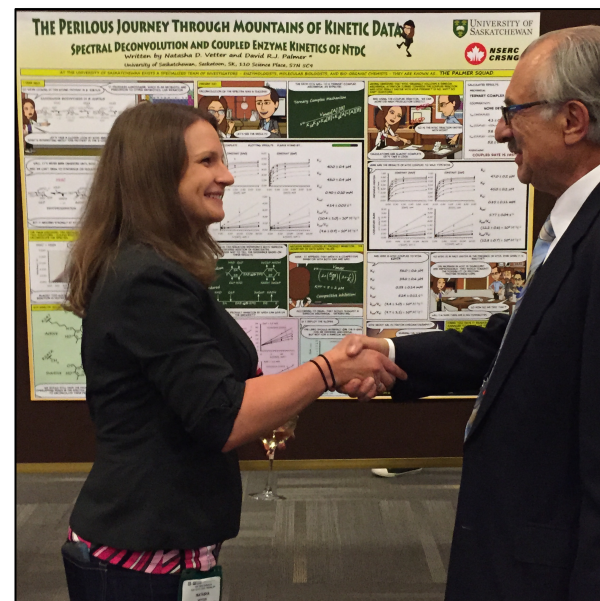


How to get the most out of attending a scientific conference



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Why go to a conference?

Communication is an integral part of science.

A conference allows you to

- Meet
- Learn
- See
- Enjoy
- Improve



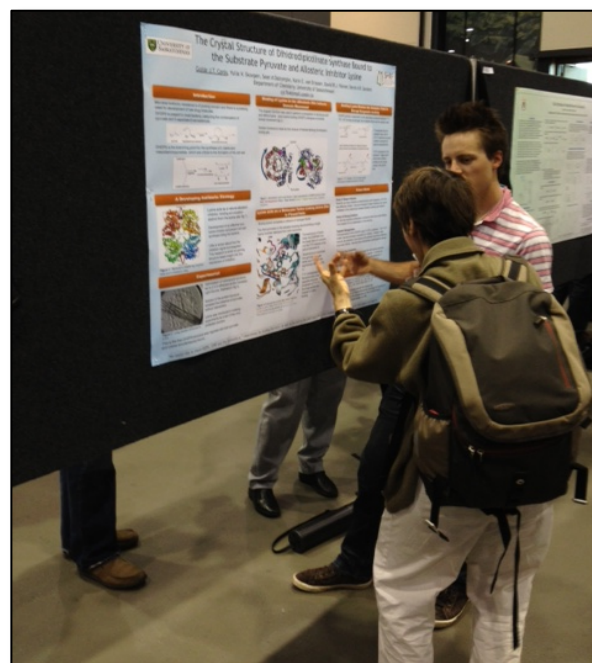
5th WCMCW, September 2016

Why go to a conference?

It is expected of you

- Any good CV will have conference presentations
- Or better yet... **awards!**

CSC2012
Calgary



- Your supervisor **wants you to go and represent**

Do NOT be scared!

Your work is incomplete?

You don't understand everything?

→ That's **EVERYBODY**.

Interaction with other scientists is a great way for you to gather ideas, and improve your presentation skills.

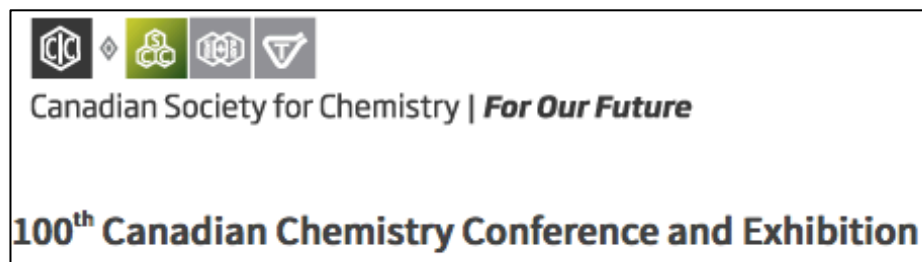


Phony, staged picture taken in this room

Choose a conference

There are a lot to choose from:

- big or small
- specialized or general
- regional, national, or international



Large conferences: potential for lots of exposure

Small conferences: potential for lots of contact

Submit an abstract

Prepare something, and work on it with your boss

- the conference will have a template, or guidelines
- Typical structure of any abstract
 - ✓ 1 or 2 sentences background / statement of problem
 - ✓ 1 or 2 sentences approach
 - ✓ 1 or 2 sentences results
 - ✓ 1 sentence conclusions / importance

→ Get the approval of ALL authors before submission! ←

Funding

There are funds available from

- U of S → *apply as soon as you are accepted*
- Department of Chemistry
- Many conferences have travel awards for students



THE PROTEIN SOCIETY

Home About Us Membership Meetings Awards/F

Travel Awards

Under the strong belief that attendance at our Symposia presents an invaluable opportunity for future protein scientists, TPS is committed to making it possible for young scientists to participate and benefit from our Annual Meeting. With generous support from partners and individuals, the following travel grants are made available every year. **Submissions deadline via our abstract submissions page is April 15, 2016.**

Travel application process for Graduate Students:



The Division of Organic Chemistry makes travel awards of \$600 each to aid graduate students in presenting papers or posters at ACS Meetings. Scientific merit of the paper to be presented will be considered. Each university department can have only one award recipient. To Apply for the Graduate Student Travel Award, submit these supporting documents as a single PDF file via the online Submission Form (See link below under **Submittal Process**):

Homework before you attend

Get the abstract book (or app)

- There will be lots of things of interest
- At a large conference, you will have to choose
 - make a schedule
 - look for related work, people you want to meet
- If you can, go to something **outside** your area
(great ideas can come from this exposure)

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Research Article
<http://pubs.acs.org/journal/acscii>

Neural Networks for the Prediction of Organic Chemistry Reactions

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 Supporting Information

Article

Toward Design Rules for Enzyme Immobilization in Hierarchical Mesoporous Metal-Organic Frameworks

Find out about social events

Most conferences have mixers

- Student-oriented (meet & greets, mixers, pub crawls)
 - Divisional/sub-discipline/regional events
 - There are often banquets, etc. (\$)
 - Tours of facilities, or outings
-
- Don't forget **social media** for making connections



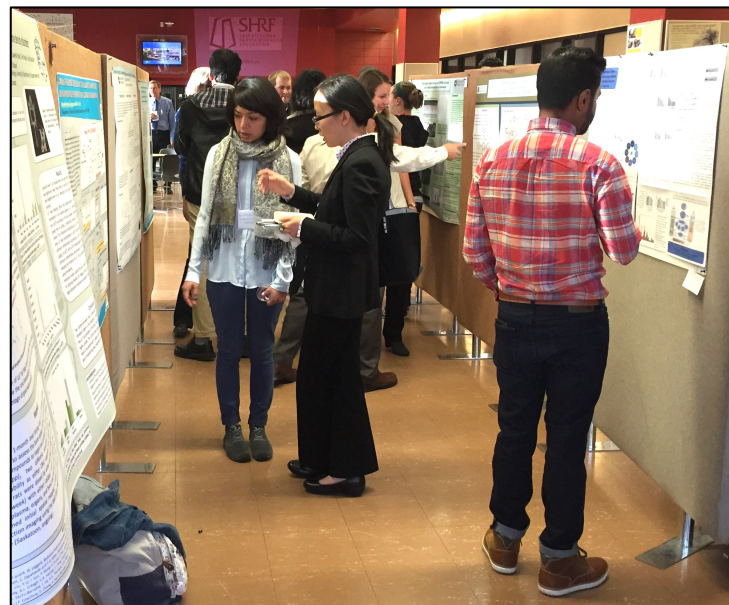
CSC2012 Calgary

Present your work

- Practice your presentation, **even a poster presentation**

Practice before you print the poster:
you may discover that you
have things in the wrong order

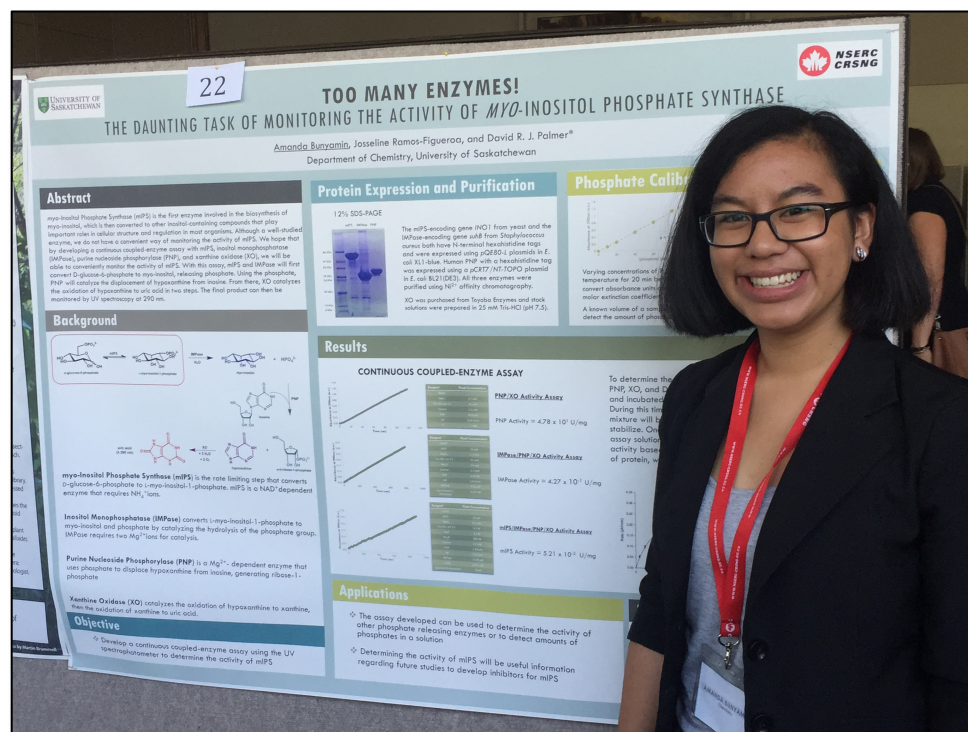
- **Enter all competitions**
 - good for your CV
 - good for your wallet



5th WCMCW, September 2016

Set some goals

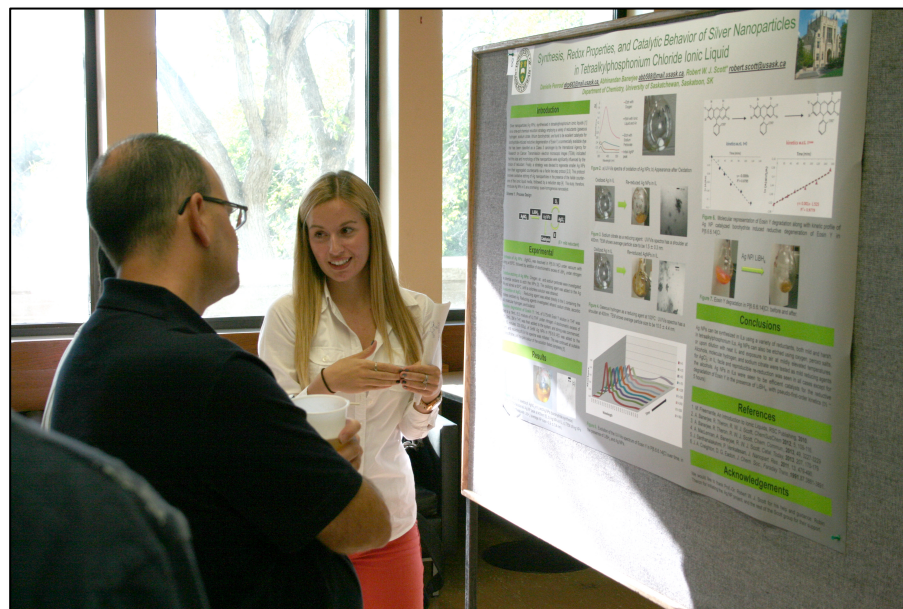
- Ask one question at the meeting
- Meet one professor from another school
- Look for a technique that you aren't using now, but could
- Make an impression
- Wear your name tag!
- Fill up on free stuff



U of S NSERC Student Poster Fair 2015

Thinking about your next position?

- Get yourself some business cards
- Look for job fairs
- Meet people & ask if you can send an e-mail
- Look to build relationships; a career is a long time
- Make yourself memorable
- Be professional
 - Easy on the booze
 - Do NOT hit on anyone!



This is a great opportunity for you

Grad school at Queen's, Kingston, ON

Montreal

Ottawa

Halifax

Quebec City

Tokyo

Postdoc, UIUC, Champaign, IL

Allerton, IL

Madison, WI

Merriden, NH

Orlando, FL

Kapalua, HI

San Francisco, CA

**My
travels
as a
trainee**

Have fun, see the world, learn and grow, build your bridge.