

Remark: The oral presentations are of major concern to us, and thus we are taking time to schedule another class-wide presentation, but this time only for students. The faculty members are not invited formally, although they can participate if they wish so. This event can be scheduled at the convenience of all parties involved, and therefore it could be given here or be replaced within the next three lectures.

Introduction

Students should be briefed on the procedures of their next oral presentations, which the time and date are selected. This presentation is very similar to the last one, i.e., we still allow only five slides, and 15 minutes per group, to demonstrate the technical aspects of their design to date. Also, they must show that they are on the right track and are pursuing a genuine design project. We expect that they have upgraded their materials in order to reflect the current status of their project as well as to incorporate all the suggestions we have made following their last presentations. In other words, to repeat the same mistakes here will be totally unacceptable. These presentations should be video taped, if possible, for future students, and review of the current ones, in order that they can improve their presentational skills and get ready for their various oral presentations.

Students have also been informed that they will be asked to rank each other's presentation, based on a questionnaire that will be distributed on the day of presentation and its essential elements are described next. Again, we must emphasize that this is only an advisory evaluation. But more importantly, this is the same evaluation form (with last question removed) that the faculty members, who will attend the final oral presentations, will use to rank each project. Therefore, you must concentrate on these questions as the initial set of questions that you are responsible for in your final defense.

Design Review Questionnaire

Please rank each item below on a scale between *0* to *10*. This evaluation (based on the lecture notes in this course) will be used only for helping your fellow students to get an idea about their performances so far. We reserve the right to adjust accordingly, and based on many other factors, this recommendation if we will incorporate that in the final course grade. Please use *N/A* when you think that an item is not applicable to the given presentation (that is different from not stating, which ranks *0*). Please also note that we still have quite a few more lectures to deliver before the end of the course, therefore consider that fact.

1. How well did the group describe their basic *technical* problem?
2. How well did the group describe their *technical approach* of solving this problem?
3. How well did the group describe the *organization* of tasks involved and their *shared duties*?
4. Did their *block diagrams, schematics, or photographs* shown demonstrate their design adequately?
5. Rank the quality of their *analytical work* shown relevant to the system or any of its subsystems.
6. Rank the quality of *actual data* taken in the laboratory.
7. How confident are you regarding the quality of their *researched alternative solutions* as presented?
8. Did they *thoroughly research* their problem with all its possible solutions?
9. In other words, if a group claims that this is an *original work*, then how convincing do their arguments

sound to you? For instance, what are the potentials for the **patentability** and/or any **intellectual property** of this work?

10. How confident are you regarding the **theoretical or analytical results** presented?
11. How confident are you regarding the **simulation results** presented?
12. How confident are you regarding their **test plan**?
13. How confident are you that the **final design will actually work**?
14. How confident are you that the final design will be **cost effective**?
15. How well have they met their **design constraints**?
16. How well have they described the pertinent **elements of design** in this project?
17. How well did they **utilize lessons learned** in this project?
18. How well have they promoted their design for a **future study**?
19. In other words, what are the **marketability** and **patentability** potentials of this project? Is there anyone interested to invest in this project?
20. Rank the **overall technical quality** of their entire presentation.
21. How confident are you that this group will have a **working and complete project** by our deadline?

Final Thought

We are getting close to the end of this course. Please make sure that your project is in **working condition**, and you are about to **complete all documentation** for the final presentation and report.

Closure

The class ends with the following remarks. We have the capacity to forget and forgive past mistakes of all of you, but make sure that your final oral presentation and report are perfected, if you are expecting a very good grade. We then return the evaluation forms to each group and ask them to review the comments made by their peers and tabulate their scores and bring the results to the course instructor for a final tally. The course instructor can then announced the overall performance of the class in future lectures as time permits. We have found students tremendously benefiting from this exercise and we recommend highly that approach for the future classes.

Essential thoughts in this lecture

Issues.	Applicability to your project, if any.
Make a list of your observations during this mid-course design review for your own final presentation.	Obvious!
Do you want to add anything else?	Please elaborate.

Good Luck!