Oral Poster Presentation

Whether your eventual career track is engineering, research or academia there will come a point at which you must give a presentation. It may be at a professional meeting, a company symposium, or a college seminar. There are several different kinds of presentations and poster presentations are just one of them. The purpose of the poster session in this class is to give you practice at giving an oral presentation of your work.

The first thing you should do after completing the series of laboratories is to do any calculations or error analysis that you would do for any other lab. These should be recorded along with the data in your lab notebook. A sheet of poster board will be provided or you may purchase your own if you wish. The poster itself must include a title with the binary liquid pair stated and the names of the students whose work the poster represents. Other things that should/could be included:

1. Graphs of the liquid properly measured versus the mole fraction of one of the liquids in the pair. These should have a title and labeled axes with units included.
2. Any formulas used to calculate the values used in the graphs.
3. Perhaps a brief description of the techniques used.
4. Comparisons to literature values wherever possible.
5. References both to where the experiments came from and where literature values were obtained.
6. When printing up the material for the poster, make the lettering large enough that it can be easily read from a distance of at least six (6) feet away.

Examples of posters from previous years are available for you to examine.

The oral report itself will be given in front of physical chemistry faculty in room 3xx. There will be no alternative day and no make-ups given for this oral report. The things you might wish to cover in your talk would be:

- Why you chose the particular binary system of liquids that you did.
- What are the trends you found in your data. Are they what you expected or unusual?
- How does the system compare to the pure liquids? What might be causing the difference.

You need to take time to think about your data before presenting your poster in front of the faculty members. Straight reporting of what you found is necessary, but you should also be prepared to explain what you think is going on in the system. A few practice runs before the presentation with someone watching will also make your oral report go smoothly. If you have difficulty with any aspect of your poster presentation, ask the TA or instructor for help.