Preparing Abstracts for ACVP

Student Chapter Committee
How Abstracts Are Used

• Literature search key words
• PubMed/Journal: Will this paper answer your question?
• Meetings: Attendees sort through hundreds of abstracts to choose specific posters to visit
• Extracted (abstracted) from the full paper for separate publication
How To Write Your Abstract

• Short summary, stands alone
  – 250-300 words (see specific requirement of your meeting)

• Research objectives and justification
  – What was the hypothesis? Why?
  – What is new about this study?

• Basic methods used
  – Sample type, test type

• Summary of results/conclusions
  – Twitter the “punch line” of project
Abstract No-No’s

- “Results will be discussed”
  - If you don’t have results, you don’t have a conclusion(s).
- Inclusion of figures or citations
- Listing yourself as only author
- Exceeding the word limit
The Title

Your title should be descriptive but not overly wordy. Review the titles below and see which one is most useful.

1. Controlling APEC (*In what species? With what materials?*)

2. Investigations into the effects of several selected natural plant compounds with antimicrobial activity on the growth rate of avian pathogenic *Escherichia coli* (APEC) *in vivo* in the chicken intestine (*Will anyone read this all the way through?*)

3. Plant compounds inhibit the growth of avian pathogenic *Escherichia coli* *in vivo* (*Perfect!*).
List All Contributors To Your Project

• Your name
• Your mentor’s name (PI)
  – Be sure that your senior pathologist/mentor knows you plan to submit an abstract
  – Be sure you have your mentor’s permission to present the data
• Other significant contributors (Co-PI’s; anyone who contributed to the scientific project)
• Institution, College/Department affiliation

• Do not send an abstract with only your name as author—it will not be accepted.
Finishing Details

- Abstract, Title, Affiliations: 300 word maximum
- Be concise
  - “at this point in time” = “now”
  - “a long period of time” = “a long time”
  - “red in color” = “red”
- Be consistent
  - Figure, figure, Fig., fig., Figure, Figure, etc.
- Check grammar, spelling, names
  - Take care in using spell checker
  - “The amount of antibiotic used was not sadistically different.”
  - It is possible to misspell “Public Health”...’nuff said...