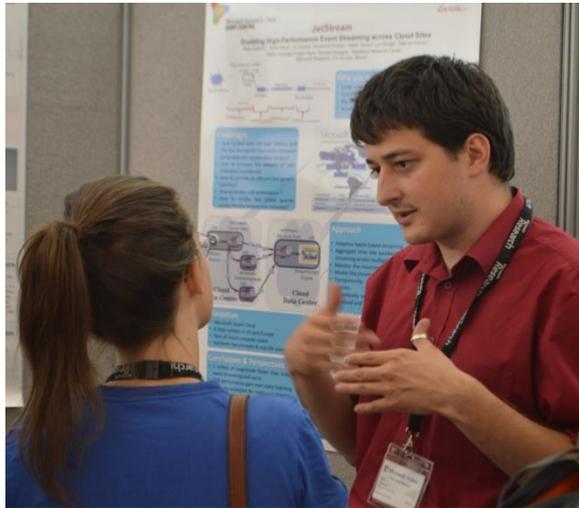


# How to present a poster at an international conference

Sue Duraikan



‘As a graduate student preparing for a career in research, you have 2 jobs: (1) do some good research and (2) build a community around your research topic.’

*Phil Agre, Networking on the Network (2005)*

‘A **research talk** gives you access to the world’s most priceless commodity: the time and attention of people.’

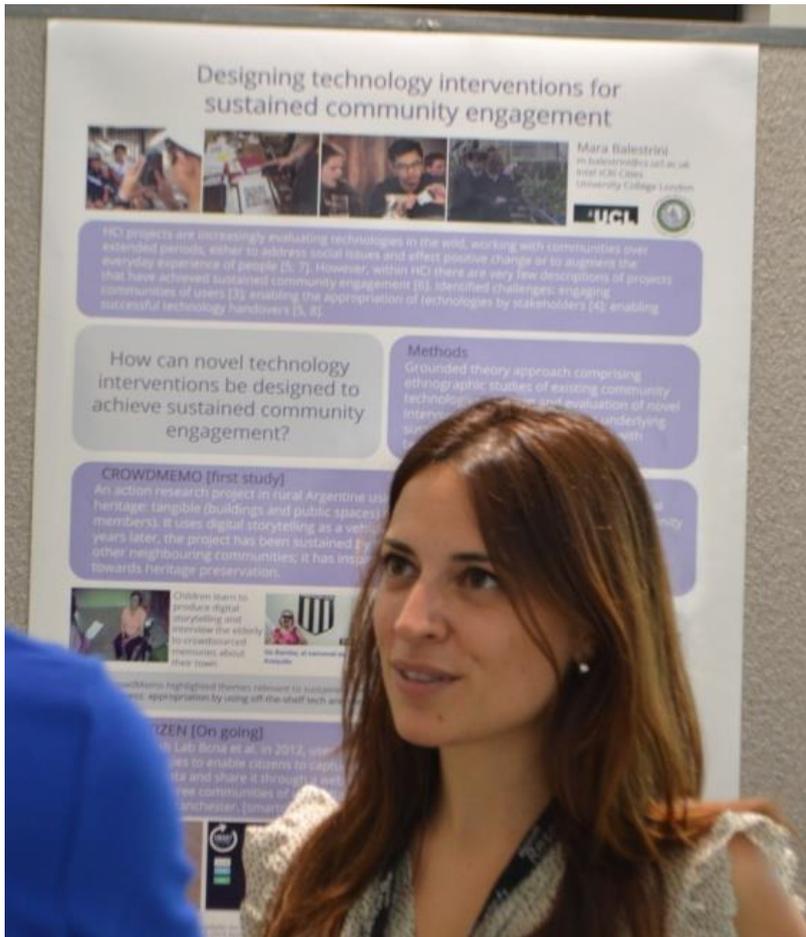
*Simon Peyton Jones (2014)*

‘Ditto a **poster presentation**.’

*Sue Duraikan (2014)*



# 1. A poster that stands out



- Know your audience
- Follow instructions
- Big picture/context
- Balance text/visuals
- Strong first impression
- Check accuracy
- Get third party opinion

## 2. The right mindset

What if  
no-one's interested?

90 minutes stuck  
in this corner.  
What a nightmare!

If I'm lucky they'll  
just read the poster  
and leave me  
alone.

I've really got to  
make the most of  
this opportunity.

If I'm excited  
about it,  
maybe they  
will be too.

This is a great chance  
to learn from others.

# 3. A successful start

Would you like me to explain...?

What experience do you have of....?

What's your background?



- Manage your space
- Positive body language

- Careful timing
- Start with a question

# 4. A satisfying CONVERSATION



- Allow tune-in time
- Slow down!
- Distance
- Eye contact
- Use your hands

# 4. A satisfying CONVERSATION



- Be flexible
- Big picture/context
- Objective
- Signposts

- Take care with jargon/abbreviations
- Prepare examples
- Listen and look
- Questions/comments

# 5. Final impressions....

- End confidently
- *'It's been a pleasure'*  
*'Thank you for stopping'* *'You've given me food for thought.'*
- Take-away: business card, handout, freebie
- Exchange contact details

