



C-BYTES

Research Showcase and Student Competition

Guidance and Q&A Session

10/17/2025

College of Information Science & Technology

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha

C-BYTES Resources

- Main C-BYTES Page:

<https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-information-science-and-technology/research-labs/collaboratoriums/cbytes.php>

- C-BYTES Resources and Guidelines page:

https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-information-science-and-technology/research-labs/collaboratoriums/cbytes_resources.php

- 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) previous winners (video):

<https://threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/watch-3mt>



C-BYTES 2025 Official Rules



COLLEGE OF INFORMATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

C-BYTES Research Showcase and Student Competition Official Rules

While Quick-Share and Poster-BYTES challenges are completely different in their execution, both need visual elements to enhance understanding within the framework and limitations given. Visuals must be clear, relevant, and well-organized, contributing to the overall communication of the project.

Code of Conduct: All participants are expected to uphold the [University of Nebraska at Omaha Student Code of Conduct](#) and maintain professionalism throughout the event.



Poster-BYTES Tips

- Create a well-designed research poster
- Prepare a verbal “pitch”
- Prepare to have the “conversation” with your audience.

<https://catalyst.harvard.edu/writing-communication-center/visualize-science/posters/>



Poster-BYTES: Poster Design

WRITING AND
COMMUNICATION CENTER

THE HARVARD CLINICAL
AND TRANSLATIONAL
SCIENCE CENTER

 HARVARD
CATALYST



QUALITIES OF A STRONG
SCIENTIFIC POSTER



Poster Headlines Are Visible From 15-20 Feet Away.
(Headline is minimum size 85.)

1. Poster navigation is explicit.
(uses numbers or visual anchors)

The study objectives are clearly stated and main points are labeled and easy to find.

1.5 inches of white space is around all poster edges.

White space is organized and only 30-50% of the poster features text.

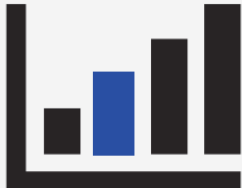
2. Images are properly edited, prepared, and inserted.

 Each image or data visualization tells a part of the overall story.

3. Graphics are visible from 3-5 feet away.

Charts and graphs communicate the major results and implications.

Charts and graphs have descriptive text and axes are labeled.



Color is used to highlight important points or convey quantitative information.

4. Section headers use bold type.

Text is "aligned left" or "justified."

The average number of words per line is limited to 8-12.

Poster uses common, sans serif fonts (e.g. Arial, Calibri).

5. Headings are visible from 3-5 feet away. (minimum size 36)

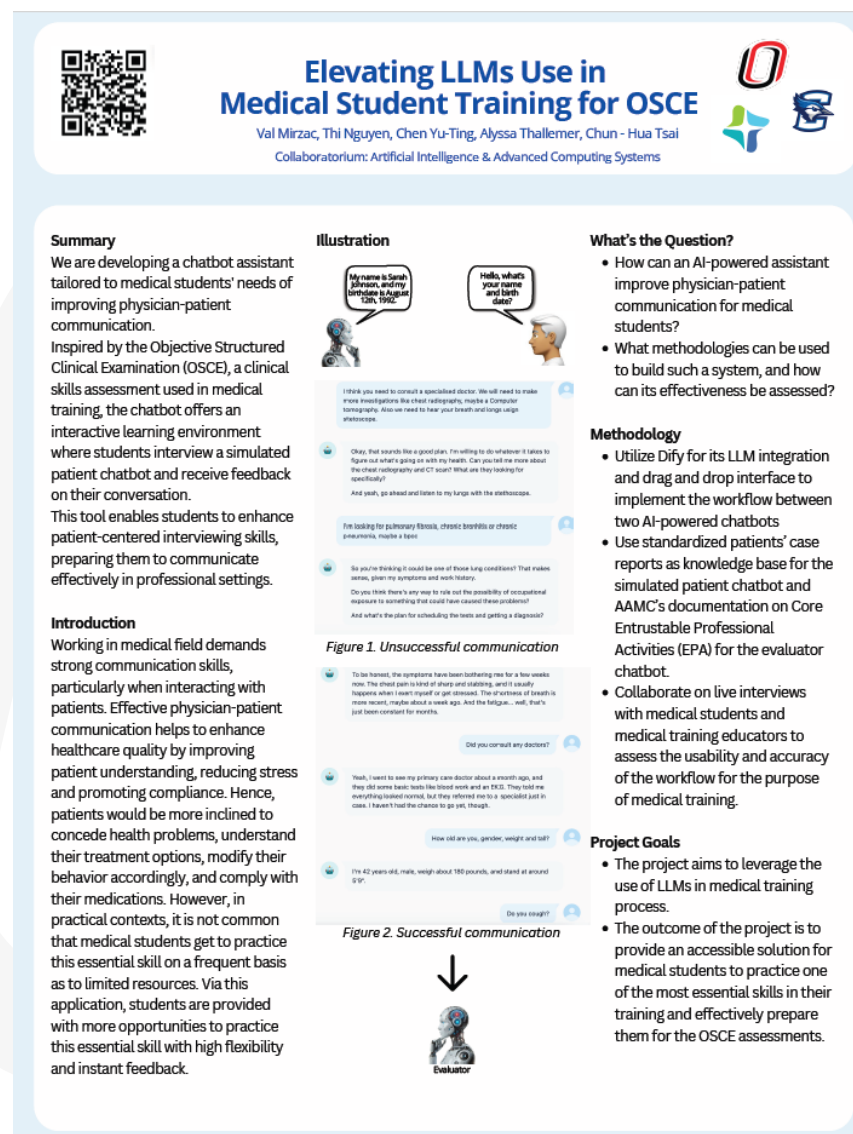
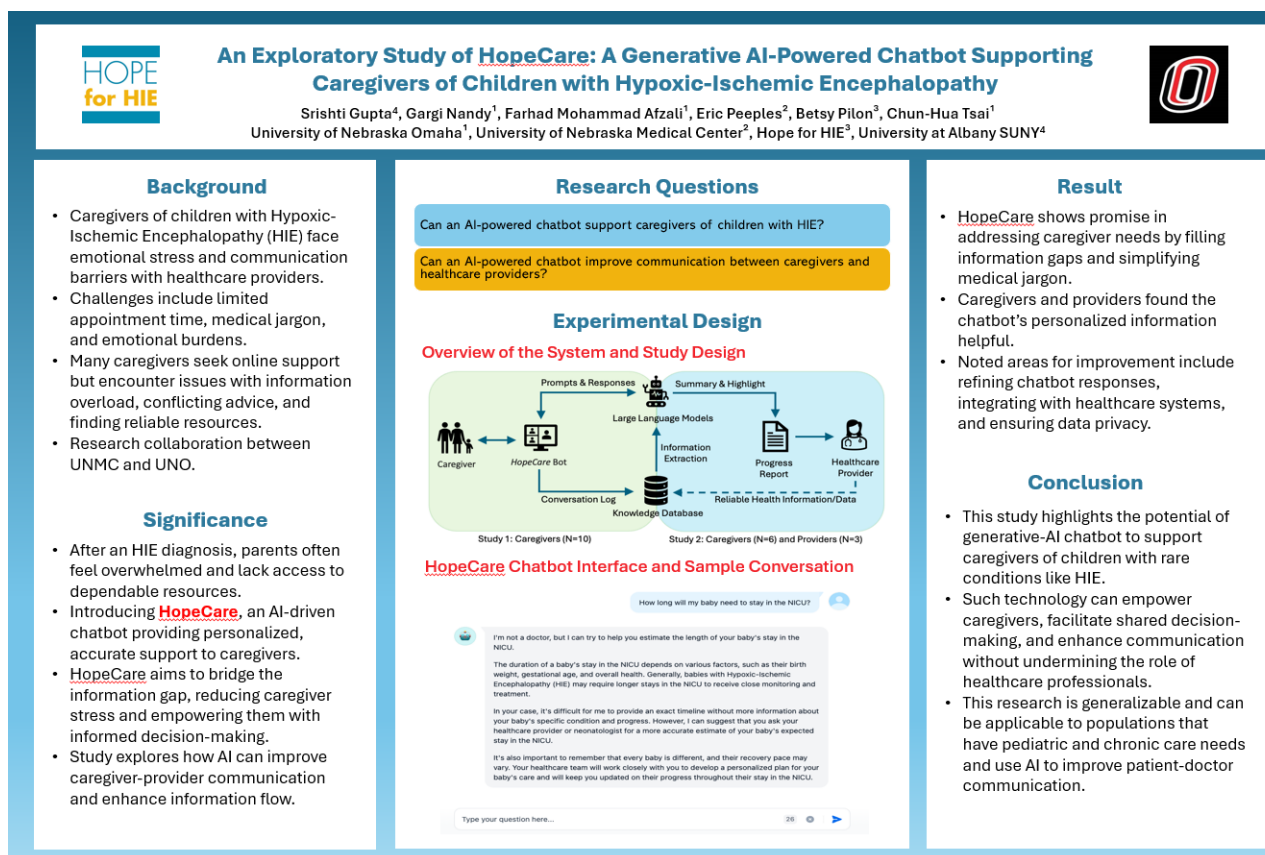
QR codes help clean up visual clutter and link to additional information.



Information is adapted from presentations by Cheryl Vaughan, Beth Beighlie, and Graham McMahon in Harvard Catalyst's Effectively Communicating Research course.



Poster-BYTES: Poster Design



Poster-BYTES Presentation: Pitch

- Open with your **Name** and **Role**
- What motivates the research? State the **Problem** and **Why it Matters**.
- Give *just enough* background: what's **Known**, the **Gap**, and your **Hypothesis/Approach**.
- Share the “news”: your **Key Result** or Insight and what **Impact** that has.
- Land the takeaway: **What's Next** (next steps, collaboration, or specific support).

Delivery:

- Clear voice, steady pace, eye contact, purposeful gestures—you're narrating your research story.
- Keep it to **45–60s** ready to expand if asked.

<https://catalyst.harvard.edu/writing-communication-center/visualize-science/posters/>



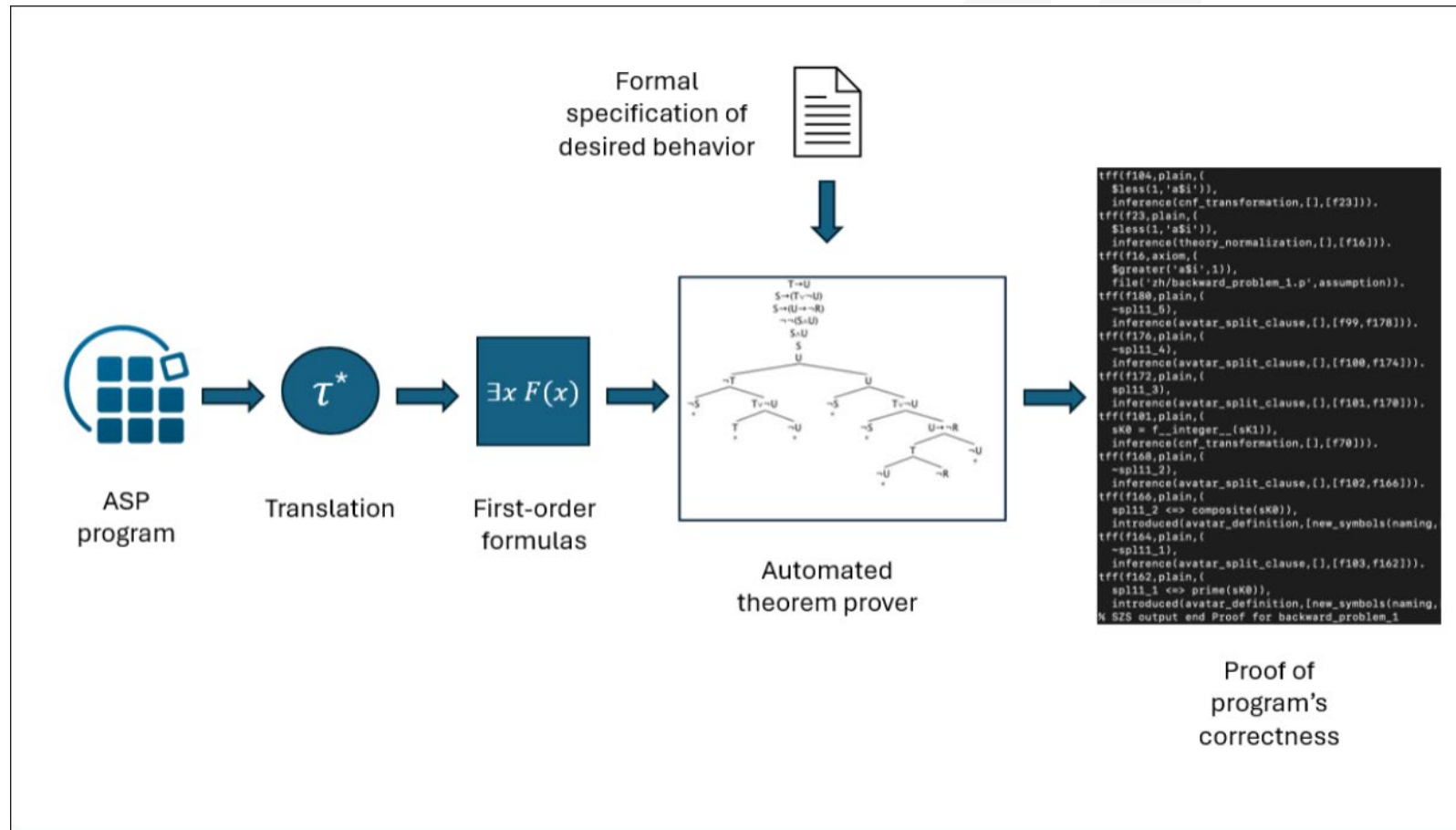
Poster-BYTES Presentation: Conversation

- Read the room: learn audience background and goals.
- Start warmly: smile, greet, introduce yourself, and ask them if they are familiar with your topic.
- Customize the depth for audience; **avoid jargon**; check for clarity as you go.
- Show, don't just tell: **point to figures**, **use simple analogies** or short stories.
- Welcome questions, pause to listen, and navigate to the relevant section.
- Pivot as needed: zoom out for big picture (irl **why does this matter?**) or dive deeper on methods/results.
- Close and connect with viewers: recap one takeaway and invite follow-up.
- **Request viewers scan the competition QR Code and complete the assessment rubric.**

<https://catalyst.harvard.edu/writing-communication-center/visualize-science/posters/>



Quick-Share Slide (Example)





Relating Answer Set Programming and Many-sorted Logics for Formal Verification

Zach Hansen

-PhD Computing and Information Science (in progress)

Advisor: Dr. Yuliya Lierler

Quick-Share Presentation

- Your presentation should
 - Engage us.
 - Inform us.
 - Communicate to a **lay audience** – Why should **we** be excited?
 - Connect research to big picture – Why is this important **to the rest of us?**
 - Touch on **the most interesting** aspect about your research.
- Making an impactful slide
 - Start with the visual. It is not an afterthought.
 - Don't let it **be** your presentation. It is an **illustration to clarify** your talk.
 - It **should not distract** attention away from your presentation.



Use 3 minutes wisely

- Don't introduce yourself, don't do acknowledgements, don't show data.
- Start by introducing how your research relates to the bigger picture or why anyone else might be interested in your work.
- Carefully design your slide, don't overcrowd it or use too much color.
- Only include most relevant things.
- Make sure images are good quality.
- Use simple and familiar analogies.
- Use excited and engaged body language: smiling, gestures, movement, and eye-contact.
- Finish by bringing the audience back to the big picture.



Use up your time, but don't go over it!

- Practice.
- Practice out loud.
- Practice standing up and performing the talk.
- Practice and get feedback from a variety of people.

<https://threeminutethesis.uq.edu.au/resources/3mt-competitor-guide>



Resources

- Examples of single slides from 3MT®
 - <https://ecampusontario.pressbooks.pub/scientificcommunication/chapter/the-3-minute-thesis/>
- Examples of research posters
 - <https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-information-science-and-technology/public-health-informatics-research-lab/posters/index.php>
- View scoring/judging rubrics
 - <https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-information-science-and-technology/research-labs/collaboratoriums/cbytes.php>

We will provide T-Shirts to wear during the competition. Not a requirement, but we hope you will!



Contact Information

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