# Effective Research Presentations

Cliff Scott, Ph.D.
Organizational Science
UNC Charlotte

#### Agenda

Why presentations matter

Preparation

Delivery

Follow up

#### But first....

- Write this down...
  - 5 good things about a presentation you saw
  - 5 bad things about a presentation you saw

## Why Presentations Matter

Do they matter?

Reach individuals you otherwise wouldn't

Social networking opportunity

Opportunity to demonstrate competence

#### Prepare

- What preparation does
  - Develop confidence
  - Manage anxiety
  - Improves the content
  - Helps you anticipate the unexpected

#### Prepare

- 1. Consider your audience
- 2. Think about the setting
- 3. Develop an outline
- 4. Develop visual aids
- 5. Practice in front of a friendly audience

#### Consider Your Audience

Why are they here?

Type of conference?

Level of expertise?

Why should they care?

## Think About the Setting

Audience size

Physical setting

Presentation norms

Time!

## Develop an Outline

2-5 main points

At least two layers of substructure

Details make it interesting

Minimal review of the literature

## Develop an Outline

Do NOT summarize entire paper

Humor goes a long way, but plan it

Practice good signposting

#### Develop Visual Aids

Handouts, slides, charts, graphs, etc.

 Visual aids should supplement, not dominate (the trouble with Powerpoint)

Plug your school

## Develop Visual Aids

Have a plan B

YOU are a visual aid

#### Practice!

No, really!

• Make mistakes in front of a friendly audience

Just do it; don't procrastinate

Time yourself!

#### Deliver

Scout the room well in advance

Arrive early and work the room

A more professional version of you

#### Deliver

Demand the room

Faking is making

Pace, pitch and intonation

#### Follow Up

Do the schmooze

Send people your paper

Distribute business cards

## Follow Up

Ask for feedback

Follow up with people as the paper progresses