Reflections on APPD 2015 Poster Presentation

Creating and presenting this poster has helped in many ways to better define the elements of this rotation, to start to formally analyze resident feedback and growth during the rotation, and to look forward to the next steps towards improvement of our teaching rotation. Engaging the residents who have participated in the rotation this first year of its existence, even to ask them for permission to include their individual photos teaching others, seemed to instill some pride in recognizing that programs nationally had the opportunity to learn from their feedback and reflections on their experience.

I had never used a QR code before to direct people to a website through scanning a link in real time—this expanded the possibilities of content included in a poster session immensely! I was able to attach documents and further descriptions through this additional depot of information in a way that didn't compromise my poster's attempt for clean lines and minimal information so as not to overwhelm the reader, and it was a way that I could provide some tangible artifacts to those who were interested in creating similar rubrics and descriptions of their own budding teaching rotations. In retrospect, I wish I could have handed out a card or at least had the address of the website the QR code directed people to next to my poster (in effect, undermining the QR code itself but would have perhaps been more memorable, and there was a bit of a learning curve for those who had never scanned a QR code before). I did teach a couple people how to use their QR code scanner on their smart phone device at the time of the poster session, and they seemed to appreciate being able to practice this new skill.

The notion that I was going to actively solicit feedback from participants viewing my poster through a brief written evaluation during the poster session elevated my efforts in trying to create a visually pleasing, descriptive, content rich poster in a different way. I plan to use on-the-spot evaluations for poster sessions in the future after recognizing the benefits of gleaning additional written feedback aside from the verbal comments and discussion that poster-viewers share at the time. I noticed that most of the people who filled out my evaluations were the ones who stopped to talk to me about the rotation; feedback was still lost on the silent reviewers from a distance who did not speak with me.

The constructive feedback that I did receive was helpful in terms of formatting (using larger font and spacing things a little better) and expansion in descriptions to improve its utility as a stand-alone resource.