Midterm Presentation Reflection

1. Positive and Negative Comments

a. Stars

Good explanations of topics (6)

Good transitions between sections (2)

Good explanation of how the problem statement was formed (2)

Good breakdown of engineering process (2)

Powerpoint was organized well and easy to follow

Presented to class and not the wall or board

Explanation of research was thorough

Explanation of learning experiences was good

Explained specific topics for audience so they wouldn't be confused (7)

Good vocal projection (2)

Good eye contact around the room (2)

Very professional tone and conduct (3)

Very knowledgeable and specific when answering questions (2)

Lots of data

Used survey to show how it shaped parts of our project

Very enthusiastic clicker actions

Addressed the demographics in our presentation

Very enthusiastic presentation (2)

Looked confident and relaxed

Tyler Nolan

Explains graphs to audience

Very well-rehearsed (2)

Talking speed was appropriate and engaging (2)

Flowcharts were engaging

Transitions between points were effective

Tremendous understanding of the topic/problem

Presented a visual of the problem

b. Wishes

Clicker malfunctions

Don't describe 6 steps as a long chain. Seems redundant for presentation

Balance speaking time (3)

Rough Start

Both of us were shifting back and forth while presenting, was distracting our

audience (2)

Slides had too many parts, too many animations (4)

Noah's pants were not matching

Open bodies to audience more

Too many pauses for animations to work

Both speak on each topic instead of splitting topics

Looked at powerpoint too much

Vocal projection lacked toward the end of the presentation

Awkward pauses/transitions

Need to explain the problem, not just why it's a problem

Avoid laughing while presenting

Seemed overly excited

- 2. Of the positive comments, I was most pleased with all the comments about how well explained our problem and aspects of our problem. Noah and I knew that our problem was not well known amongst the general population along with that the aspects of our problem so we focused a lot on our explanations. There was thorough explanation of aspects such as energy return and how the geometry of the spike affects energy return, ways that track spikes get stuck in the threading, and what rules and regulations that our design must meet.
- 3. Of the wished the one that most concerns me is about the swaying of our bodies during the presentation. I was aware of the swaying as I was presenting and attempted to stand in place but obviously it was to no avail. I am an extremely fidgety person who's legs are always bouncing even when I am sitting down. This wish concern's me because I know it will take some practice and conviction to solve this issue. I know I can do it through with thorough practice. The wish that surprised me most was "seemed overly excited". My surprise for this wish is twofold. I am first surprised by how this would be noticed. I felt as though Noah and I were very professional while still being engaging during our presentation. Secondly, I am confused on why this is even an issue. The presentations with the most excitement hold the audience's attention from start to finish because it is

obvious that there is a passion of the engineer about his/her product. I suppose the solution for this issue would be to ensure our presentation maintains its professionalism while still showcasing the excitement Noah and I have about the potential of our product.

- 4. I foresee this presentation being widely different from the final presentation. There is a whole extra semester of documentation that Noah and I will need to pack into only five additional minutes. I foresee Noah and I focusing more on the actual happenings of the project as opposed to the theoretical processes and procedures we took throughout during our final presentation. Noah and I can <u>SHOW</u> how we used the design process throughout this project through what we actually did and showing pictures of us doing it instead of just talking about what procedures must be taken do develop a product. As for preparation I think Noah and I will spend much longer preparing our presentation for the final. I feel as though we did not prepare enough for this presentation as there were times I lost my place and forgot what I was wanting to say on a particular slide. Noah and I will spend much more time preparing for the final to stomp out this along with many other flaws we encountered in the review of our semester presentation.
- 5. One thing I noticed and now understand the audience's evaluation of is the swaying. I could very easily see the unnecessary movement of Noah and I during the presentation. When I put the video on 4x speed it seemed as if Noah and I were

flowers moving in the wind. One discrepancy I had with what I witnessed and the audience's evaluation is the balance of our speaking balance. Noah and I had a plan to split up our presentation where he would focus more on the theoretical aspect of our design process and after he fully explained the theory behind the process I would go more in depth on the actual execution of the process and the individual events that happened to push our design to the form it is in today. I can understand now how this may have been distracting to the audience. Because our speaking parts were so long the audience was left wondering when I would stop talking and Noah would pick up or vice verses. The direction we took in deciding speaking parts was different and we intended for it to be so but Noah and I now understand that this decision may have not been for the best and we will definitely evaluate that and look into making a change for our next presentation.

6. As stated prior Noah and I intend to working on our body movements and our speaking balancing. Obviously the speaking balancing isn't really something we can instate until the next opportunity we have to present; however, Noah and I will work on the swaying immediately as that is not an aspect that can only be used in formal presentation. Noah and I can manage our body movements in everyday conversation to maintain a level of professionalism and attention of our audiences, whomever that may be. Both of these things are aspects we noticed due to the audience's feedback as there were multiple responses pointing toward these issues.

- a. We obtained a perfect score for attire. It is obvious that Noah and I were properly attired.
- b. Our lowest grade was in vocabulary. Noah and I will have to work harder on ensuring that our audience is properly versed in the topics we are speaking on and educate them on what they may need educated on in order to fully comprehend our presentation.
- c. Our lowest individual grade is a 2 from a particular audience member in the vocabulary section. It is obvious that this audience member was lost during certain parts of our presentation because Noah and I did not properly inform them of the definitions of particular terms.
- Our second best section score is in content. Noah and I had the appropriate and adequate content in our presentation.
- e. Our use of complete sentences is a low grade proportionally. With more preparation Noah and I could work to better memorize what we want to say for each slide.
- f. The closest we got to a perfect individual score is a 3.94. The only non 4 response was a 3.5 in posture and eye contact which is likely hinting toward the swaying of our bodies.
- g. Our overall average is a 3.67 which is very respectable and denotes a pretty good presentation. All of our averages were within .5 of each other (excluding attire) which shows a consistency.

- h. The lowest grade we got from a single individual is a 3.22. It can be noticed that no particular section dragged this grade down.
- i. We only received 3 grades below a 3 which is very respectable. Noah and I will take note of these areas and work to bring them above a 3.
- j. It is interesting to note that for every category it is not one particular individual dragging that grade down and that the low grades come from different individuals in every category.
- I enjoyed this grading process because it kept the audience engaged and gave reviewable feedback on our presentation and provided quantifiable data given by fellow classmates.
- 8. The only thing I didn't like about this presentation process was the setting. It would have been nice to have a presentation lab to present in; however, I understand the lack of extra space in the school due to the current construction.
- 9. For the next presentation hopefully there is a different setting for presenting that gives the presenters a true feel for what a presentation will be like in a more formal setting in their careers.
- 10. I can say that this presentation began to make me realize the culmination of all my education, both engineering based and otherwise, up to this point. The work that was put in to our project thus far has applied aspects from almost every area of my

education and the presentation itself truly showcased my eloquence and speaking skills I've gathered through all of my learning. I can feel how all of my k12 learning is coming together to build me into the engineer and man I want to be. My dream has always been to create something that makes an impact and I feel that this project is going to be the magnum opus of my primary and secondary education and will be the greatest accomplishment of my life until I go on and begin to top my greatest accomplishments over and over with every engineered product I create in my career. This project has only reaffirmed the fact: I am and always be and engineer who believes the world can be made better and I will strive to make it so.