Guidelines for video production

Here are some guidelines to be used by students who participate in the NanoDiode contest and produce videos on the following topic: **"What kind of nanotechnologies do we want?"**

Of course, students are free to ignore these guidelines and produce videos in their own, unique way ☺

Technical specifications

Length of video: minimum 2 minutes - maximum 10 minutes

Video format: Shoot everything in 16x9 widescreen aspect ratio. When possible, shoot in high definition at either 720p or 1080p resolution. Optimum would be HD quality at 1080p: 1920x1080, Container: .mp4, Audio Codec: AAC-LC, Video Codec: H.264. These are specs that most popular smart-phones and video-cameras comply with.

Language: The videos should be in English, or subtitled in English. If none of these can be done, the students should provide a summary of the video script in English.

Preparation

In case of an interview, there should be at least two voices in the video (interviewer-interviewee). The more people involved (interviewed), the better.

The video may feature a narrator, or the interviewee can tell the story through their answers to the questions. This is up to the students to decide.

Students should ask open-ended questions (questions that don't yield a yes or no answer).

If there is no narrator, at least one of the interviewees should give something that can be used as an opening statement and a closing remark.

After students have identified the interviewees, they will need to set them up for a sit-down (or stand up) interview (also known as a-roll).

It's up to the students to decide whether the interviewees will be shown in action, demonstrating what it is they are talking about (teaching, doing research, interacting with students, etc.).

Ideally, students should come up with at least a preliminary list of shots they want to get when they map out the narrative of their story.

It is preferable that questions should be written down ahead of time and should be given to the interviewee beforehand.

The interviewees must give permission for the publishing of the video and must declare that there are not any copyright issues. This should be stated in a signed document.

There must also be permissions for shootings. For instance, if there is a shooting in a classroom, students need to clear it with the teacher first. In a situation where someone in a

class or event indicates they don't want to appear in film, they can be asked to sit in the back of the class or otherwise out of the view of the camera's lens. If the video features children under 18, there MUST be written permission from their parents.

Shooting

Ideally, the interviewers should have a second person with them to operate the camera. A standard way to shoot interviews is with the interviewer standing slightly to the left or right of the camera (out of frame), and the interviewee looking at the interviewer and NOT straight into camera. If there are two interviewees, one should look left and one should look right, so in back-to-back video shots, they look like they are looking at each other.

Of course, students are welcome to improvise and use their own techniques and ideas.

The captured interview isn't going to be live, so students can have the interviewee repeat their answer if the answer doesn't come out the way you would like.

If possible, audio should be captured using a separate microphone whenever possible to ensure quality. If not possible, the built-in microphones of the camera can be considered sufficient; students should make sure there is not too much background noise. Students should try to choose a quite location for shooting your interviews. It is preferable that students use a headset connected to the camera.

Students should make sure their subject is lit properly. They should be aware of back lighting (lighting behind interviewee). The interviewee may not be viewable when shooting against a bright window or strong backlight.

Editing

Any video editing software is accepted, students can use retail tools (such as Adobe Premiere or Final Cut) or free and open source tools (such as Avidemux, VirtualDub, Windows Movie Maker, etc.).

Students can use photos. These photos should be taken by them, or they should be royalty free or under Creative Commons licenses.

If music is to be used in the video, students should make sure it is not copyrighted. This includes any music that is playing in the background. Some video editing programs like iMovie, Final Cut Pro, or Adobe Premiere offer free, royalty-free music for video projects.

If music is used, students should use a Creative Commons CC BY-NC license.