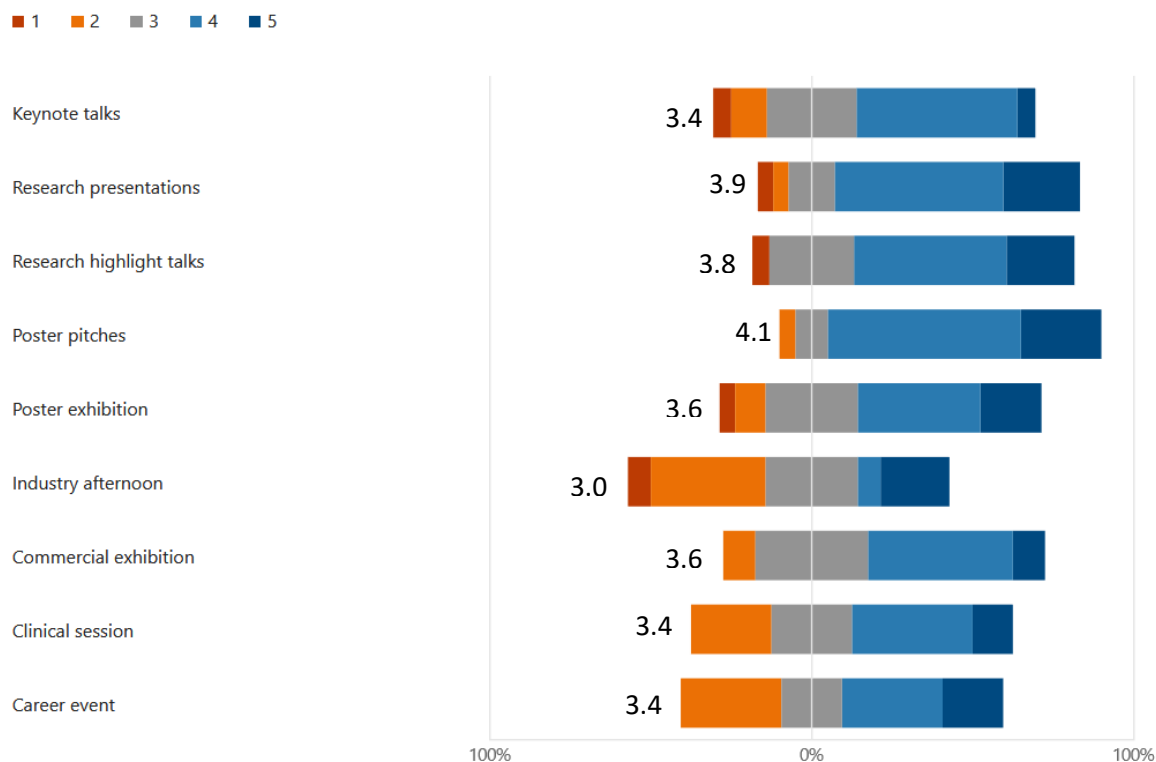


Feedback on MET Research Day

We have received feedback from 23 participants of the MET Research Day 2023. Average participant attended the event on both days and gave us grade 3.8 on the general arrangements and assessed the usefulness of the event at 3.6.

In the feedback, different program components were assessed separately. The results in nine categories are shown with histograms and average grades below. The color coding for results is 1 = poor, 2 = below average, 3 = average, 4 = good, 5 = excellent.

According to the feedback, the top three categories in the program were poster pitches, research presentations and research highlight talks. It is delightful to see that the popularity of the scientific core components of the program have been rated relatively high. It is also pleasing to note that despite some verbal and written feedback indicating that we have not quite succeeded yet, the effort towards popularizing science with the short pitches has been appreciated. The poster exhibition and the commercial exhibition also seem to be holding their ground as program components.



The new program components—namely the industry afternoon, clinical session and career event—also received average or above average grades.

Based on the feedback that we received this year, some improvements for the next implementation were already identified. The suggested improvements together with comments from the 2023 Organizing Committee are listed below. Of course, the decision on the final contents, structure and practical implementation of MET Research Day 2024 will be the responsibility and privilege of the new Scientific Committee (SC) and Organizing Committee (OC).

- **Template for the abstract submission is needed** – Will be done!
- **The presentations should be better understandable for an audience with different backgrounds** – This is emphasized every year and the new SC+OC will surely keep requesting understandability for wider audiences. Maybe the SC could also start limiting the number of accepted abstracts.
- **Longer time needed for visiting the poster exhibition** – Can be done, the next SC+OC decides.
- **More snacks during the breaks** – This is severely limited by the extremely high prices and the restrictions in selecting the supplier.
- **MET awards to a place in the program where larger audience could be guaranteed** – This is added to the list of things to consider, maybe we could *start* the event with the award ceremony.
- **Projectors in Jarmo Visakorpi auditorium should be renewed** – Message will be forwarded to people in charge of AV, there is not much else that we can do about it.
- **No separate session for the clinicians, or alternatively more parallel sessions for other fields as well** – The main goal was to attract more clinicians to the event. The new SC and OC will decide, but the current OC suggests that next year, clinicians' participation will be facilitated by means other than a separate session and no parallel sessions will be arranged as the goal is to mix people rather than enable detailed field-specific discussions among people having similar backgrounds. However, the goal is still to attract more clinicians to participate in the event.
- **More short breaks to the program** – Agreed! At the very minimum, more time to switch between the program components should be reserved to the program.
- **Information on session numbers to posters as well** – Sessions were indicated in two places of the program, but we can add them to the poster stands as well.
- **Separate emails to those who have registered** – We can add these emails parallel to the emails to met-all and selected interest groups (such as laboratory personnel, PhD/MSc students, TAYS personnel, TAMK, companies,...). And next year we allow people registering with Forms to receive confirmation (this was mistakenly left out this year).
- **Clear instructions needed to prohibit photographing of the posters** – Reflecting this need returns us to the purpose of the event: do we want to review the very latest research that has not yet been published or do we want to present on a more general level what we are capable of and what kind of collaboration we want and offer.
- **Both poster sessions to a morning time and poster pitches to several short sessions instead of two long ones** – Definitely suggestions that will be taken into consideration! In the feedback last year, the second poster session was considered to take place too late, but maybe moving both sessions to the same day was too drastic of a change.
- **Presenters should be offered an opportunity to test the microphones and projector/changing slides before the event** – Definitely something that can be implemented. However, the late submission DL for presentations make it impossible to do this with finalized presentations before the event. Maybe a rehearsal on more general level could be arranged well in advance.
- **Why not let the audience also vote for other presentations in addition to poster pitches** – This is doable, the new SC+OC will decide. Last year, we received feedback that letting the audience vote is not scientific enough. Therefore, this year the voting was reserved to presentations where the focus was on understandability and on popularizing science. In other categories, the SC made the decisions.

- **Company info and recruitment aspects should be included in the commercial exhibition** – Interesting suggestion! The aim of the commercial exhibition has traditionally been in product introductions. This year we had a separate career event but of course the approach limited the number of companies presented. We could probe the possibility to include suggested aspects in the commercial exhibition. It is then up to the participating companies whether it can be arranged.
- **We should include more staff in the event arrangements** – Excellent idea! We already had many volunteers participating in the form of SC work, abstract evaluation and practical help during the event. This commitment was invaluable! Perhaps the event would better reflect the faculty if more staff representatives were involved in the arrangements.