



Six Minute Seminars - Quick Tips

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Center for International Programs (NIFA/CIP) invites faculty, researchers, or extension staff to offer a “Six Minute Seminar” (video or recorded PowerPoint) showcasing an important agricultural practice, technology, and/or innovation relevant not only in the U.S., but beyond.

Three key requirements for your Six Minute Seminar

These videos must:

- Be approximately six minutes in length (no longer please)
- Show and explain a technology, agricultural practice, or innovation from you, your team, or your institution that is globally relevant.
- NIFA funds contributed in some way to support work at your institution on the practice, technology, or innovation shown.

We at NIFA/CIP will make final approval, attach a NIFA “Six Minute Seminar” opening slide and closing slide, and host these “Six Minute Seminars” on our global engagement programs webpage. These videos will become a valuable resource for anyone in the U.S. or abroad who wants to learn about some of the globally relevant agricultural research (aided by NIFA) at the land-grant universities as well as other institutions, leading possibly to increased awareness and perhaps new opportunities for global engagement.

Recommendations on Seminar Format

We want to make this process as flexible as possible, so there are no requirements on the format of the slide show or video. Our hope is that simple readily available tools (laptop, PowerPoint, smartphone, or video camera) would be sufficient if you like. Nevertheless, we have highlighted three with some examples below.

1. **PowerPoint Only:** A recorded narrated PowerPoint slideshow (many could be photos of the technology or practice).
 - a. NIFA’s [Institute of Food and Safety Nutrition Seminar Series](#) serve as a good example for this format.
 - b. This [link](#) provides a guide on recording a slide show with narration.
2. **PowerPoint and Video:** A short video introduction (e.g., talking head) followed by narrated PowerPoint slides and another short video (e.g., talking head again, discussion with a farmer, or showing the technology in action etc.) at the end.
 - a. This [video](#) is a good example showcasing this format.



3. **Video Only:** All video with a fair number of clips or integration of video clips with PowerPoint slides.
 - a. This is a good [source](#) on how to storyboard your idea when filming multiple clips and putting them into a cohesive presentation.

Recommendation for Story Format

1. Address the problem/issue that has global significance
 - a. *Example:* By 2050, most of the world's population will live in cities.
2. Present your technology, expertise, or experience that can fix this problem/issue
 - a. *Example:* Practices related to Urban Agriculture
3. How is the technology, expertise, or practice being applied, what is happening next (for the future), and remind the audience why it is relevant beyond the United States?
 - a. *Example:* Developing innovative ways to get fresh, healthy food from local, small and medium-sized farms to a variety of consumers through food hubs around a city.

Examples

An example that uses a mix of clips and slides is already available on our [Six Minute Seminars](#) webpage.

Additional Resources

- Comprehensive resource on utilizing various tools to create a compelling video
 - <http://thescientistvideographer.com/wordpress/tutorials/>
- Video on using a smartphone to create videos products
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RyX0rso6H04>
- Tips on tailoring your videos to specific audiences
 - http://www.science20.com/the_conversation/7_ways_to_make_your_science_video_popular_on_youtube-153514
 - <http://genrehacks.blogspot.com/2011/12/how-to-make-better-science-video.html>
- Basic resource on shooting videos for science
 - <https://sharingscience.agu.org/shoot-videos/>
- Guidance on how to end your videos effectively
 - <https://www.vidyard.com/blog/end-video-strong-call-action-examples/>