## Graphing Your Science Fair Data

## Types of Graphs

I. Research Line (x-y scatter) - These graphs show trends over a period of time, help predict what will happen if situations were to continue

II. Histogram (bar) - These graphs are used when counting items in categories

III. Pie Graph - These graphs are used to show a comparison of items that have been counted. (Percentage of results)


## What to Graph

I. Only Graph the Average of all of your trials
II. If you can, include your multiple variables on the same graph so that you can see how each variable affected your results.

## Graphing on Excel

1. Type your data in columns ( x -axis data in the A column, y -axis data in the B column)
2. Highlight your data and click on the graph icon in the tool bar

$$
\mathbf{H}
$$

3. Choose the type of graph you need (column, xy scatter, or pie)
4. Click Next
5. Click on Series (across the top)
```
Data Range Series
```


6. Name each series to match the variable

7. Click Next
8. Title Your Graph to explain the relationship (DON'T USE VS)
9. Label your $x$-axis and $y$-axis - be sure to include units
10. Include a legend that shows the different variables (if necessary)

## 11. Click Finish

**On an XY Scatter - you need to add a line of best fit. To do this:

1) Click on the graph, itself
2) Click on Chart $\rightarrow$ Add trend-line
3) Click OK

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Chart Window } \\
& \hline \text { Chart Type... } \\
& \text { Source Data... } \\
& \text { Chart Options... } \\
& \text { Location... } \\
& \hline \text { Add Data... } \\
& \text { Add Trendline... } \\
& \text { Z-ก View }
\end{aligned}
$$

## References for Additional Help:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Line_chart
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Histogram
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pie_chart

