

## Call for Proposals for Papers and Training Sessions 2009 Annual Meeting

San Diego, CA      April 12-16, 2009

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Co-Chairs, Annual Meeting Program Committee:

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Proposals may be submitted from  
**July 1, 2008 to August 1, 2008.**

Submit all proposals online at  
[www.NCME.org](http://www.NCME.org)

Proposals must contain all the information specified in this  
Call for Proposals.

Notification of acceptance/rejection decisions given by  
**November 15, 2008**

Papers should be provided to moderators and discussants by  
**March 16, 2009**

### INTRODUCTION

The 2009 NCME Annual Meeting offers a unique forum to exchange your ideas, results, and concerns with other members of the organization. The submission of a proposal for a paper, a coordinated paper session, or a training session constitutes the first step in taking advantage of such an opportunity. However, submitting a proposal involves a commitment to complete the promised work in a timely manner and to attend the Annual Meeting. **Please do not submit proposals for papers or other sessions unless you fully expect to attend the Meeting if your proposal is accepted.** Should you be unable to attend the Meeting, it is your responsibility to ensure that someone else can assume

your role in a session. Furthermore, **it is critically important that papers be sent to discussants at least 4 weeks before the Meeting so that they will have time to review your work and prepare appropriate comments.**

The Annual Meeting Program consists primarily of paper presentations and training sessions. This Call for Proposals provides instructions for submitting proposals for these sessions. When submitting proposals, please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- All presentations must be related to some aspect of measurement in education.

- Topics of proposals should not have been published previously or presented previously at another scientific meeting.
- Proposals describing work in progress will be considered if the activities still to be completed are clearly indicated in the proposal and if the work will be completed prior to the Annual Meeting.
- The presentations should have clear relevance for practitioners.

- The scientific merit of the topic of the proposed session;
- The extent to which the material is not redundant with previous publications and presentations;
- Whether the topic can be presented in the time allotted;
- The relevance to practitioners in the field;
- The clarity and completeness of expression of the proposal.

The Program Chairs would like your ideas and proposals for other types of sessions not explicitly listed in the Call. They also welcome suggestions for invited speakers and symposium topics. Moreover, members who are willing to serve as proposal reviewers, session moderators, and/or discussants should register at the annual meeting website using the address given above.

### PROCEDURES FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

All members of NCME are invited to submit paper, coordinated session, and training session proposals. A nonmember may submit a proposal if sponsored by an NCME member. **Only proposals submitted online through the NCME web site ([www.NCME.org](http://www.NCME.org)) will be accepted.**

#### *Participation Rules*

The following rules have been established to ensure the widest possible range of participation by NCME members. In addition, they are needed to minimize schedule conflicts that arise when sessions are arranged in the final program schedule. NCME will be enforcing these rules for its forthcoming annual meeting. When multiple submissions involving an individual lead to violation of these rules, program co-chairs are authorized to resolve conflicts in ways that best benefit the overall program. Furthermore, it is important to remember that conflicts between NCME and AERA program scheduling cannot always be resolved.

- A member may not be a presenter in more than one paper session.
- A member may not be a presenter in more than one coordinated session, but may participate as a discussant in one other coordinated session.
- A member may chair or organize one event in addition to those listed previously.
- In all, no person may have an active role in more than four sessions.

#### *Evaluation Criteria*

Each proposal will be evaluated by at least two persons according to a blind-review process. The following criteria will guide the evaluations.

#### *Topic Descriptors*

Please use this list of topic descriptors to select the one that best characterizes your paper or coordinated session proposal.

1. Policy, legal, and ethical issues
2. Performance assessment or alternate assessment
3. Large-scale assessment
4. Licensure and certification testing
5. Computer-based testing (including adaptive testing)
6. Standard setting
7. Test/item development
8. Item response theory (IRT) modeling (including model fit/dimensionality issues)
9. Estimation issues in IRT
10. Reliability/generalizability theory
11. Test validity
12. Linking and equating
13. Test use with special populations
14. Test/item scoring
15. Score reporting
16. Growth modeling
17. Test security
18. Test equity and fairness (including DIF)
19. Testing accommodations
20. Other issues (describe)

In addition to the main topic selection, please provide three keywords that relate to the topic of the paper or coordinated session. Instructions for preparing each type of proposal follow.

NCME will provide an LCD (data) projector, screen, and microphone for each session. NCME will arrange for other equipment for a session (e.g., VCR, slide projector, computer, LCD [data] projector, overhead projector) at the expense of the presenter(s).

## TYPES OF PROPOSALS

### (1) PAPER PROPOSALS

#### *General Information*

Paper sessions generally include four presentations of 10–15 minutes each on related topics with one or two discussants. Questions and comments from the audience follow the formal presentations. This format applies to proposals for individual papers. Related papers that are submitted together should follow the instructions for Coordinated Session Proposals.

#### *Procedures for Online Submission*

1. Complete the required information fields on the paper proposal submission form on the NCME web site. Be sure to complete the separate listing of all authors' names and affiliations **clearly specifying the presenting author. All authors' names and affiliations should be typed as you would like them to appear in the Program.**
2. Type or electronically insert the title and a summary (1,200 to 1,500 words) of your paper in the appropriate text boxes. Do not include information about authorship or institutional affiliation(s) in the summary. In general, the summary should include the following sections: (a) objectives of the inquiry; (b) source(s) of the information presented in the paper (including sample, instruments, etc.); (c) methods and/or techniques; (d) results and/or conclusions; and (e) educational importance of the study.
3. Upload any formula(s), graphs, or tables following the submission form instructions.
4. Submit the proposal by **August 1, 2008**.

**The presenting author will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of the submission.**

### (2) COORDINATED SESSION PROPOSALS

#### *General Information*

Coordinated Sessions are any of a number of different types of sessions where a proposal for a completely organized session is submitted as a unit, including all presenters, a moderator, and discussants. Coordinated Sessions provide an opportunity to present specific challenges or topics from a variety of perspectives or to present complex topics that require a number of papers to describe the full scope of the issue. Coordinated Sessions are usually 1½ hours in length, but special requests can be made for a limited number of 2-hour sessions. Coordinated Sessions may include (a) symposia, (b) related papers, (c) debates, (d) demonstrations, (e) roundtable discussions, or other

innovative formats that provide extensive information about challenging issues. The following are brief descriptions of these session types.

- **Symposia.** A series of papers that present alternative views, solutions, or interpretations for a topic or issue of broad scope and major importance. Symposium proposals should make clear the alternative viewpoints that will be presented in the session. At least one independent discussant should be included.
- **Related Papers.** A session with related papers provides a more extended analysis or discussion of a topic than can be provided in a single paper presentation. Related papers should either build on one another or cover different aspects of a single topic or issue.
- **Debates.** A formal debate on a significant issue currently facing the field of measurement. The debaters must hold opposing viewpoints on the issue. The submitter will serve as moderator for a controlled, but frank, debate between the two debaters and with the audience. The proposal must describe the issue to be debated and the views of the participants.
- **Demonstrations.** A formal classroom-style discussion of a useful measurement concept or tool. Proposals must describe how the presenter will walk attendees through a clear, step-by-step explanation of the concept or tool; how it can be useful; how it compares to other measurement concepts or tools; its strengths and weaknesses; and how it can best be applied. This session differs from a training session in that the demonstration will provide an intellectual awareness and understanding of the concept or tool but not necessarily a hands-on opportunity to actually use the concept or tool.
- **Roundtable Discussions.** A group discussion of an important topic. The moderator will lead a discussion of this topic and the various perspectives offered, facilitate a group effort to reach consensus, identify pros and cons, and draw conclusions. Proposals must include a detailed analysis of the topic.

The organizer of a Coordinated Session should select a topic or issue of broad scope and major importance that merits an extended presentation. The proposal for this type of session should indicate how the interaction between the presenters will be structured. The differences in the separate presentations should be emphasized. Coordinated Sessions are not to be used for collections of papers that happen to be on the same general topic. There must be a common theme and an organizing structure for the session.

The organizer should identify the topic, obtain commitments from a moderator, speakers, and

independent discussants, and plan with them the issues to be explored and the manner for exploring them. The Program Chair may suggest an additional presenter or discussant. An organizer may also act as a participant or moderator. Organizers of accepted proposals will be expected to notify the moderator, speakers, and discussants promptly and should coordinate the presentations well in advance of the Meeting.

#### *Procedures for Online Submission*

1. Complete the required information fields on the coordinated proposal submission form on the NCME web site. Be sure to complete the separate listing of all participants' names, affiliations, and mailing addresses **clearly specifying the session organizer. All names and affiliations should be typed as you would like them to appear in the Program.**
2. Type or electronically insert a 500-word summary of the topic and organizational structure of the session in the appropriate text box. The summary should make clear the distinctions between the positions taken by each presenter. In addition, type or electronically insert 150-word summaries of each participant's paper in its respective text box. **No names or institutional affiliations should appear on any of these summaries.**
3. Upload any formula(s), graphs, or tables following the submission form instructions.
4. Submit the proposal by **August 1, 2008.**

**The session organizer will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of the submission.**

### **(3) TRAINING SESSION PROPOSALS**

#### *General Information*

NCME invites proposals for training sessions on topics of interest to members and nonmembers. These sessions may be scheduled to occur before or after the Annual Meeting, depending on their length. A training session that is proposed should meet the following criteria: (a) the topic(s) covered pertains to measurement theory or practice in educational settings, (b) the length of the training session is between 3 hours and 1 full day, and (c) the costs associated with the session are covered by participant fees or other funding. NCME will publicize the training sessions in Educational Measurement: Issues and Practices and/or in a mailing to members. Questions regarding the training session proposals should be sent via e-mail to Akihito Kamata (kamata@coe.fsu.edu)

#### *Procedures for Online Submission*

1. Complete the required information fields on the training session proposal submission form on the NCME web site. Be sure to complete the separate listing of all participants' names, affiliations, and mailing addresses. **All names and affiliations should be typed as you would like them to appear in the Program.**
2. Type or electronically insert the text of the proposal into the submission form. The proposal should include the following:
  - a) Abstract of the training session;
    - i) 175 word maximum (used for both proposal review and publication purposes)
    - ii) include equipment/materials participants must bring with them (e.g., laptop);
  - b) Intended audience of the session;
  - c) Objectives of the training session;
  - d) Method and content of instruction;
  - e) Organization and length of the training session;
  - f) Materials to be given to participants;
  - g) Detailed budget;
  - h) Specification of maximum enrollment (training session enrollments will be capped at 30 participants unless otherwise specified);
  - i) Special equipment or facilities required; and
  - j) Qualifications of the organizer and presenter(s).
3. Submit the proposal by **August 1, 2008.**

**The organizer of the training session will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of the submission.**