



51st Annual Biological Safety Conference
CALL FOR PAPERS
THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS MAY 16, 2008

The Scientific Program Committee is requesting abstracts for presentations at the 51st Annual Biological Safety Conference to be held October 19-22, 2008 in Reno, Nevada. ABSA's goals are to promote biosafety as a scientific discipline and serve the growing needs of biosafety professionals around the world. All topics that relate to these goals will be considered, with an emphasis on original research or applied biosafety presentations in the following categories:

BIOLOGICAL THREATS: Analysis of existing and emerging threats; including analysis of case reports, effect on facilities and operation, sampling and decontamination of agents, including toxins.

BIOSECURITY: Evaluation of appropriate levels, systems to provide laboratory security, inventory control applications, personnel screening, compliance with biosecurity regulations and the concept of dual use.

REGULATORY ASPECTS: New and revised federal and international regulations impacting biosafety. This would include: recombinant DNA, human xenotransplantation, shipping (import, export, and transfer) of infectious, toxic, or diagnostic samples; registration of facilities that transfer select agents.

LABORATORY DESIGN, COMMISSIONING, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATIONS: To include commissioning of BSL-3 and BSL-4 laboratories; new or novel design considerations, ventilation controls, changes in NSF49, decontamination procedures and technologies; microbial agent monitoring procedures and other aspects of containment. Auditing procedures and strategies for containment during operations, including criteria for "containment" of laboratory equipment.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES: Epidemiology; field collection and safety precautions; antibiotic resistance, risk assessment and containment for laboratory work with infectious agents, including prions. Information on infectious diseases, including emerging diseases (i.e., West Nile Virus, Congo-Crimean HF Virus, resurgent pathogenic *E.coli*, Ebola outbreaks, CJD and vCJD, Wasting Disease of Elk, etc.); prospects/approaches to developing a worldwide surveillance network. Risk Groups: re-evaluation of risk assessment; comparison of National and International Guidelines.

BIO SAFETY IN INDUSTRY: Applications of biosafety technology in industrial settings; large-scale production issues, problems, and solutions (such as scale-up, medical surveillance and associated legal issues); special considerations in practice, equipment, and design of vaccine development and production facilities; biomedical waste minimization technology, decontamination procedures.

ANIMAL/ARTHROPOD BIOSAFETY: Occupationally-acquired zoonotic diseases; animal pathogens; risk assessment of protocols involving recombinant DNA or infectious agents, Animal Care and Use Committees; animal husbandry; use of feral animals in research; medical surveillance of animals and personnel; animal test equipment, and decontamination procedures, security of facility; IAQ, Allergens; Insect biosafety.

MOLECULAR BIOSAFETY: Recombinant DNA, synthetic genomics, scientific risks and issues related to genetically modified organisms, crops, foods, biomedical products and technology; recombination risks and potential infectivity of viral vector systems, human gene therapy; animal gene therapy; field testing experiences, Institutional Biosafety Committees.

BIODIVERSITY: Potential risks associated with the displacement of natural species by exotic species, potential for accidental release, and human encroachment (i.e., increases in zoonotic incidents due to increased human interaction).

PLANT BIOSAFETY: Recombinant plants, field releases

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & HYGIENE: TB, BBP, Infection Control, Role in Risk Assessment, Special Populations, Hospitals, Medical surveillance

TRAINING & PERSONNEL: Novel methods for biosafety training, all training issues, biosecurity and its impact on the workforce. Procedures and practices for researchers in field locations.

NOVEL WASTE TREATMENT AND DISINFECTION METHODS: All formats and types – no commercial presentations please

OTHERS: This category applies to a presentation that may not fit in the categories listed above. Please consider this to include “emerging issues”, “hot topics”, and /or “current events” and Nanotechnology: Identification, communication and mitigation of potential risks associated with biological applications.

AMERICAN BIOLOGICAL SAFETY ASSOCIATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT PREPARATION AND SUBMITTAL (You will NOT receive an abstract form.)

Submittal Form: Electronic

Font Size/Type: Courier; size 10.

Submission Deadline: May 16, 2008 Abstract received after this date **will not** be considered

Refer to the [Example Abstract](#) for the following points:

1. **MANDATORY:** Title: Title must be in all CAPITAL letters. Maximum number of words in title: 20
2. **MANDATORY:** Author: The name of the author who will present the paper will be underlined. All coauthors must have given their approval before their names are included. Follow the list of authors with their institution(s), city and state.
3. **MANDATORY:** Abstract Text: ABSTRACTS MUST NOT EXCEED 35 LINES (including title, authors, affiliations, and all sections) and must include the following:
 - Objective:** The study objectives/goals or the objective in presenting the material if it is not original data.
 - Methods/Implementation:** How the study was conducted, data collected, or information obtained.
 - Results/Discussion:** The results of the study, findings, analyses, or case study report.
 - Conclusions/Follow-up:** What you concluded from the study results, findings, analyses, or case reports. The "take-home" message for the audience must be included.
4. **MANDATORY:** Contact Person: After the abstract skip two lines, type the name, address, telephone number, email and fax number of the presenting author. That person will receive notification of acceptance/rejection and meeting materials.
5. Preferred Presentation: Type one of the following:
 - I will accept either poster or platform (oral); or
 - I will accept only poster; or
 - I will accept only platform (oral).

6. **MANDATORY:** Any abstract not submitted in the described format with all four sections addressed will be returned to the contact person for revision and consideration, time permitting. Any mandatory information not provided will result in a failure of the submission process.
7. **MANDATORY:** Learning outcomes and objectives (a minimum of two and preferably three) must accompany this abstract. It is imperative that all presentations and posters qualify for continuing education credits.
8. **NO COMMERCIAL, SALES, SERVICES OR PRODUCT BASED PRESENTATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
9. **If an author submits more than one platform presentation abstract, he/she must indicate their first choice as only one platform presentation will be accepted per author.**
10. **Poster presentations must strictly adhere to outline the problem, issues, procedures, data, conclusions format.**

The Scientific Program Committee strongly encourages abstract submission and is open to membership interests. Instructions for abstract preparation and submittal can be found on the following page. If you have other topics you wish to see represented, please do not hesitate to call Barbara Fox Nellis (SPC Lead Chair) (928-523-7268) or send an email barbara.nellis@nau.edu Once again, the deadline for abstract submission is May 16, 2008. Late abstracts will not be considered.

Once a platform presentation or poster session has been approved, you will receive a letter with detailed guidelines and instructions.

Students conducting biosafety-related research are encouraged to apply for the Robert I. Gross Memorial Grant that provides funds for travel, accommodations, and registration at the Annual Biological Safety Conference. Please indicate if you would like to apply for this grant, which is for undergraduate or graduate students only. Indicate the degree program in which you are enrolled and the name and telephone number of your research advisor.

The Scientific Program Committee would like to encourage everyone whose paper has been approved for presentation to submit their paper to be considered for publication in *Applied Biosafety: Journal of the American Biological Safety Association*. For more information, please contact the ABSA Office at 847-949-1517.

Members of the Scientific Program Committee:

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