



MEMORANDUM

Date: September 2017

To: Membership

From: Carol Tamminga, M.D., President and Lori McMahon, Ph.D., Chair Program Committee

Re: SOBP Annual Meeting Call for Proposals, May 10 - 12, 2018, New York, NY

The Program Committee is now requesting proposals for symposia for the 2018 Annual Meeting. While scientific quality is paramount, this year the committee will continue to strongly consider the composition of the symposia that include women, under-represented minorities and early career scientists and clinicians. Also, the committee is encouraging the submission of symposia on timely topics that coincide with the theme of the 2018 Annual Meeting: *Biomarkers, Biomodels, and Psychiatric Disease*. The **National Institutes of Health Biomarkers Definitions Working Group** in 1998 defined a biomarker as “a characteristic that is objectively measured and evaluated as an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes, or pharmacologic responses to a therapeutic intervention.” The theme of the SOBP 2018 Annual Meeting intends to bring attendees up-to-date on research in the area of biomarkers and the use of biomodels to further our understanding of the mechanisms underlying and contributing to psychiatric disease.

[Click here](#) to see a list of primary and secondary submission categories.

The submission guidelines are available below. Please read these *very carefully* before submitting a proposal. As a reminder, symposia will include 1 chair who will present a 10-minute introduction to outline the goal of the session and 4 presenters who will have 25 minutes each, including a 20-minute presentation and a 5-minute discussion period. A co-chair is still optional. Submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines will not be reviewed.

- [Submission Guidelines](#)

All submissions must be submitted through the online submission system. Please [click here](#) to access the submission system.

Reminders/Takeaways from Submission Guidelines:

- All participants in a session must commit to attending the meeting and to be available for all meeting days.
- *Very important:* No person can serve in more than 2 symposia sessions, regardless of their role in the session. Note that submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines will not be reviewed.

Deadlines:

Submission of Overall Proposals by Chairs
DEADLINE: **Friday, October 13th**

Submission of Individual Presenter Abstracts

DEADLINE: **Thursday, October 19th**

Chairs Review & Finalize Proposed Sessions

DEADLINE: **Friday, October 20th**

Oral/Poster Abstract

DEADLINE: **Thursday, December 14th**

For more information, please contact SOBP at sobp@sobp.org or (615) 432-0096.

Thank you and we look forward to a great program this year!