The ISBD Program Committee is now accepting proposals for parallel symposia, brainstorming/debate sessions, courses, and poster/rapid oral presentations for the 2021 Virtual Annual Conference. This conference will feature both pre-recorded interactive and live events balanced across time zones.

For the 23rd Annual ISBD Conference, we would like to highlight that, in addition to our primary focus on bipolar disorder, we are also accepting proposals that focus on mood disorders more broadly.

Topic areas include:

- **Basic research:**
  - Biomarkers
  - Brain Structure and Function
  - Genetics and Proteomics
  - Physiological, Molecular, Cellular Markers and Models

- **Clinical research and/or practice:**
  - Assessment
  - Comorbidity with Medical Disorders
  - Comorbidity with Other Psychiatric Disorders
  - Diagnosis and Classification
  - Disability / Cognition / Rehabilitation
  - Integration of Pharmacological, Somatic and Psychological Treatment
  - Prodromes, Early Recognition, and Staging
  - Psychosocial Treatments and Self-Management
  - Quality of Life
  - Stigma
  - Suicide
  - Updates on Treatment Guidelines

- **Population Health/Analysis**
  - Big Data and Machine Learning
  - Population Health, Epidemiology, Economics

- **Special groups**
  - Advocacy and Patient Organizations
  - Children and Adolescents
  - Cultural Differences and Its Consequences
  - Gender Related Issues
  - Older Adults (the elderly)

- **Hot Topics (i.e. COVID-19)**
The quality of the submitted proposal will be the primary factor considered in the scientific review process; however, inclusion as Chairs and Presenters of women, early career professionals, and participants from diverse geographic regions will enhance the desirability of proposals for the program. This reflects the continuing commitment of the ISBD to seek excellence through inclusion.

**Symposia, Brainstorming/Debate Session and Course Proposal Submission Guidelines and Instructions:**

The submission guidelines are available below. Please read these *very carefully* before submitting a proposal. The guidelines were developed to try to enhance the interactive component and maximize audience engagement in light of the virtual format (pre-recorded or live).

**Symposia** will be exactly 1 hour in length and will include 1 Chair and 2 or 3 presenters. We strongly encourage Presenters to limit their talks to 15 - 20 minutes each. Similarly, we suggest the Chairs provide a brief introduction and limit their remarks to around 5-10 minutes to facilitate an interactive discussion (among speakers or in live events with the audience) at the conclusion of the talks.

**Brainstorming/Debate Sessions** will be exactly 1 hour in length and will include 1 Chair and 2 presenters only. The format can be structured as either a presentation or organized as a debate. We strongly encourage presentations to be limited to 15 minutes each to leave enough time for audience participation. All presentations/debates should include questions and/or topics for further discussion with the audience.

Submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines will not be reviewed.

- Symposium Submission Guidelines
- Brainstorming/Debate Session Submission Guidelines
- Course Guidelines
- Poster/Rapid Oral Submission Guidelines

All submissions must be submitted through the online submission system. Please click here to access the submission system. Please note, if you are an ISBD Member or participated in the 2020 Conference, you already have an account in the system.

**Deadlines:**

Chairs Review & Finalize Proposed Sessions for Symposia, Brainstorming/Debate Sessions, & Courses

DEADLINE EXTENDED: **Friday, January 22, 2021**

Rapid Oral/Poster Abstracts

DEADLINE: **Wednesday, March 3, 2021**

For more information, please contact the office of the conference organizers at ISBD@parthenonmgmt.com or (615) 324-2365