Educational Course & Symposia Guidelines

We are inviting interested members of the Brain Mapping community to submit proposals for a half-day/full-day Educational Course or Symposia to be presented at the 2018 OHBM Annual Meeting that will be held in Singapore, June 17-21, 2018.

Please note that the Program Committee is particularly interested in seeing proposals using multi-modal research techniques. The Committee is also highly supportive of OHBM’s mission in promoting diversity, and so we highly encourage proposals to have a balance in both gender and geographic diversity.

All applications require the following information:

1. Title of Session
2. Name(s) of Organizer(s) – **maximum of 4**
3. Brief paragraph describing the timeliness and importance of the topic and the desired learning outcomes; the desired format and the advantage of addressing the topic in the chosen format; and presenter diversity, if applicable
4. Name and e-mail for all presenters and organizers
5. Title and brief summary of each presentation
6. Speaker release and financial release forms for all speakers and organizers

**Selection Criteria:**

1. Scientific quality, the level of interest in the topic and appropriateness for the meeting are the primary selection criteria.
   a. For **Educational Courses**, the emphasis is on a clear and well-structured instructional overview of established methods and recent applications. Courses MUST have a didactic component with defined educational expectations and goals for course attendees. Reviewer scores from submitted proposals are used to assist in the selection process. Courses deemed successful from prior meeting years will be favored.
   b. For **Symposia**, presentations discussing major themes in neuroimaging science and applications are covered which are of potential interest to the majority of the OHBM membership. Novelty of the presentations and their general scientific interest are most important factors. The Program Committee scores submitted proposals, these scores are used to assist in the selection process.

2. Diversity of topics across proposals (if two proposals on a similar topic are received, it is likely that only one will be selected). Proposals that address health and disease in order to increase the dialogue between basic and clinical neuroscientists are encouraged, as they increase the diversity of topics.

3. Diversity of presenters: organizers are encouraged to include presenters of diverse genders and nationalities and under-represented minorities. Applicants are strongly encouraged to invite presenters from other institutions and laboratories. Speakers and/or Organizers will only be permitted to participate during 1 Educational Course and 1 scientific program (workshop/Symposia).

4. Individuals selected as Talairach or Keynote presenters are not eligible to speak at or organize a scientific program. (These individuals can, however, speak at and/or organize an Educational Course provided the information being presented is different than that of their Annual Meeting presentation.)

5. The Program Committee seeks a diversity of Educational Course or scientific program topics. Multiple presenters and proposals by an individual will not be accepted unless they concern scientifically distinct topics. If two or more proposals on a similar topic across these programs are received from a single individual, it is likely that only one will be selected. For Educational Courses, the emphasis is on a clear and well-structured overview
of established methods and recent advances, with an eminently didactic purpose. They should NOT be a repetition of material presented elsewhere in the conference. Please see the OHBM Policy on Annual Meeting Speaker Selection for details on program selection criteria.

6. **Educational Course** Submitters are encouraged to include activities that engage the audience beyond the standard lecture format. A large body of research shows that active learning increases engagement and promotes long-term retention of content. Preference will be given to submissions that clearly outline the ways in which learners will be engaged through directed activities, which could include (but are not limited to) audience interaction in lectures, peer teaching, or workshops that blend lecture material with hands-on projects.

**Important Note:** Scientific programs will be held between June 18 and 21 (inclusive) and sessions will be parallel. Because scheduling cannot be guaranteed, organizers and presenters must commit to availability for this entire period. All Educational Courses will take place on Sunday, June 17, 2018 and organizers and presenters must be available on this day. Before submitting the proposal, agreement to participate must be obtained from all presenters. The Program Committee reserves the right to independently contact presenters to verify compliance.

**Presentation Release:** By submitting your proposal, you grant permission for the Organization for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM) to distribute the presentation in any format, including video, audio print and electronic text through OHBM OnDemand, social media channels or other electronic media, and on the OHBM website.

The Program Committee will also abide by ACCME guidelines ensuring that the CME is free from the control of ACCME-defined commercial interests. Organizers and presenters who have a relevant conflict of interest will either not be allowed to present at the Annual Meeting or will be subject to a rigorous review process. Please see OHBM’s Policy on Annual Meeting Speaker Selection and OHBM’s Policy of Resolution for Conflicts of Interest for more information.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Is there any reimbursement for speakers and organizers for programs?**

The Council has approved the following guidelines related to reimbursement for educational course or scientific program speakers and organizers. Organizers should make these reimbursement policies clear to prospective presenters.

- **One-Day Educational Course Speakers:** Educational Course presenters and organizers receive gratis registration to the Educational Courses and Annual Meeting. Educational Course presenters and organizers must pay for their own travel and lodging.
- **Symposium Speakers:** Symposium presenters and organizers do not receive compensation/honoraria and they must pay for their own meeting registration, travel and lodging.

**Should I submit an educational course or symposia?**

The two types of sessions differ in their goals. The goal of the Educational Courses is to provide comprehensive didactic instruction on a topic for attendees on established methods, recent applications in the field, and how they may apply them to their own research.

The goal of Symposia is to present the most recent advances in a topic of general scientific interest.

**What are the format differences between the different session types?**

Symposia are presented in a 75 minute window during the main meeting (June 18-21) with four presenters maximum; Educational Courses are presented on the Sunday before the meeting (June 17) and are either half-day (5-6 presenters, approx. 3 ½ to 4 hours) or full-day (10 – 13 presenters, approx. 7-8 hours).
Is a Full-Day Educational Course more desirable or prestigious than a Half-Day Course?

No. The length of the course has little to do with its real or perceived merit, worth, or importance, per se. Indeed, a well-constructed, didactic, interactive, and informative Half-Day Course is likely to rate better than a poorly-organized, lecture-based Full-Day Course with a limited didactic component. Keep in mind that the number of speakers will tend to be larger for a Full Day course than for a Half-Day and will require additional administrative effort on the part of the course organizers. Full Day Courses are best used for themes representing core research methods and applications in use across the entire OHBM community. In each case, the goal is to craft a well-run course, with exciting presenters, serving to educate the course’s attendees in unique and creative ways.

Can I submit more than one proposal for an educational course or symposia or combination thereof?

The Program Committee works to select a unique but diverse set of educational course or symposia program topics relevant to each year’s annual meeting. With this in mind, multiple presenters and proposals by an individual will not be accepted unless they concern scientifically distinct topics. In other words, if two or more proposals on a similar topic across these programs are received from a single individual, it is likely that only one proposed session format will be chosen. For Educational Courses, the emphasis is on clear, well-structured, and eminently didactic training concerning established methods and recent advances of broad interest. The Educational Courses, in particular, should be viewed as instructional, not simply mini-symposia or workshops, and they should not comprise a repetition of scientific material presented elsewhere in the annual conference. Speakers and/or Organizers will only be permitted to participate during 1 Educational Course and 1 scientific program (workshop/Symposia).

Please see the OHBM Policy on Annual Meeting Speaker Selection OHBM Policy on Annual Meeting Speaker Selection for details on program selection criteria.

When will the proposal review take place?

The Program Committee will review and select Educational Courses, Symposia, and Oral Sessions in late February 2018. Decisions on acceptance will be sent via email within 2 weeks of selection.

For additional information, please contact the OHBM Executive Office at info@humanbrainmapping.org.