



**SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS
PROPOSAL
SUBMISSIONS:**

THINGS TO CONSIDER

SCIENCE SHAPING T@MORROW



ANNUAL MEETING
Boston, MA | February 13–15, 2025

#AAASmtg

FEBRUARY 17

2025 theme is announced and session submission site opens

MAY 15

Session proposal review begins with volunteer session reviewers

LATE AUGUST

Scientific Session and Workshop organizers receive accept/decline notifications

FEBRUARY 13-15, 2025

2025 Annual Meeting takes place in Boston, Massachusetts

MAY 6

Deadline to propose Scientific Sessions and Workshops

JULY

Program committee meets for final review to select Scientific Sessions and Workshops

MID-OCTOBER

2025 Annual Meeting program and registration available online

Considerations

- Does it offer a **unique opportunity** to AAAS attendees that would not be available in another venue?
- Will speakers present different perspectives from which **dynamic discussions** can develop?
- Does this demonstrate **research results** and evidence of conclusions, rather than descriptions of singular projects or programs in earlier stages of development?

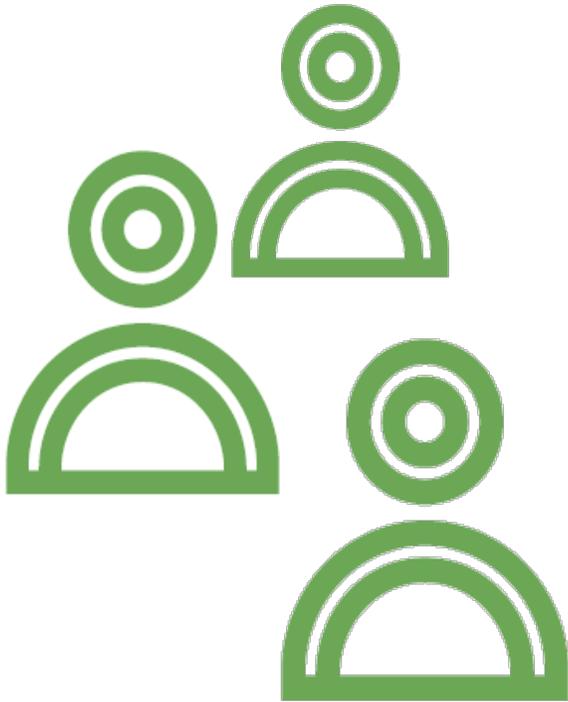
Considerations: Newsworthiness

New (not previously disclosed) advances with implications for technology, medicine, health, society, and/or policy

- Is it relevant to current events?
- Is the discovery new or unexpected?
- How could it impact the public's lives?



Considerations: Newsworthiness



Historically, the press is interested in stories that address:

- My Family & Me (health & medicine)
- Gee-Whiz!
(robots, dinosaurs, asteroids, new technology)
- My World
(climate change, natural disasters)

And honestly,

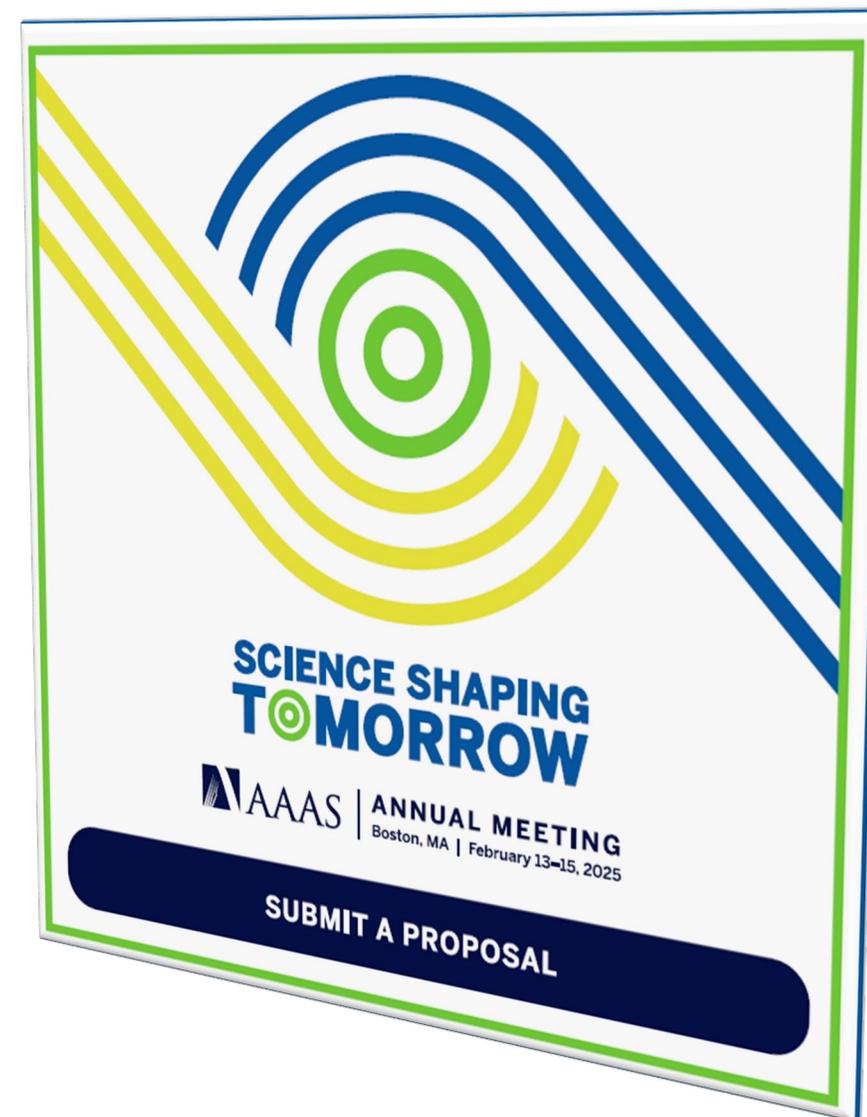
- Does this talk sound interesting you?
- Would you want to attend it?



Submitting Your Proposal

<https://meetings.aaas.org/program>

Due May 6, 11:59 PT



Conference Theme

Science-informed policies and decision-making are critical to ensuring a healthy, prosperous, and equitable future. Relationships of trust between scientists and policymakers are foundational to science-informed decision-making.



Conference Theme (cont'd)

We must work towards an ecosystem where the expertise of scientists and engineers is put to work collaboratively with policymakers and communicators to better identify and address future challenges opportunities.



Conference Theme (cont'd)

Whether climate change, public health, or the responsible use of artificial intelligence, science alone cannot solve the most pressing issues of our time. Only when scientists and policy-makers trust and collaborate with one another at the local, national, and global levels can the greatest challenges of our time be overcome.

Conference Theme (cont'd)

The 2025 AAAS Annual Meeting will celebrate and strengthen the projects and collaborations among science, policy, and communication that already exist and promote the infusion of scientific and technical expertise into the public discourse and policymaking. We will highlight not only the responses to challenges and crises, but also marvel at what our future could be.

Historic Audience

Based on previous registration data, here is the overall profile for Annual Meeting attendees:

- Scientific Focus
 - Span the gamut from Astronomy to Zoology
- Gender
 - 50% identified as Male, 45% as Female and 5% Non-binary/prefer not to answer

Historic Audience

Based on previous registration data, here is the overall profile for Annual Meeting attendees:

- The Top Work Sector Categories
 - 60% from the academic sector
 - 11% government
 - 9% research
- Degrees
 - 85% advanced degrees, with 50% holding PhDs

Historic Audience

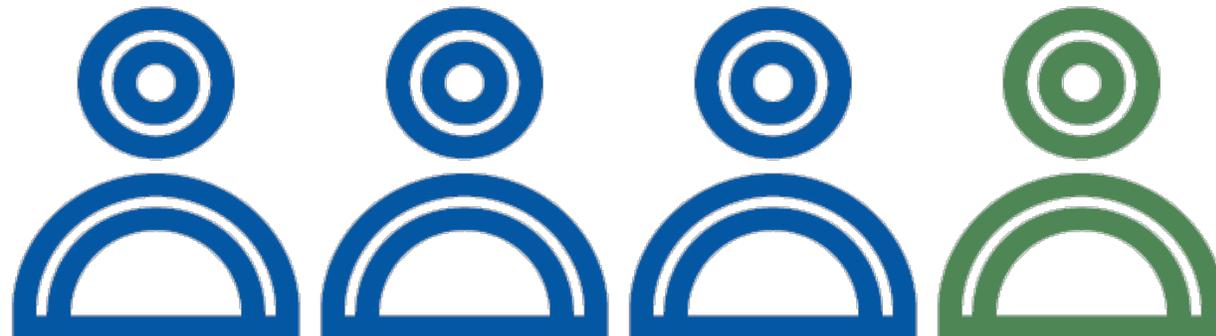
Based on previous registration data, here is the overall profile for Annual Meeting attendees:

- Age Range
 - The age groups are equally spread between the following groups: 25-34 years, 35 to 44 years, 45 to 54 years, 55 to 64 years, and 65 years or over.

NOTE: Past Boston conferences have attracted more students and early career attendees than other host locations.

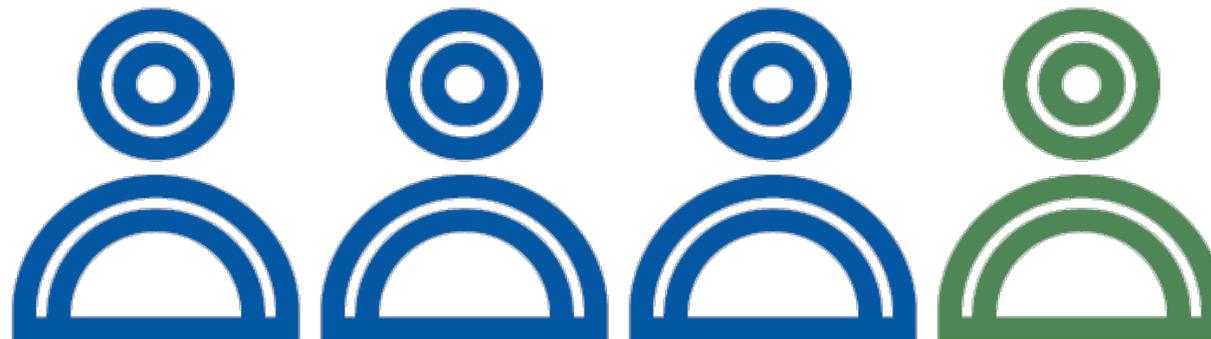
Format: Scientific Session

- Stage with a head table and podium and projector/screen
- On stage: 1 Moderator, 3 Speakers
- Organizer (and optional co-organizer) off stage Unless also acting as moderator or speaker.



Format: Scientific Sessions Outline

- 0:00-0:04 Moderator introduces the session
- 0:05-0:15 First presenter introduces self and presents
- 0:16-0:25 Second presenter introduces self and presents
- 0:26-0:35 Third presenter introduces self and presents
- 0:36-1:00 Moderator hosts panel discussion and intersperses questions from audience.



Language and Editing

- Use American English for spelling and translations
- Spell out all abbreviations and acronyms.
- Avoid jargon; most session attendees may be non-specialists.
- Ensure that a keyword for your presentation is used in the first three words in the title.

Editing

NOTE: *AAAS reserves the right to edit all submissions for publication, as they will be published in the online meeting program and app. Modifications are sometimes made to improve clarity and encourage attendance.

Submission Process: Set-up Proposal

- Title (Max 80 Characters)
- Category Selections
- Description (Max 1500 Characters)
- Highlight content's newsworthiness.
- How relates to the theme if at all?
- Conflict of interest statement
- Diversity Checklist

The screenshot shows the submission interface for Session Submission #33643 - 2025 Annual Meeting. The page includes a navigation bar with the AAAS logo and meeting details. Below the navigation bar, there are several tabs: Primary Endorsement, Set up Proposal (selected), Keywords, Section(s), Add/Edit People, and Confirmation. The main content area is titled "Symposium Title" and contains a text input field with a character count of 0/80. Below the title field is a "Submitter's Email" field. The "Category Selections" section includes instructions: "You must select at least one Primary Subject Category and one Secondary Subject Category. You may select three categories total. Select the categories in their order of importance (first Primary, then Secondary, etc.). Please take careful consideration of the categories you choose, as this selection plays an integral role in sorting the program."

Conflict of Interest

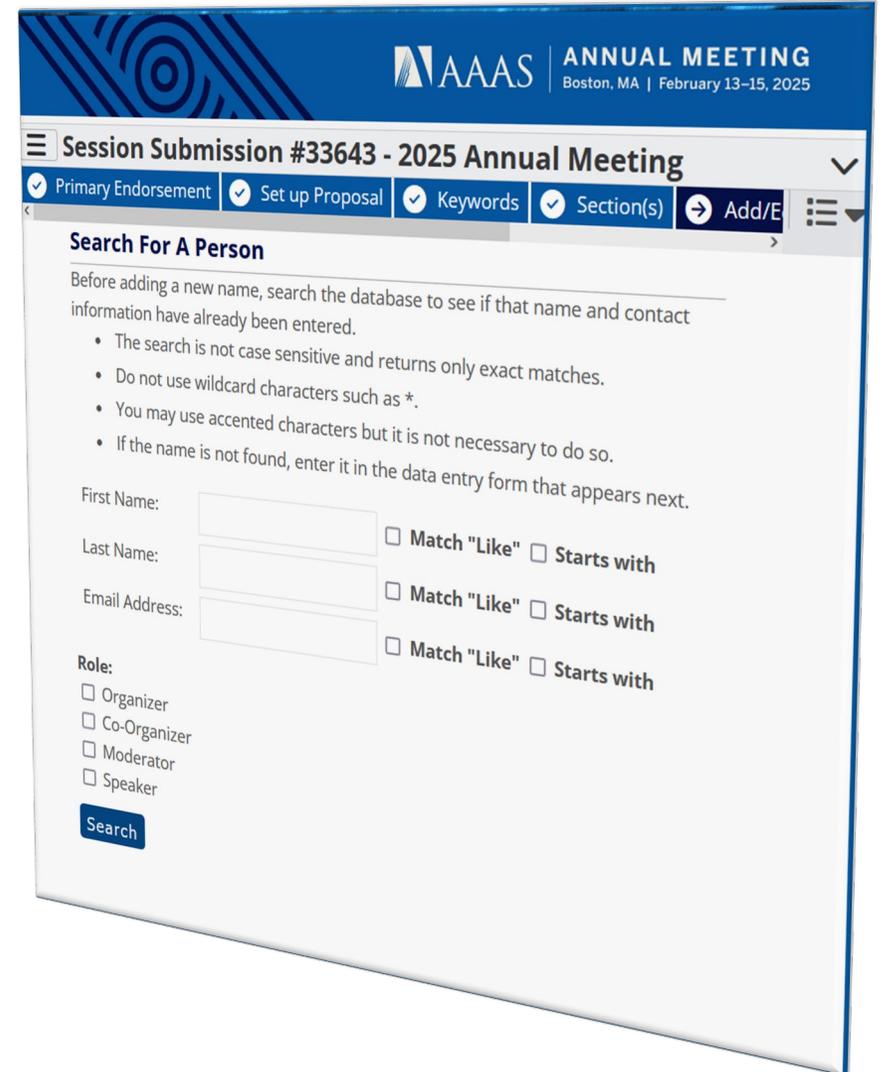
AAAS requires clear disclosures from all presenters at its Annual Meeting regarding any affiliations, funding sources, or financial holdings that might raise questions of bias or be perceived to have potentially influenced presentation content.

Both organizers and accepted session speakers will be asked for disclosures.

Submission Process: Presenters

Looking for Broad, Diverse Perspectives

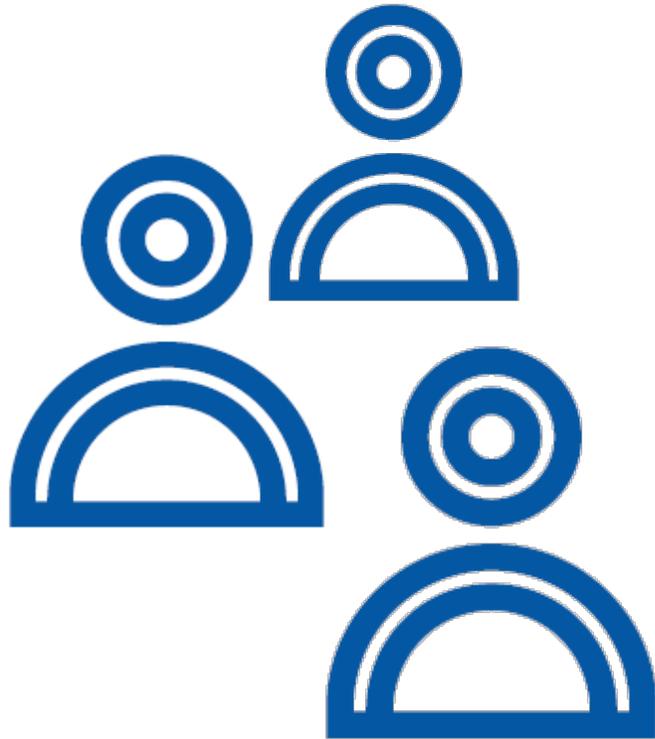
- Gender
- Race/Ethnicity
- Scientific Discipline
- Stage of Career
- Institution
- Geographical Area
- Speaker perspective on the issue



The screenshot shows a web interface for session submission. At the top, it says "Session Submission #33643 - 2025 Annual Meeting". Below this are several tabs: "Primary Endorsement", "Set up Proposal", "Keywords", "Section(s)", and "Add/E". The main content area is titled "Search For A Person" and contains the following text: "Before adding a new name, search the database to see if that name and contact information have already been entered." Below this text are four bullet points: "The search is not case sensitive and returns only exact matches.", "Do not use wildcard characters such as *.", "You may use accented characters but it is not necessary to do so.", and "If the name is not found, enter it in the data entry form that appears next." There are three input fields: "First Name:", "Last Name:", and "Email Address:". Each field has a "Match 'Like'" checkbox and a "Starts with" checkbox. Below these fields is a "Role:" section with four checkboxes: "Organizer", "Co-Organizer", "Moderator", and "Speaker". At the bottom left of the form is a "Search" button.

Organizer/Coordinator

- The organizer/coordinator is the primary person responsible for shaping the topic, coordination, and recruitment of participants.
- Is the primary contact for all communications with AAAS staff.
- Must ensure that participants receive all information relevant to their inclusion in the proposal and in the meeting if the proposal is accepted.



Speakers

- Can they speak authoritatively on their topic?
- Are the presentations integrated and coherent as a group?
- Does the panel present a balanced perspective?
- Are they all “invited” or “confirmed”?
- Have you included correct email addresses?

Scientific Session Speakers

- **Unique talk titles and summary** (maximum 500 characters) are crucial to reviewers' understanding of why you are proposing a particular speaker.
- Please **no CVs, biographical information, or formal abstracts.**
- While recognizing that some changes will occur, the committee **reserves the right to reconsider sessions** if there are speaker substitutions after acceptance of the original proposal.

Submission Process: 3-5 Keywords

- Assists in matching proposals with reviewers and program committee subgroups
- If accepted, to assist the on-line program's search feature

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Session Submission #33643 - 2025 ID: 33643 Show Password

Primary Endorsement Set up Proposal **Keywords** Section(s) Add/Edit People Confirmation

Select Keywords

Select a minimum of three (3) and up to five (5) keywords from the list provided that best describe your proposal. Each keyword will be put automatically in the box below as you select the appropriate checkbox.

Automatic summary of selected keywords

Animal, Plant, and Food Sciences

- animal ethics
- aquaculture
- crop sciences
- food science
- plant biology
- plant pathology

Anthropology, Culture, and Language

- anthropology
- archaeology
- culture
- linguistics and language sciences

Atmospheric, Hydrospheric, and Oceanic Sciences

- atmospheric sciences
- marine sciences
- oceanography

Behavioral and Social Sciences

- behavioral sciences
- cognitive neuroscience
- gender studies
- network science

Submission Process: Choose 3 AAAS Sections

- To match proposals potential sections, who might want to financially support speaker travel or endorse the proposal
- If accepted, these will be highlighted under the Individual section interest page

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Session Submission #33643 - 2025 ID: 33643 Show Password

Primary Endorsement Set up Proposal Keywords Section(s) Add/Edit People Confirmation

Choose Section

Please check the section(s) that are related to your proposal's disciplinary areas. You can choose up to 3 sections. When you click "Submit" below, a link to your proposal will be sent to section officers for informational purposes.

Section Name

- AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RENEWABLE RESOURCES (O)
- ANTHROPOLOGY (H)
- ASTRONOMY (D)
- ATMOSPHERIC AND HYDROSPHERIC SCIENCES (W)
- BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (G)
- CHEMISTRY (C)
- DENTISTRY AND ORAL HEALTH SCIENCES (R)
- EDUCATION (Q)
- ENGINEERING (M)
- GENERAL INTEREST IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (Y)
- GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY (E)
- HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE (L)
- INDUSTRIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (P)
- INFORMATION, COMPUTING, AND COMMUNICATION (T)
- LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGE SCIENCE (Z)
- MATHEMATICS (A)
- MEDICAL SCIENCES (N)

Last Check...

Is the proposal complete and ready for review?

- Is there a complete abstract?
- Are the speakers confirmed (Not just invited)?
- Are there complete speaker talks descriptions?
- Does the proposal clearly describe the session?
- Is it well organized and coherent?

**QUESTIONS
or COMMENTS?**

MEETINGS@AAAS.ORG