Guidelines for Lightning Presentations

Plan Your Presentation

- Each session is 90 minutes with 5 minutes per presentation, *although this may vary for some organized sessions*.
- Up to 12 presentations; max. of 5 slides per presentation
- Some Hybrid sessions may include virtual presenters via Zoom.
- 20 – 30 minutes of roundtable discussion following presentations

Lightning Presentation Structure & Length

A good conference presentation provides a clear and succinct overview of your paper. Consider the time available and the multiple learning styles of attendees (auditory, visual, etc.) to create a valuable presentation.

Prepare visual aids. You may use slides, either in PowerPoint or PDF, as visual aids for their presentation.

- **Font**: Use at least 20-point type so that audience members can easily read the print on your slides.
- **Tables**: Please do not include large tables in your slides: Summarize your key results rather than presenting large, dense tables.
- **Bullets**: Limit yourself to 3-4 bullets per slide and 10 or fewer words per bullet.
- **Number**: A rough rule of thumb is to prepare no more than one slide for every minute you will be presenting.
- **Try to avoid the use of acronyms, jargon, and abbreviations:**
• Consider livening up your slides with graphics and pictures: Graphics can be very effective in capturing the audience’s attention and focusing them on the point you want to make.
• **Contact information:** Include a slide that you put up at the beginning with your presentation title, name, and contact information.
• **Important:** Please proofread and spell check each slide.

**Lightning Presentation Checklist**

1. Arrive early for your session:
   - Load your presentation on the laptop, and
   - Don’t forget to bring an extra copy of your presentation to the event (on a USB stick or by sending it to your email).
   - If you wish to incorporate videos in your presentation, make sure you check that it works on the computers beforehand.
   - Connect with the other presenters and session chair so that the session may start on time.

2. Give your presentation.
   - End on time.
   - You will be warned by the chair as your time draws to a close (typically 1 minute and stop).
   - It is essential that you end on time to ensure that all participants have the opportunity to present their work and there is time for audience questions and comments.