NCME 2021 Annual Meeting
June 8-11, 2021 – Baltimore, MD

Bridging Research and Practice

Call for Proposals for Individual Presentations, Coordinated Sessions, and Training Sessions

Call for Proposals - Deadline: October 9, 2020

> ***Special Note about COVID-19***
> We understand that there is still a lot of uncertainty and concerns around the COVID-19 pandemic. We are continually monitoring the situation and are committed to convening an annual meeting that is safe and maximally accessible to all members. Accordingly, we are planning a hybrid format in which members can participate in-person and online. As such, *submitting a proposal does not obligate you to attend the annual meeting in person.* If your proposal is accepted, we will reach out to you for additional information about your plans/preferences for meeting attendance.

The National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME) invites you to submit a proposal for presentations and sessions at its Annual Meeting, June 8-11, 2021 in Baltimore, MD. NCME will accept the submission of proposals through Friday, October 9, 2020 at 11:59 PM PDT. The approximate date for notification of acceptance/rejection decisions is December 20, 2020.

Click here to start the 2021 proposal submission process. Please note that we now have "single sign on" (SSO) for the NCME web site and the 2021 proposal submission system. As such, *you should use your NCME login credentials to sign into the 2021 proposal submission system*.

We are living in a historic time. Not only is COVID-19 impacting our everyday life, it is also leading to changes, short-term and potentially long-term, to our measurement field. In the past few months, besides our 2020 NCME conference in San Francisco being canceled and moved to a virtual presence, we also witnessed cancellation of almost all of the K–12 summative assessments, cancellation of the spring administrations of the ACT and the SAT, moving AP to open-ended essay only and online unproctored administrations, moving a large number of exams to online proctored instead of in-person proctored, such as the GRE and the LSAT, and so on. We encourage all NCME members to share with the measurement community, the impact of COVID-19 to the specific measurement research and practice they engage in, and the potential long-term impact from it.

CONFERENCE THEME
The theme for the 2021 NCME conference is **Bridging Research and Practice**. Research is the foundation of our field and continues to shape and advance our industry. Practice is where we can reach tens of thousands of people, and where critical decisions, such as certification, admission and placements, are made. We would like to encourage and foster a stronger bond between research and practice. Research needs to help address practical challenges and implications; practice needs to be grounded in research.

Additionally, we encourage our members to submit papers and sessions focusing on how COVID-19 has impacted measurement practices, measurement approaches, measurement research, and its potential long-term impact to our field.

To support **Bridging Research and Practice**, besides the topics our membership historically is interested in, we will also encourage submissions in the following categories:
- Innovative research that gets implemented in practice and helps promote informed decisions
- Research-based best practices operationalized in various types of assessments
- COVID-19 and its short-term and long-term impact in measurement research and practices

Lastly, one of the over-arching goals for the 2021 is to encourage greater communication amongst our participants. These interactions are valuable aspects of the entire conference experience, and frequently the greatest learning can be obtained in the informal conversations amongst old acquaintances or new colleagues. To support this objective, the 2021 conference will contain a greater number of eBoards than in years past and integrating the Research Blitz format created by the NCME 2020 program chairs. Research Blitz sessions will contain multiple papers centered around a theme, with researchers provided a 5-minute opportunity to quickly describe their research. Once participants have completed these summaries, the room will be designed to allow for further discussion amongst participants.

The 2021 conference also encourages presentations delivered through new or innovative formats. If individuals wish to propose innovative formats, please describe how the format could be used and how it will aid in the dissemination of the research to be presented.

Proposal Submission Guidelines
The Program Committee will accept proposals for (a) Individual Presentations, (b) Coordinated Paper Sessions, (c) Organized Discussions, and (d) Training Sessions.

Individual Presentations (15-Minute Presentations, Research Blitz sessions, or 60-90 Minute Electronic Boards). This category is for proposals to present work from a single paper

written by one or more authors. The first author should be the primary presenter. Individual presentations at the annual meeting in April of 2021 will be in one of three formats: (i) a traditional lecture-style presentation of approximately 12-15 minutes, to be presented in a multiple-paper session with related papers grouped by topic by the Program Committee; (ii) Research Blitz sessions where the authors will have 5 minutes to summarize the critical aspects of their research, and will remain in the session for group discussion with session attendees, or (iii) a poster-style presentation using an electronic board in a 60- or 90-minute session. Authors must indicate their preference for (i) (ii) or (iii), although the Program Committee may override these preferences to resolve scheduling constraints in the final program. Authors will be notified of presentation format as part of the proposal notification communication.

- **Specific Guidelines:** Proposals for individual presentations __must__ be prepared for blind review—author names should not be included in the document. Proposals must consist of (a) a title of no more than 12 words, (b) an abstract of no more than 50 words (for inclusion in the final program), (c) a summary of research of no more than 800 words, and (d) references, tables, and figures as appropriate. The Program Committee will reject individual presentation proposals whose titles, abstracts, or summaries exceed the word limits or are not blind. References, tables, and figures do not count toward the word limits. The summary should include research questions, methods, and findings. The Program Committee also strongly recommends that authors include the practical implications of their research (see the Evaluation and Review Criteria below).

Coordinated Paper Sessions (90-Minute Sessions). The Program Committee defines a coordinated paper session as a set of papers organize around a central theme or topic. The sessions will include be lecture-style presentations with 3-5 papers and a discussant. The session proposal should meet the following guidelines:

- **Specific Guidelines**: Proposals for **coordinated paper sessions** must identify all contributors— up to ten authors' and presenters' names should be included, not blinded. Proposals must consist of (a) a title for the session of no more than 12 words, (b) an abstract of no more than 200 words (for inclusion in the final program), (c) a summary of the coordinated paper session (in addition to the abstract) of no more than 1600 words, and (d) references, tables, and figures as appropriate. After entering this information, the next page will require you to submit specific descriptions for each participant in the coordinated paper session. The Program Committee will reject proposals whose titles, abstracts, or summaries exceed the word limits—references, tables, and figures do not count toward the word limits. Organizers may use the 1600 words however they wish, for example, a conventional 4-paper symposium may have a 400-word introduction with four 300-word paper descriptions. Proposals should also identify a discussant/moderator where appropriate.

Organized Discussions (90-Minute Sessions). The Program Committee defines an organized discussion as a planned conversation among researchers and/or practitioners around a theme or topic. We encourage debates, panel discussions, and other innovative formats, especially those involve interactivity with the audience. Preferences will be given to proposals that are in line with the conference theme of Bridging Research and Practice. The session proposal should clearly describe the format of the proposed session and meet the following guidelines:

- **Specific Guidelines**: Proposals for **organized discussions** must identify all contributors— up to five presenters' names should be included, not blinded. Proposals must consist of (a) a title for the session of no more than 12 words, (b) an abstract of no more than 200 words (for inclusion in the final program), and (c) a summary of the organized session (in addition to the abstract) of no more than 800 words that described the theme or topic of the discussion, the proposed format for the discussion, the significance or implications of the issues for discussion (including key questions that would be address), and the perspective(s) that each presenter would represent. The Program Committee will reject proposals whose titles, abstracts, or summaries exceed the word limits. The proposed format should be clearly motivated and clearly described. Proposals should also identify a discussant/moderator where appropriate.

Training Sessions. We invite proposals for training sessions addressing themes relevant to the mission of NCME. These sessions are scheduled to occur prior to the conference. Presenters must indicate their preference for length (two hours, four hours, or full day). Please provide the target audience, three keywords, and if this training session has been offered previously.

- **Specific Guidelines**: Proposals for **training sessions** must include the name(s) of the presenter(s) and consist of (a) a title for the session of no more than 12 words, (b) an abstract of no more than 200 words (for inclusion in the final program), (c) a summary of no more than 500 words, and (d) a draft schedule of proposed activities and topics to be covered during the proposed session timeline, no more than 500 words (this is excluded from the 500 word limit in the summary). The title should be as descriptive as possible to give NCME members a clear sense of what will be covered. The abstract should provide an overview of the session content, method of instruction, learning objectives, the intended audience, and laptop/software use. The summary should highlight the goals for the session, expertise of the presenter(s), and the relevance/importance of the topic. The schedule of proposed activities and topics should focus on what presenter(s) and participants will be doing during the session. Note: presenters are responsible for bringing any handouts needed for the session or providing participants with information about how to obtain any suggested texts.

Graduate Student Issues Committee (GSIC). All graduate students are invited to submit a proposal for the Graduate Student Research Session at the NCME Annual Meeting, June 8-11,

2021. The GSIC will accept the submission of proposals through Friday, October 9, at 11:59 PM PDT.

Graduate students, please note:
- All presenters in the 2021 NCME Graduate Student Research Session will use the electronic board format.
- Graduate students submitting their work for consideration in this session may submit either completed research OR research-in-progress.

All questions regarding graduate student proposals can be forwarded to Maura O'Riordan (moriordan@umass.edu).

Nominate your coordinated session to be the NCME Diversity Issues in Testing Invited Session. The NCME Committee on Diversity Issues in Testing (CODIT) announces an opportunity for all organizers of and participants in coordinated sessions and organized discussions. We encourage any coordinated session or organized discussion that addresses or reflects diversity issues in testing, broadly conceived, to nominate their session by selecting the "*I would like this session to be considered for the NCME Diversity Issues in Testing Invited Session*" option during the regular submission process. All such proposals will be reviewed and selected under standard procedures regardless of nomination status. However, nominated proposals will also be reviewed by the CODIT for distinction as the NCME Diversity Issues in Testing Invited Session, with prominent placement in the program. The NCME CODIT and the NCME Board hope that this encourages session proposals to incorporate and consider issues of diversity as they develop and present their research topics and findings.

Please contact the Chair of the CODIT, Cristina Anguiano-Carrasco (Cristina.Anguiano-Carrasco@act.org) with questions about this opportunity!

**All proposals must be submitted by 11:59 PM Pacific time on <u>October 9, 2020</u>
Approximate date for notification of acceptance/rejection decisions: <u>December 20, 2020</u>**

REVIEW PROCESS AND CRITERIA
For **individual submissions**, submitters will be asked to identify topic areas most relevant to their proposed work by answering the following three questions:

1) To which assessment settings does your research apply?
   - Education (formative/interim/summative assessment, school accountability, educational policy, teacher evaluation)
   - Credentialing (certificates, certification, licensure)
   - Language Testing

- Admissions
- Assessment of Special Populations

2) What areas of practice does your research address? *Select all that apply*
- Test Use
- Test Design/ Testing Strategies
- Test Content Specification
- Test Development
- Administration
- Scoring and Score Reporting
- Test Security
- Evaluating Tests and Test Content
- Fairness
- Reliability
- Validity

3) Which of the following topics or methodologies are central to your research?
- Item Response Theory
- Classical Test Theory
- Longitudinal Analysis
- Meta-Analysis
- Process Data
- Cognitive Diagnostic Modeling
- Predictive Models
- Educational Strategies/Learning Models
- Diagnostic Classification Models
- Structural Equation Modeling
- Hierarchical Linear Models
- Generalizability Theory
- New Technology or Leveraging Existing Technology in New Ways
- Summary/Evaluation of Current Practices
- New Strategy/Process for Test Design, Development, Administration, Evaluation, or Policy
- Theoretical/Historical/Philosophical Issues Related to Educational Measurement

Review panels consisting of members with experience in the topic areas will review the individual submissions. Submitting authors will have an opportunity to submit additional recommended keywords as appropriate. These keywords are neither mutually exclusive nor exhaustive but serve to improve the likelihood that papers will be reviewed by appropriate raters.

All **coordinated paper sessions** and **organized discussions** will be reviewed by reviewers with expertise in relevant topic areas.

For both **individual submissions, coordinated sessions**, and **organized discussions**, reviewer ratings will be based on the degree to which:
- The research offers a novel and well-articulated contribution to measurement practice.
- There is a sound conceptual basis articulating the measurement challenge to be addressed.
- The choice of research methods supports the desired conclusions.
- There is evidence that the work is well-defined in scope and will be completed by April of 2021.

CALL FOR DISCUSSANTS
We will continue to have session discussants for NCME's individual paper sessions in 2021, and thus we will need your help to make this aspect of NCME 2021 successful! You can volunteer to be a discussant through the new proposal system so please consider signing up to be a discussant during the submission process or by emailing NCME2021ProgramChairs@talley.com.

GENERAL MEETING RULES
The following rules have been established to encourage a wide range of participation by NCME members and minimize schedule conflicts that arise when sessions are arranged in the final program schedule.

1) Both members and nonmembers may submit proposals. Presenting authors who are nonmembers must join NCME prior to presenting their work at the annual meeting in April.

2) Submission of the proposal represents an agreement that presenting authors will register for and attend the annual meeting if their proposal is accepted. All presenting authors must register for the conference no later than February 1.

3) The first author of every paper should be the primary presenter for that paper. This aligns with the expectations of conference attendees reading the program. This should hold both for individual presentations and coordinated sessions with multiple papers.

4) Participants may have a maximum of three presenting roles. Roles that count toward this limit include presenting authors of individual papers, presenting authors of papers in coordinated sessions, speaking members of panels, and speaking members of debates. Discussants, moderators of debates, chairs of sessions who do little more than introduce presenters and keep time, and invited speakers, do not count toward this limit. Participants who submit proposals in excess of these rules will be subject to having one or more of their proposals disqualified from consideration.

Furthermore, the following rules have been established to ensure a high quality of presentations that are maximally beneficial for audiences in different sessions:

1) Should you be unable to attend the Annual Meeting due to unforeseen circumstances, it is your responsibility to inform us as early as possible. You must either arrange for someone else to assume your role in a session or withdraw your presentation.
2) The same presentation may not have been made previously at an NCME Annual Meeting or any other academic conference.
3) Authors presenting in individual paper sessions are **REQUIRED** to submit papers (not slides) to discussants a minimum of 2 weeks in advance of the 2021 Annual Meeting. Discussants have discretion to accept papers submitted after that deadline and can decline to provide comments on papers that are received late.

CLARIFICATION REGARDING 2020 CONFERENCE VERSUS 2021 SUBMISSIONS

If your proposal was accepted for the 2020 NCME conference and you are planning to upload or have uploaded your paper and/or presentation to the NCME online repository, then you may cite it as a conference presentation in your vita or profile. It is considered a presentation with NCME and the related proposal should **not** be resubmitted for the 2021 NCME conference.

Please also note that even though the same online system (AllAcademic) is used for the 2020 online repository and the 2021 proposal submission process, there are separate web pages for each. Please use this link: https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/ncme/ncme21/, logging in with your username and password for the NCME web site, to submit your proposals for the 2021 conference.

CLOSING COMMENTS
On behalf of NCME, we are looking forward to the 83rd Annual Meeting. Submit your research, volunteer to be a discussant, and plan for a stimulating and engaging meeting. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at NCME2021ProgramChairs@talley.com.

Sincerely,
Susan Davis-Becker and Leslie Keng, Co-Chairs, Annual Meeting Program Committee
Sarah Quesen, Chair, Training and Professional Development
Maura O'Riordan and Scott Holcomb, Co-Chairs, Graduate Student Issues Committee
Cristina Anguiano-Carrasco, Chair, Committee on Diversity Issues in Testing