



66th Health Physics Society Annual Meeting

25–29 July 2021; Phoenix, AZ

Call for Abstracts — Deadline 24 January 2021

The 66th Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society (HPS) will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, 25–29 July 2021. After an eventful 2020, all of us could use a little sunshine. Luckily, Phoenix is the place for that and is also the home of great food, the saguaro cactus, and exceptional landscapes. With a world-renowned art museum, resorts, and a host of major sporting events in Phoenix, the 2021 meeting will be one to remember.

The HPS is looking forward to having you present and meet in Phoenix next year. Please submit your abstract (including special session abstracts) for the meeting by **24 January 2021** [through the HPS website](#).

In addition, we still have openings for a few more special sessions. If there is a special topic that you want to put in front of the health physics community, a special session is a great way to introduce it and initiate scientific dialog among your peers. Contact [Task Force Chair Charles Wilson](#) if you would like to set up or sponsor a special session.

Meeting Format

The 2021 Health Physics Society Annual Meeting contains multiple formats for presentation of scientific information. The technical program kicks off with a plenary session of invited guests on Monday, 26 July, followed by poster presentations in the exhibit hall after lunch. Technical sessions start later in the afternoon and continue through Thursday afternoon.

Virtual Considerations

After the great success of last year's virtual meeting, we expect virtual components to be a part of our future. Details to come! But for now, even if a pandemic keeps some of us from meeting in person, the Program Committee will help make it work again.

Technical Sessions

Technical sessions are scheduled throughout the week and cover many aspects of the practice of radiation safety. Although the number of technical sessions vary from year to year, typical sessions include:

- Accelerator Health Physics
- Air Monitoring
- Radiobiology – Biological Response
- Decontamination and Decommissioning
- Dose Reconstruction
- Emergency Response
- Environmental Monitoring
- Homeland Security Monitoring
- Instrumentation
- Medical Health Physics
- Military Health Physics
- Power Reactor Health Physics
- Risk Assessment
- Radiation Effects
- Regulatory/Licensing
- Academic Industrial and Research Radiation Safety
- Waste Management
- Operational Health Physics at accelerator facilities, Department of Energy facilities, medical facilities, military installations, nuclear power plants, and academic institutions
- Radiation Dosimetry, including external dosimetry, internal dosimetry, and medical dosimetry

Confirmed Special Sessions

- Instrumentation
- Medical Health Physics
- Military Health Physics
- Nonionizing Radiation
- Academic, Industrial, Research Radiation Safety
- Be Part of the Future
- Women in Radiation Protection

Don't see your session listed? Email [Task Force Chair Charles Wilson](#).

How to Submit an Abstract for Presentation

Please [submit your abstract online](#) by **24 January 2021**.

Abstracts will be printed directly from your electronic submission. Minor editing (punctuation and grammar) may be performed on your abstract; you will not see a revised version before publication. If you experience problems or it is not possible to submit your abstract electronically, contact the Secretariat at 703-790-1745 (or fax 703-790-2672) for further instructions. **Please note: Abstracts submitted via email will not be accepted.**

A submitted abstract is a commitment to present; cancellations should be avoided. **All presenters must register and pay for the meeting by May 2021 to be included in the final program.** If extenuating circumstances prevent the presenting author from making the presentation, it is the author's responsibility to find an alternate presenter. Presenters who submit more than one oral abstract and cancel should find alternate presenters; otherwise, you may be limited to one abstract for future meetings.

Abstract Instructions

All submissions will be printed directly from the online submission form and must contain the following:

- **Title:** Submit a descriptive title in uppercase and lowercase letters, capitalizing each word. Acronyms should not be used.
- **Author(s):** Use initials for the author's first (and middle) name(s). Indicate the presenting author. Contact the Secretariat for instructions if there are more than 10 authors.
- **Presenting author address and cell phone number:** Include the presenting author's complete mailing address. It is essential that the email address is accurate because information or questions regarding abstracts and presentations will be sent via email. The presenting author's cell phone is necessary to contact the author for questions on the abstract and for contact during the meeting.
- **Affiliation(s):** Enter the affiliation(s) in uppercase and lowercase letters (e.g., University of California, Berkeley). Do not include department name or full address.
- **Abstract:** The abstract must be one concise paragraph that contains a summary of the problem, the work conducted, and the results. Please note: The minimum abstract length is **150** words, and the maximum size of the abstract is restricted to **2,000** characters.

A 50-word bio will be requested for use in the meeting app.

Presentation Style—Oral or Poster

Presentations may be in an oral or poster format. Oral presentations are 12 minutes, with an additional 3 minutes for questions. The Program Committee will make every attempt possible to accommodate your preference. For busy sessions, preference will be given on a first-come, first-served basis based on the submission date. Submit your abstracts early to get the best chance for your preferred presentation type.

If you state a reason a presentation must be in either the oral or poster format exclusively (e.g., your organization will only support travel for oral presentations), the Program Committee will make every effort to accommodate your request.

Please indicate if you wish to withdraw your abstract in the event that your preference cannot be accommodated.

Presentation Requirements

Computer projection is the presentation format for all sessions. Presentations **must be** prepared in Microsoft PowerPoint.

Guidelines for preparing visuals will be posted on the HPS website meeting page as the meeting nears.

If your abstract is accepted for oral presentation, your computer presentation file(s) must be uploaded to the Secretariat website by the deadline stated in your abstract acceptance notification.

These files will be reviewed by the Program Committee for format, compatibility with meeting site software/hardware, and appropriateness. Changes may be required due to font substitutions, differences between the version of software used to create the presentation and that used to display the presentation, or font size/color. Individual visuals may be rejected if presentation guidelines are not followed.

Tips for Writing a Good Abstract

The Program Committee's decision to accept or reject an abstract is largely based upon the ability of the committee to understand your work to ensure it is applicable to the field of radiation safety and is not an advertisement of a company product. Here are some things to consider when writing an abstract:

- Is the purpose clearly stated and are the issues current?
- Is the title descriptive of the abstract?
- Are the procedures well described? Is (Are) the discussion/review and/or analytical methods clearly presented?
- Is the work relevant or directly applicable to the field of health physics?
- Are the conclusions based on an appropriate quality and quantity of data?
- Is the material in the field of radiation safety?

Please note: An abstract **will not** be rejected simply because it may be controversial. The Program Committee believes that our scientific meetings are the perfect venue to discuss controversial topics and encourages all presenters and attendees to civilly debate controversial topics that affect our practice of radiation safety.

Deadlines

- 24 January 2021 – Abstract submission deadline
- April 2021 – Notification of acceptance
- May 2021 – Presenter registration deadline
- June 2021 – Author(s) presentation submission deadline

Author Eligibility

ANY member of the Society, other science professionals, and students may submit an abstract for presentation at the annual or midyear meetings.

Abstract Acceptance

The priority of abstract acceptance will be as follows:

1. Society members.
2. Nonmembers sponsored by Society members.
3. Un-sponsored nonmembers.

Sponsors should endorse the abstract by including their name and HPS ID number on the electronic form.

Please note: The technical session you select is for Program Committee guidance only. Due to scheduling or topical interest, the Program Committee may find it necessary to reassign your presentation to a technical session different from what you selected.

All presenters must check in at the speaker ready room the day prior to their session to ensure any problems with the presentation are corrected.

Please note: Presenters who wish to make changes to their previously submitted computer presentation will be accommodated as availability allows. Revisions on flash drive media will be accepted. Minor revisions may be done on the computer in the speaker ready room on a first-come, first-served basis.

Special Sessions

Sessions sponsored and organized by a section of the Society (e.g., Decommissioning, Environmental/Radon, Medical, etc.) or by a group such as the American Academy of Health Physics are considered special sessions. Please note: Submissions of abstracts for special sessions are by invitation only; do not choose this category if you have not been asked by the special session organizer. [Contact Task Force Chair Charles Wilson](#) if you would like to set up or sponsor a special session. There is no cost for setup or sponsorship of a special session, but space can be limited, so contact the Program Committee early.

Are You Interested in Serving as a Technical Session Chair?

Do you have a special interest in a technical session or specific expertise in a specialized area? The Program Committee is always looking for volunteers to serve as technical session cochairs. Two cochairs are needed for every technical session. If you are interested in serving as cochair for one of the technical areas or have questions regarding presentations or the technical topics listed, please contact Program Committee [Task Force Chair Charles Wilson](#).

Letter of Invitation/Visa Requests

Should you require a letter of invitation to apply for a travel visa, please [email the Secretariat](#) your full name, abstract number, mailing address, country, and passport number. Once your registration is completed, a visa letter will be emailed.

Financial Aid for Students

The HPS offers a limited number of travel grants and travel/worker grants for health physics students planning to attend the meeting. To be eligible, a student must be a current member of HPS, must be an undergraduate or graduate student in health physics or a closely related field with an area of

concentration in health physics, must have a strong health physics career interest, and MUST be willing to work at the HPS meeting. The application will be available in early April on the [Travel Grant page](#) of the HPS website.

Accelerator Section's Student Paper Awards

A presentation or poster given by a student at the annual meeting on a topic related to accelerator health physics will be considered automatically for one of two student awards given each year by the HPS Accelerator Section. There is no need to apply; the judges will identify your topic from the abstract you submitted. For more information on the H. Wade Patterson Memorial Award and the Lutz Moritz Memorial Award, see the [Accelerator Section website](#).

Questions?

Contact the 2021 HPS Annual Meeting [Task Force Chair Charles Wilson](#) or the [HPS Secretariat](#) .