13th Annual NAAEE Research Symposium
CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

We invite you to join the 2016 NAAEE Research Symposium by submitting a proposal, reviewing proposals, and attending this important gathering of EE researchers.

October 18–19, 2016 ❖ Madison, Wisconsin
Deadline for Submissions: March 31, 2016

This is the Call for Proposals for the NAAEE Research Symposium. Click here for the Call for Presentations for the general NAAEE conference, October 19–22, 2016.

NAAEE seeks compelling proposals that explore emerging issues in environmental education (EE) research for the 13th annual Research Symposium. As a symposium, this gathering emphasizes examination of works-in-progress, the stories behind the research, and how what we have already learned prepares us for future research. Thus, participants will discuss opportunities, challenges, conceptual models, ethical dilemmas, new (and overlooked) techniques, applications to practice, and emotional responses related to undertaking EE research. The Research Symposium welcomes established and new researchers from North America and the broader international community to share their work through plenary sessions, workshops, posters, discussions, and informal conversations.

The NAAEE Research Symposium goals are to:

- Facilitate discussion of EE research in-progress and advance the field of EE research
- Promote and foster EE researcher-practitioner partnerships
- Provide professional development opportunities for graduate students and researchers at all career stages
- Foster the development of an international EE research learning organization
Please note: The goal of the symposium is to advance the field of EE research, which we define as studies that have broad implications across the field of environmental education. Distinguishing between research and evaluation, proposals related to evaluative studies that apply only to individual projects and other special case scenarios are likely better suited to the “Applying Research to Increase Our Impact” strand of the general conference rather than the Research Symposium. Findings from completed research will be considered only for the research poster and facilitated panel formats at the Research Symposium or, again, for the general conference. (Click here for the conference Call for Presentations.)

Session Formats
Please read the following format descriptions carefully, and select the most appropriate format for your proposed session. Note that NAAEE may accept your proposal but change it to an alternate format.

(1) Research Poster
Research posters offer venues for sharing and discussing your completed or in-progress research. Posters are the only session format appropriate for sharing completed research from a single study. During a short plenary session, presenters will be asked to give a one-minute “pitch” describing their posters; following the pitches, presenters will stand by their posters to engage with other participants, respond to questions, and provide further details about their studies for approximately one hour. Posters will be available for viewing during a significant portion of the Research Symposium. No A/V support is provided, but presenters may use their own laptop or tablet at low volume.

(2) Facilitated Discussion in a Meeting Room
These interactive sessions are aimed at larger, meta-level issues that build on (but go beyond) a single research study and have broader impact on the research community. They are 30 minutes long and are held in a meeting room. A/V equipment is provided; however, presenters are encouraged to make limited use of A/V tools and direct presentation techniques as these sessions are intended to focus on discussion. Suggested structures for a facilitated discussion include a panel discussion or non-traditional interactive activities.

(3) Facilitated Discussion at a Roundtable
Also interactive, these sessions are designed to promote small-group discussion around issues emerging from your research. They are 30 minutes long and are held at a table within a larger room. No A/V support is provided, but you may use your own laptop or tablet at low volume. However, you are encouraged to make limited use of format presentation tools as these sessions focus on discussion. To structure your session, provide a short introduction of the issue and allow at least half the time for discussion.

(4) Facilitated Panel—New This Year!
This new presentation format provides an opportunity for researchers to share findings from completed research across studies and discuss the implications for future research. Proposals are encouraged to focus on one overarching topic or issue that all researchers on
the panel have been working on via different perspectives, contexts, etc. The research symposium will only accept two panel proposals. Each session will be 60 minutes and should include at least 30 minutes of discussion or interactive group work with the audience. A/V equipment is provided. Researchers should propose panel discussions in which several researchers share findings related to a theme or concept of interest in current environmental education research. Teams of experienced as well as new faculty are encouraged to propose sessions around recent research findings and implications for future research.

(5) Workshop
Workshop sessions provide guidance on the research process or other professional practices. These sessions are aimed at practices of EE research and can include challenges and outcomes of environmental education research or skills critical to becoming professional researchers. Examples include tools and techniques, research ethics, writing, and publishing. These sessions will be 90 minutes and will be held in a meeting room. A/V equipment is provided, and you are encouraged to make your workshop as interactive as possible. Workshops jointly proposed by teams of graduate students and/or researchers from multiple institutions are encouraged.

Audio-Visual Equipment
Rooms for all presentations (except roundtables and poster sessions, as noted) are equipped with a PC laptop (with Office Suite loaded), LCD projector, and screen; poster and roundtable presenters can use their own laptops or tablets. NAAEE strongly recommends that presenters bring PowerPoint and other audio-visual materials on portable drives and use the equipment provided. Internet access will be available in all meeting rooms.

Review Criteria
A team of peer reviewers will evaluate and rate all session proposals. The Research Symposium co-chairs will review the peer-review ratings and, based on that feedback, make final decisions. Reviewers will use the criteria below when evaluating proposals. Therefore, please address each one in your proposal(s), providing adequate detail so that reviewers can fully understand your plans. Note that proposal titles are limited to 10 words, proposal summaries are limited to 50 words, and proposal descriptions are limited to 500 words.

Session Type 1: Research Poster proposals will be assessed by how well they:
- Align with session goals
- Identify a research issue relevant to EE researchers
- Identify the conceptual and epistemological frameworks informing the work
- Identify appropriate research methodologies and/or methods use (or planned to be used), as well as findings and their implications, as appropriate
- Explain how the session will inform environmental educators about proven practices, push the leading edge of the profession, and/or motivate the pursuit of excellence
Session Types 2 and 3: Facilitated Discussion and Roundtable proposals will be assessed by how well they:

- Align with session goals
- Identify a research issue relevant to EE researchers
- List specific questions that will guide the discussion
- Identify the conceptual and epistemological frameworks informing the work
- Describe how the session will be structured including how much time will be allocated to (1) presenting the issue and (2) facilitating discussion (Note proposals should not focus on presenting findings of a completed study and should allow sufficient time [at least half] for discussion.)
- Explain how the session will inform environmental educators about proven practices, push the leading edge of the profession, and/or motivate the pursuit of excellence

Session 4: Facilitated Panel proposals will be assessed by how well they:

- Align with session goals
- Identify a research issue relevant to EE researchers
- List specific questions that will guide the panel presentation
- Identify the theoretical, conceptual, and epistemological frameworks informing the work
- Describe how the session will be structured including how much time will be allocated to (1) presenting the completed research and (2) facilitating discussion (Note proposals should allow sufficient time [at least half] for discussion.)
- Explain how the session will inform environmental educators and researchers about completed research, push the leading edge of the profession to develop new research around this topic, and/or motivate the pursuit of excellence

Session Type 5: Research Workshop proposals will be assessed by how well they:

- Clearly align with session goals
- Demonstrate their experience with the issues
- Identify the targeted practice (e.g., challenge, outcome, skill) that meets the needs of the intended audience
- Offer a clear path toward building participants’ capacity to address the targeted practice
- Describe how the workshop will be structured, including how much time will be allocated to key components
- Explain how the session will inform environmental educators about proven practices, push the leading edge of the profession, and/or motivate the pursuit of excellence

How to Submit a Presentation Proposal

Proposals must be submitted online by 11:59 p.m. on March 31, 2016. You may find it helpful to download a blank form from the NAAEE website and use it to draft your proposal before entering the information online.

To help maximize the number and diversity of presenters and perspectives, each individual or team of individuals is limited to a maximum of three proposals.
1. You must have an account in NAAEE’s new eePRO directory and be logged in on the NAAEE website before you can submit a proposal. Note: Each individual associated with your proposal needs to have an eePROfile that has been linked to the online conference management system before you will be able to add his or her name to your online proposal.

Log in or create a new eePRO account >>

Creating multiple accounts can cause problems with your ability to submit and edit your proposal(s). If you’re not sure whether you have an existing account or whether your account email address is current, we’re happy to assist. To avoid confusion, we encourage you to contact NAAEE to check on your account status.

Need help with login? Email regina@naaee.org or call 202-419-0412.

2. After login, click on the “Submit/Edit Proposals” link on your eePROfile page to connect to All Academic, our online conference proposal management system.

3. Select “Research Symposium” and follow the directions for online submission. Click on the “Accept and Continue” button on each page until you reach the final confirmation page.

4. When your proposal is successfully submitted, you will receive a confirmation message at the email address in your eePROfile. This message comes from do_not_reply@allacademic.com; please make sure the ”@allacademic.com” domain is in your safe sender list.

5. You can edit any of the information in your proposal until the March 31 submission deadline by (1) logging in to your NAAEE account, (2) clicking on ’Submit/Edit Proposals’ link on your eePROfile page, and (3) selecting the proposal from the list on your All Academic home page.

**Important Notes About Presenters and Registration**

All presenters and co-presenters are required to register for the Research Symposium and pay published symposium fees.

NAAEE depends on registration fees to cover symposium expenses and cannot provide waivers or discounts to presenters.

Fees are not yet finalized, but Research Symposium registration for current NAAEE members is expected to be about $250 for a professional and $150 for a student. Non-member rates will also be offered. There is a separate registration fee for the NAAEE Conference.

All presenters must confirm their participation by registering for the Research Symposium by the July 22, 2016 presenter deadline.

If your proposal is accepted, you will have an additional opportunity to finalize session information after receipt of your acceptance notice.
Questions?
Contact Erin Kelly, Research Symposium Coordinator, for questions about submitting and reviewing proposals: eak58@cornell.edu.

Contact Ruth Kermish-Allen, Research Symposium Co-Chair, with questions or suggestions about format and content of sessions: rkermishallen@gmail.com.