THE ROAD TO BOSTON: MAPPING THE STEPS FOR GSA 2018 ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
David J. Ekerdt, PhD, FGSA
GSA President and Program Chair
University of Kansas
GSA 2018 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

- November 14-18, 2018 in Boston, Massachusetts
- The Purposes of Longer Lives
- Opening Plenary Speaker
  
  Henry Lois Gates, Jr.
  - Emmy Award Winning Filmmaker, Cultural Critic & Journalist
  - Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and Director of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University

- Call for Abstracts
  - Opens February 1
  - Closes March 15 at 11:59pm Eastern Time
THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESENTING

- Expand your CV
- Gain experience presenting
- Expand the field of aging
- Network and collaborate with other individuals
- Become a published author in *Innovation in Aging*
Mercedes Bern-Klug, PhD, FGSA
Program Co-Chair
University of Iowa
TEST YOUR LOGIN NOW

- Click white login button on www.geron.org
- Enter your GSA username and password
  - If you have ever went to a GSA meeting, received a GSA publication or been a GSA member you will have an account
- Click forgot password if needed and you will receive an email
- If you do not have an account with GSA, create one
  - Follow the instructions on the How to Submit page of the website
- Once logged in, click my account
- Select Abstract Central to enter the submission portal
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS RESOURCES—HTTP://BIT.LY/2EEABTO

- Planning Guide
- Planning Worksheet
- Session Codes
- ESPO Peer Review
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Instructional Videos
  - Paper and Poster
  - Symposium
Presentation Types

**Symposium Program Overview**
- 1 Chair, 1 Co-Chair (optional), 1 Discussant (optional)
- Individual Symposium Abstract
  - 1 First Author, Up to 7 Co-Authors

**Individual Symposium Abstract**
- 1 First Author, Up to 7 Co-Authors

**Student Paper or Poster**
- 1 First Author, Up to 7 Co-Authors

**Professional Paper or Poster**
- 1 First Author, Up to 7 Co-Authors

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**Key Abstract Components**

- **Title**: 100 character max
- **Objectives**: 2 required, 3 max
- **Abstract Body**: 250 words max; symp, paper, poster 150 words max; indiv symp abstract
- **Section**: BS, BSS, HS, SRPP ID (symposium only)
- **Session Code**: 1 required, 2 max
- **Authors**: Contact info, CV, Conflict of Interest
John Beilenson
President of Strategic Communications & Planning
MAKE YOUR ABSTRACT STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD
GET THE BASICS RIGHT

Do your homework, make sure you know:

- The right form and style
- The right presentation type and length
- How your work connects (if possible) to the conference theme
A good message completes the following statements:

- The reason my research is important is...
- The one thing people need to know about my research is...
- The implications of my research are...
START STRONG

- Work on your title
  - Message-driven
  - Declarative?
  - Results-oriented
  - Creative?
- Connect to the theme/topic
- IS AGE MORE THAN A NUMBER? ESSENTIALIST BELIEFS ABOUT AGING PREDICT HOW YOUNG OR OLD PEOPLE FEEL
  D. Weiss, A. Reitz

- BIDDING THE MEDICAL MODEL “GOODBYE!”: NEW WAYS OF THINKING ABOUT DEMENTIA
  A.J. Astell, A.M. Hernandez

- PROXY DECISION-MAKERS CHOOSE LESS AGGRESSIVE END-OF-LIFE INTERVENTIONS THAN PATIENTS
  E. Chen, C.T. Pu, J. Ragland, J. Schwartz, M. Fairbanks ...

- SENIOR HIGH COST HEALTHCARE USERS: HOW DO THEY DIFFER?
  J. Lee, S. Muratov, J. Tarride, M. Paterson, T. Gomes ...

- THE PERCEPTIONS OF AGING AMONG GAY AND LESBIAN OLDER ADULTS: SOCIAL EXCLUSION OR INCLUSION?
  J. Beauchamp, L. Chamberland, H. Carboneau
COVER THE GROUND

- Background/Why this matters
- Methodology/What we did
- Findings/What we learned
- Implications/What this means
AVOID

- Lengthy background
- Methodological details
- Undefined acronyms
- Results/interpretation beyond what is in your paper
GET HELP

- Mentor or peer
- GSA's Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization (ESPO)
  - Write to espo@geron.org by Feb. 26
Sara Moorman, PhD, FGSA
Program Co-Chair
Boston College
What happens to your abstract after you submit to GSA?

**March 15: Deadline**
You may edit your submission up until the deadline. Once the deadline passes, no additional edits can be made.

**The Numbers**
- 3600 submissions
- 800 peer reviewers
- 450+ sessions

**Mid March**
Peer reviewers are matched to abstracts based on session code

**Late March**
Peer reviewers receive instructions to begin review

**Early April**
Peer reviews complete and Program Committee begins the decision and session process

**Late May**
Program Committee finishes decisions and sessions all abstracts

**June**
Abstracts are placed on the schedule and conflicts are reviewed

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**Notifications!**
Early July notifications will be sent to the abstract submitter. Requests for scheduling changes cannot be honored due to the complexity of the program.
Contact abstracts@geron.org for questions.
We will not be using the raised hand feature today
Use the questions feature accessible on the right hand side of your screen
If we do not get to all of the questions today, we will email responses after the webinar
Archived recording on YouTube

Slides can be found at www.geron.org/webinar

Abstract submission deadline is March 15