****

**ASPET ANNUAL MEETING**

**SESSION FORMAT DESCRIPTIONS FOR SESSION PROPOSAL FORM**

Below are descriptions of the session formats listed in the annual meeting session proposal form.

Thank you to ASPET’s Division for Pharmacology Education for helping develop this list!

**Competition –** Typically used for abstract-based presentations but not required. Competitions should be transparent about how to be selected to compete and what criteria is evaluated to win. Divisions holding their showcase/platform sessions where they plan to use their budget to give prizes to winners should select this format.

**Talks with Q&A** – A lecture style concurrent session at a scientific meeting involves multiple speakers giving talks on a common topic with a Q&A (question-and-answer) period held either after each speaker or at the end for all speakers.

**Rapid Fire Talks –**  Up to 5, 5-minute talks that are brief and fast-paced, followed by 5 minutes of Q&A period. The purpose is to showcase research findings, share ideas, or explore a specific topic in a concise and engaging manner.

**Panel Discussion** – Brief introduction by each panelist connecting a particular main theme, followed by all panelists answering questions from the audience and the moderator as well as engaging in cross-talk among the panel. Alternately the format could be a moderator interviewing the speakers ("Late Night" style).

**Workshop / Round Table** - Room is configured with round tables that seat about 8-10 each. Audience learns/practices a skill or engages in facilitated small group discussions among themselves or with a subject-matter expert at each table. This format has many variations:

* The a**udience members could rotate to different tables to talk with different speakers.**
* **The speakers could rotate to new tables so that everyone hears every speaker.**
* Each table has a topic and the audience members choose a table of interest and stay the entire time to discuss the designated table’s topic.
* A **hybrid lecture/workshop format could involve a** main presentation before the audience members work in groups to solve a problem with the information presented.
* Could be held off-site for hands-on work at a nearby lab.
* **Journal Club style** – audience reads article in advance; the author(s) give a 5-minute intro/overview; and then group discussions are held at smaller tables (for example, may work well with high profile or methods publication)

*\*****Abstract-Based Speakers:*** *We strongly encourage leaving space in your program for abstract-based speakers. To do this on the form write “Abstract-Based Speaker” in any required fields for speaker contact info and staff will provide options after abstract submissions close.*

If your proposal is for an innovative format that does not fit in the above categories, please contact meetings@aspet.org.

Updated 6/27/2025