



**PAS 2021 Program Committee Kickoff Call - September 10, 2020**  
**Questions/Comments**

Q. Since this will be the first time, we have gone virtual, would it be beneficial for us to gather in-person to plan the meeting?

A. An in-person Committee meeting would be helpful, but unfortunately, due to a variety of factors (pandemic, travel restrictions, budgets), we will not have any in-person Program Committee planning meetings. However, we will schedule additional Committee calls to assist in the planning process as we know there will be many new questions and needs this year. Watch for details and know that we will record all calls for your convenience and in case you are not able to join. If you have further questions, please share them with us at any time by email to [bthomas@pasmeeting.org](mailto:bthomas@pasmeeting.org).

Q. If you are asking recipients to pre-record presentations, then they should be told when this will be due in the 'call-out' for submissions.

A. We will share the deadline for submitting recordings as soon as we have our virtual meeting platform vendor's final production timeline. We anticipate recordings will be due in March or April.

Q. Perhaps there should also be some virtual training sessions for accepted presenters to help them optimally record their presentations. Q. Concerning questions about the importance of training in a virtual world - this is for posters, scientific sessions, workshops, etc. They will all be a little different - with different needs.

A. The PAS Team and our platform vendor will offer training and support for accepted speakers – regardless of session format - for pre-recording presentations. Training and support will be available every step of the way!

Q. What technologies will be utilized for networking? Will there be avatars or other ways for people to network or will we be using more traditional virtual platforms like RingCentral or Zoom?

A. We will be using a combination of tools to allow participants to connect, network and join live Q&A and chats. Currently, none of the PAS tools offer avatars.

Q. I think we need to have specific instructions regarding what to do about last year's submissions.

A. On September 10, all PAS 2020 Scholarly Session and Workshop submitters received detailed instructions regarding re-submission. The PAS Board has approved a policy to allow resubmission of 2020 proposals with little or no change if the work has not been published. We will send similar guidance to all PAS 2020 abstract submitters when the 2021 Abstract call opens.

Q. What amount of time should we block off on February 10th? I have a clinic that morning and can cancel it if needed.

A. Please block February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm – 4 pm CT for our Program Committee call. Additional Committee calls will also be scheduled before February 10<sup>th</sup> to ensure ample opportunities to share questions and information. Please watch for further details and know we will record all calls for convenient access if you have schedule challenges.

Q. What is the meeting going to cost attendees?

A. We will announce PAS fees when registration opens this fall. Please watch for details. With the PAS Finance Committee and Board, we are working to ensure PAS 2021 remains affordable and great value. We will offer more convenient and expanded access to PAS content, and the virtual format means no travel-related costs for PAS participants.

Q. Need to consider the tradeoff that folks may not register for a virtual meeting...especially considering that many institutions have educational funds on hold.

A. Agree. This is top of mind and we want to be sensitive to budget cuts, our community's needs, and the finances required to deliver the large, complex program our attendee's value and have come to expect from PAS.

Comments:

- 1) One thing to remember regarding price is that virtual is much cheaper since there are no travel costs. So probably do not need to discount too much since the meeting will be much cheaper for any one individual than an in-person meeting
- 2) I think it is very important to maximize attendance and recognize that resources are limited in Universities and Children's hospitals alike.

Q. Will presenters have the option to not have their presentation kept beyond a "live" period? We may otherwise have fewer people presenting new results.

A. Yes. Each presenter will be asked to provide permissions to have their content recorded and redistributed. If special circumstances preclude this permission, we will work with the presenters to accommodate their unique considerations, where possible.

Q. Is there consideration for inviting our colleagues in low/middle-income countries at a reduced registration fee based on their country (like the American Board of Ped)?

A. We are considering these special needs as we set PAS 2021 fees. Historically, PAS has not had the resources to allow us to offer reduced rates for low/middle-income countries, but we are aware of how helpful it would be to be able to do so.

Q. What types of sessions are going to be in the scheduled PAS days? What types later?

A. Currently, a selection of Plenaries, Scholarly Sessions, Posters or highlighted abstracts and Exhibits are being considered for the PAS "Kick-Off" days followed by the balance of programming Abstracts, Workshops, SIGS, Clubs, Society-specific programming, Ancillary Events, and more.

Q. I'm a bit unclear about the submission process for scholarly sessions - do we confirm speaker availability now, and then wait for approval from PAS, or do we submit the session design, wait for it to be accepted, and then invite the speakers?

A. Yes, prior to submission please confirm your speakers' willingness to participate in your session, if it is accepted for PAS 2021. Submitting a prerecording will be required and sessions will be presented in a variety of formats including Live stream, Pre-recorded with live Q&A, Live chat Q&A, and On-demand only. PAS 2021 will kick off April 30-May 4, 2021.

Q. When people submit, will they be told that their proposal, if accepted, may be presented during the regular dates or possibly afterward on other dates?

A. We are still working out the final schedule details but will communicate to speakers that they should plan to present either during PAS Phase I (April 30 – May 4) or PAS Phase II (May 10 – June 4).