



“*Celebrating Ability*” Call for Papers

This “Call for Papers” invites interested parties to submit an abstract for consideration by the Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted and Talented (AAEGT) 12th National Gifted and Talented Conference Committee.

The conference will be hosted by Tasmanian Association for the Gifted Inc. and will be held in Hobart, in the Hotel Grand Chancellor, right in the heart of Hobart’s wonderful waterfront.

Why Should You Be There?

The theme of the 2008 conference is *Celebrating Ability*. The conference will provide all participants a stimulating and inspiring opportunity to explore a range of issues and challenges, ideas and resources. Participants include parents and educators who are highly motivated about the education and enrichment opportunities for gifted/highly able children from early childhood to early tertiary.

The committee invites presentations and workshops which celebrate success, explore pathways, present innovative best teaching practice and explicate current research. The conference aims to empower and inform all stakeholders including gifted children themselves.

Potential presenters are asked to identify their target audience, as streams will be provided for parents, carers, educators and academics.

Presenters seeking commercial and /or marketing opportunities are invited to take advantage of the Sponsorship Prospectus – download via www.giftedconference.org.au.

There are 5 streams planned for the conference:

1. Academic/research with or without academic peer review
2. Early Childhood
3. Primary
4. Secondary
5. Information Technology, including Distance Education.

The **Academic/research** strand could include for example:

- Innovations and current findings;
- Evidence based research; and
- Case studies and extrapolations for classroom application.

The **Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary** strands include opportunities for workshops and presentations, for example:

- Practical identification tools;
- Strategies that support maximising potential;
- Pre school experiences;
- Innovative pathways;
- Curriculum differentiation;
- Networks;
- Entry to education systems;
- Cutting edge teaching tools and practices;
- Advocacy;
- Social and emotional development;
- Underachievement;
- Mentoring;
- Gifted Learning disabled;
- Gifted English as a Second Language (ESL) students; and
- Adaptive strategies for gifted students.

This list of ideas is by no means exhaustive.

The **Information Technology** strand, including **Distance Education** aims to present leading edge applications of ICT to support learning for example:

- Effective use of IT in the classroom to enhance and maximise learning opportunities;
- Resources and applications for parents and teachers (home and classroom); and
- Practical applications and strategies for the classroom.

CALL FOR PAPERS PROCESS

The above are indicative themes. Papers are welcome on these as well as related themes. Abstracts should be submitted online by Friday 30th November 2007.

If the abstract is accepted for presentation, a draft paper (in Times New Roman 12 point) should be submitted online to the Program Committee on the Conference web page, by no later than 30th March 2008.

Abstracts may be in Word, WordPerfect, PDF or RTF formats, but MS Word is preferred. Each abstract will be blind-reviewed by at least two independent peer referees and successful abstracts published electronically. All abstracts published will be at the discretion of the organizing committee.

All Conference papers will be published on the AAEGT website. Refereed Conference papers will also be published in the **Australasian Journal of Gifted Education**.

Time Line

- 30th November 2007: Submission of abstracts due;
- 30th January 2008: Notification of acceptance / rejection of abstract;
- 30th March 2008: Submission of draft papers (online, digital) for both refereed and non-refereed streams; and
- 15th July 2008: Final cut-off date for papers for web publication. There will not be a hard copy of proceedings. Abstracts will be published in the Conference Handbook.

PRESENTATION OPTIONS

People wanting to present at this conference will select either:

A peer-reviewed presentation may take the form of either a 45 minute oral presentation or a poster presentation. You will need to submit a 200 word abstract for consideration by the Program Committee.

If you wish to have the paper published in the **Australasian Journal of Gifted Education** the full paper will need to be presented by 30th March 2008. These papers will be reviewed by two independent academic reviewers. Abstracts from accepted peer-reviewed papers will be included in the Conference Handbook. Conference Proceedings may be produced electronically on a disk and/or published on the AAEGT website.

or

A non-refereed presentation: These will be presented as a poster presentation, a 45 minute seminar or a 90 minute workshop. Abstracts for non-refereed presentations will be considered by the Program Committee.

PRESENTATION FORMATS

- 1. 45 Minute Oral Presentation (Peer-reviewed):** Presenters will be allocated a total of 45 minutes in the program. The 45 minutes will include at least 35 minutes to make an oral presentation and 10 minutes for questions from the audience if required.
- 2. Poster Presentation (including a Peer-reviewed option):** Presenters will prepare a poster (A0 size or smaller) of essential information. Several posters will be displayed on boards in a large room for approximately 90 minutes and presenters will be able to interact and discuss their poster with delegates in an informal manner.
- 3. 45 Minute Seminar:** Presenters will be allocated 45 minutes to conduct a lively and interactive seminar.
- 4. 90 Minute Workshop:** Presenters will be allocated 90 minutes to conduct a hands-on and/or interactive workshop.

Each session will be chaired, to ensure that it starts and ends on time, and that any questions are managed.

GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACTS

Choosing a topic

Choose a topic that interests you and about which you are knowledgeable. Please keep in mind the following:

- The breadth of your topic – can it be covered in the allotted time?
- Whether your presentation will advance the knowledge or skills of participants;
- The amount of interest in your topic – will it be attractive to participants? and
- Whether your presentation is designed for beginners or participants with some or considerable experience, either in the field generally or in your specific topic.

Writing your abstract

Your abstract provides the plan for and description of your presentation. It conveys to the organising committee information about the quality and organisation of your proposed session, how it will address its expected audience, its objectives and the form it will take.

The abstract should be informative and stand alone in its content and meaning. It should include information about the purpose and content of the presentation, the relevance to the Conference Theme “*Celebrating Ability*” and indicate who the presentation is aimed for (i.e. parents, carers, educators and academics).

ABSTRACT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Receipt of abstracts submitted online will occur at the time of submission. Please note that all correspondence will be sent to the email address from which the submitted abstract was received.

Criteria for selection

The most important criteria for selection will be:

- quality and interest of the proposed conference session, workshop, poster or seminar;
- connection with one of the conference strands;
- relevance to the targeted audience described in the abstract; and
- expertise of the presenter(s).

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

General

- Abstracts and synopses must be in English;
- Abstracts should be no greater than 200 words;
- Abstracts and synopses will be reproduced exactly as submitted by the author;
- Abstracts and synopses should be thoroughly checked for spelling and grammar before submission;
- Abstracts and synopses will be reviewed by the Program Committee to evaluate their clarity, content and relevance to the Conference Theme “*Celebrating Ability*”;
- The Program Committee reserves the right to accept or reject abstracts and topics at their discretion;
- Please note all presenters must be registered delegates of the conference, unless specifically invited by the Conference Management Committee. A special presenter’s registration fee has been agreed to by the Committee – see the registration details; and
- Any additional costs for presentation are the responsibility of the presenter.

Presentation of abstracts

- Single spaced. The type of font used is Times New Roman (12 point);
- Title in capital letters beginning on the first line, bold and centred;
- Skip one line between title and authors’ information;
- Authors’ names each on a new line with first name followed by the surname, institution and country should follow on the same line. Left justified;
- Authors’ information should be in upper and lower case and bold
[Authors (Times New Roman 10 point, Surname, Initials Presenting Author to be bold)
Affiliations (Times New Roman 10 point, Italics, Affiliation, City, Country) eg];
- Skip one line before commencing the text of the abstract. Do not indent text; and
- Please use abbreviations with restraint.

See template on the next page

Template

PAPER TITLE (Times New Roman 12 point bold, centred)

Smith, B. *University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia*

Harrison, N. *Royal Brisbane Hospital, Brisbane, Australia*

Matthews, P. *University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia*

Abstract text (Times New Roman 12 point, left aligned, maximum 200 words)

The four-page synopsis (for peer-reviewed proposals only) is a summary of the full academic paper that will be used for the review process. It will be written in an academic style – see headings below.

Presentation of synopses

- Single spaced. The type of font used is Times New Roman (12 point);
- Title in capital letters beginning on the first line, bold and centred;
- Skip one line before commencing the text of the synopsis. Do not indent text;
- The following headings will be used;
 - **Objectives**
 - **Significance**
 - **Theory**
 - **Design and procedure**
 - **Findings**
 - **References**
- Headings will be bold and left justified;
- Text will follow on the line after each heading and will be left justified;
- Paragraphs should be separated by a return (do not indent paragraphs);
- Use abbreviations with restraint. Terms must be given in full the first time they appear;
- References will follow APA 5th edition format; and
- Synopses that exceed four A4 pages (including all references, tables and figures) will not be accepted.

THE ONLINE UPLOADING PROCESS.

1. Go to the Conference web page (www.giftedconference.org.au)
2. Download the templates for abstracts and full papers
3. Decide if you wish to submit a paper for refereeing or otherwise
4. Create your abstract in MS word according to the templates
5. Ensure that you have addressed all criteria accurately eg length of abstract
6. Consider how you will present your presentation if accepted eg
 - a. AV requirements
 - b. Joint authors as presenters
 - c. Workshop or concurrent session etc
7. Upload you abstract and demographic details on the conference “Speaker’s registration pages” - go to the Conference Web page and click on “Speaker page”
8. Click on “Submit Abstract” and follow the directions
9. You will be notified by January 30th if your abstract has been accepted and then will have to provide the final paper by 30th March 2008.