

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

ASA 2018: BIOETHICS AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

A Message from Program Chair Michael Paul:

We are excited to bring our annual meeting to the home of the ASA on the beautiful North Shore of Massachusetts, just 30 miles outside of Boston. We are looking to build on the record-breaking attendance of the last two conferences. You are invited to submit your work to contribute to the rich discussion on faith/science issues which are the hallmark of the ASA.

The focus of ASA 2018 is bioethics and biotechnology where we aim to inspire debate on the increasingly important ethical questions surrounding these new technologies and their use within a Christian worldview. We encourage contributions from scientists working with digital technology. Of course, we are also keeping the best traditions of ASA meetings by inviting papers from the field of life sciences, physical sciences, engineering, and education. Posters are particularly encouraged from student members. Please join us to experience stimulating debate in the heart of New England at Gordon College, July 27–30, 2018!



PLENARY SPEAKERS



Francis Collins
Director of National Institutes of Health, Founder of Biologos Foundation



Nigel M. de S. Cameron
Founder and President Emeritus of the Center for Policy on Emerging Technologies



Noreen Herzfeld
Professor of Theology and Computer Science, College of Saint Benedict and St. John's University



Doug Lauffenburger
Ford Professor of Biological Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Biology, MIT



Jeff Schloss
Distinguished Ford Professor and T.B. Walker, Chair of Biology, Westmont College

TOPICAL AREAS FOR ORAL AND POSTER SESSIONS

Modern Biotechnology:

Capabilities, consequences, ethics, and theological implications of recent breakthroughs such as CRISPR Cas9 and similar genetic editing procedures; somatic vs. germline modification

Life and Environmental Sciences:

Medical research, agricultural research, biology, genetics, ecology, meteorology, climatology, creation care

Physical Sciences: physics, chemistry, geology, astronomy
Physics, chemistry, geology, astronomy

Engineering and Appropriate Technologies

Engineering projects, technology in service to the poor

Teaching Faith and Science:

New ideas and methods for reaching students, educators, and churches; science literacy

Digital Technology, Culture, and Faith:

Effects of and faith responses to technologies such as artificial intelligence, automation, cyber attacks, and pervasive smart phone use by all ages

Requirements, Guidelines, and Deadline for Abstract Submissions

1. All abstracts must be 50–250 words.
2. Authors should indicate whether they are submitting an abstract for an oral presentation or a poster, or whether the author is open to the reviewers' suggestion of format. Also, the abstract should indicate which topical area the abstract supports.
3. Oral presentations will be limited to 20 minutes plus 5 minutes for discussion. Poster presentations will be available for view Saturday and Sunday with a designated time slot for interaction with attendees. Detailed instructions for oral presentations and posters are available under the Annual Meeting tab on the ASA website.
4. Each abstract must emphasize what your oral or poster presentation offers that is new and important for the topic chosen. The abstracts will be considered if they fit within the overall theme of the conference and if they can be otherwise accommodated within the limits of the conference. Provide sufficient detail to be informative, but use language that will be intelligible to a nonspecialist or a scientist from outside your field.
5. Authors may submit only one abstract for which they are the primary author. Additional abstracts listing individuals as secondary coauthors may also be submitted.
6. Abstracts should be based on work in your area of disciplinary expertise. Where this is not obvious, you may be asked to provide suitable documentation. Exceptions to this policy may be made for abstracts demonstrating exceptional originality and scholarship outside your field of expertise.
7. Authors must append to their abstract one to three recent (five years or less) bibliographic references pertinent to their topic.
8. All abstracts must be submitted online using the Call for Abstracts form.
9. Upload your abstract as a Word or rich text format file. Please begin your abstract with the title and name of author(s), whether it is a submission for an oral or poster presentation or reviewers' choice, and the topical area. Then save it with the filename, ASA2018YourLastName.
10. Deadline: All abstracts must be submitted on or before **February 15, 2018**.
11. Contact Program Chair Mike Paul, mike.paul@gordon.edu, if you have any questions.
Please note: All presenters must register for the meeting no later than **Wednesday, May 31, 2018**.

Pre-Meeting and Post-Meeting Activities

We are considering several Friday field trips including a whale watch, visit to Harvard Museum, and tours of two labs at MIT. We also hope to offer a local geology field trip. And back by popular demand, we will again offer early-morning, before-breakfast walks and hikes on and near campus for those interested. These will include a guided trail walk, and a walk with bird watching opportunities.

Scholarships

Due to generous funding from our members, scholarships are available to early career and student ASA members on a first-come, first-served basis. Detailed information and **application** are available under the Annual Meeting tab on the ASA **website**.