This Changes Everything

AAC&U STEM Conference
Session Guidelines

Instructions for Presenters

The AAC&U meeting planning staff is available to assist all presenters. The details provided below for each session are intended to be the first step in providing that assistance. Please, pay careful attention to the session that is relevant to you. For further information or for any questions that arise, please, feel free to contact us at any time at conferences@aacu.org.

Virtual Poster (60 minutes)

In general, poster presentations are visual displays of findings from research and/or implementation of undergraduate STEM reform interventions. For the virtual poster sessions of the STEM Conference, we will be using the Cadmium virtual platform. This platform provides a unique video conferencing space for every poster presenter and co-presenters. It will allow for live, informal, interactive, face-to-face conversations with conference attendees.

Virtual Poster presenters are expected to upload their presentations (i.e., PowerPoint slide(s), PDF Poster) to the virtual conference platform before the scheduled date and time of the presentation. This will allow our technical producers ample time to access the presentation, test for potential issues, and troubleshoot ahead of the actual presentation. Instructions for uploading virtual poster presentations will be provided under separate cover.
**Virtual Innovation/Ideation Session (30 minutes)**

The virtual Innovation/Ideation session will be accessible through the vConference platform. This platform will mimic the Zoom videoconference experience, allowing presenters to feature their “untested” strategies, emerging research, and new theories or concepts that show promise for advancing our national STEM higher education reform agenda.

Virtual Innovation/Ideation presenters will have FULL control of their slides during the presentation. In order to allow ample time for questions and audience feedback, Innovation/Ideation presenters are asked to limit their formal remarks to 10 minutes.

**Virtual Facilitated Discussions (30-60 minutes)**

The virtual Facilitated Discussions are expected to provide an opportunity for conference attendees to examine STEM higher education reform topics of similar interest. Facilitators are expected to engage conference attendees in examining new ways of thinking about STEM higher education reform and the specific strategies that are needed for moving forward, particularly in light of the diversity of individual and institutional contexts that will be represented at the conference.

Virtual Facilitated Discussions presenters will have FULL control of their slides during the presentation. While considering delivering a virtual Facilitated Discussion via vConference, presenters should pay careful attention to session design, limiting formal remarks to no more than 10 or 15 minutes of the session time. The majority of the time for these sessions should be left open for discussion and audience interaction.

**Virtual Workshops (60 minutes each; 2–4 facilitators)**

Virtual workshops are designed to provide an extensive and highly interactive environment for conference attendees to deeply examine, explore, and/or experience the relevant theories and implementation strategies that can contribute to advancing STEM higher education reform. Workshops are expected to engage conference attendees in reflection and discussion about work related to undergraduate STEM reform models and/or practices. To that end, virtual workshop presenters are asked to design the workshop schedule such that maximum time is committed to participant activity.

Virtual Workshop presenters will have FULL control of their slides during the presentation. Presenters are encouraged to consider scaling workshop activities to comfortably fit within the 60-minute allotted time frame, particularly in ways that don’t force attendees to rush through workshop content. Virtual workshops will take place on the vConference platform.