IAGLR 2024 Call for Sessions
International Association for Great Lakes Research
67th Annual Conference on Great Lakes Research
May 20–24, 2024

Deadline: Friday, October 20, 2023

We invite you to propose a scientific session for IAGLR’s 67th Annual Conference on Great Lakes Research. The conference will be held May 20–24, 2024, in Windsor, Ontario, as a hybrid event. Session chairs should be prepared to facilitate a session that welcomes both in-person and virtual oral presentations and audience participation. For details, visit the online Call for Sessions where you can submit your proposal.

What kind of session topic?
This year’s conference will bring together natural and social scientists, environmental engineers, practitioners, decision makers, community members, and others to highlight current and future scientific needs and advances to promote resilient large lake communities. In keeping with the conference theme Shared Lakes: One Water, One Health, we welcome sessions about interconnected dimensions related to the health of ecosystems and communities. We welcome conference staples, such as environmental modeling, biodiversity, nutrients and harmful algal blooms, outreach and education, and integrating science, policy, and management. We also encourage session topics that elevate the needs and voices of collaborative communities engaged in research and practice including equity-deserving groups, youth, elders and knowledge carriers. You are invited to propose formats that would engage with diverse ways of expression and knowledge systems (in person and online). We welcome and encourage diverse contributions!

How to submit a session
Submit your session via the IAGLR 2024 Conference Portal. You’ll be asked to provide a short title (max 80 characters), brief description (max 250 words), the number of abstracts expected, and name(s) and contact information for the session chair(s) (limit to four). The first chair listed will be the corresponding chair and will receive all communication about the session. If you are interested in arranging a session that includes a panel discussion or a format other than our standard 20-minute presentations, please note your request in the designated area on the submission form and contact the program co-chairs after submitting your proposal. This type of session must be approved ahead of time.

Session chair notification
Chairs will be notified in mid-November about acceptance of their session. Chairs of confirmed sessions will also receive further instructions at that time. The Call for Abstracts will follow.

Session chair responsibilities
Solicit abstracts & interact with authors: Once the sessions are established, chairs are asked to solicit at least six to eight abstracts to help form the session. A minimum of four abstracts are required for a session to be included in the final program. Sessions are most successful when the chairs recruit speakers well in advance of the January abstract submission deadline. All presenters must submit an abstract through the IAGLR website once the Call for Abstracts is available. Session chairs will monitor the abstracts being submitted to their session and work with the authors to edit or modify as needed. Once abstracts have been accepted, session chairs are responsible for confirming acceptance and scheduling with each presenter.

Visit iaglr.org/iaglr2024 for more information.
**Schedule presentations**: If fewer than four presentations are received for a session, the program co-chairs will consult with the session chair(s) either to combine the accepted abstracts with another session or to create a new session title to encompass similar abstracts included in other sessions. When all abstracts are assigned to a session, the session chairs will determine the order of presentations within their session and confirm scheduling with each presenter.

**Run session**: During the conference, each session chair helps to ensure their session runs smoothly and is successful for both the presenters and the audience. Session chairs are expected to introduce the session and each presenter, manage the time to ensure presentations adhere to the 20-minute time slots, and facilitate the question-and-answer period within the final five minutes of each time slot. Session chairs will also call attention to posters submitted to their session topic to help promote awareness of related presentations. Depending on the final arrangements for the virtual experience, session chairs may be expected to take part in a training session.

**Financial Responsibilities**: All speakers, including session chairs, are required to register and pay to attend the conference. In addition, if a session chair is presenting, an abstract fee will be required as part of the abstract submission. IAGLR is exploring and will announce pathways of support for individuals and groups that do not have the financial means to attend.

**Questions?**
If you have any questions about chairing a session, please contact the program co-chairs: Catherine Febria, iaglr2024@uwindsor.ca, and Carol Miller, ab1421@wayne.edu.

Visit iaglr.org/iaglr2024 for more information.