

February 4, 2022

Good Day Members of the Adventist Human-Subject Researchers Association,

This continues to be a difficult and uncertain time. We have all been looking forward to the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. While there are some signs that the current version of COVID is waning, it is difficult to be certain that all of our members will be able to attend in person.

<u>A Virtual and in Person Conference – a Hybrid</u> – May 18-21 -- To keep our organization's momentum going, AHSRA officers and planning committee decided to hold a hybrid conference this year, hosted at AdventHealth University in Orlando, Florida. Across the globe many professional organizations have successfully moved to a hybrid conference using available technology. We will hold our hybrid conference from May 18-21. This is a Wednesday through Sabbath. We will work to schedule events and individual presentations to be feasible as far as possible to our different time zones.

<u>Conference Theme</u> – *Faith and Wholeness* – The focus will be on the role of faith in healing and thriving. This theme is broad and is intended to cover a wide variety of Human-Subject research in health behaviors, community-based research, educational research, and missiology. Other topics outside of the theme are encouraged as well.

<u>Submissions</u> – All submissions should be made to Andrews University Digital Commons at: <u>https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/ahsra/2022/</u>

<u>Rolling Submissions</u> – We will have rolling submissions for the 2022 conference, with submissions open from February 4 until April 8, 2022. After a review of the abstracts, applicants will be notified by April 15, 2022. Often those submissions not selected for an oral presentation will be accepted for a poster presentation.

<u>Registration Will Open at Conference Website on February 11</u> – The meeting website is <u>www.ahsra.net</u>. Please go to that page to register for the conference on or after February 11.

The fee structure for virtual attendance is as follows & includes 2022 membership fee:

		By March 18	After March 18
٠	Presenters	\$45	<u>\$50</u>
•	Attendees	\$25	<u>\$30</u>
•	Student presenters	\$15	\$20
•	Student attendees	\$5	\$10

The fee structure for those attending in person is:

		By March 18	After March 18
٠	Regular attendees	\$250	<u>\$275</u>
٠	<u>Students</u>	\$150	\$175

This price includes this year's membership fee, up to 4 nights lodging, as well as supper on Wednesday, and two meals each day on Thursday, Friday and Sabbath.

AdventHealth University is not a residential campus. We are working with nearby local hotels and will do our best to find ones that included breakfast. We will send this out as soon as we can.

For those not needing housing the fee is \$40 per day attended which includes one meal per day.

Scholarships for conference presenters at 50% off are available. A limited number of 50% off scholarships are also available for other attendees. If you wish to apply for a scholarship, please contact AHSRA at

ahsra@andrews.edu prior to registration to receive a discount code.

<u>The review criteria that will be used to evaluate submissions is attached to this e-mail. – it is also on</u> <u>the meeting website</u> -- Oral presentations at the AHSRA conference are peer reviewed and should count for full credit in faculty research productivity reports. We will also have a poster session for who chose to present posters and often those submissions that are not accepted into the oral session are selected for poster presentations.

<u>COVID Protocols</u> – AHSRA is a scientific research organization. We feel it is important to follow best practices at our meeting. Proof of full covid vaccination status (as defined by the CDC/WHO guidelines) will be required (an on-phone photo that has your vaccination status is fine) or a recent (last two months) covid anti-body test is acceptable. Masks are required at all meetings per AdvenHealth University requirements.

Proposal submissions must include the following information:

- Name and contact information for the person(s) making this submission.
- A title and one-page presentation summary (250-500 words not including title and names).
- A 50-word abstract suitable for printing in the final program.
- A list of references/bibliography, which includes some sources published within the past 5 years.

Criteria for a successful proposal include (also see the attached peer review criteria):

- The proposal offers a rationale that the presentation will add to the body of knowledge currently available on the topic addressed.
- The proposal includes a practical component that participants can readily apply in practice, ministry, or service.
- The proposal is clearly informed by the current literature.
- The concepts in the proposal are clear and the proposal is understandable and well organized.
- The proposal includes high-quality data that was appropriately collected and analyzed (or the analysis plan is appropriate and reasonable).

If my presentation proposal is accepted, I agree to the following requirements:

- Attend the 2022 Hybrid AHSRA Conference at Advent Health University and make my presentation (either in person or virtually) unless a bona fide emergency occurs.
- Register at my own expense no later than <u>Friday, April 22, 2022</u>. If I do not register for the conference by that date, my presentation may have to be removed from the conference program.
- Understand that no honorarium or admission waiver will be given for presentations, although scholarships are available.
- Make my presentation at the time selected by the AHSRA 2022 planning committee.

Program – As we develop the program, we will post it on the meeting website www.ahsra.net.

We have two internationally known speakers who have conducted highly significant research in our theme area:

<u>Tyler VanderWeele</u> – Dr. VanderWeele is a leading figure in research that examines the role of religion and spiritualty in human thriving. His findings indicate that spiritualty is a significant contributor to better mental and physical health. Dr. VanderWeele has an educational background in theology, philosophy and mathematics (Oxford), economics (Pennsylvania) and statistics (Harvard) -- <u>https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/tyler-vanderweele/</u>

David Williams – Dr. Williams has provided some of the strongest research on the role of religion and health and the importance of addressing equity to ensure health. His work shows that religious involvement contributes to a longer and healthier life as well as that inequities in society result in poorer mental and physical health. We cannot have a thriving society without addressing inequity. Dr. Williams has an educational background in theology (from Andrews), public health (from Loma Linda), and Sociology (University of Michigan) -- <u>https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/david-williams/</u>

Thank you,

Duane C. McBride

Duane C. McBride PhD President, Adventist Human-Subjects Researchers Association