

Call for papers

We extend a warm invitation for you to join us in Brisbane for five days to participate in the 2017 SPEVI Biennial International Conference.

Brisbane is Australia's most exciting up-and-coming city. Constantly evolving with new offerings and experiences, the city has received glowing acclaim for its unique charms.

Brisbane is renowned for its subtropical outdoor lifestyle and friendly locals. Built on the banks of a gently winding river, discover a compact and walkable city where you will find a surprise around every corner.

The conference theme

The conference theme SHINING THE LIGHT ON VISION EDUCATION will stimulate and shine the light on new thinking, research and technologies and discuss how we can best serve our students — preparing them to move forward with progressive learning techniques.

The conference committee is looking forward to receiving your abstracts for presentations, workshops and ePosters that will build on our conference theme.

Accessibility of presentation materials to all delegates

At the 2017 conference, we plan to email all conference presentation materials to delegates one week prior to the conference. This will allow them to download and study material before attending the conference.

Free WIFI will be available at the conference to enable conference information to be downloaded during the event.

All conference papers will be available in digital, large print and braille formats.

To allow enough time for conference materials to be converted into accessible formats, we will need to receive final materials by **1 November 2016**. Please see 'Key dates' on page 3 for more information.

Presentation formats

The conference committee is seeking expressions of interest from presenters in the following conference presentation formats:

Please select one (1) of the following formats:

1. Presentation (30 minutes)

The content of these sessions may be presented in a demonstration, discussion, or lecture format.

Presentations will be allocated a total of 30 minutes. Please prepare a 25-minute presentation and allow 5 minutes for questions and answers.

2. Hands-on interactive workshop (30 or 60 minutes)

Participants of these sessions will be actively engaged in the workshops.

Please indicate whether your workshop will run for 30 minutes or 60 minutes.

3. ePoster

Electronic poster presentations will be displayed in the foyer of the conference venue.

All presenters will be required to register for the conference and pay the appropriate registration fee.

Presenters also need to meet their own travel and accommodation costs.

Key dates

Please add these key dates to your diary:

1 June 2016: Deadline for all abstracts submissions

1 July 2016: Authors who submit abstracts emailed about the status of their submission

August 2016: Provisional conference agenda posted on the conference website after presenters have been notified and confirmed their attendance

September 2016: Final conference agenda posted on the conference website

1 November 2016: Final versions of presentations, workshops and ePosters submitted to the conference committee

Guidelines for preparing your abstract

- Your abstract should contain text only and be 300-words long, outlining the aims and content of your presentation, workshop or ePoster.
- You will need to fill in a submission form for each abstract you submit.
- Please use the presenting author's contact details when submitting the abstract to avoid any miscommunication.
- Submissions cannot be presented or displayed by colleagues or friends who are not listed as an author on the abstract.
- All abstracts must be written in English.
- All abbreviations must be spelled out on their first use.
- Your abstract will appear in print as submitted. Please ensure you check your data carefully before submitting as changes or additions will not be accepted after the call for abstracts closes.

Submitting your abstract

- The submission form is available from the conference website SPEVIconference.org.au
- The form includes a cover sheet where you will include the paper's name, type of presentation and all your contact details. Please make sure you fill in all sections so we can get in touch easily.
- It's easiest if you write your abstract in Word and then copy and paste it into the submission form.
- Save your submission form with your full name and SPEVI. If you are submitting more than one abstract, please include a number after your name.
 - For example, if submitting one abstract, you would save your submission as LisaJonesSPEVI.doc
 - If you are submitting more than one abstract, you would save them as: LisaJones1SPEVI.doc, LisaJones2SPEVI.doc and so on.
- Please submit your abstract to the conference committee by **1 June 2016** using one of the following options:

Email (preferred option)

Email to Nicole Donaldson: ndona5@eq.edu.au

Post

Post your abstract to:
SPEVI Conference
PO Box 153
Morningside Queensland 4170

Important information about abstract submissions

- The closing date for abstract submissions is **1 June 2016**. All successful presenters will be notified by **1 July 2016**.
- The lodgement of an abstract does not indicate automatic inclusion in the conference program.
- Lodgement of an abstract acknowledges your consent to publication of the abstract on the website and in the abstract handbook provided to all delegates (if accepted).
- Abstract receipt and exceptions will be acknowledged to the person submitting the abstract.
- Further communication will be with the submitting author only unless otherwise directed.
- On acceptance of the abstract, authors will be asked to submit a presentation, workshop or ePoster for inclusion in the conference proceedings. The final materials need to be submitted to the conference committee by 1 November 2016.
- Information to help you prepare for your presentation will be sent to successful applicants shortly after you have confirmed your attendance.

Authors with accepted abstracts must register and pay to attend the conference. The timing of acceptance will allow presenters to take advantage of early bird registration fees.

Selection criteria

The SPEVI 2017 conference committee will consider all abstract submissions and determine which presentations, workshops and ePosters will be included in the program.

Abstracts will be reviewed by the conference committee against the following criteria: presentation, quality, originality, and relevance to the conference theme.

In particular, the committee is looking for presentations that will challenge thinking, extend skills and share knowledge; as well as presentations that are practical, visionary, critical and creative.

Topics of current interest that you may wish to consider include:

- CVI — cerebral visual impairment
- Neuroplasticity
- Harnessing technology (presentation)
- Digital skills for teachers and parents (workshop)
- Engaging parents in their children's learning

As in previous SPEVI conferences, presentations that are aimed at parents or carers will be well received as many of our delegates have these roles.

Further information

For more information on the 2017 SPEVI Conference, please visit the SPEVI Conference Website SPEVIconference.org.au or email Nicole Donaldson ndona5@eq.edu.au

We look forward to receiving your submission.