Poultry Science Association  
2021 Call of Symposia Topics

Symposia are the scientific centerpiece of the annual meeting and will be assigned premium meeting space and time slots. These sessions are distinguished from other organized sessions in that they are more explicitly integrated, provide an overall synthesis on their topic, but have broad enough appeal to generate large audiences at the meeting.

Objective
To increase relevancy to the poultry industry, work across boundaries beyond the scope of the immediate research, foster collaboration, improve/increase membership, and provide an outlet for broad impacts of research, extension and teaching, we are proposing the following broad areas for symposia topics.

Organization/Logistics
- Program chair and program committee with use of PSA committees and Board will strategize and target topics for symposia.
- Be 90 minutes to 2 hours maximum length to prevent overlap, maintain focus, and allow for more discussion and reciprocation.
- Utilize 2-4 speakers with time allotted for discussion. No more than (1) speaker from the same company/institution.
- Emphasize broad applicability.
- Cover timely topics important to industry, academia, and government.
- Emphasize cutting edge technologies, methods, impacts, and discuss the broader application in addition to scientific results.
- Represent the society’s diversity.
- Sponsorship/funding may be granted – up to a maximum of $3,000 – for each approved symposium. However, organizers are encouraged to seek outside sponsorship to cover speaker expenses. (See guidelines for complete details on symposium funding.)
- All symposia will be published in PS or JAPR – papers due prior to PSA meeting/talk.

Suggested Targeted Topics
1. **Bridging the Knowledge Gap: Academia/Industry/Government** *(Similar to the 2020 symposium)*
   Poultry production is a nexus AMONG academia, industry, regulatory, and consumer sectors that require an open dialog. Few opportunities exist for these sectors to facilitate conversations educating each other about their missions while identifying opportunities for synergistic advancement of the poultry sector. Proposals are encouraged that strive to address the disconnect that exists within aspects of the poultry sectors.

2. **Use of Think Tanks in Solving Problems in Poultry Science** *(Moderated by an expert)*
   A think tank is an interdisciplinary group of motivated people intent on solving a problem. However, think tanks are not just made up of subject matter experts, but require a leader that is trained to structure meetings that promote an environment of dialogue that leads to change. The think tank symposium will be divided into a training section and a practical think tank section that will be led by a paid consultant. The goals of this symposium are three-fold. First, train PSA members on how to establish think tanks. Second, promote collaboration among PSA members. Lastly, initiate a think tank group that is focused on solving a problem in poultry science or a board initiative. Because this symposium will be establishing an active think tank, the symposium will be limited to approximately 50 individuals who have signed up for the training. The Program Committee and Board of Directors have established the theme of the 2021 Think Tank Symposium to be “Poultry Welfare”.

3. **Awards Winners Overview and Outlook**
   Award winners are recognized yearly during the meeting and the banquet for their accomplishments. However, their work is not often used as a spotlight to allow dialog for a broader impact. The Award
Winner symposia is a place for current year winners (Distinguished Poultry Industry Career Award, NCC Broiler Research Award, NTF Research Award, Poultry Welfare Award, Extension Award OR the Early Achievement Award winners) to spotlight their accomplishments providing them a platform to discuss the broader impacts of their program and future research areas. This platform can open discussion to industry as well as academics and spur collaboration and possibly even garner support for future projects. It allows the winners to discuss their passion but provide an overview and outlook on current issues facing the industry.

4. **Symposium Topic of Choice**
As in previous years, symposium proposals can be submitted on a variety of topics of interest to members and meeting attendees.

5. **Hot Topics Symposium Description** *(April due date)*
Everybody is talking about it, except us! Hot topics, while at the forefront of our minds, are oftentimes eliminated from formal discussion at PSA annual meetings because of the timing of the symposia proposal and approval process. The Hot Topics Symposium is reserved for new and emerging topics affecting poultry research and the poultry industry. *(A call of Hot Topics Symposia will be sent in March.)*

**Evaluation of Symposium Proposals**
Symposium proposals will be evaluated by the Program Committee and PSA Board of Directors on the following criteria:

a. Relevance to topics above.
b. Synopsis – clear ideas of proposed session including subject, scientific issues to address, broad implications to science and the industry.
c. Individual speaker scientific knowledge.
d. Combination of speakers – ability to provide diversity to subject matter, cohesiveness, integrated approach, balanced perspective.
e. Timeliness of topic and implications to global poultry science topic area.
f. How is this symposium unique to poultry science?
g. Are there international speakers to provide a global perspective?
h. Confirmation that proposed speakers have been contacted and agreed to present.

**Submission Process**
1. **The Deadline for Submission is Monday, October 12, 2020.**
2. The PSA Board of Directors will review each proposal at their October meeting. Proposals will either be given preliminary approval, rejected, or sent back to the chair for additional information or clarification.
3. Proposals granted preliminary approval or sent back for additional information will be asked to submit a final version of the proposal no later than January 15, 2021.
4. The PSA Board of Directors will review each proposal at their January meeting and be given final approval or rejected.
5. The PSA Board of Directors will set the symposia schedule for the 2021 PSA Annual Meeting at their January meeting. The chair of each symposium will then be informed of the day and time so the symposium speakers can be notified.
6. All symposia chairs should review the [2021 PSA Policy on Symposia](#) and forward the reimbursement policy to their eligible speakers.