

Please read this very carefully because we are going to do some things differently leading up to our next meeting in February 2012. Curtis Wienker of the University of South Florida has agreed to serve as the Program Chair who processes proposals for that event. Curtis is an emeritus anthropologist and as such has no staff support to help him in this role.

Curtis and I have worked together on the program over the last few years. As a result of our experiences, we are making some changes in how we go about things. This is because of the enormous amount of work that goes into putting the program together. The changes will hopefully make the task easier and less complicated for us.

One of the changes will be that ***all deadlines will be final***. Trying to accommodate those who submit proposals after the deadline or who do not submit registration payments by that deadline unnecessarily complicate the challenge of putting together a final program and also delays promulgation of program information to participants in a timely fashion. Curtis and I hope that you understand and that you are mindful of helping us by sending proposals and registration payments in a most timely fashion. What this means to you is that in order to be a part of the AABSS program you ***must send in your proposal submission form by October 21st and you must submit your registration payment by November 21st***.

Second, because I know so many of you personally as a result of assembling the program for the last 14 years, in some cases you and I have interacted rather informally regarding your contribution to the annual program. Obviously, Curtis does not have that history, so we ask that all of you who aspire to be part of the program to simply use the standard forms at the AABSS website <http://aabss.org> to facilitate the arduous work of putting the program into shape.

Third, please be mindful of the abstract limitation of 150 words. If you submit an abstract of more than 150 words, we will truncate it to the last full sentence of 150 words or less. Finally, we ask that you ***use Ariel 12*** as the font for your proposal submission.

We are both very grateful for your assistance and cooperation with these matters and look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas next February.

Norma Winston
President, AABSS.