



REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

DEADLINE: MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2018, AT 11:59 PM PST

Material deemed appropriate for presentation before the Western Thoracic Surgical Association will have the following characteristics:

- Original, new and significant scientific work.
- Major updates and/or significant follow-up on established procedures and/or research.
- Additional definition of previous studies that modify in a major way an understanding of techniques or technologies.
- The submitted Abstract should not be similar to work submitted to, or under consideration by, other organizations and/or journals.

ABSTRACT PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- All abstracts for the 44th Annual Meeting must be submitted electronically via the official abstract submission website. No paper submissions will be accepted.
- Abstracts are limited to 500 words. Each graph, table, or picture included in the abstract counts for 25 words.
- Abstracts must be submitted electronically at <http://tinyurl.com/WTSA2017>.
- The deadline is **Monday, January 8, 2018, at 11:59 PM PST**
- Required abstract format:
 - Objective** A brief statement of the purpose of the study and the current state of research in the field.
 - Methods** The methods of study or experimental approach clearly, but briefly, defined.
 - Results** A summary of the results of the study, including sufficient details to support those conclusions. These may be presented in a brief table.
 - Conclusions** A statement concerning the significance of the work and its possible implications for future research.
- Type the abstract in English within the box provided. The abstract title must be in title case, flush with the left margin of the box. Use upper and lower case letters as appropriate for abbreviations in the title.
- Accepted abstracts will appear in the Program Book as submitted. Changes are allowed only to titles and author blocks.
- The Abstract text **MUST NOT** identify either the authors or institutions from which the work originated. There will be a separate area online in which to indicate all authors, including the presenting author. All authors who are WTSA members **MUST BE CLEARLY IDENTIFIED** in the author string.
- Do not use footnotes or references.

- Submission of an abstract constitutes a commitment by the author(s) to present the paper if accepted. The work must not have been submitted, presented, or published elsewhere prior to the submission deadline of Monday, January 8, 2018, AND/OR the WTSA 44th Annual Meeting, being held June 27-30, 2018. Failure to meet these requirements will jeopardize future acceptance of abstracts.
- Abstracts should clearly reflect the content of the completed paper. Co-Authors of an abstract selected for the program (**either Podium or Concurrent Forum presentation**) will be required to submit their final paper to the *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (JTCVS)* electronically by June 27, 2018, for potential publication. *Failure to meet this requirement will result in: involuntary withdrawal from the WTSA 44th Annual Meeting program; and a sanction of the first/presenting and senior authors from submitting abstracts to the WTSA Annual Meeting for the next two years.*
- **All presenters are required to submit a manuscript to the *Journal of Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgery (JTCVS)* by June 27, 2018.** Only online submissions will be considered. It is also requested that you do not submit your manuscript before May 27, 2018; please note that if you do submit your manuscript to *JTCVS* earlier than May 27, 2018, you will not receive any decision notification until after the WTSA Annual Meeting. Read the [manuscript preparation guidelines](#) online.
- If an abstract is selected for a **Podium Presentation**, a Primary Discussant will be invited by the Program Committee to open the discussion period of the paper at the meeting. Co-Authors of a Podium Presentation will be required to submit their manuscript (either draft or final version) to the Primary Discussant by May 27, 2018. *Failure to meet this requirement will result in: involuntary withdrawal from the WTSA 44th Annual Meeting program; and a sanction of the first/presenting and senior authors from submitting abstracts to the WTSA Annual Meeting for the next two years.*

SAMSON RESIDENT PRIZE ESSAY AWARD

AWARDS	The one essayist who meets the eligibility criteria below and whose manuscript and Podium presentation are judged most outstanding will receive a \$2000 cash award. Only the first/presenting author of a submitted abstract/manuscript may vie for this award. This first author must meet the eligibility criteria below, and be the presenting author of the paper.
DEADLINE	Monday, January 8, 2018, at 11:59 PM PST
ELIGIBILITY	Any physician who is presently in a residency or a fellowship training program as of January 8, 2018, or who has been in such a program within the past year in the United States or Canada and is the first/presenting author on the abstract.
INSTRUCTIONS	The conditions for abstract submission are identical to those for regular abstract submission contained in the Instructions to Authors. The Resident Award Competition box on the submission site <u>must</u> be checked. The first/presenting authors of the abstracts chosen for Podium presentation who meet the award eligibility criteria above will make up the finalists and will receive complimentary meeting registration for themselves (includes social package, does not include hotel room or transportation). Finalists will be reminded by May 1, 2018 that they <u>must</u> submit an electronic copy of the completed manuscript for review by the Resident Award Committee by May 27, 2018. <i>Electronic submissions should be emailed to the WTSA offices. Failure to meet this requirement will result in disqualification from prize consideration and revocation of complimentary meeting registration.</i> The Committee will make its selection following the presentation of all papers at the meeting.
INFORMATION	For further information or questions, please email the Western Thoracic Surgical Association at meetings@westernthoracic.org .

NORMAN E. SHUMWAY AWARD

AWARDS	The presenting author who meets the eligibility criteria below and whose Podium presentation during the Annual Meeting is voted most outstanding by the Program Committee will be presented with this honor.
ELIGIBILITY	Any presenting author of a Podium presentation is eligible if either s/he is from within the Western region (i.e., his/her primary affiliation is an institution within the geographic boundaries of the Western) AND his/her Podium presentation has at least one Western-member co-author or his/her Podium presentation has as its lead OR senior author a Western member.
DEADLINE	Monday, January 8, 2018, at 11:59 PM PST
INSTRUCTIONS	The conditions for abstract submission are identical to those for regular abstract submission contained in the Instructions to Authors.
INFORMATION	For further information or questions, please email the Western Thoracic Surgical Association at admin@westernthoracic.org .

CONTACTS

If you have difficulty uploading files or navigating the abstract submission site, please contact technical assistance: support@abstractsonline.com, or 1-217-398-1792.

If you have questions regarding submission policies, presentation formats and author requirements please contact the WTSA meetings department: meetings@westernthoracic.org or (978) 927-8330.

For information regarding manuscript submissions, please visit the Annual Meeting website at www.westernthoracic.org.