

2019 IAP2 Australasia Conference

Sydney, 29 – 31 October 2019

Call for Presentation Abstracts

From 26 April 2019, the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Australasia will be accepting presentation abstract submissions for the 2019 IAP2 Australasia Conference to be held at the Novotel Sydney Brighton Beach, Australia from 29-31 October 2019.

This conference has a reputation as the preeminent Community and Stakeholder Engagement event in Australasia for engagement and communications professionals. This year the theme of the conference will be **Engagement Unlocked** and will explore themes of building trust and creating connected communities. We aim to present a conference that is interactive, experiential and fun, while addressing the issues that matter in modern engagement practice. The IAP2 Australasia conference will bring together engagement practitioners, community development practitioners, communications and marketing professionals and academics to explore the practice of engagement.

The conference will build on IAP2's reputation for offering a dynamic, interactive and targeted program that supports professional development and enhances the practice of project communications, community and stakeholder engagement.

The IAP2 Australasia conference will be attended by delegates working across a diversity of industries and sectors in Australia, New Zealand and ASEAN countries.

We invite you to be part of this conference by applying to present.

Presentation abstract submission is open to all - professionals and academics working in community and stakeholder engagement, community members who have participated in engagement and those who are exploring engagement as part of our rapidly changing design, planning, service delivery and policy making environments.

Submissions are especially welcome from community groups and community organisations who can share what works for them, what doesn't, and why their perspective is both different and important. Submissions from all sectors are welcome.

Both new and emerging, and experienced engagement professionals are welcome to submit an abstract. We want to foster an environment of learning, challenge, disruption and creativity. Please

help us to “unlock engagement” by shaking us up, down and side-ways to help us stay on top of our game!

The presentation abstract submissions will be reviewed and selections made by the Conference Abstract Selection Committee which consists of members of the Conference Committee across a range of industries and with broad experience.

Submissions will be prioritised based on the following criteria:

- Address the main theme of **Engagement Unlocked** and the conference sub-themes of;
 - Building trust
 - Creating connected communities
 - Emerging areas in engagement
 - Social inclusion and cohesion
 - Future trends
- Challenges how we currently think, plan, implement or evaluate engagement.
- Incorporates “lessons learned” in which there is open sharing of current challenges (for example; for the project, engagement team or those being engaged) and failures and “stuff-ups” – we know we learn when we are challenged and also by our mistakes!
- Submissions which show originality will be well considered.
- Demonstrates effective engagement through the use of modelling, teaching and sharing new techniques and tools.
- Focuses on providing practical “take-home” tips and resources, rather than just theory.
- The presenter can demonstrate the ability to effectively engage with an audience using their preferred presentation method.
- The presenter can demonstrate knowledge, experience and/or research in their subject area.

To assist in developing your submission, please consider the following feedback from previous conference participants who indicated they want:

- Deep dives with meaningful dialogue and learning, for example; master classes that take participants through the experience AND the skill building to enable them to effectively engage
- New tools, techniques and approaches using technology, tools, props or experiences that inspire, excite and most importantly leave participants with an expanded toolkit
- A choice of sessions from the emerging and new practitioner through to the experienced “old hand”.
- Hands on, practical sessions on planning, with templates, tools, tips and practice – grounded in best practice and evidence-base.

We are deliberately being open on the timing of sessions and are looking for a mix, so if you want to highlight a fabulous technique that will only take 20 minutes, bring it on – and sessions over 2 hours

would need to be extraordinary in order to be accepted. Due to logistical requirements, we may need to adjust the timing of your session, but will keep you well informed of this during the program development process.

Presentation formats could be:

- An interactive workshop (note that room set up availability will be varied and dependent on venue capacity, so please don't rely on round table formats)
- A campfire session (traditional presentation followed by generous time where the presenter facilitates a discussion with the audience inviting comments, insights and questions from the room)
- An experiential activity
- Traditional presentations will also be considered, but more interactive and engaging sessions will be preferred to ensure a dynamic conference.

We want you to think about what would be a kick-ass conference experience for you – and then design your session around that. We want this to be the best conference ever, come up with an idea and challenge us. Come on – knock us out!!

Submission Guidelines:

- Abstract submissions are open 26 April 2019 and are to be made online via the IAP2 Australasia Submission Portal site: <https://iap2a.smapply.io/>
- Guidelines on how to use SM Apply can be found here: <https://smapply.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115001445354-Applicant-FAQ>
- Submissions close 7.00pm, 24 May 2019.
- Abstracts should be concise, no more than 500 words in length, and written in English with no references, figures or tables.
- Abstracts and presentations must be completely free of commercial bias or promotion.
- An author is allowed to submit a maximum number of one abstract as presenting author but can be co-author in more than one abstract.
- Presenters can nominate their preferred methods of presentation (workshop, campfire session, interactive or experiential session, etc.). The conference program managers will attempt to accommodate this preference, but do not guarantee this. Room set up (theatre-style or round table) will be confirmed by the organisers closer to the event depending on final numbers. Bear in mind that you may need to be flexible with your room set up for your presentation.
- A confirmation email will be sent to confirm your abstract has been received.
- Presenters must purchase a ticket to attend the conference (either full registration or one day ticket). IAP2 Australasia members will have access to a discounted registration rate.

- Submissions that do not follow the guidelines, are incomplete and those received after the due date will not be considered.
- To maintain the integrity and quality of the program, each abstract must be accompanied with evidence of the presenter's ability to engage an audience in their preferred presentation format. Evidence can take the form of one of the following:
 - Written or video evidence from training /facilitation /presentations/student evaluations specifically addressing the presenter's presentation skills; or
 - Two referees or endorsements attesting to the presenter's training or facilitation or presentation skills.

Plus, five dot points describing presenter/s delivery approach

Important Dates for Abstract Submission:

- Submissions open: 26 April 2019
- Submission close: 24 May 2019
- Abstract review: 27 May – 5 July 2019
- Author notification: From mid-July 2019
- Conference program published: August 2019
- Full presentation due for review: 15 September 2019