

Call for Symposium Proposals for the 2017 HL Meeting

Symposia are important components of the Annual Meeting, allowing researchers in a subfield to come together and present the latest research in that area. They disseminate new and useful scientific information and contribute to making the meeting a compelling and interesting experience. The most successful symposia highlight the cutting-edge techniques and ideas of the society's membership; each symposium as a whole should strive to be comprehensive but efficient, aiming to synthesize research topics, fill gaps in our knowledge and move the science forward.

The Herpetologists' League sponsors symposia for our annual meetings. In 2017, the HL, as part of the Joint Meetings of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (JMIH) will convene in Austin, TX. The meetings are scheduled for July 12-16, 2017. Any HL member may submit a symposium proposal for this meeting. Official sponsorship by the HL allows for the scheduling and announcement of the symposium in the meeting program and registration materials. In addition, financial support (generally a maximum of \$2000 per symposium) is available to sponsored symposia. Sponsorship by the HL does not guarantee financial support and symposia may be sponsored in name only or funded at a level lower than that requested.

Persons interested in organizing a symposium for the 2017 JMIH should submit proposals **no later than February 15, 2016** to: Mary E. White, Chair HL Symposium Committee (mwhite@selu.edu). Electronic submissions are much preferred.

HL Symposium Application Guidelines

The Herpetologists' League has adopted the following set of planning guidelines for approval of symposia proposed for annual meetings:

- Proposals must be submitted for consideration to HL by the **February 15** deadline.
- Proposals should not exceed 3 pages in length.
- Proposals submitted in electronic format are preferred.

Provide a clear and concise description of the symposium including:

1. **Symposium Title (or Topic).**
2. Name(s) of symposium organizer(s) and co-organizer(s), and their contact information (e-mail address(es) and phone number(s))
3. **Information on topic and background.** This statement should outline the scope of the planned presentations, the relevance of the topic to herpetology, to the HL, and if appropriate, to the particular meeting (e.g., timeliness or geographic appropriateness), and the goal of the symposium.
4. **A list of speakers** you have already invited or intend to invite to participate in the symposium. Inclusion of graduate students and early career scientists is encouraged. Please indicate whether or not each person has already agreed to speak (e.g. not contacted, tentatively agreed or agreed). Provide contact information for each speaker, as well as position (graduate student, post-doctoral researcher, assistant, associate or full professor, or other)
5. **Length of symposium:** half-day or full-day (half day symposia are typical; a one-day symposium is usually the maximum). Talks are generally 15 minutes, but provide justification for 20 to 30 minute talks as needed.

6. **HL funding requested and budget.** Appropriate expenses include full or partial support of travel, housing and/or registration expenses for symposium participants. Funds will not be provided for: stipends, drinks, and/or snacks.

Responsibilities of the Symposium Chair(s) if the Proposal is Accepted

- Recruit speakers for the symposium and obtain their guarantee that they will participate.
- Work with symposium participants to obtain titles and abstracts. Abstracts **MUST** be submitted by the annual meeting abstract deadlines.
- Ensure that all participants are registered for the meetings.
- Develop and submit a **schedule** for the symposium to the meeting organizing committee for that year's annual meeting **by February 28th** of the year of the meeting. This includes the order of talks and length of talks (15 or 30 minutes). Symposium organizers must provide the names of the moderators for the symposium at the same time.
- Ensure that all speakers are **present** at the meeting.

For more information, please contact:

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