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# General Information Regarding Meetings & Conferences of the AMS

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**Speakers and Organizers:** The Council has decreed that no paper, whether invited or contributed, may be listed in the program of a meeting of the Society unless an abstract of the paper has been received in Providence prior to the deadline.

Although an individual may present only one ten-minute contributed paper at a meeting, any combination of joint authorship may be accepted, provided no individual speaks more than once. An author can speak by invitation in more than one Special Session at the same meeting.

**Special Sessions:** The number of Special Sessions at an Annual Meeting is limited. Special Sessions at annual meetings are held under the supervision of the Program Committee for National Meetings and, for sectional meetings, under the supervision of each Section Program Committee. They are administered by the associate secretary in charge of that meeting with staff assistance from the Meetings and Conferences Department in Providence. (See the list of associate secretaries on page 191 of this issue.)

Each person selected to give an Invited Address is also invited to generate a Special Session, either by personally organizing one or by having it organized by others. Proposals to organize a Special Session are sometimes solicited either by a program committee or by the associate secretary. Other proposals should be submitted to the associate secretary in charge of that meeting (who is an ex officio member of the program committee) at the address listed below. These proposals must be in the hands of the associate secretary at least seven months (for sectional meetings) or nine months (for national meetings) prior to the meeting at which the Special Session is to be held in order that the committee may consider all the proposals for Special Sessions simultaneously. Special Sessions must be announced in the *Notices* in a timely fashion so that any Society member who so wishes may submit an abstract for consideration for presentation in the Special Session.

Talks in Special Sessions are usually limited to twenty minutes; however, organizers who wish to allocate more time to individual speakers may do so within certain limits. A great many of the papers presented in Special Sessions at meetings of the Society are invited papers, but any member of the Society who wishes to do so may submit an abstract for consideration for presentation in a Special Session, provided it is submitted to the AMS prior to the special early deadline for consideration. Contributors should know that there is a limit to the size of a single Special Session, so sometimes all places are filled by invitation. Papers submitted for consideration for inclusion in Special Sessions but not accepted will receive consideration for a contributed paper session, unless specific instructions to the contrary are given.

The Society reserves the right of first refusal for the publication of proceedings of any Special Session. If published by the AMS, these proceedings appear in the book series *Contemporary Mathematics*. For more detailed information

on organizing a Special Session, see [www.ams.org/meetings/specialsessionmanual.html](http://www.ams.org/meetings/specialsessionmanual.html).

**Contributed Papers:** The Society also accepts abstracts for ten-minute contributed papers. These abstracts will be grouped by related *Mathematical Reviews* subject classifications into sessions to the extent possible. The title and author of each paper accepted and the time of presentation will be listed in the program of the meeting.

**Other Sessions:** In accordance with policy established by the AMS Committee on Meetings and Conferences, mathematicians interested in organizing a session at an annual or sectional meeting on employment opportunities inside or outside academia for young mathematicians should contact the associate secretary for the meeting with a proposal by the stated deadline. Also, potential organizers for poster sessions on a topic of choice should contact the associate secretary before the deadline.

**Abstracts:** Abstracts for all papers must be received by the meeting coordinator in Providence by the stated deadline. Unfortunately, late papers cannot be accommodated.

**Electronic Submission Procedures:** Visit the Meetings and Conferences homepage on the Web at <http://www.ams.org/meetings> and select "Submit an abstract".

**Submission by U. S. Mail:** Paper AMS abstract forms may be requested by contacting the Meeting Coordinator, AMS Meetings and Conferences Department, P. O. Box 6887, Providence, RI 02940; telephone: 401-455-4146; e-mail: [meet@ams.org](mailto:meet@ams.org). Your completed abstract should be sent to the same address by the stated deadline. N. B. There is a \$20 processing fee for paper abstracts. There is no charge for abstracts submitted electronically.

See the inside front cover of *Abstracts of Papers Presented to the American Mathematical Society* for information on abstracts published by title and not presented at a meeting.

## Site Selection for Sectional Meetings

Sectional meeting sites are recommended by the associate secretary for the section and approved by the Secretariat. Recommendations are usually made eighteen to twenty-four months in advance. Host departments supply local information, ten to fifteen rooms with overhead projectors for contributed paper sessions and Special Sessions, an auditorium with twin overhead projectors for Invited Addresses, space for registration activities and an AMS book exhibit, and registration clerks. The Society partially reimburses for the rental of facilities and equipment and for staffing the registration desk. Most host departments volunteer; to do so, or for more information, contact the associate secretary for the section.