

# NARST

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## CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2021 NARST Annual International Conference

Hilton Orlando  
6001 Destination Pkwy, Orlando, FL 32819  
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## NARST Annual Conference Theme:

### Science Education, a Public Good for the Good of the Public? Research to Empower, Evoke, and Revolutionize

The theme is a fitting call for this era of drastic change (e.g., population shifts, prominence of technology, disappearing economies) and daunting challenges (e.g., increased frequency of life-impacting natural and human-inspired disasters). It is a charge to conduct science education research for a socially just world.

A critical look at *outcomes* reveals a socially *unjust* world resistant to transformation. Throughout time, science education has been a public good of great value, but only and fully accessible to those society regarded as worthy. For example, in some countries, agencies identified individuals early in their development and tracked them into educational experiences for a life in the sciences with all its privileges (e.g. esteemed status, monetary benefits). In the United States (U.S.), science education for much of its existence was overtly reserved for whites, especially those of economic means. It was a vehicle to develop intellectual disciplines to solve real-world problems, competencies to ensure privileged positions in society for its participants. A version less valued by society, designed to hone vocational skills and socialize for subservient roles, was later expanded to include the poor and provided in scarcely resourced segregated settings for those classified as non-white.

Fast forward to the present: the intent of past practices to exclude is not overt in some countries, including the U.S., but parity in group outcomes has been slow and the historical structures (e.g., financing of education, allocation of resources, segregation and tracking of students) that contribute to outcome disparities remain largely intact. For instance, whites exceed their representation in the U.S. general population in science education of high currency (e.g., AP courses, science majors) and in heavily resourced settings where high-quality science education is provided from preschool to postsecondary. When viewed from a systems and group perspective, who gets access to which opportunities has remained mostly unaltered across time.

Substantial progress towards a socially just world in which science education is a public good for the good of the public—a public inclusive of all desiring to partake—is elusive. A call for research to empower, evoke, and revolutionize may be heretical to those who believe western science, one foundation of science education, is a universal, objective body of knowledge immune to the frailties of humans who construct it and the sociopolitical contexts in which it is constructed. It may be unsettling for others who see science education strictly through an individual rather than group and complex systems lens and it may be disconcerting to those who adhere to presentism, an ahistorical view that exclusively attributes current conditions to the here and now. Receptive or not, the drastic changes and daunting challenges at this time demand all hands on deck and warrant an equity- and equality-oriented criticality—an intentional, exacting examination to deconstruct and disrupt the status quo privileging a few in pursuit of a socially just world for the many.

The time for research to **empower** (envision beyond the existing boundaries), **evoke** (think and act boldly in times of ease and turmoil), and **revolutionize** (abandon the idea good intentions are enough and institute change to achieve equitable and equal *outcomes*) is now. It is this kind of research the 2021 conference aims to inspire.

## Program Strands

The 2021 NARST program will feature sessions focused on 14 Program Strands and delivered in several session formats. *The 2019-2020 Board approved strand revisions. The revised strands are highlighted below.* Persons wishing to be on the program must identify the *Strand* that most closely aligns with their proposed topic. The 14 NARST Strands and their descriptions are listed in the following table:

### 2021 NARST Strands and Descriptions

|  |
|--|
| <b><i>Strand 1. Science Learning: Development of Student Understanding</i></b><br>How students learn from a variety of theoretical perspectives  |
| <b><i>Strand 2. Science Learning: Contexts, Characteristics, and Interactions</i></b><br>Learning environments, teacher-student and student-student interactions, and factors related to and/or affecting learning   |
| <b><i>Strand 3. Science Teaching--Primary School (Grades preK-6): Characteristics and Strategies</i></b><br>Teacher cognition, content knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, pedagogical content knowledge, instructional materials, and strategies  |
| <b><i>Strand 4. Science Teaching--Middle and High School (Grades 5-12): Characteristics and Strategies</i></b><br>Teacher cognition; content knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, pedagogical content knowledge, and instructional materials and strategies.  |
| <b><i>Strand 5. College Science Teaching and Learning (Grades 13-20)</i></b><br>Instructor cognition, content knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, pedagogical content knowledge, student understanding and learning, and conceptual change at postsecondary level  |
| <b><i>Strand 6. Science Learning in Informal Contexts</i></b><br>Learning and teaching in museums, outdoor settings, community programs, communications media, and after-school programs   |
| <b><i>Strand 7. Pre-service Science Teacher Education</i></b><br>Pre-service professional development of teachers, pre-service teacher education programs and policy, field experience, and issues related to pre-service teacher education reform   |
| <b><i>Strand 8. In-service Science Teacher Education</i></b><br>Continuing professional development of teachers, in-service teacher education programs and policy, and issues related to in-service teacher education reform   |
| <b><i>Strand 9 Dissolved (approved by Board March 15, 2020)</i></b>  |
| <b><i>Strand 10. Curriculum and Assessment</i></b><br>Development, implementation, dissemination, and evaluation of curriculum. Development and validation of assessments, including alternative forms of assessment of teaching and learning  |
| <b><i>Strand 11. Cultural, Social, and Gender Issues</i></b><br>Equity and diversity issues: sociocultural, multicultural, bilingual, racial/ethnic, and gender equity studies   |
| <b><i>Strand 12. Technology for Teaching, Learning, and Research</i></b><br>Advancing applications of technology and digital tools to promote teaching, learning, and research   |
| <b><i>Strand 13. History, Philosophy, Sociology, and Nature of Science</i></b><br>Historical, philosophical, and social issues of science as related to science education  |
| <b><i>Strand 14. Environmental Education and Sustainability</i></b><br>Education related to Earth and environmental systems, ecology, environmental science literacy, experiential learning, health, indigenous education, place-based, public participation in science (citizen science), responsible citizenship, socioscientific issues, and sustainability and sustainable development |
| <b><i>Strand 15. Policy, Reform, and Program Evaluation</i></b><br>The construction, interpretation, and implementation of science education policies and reforms at the local, regional, national, or international levels  |

## Program Formats

### *Stand-Alone Paper by individual author or co-authors.*

Traditional presentation format allows for 15-20 minutes of individual presentation time in a theater-style setting. Typically, four papers are scheduled per session for 90 minutes total and will be grouped by Strand co-coordinators by theme.

### *Related Paper Set by multiple authors or co-author groups.*

Groups of authors/co-authors must submit a set of four to five papers for presentation in a single 90-minute time block in the program. The proposal must show clearly the topic focus of the set. Papers within a set will be judged holistically. The group submitting the set will be required to identify their own presider (and possible discussant) for the session and will decide on the time allocations within the 90-minute block for presentations and discussion.

### *Interactive Poster Paper by individual or co-authors.*

A single author or a group of co-authors may prepare a paper for presentation in an interactive poster format. Authors are required to have copies of their paper available for dissemination. Poster session presenters will be grouped with other poster presenters from the same Strand for a 60-minute time block. Many posters will be scheduled at the same time, so individuals can interact with the presenters, and move to other posters in the same session.

### *Symposium by multiple presenters.*

Groups of participants may propose a symposium on a topic or issue. The proposal must involve four to ten participants and explicitly relate to the Strand title and description. The goals of the symposium should be clear and focused, as should the role of each participant and his/her topic. Symposium sessions will have a 90-minute time block in the program. Symposium proposals must be submitted as a single document; they may not contain individual papers. The group submitting the set will be required to identify their own presider (and possible discussant) for the session and will decide on the time allocations within the 90-minute block for presentations and discussion.

### *Roundtables*

Roundtable sessions allow maximum interaction among presenters and with attendees. Papers accepted for a roundtable session will be grouped into tables with three to four papers per table, clustered around shared interests. The roundtable session will be scheduled for a 60-minute time slot with roundtable presenters proceeding according to guidelines distributed at the roundtable sessions. No additional audiovisual equipment, such as a screen or LCD projector, is provided. Authors wishing to display information may do so from their own laptop computer screens or distribute handouts. Please note that no power source will be provided.

The Co-Chairs of the Program Committee Eileen Carlton Parsons, NARST President, and Renee Schwartz, NARST President-Elect, have the final decision in the assignment of presentation format; they may place proposed presentations into session types for which they were not submitted. If the proposer does not want the format assigned, the proposer will have the opportunity to withdraw the proposal.

## Presentation Limitations (Number and Originality)

NARST limits the number of times a person can appear as first author at the conference. The rules are that an author may be:

1. First author on only one stand-alone paper *or* a paper within a related paper set.
2. First author on only one interactive poster paper.
3. First author on only one roundtable.
4. Presenter in only one symposium.
5. Secondary author on any number of stand-alone, related paper set, and/or interactive poster papers.

Please note that if you **make more than one entry as first author in a category of presentation**, the system will delete the earlier submission you entered for that same category.

NARST proposals submitted for presentations at the Annual International Conference **MUST** be original work that has not been / will not be presented at any other conference (e.g., AERA, ASERA, ASTE, ESERA), including presentations shared through the electronic 2020 Conference program. Because of limited capacity for conference presentations, please do not submit proposals accepted for the 2020 conference. Listing the 2020 proposal as accepted on the vita with a note indicating the cancellation of the 2020 conference due to COVID-19 provides professional recognition. Please direct any questions to the Program Committee Co-Chair, Eileen Carlton Parsons, at [rparsons@email.unc.edu](mailto:rparsons@email.unc.edu).

## Proposal Submission Process

To begin the submission process, go to <https://proposals.narst.org>. This URL is the “home page” for conference proposals. **If you are a NARST member**, you may log on with your NARST membership login information. You may change any personal information by clicking on Update Profile. **If you are not a NARST member**, you will need to create an account and enter your identifying information, institution, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address. Enter your e-mail address for your username and select a password that you will remember.

Please note: The email address provided in your member profile or your non-member account will be used for all official correspondence, including (but not limited to) the NARST Annual International Conference program. If you give permission to include your email address in the NARST program, then there is a button to click when entering your proposal to indicate this preference.

*At the **Abstracts and Proposals Home Page**, under **User Tasks**, you find the following links:*

- **2021 NARST Call for Proposals** is a pdf version of the Call for Proposals.
- **2021 Pre-Conference Workshops: Call for Proposals** is a pdf call for pre-conference workshop events.
- **Submit a Proposal** allows you to select a category of proposal submission and submit your proposal.
- **View and Edit Your Submitted Proposal** is a quick link to edit your proposal *after* submission.
- **User Account/Volunteer to Review Proposals and Preside** allows you to change your personal information (e.g., university affiliation, email address, etc.). You will also use this link to volunteer to act as a proposal reviewer or a session presider.

Several of the Strands need ample numbers of thoughtful reviewers; you are urged to volunteer for the strand that best corresponds with your research expertise. Please indicate if you also wish to be a conference session presider.

- **View Current Strands and Strand Coordinators** links to a list of NARST Program Strands and the current Strand Co-Coordinators, including contact information.
- **Program Formats** leads to descriptions of the different program formats available to presenters.
- **Reviewer Rating Sheet** indicates the criteria used by reviewers in the peer review process.

Under *User Tasks* when you select **Add New Paper / Edit Papers**, you will be given five format choices including: Stand-Alone Paper OR Related Paper Set (*the system forces you to select one of the two since you can be first author on only one*), Interactive Poster Paper, Roundtable, and Symposium. Click on the radial button for the type of paper you wish to begin and click on the button at the bottom that says

**Continue.** There is a **Reset** button as well if you wish to change the type of proposal you want to enter.

Once you select the type of proposal you want, you will be taken to a web page where you will enter the information about your proposal. After you have submitted all mandatory information, the system will allow you to come back to the proposal to revise it at any time until the August 15, 2020 deadline. **Please note that you may only post once for each type of entry; otherwise, the system will delete (by writing over) the proposal you posted originally.**

### **Entering Proposal Information into the Web Site**

**Stand-Alone Paper.** Enter the **title** of the paper (limit 15 words). Next select your proposal type: **Research Paper** or **Theoretical Paper**. Since we cannot always accommodate the type of session every proposer would like, please indicate if you are willing to present as an Interactive Poster Paper or Roundtable instead. Add up to 10 authors to your proposal by clicking on the “Lookup Names” button. If the author you wish to add is not in the NARST database, then you will be able to enter the name and affiliation manually. Then, type into the abstract box an abstract of up to 200 words (about 1200 characters). Therefore, please watch for accuracy and check for any stray characters that might appear if you pasted the abstract from a Word file. Next, you will be asked to upload a PDF file of your proposal (five pages maximum *excluding* references—see formatting guidelines below). You will then click on a radial button indicating the Strand to which you are submitting; select two **Content Key Words** and one **Methodological Key Word** to help with assigning appropriate reviewers. Finally, click on **Submit Stand-Alone Paper Information** at the bottom of the page. You may come back to edit the proposal at any time until August 15, 2020. Any changes made after the initial submission will overwrite the previous version.

**Related Paper Set.** Enter an **overall session title** (limit 15 words). Next select your proposal type: **Research Paper** or **Theoretical Paper**. For each individual paper in the set, enter a **title** and add up to 10 authors per paper (with their role) by clicking on the “Lookup Names” button. If the author you wish to add is not in the NARST database, then you will be able to enter the name and affiliation manually. Then, type into the abstract box an **overall session abstract** of up to 200 words (about 1200 characters). Therefore, please watch for accuracy and check for any stray characters that might appear if you pasted the abstract from a Word file. Next, you will be asked to upload **one** PDF file of your proposal (10 pages maximum *excluding* references—see formatting guidelines below) that includes an overall summary of your Related Paper Set and descriptions of individual papers. You will then click on a radial button indicating the **Strand** to which you are submitting; select two **Content Key Words** and one **Methodological Key Word** to help with assigning appropriate reviewers. Finally, click on **Save Related Paper Set Information** at the bottom of the page. You may come back to edit the proposal at any time August 15, 2020. Any changes made after the initial submission will overwrite the previous version.

**Interactive Poster Paper.** Enter the **title** of the paper (limit 15 words). Next select your proposal type: **Research Paper** or **Theoretical Paper**. Since we cannot always accommodate the type of session every proposer would like, please indicate if you are willing to present as a Roundtable instead. Add up to 10 authors to your proposal by clicking on the “Lookup Names” button. If the author you wish to add is not in the NARST database, then you will be able to enter the name and affiliation manually. Then, type into the abstract box an abstract of up to 200 words (about 1200 characters). Therefore, please watch for accuracy and check for any stray characters that might appear if you pasted the abstract from a Word file. Next, you will be asked to upload a PDF file of your proposal (five pages maximum *excluding* references—see formatting guidelines below). You will then click on a radial button indicating the **Strand** to which you are submitting; select two **Content Key Words** and one **Methodological Key Word** to help with assigning appropriate reviewers. Finally, click on **Save Interactive Poster Paper**

**Information** at the bottom of the page. You may come back to edit the proposal at any time until August 15, 2020. Any changes made after the initial submission will overwrite the previous version.

**Symposium.** Enter the **title** (limit 15 words) of the symposium. Next select your proposal type: **Research Paper, Theoretical Paper, or Both Research and Theoretical.** Add up to 10 authors to your proposal (with their role in the session) by clicking on the “Lookup Names” button. If the author you wish to add is not in the NARST database, then you will be able to enter the name and affiliation manually. Then, type into the abstract box an **overall abstract** of up to 200 words (about 1200 characters). Therefore, please watch for accuracy and check for any stray characters that might appear if you pasted the abstract from a Word file. Next, you will be asked to upload **one** PDF file of your proposal (10 pages maximum *excluding* references—see formatting guidelines below) with an overall summary of your symposium. You will then click on a radial button indicating the **Strand** to which you are submitting; select two **Content Key Words** and one **Methodological Key Word** to help with assigning appropriate reviewers. Finally, click on **Save Symposium Information** at the bottom of the page. You may come back to edit the proposal at any time until August 15, 2020. Any changes made after the initial submission will overwrite the previous version.

**Roundtable.** Enter the **title** of the paper (limit 15 words). Next select your proposal type: **Research Paper or Theoretical Paper.** Since we cannot always accommodate the type of session every proposer would like, please indicate if you are willing to present as an Interactive Poster Paper instead. Add up to 10 authors to your proposal by clicking on the “Lookup Names” button. If the author you wish to add is not in the NARST database, then you will be able to enter the name and affiliation manually. Then, type into the abstract box an abstract of up to 200 words (about 1200 characters). Next, you will be asked to upload a PDF file of your proposal (five pages maximum *excluding* references—see formatting guidelines below). You will then click on a radial button indicating the **Strand** to which you are submitting; select two **Content Key Words** and one **Methodological Key Word** to help with assigning appropriate reviewers. Finally, click on **Save Roundtable Information** at the bottom of the page. You may come back to edit the proposal at any time until August 15, 2020. Any changes made after the initial submission will overwrite the previous version.

**When submitting your proposals, please take care that you or your co-authors enter names exactly the same way each time.** This can be best accomplished by using the Lookup Names function in the proposal submission format. Using this function avoids scheduling conflicts and guarantees a conflict-free conference timetable. It also allows a consistent list of names in the program. If a presenter’s name is not in the NARST database, then enter the name exactly the same way each time to avoid schedule conflicts.

All proposals submitted to NARST go through a **masked, peer-reviewed process.** Masked means you are **required** to remove **any** identifiers in the proposal pertaining to the authors, including the institutions involved in or pertaining to the study and research grant or project identifiers, and disguise any information that may lead to the identification of authors. For example, instead of the name of a University, use a general description like research university located in the midwestern United States. In addition, for self-citations please use the third person, instead of “we” or “I”. In the reference list, use only the term “Author” or “Authors” followed by date of publication and the item should be alphabetized in the reference list using the term “Author” or “Authors.”

**Please be aware that PDF files contain metadata that may identify you as the author!** After creating your proposal PDF, open it and click on File/Properties. Check whether your name, institution or other identifying information are displayed. If so, delete that information and save the PDF file.

**NOTE: Proposals that do not meet these criteria will not be reviewed.**

## Formatting for Submission of Proposal

- ❖ **Paper or Poster** submission by individual author or co-authors. There is a maximum of five pages (excluding references). All in-text citations should be included in the reference list and references must be in APA format.
- ❖ **Related Paper Set** submission by multiple authors or co-author groups. There is a maximum of 10 pages (excluding references). This should begin with a summary of the entire set describing how all of the papers are related, and then provide details of each individual paper integrated into one document. All in-text citations should be included in the reference list and references must be in APA format.
- ❖ **Symposium** submission by multiple presenters. There is a maximum of 10 pages (excluding references). This should include a description of the overall session topic or issue in one document and indicate how the session will run (e.g., panel discussion followed by group discussion). All in-text citations should be included in the reference list and references must be in APA format.
- ❖ **Roundtable** submission by individual author or co-authors. There is a maximum of five pages (excluding references). All in-text citations should be included in the reference list and references must be in APA format.

To prepare the text for your proposal, **please ensure that pages are single-spaced with 1" (2.54 cm) margins all around, and in font no smaller than 12 on US Letter size paper (8.5" x 11")**. This is crucial for the review process, as larger paper size will not print. If you usually use A4 paper, please convert to US letter size as you finalize your proposal, *before* converting to a PDF format for submission.

***In your proposal, address the five criteria that are part of the review process: (a) subject/problem; (b) design/procedure; (c) findings and analysis; (d) contribution to the teaching and learning of science; and (e) how the paper will contribute to the interests of NARST members.*** See Reviewer Rubric at the end of this document for a more complete description of the review criteria. In addition, please complete the checklist at the end of this document for your own use to ensure you have addressed the proposal requirements.

Please note: These page limitations apply only to the proposal, not to the length of the paper presented at the NARST Annual International Conference.

## Confirmation of Submission

Once you have finished filling out your registration form and completed the proposal upload, you will receive a confirmation message on the Web screen. Each person on the proposal will be sent an e-mail confirmation provided his or her email information is in the NARST system. Only the proposal submitter will be able to track the proposal on their Abstract Submission Home Page, which will have a confirmation number for each type of proposal submitted. Keep this number in your records in the event you need to inquire about your proposal submission.

## Submission Deadline

The submission deadline is 5:00 pm YOUR local time on August 15, 2021 (the annual NARST proposal submission deadline).

In recent years, 92% of proposals are submitted in the final 72 hours. We request your cooperation in adhering to this submission deadline as a friendly and reasonable approach to ensure that the number of users in the final hours will be significantly reduced from that experienced in previous years. In essence, by completing your proposal no later than 5:00 pm your local time you will avoid experiencing



sluggishness on the system, as well as ensure that others have a pleasant submission experience. We thank you in advance for your compliance with this deadline.

### **Requirements for First Authors**

Unless the Program Co-Chairs are notified otherwise and for extenuating circumstances, all first authors need to be present at the conference to present. The **first author must register for the Annual International Conference by the close of the Advance Registration period to be announced at a later date.** First authors who do not register by the registration deadline may have their presentation removed from the conference program. It is the responsibility of each first author to comply with this requirement. **You will not be contacted in the event you do not register by the deadline.** By clicking on a radial button, you agree to register by the deadline or have your presentation removed from the program.

### **Requirement of Presented Paper, Roundtable, Poster, or Symposium**

All presenters – and all conference attendees - are required to register for the NARST Annual International Conference. If you present either a paper, roundtable, *or* a poster, you are required to have a paper (following the publication guidelines detailed in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2019) for distribution either at your presentation or through a personal link. It is each author's responsibility to provide access to a paper associated with the presentation.

### **Volunteering to Be a Reviewer**

Please consider volunteering to be a reviewer (for peer review of proposals for the program) by checking the appropriate box and Strand on the Web page where you uploaded your proposal. You have this option when you register as a new user, or you may edit this information if you already have a username and password. You may volunteer for more than one Strand. Careful peer review is crucial to the quality of the Conference. Reviewers are leadership roles that may contribute to your professional development.

### **Volunteering to Be a Presider**

Please consider volunteering to be a presider who structures how the session will proceed and facilitates discussion during sessions at the conference by checking the appropriate box and Strand on the Web page where you uploaded your proposal. You have this option when you register as a new user, or you may edit this information if you already have a username and password. You may volunteer for more than one Strand. Thoughtful presidors can contribute to interactions at conference sessions by structuring the session. The structuring may involve determining when questions will be posed and how discussion will occur (after each presentation or after all presentations). If you volunteer to preside, you will be notified of your presider status before the conference. Presidors are leadership roles that may contribute to your professional development.

### **Presentation Needs in Orlando, Florida, USA**

One LCD projector and screen are provided in each concurrent session presentation room throughout the conference for Stand-Alone Papers, Related Paper Sets, and Symposia. Computers, speakers, and other presentation devices are not provided, so you will need to make your own arrangement for the presentation of electronic material.

## Present a Modified NARST Presentation at NSTA

The NARST Research Committee is soliciting proposals for NARST-sponsored sessions at the following four National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) conferences: (1) 2022 National Conference in Houston, TX March 31-April 3, 2022; and (2) 2021 Area Conferences at (a) Portland, OR October 28-30, 2021; (b) National Harbor MD November 11-13, 2021; and (c) Los Angeles CA December 9-11, 2021. When submitting your NARST proposal, you have the opportunity to indicate your interest in presenting a practitioner's version of your NARST presentation at one of these NSTA meetings. A limited number of sessions will be available. The Research Committee will make final decisions about which proposals will be invited to participate at the NSTA meetings.

Please indicate at which conference(s) you are interested in presenting. If you are interested in presenting a version of your proposed NARST session at any of these conferences, please provide a proposal abstract of up to **350 words** addressing the following six criteria that the NARST Research Committee has developed for NARST-sponsored presentations at NSTA meetings.

1. Addresses themes relevant for the teaching and learning of science
2. Bridges gaps between theory and practice and/or research and practice
3. Addresses concerns and needs of practitioners
4. Is interactive and designed to engage the practitioner audience
5. Provides materials or ideas that can be used with a little or no modification by teachers, teacher educators, or administrators
6. Has a title and "Session Abstract" written for teachers and will attract a wide NSTA audience.

In addition to the 350-word proposal abstract, please provide the following information and append it to your NARST proposal.

1. Session title (phrased for teachers)
2. The type of session (either presentation or workshop, with majority of chosen papers being workshop format)
3. The proposed length of the session (either 30 minutes or 60 minutes with workshops having a typical duration of 60 minutes and presentations for 30 minutes)
4. The intended teacher audience (examples: grade 3, grade 7, grades 8-12)
5. The list of co-presenters (including email and institution)
6. A very brief description of the session for the NSTA website (25 words and written for teachers)
7. A "Session Abstract" (150-200 words) written for teachers and for the NSTA website

Submissions for NSTA made with your NARST proposal will only be adjudicated after NARST proposals have been reviewed and accepted.

Note that merely re-submitting your NARST proposal abstract will reduce the likelihood of the proposal being selected for NSTA presentations. Successful proposals for presentation at NSTA in the past have generally been re-written for a teacher audience. Any presentations/ workshops must be safe and conform to NSTA written guidelines at <http://static.nsta.org/pdfs/SafetyPracticesAndRegulations.pdf>.

## NARST Proposal Review Rubric

For each category, three criteria are required. Given the constraints of the 5-page limit for individual paper and poster proposals (10-page limit excluding references for related-paper sets and symposia), please assign a numerical rating using the following descriptors as a guide:

|   |                            |   |
|---|----------------------------|---|
| 5 | <b>Highly evident:</b>     | Proposal provides clear, substantive, and coherent evidence of <b>all</b> criteria      |
| 4 | <b>Adequately evident:</b> | Proposal adequately describes <b>all</b> criteria in the category.                      |
| 3 | <b>Mostly evident:</b>     | Proposal adequately describes <b>2 out of 3</b> criteria in the category                |
| 2 | <b>Somewhat evident:</b>   | Proposal adequately describes <b>1 out of 3</b> criteria in the category                |
| 1 | <b>Not evident</b>         | Proposal <b>does not</b> adequately describe <b>any</b> of the criteria in the category |

**Additionally, please make sure that you explain your numerical ratings by responding to the rubric questions with constructive feedback identifying the proposal's strengths and weaknesses in the text boxes provided. Answering Yes or No to the criteria questions is not considered acceptable feedback. With respect to proposals for related paper sets and symposia, we ask that your comments reflect the quality of *each* of the papers included in the proposal in addition to your summative recommendation and underlying rationale for the proposal as a whole.**

### Subject/Problem

1. Is there a clear focus for the study?
2. Does the proposal include a clear rationale for the study?
3. Does the proposal describe the model, theoretical framework, or philosophy of the study?

### Design or Procedure

#### *Empirical Studies*

1. Does the proposal clearly describe the methodology (theory of method)?
2. Does the proposal clearly describe the research methods, design, and study context?
3. Are the methodology, procedure, and design appropriate for the study and clearly aligned with the problem?

#### *Non-Empirical Studies (e.g., conceptual or position papers, reviews of literature)*

1. Does the proposal clearly describe the approach used to develop the argument or conduct the review?
2. Are the ideological/philosophical positions of the author and sources made clear?
3. Does the proposal include an appropriate range of literature?

### Analyses and Findings

#### *Empirical Studies*

1. Do the data analyses appear to be appropriate, coherent, complete, and aligned with the research questions?
2. Are the arguments or interpretations supported by the data and linked to prior literature?
3. Does the proposal discuss alternative interpretations, bias, reliability, or validity as appropriate?

#### *Non-Empirical Studies (e.g., conceptual or position papers, reviews of literature)*

1. Do the syntheses of ideas appear to be appropriate, coherent, and complete?
2. Are the arguments or interpretations supported by evidence?
3. Does the proposal discuss alternative interpretations, counter-arguments, or bias, as appropriate?

### Contribution

1. Do the conclusions add to, refine, or refute theoretical constructs?
2. Do conclusions contribute valuable insights and have implications into teaching/learning/researching science education?
3. Does the proposal clearly address, and have implications for, equity issues related to NARST's goal of helping all learners achieve science literacy, including, but not limited to, race, sex, gender expression, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, access, ability, sexual orientation, language, national origin, and/or religion?

### Cohesiveness\* (Related Paper-Sets ONLY)

1. Are all of the papers in the set focused on a similar concept/theme?
2. Do all papers contribute new information to the set, making a meaningful strongly-related whole?
3. Are all papers contributing high quality information leading to a rigorous and comprehensive understanding of the theme?

### General Interest

1. Does the content of the presentation promise to be of general interest to NARST members interested in this strand?
2. Is the content presented in a way that will be meaningful to NARST members interested in this strand?
3. Does the paper promise to be of interest to the education community at large?

### Overall Rating (1-not recommended; 5 highly recommended)

**To ensure NARST has high quality presentations at this year's conference, please only recommend that proposals be accepted for presentation if your ratings are appropriately high and written comments are supportive of this recommendation.**

## Proposal Submission Checklist

The completion of this checklist may be helpful in ensuring your proposal meets the requirements.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Names of author(s) correct and consistent throughout
- \_\_\_\_\_ Submission is properly masked/ blinded
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Uses pseudonyms to mask locations that may identify author(s)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Omit names or other information that may identify author(s)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Specific descriptions (e.g., curriculum developed by authors) that may identify author(s) are made more general
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Third person is used to refer to self-citations
  - \_\_\_\_\_ In the reference list, used “Author” or “Authors” followed by publication date for self-citations and alphabetized accordingly
- \_\_\_\_\_ Format of the submission meets requirements
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 1” margins all around
  - \_\_\_\_\_ No font smaller than 12-inches
  - \_\_\_\_\_ US letter size paper (8.5” x 11”) is used
  - \_\_\_\_\_ No more than 5 pages (excluding references) for paper, poster, or roundtable
  - \_\_\_\_\_ No more than 10 pages (excluding references) for symposium or related paper set
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Inclusion of abstract of no more than 200 words
  - \_\_\_\_\_ All citations included in the proposal body are included in the reference list
  - \_\_\_\_\_ References adhere to APA format
- \_\_\_\_\_ Submission is converted to a PDF document
  - \_\_\_\_\_ After creating PDF, opened it and clicked on File/Properties to check if name, institution or other identifying information were displayed. If so, deleted that information and saved the PDF
- \_\_\_\_\_ Submission indicated alternative format, where applicable
- \_\_\_\_\_ Submission indicated to if email address could be included in program

\_\_\_\_\_ Submission indicated if author(s) submitted a proposal to AERA (this information is needed for scheduling purposes)

## Frequently Asked Questions

Please find below the answers to frequently asked questions when beginning the submission process. You can also find this document on our website [here](#).

We encourage you to check our online FAQ (<https://narst.org/conferences/faq>) as we will add to it.

- **THE LINK IS TAKING ME TO A LOGIN PAGE? WHERE IS THE SUBMISSION FORM?**

In order to submit a proposal, you must be logged into the [proposal submission system](#). After logging in, you will find the submission form listed under User Tasks.

- **I'M NOT A NARST MEMBER AND DON'T HAVE LOGIN CREDENTIALS. DO I NEED TO BE A MEMBER TO SUBMIT?**

You do not have to be a NARST member to submit a proposal. However, we do encourage you to become a member as you will receive substantial savings on your registration for the 2021 NARST Annual International Conference. To join NARST as a member visit our website [here](#).

If you are not a member and do not wish to join at this time, please [create a new account](#). After creating an account, return to the [proposal submission portal](#) and login.

- **I'M HAVING LOGIN/PASSWORD RESET ISSUES. WHO DO I CONTACT?**

Please email [info@narst.org](mailto:info@narst.org) for assistance.

- **ONCE I HIT SUBMIT, CAN I MAKE EDITS TO MY ABSTRACT OR CHANGE THE PROPOSAL (I.E. FROM A POSTER TO A PROPOSAL)?**

Yes, you can edit your abstract until the submission date. If you want to change the type of abstract you are submitting, please email [abstracts@narst.org](mailto:abstracts@narst.org) for instructions.

- **HOW MANY AUTHORS CAN I ADD TO MY PROPOSAL?**

The submission form has room for 10 names, including yours. If you have additional names, please email [info@narst.org](mailto:info@narst.org) and let us know. We can store the additional names and ensure that the full set of authors is included in the final program.