NARST 2026
Conference Information

In addition to the in-person conference, a Virtual Conference Day will be held to support presenters who are unable to attend in person. All conference registrants have access to the Virtual Conference Day and will receive an email with instructions for logging into the Playback Now virtual conference platform at PlaybackNARST.com. If you do not receive login instructions, please contact experience@playbacknow.com.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The full conference program is posted on the Oxford Abstracts platform at
https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/event/74755/program

A link to the program is also available on the conference web page:
https://narst.org/conferences/2026-annual-conference

The conference program on Oxford Abstracts will be updated as necessary. A PDF version of the program will be posted on the conference website 1-2 weeks prior to the start of the in-person conference.

Conference Program Login

Oxford Abstracts identifies every submitting or presenting author by their email address, which serves as their login username. All proposal submitters have an Oxford Abstracts login, and most presenters have created an Oxford Abstracts login.

The conference program can be viewed without logging into Oxford Abstracts. However, additional features will be available if you log in, including:
- Bookmark entire sessions or individual presentations to create your personalized schedule.
- Create a virtual "badge" with your contact information.
- Allow other conference participants to leave messages.
- Create open or invitation-only chat groups.
- Choose how often to receive emailed notifications of new messages.

If you do not have an Oxford Abstracts account, you can create one here:
https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/auth/register

Please note: the email you used to register for this conference may not be known to Oxford Abstracts. Please use your Oxford Abstracts login.

OVERVIEW - VIRTUAL VS IN-PERSON EVENTS

Virtual conference events	In-person events
	Multiple pre-conference workshops (see program)
Concurrent sessions will be underway for an 8-hour day. Presentations will be delivered in three or four separate Zoom "rooms". Connection information will be provided in advance. All registrants are welcome to attend.	**Paper presentations, symposia, administrative sessions**. Up to 14 simultaneous sessions may be underway in each of 13 concurrent sessions. **Bring your own laptop/tablet** with your own dongle/connector to an HDMI input.
Posters will be shared during a LIVE poster event in which each presenter will be available in an individual breakout room. Additionally, posters can be uploaded into the Oxford Abstracts Poster Gallery, where the poster will be visible to all virtual and in-person attendees. Please contact Paul Kemp at paulkemp@narst.org to have your poster added to the Poster Gallery.	**Posters** will be displayed in a dedicated poster session. The poster boards will accommodate a horizontal layout of up to 36" tall x 48" wide (91 cm x .121 cm. Your poster can also be displayed in the Oxford Abstracts Poster Gallery for viewing throughout the conference. Please contact paulkemp@narst.org to have your poster added to the Poster Gallery. Some administrative sessions will include posters, formatted as above. Posters must be mounted during the break before the session and removed at the end of the session.
Welcome, transition, and closing remarks by President Jennifer Adams and Incoming President Maria Varelas.	**Plenary Sessions**: Welcome, Presidential address and Keynote, Awards session, Business/Membership Meeting, Closing session
Roundtable discussions will take place concurrently with the virtual Poster Session, in separate Zoom breakout rooms. All attendees are welcome to join and listen.	**Roundtable discussions.** Two Roundtable sessions with a total of 24 separate discussions will be held during the in-person conference.
Committee and RIG meetings: None are planned during the Virtual Conference Day.	**Committee and RIG meetings**: All committees and RIGs have rooms scheduled for their business meetings.
	Social events in-person. Several are planned. Please refer to the conference program.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Located in downtown Seattle, WA, the NARST Conference hotel, the **Sheraton Grand Seattle** is adjacent to the Convention Center and steps from Pike Place Market. Attractions near the hotel include the Space Needle, Climate Pledge Arena and T-Mobile Park.

- Airport: Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, 13.7 Miles
- Train: King Street Station
- Metro/Subway: Westlake Station
- Ride Share Services (Uber, Lyft) are available at Seattle Airport (SEA). Average travel time is 24 minutes; Average price: $67
- Parking at the conference hotel
  - Off-Site Parking Fee: $30 USD, daily
  - Valet Parking Fee: $68 USD, daily
  - Valet parking is available only to guests staying at the hotel.

Please check this website for the latest information on travel advisories. https://travel.state.gov/en/international-travel/travel-advisories.html. These advisories are subject to change. Keep yourself informed.

NARST is not responsible for any individual's travel expenses.

INFORMATION FOR PRESIDERS

If you volunteered to act as a session Presider - thank you!
You may have been assigned to preside over a session. Prior to the start of the conference, please check your assignments. Enter your name in the search field. If you are assigned to a session as Presider, the session will be listed, and your role will be displayed as *Session Presider*.

Instructions for Presiders are provided on the conference website, and are also available for download here.

COMMITTEE, RIG, STRAND MEETINGS

All Committee, Research Interest Group, and Strand business meetings will take place during the in-person conference on April 20th and 21st. Rooms are assigned to each of these meetings - please refer to the conference program.

INFORMATION FOR PRESENTERS

In-Person Conference Presenters

PAPER PRESENTATIONS
Each in-person session is 90 minutes in length. Most sessions have 4 assigned presenters; some have 3 or 5 assigned presenters.
Presenters must divide the 90 minutes equally. The session may not run overtime.

Please do not encroach on the time of other presenters. You can look up your own name at Oxford Abstracts to learn whether your session has three, four, or five presenters. In sessions with four presenters, plan for a 15-minute presentation plus 5 minutes for questions and answers. In sessions with five presenters, plan for 12-minute presentations with 3 minutes for questions.

Laptops will not be provided at the podium. Each presenter must bring a personal laptop or tablet loaded with their presentation file, and an appropriate dongle to connect to the HDMI connector of the conference room's projector.

ROUNDTABLE PAPERS
Roundtables are intended to be open discussions in which a small group exchanges ideas. Although the focus is on discussion rather than presentation, you will probably want to introduce your work and ideas in an organized, abbreviated way such as a short Powerpoint (suggested length 5 minutes), a video, a chart, or other graphic displays. These can be displayed on a laptop or tablet, or as printed handouts. Each presentation topic will be discussed in turn. Please be attentive to time and share the session time equally. The in-person Roundtable sessions will be 90 minutes long. Work-in-Progress (WIP) Roundtables will be intermingled with standard Roundtables.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS
Poster boards and tacks will be provided. The maximum size for a poster is 36" inches (0.9 meter) feet tall and 48" inches (1.2 meter) wide. All posters will be up for the entire poster session. You may wish to post a note stating when you will be available.

Poster template: You do not need to follow a specific template, but an example poster template is available. Download as PowerPoint and modify as you wish.

The Oxford Abstracts platform includes an online Poster Gallery. It is available for viewing by all conference attendees.

Provide a PDF of your poster to Paul Kemp (paulkemp@narst.org**) several days prior to the conference.** He will upload the poster to the Poster Gallery and attach it to your presentation entry on Oxford Abstracts.

Virtual Conference Presenters

The all-virtual conference day will be held on April 9, using the PlaybackNow platform. Zoom sessions will be held in Zoom Rooms A-D. Plenary sessions will be held in Zoom A.

The Virtual Conference Day **is open to all registered attendees** (both virtual and in-person). A login will be required to join the Virtual Conference Day sessions. Connection information will be sent to all conference attendees prior to the virtual conference day. The PlayBackNow landing page will display links to join Zoom Rooms A-D.

The program for the Virtual Conference Day is [available here](#).

PAPER PRESENTATIONS
Virtual sessions will be 90 minutes in length, and most sessions will have four or five assigned presentations. With four presentations, presenters should plan for a 15-minute presentation *including* time for questions. Please be aware of the time and do not encroach on the time allotted to other presenters.

Presenters will share their screen while presenting. Please be ready with your presentation open on your laptop and ready to begin sharing. You are free to use a presentation template of your choice.

ROUNDTABLE PAPERS
Roundtables are intended to be open discussions in which a small group exchanges ideas. The virtual Roundtable session will include discussions in separate breakout rooms. Presenters can share their screens.

Although the focus is on discussion rather than presentation, you will probably want to introduce your work and ideas in an organized, abbreviated way such as a short Powerpoint (suggested length 5 minutes), a video, a chart, or other graphic displays. Each presentation topic will be discussed in turn. Please be attentive to time and share the session time equally. The virtual Roundtable session will be 90 minutes long. Work-in-Progress (WIP) Roundtables will be intermingled with standard Roundtables.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS
A dedicated poster session will be held in Zoom A. It is intended to closely follow the style of in-person poster sessions, in which attendees engage in discussion with individual poster presenters. Each poster presenter will be placed in a breakout room, and attendees will be free to move between breakout rooms. We suggest that you be prepared to present your poster more than once during the poster session. Please be prepared to share your screen, and you may also wish to upload your poster as a file in the Zoom chat. This will allow attendees to download the file and adjust the viewing size to their own needs.

Poster template: You do not need to follow a specific template, but an [example poster template](#) is available. Download as PowerPoint and modify as you wish.

The Oxford Abstracts platform includes an [online Poster Gallery](#). Virtual poster presenters are encouraged to display their posters in the Oxford Abstracts Poster Gallery, where it will be visible to both virtual and in-person conference attendees.

Please provide a PDF of your poster to Paul Kemp at paulkemp@narst.org **several days prior to the virtual conference day**. He will upload the poster to the Poster Gallery and attach it to your presentation entry on Oxford Abstracts.

INFORMATION FOR ATTENDEES

Check out the online Exhibitors space now under construction on Oxford Abstracts: https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/event/74755/exhibitors

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES

We look forward to seeing you at all of the in-person sessions: welcome reception, social events, activities, paper presentations, keynote address, presidential welcome address, roundtables, and poster displays.
I**n-person registration includes access to the Virtual Conference Day**!

VIRTUAL ATTENDEES
A few days prior to the virtual conference day, registrants will receive connection information from PlayBackNow. You will use that connection information to access the Virtual Conference Day. The virtual conference site is under construction. When it is complete, the PlayBackNow landing page will display links to the Zoom-based conference rooms.