

# Session Chair Guidelines

## General information

The role of session chairs is of paramount importance to the success of the sessions. Each session at the SETAC Europe 26th LCA Symposium is led by a chair together with a maximum of 3 co-chairs. Note that session chairs are advised to communicate with co-chairs and familiarise themselves with the presentations in their sessions prior to the meeting.

## Platform sessions

At the beginning of the session, chairs should briefly introduce themselves, stating the session title and the session duration.

### **Prior to the start of the session, the chair should:**

- Arrive 20 minutes before the starting time of the session. We have asked presenters to arrive 20 minutes early and introduce themselves to the session chair(s).
- Check that presentation slides for all presenters in the session are available on the presenter's laptop.

### **At the start and during the session, the chair should:**

- Welcome the audience and presenters, and provide a 3-minute introduction summarising the theme and objectives of the session.
- Introduce the presenter by name and affiliation and then announce the talk title.
- Keep the schedule and talk timing according to the overall programme. Should there be a missing presenter, the session chair should engage the audience in a discussion until the next scheduled presentation.
- Formulate a question to ask each speaker ahead of time, particularly if there are none from the audience.
- Ensure that the session runs smoothly. If for any reason the Q/A period becomes unprofessional, please attempt to refocus the discussion.

## Poster spotlights

### **If your platform session includes a poster spotlight, please note the following:**

- Poster spotlights are meant to be a very short (3–4 slides maximum) presentation of posters. The purpose of the spotlights is to stimulate the audience to view the posters and to discuss the research with the presenter during the poster breaks in the poster area, where the poster is displayed on the same day. This format does not allow discussions after each poster spotlight.
- Please ensure that the individual poster spotlight presenters keep to the scheduled time, i.e., 4 minutes per presentation. In case of a no-show or cancelled spotlight, you can either conclude your session earlier or use the time for extra discussion.



**At the end of the session:**

- Thank the presenters and the audience.
- If there are any housekeeping announcements on behalf of the conference organisers, please make them.
- Formally announce that the session has ended.

**Poster sessions**

Scientific posters must be displayed in the poster area from 9:00–18:30 CEST on the day of the author's assigned poster session. The authors will receive instructions on where to hang up their poster. Each poster board will be identified by a poster number.

**As a poster session chair:**

- Your presence is not needed during the poster set-up;
- Check all displayed posters for appropriateness;
- Encourage attendees to view the posters in your session.

**During the poster session, the chair should:**

- Ensure posters are attended by authors. Presenting authors have been asked to stand by their posters during the poster break. Please note any unattended display. Chairs are not required to stand by the poster boards in their session the entire day, however we do ask that one of the chairs visit the posters periodically.
- Interact with each poster presenter and help facilitate interaction between presenting authors.
- Ask for feedback from authors and attendees.