

Procedures for selecting oral presentations from abstracts submitted to DPP2012

Oral presentations will be required in the number and topic area listed below. The number of reviewers who reviewed submitted abstracts for each session is noted in parenthesis:

- Session 1: Gut microbiome and host response: need 5 oral presentations (2 reviewers)
- Session 2: Nutrient digestion and absorption: need 5 oral presentations (4 reviewers)
- Session 3: Mucosal immunity and pathogenesis: need 5 oral presentations (2 reviewers)
- Session 4: Neonatal development of digestive and absorptive capacity: need 2 oral presentations (1 reviewer)
- Session 5: Long term effects of pre- and early post-natal nutrition/environment: need 5 oral presentations (1 reviewer)

Abstracts were submitted in 7 categories, as follows:

1. Gut Microbiome and Host
2. Nutrient Digestion and
3. Mucosal Immunity and
4. Neonatal Development of Digestive and Absorptive Capacity
5. Long Term effects of Pre and Early Postnatal Nutrition/Environment
6. Methodologies and Their Application
7. Manipulation of Digestion

Following is the procedure used for selecting abstracts for oral presentation:

1. Abstracts submitted to category 6 and 7 would not be included in the oral presentations, because they do not correspond with the themes of the oral sessions.
2. Since the original reviewers will already have a sense of which abstracts are of the highest calibre, they will be asked to suggest abstracts in the following numbers:

Session 1: 2 reviewers: 5 nominations per reviewer

Session 2: 4 reviewers: 3 nominations per reviewer

Session 3: 2 reviewers: 5 nominations per reviewer

Session 4: 1 reviewer: 5 nominations per reviewer

Session 5: 1 reviewer: 10 nominations per reviewer

This will provide the Program Committee with about 2 nominated abstracts per abstract ultimately selected for oral presentation. The exception is session 2, where there was a huge number of abstracts submitted, and 4 reviewers were involved; they will each nominate 3 abstracts, giving the committee 12 from which to choose 5.

3. Two members of the Program Committee will be assigned by the Chair to each session to select the oral presentations. They will independently vote for their top 7 (5 in the case of session 4), assigning 1 to their top selection, 2 to their next selection and so on. The Co-chair of the Program Subcommittee will tally the votes from the two selectors and the 5 authors of selected abstracts (2 in the case of session 4) will be contacted and invited to give an oral presentation. If any invitee

declines the invitation, the next abstract in the voting order will be selected in its stead. This process will be continued until all sessions are filled.

4. Nominated abstracts will be requested of the reviewers by April 2nd. The list of nominated abstracts will be forwarded to selectors on April 2nd and voting must be completed by April 6th at the latest.
5. The abstracts will be selected on the following criteria, in order of importance:
 - a. Adherence to the topic area
 - b. Contribution of new information in the topic area
 - c. Scientific calibre, defined as quality of the research and innovation of the outcome(s)
 - d. Quality of the abstract
 - e. Ability of the submitting author to present in English
 - f. If ALL other criteria are equal, attempts will be made to achieve some degree of geographical distribution of presenters
 - g. No more than 1 oral presentation per lab

Schedule

March 28	Request for “nomination” of abstracts sent to all reviewers
April 2	Nominations received from nominators and forwarded to selectors
April 6	Votes returned to Chair for tabulation
April 9	Abstract authors contacted and invited to make oral presentation
April 15	Program completed with all oral presentations finalized