

Society for the Study of Occupation: USA

# Call for Papers

Deadline for Abstracts: February 17, 2023 | All Topics Welcome



2023

## Envisioning the Future of Occupational Science

October 19-21, 2023 | Union Station Hotel  
St. Louis, Missouri

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**2023 Conference of the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA (SSO:USA)**

***Conference Theme – Envisioning the Future of Occupational Science (all topics are welcome)***

**October 19-21, 2023**

**St. Louis, Missouri**

**Deadline for Abstracts: February 17, 2023**

**Envisioning the Future of Occupational Science:** The discipline of occupational science continues to advance as technology, societal values and methods of inquiry evolve. The SSO:USA Board of Directors is seeking abstracts focusing on how we might envision the future of the science and its roles in our changing society. Topics of interest include all current issues in occupational science and therapy, such as inclusion, belonging, global health, occupation and technology, occupational justice, balance and play, occupation and aging, among others.

**Mission:** The SSO:USA is a research society that strives to build the body of knowledge in occupational science to benefit humanity. The Society invites abstracts of in-progress or completed research, theory, or current issues in the study of occupation, or the activities that occupy our lives. Contributions from all sciences and professions are welcome. The format of the conference emphasizes discussion and networking to enhance research. <http://www.sso-usa.net/>

### **ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS**

We encourage all papers addressing substantive and methodological issues studying participation in daily activities or those activities that “occupy” our lives. Contributions from social and other sciences are welcomed. Additional points will be given for connecting the presented material to the conference theme “Envisioning the Future of Occupational Science”. (For reference, see the SSO:USA 2020 Board report on the [Third Decade Initiative](#)).

The abstract submission site will open on November 30, 2022. Please check for updates and the submission link at the [SSO: USA website](#). Abstracts must be submitted electronically by 11:59 PM PST on February 17, 2023. Late abstracts will not be accepted. Abstract submitters will receive notification via email regarding the status of their submission(s) by late March 2023.

Submitters must provide all author(s)’, names, credentials, and affiliations. Abstracts submitted without this information will not be published in the proceedings for this research conference. Additionally, the submitter must provide an email address that will be used for future communication, the type of submission (research paper, theoretical paper, panel, forum, research poster, or student poster), title, and all other required information in the appropriate boxes on the submission webpage. Additional points will be given for connecting the presented material to the conference theme.

Abstracts should be **400 words or less**, not including a maximum of five key references, three keywords, and the author’s questions/objectives for the discussion period. Abstracts must be submitted in APA format. Equal time is provided for presentation and discussion at this research conference. Questions/objectives should facilitate discussion on how the presentation content furthers knowledge of occupational science concepts.

An individual may be accepted for a maximum of two presentations as a primary author (first listed and/or actively presenting). If authors are limited to particular presentation dates or times because of institutional or religious limitations, they must indicate their presentation availability in their submission notes. Abstracts will be submitted to a blinded review process (see criteria below). Reviewers will be members of the SSO:USA.

## FORMATS

Session Type	Session Format	Headings
<b>RESEARCH PAPERS</b>	15 minutes presentation + 15 minutes discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Title</li> <li>Statement of purpose</li> <li>Description of methods (participants, data collection, analysis)</li> <li>Report of results</li> <li>Implications related to occupational science</li> <li>Relevance to conference theme (if applicable)</li> <li>Discussion questions to further occupational science concepts and ideas</li> </ul>
<b>THEORETICAL PAPERS</b>	15 minutes presentation + 15 minutes discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Title</li> <li>Intent</li> <li>Argument</li> <li>Implications related to occupational science</li> <li>Conclusion</li> <li>Relevance to conference theme (if applicable)</li> <li>Discussion questions to further occupational science concepts and ideas</li> </ul>
<b>PANEL SESSIONS</b>	<p>60-minute panel sessions should include 2-3 brief papers on a shared topic and 20 minutes of discussion among panel members and audience.</p> <p>NOTE: Submission made by the session organizer.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Title</li> <li>Topic</li> <li>Purpose/aims</li> <li>Methods</li> <li>Result or intent</li> <li>Implications related to occupational science</li> <li>Relevance to conference theme (if applicable)</li> <li>Discussion questions to further occupational science concepts and ideas</li> </ul>
<b>FORUM SESSIONS</b>	An individual or a team may lead a 60-minute forum on research, pedagogy or another topic. The forum should include a 15-minute evocative presentation leading to a 45-minute dynamic exchange of ideas among participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Title</li> <li>Aims/intent</li> <li>Rationale</li> <li>Potential outcomes for participants</li> <li>Relevance to conference theme (if applicable)</li> <li>Discussion questions to further occupational science concepts and ideas</li> </ul>
<b>RESEARCH POSTERS AND STUDENT POSTERS</b>	Appropriate for in-process studies, case-studies, or completed research. Presenters should be available to describe their study and answer questions during the 1-2 hour poster session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Title</li> <li>Statement of purpose</li> <li>Description of methods (participants, data collection, analysis)</li> <li>Report of results if any</li> <li>Discussion/implications as related to occupational science</li> <li>Relevance to conference theme (if applicable)</li> </ul>

## CRITERIA FOR ABSTRACT REVIEW

At least three peer reviewers will rank each abstract on the criteria listed below in a blinded review process. Each abstract will be ranked from completely unresponsive to excellent response to criteria. For those papers responding to the conference theme, an additional criterion has been added titled Incorporation of Conference Theme. Scores are weighted according to the following table, and definitions of criteria can be found below.

Criteria Weight:	Research Paper and Poster	Theoretical Paper	Panel	Forum
Rigor / Trustworthiness <sup>a, b</sup>	5	5	3	n/a
Coherence <sup>c, d</sup>	3	3	3	n/a
Importance to OS <sup>e</sup>	3	3	5	n/a
Incorporation of Conference Theme <sup>f</sup>	3	3	3	3
Discussion Potential <sup>g</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	5
Originality <sup>h</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	3

### Definitions of Criteria:

- Rigor/Trustworthiness (for Research Papers, Posters, and Panels): Degree to which methods described in abstract are of high quality.
- Rigor/Trustworthiness (for Theoretical Papers): Degree to which concepts and theories described in the submission are of high quality and well thought out.
- Coherence (for Research Papers and Posters): Degree to which abstract clearly describes study purpose, methods, and results.
- Coherence (for Theoretical Papers and Panels): Degree to which abstract clearly describes the intent, argument, and conclusions of the paper or panel.
- Importance to Occupational Science: Degree to which proposed presentation contributes to the study of occupation and to the mission of the SSO:USA.
- Incorporation of Conference Theme: Degree to which abstract clearly articulates the presentation's relevance to the conference theme
- Discussion Potential: Degree to which proposed forum is likely to evoke active discussion productive of new insights in relation to occupational science.
- Originality: Degree to which proposed forum offers new perspectives on topics in occupational science and contributes to the mission of the SSO:USA.

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

**2023 Ruth Zemke Lecture in Occupational Science by Dr. Elelwani Ramugondo:** In recognition of Dr. Ruth Zemke's mentorship, questing intellect, and ongoing efforts to foster an occupational science community of researchers, this lectureship was named in her honor. The lectureship is designed as a forum to present visionary, theoretical, and critical analyses of occupational science.

**Conference Theme - Envisioning the Future of Occupational Science:** The discipline of occupational science continues to advance as technology, societal values, and methods of inquiry evolve. As we move into the third decade of occupational science as a field of inquiry, how we might envision the future of the science and its roles in our changing society. Topics of interest include all current issues in occupational science and

therapy, such as inclusion, belonging, global health, occupation and technology, occupational justice, balance and play, occupation and aging, among others.

**2023 Proceedings:** Abstracts of presentations will be published in the 2023 SSO:USA Proceedings.

**Student Posters:** SSO:USA welcomes the submission of poster abstracts from students of any educational level. Student posters will undergo a careful and thorough review and be scored accordingly. Student posters will be scored in a separate review, thus student abstracts submitted will be ranked with abstracts submitted by other students. First author designation as a student is needed and considered as a necessary and sufficient indicator of a "student poster".

**Occupational Balance:** One of the unique features of SSO:USA conferences is the attention devoted to balance and the quality of participants' experiences. Researchers should leave an SSO:USA conference refreshed, stimulated, and energized to return to their work. Shared meals, conference break blocks, and a range of balance activities in Saint Louis will encourage attendees to rejuvenate, network, and explore unique aspects of local culture.