

ASC Poster Abstract and Poster Preparation Guidelines

All authors of abstracts accepted for publication in the ASC Proceedings are expected to prepare a poster of their Research Abstract to be presented during the ASC Conference.

Final Poster Abstract Guidelines:

- **Paper Layout:** Paper size will be – letter - 8½ in. x 11 in. Page orientation is to be portrait. “Layout - section start” is set to “new page” and “vertical alignment” is to be “top”.
- **Margins:** All margins are to be set at one inch (1"). The gutter is set at zero inches (0"). The header and footer are set at one-half inch (.5").
- **Text Body:** Should include the following information in a single paragraph format.
 - **Title:** Title font size will be 18 pt., Times New Roman, bold, centered, and upper and lower case (Title Case). The title summarizes the main idea of the abstract, short, and descriptive of the contents. **No hard returns** are to be within the title.
 - **Author Table:** Author information will be formatted within a single table, one aligned left 10 pt. hard return between the title and the author table. The table size is established by setting the table's width to 100%" and alignment to "centered". Borders and shading must be set to "none." Authors from the same institution are placed within the same cell, joined by the word “and.” The number of cells will depend upon the number of authors from differing institutions. No table will be over two cells wide, but may contain multiple rows. The first line is **(bold)** and contains the author’s first name, middle initial, and surname followed by their degree i.e., Ph.D., MSCS and certifications and licenses i.e., CPC, PE. The second line **(not bold)** is their institutional affiliation. The third line **(not bold)** is their institution’s city and state.
 - **Abstract:** **Do not** include the heading "**Abstract.**" The abstract will be formatted within a single or multiple paragraphs, left justified with 10 pt. return between the author table and the abstract. Font is 10 pt., Times New Roman. Color not encouraged. Each paragraph is single spaced, aligned left only, no indents. There is only one (1) hard return between paragraphs.
 - **Keywords:** Please include up to 5 keywords separated by commas.
- **Abstract Length:** Abstracts shall not exceed **ONE** page in length, including references, appendices, etc. Longer abstracts will NOT be accepted.
- **File Format:** Please submit all FINAL abstracts in WORD (.doc or .docx) format only.

Please see a sample abstract on the next page.

Interdisciplinary Study to Determine Environmental Contributions to Vocal Comfort in Occupational Voice-Users

Keith A. Rahn
Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama

Mary J. Sandage
Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama

Voice disorders affect approximately 7.5 million Americans (www.nidcd.nih.gov), have a lifetime prevalence of 28%-57% and a negative impact on work productivity and quality of life. A review of the U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration environmental standards indicate inadequate guidelines for workplace ventilation to protect occupational voice users from developing voice disorder. The environment identified by Fang, et al. to improve office work productivity (20°C/40% relative humidity) may not support optimal voice use for occupations requiring extensive voice use (e.g., telemarketers or school teachers). This mismatch between government environmental standards and published evidence signals a gap in our understanding of environmental influences on voice production. Limited attention has been given to the influence of ambient temperature on voice function and, to date, there have been no investigations describing the effects of ambient temperature management method on voice function. There is anecdotal evidence that forced air ventilation, particularly for heating the work space may irritate the vocal folds over time, leading to the development of hoarseness and chronic cough; however, we lack the evidence to understand these claims. Basic research has been completed by Sandage and colleagues to investigate the influence of ambient temperature relative to ambient humidity on vocal function. The proposed interdisciplinary collaboration between the disciplines of Building Science and voice science provides a unique opportunity to craft targeted environmental conditions within which to study building design aspects of heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC). Specifically, the environmental influences of forced air ventilation versus passive methods (i.e., chilled beam) on voice function will be studied. Men and women between the ages of 19-35 will be recruited for this study. Two environmental structures, one with forced air ventilation and one with radiant heating/cooling, will be constructed by students in the Auburn University School of Building Science. Using a repeated measures within-participant design, each volunteer will complete a realistic voice task in both environments, with voice function and perceived voice comfort measures taken before and after the task. Temperature and relative humidity within the two structures will be manipulated to reflect a range of realistic working conditions for professional voice users. Additionally, volunteers will complete a voice task in regular distance intervals from the forced air vent to determine if proximity to air vent influences voice function. The hypotheses for this project are: A) Forced air ventilation is associated with increased voicing effort and reduced voicing ability when compared to radiant environmental temperature methods; B) Perceived voicing effort will increase and voicing ability will decline as participant distance from forced air ceiling vent gets smaller. This is a pilot investigation intended to gather preliminary data for a National Institutes of Health R03 grant. Identification of heating and cooling method effects on voice function using a within-subject repeated measure design will provide new information regarding construction methods for work spaces that will be used by occupational voice users, e.g., telemarketers, teachers.

Key Words: Voice, Disorders, Ventilation, Environmental, Building

Final Poster Abstract Submission Procedure:

1. Access OpenConf Website: <http://posters.ascweb.org/openconf/openconf.php>
2. Click on “Upload File” link.
3. Enter your [Submission ID] and [Password]
4. Choose File and Format.
5. Hit “Upload File” button.

Poster Preparation Guidelines:

- **Poster Size:** Each poster is to be 24 x 36 inches. Landscape orientation is recommended.
- **Poster Materials:** Laminated posters are recommended, but foam board will be accepted.
- **Poster Appearance:** Place title and abstract at top of poster. All posters must be readable from 3-4 feet. Information should be well organized and easy to understand. The use of tables/graphics is *highly encouraged*. (Landscape layout suggested).
- **Poster Content:** The following information should be included in the poster.
 - Need of the research and its significance
 - Research design and methodology
 - Research Results
 - Important findings, conclusions and recommendations
 - Research impact.
 - In addition, provide contact information for at least one author.
 - The use of tables/graphics is *highly encouraged*. Potential graphics to include are: graphics that summarize research process, research results, or instruments being used in the study.
- **Additional Resources:**

The following websites provide additional information on poster design:

<http://www.csus.edu/atcs/ATCS%20Resources/Poster%20Session%20Tips%20and%20Tricks/index.html>

<http://www.ext.colostate.edu/staffres/poster.pdf>

Timeline

- Abstract submission: November 1 - December 1
- Review results available: January 28
- Final abstract submission: February 13
- Notification of acceptance: February 15
- Poster display and presentation: April 22 - 25