# 2024 WGEA Spring Conference Call for Proposal Submission Site

Western Group on Educational Affairs (WGEA)  
Hosted by University of California, Riverside School of Medicine  
 *May 4-7, 2024*

The WGEA invites abstracts for oral abstracts, posters, workshops, panel and small group discussions for the 2024 annual conference. Proposals may represent completed original research or innovations in medical education. Abstracts can focus on any level of medical education (UME preclerkship or clerkship, GME, CPD, or across the continuum). All abstracts should be submitted no later than **~~October 24, 2023 11:59pm HT.~~ Extended to November 15, 2024 11:59 PM HT.**

The 2024 WGEA conference theme is: **Developing Resilience While Adapting to Change**

Subthemes

* Innovation and Creativity
* Navigating Political and Organizational Changes
* Creating Resilience in Students, Faculty and Staff
* Teaching and Learning in Times of Change
* Constructing the Future of Medical Education

We recommend that you prepare your proposal in a word processing application and then paste each component into the corresponding online section. An abstract submission is considered a commitment to attend the meeting and present if accepted, and an acknowledgment of the costs associated with travel and the meeting registration. Abstract decisions will be sent to the contact author in late January 2024. All abstracts will undergo a peer-review process by at least three reviewers. Students, residents, fellows and new investigators are strongly encouraged to submit their work.  
  
For more information, please contact:  
WGEA Planning Committee Chair: Pablo Joo, MD ([Pablo.Joo@medsch.ucr.edu](mailto:Pablo.Joo@medsch.ucr.edu))

WGEA Planning Committee Administrative Staff: Laura Cantrell ([Laura.Cantrell@medsch.ucr.edu](mailto:Laura.Cantrell@medsch.ucr.edu))

**Session Types**

**Research in Medical Education Abstract Proposal**

**Purpose:** Includes works to promote dissemination and discussion of completed research and its application to medical education.

**Time/Format:** Submissions will be peer reviewed and selected for either poster or oral presentation. Presenting authors should be familiar enough with the project to discuss relevant literature, present findings and answer questions. Oral presentation is a short overview of the research [*15 min (10 min presentation, 5 minutes questions)*]. Poster presenters are expected to be available to discuss their research with session attendees.

Proposals are limited to **300 words** and must include:

* Research Statement/Research Question
* Background and relevance of the study
* Design and Methods
* Results
* Conclusions

Required but not included in 300-word count:

* Title
* Author(s) and affiliated institutions
* References

Proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria:

* Clarity of research statement/question
* Strength of background and relevance of the study
* Strength of research design and methods
* Relevance of results
* Soundness of conclusions
* Clarity of writing

**Innovations in Medical Education**

**Purpose:** Includes works to promote dissemination and discussion of educational innovations (e.g., curricular development projects, program descriptions, new applications or methods, continuous quality improvement projects, etc.)

**Time/Format:** Submissions will be peer reviewed and selected for either poster or oral presentation. Presenting authors should be familiar enough with the project to discuss relevant literature, present findings and answer questions. Oral presentation is a short overview of the innovation [*15 min (10 min presentation, 5 minutes questions)*]. Poster presenters are expected to be available to discuss their innovation with session attendees.

Proposals are limited to **300 words** and must include the following components:

* Objective or purpose of innovation
* Background and/or theoretical framework and importance to the field
* Design: Instructional methods and materials used
* Outcomes
* Innovation’s strengths and limitations
* Feasibility and generalizability

Required but not included in 300-word count:

* Title
* Author(s) and affiliated institutions
* References

Proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria:

* Clarity of objective or purpose
* Clarity of learning objectives
* Strength of background and/or theoretical framework and importance to the field
* Strength of evaluation design (methods and materials)
* Relevance of outcomes
* Awareness of limitations (reflective critique)
* Clarity of writing

**Workshops**

**Purpose:** Workshops are skill-oriented, interactive experience for learners which will allow them to take home specific knowledge and skills.

**Time/Format:** 60 minutes for the workshop by 1 or more presenters. It is expected that the workshop activities will include hands-on practice and/or active learning for a good portion of the workshop time.

Proposals are limited to **500-word abstracts** and must include the following components:

* **Rationale**: Why the topic is important, its timeliness, and its relevance to medical education
* **Learning Objectives**: What participates will know or be able to do as a result of this session
* **Session Methods and Format**: Indicate amount of time to be allocated to each speaker or element of the program. Describe the format of the session and the methods that will be used to engage participants.
* **Experience**: In one sentence per speaker, describe the experience of the speaker(s).

Required but not included in 500-word count:

* Title
* Author(s) and affiliated institutions

Proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria:

* Importance, timeliness, and relevance of topic
* Clarity of learning objectives
* Clarity and appropriateness of session format and method (reader knows who is doing what)
* Appropriate format and methods to engage participants in session
* Interest potential
* Clarity of writing

**Small Group Discussions**

**Purpose:** Small group discussion topics may address administrative issues, curriculum, evaluation, assessment, or professional development. Presentations demonstrating collaborative work from multiple departments or institutions are especially encouraged.

**Time/Format:** 60-minute sessions which include a brief *(10 minute)* focused presentation by 1 or more presenters followed by exchange between the presenters and the audience. Ample time for questions and comments from the audience, and responses by the presenters should be included.

Proposals are limited to **500-word abstracts** and must include the following components:

* **Rationale**: Why the topic is important, its timeliness, and its relevance to medical education
* **Learning Objectives**: What participates will know or be able to do as a result of this session
* **Session Methods and Format**: Indicate amount of time to be allocated to each speaker or element of the program. Describe the format of the session and the methods that will be used to engage participants.
* **Experience**: In one sentence per speaker, describe the experience of the speaker(s).

Required but not included in 500-word count:

* Title
* Author(s) and affiliated institutions

Proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria:

* Importance, timeliness, and relevance of topic
* Clarity of learning objectives
* Clarity and appropriateness of session format and method (reader knows who is doing what)
* Appropriate format and methods to engage participants in session
* Interest potential
* Clarity of writing

**Panel Discussions**

**Purpose:** Panel discussions examine diverse perspectives and approaches to educational subjects or issues. Presentations demonstrating collaborative work from multiple departments or institutions are especially encouraged.

**Time Format**: 60*-*minute sessions which include presentations by 2 or more panelists and a moderator followed by responses from the audience, and exchange between participants.

Proposals are limited to **500 word abstracts** and must include the following components:

* **Rationale**: Why the topic is important, its timeliness, and its relevance to medical education
* **Learning Objectives**: What participants will know or be able to do as a result of this session
* **Session Methods and Format**: The amount of time allocated to each speaker or element of the program. Describe the format of the session and the methods that will be used to engage participants.
* **Experience**: In one sentence per speaker, describe the experience of the speaker(s).

Required but not included in 500-word count:

* Title
* Author(s) and affiliated institutions

Proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria:

* Importance, timeliness, and relevance of topic
* Clarity of learning objectives
* Clarity and appropriateness of session format and method (reader knows who is doing what)
* Appropriate format and methods to engage participants in session
* Interest potential
* Clarity of writing

**Note about Ratings for all abstract types**

**Rating Scale for each criterion**

**1=Poor**

**2=Below Average**

**3=Average**

**4=Above Average**

**5=Excellent**

**Overall Decision:**

**Accept** *(this is an excellent proposal, strongly support it being in the program)*

**Accept with Reservations; Please explain:** (*this proposal has strong qualities but is missing some important elements, would include in program only if space permits)*

**Reject; Please explain:** *(this proposal lacks many important elements, do not support it being on the program)*

**Additional information**

* System will collect submitter’s contact information, presentation title, content domain, intended audience, and abstract type