Call for Proposals for the Scientific Program Committee
16th Symposium (2019) on Cochlear Implants in Children

The American Cochlear Implant Alliance (ACI Alliance) is seeking proposals from institutions desiring to serve as the Scientific Program Committee and Educational Directors for the 2019 Pediatric Cochlear implants in Children Symposium. It is expected that the symposium will be held in May or June of 2019. A letter of interest and intent to propose is due August 1, 2015. A complete proposal (such as a PowerPoint presentation) is due by September 20, 2015. An in-person presentation to the selection committee is required and will be held at the time of the upcoming ACI Alliance Emerging Issues Symposium October 15-17, 2015 in Washington, DC. The meeting with the committee may be scheduled late afternoon on October 14 just prior to the official start of the symposium on Thursday morning, October 15.

The 2019 Symposium will be organized in a collaborative manner similar to the conferences now being convened by ACI Alliance in cooperation with cochlear implant institutions. This new format, which was utilized for the first time in December 2014 with Vanderbilt University, divides responsibilities between the sponsor (ACI Alliance) and the institution serving as the Scientific Program Committee. This format allows for continuity in administration while allowing clinicians and scientists to focus on the scientific program.

Scientific Program Committee Responsibilities
• Conceptualization of the focus and theme(s) of the Scientific Program
• Decision-making on invited, podium and poster presentations including abstract review
• Development of Proceedings

ACI Alliance Responsibilities
• Oversee and develop content for website, abstract submission process, registration, design
• Oversee day-to-day work of meeting planners
• Budget development and oversight including registration fee schedule
• Marketing and publicity
• Sponsor/member relationships
• Decision-making on type of proceedings document, publication policy, dissemination, website posting
Applicants should include the following information in their proposal:

1. Information on their cochlear implant program including clinical, educational and scientific activities. Include details on the composition of the CI team, specific outreach/research programs that contribute to the field, and the nature of involvement in past CI meetings;
2. Interest in, and support of, this effort by their institutions. (Note: the institution may be a hospital, university or other educational organization, or stand-alone for-profit or non-profit entity);
3. Key individuals who will lead the effort;
4. Information about possible meeting venues (i.e., hotels) that could house the conference. Indicate a primary venue and at least one other to allow for competitive bidding. Discuss housing costs in your locale. Also provide information on the airport accessibility from other cities and also location relative to the proposed venue; and
5. Whether the entity is an Organizational Member of ACI Alliance (Priority will be given to those who are Organizational Members at the time of application).

For additional information and to submit your letter of interest and proposal, please contact our Executive Director Donna Sorkin dsorkin@acialliance.org.

Key Dates

Letter of Interest deadline: August 1, 2015
Written Proposal deadline: September 20, 2015
In-Person Presentation: At CI2015 DC / Date and time to be determined (Potentially to be held late afternoon of Oct 14 or during the conference timeframe Oct 15-17, 2015)

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,
ACI Alliance Conferences Committee

Chair: Bruce Gantz, MD
Members:
Craig Buchman, MD
David Haynes, MD
K. Todd Houston, PhD
Jan Larky, MA
John Niparko, MD
Nancy Young, MD