



**SPR's 51st Annual Meeting
June 17-20, 2020
Amherst, MA (USA)**

Updates from the Local Organizing Committee

Planning for SPR's 51st meeting is in full swing, as we prepare to welcome you to Western Massachusetts in June 2020! In addition to the compelling scientific program, we are making numerous arrangements to enhance your visit. Some highlights across our various host domains include:

Space and Audio-Visual

- All program activities will take place on the University of Massachusetts' (UMass) flagship campus in Amherst, MA, with most occurring in the same building (the Lincoln Campus Center). Thus, convenience will be high, foot travel minimal, and transitions smooth.
- Auditorium space and breakout rooms will be equipped with podiums, projectors, and, when needed, PA systems/microphones. Importantly, we ask that session organizers/moderators arrange for the use of one participant's computer and relevant adaptor, having pre-loaded all relevant material to ease transitions.
- Posters will be affixed to stands that measure 57.75" wide x 46" tall; please print your posters accordingly. Push pins will be provided.

Special Events

- On Wednesday evening, following the opening ceremonies, there will be a welcome reception (included in your registration!) with drinks, musical accompaniment, and a New England-style clam bake. Thus, there is no need to make dinner plans; you will be well fed with local flavor in a casual, welcoming style!
- On Saturday evening, there will be an outdoor banquet (included in your registration!) by the UMass pond. This will be a casual party, with live music by the Marsels – Boston's best wedding band! Check them out [here](#), feel free to review their song list, and have your requests (and dancing shoes) ready to go!

- We will host an authentic pub-style “Psychotherapy Trivia Night” for students and postdocs in nearby Northampton, MA. The questions will be graciously submitted by your Executive Council members, and prizes will be given to the top-performing teams!

Food and Beverage

- Each day of the meeting will include mid-morning and mid-afternoon hot beverage and light snack service, as well as lunches (by chapters on Thursday, as a full group on Friday, and as a full group or by special interest groups on Saturday).
- For the evening poster sessions on Thursday and Friday, light snacks will be served with a cash bar.
- Dinners will be on your own Thursday and Friday evening, and we will provide nightly shuttles to and from Amherst Center and downtown Northampton to allow people to explore the numerous restaurants and bars. We will also provide ample information on dining options, both via the website and as an insert in your delegate kits. We have some great recommendations across different types of food, atmosphere, and price points!

Additional Information

Additional details on the venue, travel options, and accommodations can be found on the [conference website](#), with more information to be added in the near future for dining, local attractions (including Amherst, Northampton, Deerfield, the Berkshires, and Boston), and other non-program special events. Also note that we are in the process of securing a special SPR rate on ground travel (through Valley Transporter) to/from Logan and Bradley airports. This information will be posted soon, in addition to the other ground travel options listed.

More from us soon!

Michael Constantino
Chair, Local Organizing Committee