

International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement

Educational Systems for School Effectivenes and Improvement: Exploring the Alternatives.

# Call for Proposals ICSEI 2013 Santiago

The 26th annual conference of the International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement will take place in Santiago, Chile, January 3-6, 2013. Proposals will be accepted from Saturday, June 15th, until midnight (Chilean time) Monday, August 6th 2012. Proposals must be addressed to the conference website.

The Academic Program Committee for ICSEI 2013 invites proposals from education researchers, policy makers and practitioners that address the overall conference theme Educational Systems for School Effectiveness and Improvement: Exploring the Alternatives, and sub-themes as described below. The sub-themes with sample topics include:

- 1) Systems of educational governance for school effectiveness and improvement (national, state, regional, district; subsidized and non-subsidized private; governance at the school level)
  - The role of the State in school effectiveness and improvement
  - The role of school system administrators/districts in school improvement
  - New school management models and their contribution to school effectiveness
  - Educational decentralization processes
  - Large-scale educational reforms and their impact on school effectiveness
- 2) Support and accountability Systems for school effectiveness and improvement (public systems of support, external providers, networks, etc.)
  - Experience and effectiveness of external support strategies for school improvement
  - Accountability systems for school effectiveness and improvement
  - Supervision and inspection systems and their contribution to the effectiveness of educational systems/units
  - School Networks: experiences and evidence of their effectiveness

## 3) The school as a system: keys for improvement

- Leadership organization and distribution within schools
- School-based accountability practices and use of data for school effectiveness
- Teachers professional learning and community
- School-based innovative practices for school improvement
- Teacher supervision

#### 4) The classroom: expression of systemic changes and main learning scenario for students and teachers

- The classroom as an organizational system for effective instruction
- Curriculum, learning, and instructional effectiveness strategies
- Accountability inside the classroom
- Equity in the classroom: effective and inclusive teaching (gender, race, poverty)
- Technology and educational effectiveness in the classroom
- Student involvement in educational decision-making processes







In keeping with the ICSEI's mission, we invite proposals associated with the conference themes that address (a) findings from empirical research studies (completed or sufficiently in progress to share preliminary findings); (b) advances in research methods for investigating school effectiveness and improvement; and (c) examples of field-based projects to improve the quality of education linked to existing research on and/or trends in school effectiveness and improvement theory and practice.

Selection of all proposals will be referred by members of the Academic Program Committee for ICSEI 2013. Notice of acceptance of proposals will be announced by mail by mid-October. The official language of this international conference is English. Proposals must be submitted in English to be considered. For accepted proposals, the conference presentations should be in English. Translation services will be provided for the keynote speeches and for opening and closing ceremonies.

Proposals may include individual and/or multiple authored papers, symposia, or poster presentations. Submissions should indicate clearly which author or authors will actually take part in the presentations if accepted. Individuals may be involved with more than one proposal, however, a limit of two proposals will be accepted for persons listed as "presenters" of papers or in symposiums, in order to minimize scheduling conflicts and to encourage a broad range of experiences and perspectives in the sessions.

## For ICSEI 2013 we are inviting three types of proposals:

Individual paper proposals. Accepted proposals will be assigned to multiple paper sessions. 3-4 papers will be assigned to each 75 minute multiple paper session. Usually, there will be 15-20 minutes to present each paper. The session presentations and discussions between presenters and audience will be facilitated by a moderator. There will not be a formal discussant assigned to multiple paper sessions. The conference venue and schedule will allow us to accept approximately 200 individual papers. Individuals who submit a paper proposal may request that their paper be considered for acceptance as a poster if the paper is not selected for a multiple paper session.

Symposium proposals. Symposia are intended to be interactive 90 minute sessions that allow for more in-depth examination of a specific topic or experience (research findings, policy issue, school improvement initiative, research methods). A symposium may be organized as a set of presentations or panel discussion that examine a specific problem or topic from a variety of perspectives, allowing time for discussion among presenters and with the audience. Symposium proposals can also take the form of a workshop in which the organizers engage the audience in activities as well as presentation and discussion related to the symposium topic. The conference schedule will allow for acceptance of approximately 30 symposium proposals.

Poster proposals. Poster sessions combine the visual display of illustrative materials with the opportunity for individualized informal discussion of the research or school improvement experience between the presenter and interested conference participants who visit the poster site. Two 75 minute opportunities for poster presentations will be scheduled in a large area with other poster presenters. During poster sessions, participants will walk among poster stations and stop at those that interest them to speak with the presenters. Written information displayed on the poster should be in English with or without Spanish translation. The conference organizers will provide easels and boards for the posters, but no audio visual equipment. If less than ten posters are accepted we will invite the presenters to join one of the multi-paper sessions.







## Submitting an Individual Paper Proposal

To submit an individual paper (including a paper with multiple authors), the proposal should provide a summary of up to 1000 words (excluding references) for use in judging the merits of the proposed paper. References (maximum 200 words) will be submitted as a separate file. An abstract of a maximum of 200 words in English will also be required with the proposal. The abstract will be printed in the conference program if the proposal is accepted. The proposal should address as many of the following topics as applicable, preferably in this order.

- Objectives or purposes
- Perspective(s) or theoretical framework
- Methods, techniques or modes of inquiry
- Data sources or evidence
- Results and/or conclusions/points of view
- Educational importance for theory, practice, and/or policy
- Connection to the themes of the congress
- Key bibliographical references

The conference will include opportunities for individual papers that present specific school improvement projects/experiences. It is expected that these proposals will be grounded in the literature (research, theory) on school effectiveness and improvement, and that they will include an analytical component in addition to a description of the practical experience.

Persons submitting individual proposals will be asked to indicate which of the four conference sub-themes their presentation is most closely related to. This information will be used in the program evaluation process and in the program handbook to allow participants to easily identify papers and sessions identified with different conference sub-themes. The proposals will be blind reviewed. Every proposal will be assigned a reference number for the process. The evaluators will only review the abstract, text of the proposal and references without the names of the authors. Therefore, the text of the proposals should not include the name of the session organizers or presenters.

#### Submitting a Symposium Proposal

Symposium sessions provide opportunities not possible in a single paper to examine a specific problem or topic from a variety of perspectives and experiences and to engage in in-depth discussions among presenters and participants. Because of their interactive format, 90 minutes will be allocated in the program for the symposium sessions. A symposium proposal should provide a summary of up to 2000 words of the content and format (organization, activities) of the symposium session which will be used to judge the merits of the proposal. References should be uploaded as a separate file (up to 200 words). The summary should include as many of the following as applicable.

- Objectives or purposes of the symposium
- Educational importance for theory, policy, research, and/or practice
- For each presentation or participant: role in symposium, contribution to symposium topic, perspectives or theoretical framework, research or conceptual base, results or conclusions
- Explanation of how the symposium session will be organized
- Connection to themes of the conference







Symposium proposals should be submitted as a single document in accordance with the length and content requirements, not as separate proposals for each participant presentation. Organizers of symposium sessions are expected to chair the session, to facilitate the activities, and to recruit a discussant in the proposal if desired. Symposium proposal must indicate which of the four conference sub-themes is most closely related to. This information will be used in the program evaluation process and in the program handbook to allow participants to easily identify papers and sessions related to different conference sub-themes. Symposium proposals will be blind reviewed. Every proposal will be assigned a reference number for the process. The evaluators will only review the abstract, text of the proposal and references without the names of the authors. Therefore, the names of the symposium organizers and presenters should not appear in the text of the proposal. Instead, they can be referred to as "presenter #1" or "presentation #1" or by role (e.g., chair, discussant).

Symposium proposals must be accompanied by an abstract of a maximum 200 words in English. The abstract will be printed in the conference program if the proposal is accepted.

Submitting a poster presentation proposal.

Proposals for poster presentations should follow the same guidelines as individual paper proposals. The difference is in the mode of presentation not in the content expectations for the paper. The following guidelines should be considered for preparing the posters.

- Size. We will provide acrylic boards on stands to attach and display the posters. The poster surface will be approximately 1 meter X 1.50 meters. We will provide tape to attach the posters to the boards.
- Format: The format for poster displays is flexible, however, the following guidelines are suggested. A sign containing the title of the presentation and the author's name and affiliations should appear at the top of the poster. All the text and illustrations should be large enough to be viewed from a distance of more than one meter. Figures and tables should be kept as simple as possible to easily communicate the main messages to viewers. A large font size heading of no more than one or two lines should be provided with each illustration. It is helpful to highlight key points or conclusions in large font type in a distinct area of the proposal.

## **Evaluation of proposals**

The proposals will be blind reviewed and evaluated by members of the Academic Program Committee. The evaluation criteria will vary slightly depending on the nature of the proposal (e.g., paper/poster or symposium;). All proposals will be judged in terms of their contribution to education (theory, policy, and/or practice) and clarity of explanation of the aims of the presentation, theoretical perspective(s), methods of inquiry and analysis, strength of results and conclusions, and connections to conference themes. Symposium proposals will also be considered in terms of the structure of symposium format. For proposals based on research studies of school effectiveness and improvement polices and practices, the Program Committee will give priority to completed research, or research that has progressed to the point of presenting preliminary findings. This is necessary, given the practical limits on proposal acceptance, and the importance of ensuring that conference attendees get maximum benefit for their participation.







## Formatting of proposals

All abstracts, proposals and references should use the following format specifications:

- Single spacing
- Font type New Times Roman 12 point
- Length restrictions as specified for proposal type (paper, poster, symposium)
- No figures, tables or graphics should be included in the proposal

#### **Instructions for Submitting Proposals**

Authors may upload proposals into the ICSEI 2013 system Jun 15th -Aug 6th, 2012

Step 1: Login to the online button Paper submission.

Step 2: Read the instructions for proposal preparation and formatting.

Step 3: Select and click the proposal type: individual paper, symposium, poster.

Step 4: Complete the required fields (title, conference sub-themes, author information)

**Step 5:** Upload abstract, text of proposal, and references in the text boxes provided.

### Submission of completed papers

All authors are strongly encouraged to submit completed papers to be made available on the conference website. Full versions of individual and symposium papers must be submitted not later than December 3, 2012 as an email attachment to congress2013@icsei.net. All papers must be written in English. Papers may not exceed 8,000 words, including references, appendices and diagrams. The final papers will be accepted only in PDF form. Papers should be single spaced within the text. The font type preferred is New Times Roman (12 point). References should be used in the text and listed alphabetically by author at the end of the text. Use APA formatting and be consistent in the paper. The size of the file must not exceed 2 MB.

The completed papers will be collected posted and available on a separate link on the conference website. Papers will be indexed by author and conference sub-theme.



