

SEERS Spring 2016 Meeting Announcement

The Spring 2016 SEERS meeting will be on the Bluffton Campus of the University of South Carolina at Beaufort (USCB) on 10-12 March, 2016 (Thurs – Sat). Joe Staton from the USCB is our gracious local host. A special session on “Sea level rise and estuaries in the Southeast” will be a special treat at this meeting. Make your plans now to attend!

The meeting will start Thursday evening March 10th, with sponsor presentations, a plenary talk, poster previews, and a hearty reception. The meeting will continue all day Friday (March 11th) and until mid-day Saturday (March 12th) with oral and poster presentations. Posters can remain up the entire time, although judging of student posters will occur during the afternoon Friday. The banquet will be held Friday at the Waddell Mariculture Center in Bluffton. We are planning shuttle service to and from the Hampton Inn to the banquet.

Registration Deadlines:

The deadline for regular price registration, abstract submission, and student travel award applications is Friday, February 12th at 5:00 pm. After this date and time, late registrations **without** abstracts will be accepted until **Thursday, February 25th** for an additional \$15 per registrant. Go to <http://www.seers.org/next-meeting/> to register. Abstract submission is part of the registration process.

Registration Prices:

Full meeting registration prices include the Thursday evening reception with hors d'oeuvres and beverages, Friday lunch and evening banquet, coffee breaks each day, and the program book. Reception-only and banquet-only tickets may be purchased individually or for guests.

- student member full registration \$60
- student full registration + 2016 membership \$75
- student nonmember full registration \$75
- regular member full registration \$125
- regular full registration + 2016 membership \$145
- regular nonmember full registration \$145
- one day registration, no banquet \$60
- Thursday reception only, or additional ticket \$15
- Friday banquet only, or additional ticket \$30

Membership:

Please see the [SEERS Membership page](#) regarding costs and options. SEERS dues are for a calendar year.

Cancellation Policy:

After registering, if you are not able to attend the meeting, we encourage you to send a substitute attendee in your place. You may substitute at any time, even on-site at the time of the meeting. If you must cancel, a refund of meeting registration (less a \$10 cancellation fee) may be requested up to Feb 26th. No refunds will be issued for cancellation after Feb 26th. Membership dues are not refundable.

Abstract Submission:

Abstracts for oral or poster presentations should highlight scientific research and/or education/outreach in the field of estuarine science. The deadline for abstract submission is **Friday, February 12th at 5:00pm**, with no extensions. Abstracts are submitted during the registration process, which can be done at <http://www.seers.org/next-meeting/>. Abstracts are limited to 250 words.

The list of authors of the abstract will need to be provided at the time of submission. Please format as Author 1, Institution; Author 2, Institution, and so on. Graduate student authors should be denoted with a single asterisk (*) after the respective last name, while undergraduate authors should be denoted with double asterisks (**) after the respective last name. Each abstract may be submitted only once for presentation at the conference, i.e., an abstract with multiple authors needs to have one designated presenter.

Oral Presentations:

Oral presentations are limited to a 15 minute time block, which includes a 12 minute talk and 3 minutes for questions. Presentations should be prepared in a Windows compatible format (ppt or pdf). Awards will be given for best undergraduate and graduate oral presentations.

Poster Presentations:

Posters are limited to a maximum size of 93” wide by 45” tall. A 4’ W by 3’ tall poster fits nicely! Awards will be given for best undergraduate and graduate poster presentations. All posters are eligible for the 3-3-3 Award, which recognizes clarity and conciseness. All students are asked to do the judging. More information about the award is available [here](#).

Sponsorship:

Meeting sponsorship supports student attendance and travel to our meetings. Sponsorship inquiries can be directed to any SEERS Board member. Contact the Treasurer for payment options. treasurer@seers.org.

Student Travel Awards:

SEERS is offering up to five student travel awards of \$150 each to qualifying students presenting at this meeting. More information and the student travel award application form, due by Feb 12th, may be found [here](#).

Lodging and Travel:

A block of rooms is available at the Hampton Inn Bluffton at \$99/night. **Rooms must be booked by Thursday February 25th.** Call to make a reservation and use the group name “**Spring SEERS.**”

Hampton Inn and Suites Bluffton - Sun City
29 William Pope Drive,
Bluffton, South Carolina, 29909
1-843-705-9000