Cultural Evolution Society (CES) Annual Meeting in Aarhus, Denmark: Call for Themed Sessions
Sept. 21-23, 2022

We invite you to **propose**, **organize**, and **chair one of several *Themed Sessions*** as part of the annual [Cultural Evolution Society](#) (CES) [meeting](#). The meeting this year will run in hybrid (in-person+virtual) format on **Sept. 21-23, 2022**, with the in-person component to take place in the beautiful, seaside city of **Aarhus, Denmark**.

For this year's annual meeting, **we would like to foreground between 3 and 6 themes** that you, as prospective conference participants, see as **central to cultural evolutionary studies in 2022's intellectual moment**. With this in mind, **we invite proposals from individuals or by groups of up to four for inclusive and trans-disciplinary themes related to cultural evolution**. The application requires supplying team member names and contact information, and a list of at least five potential invitees of diverse perspectives; we will also ask you to draft a working title, a 1200-character lay summary of the theme, and a 2000-character call for papers. The submitting applicant will also be asked to fill out a brief biographical/demographic survey on behalf of themselves and any co-applicants, as the organizers may consider issues related to equity, diversity, and inclusion when reviewing the proposals. If your application is successful, you will be responsible for inviting and committing at least three participants to speak in the session, and for attending and chairing the session in person (with tech support for virtual elements to be provided by the conference organizers). Additional speakers may be redirected to the session if abstracts submitted to the open call happen to fall under your theme. Each session will run for approximately a quarter of a conference day (i.e. ~1.5-2 hours), although half day session proposals might be considered if they are particularly broad and inclusive.

Do note that the number of oral presentations at the CES meeting will be limited, including those associated with themed sessions.

Please also note that, if you have already taken steps towards organizing an Aarhus CES 2022 session (particularly if you've already formally contacted invitees) prior to seeing this call, you should contact the conference organizers as soon as possible at culturalevolution2022@gmail.com for guidance on how to proceed.

Some ideas for themes might include but are certainly not limited to: "*Cultural Evolution and Biodiversity*", "*The Role of Children/ Juveniles and Adolescents in Culture Change and Exchange*", "*Culturally-Evolved Cognition and Behaviour: Implications for Media, Communications, and the Law*",

"Rethinking Human Origins and Demographic History: Evolved and Evoked Cultures Perspectives", *"Diseases and Cultural Evolution"*, *"Natural Disasters are Cultural Disasters"*, or *"Cultural Phylogenetics Turns 20-Something."*

What you need to know to submit a Themed Session proposal:

When: Submit on or before **March 1, 2022, 11:59 PM CEST**. The review committee will decide which three to six themed sessions will be included in time for the general call for papers (April 15, 2022).

How: Complete and submit google form, linked through the [meeting website](#), by 11:59 PM CEST on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. Details on the information you will need to provide via the google form are appended below. Please note that the appended doc is for information only, and that the actual submission should be via the google form.

Note on handling of adjudication of similar proposals: If we receive more than one proposal on the same or similar themes, we will likely recommend that the applicant groups join forces and work together on the next organizational and chairing steps. This might include assigning part of the new 'super team' to chair a poster session or lightning talk session on the theme. If collaboration appears for some reason undesirable or impractical, we will give precedence to the more junior applicant(s) and/or to applicant(s) based outside of Europe, the UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, or the US. We may also give precedence to applicant(s) who identify on the template as being from historically under-represented backgrounds.

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*Required information

About the Theme

Working Title (Please provide a brief, topically-informative title, applicable to researchers of diverse scholarly backgrounds and perspectives. You are welcome to use or take inspiration from the example titles listed in the call. *Max 150 characters*):

Lay Summary (In plain, accessible language, outline what question(s) or challenge(s) you hope the session will address. Please provide a sentence or so of background situating the theme in a broader perspective. *Max 1200 characters*):

Provisional Call for Papers (In engaging language that will attract participants, outline one or two defining questions or challenges to be addressed in your proposed session. Offer suggestions as to how diverse scholarly backgrounds and training can contribute to addressing the challenge(s). Include any notes on how you would like to structure the session, if you plan to move beyond a standard 12 min talk+3 min Q&A format, perhaps through a panel discussion or an interactive component. Highlight why you think the theme is significant, particularly in relation to any newly-emerging intellectual currents or contemporary, real-world problems. *Max 2000 characters*):

Potential Speakers (Please list the full names and email addresses of at least five and no more than ten potential invitees who you think would contribute to a lively, well-rounded Themed Session):
   1. Name (Email address):
   2. Name (Email address):
   3. Name (Email address):
   4. Name (Email address):
   5. Name (Email address):
   6. Name (Email address):
   7. Name (Email address):
   8. Name (Email address):
   9. Name (Email address):
   10. Name (Email address):

About the Team

Applicant 1 (Submitting Applicant):

*First Name: Middle Initial: *Surname:
*Primary Affiliation (Department, University, Country):

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*Email Address: Secondary Email Address:
Phone Number (Country Code, Area Code, Number):

Applicant 2 (Leave blank if there are no additional applicants)
*First Name: Middle Initial: *Surname:
*Primary Affiliation (Department, University, Country):
*Email Address: Secondary Email Address:
Phone Number (Country Code, Area Code, Number):

Applicant 3 (Leave blank if there are no additional applicants)
*First Name: Middle Initial: *Surname:
*Primary Affiliation (Department, University, Country):
*Email Address: Secondary Email Address:
Phone Number (Country Code, Area Code, Number):

Applicant 4 (Leave blank if there are no additional applicants)
*First Name: Middle Initial: *Surname:
*Primary Affiliation (Department, University, Country):
*Email Address: Secondary Email Address:
Phone Number (Country Code, Area Code, Number):

*Team justification (Please provide a brief justification as to why you as the submitting applicant and any additional applicants are well-equipped to organize and chair your proposed theme session. Feel free to highlight diversity in terms of intellectual perspective or scholarly training here. Other kinds of diversity, like with respect to academic career stage, ethnicity, first language, gender, sexuality, or (dis)ability) can be noted in the section following, and/or through the demographic survey. *Max 50 words per applicant*, for an absolute max of 200 words if there are four applicants):

Team Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement (Optionally, you can provide a statement here regarding diversity – touching on academic career stage, ethnicity, language proficiency, gender, sexuality, disability in the composition of your team, and argue for its strength/ complementarity here):

*Willingness to be joined with another team or teams (In the event that more than one applicant/ team proposes similar themes, are you willing for the conference organizing committee to join you with other team(s) to share organizational responsibilities pertaining to your proposed theme? Please write "Yes" or "No").

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Survey (As the submitting applicant, we encourage you to fill out the following EDI survey, but what you report here will only affect the success of your proposal in the unlikely event that 1) we receive more than one proposal on the same or very

similar themes AND 2) one or more of the applicant teams indicate in the box above that they are unwilling to be partnered with others. Feel free to check all that apply.

1. Our team is made up of at least 50% early career (less than 10 years post-PhD AND appointment below level of Associate Professor/ Lecturer) researchers.

2. At least 33% of our team are women and/or gender diverse people.

3. One or more members of our team is based primarily at a university or other organization outside of Europe, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK, or the USA.

4. One or more members of our team identifies as a historically-under-represented ethnic minority, Indigenous person, or racialized person.

5. One or more of our team identifies as a member of the LGBTQ2IA+ communities.

6. One or more of our team lives with a visible or invisible disability.

7. At least 50% of our team are "first-gen", i.e., are the first in our nuclear families to complete any university degrees.

8. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about yourself and/or your team?