LIGHTNING TALKS *Sharing and learning at lightning speed*

What is a lightning talk?

A lightning talk is a brief 5-minute presentation that focuses on an idea or topic. Lightning talks can also provide an update on key findings. If they are well organized, lightning talk sessions can be excellent opportunities to promote conversations and future collaborations.

Lightning Talk sessions will be organized around themes or ideas. Each session will include 6-7 presentations with time for Q&A after all presentations have been completed.

Individuals can either submit their lightning talk as an individual presentation or they can organize their own lightning talk session around a specific theme or idea.

Here are some helpful tips for making your lightning talks successful:

1) Make your point and make it early.
2) Don't spend too much time on extraneous details. Focus.
3) Practice! Practice! Practice! A brief script is a good idea. Practice reading your script before your session. It's okay if you go under 5 minutes, but not longer.
4) PowerPoint is a great tool for presenting lightning talks, but if you use slides make sure to limit your slides to 3-5 visually appealing slides with only 1-2 words per slide.

To ensure the lightning talk sessions run effectively a chair will be assigned to each session. The chair will keep time during the lightning talk sessions to ensure that all presenters adhere to the 5-minute rule. If there has not been a chair assigned to your session one can be chosen from the presenters in the session.

Following these guidelines will ensure that your lightning talk session will be stimulating, enjoyable, and exciting.

Please do not hesitate to contact the program co-chairs with any questions.

Thank you,

ASC Program Co-Chairs