

# Call for Special Sessions

## UCOWR/NIWR Annual Conference

June 8-10, 2021 | Greenville, SC



*Liberty Bridge at Falls Park on the Reedy River, downtown Greenville, SC. (Photo: Craig Lee) Walk from the conference hotel along a revitalized Main Street with craft pubs, local shops, and restaurants to this urban oasis of inviting trails and gardens.*

Join us as we head to the Southeast in 2021. Nestled up against the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the heart of South Carolina's Upcountry, Greenville is a social distancing dreamland. The region's rich history, state parks, national forests, and wilderness areas provide endless opportunities for outdoor exploration. UCOWR is a family-friendly organization and we invite you to extend your conference participation and enjoy the abundance of opportunities a trip to Greenville offers.

## Call for Special Sessions

[Universities Council on Water Resources](#) and [National Institutes of Water Resources](#) are pleased to invite you to submit your ideas for special sessions for the 2021 Annual Conference.

Special sessions are an important component of the conference and provide an opportunity to delve into current perspectives on a range of contemporary water resources challenges and solutions (at community, watershed, regional, national, and/or global scales).

We call your attention to a special focus on Water and Social-Environmental Justice and especially encourage sessions around this timely and critical topic.

Sessions cover a vast range of water-related topics and disciplines – [see past agendas here](#).

Creativity is encouraged! Propose a standard session with a collection of oral presentations, workshop, participatory session, panel discussion, hands-on training, or other unique, engaging format. UCOWR strongly supports students and young professionals. We encourage session formats to engage these audiences.

## Submit your Session Abstract by Oct. 1, 2020

- Go to [ucowr.org/conference](https://ucowr.org/conference) to view session submission requirements.
- Session organizer roles include:
  - o Submitting the session idea
  - o Recruiting speakers to submit abstracts for the session in response to general call for abstracts (or recruiting other session co-facilitators, trainers, etc. as appropriate for hands-on sessions)
  - o Moderating/facilitating the session at the conference
  - o Communicating with the planning committee regarding session logistics and needs
- Session proposals and individual abstracts by recruited speakers are subject to committee review.
- Incomplete sessions may be filled with talks from the general call for abstracts (**to be issued late October, 2020**).

**COVID-19 Considerations:** Please note, the planning committee is aware of and carefully considering the potential pandemic impacts through June 2021. Please consider session ideas that may be adapted to virtual formats in the event that we move from an in-person to online conference. Regardless of format, we commit to offering a valuable, engaging event to connect water resources researchers, professionals and students across the country. The planning committee will support session organizers and speakers every step of the way if UCOWR pivots to an online format.

**General Questions:** Karl Williard, Exec. Director ([williard@siu.edu](mailto:williard@siu.edu)) or Melissa May, Administrative Asst. ([ucowr@siu.edu](mailto:ucowr@siu.edu))

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