

CALL FOR PAPERS



XXIV World Congress of OMEP

World Organisation for Early Childhood: Birth – 8 years

21 - 24 July 2004 Melbourne, Victoria Australia

www.omepaustralia.com.au

OMEP is an international, non-governmental organisation, founded in 1948 to benefit children under the age of 8 years throughout the world.

OMEP's aim is to promote the optimum conditions for all children, in order to ensure their well-being, development and happiness, both within their family unit and the wider communities in which they live.

OMEP assists in undertakings that have the objective of improving the early childhood education and care in its broadest interpretation. The organisation is founded on, and will continue to have a commitment to, education for peace. It also continues to champion children's rights under the UN Convention.

OMEP supports scientific research that positively influences the conditions in which children live, grow and develop.

The XXIV World Congress of OMEP invites submissions from people interested in presenting papers, workshops or posters at the XXIV World Congress of OMEP, to be held in Melbourne from Wednesday 21 July to Saturday 24 July 2004.

One World: Many Childhoods

The XXIV World Congress of OMEP will provide a valuable forum for those people and organisations interested and involved in early childhood services and research. It will feature the presentation and discussion of the work of a range of professionals from around the world working in early childhood related services as well as those organisations that sponsor these fields.

Themes and content

The theme of the Congress is *One World: Many Childhoods*.

This theme presents a unique opportunity for those working with children 0-8 to exchange information and to celebrate the enriching of communities through the lives of young children. It is expected this theme will attract papers from such diverse fields as health, education, law, medicine, government and research. Broad ranging topics will enable speakers to bring the importance of the early years to public awareness.

The four sub-themes are as follows:

Forum 1: Children in Difficult Circumstances

Throughout the world young children face difficult circumstances daily that are extreme in their diversity and situation. We find children in situations such as detention centres, in child labour and poverty, in trouble with the law, children who have been severely affected by wars and other turmoil, who have been abused one way or another, or who are homeless. These are only some of the acknowledged difficult circumstances in which children live and survive.

Forum 2: Innovation in Service Delivery

This Forum will address the quality of and access to health, education and care for children across the world. The Forum will include a number of strands such as: professional education and training, the integration of services, services for children in diverse circumstances (for example home-tutoring, hospitals, remote locations, School of the Air, The Flying Doctor Service etc.), the use of new technologies, new curricula, staffing matters and resources across the different services – and recent research.

Forum 3: Indigenous Children's Needs and Services

This Forum will examine the rights of children and their need for appropriate health, welfare and children's services and will take into account the many childhoods and the differing circumstances in which the children of this world live. Remoteness, cultural and family contexts should also influence service delivery and there will be an opportunity to engage in critical reflection of values, styles and processes as indicators of universal service delivery.

Forum 4: Children's Health and Social Services

This Forum will address the need to balance our considerations of child development by stressing the contributions of recent advances in health and social/community services to children's development overall. Issues such as the impact of poverty, hunger, nutrition and obesity will be explored. There will be social and community services to examine along with ethical issues as they relate to health services, parenting, HIV/AIDS, mental and physical health, health education and community development. The findings from current research will be highlighted and implications will be drawn for the delivery of services for young children.

Submit your abstract online at www.omepaustralia.com.au





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Submission guidelines and conditions

Key dates

- Closing date for the receipt of Abstracts is Friday 31 October 2003
- Notification of papers/workshops/posters accepted will take place by 12 December 2003

Methods of presentation

When submitting your abstract, please nominate your preferred presentation format – individual papers, workshops and poster display.

Individual paper submissions are invited for papers reporting original research findings, work in progress, methodological issues, and reporting/evaluating early childhood development service programs. Papers will be grouped into themes and presented in concurrent sessions. Twenty minutes, plus ten minutes for discussion, will be allocated for each individual paper. Three papers will be presented in the course of each one-and-a-half-hour session.

Workshop submissions should outline the topic, target audience, knowledge/experience requirements of participants, structure of the proposed session, and any limitations on the number of participants. Each workshop will be of one-and-a-half-hours duration.

Poster Display submissions are invited for posters reporting original research findings, work in progress, methodological issues, and reporting/evaluating early childhood development service programs. Posters will be displayed throughout the Congress in the Exhibition Area.

Evaluation criteria

Selections of submitted abstracts will be made on the basis of clear application to the Congress themes. Submissions, be they for papers, workshops or posters, will be reviewed by a panel of assessors.

If you wish to have your full presentation peer reviewed, then you will be required to leave two hard copies and a disk copy (Word/IBM format) at the registration desk when you arrive at the Congress. Future publication of the Congress Proceedings is anticipated.

Submission guidelines

Abstract submission is via the Internet www.omepaustralia.com.au

For proposals with more than one author, only one person should submit the abstract online, and this person will be the contact for all correspondence concerning the abstract with the Congress Office.

Proposals accepted for presentation will be published in the Congress Handbook and online exactly as submitted, and should thus be checked for accuracy prior to submission.

Submission Conditions

The invitation to submit an abstract does not constitute an offer to pay travel, accommodation or registration costs associated with the Congress. No speakers' fee is paid to successful applicants. Presenters of accepted abstracts are required to register for the Congress.

By submitting this proposal you confirm that your presentation has not been previously published nor been presented at an international meeting within 60 days of this Congress. You also grant the Organisers permission to publish the abstract (and final paper if accepted) in hard copy and electronic format. The Organising Committee's decision on acceptance of proposals will be final.

Presenters are expected to reserve the Congress dates of 21-24 July 2004 in their diaries until they receive notification of submission outcomes.

Further information

If you would like to present a paper and are uncertain about how it might relate to the congress, please email:

Frederick Ebbeck (ebbeck@senet.com.au) or Sue Harper (wilms@ozemail.com.au)

or contact

Congress Organiser
The Meeting Planners
91-97 Islington Street
COLLINGWOOD
VIC 3066 AUSTRALIA

Ph: +61 3 9417 0888 Fax: +61 3 9417 0899
Email: omep@meetingplanners.com.au



Application process

If you would like to present material at the XXIV World Congress of OMEP you can make your application via the Internet. The submission form and guidelines are at the OMEP website: www.omepaustralia.com.au

Format of materials submitted

- An abstract must be **no more** than 300 words.
- Abstracts must be written in **English** and the language in which it will be presented. Please indicate which official language of the OMEP Congress the paper will be presented in (English/ French/Spanish).
- The abstract must include **title of submission in all three official languages** of the OMEP Congress – English, French and Spanish.
- For an abstract to be submitted it must be presented in Word for Windows format, Times New Roman 12 font.
- Please include **all authors of the submission**, indicating which of the authors will be presenting the paper.
- The submission should include **NO** embedded graphics or tables.

In exceptional cases, your abstract will be accepted via email or on a floppy disk. If you do not have access to the Internet please save your proposal submission in MS Word for Windows format on disk and either email or post (together with your contact details and nomination of theme and paper type) to:

XXIV World Congress of OMEP
c/o The Meeting Planners
91-97 Islington Street
COLLINGWOOD VIC 3066 AUSTRALIA
Email: omep@meetingplanners.com.au

FAXED OR HARD COPY SUBMISSIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.

ALL ABSTRACTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ENGLISH (and the language in which it will be presented).

Acknowledgement of receipt of all abstracts will be made by email. Notification of abstracts accepted for presentation will be sent by email, or fax, by 12 December 2003. Please refrain from contacting the Congress Organiser with queries about the status of abstracts prior to this date.

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