

Call for Proposals: ASB Annual Meeting Participant Research Study

The American Society of Biomechanics (ASB) is piloting a new initiative that involves conducting research studies at its annual meeting (ASB 2012 meeting is at the University of Florida in Gainesville – August 15-18) <http://hhp.ufl.edu/apk/ces/ASB2012>. The ASB annual meeting regularly has 500-600 attendees, many of whom are recurring participants and experimentalists that appreciate the difficulty of obtaining large test subject sample sizes. This call for proposals offers ASB members the opportunity to propose research studies that will benefit from the recruitment of test subjects from among the conference attendees.

Important Points:

- Conference attendee participation in a research study is voluntary and not mandatory.
- Investigators will use their own funds to sponsor the proposed study. ASB will not provide any financial support for the study.
- Preliminary results from approved studies are expected to be presented at the 2013 ASB Annual Meeting.
- The Principal Investigator must be an ASB member in good standing.
- Submission deadline: **January 9, 2012**
- Submit proposals to 2012 ASB Program Chair, Liz Hsiao-Weckslar (ethw@illinois.edu).

Study Design:

- Research study topics, methodology (e.g., kinematics, kinetics, EMG, imaging, survey, etc.), and subject compensation are open to the discretion of the investigators.
- Experimental protocols must be short so as to minimize impact on conference attendee's time (1-20 minutes per subject).
- Investigators are expected to make their own arrangements for necessary experimental equipment. Investigators may use their own equipment, or partner with University of Florida investigator(s) or vendors/exhibitors that plan to attend the conference. It may be possible to find space for the proposed experiments at the conference hotel or at a nearby research facility.
- The number of available testing hours and/or testing days will depend on the number and types of proposed studies and the available facilities.
- Investigators must obtain IRB approvals from their home institutions and possibly the University of Florida. IRB approval is not necessary at the time of proposal submission, but must be approved before the Annual Meeting.
- Investigators should work with the Program-Meeting committee to address logistical issues.
- Interested investigators are encouraged to contact: 2012 ASB Program Chair, Liz Hsiao-Weckslar (ethw@illinois.edu).

Proposal Format:

- Proposals may be no more than 5 pages (single spaced), not including references.
- Proposals must include the following:
 - Title, Investigator names, Institutions, Contact information for PI
 - Affirmation that PI is an ASB member in good standing (regular or student)
 - Description of research study that includes at a minimum:

- Background/significance
- Experimental approach including
 - Intended subject demographics, recruitment plans/needs, and desired number of total test subjects
 - Experimental Methodology
 - Expected test subject time commitment
 - Desired number of testing hours and/or testing days (minimum and preferred)
 - Plans/needs for experimental testing facility and/or equipment
 - Collaborations with University of Florida investigator(s) or vendors/exhibitors, if applicable
 - Plans for obtaining IRB approvals
 - Plans for subject compensation or no compensation
 - Expected source of funding, if necessary
 - Statement of potential conflicts of interest

Review Process:

- Proposals will be evaluated by the ASB Executive Board.
- Proposals will be evaluated based on the quality and feasibility of the proposal and appropriateness for the ASB community.
- The PI will be notified by February 1, 2012 if the project was approved.
- The number of approved projects will depend on proposed study designs and facility requirements.