

# Getting To Know Your LASA: Sessions Selection Process

## Do you know the process of how your panel and/or papers are selected for LASA Congresses?

After the call for papers closes the program chairs of the 36 tracks start the process of evaluation. Track chairs were selected and invited by the LASA President, and they provide laudable service to LASA.

The proposal system allows you to select only one program track for your paper. If for some reason your proposal does not fit within the track you selected, it will be assigned to a track that fits the theme of your paper.

Track chairs will evaluate proposals based on the follow criteria for a maximum score of 100:

- (a) Significance for the field and appeal for scholars in related fields
- (b) Coherence and clarity in the presentation of the argument
- (c) Compliance with submission instructions

LASA organizes Congresses in hotels, convention centers, universities, or a combination of these. The meeting space available defines the number of sessions we can accommodate.

Therefore, LASA calculates acceptance and rejection rates on the basis of the meeting space available.

Using an example scenario, the following chart explains how panels are accepted:

<b>AVAILABLE SPACE</b>	32 rooms
<b>DAYS OF CONGRESS</b>	4 days
<b>SLOTS PER DAY</b>	5

Given these numbers, this Congress has the capacity to offer 640 sessions (32\*4\*5). To determine the number of sessions that each track will have, LASA calculates the percentage of sessions of each track according the total of proposals received. Therefore, if track 1 receives 200 proposals of a total of 830, 24% of the sessions will be selected from this track.

This process is duplicated for each track until the space is filled. Note too that all tracks have the same percentage of rejection.

Notifications of acceptance or rejection of proposals are scheduled to be sent to all who submitted proposals by November 11, 2019. The decisions of the track chairs are final and cannot be appealed. //

TRACK	PROPOSALS RECEIVED	PERCENTAGE OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED	PROPOSALS ACCEPTED	PROPOSALS REJECTED	PERCENTAGE OF PROPOSALS REJECTED
1	200	24%	154	46	30%
2	50	6%	39	11	30%
3	100	12%	77	23	30%
4	180	22%	139	41	30%
5	300	36%	231	69	30%
<b>Total</b>	830	100%	640	190	30%