Authorship and AIC Annual Meeting Presentations and Posters

Appropriately crediting work is an ethical mandate for our organization. While there may be only one or two presenters for a talk or poster, often other individuals have contributed in a way that warrants authorship. AIC is adopting the guidelines below, adapted from those used by many journals (including JAIC), to determine who should be an author of a presentation or poster and help ensure proper recognition of all individuals.

Authors, whether of oral presentations or posters, have contributed to the work through:

1. Scholarship – an author should make substantial, direct, intellectual contribution to the work. This could include the conception, design, analysis and/or interpretation of data.

Anyone who meets qualification 1 should have the opportunity to participate in actions 2-4. However, these later criteria should not be used as a tool to disqualify individuals from being an author.

2. Authorship - all authors should play a role in the drafting and/or revision of a presentation or poster.
3. Review and Approval - all authors must approve that their contributions are accurately noted and be satisfied with the quality of description of their portion of the work.
4. Responsibility - all authors are responsible, to the best of their ability, for the integrity and accuracy of their work.

Under these criteria, it is important to recognize that if a project has involved collaboration with an artist, with a community, or outside organization, they should be appropriately acknowledged as authors.

People who don't meet the criteria for authorship should be acknowledged in an "Acknowledgements" slide of a presentation or section of a poster. These individuals might include technicians who acquired data, a lab head or key administrator who

obtained funding, or a colleague who helped with the work in a tangential but valuable way, such as providing a key material or sample.

The individual submitting the poster or paper abstract is responsible for obtaining permission to list others as authors; no one should be included without their prior consent. If you cannot reach a potential co-author prior to the submission deadline, please check the 'awaiting author approval button.' Your abstract will go through the normal review process, but all authors will need to agree to be listed before an abstract is formally accepted.

The line between authorship and acknowledgement is somewhat indistinct and different people may have different opinions on what constitutes a substantial contribution to the project in question. Clear communication is a necessity but remember that if you require(d) the expertise of others to do portions of the work, you most likely should not be the submission's sole author.

Complaints around authorship of presentations and posters will be taken seriously and, if not resolved among those involved, may be addressed to the Meetings and Advocacy Director and AIC Vice-President.

We understand that as projects evolve authors may need to be added after the initial abstract submission. However, in order to facilitate creation of the Annual Meeting Abstract booklet we ask that no changes to authorship be made within the three months prior to the annual meeting.