

Call for Abstracts

Due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic, the 16th Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst (“The Sinkhole Conference”) was postponed from its original date in April 2020 to the same location in San Juan, Puerto Rico, but now on April 12-16, 2021.

The conference proceedings will be published in two editions. Proceedings for the conference were complete when the conference was postponed, and the first edition was released as originally scheduled in April 2020. It includes all the papers that would have been presented by the original schedule.

The rescheduling of the conference allows submission of additional papers for publication and presentation at the new April 2021 date. They will be published in the second edition of the proceedings, combining them with the papers published in the first edition. Papers from the first and second editions will be scheduled for oral and possibly poster presentation in 2021. Authors published in the first edition are welcome to submit additional papers, and of course papers from new authors to the conference are especially welcome.

This will be the first Sinkhole Conference location outside the continental United States since the series began in 1984. The conference will be hosted by the National Cave and Karst Research Institute, an affiliate of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology.

Abstracts

The abstract deadline for the **proceedings’ second edition** is **September 27, 2020**. Each abstract must be written in English and should be a concise summary of results, limited to 300 words, and the contents should not have been published previously. Abstracts should include the names, affiliations, and e-mail addresses of each author and co-author (one per affiliation).

Abstracts should summarize the main facts and conclusions to be presented at the conference; an abstract does not simply list what will be discussed. Please indicate the topic (listed below) that best fits your paper. If the lead author is not presenting the paper, please provide an asterisk (“*”) after the name of the author who is expected to present the paper. Conference attendance is required by at least one of the authors of a multi-author manuscript. If the paper is not presented at the conference it will not be included in the proceedings.

The Organizing Committee of the Sinkhole Conference will accept or reject papers based on the abstracts and will assign papers to appropriate sessions. Notification of abstract acceptance and full format and submission instructions will be e-mailed to authors and co-authors by **October 1, 2020**. The full manuscript must be received by **November 15, 2020**. All manuscripts will be peer reviewed and the reviewers’ comments will be returned to the first author by **December 13, 2020**. A final paper must be received by **January 18, 2021**.

for publication in the conference proceedings. If an acceptable copy of the manuscript is not received, the paper will not be included in the proceedings.

Submission of Abstracts

Electronic submission of abstracts is required. Please complete the abstract and submit to: https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/cgi/ir_submit.cgi?context=sinkhole_2020

Abstract Format Information

Abstracts should be written in Microsoft Word or a word processing application that can save the document in Microsoft Word format. PDF documents are not acceptable. Please use the following guidelines in preparing your abstract to be published in the program:

Length: Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words, not counting names and contact information for the authors. Format their abstracts and manuscripts to 8.5 x 11 inches (not A4).

Topic: The proposed topic area for your abstract should be indicated from the following list of tentative conference topics, or you may indicate “other”:

Karst development & mapping

- The formation of karst and sinkholes
- Applications of geophysics for investigating karst
- New geotechnical investigation techniques for karst
- GIS mapping and computer databases of karst features
- Karst imaging

Proactive and remedial engineering in karst terrain

- Foundation design and construction, shallow or deep
- Dams and impoundments
- Engineering human infrastructure in karst
- Sinkhole mitigation and repair
- Grouting techniques

Karst water resource management

- Hydrology and water resource management of karstic aquifers
- Groundwater tracing
- Storm water & waste water management
- Contaminant monitoring and remediation in karst
- Modeling groundwater flow in karst
- Planning and regulation

Schedule

The following deadlines will be enforced:

- **September 27, 2020:** Abstract due
- **October 1, 2020:** Authors notified of abstract acceptance
- **November 15, 2020:** Draft papers due
- **December 13, 2020:** Authors provided with review and comments
- **January 18, 2021:** Final papers due