

## NSA Abstract Submission: Instructions and Example

The National Shellfisheries Association now has an on-line electronic process for abstract submission for the annual meetings. Below is an example of an accepted abstract from the 2008 Annual Meeting held in Savannah GA. This tutorial will walk you through the abstract preparation and submission process.

### **General Abstract Submission Guidelines**

The length of the body of your abstract is limited to 200 words, not including the title, author name(s) and affiliation(s). The suggested fonts are 11 or 12 point Times New Roman or Arial. You will prepare two titles for your abstract: the running or short title (100 character limit) and the full title (200 character limit; see example below). Prepare your titles and abstract body so that you can cut and paste directly into the appropriate window when asked for the information. Have your author information ready for entry also – be sure to get permission from all authors on the abstract.

**Step 1:** After logging in select the appropriate conference (e.g. 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting – March 27-31, 2011). Select: 'new abstract'. The submit conference abstract page will appear. Work down the page entering the information requested (short title, full title, session (from drop down list), desired presentation type, presenter type). Select 'continue'.

**Step 2:** On the next page enter the Author information, and be sure to designate one person as the corresponding author and one as the presenting author. E-mails are required. If some authors are from the same institution please enter their common information exactly the same (e.g either as VIMS or as Virginia Institute of Marine Science). If appropriate, there is a checkbox for repeating the affiliation info entered for the first author. Select 'more authors' if necessary or 'continue'.

**Step 3:** Follow the instructions for entering the abstract text; be sure to select 'Preview' to review your entry. After previewing your abstract, make any necessary corrections/edits and then press SUBMIT at the bottom of the page – the corresponding author will immediately receive an abstract submission notice from NSA.

Thank you for using the NSA on-line abstract submission tool. If you have any question please contact [Karolyn.Hansen@udayton.edu](mailto:Karolyn.Hansen@udayton.edu), phone 937-229-2141.

### **Some online sources for writing a scientific abstract:**

<http://abacus.bates.edu/~ganderso/biology/resources/writing/HTWsections.html#abstract>

<http://www.csupomona.edu/~jcclark/classes/bio190/abstract.html>

<http://www.sci.sdsu.edu/~smaloy/MicrobialGenetics/.../scientific-writing.pdf>

<http://www.gastro.org/journals-publications/aga-perspectives/october-november-2010/how-to-write-a-scientific-abstract-a-reviewer-s-perspective>

**EXAMPLE:** this is what you will see when you submit your abstract to NSA

**Short title:** Oyster Shell Structural Properties

**Full Title:** Assessment of Oyster Shell Structural Properties for the Development of 'Green' Composite Materials

**Conference:** NSA 101st Annual Meeting

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**Session:** Shell Formation in Molluscs

**Desired presentation type:** Oral

**Presenter type:** Regular

The delicate and extremely efficient natural materials produced by organisms in the process of biomineralization are widely recognized as inspiration for new novel materials because of their unique properties and their hierarchical order often over several length scales. The molluscan shell formation process is a promising model for development of bio-inspired composites for a wide variety of applications in fields as varied as adaptive surface coatings, corrosion inhibition, hybrid composite materials and more. Recently, a novel mechanism for biomineralization and shell formation in the Eastern oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) has been elucidated that involves a cellular-mediated process that had previously been unknown. Polycrystalline calcitic mineral deposition by oyster blood cells has been demonstrated in the laboratory with the resultant formation of ceramic films and multilayer coatings on various metallic substrates. In the present study, we now characterize the native oyster shell material in terms of electrochemical and thermal properties in order to determine the potential for using oyster composite material as 'green' environmentally-friendly coatings.