

ACVO Abstract/Speaker Code of Conduct



ACVO is committed to providing a safe, productive, and welcoming environment for all meeting participants and ACVO staff. All participants, including, but not limited to, attendees, speakers, volunteers, exhibitors, staff members, service providers, and all others are expected to abide by this Code of Conduct. This Policy applies to all ACVO meeting-related events, including those sponsored by organizations other than ACVO but held in conjunction with ACVO events, on public or private platforms. ACVO has zero-tolerance for any form of discrimination or

harassment, including but not limited to, sexual harassment at our in-person or online meetings.

Unacceptable Behavior is defined as:

- Harassment, intimidation, or discrimination in any form.
- Verbal or written abuse of any attendee, speaker, volunteer, exhibitor, staff member, service provider or other meeting guest.
 - Examples of verbal abuse include, but are not limited to, verbal or written comments related to gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion, national origin, inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images in public spaces or in presentations or threatening or stalking any participant.
- Disruption of presentations during sessions, in the exhibit hall, or at other events organized by ACVO or other organizers, throughout the event. All participants must comply with the instructions of the moderator.
- Presentations, postings, and messages should not contain promotional materials, special offers, job offers, product announcements, or solicitation for services, except where expressly allowed. ACVO reserves the right to remove such messages and potentially ban sources of those solicitations.
- Anything that involves subjects of an anti-trust nature.
- Personal or one-on-one discussions, group solicitations, or political statements that do not pertain to the scientific presentation or scientific conference course topics.
- Messages that contain statements that contain hashtags, are abusive, libelous, defamatory, obscene, pornographic, profane, political, or otherwise inappropriate that could be offensive to one or more members.

By participating, attendees and exhibitors agree to refrain from posting information and/or participating in online discussions having antitrust implications, and that may lead to, whether expressed or implied, price fixing, boycotting of any industry, company or business, or any other conduct intended to illegally restrict free trade. Discussion of specific prices or fees that could lead to price fixing is prohibited. (Note: Exhibitors may share private and/or pricing information in their booth.)

ACVO reserves the right to take any action deemed necessary and appropriate, including immediate removal from the conference without warning or refund, in response to any incident of unacceptable behavior, and ACVO reserves the right to prohibit attendance or present at any future meeting, virtually or in person. Abuse of these guidelines by any attendee may result in the withdrawal of access credentials to the conference, and thus forfeit the right to print C.E. forms, or receive attendee contact lists. More guidelines are available in ACVO's [Code of Ethics](#) and [Harassment & Discrimination Policies](#).

If you experience harassment or hear of any incidents of unacceptable behavior, ACVO asks that you inform either the ACVO President or the ACVO office, so that appropriate action can be taken.