



5.1.2: Plenary Speaker Selection

Purpose: This policy details the selection process for the plenary speaker at MRS Meetings

Applies to: Meeting Chairs

Synopsis

The plenary speaker is one of the most visible speakers at the Fall or Spring meeting. The plenary talk should be of interest to all MRS meeting attendees. The responsibility for the selection of the plenary speaker will rest with the Meeting Chairs of the particular fall or spring meeting.

Procedure

The Meeting Chairs will solicit suggestions for the plenary speaker from the Board of Directors, Meetings Committee, and others, as they feel appropriate.

After identifying a potential speaker, the Meeting Chairs shall consult with the Presidential Line, providing information about the speaker and/or their reason for the selection.

If the Presidential Line agrees with the selection, the Meeting Chairs shall contact and confirm the speaker. If the Presidential Line unanimously disapproves the selection, the Meeting Chairs will be asked to consider a new speaker. If only part of the Presidential Line expresses disapproval, the Meeting Chairs will proceed as they feel appropriate.

At least six months before the meeting and after the Presidential Line discussion and subsequent confirmation of the speaker, the President will send a welcoming communication to the speaker and MRS staff will follow up with details of the presentation and support package

Selection Criteria

General guidelines as to the specific selection of speakers are not provided and will be left to the Meeting Chairs.

Additional Information: A list of previous plenary speakers and MRS award recipients will be provided to the meeting chairs as a guideline for plenary speaker selection.

Deliverables: N/A; Review every three years or as needed

Who: President

When: At least 8 weeks before the Board meeting at which amendments should be considered.

To: GovCom

Policy first adopted: April 25, 2003

Last modified: December 2013

Last reviewed:

Enacting Legislation: Board Motion B:2003:18; B:2013:40 (Consent Agenda)

Policy created by: OpsCom

Party responsible for this policy: GovCom