

## Call for Papers

The **Hospitality Investment Conference Africa (HICA)** conference focuses on a broad range of contemporary topics relevant to the businesses of hospitality, tourism, and related fields (real estate development, finance, marketing, human resources etc.).

HICA supports the academic community and endeavours to provide an opportunity to bring light to the most inspiring work and research of the hospitality industries future leaders. This is accomplished by providing a platform to present selected research and/or projects to the esteemed body of international hospitality leaders in an engaging and interactive format.

The HICA Committee hereby extends to faculty members, post-graduate students and/or undergraduate honours students who have conducted research work and wish to present their research to the delegate body of HICA 2015-

The HICA Committee's primary objective is to support the advancement of education and research and to provide a forum for reporting "state-of-the-art" research in hospitality and tourism and related fields. HICA supports research across all areas of the tourism sector however, we encourage innovative thinking and development of concepts, models, theories, and/or research methods, particularly for the African market. Practical applicability of findings to the industry will be highly valued.

This is open to papers based on COMPLETED research studies. Papers based on completed Master's theses or honours/class projects are also acceptable.

To be selected, papers must clearly demonstrate sound theoretical development, proper research design, pertinent data collection methods, appropriate and relevant data analyses and exhibit a possible solution to real-world problems.

**Deadline for submission is Friday the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015 at midnight (Johannesburg time)**

### Submissions should be:

- Conceptually-based (or)
- Empirically-based

**Accepted submissions can be requested to be presented in any of the following formats:**

- 1) Physical presentation during:
  - a) Plenary sessions
  - b) Break-out sessions
  - c) Intervals/public gatherings
- 2) Paper based poster board presentation and/or
- 3) Video presentation

The authors will be required to make the necessary preparations and arrangements for the requested presentation format.

**Submissions are judged primarily on the following five criteria:**

- Overall quality (design of the study, development of the concept, etc.)
- Clarity, articulation and ease of comprehension of the paper
- Significance of the contribution to the discipline
- Interest to HICA participants
- Practical applicability of findings to the industry

**Papers must be formatted as follows:**

- Page 1 –title and 100-word abstract
- Contact page: name of lead author and co-authors, affiliations, brief professional/academic biography and contacts details (email address and telephone numbers)
- Margins should be 2cm on sides, 2.5 cm on top and bottom
- Font: Times Roman, 10pt
- Text of paper should include references and must not exceed eight (8) pages (single-spaced).
- Tables and figures must not exceed two (2) pages in total.
- Total page count (including title page and abstract) must not exceed 11 pages.
- If the submission has already been published, details of the publication(s) need to be provided.

**Conceptually-based papers** seek to develop a fuller understanding of the hospitality & tourism industry and education by building on existing knowledge. For example, a conceptual model explains facts of events in a way that increases understanding. This should be more than a basic introduction to a topic. The structure of a conceptual paper includes: (1) a description of the topic and review of previously published work; (2) unique treatment, analysis, or critique of the current state of knowledge on the topic; and (3) implications for hospitality & tourism education, research, or industry practice.

**Empirically-based papers** are original research to test or develop a theory or make a new contribution to the knowledge base of the field. An empirical paper includes: (1) background information, explanation of major concepts, importance of testable research questions, and a review of previous research; (2) description of methodology that includes research design, instrumentation, data collecting procedures, and data analysis; and (3) discussion of results of the investigation with implications for the advancement of hospitality & tourism research and/or industry practice.

## Other important instructions

- Sales pitches for products or services disguised as proposals will not be considered.
- All submitters indicate their agreement to participate at HICA, by the act of making a submission.
- HICA retains the right, at its sole discretion, to accept any, all or none of the submissions for participation at the HICA 2015 conference. It reserves the right to modify the terms and conditions of participation from time to time.
- Feedback will not be provided to authors regarding details of acceptance or rejection of their submission
- Faculty Endorsement of Student Research: Students submitting papers must list the name and email address of the sponsoring faculty member as well as a brief statement of endorsement from the sponsoring faculty member of their institution
- Fully completed applications as detailed in this document must be submitted by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at midnight (Johannesburg time)
- The authors give HICA full permission to publish, through any means and at any time, submissions and/or presentations made by the authors without any remuneration of any nature.
- Three-Paper Limit: Each author may submit up to three (3) papers in total, either as the sole author or a co-author.
- A paper may only be submitted once, with no retractions or modifications once submitted. Once submitted, the order and names of authors listed on the original submission may not be altered, including indication of the lead author's name.
- HICA will correspond with the Lead (primary) author only. Co-presenters should not contact HICA
- Papers submitted must be original
- Fully completed submissions are to be made to: Vincent Joyner ([PaperReview@HIPinAfrica.com](mailto:PaperReview@HIPinAfrica.com))
- Incomplete submissions may be ignored.

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