First of all, the 20th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (ICES20) would like to announce that ICES20 will take place on 1st – 5th October, 2018 at Mekelle University, Ethiopia.

At the same time, ICES20 welcomes specialized academic panels to be organized by small groups of researchers active in Ethiopian Studies worldwide. The conference will consist of general thematic panels, offered by the conference organizers, and specialized panels offered by colleagues based on their approval by the academic committee of the ICES20. The organizing committee will evaluate the submissions and decide upon its approval, rejection or suggestions for changes based on academic criteria and questions of organization.

Panels should be oriented towards the leading theme of the conference "Regional and Global Ethiopia - Interconnections and Identities". This can include research projects on local and regional clusters of culture and their interconnections with other clusters; it can focus on connections over wide regions in space and time, or on local social, cultural or historical phenomena, or any other topics based on new research on and in the region, its languages, societies, history/histories and cultures.

1) Title and abstract:
The panel proposal contains a title which concisely describes the panel's theme, and an abstract not longer than 350 words and not shorter than 150 words. The abstract should contain a short description of the main idea of the panel. A panel's theme has to be wide enough to be able to welcome several papers contributing several aspects to the theme from different perspectives, but also specific enough to allow concentration on one strongly interconnected string of ideas and questions, in order to allow focus.

2) Responsibilities of panel organizers:
Panel organizers are expected to encourage potential participants to participate in their panel. While an accepted panel will be open for registration at the ICES20 webpage, potential participants can freely choose which panel they would prefer. The accepted abstract applications will then be submitted to the panel organizers for approval or rejection. The final selection of paper presenters is done by the ICES20 academic committee in consultation with ICES20 committee.

3) Funding of panels:
As the ICES20 is a very big conference with participants from at least about 20 countries worldwide,
the funding of participation constitutes the major challenge in its organization. Accepted panel organizers shall try to acquire funding or co-funding for panel participants or help in the identification of funding mechanisms. However, the availability of funding is not a final criterion for the acceptance or rejection of a panel proposal. The ICES20 committee will support the process through information and necessary letters, and in the identification of funding mechanisms within and outside Ethiopia.

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<tr>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>15 May 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>Submit through:</td>
<td>Attach the panel ICES20 Website [submission by directly pasting proposal] or [submission by file attachment]. Alternatively, you can email your panel proposal to the organizing committee <a href="mailto:ices20@mu.edu.et">ices20@mu.edu.et</a> (subject should be “Panel Submission”)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Format</td>
<td>Microsoft word or other compatible formats</td>
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| Discipline   | Panels should be in the field of social science and humanities with a focus on Ethiopia and the region in general, with focus on following disciplines:
  • Archaeology, paleoanthropology & heritage
  • Arts & architecture
  • Education & pedagogical science
  • Economics & development studies
  • History of the states and peoples of the region (political and cultural)
  • Human geography, environment & ecology
  • Law, governance & political economy
  • Philology, literature & linguistics
  • Political science & migration studies
  • Population & gender studies
  • Social anthropology & cultural studies
  • Studies of religion |

We are looking forward to panel suggestions on a wide range of topics!

Please feel free to contact the organizing committee at ices20@mu.edu.et for questions.

Mitiku Gabrehiwot Tesfaye
Chairperson, ICES20 Main Organizing Committee, Mekelle University