



AASECT 2019 Annual Conference

Let the Body Rejoice: The Interplay of Sexuality Education, Sex Counseling and Therapy

June 13 – 16, 2019 | Philadelphia, PA

The human body, in all its splendor, is the space where sex education, therapy, and counseling converge. While there are important distinctions within the fields of sexuality, shared principles of body positivity, pleasure, reproductive justice, social justice, and research-informed practice, are foundations of AASECT's mission. To progress as an organization and further our shared resistance to systemic oppressions, the 2019 annual conference will serve as a renewed call to commingle education and healing. As we create a dynamic space for professional and personal growth, let us challenge each other to use love as a transformational force and focus on the body as the conduit.

2019 Call for Abstract Proposals

Do you have an innovative idea that would make an engaging conference or pre-conference workshop offering? Along with proposals for workshops, panel presentations, original research sessions and poster presentations, we are also soliciting proposals for potential *pre-conference* workshops of four hours or 8 hours in length. We particularly encourage submissions focusing on, but not limited to the following:

- Employing curriculum that explores intersectional body positivity for use in a variety of settings.
- Utilizing healing approaches that decrease the shame associated with body image or somatic traumas.
- Constructing advanced models of sexual counseling or therapy that are specific to Non-binary and Trans* individuals and relationships.
- Establishing novel approaches to sexuality concerns that incorporate both education and therapy/counseling.
- Examining the role of spirituality, religion, and belief systems in education and therapy/counseling.

- Identifying the role of ethnicity, race, acculturation, or assimilation in body image, sexual self-esteem, and pleasure.
- Appraising the role of spirituality, religion, and belief systems in body image, sexual self-esteem, and the ability to give and receive pleasure.
- Exploring ethical issues and perspectives related to somatic approaches to healing.
- Sexual expressions and orientations that are often less discussed, including: asexuality, bisexuality, pansexuality. What is the latest research related to our understanding of sexual attractions/behaviors/orientations?
- Sexual responses and sexual functioning (e.g., sexual desire, arousal, orgasm, erectile function, dyspareunia, etc.) and innovative/novel evidence-based ways of addressing these issues.
- Sexuality issues across the lifespan, such as those related to childhood, adolescence, pregnancy, postpartum, menopause and older age.
- Medical and therapeutic aspects of human sexuality; for example, cutting-edge treatments available for health conditions (e.g., genital dermatoses, incontinence, cardiovascular disease, diabetes) that affect sexual response and/or functioning.
- Findings from sexuality research that are likely to have a significant impact on educators, counselors and/or therapists' practices.
- Evidence-based interventions related to reducing sexual assault and/or addressing sexual trauma.
- Exploring technological advancements and devices that facilitate engagement, promote communication and foster understanding of human sexuality.
- Assessing the accessibility of sexually explicit media and toys, sexual health care, condoms and contraception, sexuality information, education, counseling and therapy.
- Pleasure for every body: How fostering self-advocacy and sexual self-efficacy transform sexuality education for people with disabilities