

Call for Sessions: Summer ESIP Federation Meeting, July 17-20, 2007

We invite all members of the ESIP Federation community to submit session topics for this summer's ESIP Federation meeting in Madison, Wisconsin, July 17-20, 2007. In an attempt to bring more of what you need and want to these meetings, we will devote a full day to breakout sessions that reflect what members of the ESIP Federation community wish to present. This day (July 19) will be all about collaboration, cooperation, creation, and discussion. The call for sessions will run from March 1 – April 15, 2007. Session slots are limited to one hour (though, may be extended for up to one additional hour) and will be awarded based on the interest shown by your colleague's intent to attend.

In the truest sense, the "Breakout Day" goes back to the roots of what the ESIP Federation's forefathers envisioned. The breakouts are in effect "clusters", loose groupings of people interested in a common topic. The sessions are intended to be working forums, where a well-defined topic of interest is considered. The sessions might include:

- technical problem
- policy barrier (e.g. federal IT security policies and data dissemination)
- sustainability concerns
- inter-agency dialogues
- web services chain building
- issue area cluster meeting (e.g. Air Quality or Water Management)
- proposal writing/collaboration finder
- general interest meeting in forming a new cluster activity

Role of session leader:

- Facilitate discussion among all participants
- Provide background information and overview of session, its goals and objectives
- Recruit participants and other key human resources to ensure session's success
- Market your session both pre-meeting and during meeting
- Select a session recorder and post information to session's wiki page
- Participate in reporting-out sessions after the morning and afternoon series

Ground rules for sessions:

- no product marketing pitches
- no Power Point presentations
- everyone participates

To propose your session, visit the ESIP Federation wiki at http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Session_Topics_Proposal_Page

- Pitch your session, an overview and intended goals
- Provide contact details for the moderator, including organization, phone and email
- You will be notified when your abstract has been accepted, but not later than May 15

To learn what has been proposed, visit the same wiki link. If you plan to be in Madison, feel free to show your interest by adding your name to the list of potential participants.