

Call for Proposals

Research at NSMH: A Hospitality and Tourism Research Showcase

Presented by the HBCU Hospitality Management Consortium

Submission Deadline: Monday, September 21, 2026

The HBCU Hospitality Management Consortium invites abstracts and full research papers for the inaugural Research at NSMH: A Hospitality and Tourism Research Showcase, to be held during the 2026 NSMH Fall Conference.

While organized and hosted by the HBCU Hospitality Management Consortium, Research at NSMH is open to all attendees of the 2026 NSMH Fall Conference regardless of institutional affiliation. We especially welcome submissions from faculty members, researchers, graduate students, undergraduate students, and other scholars interested in advancing research and scholarship in hospitality, tourism, culinary arts, events, gaming, recreation, travel, and related fields.

The showcase is designed to foster rigorous scholarly exchange, mentorship, collaboration, and dissemination of research that contributes to knowledge and practice across hospitality and tourism disciplines.

Research Focus

Submissions should present a clearly defined research study or scholarly investigation. Appropriate submissions may report completed research or research in progress and may employ quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods, theoretical, conceptual, or other recognized scholarly approaches. Conceptual or theoretical submissions are welcome when they are grounded in relevant literature, advance a clear scholarly argument or framework, and make an identifiable contribution to knowledge.

Industry, educational, pedagogical, experiential-learning, or community-based topics are welcome when they are examined through a research or scholarly inquiry framework. Proposals that primarily describe a program, practice, initiative, innovation, personal perspective, or general idea without a defined research purpose and scholarly foundation are outside the scope of this research showcase.

Presentation Format

Given space and scheduling constraints, accepted research will primarily be showcased through roundtable presentations, poster presentations, and interactive research displays rather than traditional podium presentations. Digital displays on laptops or tablets may also be used where appropriate. The emphasis will be on concise presentation of the research and meaningful scholarly discussion with attendees.

Areas of Interest

Submissions are welcome across all areas of hospitality, tourism, and related fields, including but not limited to:

- Hospitality and tourism management
- Hospitality and tourism education

- Culinary arts and foodservice management
- Lodging, resort, and casino management
- Event and meeting management
- Recreation and leisure studies
- Travel and destination management
- Customer experience and service quality
- Workforce development and leadership
- Diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging
- Community engagement and economic development
- Sustainability and responsible tourism
- Technology, innovation, and artificial intelligence
- Wellness, functional foods, and nutrition
- Industry-academic partnerships
- Hospitality law, ethics, and policy

Although all hospitality and tourism-related research topics are welcome, the Consortium particularly encourages scholarship that examines issues relevant to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, African American communities, and the broader African diaspora.

Submission Options and Guidelines

Authors may submit either an abstract or a full research paper for consideration. Abstracts should range from 250 to 500 words and should not include citations or bibliographic references. Each abstract should provide reviewers with sufficient information to assess the scholarly quality, relevance, and stage of the research.

Abstracts should include, as applicable:

- Title
- Author(s) and affiliation(s)
- Research problem, context, and significance
- Purpose, objectives, research questions, and/or hypotheses
- Relevant theoretical, conceptual, or scholarly foundation
- Methodology or analytical approach
- Key findings or preliminary findings for completed or ongoing studies
- Discussion, implications, and contribution to knowledge and/or practice

Research in progress is eligible for consideration when the research purpose and scholarly foundation are clear and the methodology or analytical approach is sufficiently developed. Preliminary findings may be reported when available; completed results are not required at the time of submission.

All submissions should be prepared in APA style, as applicable. Authors are responsible for ensuring that research involving human participants has received, or will receive as appropriate, any required institutional review or ethical approval.

Full Paper Submissions

Full papers should present a complete scholarly manuscript and include all applicable citations and references. Full paper submissions may be considered for presentation, publication, and the full paper awards described below.

Every full paper submission must include at least one graduate student or faculty member as an author or co-author. A manuscript authored exclusively by undergraduate students will not be accepted as a full paper submission.

Review Process

All submissions will undergo peer review by members of the Research at NSMH Review Committee. Reviewers will consider the clarity and significance of the research purpose, grounding in relevant scholarship, appropriateness and rigor of the methodology or analytical approach, contribution to the field, and overall suitability for presentation at the showcase.

Members of the Review Committee are eligible to submit; however, any committee member who makes a submission will be recused from all review and decision-making activities related to that submission.

Full Paper Awards

Only full paper submissions are eligible for award consideration. The three highest-rated full papers will receive the following awards, presented to the presenting author:

- First Place: \$750
- Second Place: \$450
- Third Place: \$300

Important Dates

- Submission Deadline (Abstract or Full Paper): **Monday, September 21, 2026**
- Research at NSMH: Friday, October 2, 2026, 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Authors will receive acknowledgement within 24 hours and generally be notified of review decisions within approximately one week of submission.

Authors of all abstracts and full papers accepted for and presented during Research at NSMH will receive certificates recognizing their participation.

Publication Opportunity

Authors of selected full papers may be invited to publish in the Consortium Journal of Hospitality and Tourism, a peer-reviewed scholarly publication of the HBCU Hospitality Management Consortium.

Submission and Contact Information

Please submit your abstract or full research paper as a Microsoft Word document by **Monday, September 21, 2026**, to:

Dr. Ivan B. Turnipseed
Chair, Research at NSMH Review Committee
Virginia State University
iturnipseed@vsu.edu

Questions and inquiries are welcome.

About the HBCU Hospitality Management Consortium

Founded in 1985, the HBCU Hospitality Management Consortium serves as a Special Interest Group (SIG) of I-CHRIE and is dedicated to advancing hospitality education, research, recruitment, retention, and professional development. The Consortium publishes the Consortium Journal of Hospitality and Tourism and regularly convenes faculty, students, and industry leaders through collaborative scholarly and professional initiatives.