

## Summary of Site Visit and Program Committee Meeting in Vancouver November 2017 from Program Chair, Beth Kegley

The Program Committee for the 2018 ASAS-CSAS Annual Meeting and Trade Show met in Vancouver, British Columbia on November 6 and 7 to continue planning the event. Attendees included Beth Kegley, Program Chair; Glenn Duff, Jim Oltjen, Steve Zinn, Mike Steele, Meghan Wulster-Radcliffe, and Justin Bartlett. Three other members of the overall planning committee (Casey Maxwell, Ryan Dilger, and Eveline Ibeagha-Awemu) participated via conference call.



In Vancouver, the group found a beautiful convention center and hotel. The Convention Center has a lovely waterfront patio where the opening night reception will be held, as well as appropriate meeting rooms and exhibit hall, and ample areas that give the opportunity for networking and social interactions. The committee also reviewed a robust and varied group of symposia submissions submitted by both the programming committees and the members at large. Submitters have been notified of the need to continue developing their ideas for a full symposium or to prioritize certain ideas or speakers that will be included as Platform Speakers within oral sessions. Over 30 symposia ideas are still being developed and finalized. THANK YOU to ALL who worked within the committee structure or at-large to submit your ideas!

We are using a new system for abstract management this year – never settling for the status quo. The abstract submission site opened November 15 and the deadline for abstracts is March 26, 2018. Please remember to check your passports, if applicable; the expiration date for a U.S. Passport needs to be > 6 months from the date you're entering Canada. Looking forward to seeing you all in Vancouver July 8-12, 2018!