We are pleased to announce the call for the 13th International Conference on Communication, Medicine, and Ethics (COMET), which will be held at the University of Hong Kong from June 25-27, 2015.

The conference aims to bring together scholars from different disciplinary backgrounds involving various healthcare specialties and the human and social sciences. Special emphasis will be on the dissemination of ongoing research in discourse/communication studies and practical ethics which engages directly with healthcare practitioners.

We will open online submissions for proposals on October 31, 2014. All proposals must be submitted by January 16, 2015 (23:59 h. EST).

Conference themes include:

- Client-Professional Encounters (involving doctors, counselors, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, speech and language therapists, psychotherapists, etc.)
- Communicating Risk and Uncertainty
- Communication Skills Training
- Distributed Expertise among Professionals and Clients
- Ethics and Communication
- Health and Disability
- Health and the Lifespan
- Health Literacy
- Identities and Experiences of Illness
- Interpreter Mediated Healthcare Delivery
- Interprofessional Communication and Hospital Management Systems
- Media and Health Communication
- Medical Education
- Nature of Evidence in Diagnosis and Non-Diagnosis
- Public Understanding of Health and Illness
- Quality of Life and Quality of Care
- Representation of the Body
- Research Ethics
- Role of Health Technologies and Medical Informatics
- (Shared) Decision Making
- Tailoring Health Messages
- Telemedicine
- Values and Responsibilities in Professional Practice

Submission Guidelines
Proposal submission deadline: **January 16, 2015.**

Proposals will include panels, roundtables and paper presentations (oral or poster). Please, select up to three themes for your proposal during the online submission process.

For all submissions, clearly indicate:

- Abstract title, author names, and full institutional affiliations of the responsible (presenting) author and collaborating authors.
- Contact e-mail address and phone number for the responsible author.
- Up to three conference themes (feel free to indicate themes beyond the list above).

1) PANELS

Panels should address a common theme, content or methodological area, and will be scheduled for 90 minutes.

In addition to individual proposals (no more than 250 words each), please also submit an overview description of no more than 300 words highlighting the panel’s content and objectives. Provide information about the panel members and chair, stating full institutional affiliations and e-mail addresses.

2) INDIVIDUAL PAPERS

Proposals (no more than 250 words) can be made for either oral or poster presentations, so authors should indicate their preference. The organizers have the final decision about whether a proposal is selected for oral or poster presentation. Authors of poster presentations will be expected to discuss their poster during their assigned session. Oral presentations will typically be scheduled in 90-minute sessions, with 30 minutes (20 min. presentation + 10 min. discussion) allocated to each individual presentation.

3) WORK-IN-PROGRESS ROUNDTABLE

Proposals should be no more than 250 words targeted at oral presentation. The roundtables will be in sessions of 90 minutes, with individual presentations lasting 30 minutes (15 min. + 15 min. discussion). This format is particularly suitable for early career researchers pursuing doctoral and postdoctoral studies and for experienced researchers undertaking/planning pilot projects or have preliminary findings to report. Please indicate clearly if your proposal falls into this category.

**Proposal selection criteria**

Please note that COMET conference policy is one main oral presentation per author. You may choose to submit more than one proposal, but normally only one proposal will be accepted for oral presentation. Any additional accepted proposals may be presented as poster(s).

Proposals will be reviewed on the basis of the following criteria:

- originality of the topic and its relevance to the conference theme
- background contextualization of the study
- relationship between title and content
- structural organization
- theoretical/methodological appropriateness
- clarity of claims/findings

Individual panels are reviewed in their entirety on the above criteria but also on the basis of their relevance to broader issues in communication, medicine, and ethics; the overall coherence of the proposal; and the usefulness of the panel to participants.

All proposals will undergo a double blind peer-review process.

Decisions about acceptance will be given by **February 2, 2015**.

Following formal acceptance, the responsible (presenting) authors must register for the conference prior to the finalization of the conference programme.

Please visit [www.english.hku.hk/events/comet2015](http://www.english.hku.hk/events/comet2015) or send an e-mail to comet2015@hku.hk for further details regarding submission guidelines, registration, schedule, and more.