JOURNAL ARTICLE

Chairing scientific sessions at international neuro-oncology meetings: An EANO guide for early-career professionals Get access

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Extract

Having the opportunity to chair a scientific session at a conference is a critical position that can greatly influence the experience for presenters and attendees. Beyond timekeeping and introductions, a good chairperson enhances the scientific value of the session by ensuring continuity across different presentations within a session and stimulating participation, as well as making the event engaging by approaching it with passion and preparedness. An invitation to chair may increase personal visibility and is considered an honor. However, it is not appropriate for chairs to take center-stage, but to build the proceedings to keep attention on the speakers. Thereby, the chair position is not a platform for personal recognition; rather, it is a chance to acknowledge and elevate others within the academic community. Collaboration between disciplines is essential in the education and research programs of scientific associations such as the European Association of Neuro-Oncology (EANO), which encompasses a wide range of medical, allied health, and scientific disciplines. In this editorial, we will address the common challenges based on chairing experiences. We aim to demystify the role of chairing, inspire confidence in early-career researchers and professionals, and support them in their first (co-)chairing role. Furthermore, we share the results of a survey conducted among chairpersons of an EANO scientific meeting.

Issue Section: Editorials

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