



Dear SSHA Community,

I'm writing with a reminder that the extended submission deadline for SSHA 2021 is fast approaching—April 16, and to provide an update on our conference planning.

The theme for this year's exciting Philadelphia conference is "Crisis, Conjunctures, Turning Points: Theory and Method in Turbulent Times" and SSHA remains committed to holding our conference, one way or another. We are remaining flexible in our planning, and are currently aiming toward a hybrid conference—supporting as much in-person participation as possible, but with robust support for remote participation as well. Depending on continued developments with COVID-19, vaccinations, university budgets, and our members' wishes, we stand ready to pivot as much as we can with regard to our final conference planning.

Many of you have already indicated a (non-binding) preference for in-person or remote participation and we appreciate having an early look at this data. Note that we will likely poll the membership further in the coming months, possibly more than once, to assess the latest thinking among members about in-person vs. remote conferencing. If such a poll does come across your desk, please respond right away.

I'm looking forward to our upcoming conference, and I hope you feel the same. Meanwhile, please stay safe and healthy as 2021 progresses.

Yours Truly,

Manali Desai

SSHA President, 2020-21