

Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature

Conference Guidelines



The Host school is responsible for:

1. Funding the conference.
2. Basic set-up (securing rooms, hotel arrangements, etc.).
3. Arranging the conference dinner and the business meeting lunch.
4. Securing the keynote speaker.
5. Editing and delivering the Conference Proceedings in a timely manner to the Executive Board, which are published on the Conference website as a .pdf.
6. Hard copies may be produced but, in that case, the Host school must provide copies for all members *in addition to the .pdf* posted on the Conference website.
7. The permanent Conference website will host the Conference Proceedings and the Executive Board will retain oversight of the website: npcebl.org.

The yearly conference should maintain the following practices (unless otherwise approved by the Executive Board):

1. The Host school will consult the Executive Board (required) and the Advisory Group (strongly recommended) to discuss the conference and receive conference email lists, etc.
2. The Host school will be responsible for effectively advertising the conference and will provide information to the Executive Board to be posted on the Conference website.
3. The conference will consist of literary, historical, cultural, and pedagogical papers or presentations concerning English Literature before 1800.
4. The Host school will accept all graduate student, independent scholar, and faculty literary, historical, cultural, and pedagogical papers or presentations concerning English Literature before 1800 unless there is some extreme reason not to do so (e.g., blatant racism). Sponsored undergraduate papers or sessions will be accepted.
5. Creative writing papers (including creative non-fiction) or presentations will not be accepted.
6. The Host will provide a printed conference program, name tag, and complimentary internet access to all participants.
7. The conference will be held during the second or third full week of April on a Friday and Saturday. The business meeting lunch will be on Saturday, the second day of the conference, and lunch will be provided free of additional charge beyond the normal conference registration fee.
8. The conference registration fee will be reduced for students and for independent scholars.
9. The Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature, the Executive Board, the Advisory Group, and/or individual conference participants will bear no costs associated with the hosting of the conference, including, but not limited, to keynote speaker honoraria, keynote speaker travel expenses, costs associated with the production of a hard copy of the Conference Proceedings, etc.
10. The yearly conference will not have a formal theme and will remain general in nature.
11. Specific or themed sessions / panels (e.g., “Anglo-Saxon Verse,” “Milton,” “Medieval Female Mystical Writing,” “Gender and Sexuality in Renaissance Prose,” etc.) emerging from participant submission groupings will remain standard practice.
12. Overall, the conference will run in a “typical” manner: sessions of standard-length papers (20 minutes readings/discussion per paper) with chairs to introduce and organize sessions; a maximum of two (2) keynote or plenary speakers; a conference dinner; optional activity or entertainment (relevant local performances, etc.); a social hour; and optional roundtable sessions. Virtual session or presentation options are welcomed, but not required.