Board Resolution by Circulation 2008.1

Proposal:

The paper/presenter selection process for CPR*south*3 shall be:

1.0   In April 2008, a call for abstracts (CFA) will be widely circulated, with the agreed-upon session titles included in the call. The procedures for acceptance and funding agreed to here, including the deletion of sessions that attract the lowest number of papers, will be published in the Call.

2.0   The CFA will specify the requirements of an abstract and that acceptance is conditional on preparation of a paper of acceptable quality prior to a specified deadline.

3.0   It is only the authors whose papers that are delivered by that deadline AND meet the quality standard who will be allowed to present their papers at the conference and who will have their travel funded.

4.0   The other papers may be made available on the CPR*south* website, as "published only." These authors may attend the event at their own expense or if they have applied for and satisfied the criteria for selection as young scholars.

Background:

1.0   Consensus was that an overall improvement in the quality of the papers presented in Chennai was observed, in comparison to Manila. Yet, there is room for improvement. It is important that we set high standards of quality and communicate them unambiguously from the start.

2.0   The abstracts model that was used in Manila requires the least resources and allows for the broadest net. Yet, it was decided that this method was quite risky, especially if we are working with young scholars and those not sharing our standards of quality.

3.0   A hybrid model was implemented at CPR*south*2. The model does require a little more work, in comparison to the abstracts model. The hybrid model was used to ensure both quality and quantity. Here, abstracts were used to short-list papers, but the final selection was done on the basis of full papers.

4.0   The success of the paper selection process will depend on the priority given by Board Members to CPR*south*. Unless you read the abstracts and papers with care and return them on time, the process will not work.

5.0   Intelligent overbooking of sessions is the key to success. But of course that depends on the volume of abstracts, again an area where the Board's intervention can help. We need a larger number of abstracts.