

MOBTS 2023

MOBTS from the heart:

Memories from us “oldies” and “newbies” too.

As an MOBTC “family,” there are so many of us that started the organization, came early, or joined quite a while ago. There are also “newbies,” who have come more recently and have become part of our family. We all have memories of our first conference: what brought us to this place, how we felt being here, what we learned and who we met – and why MOBTS will always be in our hearts. In this session, we would like to share old memories from us and from all of you - both in person and on video/zoom and new memories of what makes MOBTC the special place it is.

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I. SESSION. We would like to hold a session at the conference to get together to talk about these memories. It would be loosely structured and preferably nearer to the end of the conference. Potentially it could be available as a hybrid session.

II CONFERENCE POSTER ACTIVITY. We are proposing the following activity that we would help create for the entire conference.

A) We have identified a list of about 100 people who either regularly attended OBTC in early years or began regularly attending some years later and have continued to attend or have just started attending but show signs of becoming “regulars”. Another way to say this is that we are looking at the core community of OBTC & MOBTS. The presenters will divide this list and attempt to contact as many people as possible to ask the following questions:

1. What was your first OBTC/MOBTS conference? What memories stand out to you?
2. Why did you continue coming? What has MOBTS/MOBTS meant to you? What was the “value” and “spirit” of the experience?
3. What strong memories do you have of other conferences? Location of year? What do you remember? What made it meaningful and memorable for you? This section can be repeated as much as the individual wishes.
4. What else would you like to say?
5. A final question: are you intending to attend the MOBTS 2022 in Jacksonville? Yes/No

B) The presenters and/or Brandon would create posters that include:

1. The year, location, and theme of each conference, cover of the program, the names of the President, OB1, Program Chair and maybe editors of JME and MTR.
2. Either written responses to the questions from 1) **or** potentially a video or audio commentary. In addition, there would be whatever photographs

people wanted to share and some space for post-it notes for people at the conference to add to the posters. The posters would be placed around the building where the 50th conference is to be held. These could easily become conversation starters between “us oldies” and new conference participants.

C) An interesting opportunity would be to create a book of the posters. This will have to be discussed later. The presenters would take responsibility for collecting information in A) and creating posters in B).