

# FIRST-TIME GRC ATTENDEE

## WELCOME! Everyone Remembers Their First GRC!

### ABOUT GRC



Gordon Research Conferences (GRC) are:

- Created by scientists, for scientists;
- Forums to discuss pre-publication research at the forefront of your field;
- Informal communities of experts in the field;
- Held in remote locations to minimize distractions and maximize time for discussion and networking.

Your conference was planned by dedicated volunteers from your discipline with the support of GRC staff. We have worked hard to make sure it is the best conference you attend this year!

### GETTING THERE



**You won't need a car.** Numerous transportation options including public buses, shuttle services, trains, or subways are available for all GRC venues.

Once you arrive on-site you won't need a vehicle. All activities take place at the conference venue.

### WHAT TO PACK



- Casual attire (jeans and shorts are okay)
- Jacket or sweater
- Comfortable shoes
- Sunscreen and an umbrella
- Laptop or notebook

Please check the weather and be prepared for the climate outdoors and in the meeting rooms. Dress is casual the entire week. Many GRC communities participate in afternoon activities such as hiking, kayaking, and bike riding so you may want to pack appropriate clothing. Activities vary per conference so please contact the chair for more information.

### WHAT TO EXPECT



**Plan your thirty-second introduction.** You should be able to summarize who you are and what you do professionally in half a minute. That way, when you arrive you'll be ready to quickly connect with other GRC attendees.

**GRCs are friendly.** Scientists attend GRCs to get to know other experts in their field. Everyone at your conference is approachable. Be comfortable asking questions and sharing information about your own work.

**Many scientists attend this GRC every time it is held.** When you arrive, you may find groups of people catching up with old friends from past conferences. Feel free to go up and introduce yourself, and tell them that you are a new member of the community.

**All sessions are informal and designed to provide ample time for discussion.** During the week, you will have ample time for networking and recreation with members of your GRC community.

**Community is key.** GRCs are more than just conferences. They are reoccurring gatherings for scientific communities, some of which have met continuously since 1947! All activities, including shared meals, are focused on providing opportunities for interaction and community development.

**GRC staff is there to help.** On-site staff and a GRC office are available at every GRC. The team can assist with any questions or needs you may have.

### CONFERENCE FORMAT



**At your GRC there will be invited talks as well as contributed poster sessions.** Talks are grouped in sessions by topic and posters are displayed in a large room where attendees can view them at their own pace. GRC values time for discussion, and the conference schedule reflects that value.

**ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE AT [WWW.GRC.ORG](http://WWW.GRC.ORG)**