Media Release

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The Kentucky Academy of Science, after careful deliberation, has made the decision to move our 2021 annual meeting fully online due to the ongoing pandemic. Our 2-day annual meeting will be held Friday and Saturday November 5 & 6.

This decision was arrived at by a committee that weighed the disadvantages of a virtual event against the risk inherent in convening a large in-person meeting at this time. We considered a mathematical model of Kentucky’s ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, and arrived at a consensus– that an in-person meeting is not a viable option.

KAS considers this choice a values-based decision – while it may be that the current wave of COVID infections driven by the more virulent delta variant will have abated by the time our meeting opens on November 5, we believe that it is unacceptable to hold a meeting that would inherently discriminate against those who are immunocompromised or otherwise unable to safely attend an in-person event. Choosing to move our event online reflects our belief in a scientific community that is inclusive of all.

Given the uncertainty in the public health situation in the future, a fully online meeting is the best solution at this time.

As a scientific body, KAS is committed to the use of vaccines as the best tool to bring this pandemic to its end. In the meantime, we encourage the use of masks to limit the spread of this respiratory virus.

The Kentucky Academy of Science’s Annual Meeting will be November 5-6, 2021. We are grateful to our virtual host, Eastern Kentucky University. Meeting registration is free for members until October 1. Find out more about our keynotes and hundreds of scientific research presentations at [kyscience.org](https://kyscience.org/).