

## **International Perspectives: Crossing Boundaries through Research**

Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 – Indianapolis, IN

### **Call for Proposals**

#### **Receipt of Proposals**

Proposals will be accepted beginning **Friday, January 15, 2010**. To be considered, all proposals must be received via electronic submission by **11:59 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) Monday, March 22, 2010**. A new, online submission process will be used this year. Incomplete proposal submissions will not be reviewed. Proposals will be peer reviewed and notification of acceptance will be completed by **Tuesday, June 1, 2010**.

#### **Areas of Emphasis**

This annual conference is targeted to those interested in research on service-learning, campus-community partnerships, and civic outcomes of education. Attendees include faculty and administrators in higher education, educators in K-12, and professionals and leaders in educational policy and community development. Scholars and attendees from outside of the United States are encouraged to present to advance understanding of this work from multiple international perspectives.

The featured theme for the 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference is “**International Perspectives: Crossing Boundaries through Research.**” Service-learning is valued as an active learning strategy across the globe; however, little is known about the ways that service-learning is similar or different in varied contexts. Understanding service-learning and community engagement from diverse cultural perspectives will add insight necessary for comparative research and to improve practice. Questions such as the following may be addressed:

- How do different understandings of citizenship, civil society, and engagement influence and shape research on service-learning and community engagement in K-12 and higher education?
- Is the American, westernized concept of service-learning transferable to other contexts? And, if not, what conceptual models frame service-learning research in international contexts?
- How does research assist in crossing boundaries between campus and community partners, between faculty and students, between disciplines, or between and across cultural contexts?
- How can the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>) inform outcome measures for research on service-learning or community engagement?

In addition, **new and continuing tracks** will feature research in the areas of:

- Community development and sustainability, assessment of partnerships, voice and reciprocity in community-based research
- Student access, success, and retention through service-learning and community engagement
- Instructional technology, mobile technologies and social media to deepen civic learning and community engagement
- Theoretical or conceptual frameworks to advance research
- Civic outcomes for students in K-12 and higher education
- Faculty roles and rewards
- Interdisciplinary, boundary-crossing research

Conference organizers will **favorably review proposals** that present research findings from:

- Rigorous research design
- Completed analysis of data
- Research based on authentic evidence
- Comparative studies from cross-cultural perspectives
- Conceptual frameworks with clear implications and recommendations
- Meta-analysis of literature to date and implications for research agenda
- Program evaluation that is the basis for research or comparative case studies

### **IMPORTANT NOTE**

**Research must be at the center of all proposals submitted.** To be sufficiently competitive, proposals that focus on program descriptions, program evaluations, or “how-to” strategies must describe how the topics discussed will advance the nature or quality of service-learning and community engagement research. Pure descriptions of service-learning or other engagement programs are unlikely to be accepted unless they are accompanied by rigorous research and/or comparative analyses that advance understanding and knowledge across diverse stakeholders and contexts in the field.

### **Presentation Categories**

Presenters will have a variety of presentation formats from which to choose. Proposals should indicate the format within which the research can be presented. The conference planners will determine which format best suits each proposed presentation. The options are as follows:

- **Research Paper (40 minutes)**  
*Formal presentation of a research paper that advances service-learning and community engagement research.* Presentations should include research question(s), methodology, analyses, and findings. A research paper presentation should take 25 minutes, with 15 minutes for discussion.
- **Disciplinary Presentation (40 minutes)**  
*Presentation of research framed by a specific discipline or discussed across several disciplines.* Emphasis should be on how theoretical frameworks, methodology or findings from a specific discipline or field (e.g., cognitive psychology, gender studies, political theory, sociology of organizations) informs or provides comparative research on service-learning and civic engagement. A disciplinary presentation should take 25 minutes, with 15 minutes for discussion.
- **Panel Presentation (80 minutes)**  
*A group of papers on similar themes or research issues proposed as a complete session.* Papers in a panel will discuss similar research topics or methodologies or offer converging or diverging research findings. Those presenting within this option should submit a group proposal involving up to three research presentations. A recommended discussant should also be named in the proposal. A panel presentation should take 45 minutes, with 15 minutes for discussion.
- **Interactive Workshop (80 minutes)**  
*An interactive session organized around a research issue in service-learning, community engagement, or community-based scholarship.* Workshops should include active learning strategies to engage participants in discussion about the topic at hand. Workshops may be problem-based or have a disciplinary or cross-cultural focus. One or several individuals may participate in facilitating.
- **Team Presentation (40 minutes)**  
*A team presentation involves a variety of stakeholders (e.g., community partner, faculty, funder, service-learning coordinator, staff member, student, teacher) who bring multiple perspectives to the research project.* These presentations will highlight the value of various participants in the design, implementation, and interpretation of findings from a research project or program evaluation that is the

basis for research or comparative case studies. Team presentations should take 30 minutes, with 10 minutes for discussion.

- **Poster Presentation**

Individuals, institutions, and organizations may present posters to highlight current research or international programs and community partnerships that yield research opportunities.

## **Proposal Criteria and Review**

Proposals should focus on research projects that will be completed before the conference. Proposal narratives should include the following headings and will be evaluated by peer reviewers based on the following criteria. If the proposal is for a conceptual or theoretical presentation, disregard headings that are not applicable.

- **Significance of Research Question:** Originality, importance of issues being studied
- **Theoretical Framework:** Well-grounded theoretical/conceptual framework, rationale
- **Research Design:** Design directly addresses clearly stated research questions, hypotheses, or premises
- **Measurement Strategies:** Appropriate, reliable and valid ways of operationalizing constructs, relevance to research design
- **Data Collection:** Rigor of data collection methods, relevance to research design and methods
- **Data Analysis:** Appropriateness of analysis, given design and methods
- **Interpretation of Findings:** Conclusions directly and meaningfully address research questions
- **Scholarly Contribution and Implications:** Importance and relevance of contributions to theory-building, empirical knowledge, or practical implications for community partners, public policy, teaching and learning, or program design
- **Relevance to Fields of Service Learning or Community Engagement:** Centrality to advancing knowledge in the field or cross-cultural comparisons
- **Audience Appeal/Interaction:** Potential for appeal, discussion, interaction, future publication and dissemination

## **Proposal Submission—Opens Friday, January 15, 2010**

**Deadline for submission is 11:59 p.m. (EST), Monday, March 22, 2010**

A new online proposal submission process is being implemented this year to facilitate the review process. A complete online proposal submission includes six steps:

1. Click on the Call for Proposals link on IARSLCE conference website
2. Log in to Proposal Submission website (available January 15, 2010)
3. Enter Starting Information—submission checklist, conference track, copyright notice
4. Enter Metadata--author(s), presentation title, presentation abstract, indexing terms
5. Upload Submission file in Microsoft Word—proposal narrative
6. Confirmation—an email will be sent confirming receipt of the submission

ABSTRACTS should be limited to 100 words. PROPOSAL NARRATIVES should be limited to 1000 words.

## **Presenter Confirmation**

Lead presenters will be notified by **June 1, 2010** if their proposals have been accepted. All presenters will be asked to confirm their participation and register for the conference by **July 1, 2010**.

## **Communication with Conference Staff**

All communication from the conference staff relating to proposal submissions and acceptances will be conducted via email. Please provide an email address for the lead presenter. If you have any other questions, visit the conference website, [www.researchslce.org](http://www.researchslce.org), or contact the conference planners at [ircslce@iupui.edu](mailto:ircslce@iupui.edu).

## Conference Registration

Registration forms, hotel reservation information, and travel logistics will be posted on the conference website in January 2010 [www.researchslce.org](http://www.researchslce.org). The Crowne Plaza at Historic Union Station, in the heart of downtown Indianapolis, will be the site of the conference and rooms at reduced rates have been set aside for attendees. All presenters are required to register for the conference. Registration opens on May 15, 2010; early registration ends on August 15, 2010.

## Publication Opportunities

Papers developed from conference presentations may be submitted after the conference for consideration for publication in *Volume 11 of Advances in Service-Learning Research*. Details regarding submission and other publication opportunities will be made available at the conference.

## IRCSLCE Important Dates

Deadline for Proposal Submission	March 22, 2010, by 11:59 p.m. (EST)
Registration Opens	May 15, 2010
Acceptance of Proposal Notification	June 1, 2010
Deadline for Presenters to Accept	July 1, 2010
Early Registration	May 15 to August 15, 2010
Regular Registration	August 16 to September 30, 2010
Late Registration	October 1 to 31, 2010
2010 Conference	October 28 to 31, 2010

This conference is co-sponsored by the International Association for Research on Service-learning and Community Engagement, the Center for Service and Learning at Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis, and Indiana Campus Compact.



International Association for Research on  
Service-learning and Community Engagement

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