Pre-Conference Session One  
*A Pre-Conference Session on Focus Groups and Community Impact*

**Presenters:**  
Robert Shumer, University of Minnesota  
Jeffrey Howard, DePaul University

**Session Description:**

One of the least researched areas in service-learning/civic engagement field is impacts of programs on individuals and community organizations. In this session we review/use of focus groups as a research method and send researchers into the community to measure the impact and needs of several community partners.

Pre-Conference Session Two  
*Getting Service-Learning Research and Community-Engaged Scholarship Published*

**Presenters:**  
Jeffrey Howard, DePaul University  
Lorilee Sandmann, University of Georgia

**Session Description:**

This workshop builds faculty and advanced doctoral student capacity to be successful in publishing their work. Two journal editors explore potential research directions ripe for publication, review scholarship assessment criteria, practice evaluating article submissions, critique attendees’ own writing plans, offer writing recommendations, and review potential publication outlets.

Pre-Conference Session Three  
*Tracking and Monitoring Community Engaged Activities for Institutional Research, Assessment, and Informed Decision-Making*

**Presenters:**  
Kristin Norris, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)  
Anne Weiss, Indiana Campus Compact  
Heather Mack, Heather Mack Consulting, LLC  
Kristin Medlin, Treetop Commons  
Amanda Wittman, Cornell University

**Session Description:**

Institutions are challenged to explain how the community engaged activities of faculty, staff, and students addresses community issues. Participants will leave the session knowing what they need to know, why, and a strategy for gathering and using the information for informed decision-making, reporting, assessment, and research.
Pre-Conference Session Four
To Walk the Talk, We Must Crawl First: Tools to Strengthen Democratically-Engaged Dimensions of Community–University Partnerships

Presenters:
Mary F. Price, IUPUI Center for Service & Learning
Bob Bringle, IUPUI Center for Service & Learning
Patti Clayton, IUPUI Center for Service & Learning

Session Description:
Relationships, especially democratic ones with good communication, are viewed as integral to engagement work. There have been few interventions specifically designed to examine and enhance those qualities. This session will introduce two techniques collaborators can use to strengthen their individual and collective capacity in instructional and research settings.

Pre-Conference Session Six
Interrupting Bias: A Workshop for Faculty, Administrators and Students

Presenters:
KerryAnn O’Meara, University of Maryland

Session Description:
Social science research over the last 3 decades has made it clear that unconscious bias influences our behavior. In this evidence-based workshop, participants learn more about the presence of unconscious bias in our work, the perfect storm conditions that help it emerge, and strategies for reducing bias and its consequences.

Pre-Conference Session Six
Examining Structures of Exclusion: Building the Capacity of White Faculty and Staff

Presenters:
Karin M Cotterman, University of San Francisco
Michelle Montagno, University of San Francisco

Session Description:
This pilot study examines building capacity in white faculty and staff to talk about structures of inclusion and exclusion on campus and in community engagement. This is a model for teaching about white privilege, racial identity development, and unlearning white social conditioning as a means to develop structures of inclusion.

Pre-Conference Session Seven
The SLCE Future Directions Project: Field Builders Co-Creating a National Strategic Plan

Presenters:
Sarah Stanlick, Lehigh University
Patti Clayton, PHC Ventures
Jeffrey Howard, Michigan Journal for Community Service Learning and DePaul University
Edward Zlotkowski, Bentley University

Session Description:
The co-curators of and contributors to the Service-Learning & Community Engagement Future Directions Project (SLCE-FDP) will facilitate discussion of the future of SLCE, engaging with ideas, questions, and tension points that must be surfaced as we collaboratively generate a national strategic plan to guide work toward justice, equity, and sustainability.
Full Day Pre-Conference
Practitioner-Scholar Forum

Facilitators:
Patrick M. Green, Loyola University Chicago
Jennifer Alkezweeny, Portland State University
Sean Crossland, Salt Lake Community College
Laura Martin, University of Mississippi
Anne Weiss, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
Star Plaxton-Moore, University of San Francisco
Renee C. Zientek, Michigan State University

Session Description:
Held annually, the Practitioner-Scholars Forum (PSF) offers a dialogue and development space for community engagement professionals who see IARSLCE as a critical venue through which practitioners activate their scholarship and scholarly identities. This year, the PSF will be held as a full-day pre-conference, generously supported by PSF sponsors. The 2016 PSF session’s theme is Building a Scholarly Practice. After the morning’s introduction to the practitioner scholarship framework and literature aimed at cultivating a practitioner-scholar identity, participants will choose between three topics for afternoon collaborative spaces: 1) partnership development, 2) faculty development, and 3) student learning outcomes. The collaborative space sessions will provide participants with an opportunity to explore scholarly approaches to these practitioner areas. Note: Coffee and tea will be available from 8:00 am - 10:00 am.