IARSLCE 2018
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The 18th International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement Annual Conference

J.W. Marriott
New Orleans, LA
July 18-20, 2018

Conference Theme:
JUST RESEARCH: INCLUSIVITY AND INTERSECTIONALITY

About the IARSLCE Conference Theme
This year’s theme -- Just Research: Inclusivity and Intersectionality -- bridges IARSLCE’s mission “to promote the development and dissemination of research on service-learning and community engagement” with one of the association’s key guiding principles: to advance “research that examines the utility and impact of engagement within diverse communities.” By focusing on Just Research, the 2018 IARSLCE Conference will emphasize the importance of presenting research with social impact.

Inclusivity relates to engaging overlooked, underrepresented, excluded, or marginalized groups and topics – be it in topic of the research, or the participants who are the focus of it. At a time in U.S. and global history when issues of subjugation, harassment, repression, and systemic injustice are at the forefront of discussions, decisions, politics, and policy, we ask:

● How can we include rather than exclude?
● Who is privileged, and in what contexts?
● Can community-engaged practice and research enhance, increase, and advance equity on our campuses, in our communities, and in our countries?

Intersectionality addresses the connectivity of people and groups, highlighting how community-engaged research is not conducted in a vacuum but rather includes diverse stakeholders and perspectives and extends to those who do the work as well as to those who are a focus of the work. This term also references the ways in which various expressions of identity intersect and shape individual experience and social reality.

● How can community-engaged researchers call attention to the impact of such work on communities?
● How can community-engaged researchers address and confront conditions, positions, circumstances, and contexts that maintain rather than question and
disrupt inequality?

- What values and ethics are present in intersectionality?

This conference is situated within the context of the Greater New Orleans metroplex and the State of Louisiana – an area that has endured one of this country’s greatest natural and manmade disasters, has weathered the repercussions of politically-motivated school take-over, and is home to multi- and intergenerational poverty. The committee encourages proposals that in some way seek to address or mitigate these and other social issues, and that reflect the broad theme identified in research inclusive of international work, global issues, community-engagement, students, teachers, teaching and learning, structures, leadership, and policy.

The theme for 2018 is deliberately simple. It is intended to guide submissions while remaining open to interpretation. We recognize that these terms may mean different things to different people. With this in mind, we encourage proposals that in some way reflect the broad theme of *just research*.

**IARSLCE and its International Role**

The International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement (IARSLCE) is an international non-profit organization devoted to promoting research and discussion about service-learning and community engagement. IARSLCE was launched in 2005 and incorporated in 2007. Its mission is to promote the development and dissemination of research on service-learning and community engagement internationally and across all levels of the education system. The association’s objectives are to advance the fields of service-learning and community engagement research across the educational spectrum (primary, secondary, post-secondary, and further education). IARSLCE endeavors to collaborate with international organizations and affiliates through dialogue and co-sponsored regional symposiums across the globe. These are driving new directions that help ensure that research on service-learning and community engagement is underpinned by international engagement and sharing of research findings so as to progress and deepen the field. The Association is becoming increasingly connected with other community engagement networks across the globe to help increase research and scholarly output in other countries. In 2015, IARSLCE supported the Centro Latinoamericano de Aprendizaje y Servicios Solidario (CLAYSS) conference in Buenos Aires, in 2016 supported a research conference in Italy in collaboration with the new EU Erasmus+ funded European network, Europe Engage, and The Foundation for Intercultural Exchange/Siena Italian Studies, and in 2017 supported a regional conference in Asia. Other symposia have been held in Australia, Indonesia, and Croatia with more to follow in the coming years. The IARSLCE commitment to grow internationally led to the 2017 conference being held in Ireland and hosted by the National University of Ireland, Galway’s Community Knowledge Initiative (CKI).

**IARSLCE Abstract Submission and Presentation Formats**

The conference will include the following formats:

**Research Paper Presentation:**
Formal presentation of a research paper that advances service-learning and/or
community engagement research. Papers (two to a session) will be grouped thematically. Paper authors will coordinate to self-introduce, keep presentations on time, and facilitate discussion. **Paper authors will be encouraged to submit their papers in advance of the conference.** Research papers present well-developed arguments on philosophical, theoretical, policy, or practical issues in the study of service-learning and community engagement and adhere to the tenets of scholarly research.

Research paper abstract proposals should contain the following as are applicable, preferably in this order: (1) objectives or purposes of the study; (2) theoretical or conceptual frameworks/perspectives; (3) methods, techniques, or modes of inquiry; (4) data sources or empirical evidence; (5) results, conclusions; (6) significance of the study findings, and (7) indicate if and how ethical concerns were addressed and/or vulnerable populations were safeguarded. Program descriptions and/or program evaluation results will not be considered or accepted for paper presentations.

**Panel:**
Panel presentations focus on research in three areas: (1) projects, (2) issues, and/or (3) agendas. They are not program descriptions/discussions. The focus of the discussion is a clearly identified theme or topic that: (a) utilizes a particular disciplinary or theoretical perspective in considering a research problem; (b) reflects an emerging issue in a specific area of research, policy, or practice; or (c) centers on the development of service-learning and community engagement theory or research methodology. Panels are research-oriented but, unlike a research paper presentation, the panel organizer determines the theme and set of presenters for an entire session. The names of at least three presenters should be included in the proposal and the backgrounds of the presenters should be described. Members of the panel will make brief presentations linking their scholarly reflections with the theme, after which ample opportunity should remain for discussion. Proposals must include and identify a facilitator/host to: a) convene and introduce the panelists and topic, b) serve as timekeeper, c) facilitate discussion and d) provide concluding remarks.

Panel proposals should contain as many of the following as are applicable, preferably in this order: (1) objectives of the session; (2) significance of the theme or topic; (3) identification of the presenters and a discussion of their backgrounds related to the theme or topic; (4) a discussion of the research, perspective, or practice that each presenter will contribute; and (5) a discussion of how the session will be structured, including the designation of a moderator and strategies to facilitate audience discussion. Presenters will be limited to leading and/or participating in one panel session, and selected panels will be scheduled for the duration of a timeblock in a space, rather than sharing it with other papers or presentations.

**Poster Session:**
There will be one poster presentation session on the second afternoon of the conference (7/19/2018).
Poster presentations provide a forum for scholars to engage in active discussion with other conference participants about either a completed research project or prospectus of a project in developing stages. Individuals, institutions, and organizations may present posters to highlight current research or international programs and community partnerships that yield research opportunities.

Poster presenters will display research on a large bulletin board (provided at the conference - poster measurement specifications are listed below). Presenters will attend the poster session to discuss the project with conference attendees and should also bring a written detailed summary of their work to hand out to attendees.

Poster presentation proposal abstracts should provide: (1) a clear statement of the purpose or goals of the research and significant of goal(s) (i.e., the primary research questions or issues being addressed); (2) clarity of a brief summary of the theoretical or conceptual foundation for the work; (3) a concise description of the research design and methods used; (4) the project findings (if applicable); (5) the relevance of theoretical and/or practical significance and implications of the research; and (6) indicate if and how ethical concerns were addressed and/or vulnerable populations were safeguarded.

Roundtable:
Roundtable discussions provide an opportunity for conference attendees to discuss emerging research questions with fellow conference attendees in an informal, conversational style. Additionally roundtables can be used for Next Generation Scholars and Emerging Researchers (NGSER) and/or Graduate Students (GS) to present scholarly works-in-progress. **Given the informal structure of the roundtable presentation, no audio-visual equipment will be provided.** Topical formats include one of the following: (a) Input/Feedback - graduate student and/or emerging scholars seeking input/feedback on research projects or thesis/dissertations, (b) Collaborative Research - collaborative research project exploration across institutions, (c) Topical Discussions - discussions on important topics (e.g. diversity/equity, professionalization of field, etc.) designed to generate research ideas and/or policy briefs/white paper essays co-authored by roundtable participants for review and potential publication by IARSLCE.

Roundtable presentation proposal abstracts should contain the following as are applicable, preferably in this order:: (1) identify if a) Input/Feedback, b) Collaborative Research, or c) Topical Discussions; (2) describe the overarching purpose or goal of the research or discussion and its importance; (3) clarify the primary research questions or issues being addressed; (4) identify the theoretical or conceptual foundation for the work; (5) include a description of the research design and methods used including participants, setting, data sources, and analysis; (6) list the project findings or outcomes (if applicable) or the purpose of the discussion and pertinent research around topic; (7) note the potential for stimulating thinking about theoretical and/or practical significance and implications of the research; and (8) indicate if and how ethical concerns were addressed and/or vulnerable populations
were safeguarded.

In the roundtable session, participants should allocate roughly equal time between discussion of their research and opportunities for discussion from all session attendees. The type of roundtable: Feedback/Input, Collaborative Research, Topical Discussion will be noted along with the titles in the conference program.

Pecha Kucha:
This alternative presentation format will be set for Thursday, July 18, 2018, from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM and will feature eight (8) Pecha Kucha presentations of research. Adapted from the field of Japanese design, these presentations incorporate up to 20 PowerPoint slides or images that are shown for 20 seconds each, totalling a 6-minute 40-second presentation. In addition to the time constraints, slides should be visual (with no words) and will be automatically advancing as the presenter tells their story. At the end of the final presentation, there will be time for discussion and questions for the presenters. The conference planning committee will create and provide a template on the association website to be downloaded and used by the presenter. This format keeps presentations concise, the audience engaged, and allows for final dialogue. A strong facilitator identified by the conference planning committee will host and maintain integrity of the format (e.g. flow of presentations, time keeper, post presentation discussion).

A note about conference sessions:
● NEW THIS YEAR: There will be a limit of two (2) proposals submissions per person, only one (1) of which can be leading and/or participating in a panel.
● All regular conference sessions are 75 minutes in length.
● All paper presentations will have two (2) papers per session. We suggest that the two presenters each present for 30 minutes with a shared 15 minute Q&A at the end.
● Panels get their own 75 minute session.
● There will be one poster presentation on the second afternoon of the conference (7/19/2018). Posters should be 48” x 36” and horizontal orientation.
● Eight (8) presentations will be scheduled in the Pecha Kucha session, which is from 5:00-6:00 PM on Thursday, July 19, 2018.
● Pre-conference proposals will be solicited at a later date.

Important Dates
Call for Proposals Released: 12/4/2017
Proposals Due: 1/19/2018
Notification of Acceptance: 4/6/2018
To submit a proposal please visit: https://catalyst.omnipress.com/#collection/230/submission

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