



Utah | **Campus Compact**

Request for Proposals:
Annual Conference on Civic Engagement
February 19-20, 2010

The Sustaining Power of Community

Conference Focus:

The Utah Campus Compact statewide Conference on Civic Engagement is an opportunity for faculty and staff to promote, learn, and share civic engagement strategies to prepare students for responsible citizenship. It offers a forum where best practices and research in service-learning partnerships, community service, and civic action can be shared and discussed. It also fosters opportunities for networking among peers and statewide leaders in the field of civic engagement.

Participants:

Each institution is invited to send a team of participants that are involved (or want to be involved) with civic engagement initiatives on their campus. Community partners and students are welcome to attend, especially as co-presenters, but they should be aware that most workshops will be aimed at faculty, staff, and administrators.

Session Format:

Each session will be in the form of a 60-minute workshop. It should be an interactive session with at least 10 minutes designated for Q&A.

Timeline:

Proposals will be accepted through **Tuesday, December 1, 2009**. Presenters will be notified of proposal acceptance by December 14.

General Information:

The 2010 conference will be held at the Board of Regents Office in Salt Lake City. It will begin with a networking lunch at 11:00 am on Friday, February 19 and conclude at noon on Saturday, February 20. Please see website for a more detailed agenda. Hotel information will be available in December.

Conference Registration Fee:

Registration is \$100 for attendees from non-Utah Campus Compact institutions and \$50 for attendees from member institutions. Presenters receive a \$25 discount on registration.

RFP Criteria:

The following criteria will be used to evaluate each proposal:

- Articulation of clear objectives for session participants
- Articulation of how you will present your initiative/model as one that other institutions can adopt
- Quality of active learning segment
- Overall contribution to the service-learning/civic engagement field

Proposal Submission Form

DUE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2009

Directions

- ✓ Complete this Proposal Submission Form. If you would like to propose more than one session, please complete a separate Proposal Submission Form for each session.
- ✓ Save your Proposal Submission Form in Microsoft Word using the lead presenter's last name (e.g., Smith_Proposal.doc). If you are submitting more than one form, please number each (e.g., Smith_Proposal_1.doc and Smith_Proposal_2.doc).
- ✓ Submit your form(s) electronically by emailing the document to bward@utahsbr.edu by Tuesday, December 1.

Lead Presenter Information

Name:		Title/Position:	
Janis Nowlan		Assistant Dean, Organization Effectiveness & Outreach	
Affiliation/Institution:		Address: (Street, City, State, Zip)	
College of Architecture and Planning		Mailing Address: Campus Box 126, P.O. Box 173364, Denver, CO 80217-3364 Physical Location: 1250 14 th Street, Suite 330, Denver, CO 80202	
Telephone:	Fax:	Email:	
303-556-3954	303-556-3687	janis.nowlan@ucdenver.edu	

Co-presenter Information

Presenter #2	
Name:	Title/Position:
Affiliation/Institution:	Email:
Presenter #3	
Name:	Title/Position:
Affiliation/Institution:	Email:

Presentation Title

Engagement in an Uncertain Environment: The Case for Active Adaptive Change

Abstract

Provide a brief presentation abstract (100-300) words. Please state topic, theme, issue or subject matter, and succinctly describe the substance of the presentation. You should include ways conference attendees will gain knowledge and/or skills by participating in your session. (Abstract will be edited for inclusion in the program).

During this one-hour session, we will explore the following:

- **How do we create the conditions and structures where traditional forms of action have greater impact?**
- **How can civic engagement efforts support change for the long term?**
- **How can we help communities become actively adaptive to constant change?**

Participants will have an opportunity to learn about --

- **Open systems theory and its application to civic engagement**
- **Organization design that is aligned with democratic and egalitarian values of service and engagement: an alternative to their own organizational structures and/or structures that exist within communities, neighborhoods, agencies and other groups.**
- **Factors contributing to successful communities and barriers mitigating against success**

In this interactive presentation, we will use the term "community" not only to describe geographic communities, but also such phenomenon as citizen participation, voluntary organizations, sense of community and empowerment and communities of interest. We will cover basic aspects of making 'active adaptive' change through Open Systems Theory (OST) and the methods derived from it.

OST's comprehensive theoretical framework for exploring social issues and adding to our knowledge of them has been developed over the last sixty years from practical work with organizations, communities, issues and problems. It is built around the idea that communities and organizations are influenced by, and also influence, the world around them. Change is an essential feature of life and reflects the underlying shifts in peoples' values and expectations over time. The speed of change has increased and has also become more unpredictable, creating high levels of uncertainty about the future. Most of our institutions, organizations and other social structures have been designed for a stable environment, and therefore create more issues in an uncertain world.

OST's reliable practical methods have been applied successfully in community, neighborhood and environmental planning, organization design and development, and action research. OST methods produce

systems called 'active adaptive' because they combine analysis of hard environmental realities with human ideals. Because they produce mutually beneficial relationships between system and environment, they are sustainable.

Target Audience

Please indicate your primary audience by checking the appropriate boxes below.

	Service-Learning Faculty/Staff		Campus Service Directors/Staff
	Other Higher Education Faculty/Staff		Administrators
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All Audiences		Other:

Level

	Introductory		Advanced
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate		

Presentation Style

Please indicate the style in which you will present at your session.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Interactive Lecture		Panel
	Facilitated Discussion		Other:

Audio/Visual Request

Please indicate your anticipated A/V needs below.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LCD projector (includes screen)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laptop
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	Internet Access	X	Flipchart and markers
	Other:		

Submit proposal to:

Betsy Ward

bward@utahsbr.edu

Due by Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Board of Regents – The Gateway
60 South 400 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

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