

CENTER FOR CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT INAUGURAL CONFERENCE CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

“REPOSITIONING CULTURE IN EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT”

HOSTED BY THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



Chicago, Illinois

Sunday, April 21-Tuesday, April 23, 2013

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The purpose of the Center for Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Assessment (CREA) Inaugural Conference entitled, “Repositioning Culture in Evaluation and Assessment” is to bring together an interdisciplinary group of scholars from the United States and internationally to focus on the role of culture in theory and practices of evaluation and assessment. The CREA conference will be unique in its definitive recognition of culture’s centrality to evaluation and assessment and will illuminate the landscape of culturally responsive evaluation and assessment, a space that remains largely uncharted. CREA specifically anticipates *paper*, *symposia* and *roundtable* submissions that address at least one of these four themes:

THEMES

1. Defining culturally relevant and culturally responsive assessment

There is a significant lack of both conceptual and empirical scholarship on the meaning of ‘culturally responsive’ and ‘culturally relevant’ assessment. Papers in this strand will help define the concept, exemplify emerging techniques and technologies, provide a model or framework for examining practices of culturally responsive and culturally relevant assessment, or report on empirical studies exploring the links between notions of culture and assessment practices.

2. Documenting the use of culture in evaluation

Papers in this strand will address theories, frameworks, strategies, technologies and impacts that further our understanding of what it means to ‘use’ culture in planning and implementing an evaluation. Papers can explore examples of local or project-based instances of ‘use’ as well as broader issues related to the use of culture in evaluations that are intended to inform policy.

3. Pursuing social justice

One primary reason for culture to be placed at the center of research, evaluation, and assessment practices is to increase the likelihood that social and educational policies and practices are more socially just (fair, equitable, respectful of human dignity, etc.). Papers addressing this conference theme will offer both conceptual and empirical discussions of how issues of social justice and culturally responsive evaluation and assessment are interconnected.

4. Crossing cultural borders in evaluation and assessment

Evaluation and assessment policies and practices are local, national, and global. Further, practitioners must often navigate and negotiate within and across cultures of which they are not a part. Papers addressing this theme will explore how the idea of culturally responsive evaluation and assessment 'travels' across borders.

CRITICAL DATES FOR SUBMISSION PROCESS

August 27 – November 9, 2012:

All submitters may log in to the submission management system from the conference web page (<http://crea.education.illinois.edu/conference/>) during the open submission period to submit a paper or session, or to review and make changes to a submission. **Call for submissions closes at 11:59 PM (Pacific Time) on November 9. No late submissions will be accepted.**

December 19, 2012:

Notification of acceptance status will be e-mailed and will also be viewable in the submissions management system.

CONFERENCE LOCATION AND SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Sunday, April 21: Opening Plenary and Welcome Reception at the Chicago Cultural Center

Monday, April 22-Tuesday, April 23: Plenary speakers and concurrent sessions from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. each day at the beautiful Palmer House Hilton in downtown Chicago

- International consortium of panels and speakers will address a diverse set of cultural viewpoints.
- Lunch on Monday and Tuesday are included in the registration fee.
- A limited number of hotel rooms are available at the Palmer House Hilton at a reduced rate.
- Volunteer student opportunities are available to offset student registration cost.

For detailed information about conference costs, registration, submission guidelines, volunteer opportunities, accommodations, and updated schedule, please visit our conference information page: <http://crea.education.illinois.edu/conference/>

SESSION FORMATS

Paper

Paper presentations are individual paper submissions (with one or multiple authors). In paper sessions, authors present abbreviated versions of their papers, followed by comments/critique if there is a discussant, and audience discussion. A discussant (or discussants) should be included as part of a paper session only if a discussant's expertise can add to the understanding of the papers. Papers submitted individually will be grouped with others on a common theme and will be allocated 15 minutes as part of either a 45- or 90-minute session. A typical structure for a session with three or four papers allows approximately 5 minutes for the chair's introduction to the session, 15 minutes per author presentation, 10 minutes of critique, and 15 minutes of discussion. Abstracts for papers are limited to 250-500 words. Abstracts shorter than 250 words or longer than 500 words will not be reviewed.

Roundtable Session

Roundtable sessions allow maximum interaction among presenters and with attendees. Roundtables are 45-minute oral presentations with discussion with attendees seated around a table. Roundtable presentations typically include 15 minutes of presentation, followed by 30 minutes of discussion and feedback. Roundtable presenters should bring targeted questions to pose to others at the table in order to learn from and with those attending. Roundtables are an ideal format for networking and in-depth discussion on a particular topic. The abstract should detail the focus of the presentation and the way(s) in which it contributes to the body of knowledge in the field of culturally responsive evaluation and assessment. Because of the physical configuration of this type of session, no additional audiovisual equipment, such as a screen or LCD projector, is provided. Authors wishing to display information may do so from their own laptop computer screens. If you plan to use a laptop, please be sure the battery is charged, as power source will not be provided. Abstracts for roundtables are limited to 250-500 words. Abstracts shorter than 250 words or longer than 500 words will not be reviewed.

Symposium

A symposium provides an opportunity to examine specific research issues, problems, or topics from a variety of perspectives. Symposia may present alternative solutions, interpretations, or contrasting points of view on a specified subject or in relation to a common theme. Symposia may also use a panel discussion format targeted at a clearly delineated research issue or idea. Symposia may be quite interactive: A large portion of the session may be devoted to activities such as discussion among the presenters and discussants, questions and discussion among all those present at the session, or small-group interaction. Innovative formats (e.g., town meetings) can be proposed under this rubric. Papers submitted together as a symposium will be assigned either to a 45-minute session (for two papers) or a 90-minute session (for more than two papers). Session submissions for symposia are limited to five (5) participants for 90-minute sessions. The number of participants includes presenters and any discussants. These limits are in addition to the chair. The proposer should allocate time among the multiple papers that ensures an opportunity for audience questions.

Abstracts for a symposium are limited to 250 words for a session summary and 250 words for each paper included within the symposia. No more than 4 papers can be submitted for a single symposium. Symposia sessions submitted intact will be reviewed as a set and the full set will be accepted or rejected together. Paper abstracts should detail the focus of the paper and the way(s) in which it contributes to the body of knowledge in the field of culturally responsive evaluation and assessment.