



Engage for Change

Authentic Partnership

Regional Council for Community Engagement



letter from the committee

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your commitment to collaboration with the communities that we serve. We hope that this year's theme "Authentic Partnership" is explored thoroughly in your experience here today. The committee has worked diligently to make sure the table is set for productive and actionable conversations among campus members, non-profit organizers, and stakeholders. We hope that you find the workshops informative and that you connect with experts to expand your network and enrich your knowledge on best practices in community engagement.

In this year's conference, we are including the addition of Wicked Problem discussions. A **Wicked Problem** is a problem that is difficult or impossible to solve because of incomplete, contradictory, and changing requirements that are often difficult to recognize. The use of the term "wicked" denotes resistance to resolution, rather than evil. Complex issues such as healthcare and education are examples of wicked problems. The name may be deceiving, but in essence, we are not trying to solve problems but address them by developing equity in systems and conversations. We plan to leverage our power and stakeholders to promote change.

We challenge you today to get out of your comfort zone, to express yourself, and to create new partnerships with individuals you normally wouldn't connect with. The hope is to turn ideas into action. Get ready to Engage for Change!

Sincerely,

The Planning Committee



Leaving our heartprint by supporting sustainable programs to impact education, the needs of veterans, and the rate of food insecurity and homelessness in our community.

Join us in making a difference.



Changing lives every day.

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Campus Compact New York

New York Campus Compact is an association of college and university presidents and their campuses committed to promoting active citizenship as an aim of higher education. We encourage member institutions and prospective members to utilize the resources available on this site for college and university presidents, community service and service learning coordinators, faculty and students.



10 ACE is celebrating 10 years!

Siena's Center for Academic Community Engagement (ACE) is built on community-engaged learning. Students who participate in ACE programs have the opportunity to enhance their academic experiences by getting out of the classroom and into the world.

Through any of our nine programs, current students and postgraduates have the opportunity to build meaningful long-term relationships with nonprofit partners in the Capital Region. ACE members actively engage with the community by participating in both direct and indirect service, providing them experience with real-world issues such as poverty, homelessness, hunger, and social injustice.

For more information, visit www.siena.edu/ace



Speakers



Janine Jurkowski
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

Dr. Janine Jurkowski is an Associate Dean & Professor at the University at Albany's School of Public Health. Janine conducts research on social determinants of health disparities using a Community-Based Participatory Research Approach among women and their families, specifically focusing on low-income and disadvantaged women and conducts intervention research with a focus on family-centered childhood obesity prevention in Head Start. She is currently working with nonprofits and community representatives in the Capital Region of NY and Boston, MA. She has collaborated with Commission on Economic Opportunities, Schenectady Public Health Service, and the Coalition of Food Pantries of the Capital District. Janine earned B.A. in Health and Nutrition from University of Rochester, her M.P.H. in Epidemiology and Health Promotion from Boston University School of Public Health, and her Ph.D. in Community Health Sciences from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Nancy Chiarella
CARES, INC

Nancy Chiarella is the Executive Director of CARES, Inc. a not for profit organization providing planning services to over 23 counties in New York State to solve homelessness. She also serves as Chair of the Capital Region Coalition to End Homelessness and brings a regional voice to the causes of homelessness and best practice solutions working to prevent and end it. Her perspective on homelessness and its solutions comes from more than 26 years of experience working in the areas of poverty, homelessness, social policy and research, and community based organization. She has experience as an organizer with labor unions and served as a Budget Analyst and Assistant Commissioner to the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development in the City of Chicago. Nancy earned a B.A. in Economics from Loyola University in Maryland and her M.S.W from the University at Albany with a concentration in Public Policy.



schedule

8:00am-9:00am Honored Faculty Breakfast

9:00am-9:45am | Concurrent Session 1

- Faculty Panel - Building the Partnership (*Massry Commons*)
- Mobilizing Students for Change (*Snyder 165*)
- Celebrating and Recognizing Engagement at Colleges and Universities (*Snyder G33*)
- Healing Justice: Holistic Self-Care for Change Makers (*Snyder 159-161*)
- Promoting Democracy Through Voter Registration (*Snyder G06*)

10:00am-10:45am | Concurrent Session 2

- Community Panel - Collaborating through SHINE (*Snyder G33*)
- Sustaining Community Partnerships in a Multi-Year Community Based Research Project (*Snyder 165*)
- Building Self-Care into Community Engaged Work (*Snyder G06*)
- Exploring Tennessee Williams and The Glass Menagerie: A Russell Sage College and Susan Odell Taylor School Service Learning Project (*Massry Commons*)
- Working With Marginalized Populations Impacted By Violence (*Snyder 159-161*)

11:00am-11:45 am | Concurrent Session 3

- Funders Panel - How to Fund Campus-Community Partnership (*Massry Commons*)
- Engaging Students & Faculty in Public Problem Solving Using Public Deliberation (*Snyder 165*)
- Peer Mentoring...It Works! Highlighting the ALANA is Leadership Peer Mentoring Program at The College of Saint Rose (*Snyder 168*)
- Can STEM Student Retention be Increased Through Community Engaged Learning? (*Snyder 159-161*)
- Using a Course-based Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) as a Form of Engaging Students with Local and Global Issues Surrounding Water Sanitation (*Snyder G33*)

11:45am-1:00pm Honored Faculty Lunch

1:00pm-4:00pm Wicked Problem Discussions

workshop descriptions



Concurrent Session 1

Celebrating and Recognizing Engagement at Colleges and Universities

Alfredo Medina and Mary Hunt, University at Albany, SUNY

This workshop will highlight activities for recognizing the work of engaged scholars and students at The Office for Public Engagement (OPE) at the University at Albany. The goal of this workshop is to share with institutional engagement leaders best practices for raising awareness and celebrating engaged teaching, research, creative activities and scholarship. The presentation will highlight two specific programs -- UAlbany's President's Award for Exemplary Public Engagement and the inaugural "Public Engagement Month."

Healing Justice: Holistic Self-Care for Change Makers

Loretta Pyles, University at Albany

Participants in this workshop will engage with the healing justice model, which draws from the work of social movement actors and mind-body healers, to promote justice and healing for change makers. Participants will learn about self-care as a social justice issue and will be able to explain how the current environment contributes to the need for the development of real, usable skills for self-care, including mindfulness.

Mobilizing Students for Change

Donna McIntosh, Siena College

This workshop will examine and discuss with participants examples of mobilizing students for change in courses. Taylor Blanco, a social work student, will talk about her experiences in SWRK 315 Social Work with Organizations and Communities, and Professor McIntosh will share some of the strategies that have worked in partnership with students for a statewide coalition for homeless youth. The intended goal is to provide a forum to discuss opportunities and methodologies to help students to mobilize effectively for change.

Promoting Democracy Through Voter Registration

Ryane Straus, College of Saint Rose

This workshop will offer an overview of a voter registration project the presenter conducted while teaching two sections of Introduction to U.S. Politics in Fall 2016. The goal of the workshop is to examine the project in terms of the course goals (critical thinking and challenging assumptions about American democracy), provide a detailed timeline and overview of logistical processes, and offer student feedback as a method of evaluating the success of the project.



Concurrent Session 2

Exploring Tennessee Williams and The Glass Menagerie: A Russell Sage College and Susan Odell Taylor School Service Learning Project

David Baecker, Russell Sage College

This workshop will explore the service learning partnership between Russell Sage College and the Susan O'Dell Taylor School. It is intended for audience wishing to create programs between older and younger learners. We hope to not only share our experience, but gain insight from our audience on next steps and how we sustain this partnership.

Sustaining Community Partnerships in a Multi-Year Community Based Research Project

M. Ann Howard, Rochester Institute of Technology

This workshop showcases a long-term partnership among multiple stakeholders, including individual residents, urban resident-led group associations, community-based organizations and city of Rochester officials. This case study illustrates how universities can play a role among multiple stakeholders focused on a common interest, and the goals for the workshop are to highlight challenges with multiple competing priorities of a community-wide issue.]

Working With Marginalized Populations Impacted by Violence

Kathy Grant and Vanessa Gonzalez, In Our Own Voices, Inc.

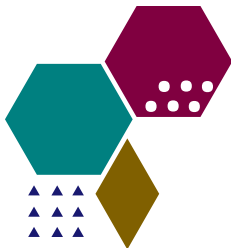
The goal of this workshop is to discuss historical trauma, power/privilege, and working with populations facing barriers and unique needs. As a culturally specific organization, In Our Own Voices mission is increase the capacity for combating oppression and marginalization. By attending this workshop, participants will be able to walk away with promising practices that can adapted into their work environment and begin conversations on creating more accessible spaces.

Building Self-Care into Community Engaged Work

Anya Piotrowski, Bennington College

This workshop will include interactive practices such as storytelling, meditation, and brief writing exercises. Participants will walk away with tangible, practical changes and practices they can incorporate into their day-to-day to create lasting change, build capacity, and in turn deepen community engagement work.

Concurrent Session 3



Can STEM student retention be increased through community engaged learning?

Jodi O'Donnell, Siena College

This workshop focuses on the TVS STEM retention program and Siena's School of Science partnership with Radix. The workshop will also examine how STEM students might engage with a community partner, such as the Underground Railroad History Project, that doesn't have a STEM-centric mission like Radix. The workshop will conclude with some of the obstacles the School of Science has encountered thus far and ask for audience participation in formation of solutions.

Peer Mentoring...It Works! Highlighting the ALANA is Leadership Peer Mentoring Program at The College of Saint Rose

Lamara J. Burgess, The College of Saint Rose

In this workshop, the presenter will highlight the structure of the ALANA is Leadership Peer Mentoring Program at The College of Saint Rose and discuss its benefits to students. By the end of the session, participants will know basic retention statistics for students of color, know the benefits of a peer mentoring program in a college setting, and know the structural components of The ALANA is Leadership Peer Mentoring Program.

Engaging students and faculty in Public Problem Solving Using Public Deliberation

Peter Sawyer, Hudson Valley Community College

This workshop will review how to create an experience that will give students, faculty and the community an opportunity to solve public problems using public deliberation, leading to key skills and experiences desired by employers and needed for students to be effective citizens.

Using a Course-based Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) as a form of engaging students with local and global issues surrounding water sanitation

Emilly Obuya, The Sage Colleges

The goal of this presentation is to showcase the various ways service learning can be incorporated in a STEM course. Because this was the first time this course was taught, we will also present our results on the tools we used to assess student learning and the presentation of this course.



Wicked Problem Discussions

Food insecurity in Pre-K to College

Sponsored by Schenectady County Community College

Food insecurity is a major issue in the Capital Region. Many organizations and school systems address the issue of food insecurity, but the goal of this wicked problem session is to promote further collaboration between partners to achieve more sustainable solutions.

Inclusive Literacy Partnerships

Sponsored by Siena College and the Sage Colleges

Literacy programs may face obstacles when attempting to serve the needs of diverse communities in the Capital Region. The goal of this wicked problem session is to create inclusive and sustainable partnerships among local educators, refugee organizations, and other non-profit organizations.

Opioid Epidemic

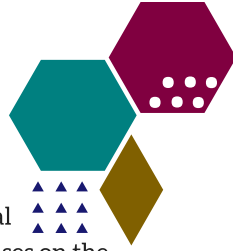
Sponsored by Siena College

What should we do? Dr. Don Levy, Director of Siena College Research Institute, will present the findings from this recent poll and a survey of stakeholders who work in fields that are directly affected by the opioid epidemic. The data will launch the discussion that looks critically at this “Wicked Problem” and the issues we are facing as a society while we search for answers on how institutions and community members can work together to unite against opioid addiction.

Data and Homelessness

Sponsored by Siena College

Homelessness is a complex issue that touches all walks of life and intersects with security, affordable housing, mental health, and education, just to name a few. This session focuses on the process of moving in and out of homelessness and the use of data driven solutions to create and improve our interventions. We will center the discussion on establishing a multifaceted understanding of homelessness in the Capital region to deepen relationships and build capacity in academia and the greater community.



Environmental Justice

Sponsored by Skidmore College

What does environmental injustice look like in the Capital District region? The goal of the wicked problem session is to think through the elements of environmental justice in our region as a system, and explore the organizations' work and collaboration with colleges and universities to address these issues.

Wicked Problem - a problem that is difficult or impossible to solve because of incomplete, contradictory, and changing requirements that are often difficult to recognize. The use of the term "wicked" denotes resistance to resolution, rather than evil.

Notes

