

## RFP and Request for Nominations: 2021 Community Engaged Scholarship Forum

The Community Engaged Scholarship Forum hosts the following associated awards and opportunities:

- Forum Workshops
- Forum Poster Presentations
- Five (5) Senior Vice Chancellor for Engagement Partnership of Distinction Awards
- The Soska Wilds Outreach & Engagement Leadership Award
- CESF Collaboration Champion Award

Below are details regarding the application for submission for each and guidance on how proposals will be evaluated. **Proposals and nominations must be submitted by Friday, November 20 at 11:59 pm.**

The University of Pittsburgh Community Engaged Scholarship Forum elevates, celebrates, and reflects on collective approaches to community-engaged scholarship through the development of sustainable pathways and partnerships that build deep, reciprocal processes to achieve mutually beneficial, community-identified priorities. Scholarship is broadly defined to include research, creative activity, inquiry, programming, and teaching. CESF defines community broadly to include university-community partnerships with nonprofits, grassroots organizations, coalitions, neighborhoods, government agencies, or entrepreneurs/businesses.

### WORKSHOPS & POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Workshops and posters should feature partnered scholarly work that seeks to address societal concerns. Proposals related to racial justice, equity, and inclusion are especially welcome. We value and prioritize workshops that present information on community engaged teaching and learning, community research, and the practice of engagement in the following ways:

- Workshops that explore how solutions are being shaped by both academic research and the knowledge of community partners
- Workshops that explore community engaged teaching and learning, such as studies of community-engaged pedagogy (often known as service-learning), reflection and meaning making of service experiences, civic engagement and commitment to democratic principles, reciprocal learning (transformation within students, faculty and community partner experience), community as co-educators of students.
- Workshops that present frameworks for action research, explication or analysis of participatory methodology, epistemological issues within engaged scholarship, ethical implications of collaborative research agendas, comparative analyses of policy or practice.
- Presentations on new ideas, programs and trends in post-secondary community engagement practice by both scholar-practitioners and community engagement professionals

- Professional development opportunities for scholar-practitioners, engaged scholars and community engagement professionals

## **PROPOSAL SELECTION CRITERIA**

Proposal reviewers will apply the following criteria in selecting presentations and posters for the conference:

- Alignment between proposed session/poster content and conference theme;
- Strong, central focus on research or partnership and their implications for advancing the study and practice of service-learning, outreach, and/or community engagement in primary, secondary, higher education, or adult education
- Presentation content is deemed informative, useful, and provocative in furthering attendees' understanding of research on service-learning, outreach, and community engagement;
- Presentation of new, provocative, and/or cutting edge information pertaining to research on service-learning, outreach, and community engagement;
- Clarity of purpose in proposed presentation; and,
- Fit for overall schedule and conference program (e.g., offerings of different presentation types and topics).

## **WHO SHOULD SUBMIT A PROPOSAL?**

Individuals and groups across the region working at the intersections of the impacts, implementation, and institutionalization of community-engaged scholarship, service-learning, outreach, and/or community engagement at any level of education should consider submitting a proposal. These individuals and groups include but are not limited to:

- University and college faculty and staff involved in the study of service-learning, outreach, and/or community engagement;
- Post-doctoral, graduate, and undergraduate students involved in or studying the impacts of service-learning and/or community engagement;
- PreK-12 teachers, administrators, and staff studying and implementing service-learning and/or community engagement in PreK-12 schools;
- Non-profits or other organizations that have used research to support and advance service-learning and/or community engagement; and,
- Community partners who study and/or work with college and universities or PreK-12 schools or programs to advance research and its application to the advancement of service-learning, outreach, and/or community engagement.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

### SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ENGAGEMENT'S PARTNERSHIPS OF DISTINCTION AWARDS

The Senior Vice Chancellor for Engagement's Partnerships of Distinction Award, conferred annually at the Community Engaged Scholarship Forum, recognizes up to five (5) outstanding partnerships that are exemplars of community engagement. Honorees demonstrate reciprocity, mutual benefit and significant institutional and community impact. Partnerships eligible to be nominated include those that were active in the most recent academic year (2019-2020) in which Pitt faculty, staff, or students (working on behalf of a University school, department, or recognized student organization) are in a collaborative, ongoing relationship with an entity or entities external to Pitt for the purposes of contributing to social and community development. Award-winning partnerships will receive one \$2,000 FY 21 operating funds grant, transferred to the Pitt department of their choosing. We recommend partners proactively discuss how award funds will be used or shared should the partnership be selected as an awardee.

- Nominator name and contact information
- Project/Collaboration Title
- Community Partner(s) (and contact information for community partners)
- Institutional Partner(s) (and contact information for institutional partners)
- Partnership description, including purpose of the collaboration, length of time the partnership has been active
- Evidence of impact on the institution (e.g. how the work of the partnership enhances University teaching, research, creative activity, student experiences, ability to provide service, etc.) and number of faculty, staff, and students involved
- Evidence of impact on the community (e.g. how the work of the partnership enhances the community partners' ability to serve the broader community, such as expanded services, greater economic development, increased quality of life or broader community goals such as civic participation, etc.)
- Listing of resulting products (including but not limited to scholarly products, practice manuals, policy briefs, artistic performances or exhibits, technical reports, implemented programs, patents, technologies, etc.)
- Evidence of reciprocity and mutual benefit
- Letter of support from community partner that affirms community impact

### **SOSKA WILDS OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT LEADERSHIP AWARD**

The Tracy Soska and Dr. John Wilds Outreach and Engagement Leadership Award is presented by the Community Engaged Scholarship Forum to honor a faculty member or staff engagement professional who serves the University of Pittsburgh through their outstanding dedication to University-community connections. Through their contributions, the awardee strengthens our institution's knowledge, understanding, practice, and reflection on the opportunities of community-based collaboration. Individuals nominated must be a current or recently retired employee of University of Pittsburgh with at least 5 years of service. Nominations accepted from any member of the public.

- Nominator name and contact information
- Nominee name, title, department, and email
- Brief description (no more than 250 words) of how this person contributes to University of Pittsburgh outreach and engagement ecosystem
- A letter of support from a member of the Pitt community other than the nominating individual
- A letter of support from a non-Pitt entity (nonprofits, grassroots organizations, coalitions, neighborhoods, government agencies, or entrepreneurs/businesses)
- Optional supplemental materials such as media coverage links, program websites, or any other evidence of community impact accepted

### **CESF COLLABORATION CHAMPION AWARD**

The CESF Collaboration Champion Award is presented by the Community Engaged Scholarship Forum to recognize a member of the University of Pittsburgh community or a community partner who has made significant contributions to the University of Pittsburgh's culture of collaboration, further sustaining and supporting the institution's commitment to strengthening communities through teamed work. There is no minimum employment or education requirement for nominees associated with this award. Nominations for this award may only be submitted by a member of the University of Pittsburgh community.

- Nominator name and contact information
- Nominee name, title, department/organization, and email
- Brief description (no more than 250 words) of how this person contributes to University of Pittsburgh collaborative initiatives or culture
- A letter of support from a Pitt entity other than the nominating individual