

Call for Papers

The 7th International Symposium on Service-Learning (ISSL)

Service-Learning as a Response to Global Transitions in Higher Education: Opportunities for Transforming Higher Education and Advancing Social Impact



Organized and hosted by:

National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland



Co-hosted by

Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa
&

University of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA



UNIVERSITY of
INDIANAPOLIS®

Symposium Location: Institute for Lifecourse and Society

National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland

June 14 - 16, 2017

SYMPOSIUM PURPOSE

Transformation has become a central discussion theme in the higher education landscape worldwide. Forecasts are that higher education institutions might become virtual entities that compete for survival which will render face to face interaction of the lecture hall redundant. Out of classroom learning spaces might become more important as students will learn in their own communities. Service-learning is a transformative pedagogy that emphasize out of classroom experiences as a learning space, the community as a textbook and where theory become practice.

The purpose of the 7th International Symposium on Service-Learning is to focus on transitions in higher education and the role that service-learning plays. The focus will be on experiences of transitions from across the globe and how service-learning transforms students to critical citizens, faculty to engaged scholars and communities into living knowledge incubators. These focal points will be threaded throughout a variety of presentation types and formats to allow for meaningful dialogue among academics, community partners, students, and other professionals.

The 7th international symposium aims to:

1. Explore the nuances of transitions and transformation in higher education across the world.
2. Enhance the systemic transformative social impact of service-learning in society.
3. Illuminate and enhance service-learning as an innovative transformative pedagogy for social change.
4. Strengthen networking between different institutions of higher education and community partners on a global scale.
5. Proliferate participation in service-learning practice in higher education by providing a community of practice through this conference.

SYMPOSIUM BACKGROUND

The 7th International Symposium on Service-Learning (ISSL), ***Service-Learning as a Response to Global Transitions in Higher Education: Opportunities for Transforming Higher Education and Advancing Social Impact*** continues to build on the momentum generated by past symposia:

- The 1st ISSL, *Service-Learning Models for the 21st Century: Intercommunity, Interdisciplinary, International* was held at Stellenbosch University in Stellenbosch, South Africa, in 2005.
- The 2nd ISSL, *Service-Learning in Higher Education: Paradigms and Challenges*, was held in 2007 at the University of Indianapolis in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.
- The 3rd ISSL, *Service-Learning in Higher Education: Educators, Communities, and Students*, was held in November 2009 at the University of Indianapolis campus in Athens, Greece.
- The 4th ISSL, *Service-Learning in Higher Education: Connecting the Global to the Local* was held in September 2011 in Ningbo, China.
- The 5th ISSL, *Service-Learning across the Globe: from Local to Transnational* was held in November 2013 in Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- The 6th ISSL, *Service-Learning as a Global Movement: Transforming Communities & Higher Education* was held in May 2015 in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

SYMPOSIUM THEMES

In our quest to contribute to service-learning as a transformative pedagogy, proposals could cover one of the following:

- Emerging theoretical perspectives in higher education and transformation studies from across the globe
- Transforming of students to critical citizens
- Service-learning conceptual frameworks that enhance transformation
- Collaborative curriculum design (with communities)
- Collaborative research
- International service-learning
- Inter- multi- and trans-disciplinary transformation initiatives
- Societal impact of service-learning
- Institutional transformation through service-learning

PRESENTATION FORMATS

Submissions are being accepted for scholarly presentations in a variety of formats. All submissions should demonstrate a connection to the symposium theme. Presentations that relate to service-learning research and practice at an international, national, or local level and comparative work are encouraged.

Research papers: This form of presentation is theoretically grounded in published theory or by introducing new theoretical insights. The presentation may also introduce a framework, model or theory that was developed through the research. The abstract should include a research question or topic, the rationale for the research, the methodology, preliminary findings (if not published research) and the expected outcomes for service-learning. For this format 30 minutes will be given to present including discussion time.

Workshop: In a workshop, presenters showcase a particular research topic (or practice) through which best practices or new knowledge were developed. This form of presentation aims to build the audience's capacity on the diverse areas of service-learning through ample discussion and interactive activities. It could also take the form of an institution presenting the progress they have made in practicing service-learning on an institutional level, highlighting how they enhance citizenship of students and staff. The proposal for this format should include all planned presentations and activities. The learning outcomes for participants must be clearly articulated. Workshops will be 60 minutes in length.

Posters: This medium may be used to demonstrate best practice, a new model or framework. It could also convey a specific way of doing and teaching service-learning through which others can learn. This medium is also conducive to outlining quantitative research or can be used to market learning opportunities at their institution for delegates post the symposium.

Storytelling: This is a medium through which best practice can be shared of service-learning as a teaching and learning approach. These 'stories' will be clustered in 15 minute inputs by participants and a general discussion on new insights on practice. The presentation should consist of a context, outlining the practice and demonstrating the gain of using this practice to the audience.

Roundtables: In this form of presentation submissions with the same theme will be clustered in 10 minute inputs around a table where everyone shares their perspectives on best practice of the topic. The presentation should consist of a context, outlining the practice and demonstrating the gain of using this practice to the audience. A facilitator will convene the discussion where reciprocal learning can take place.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS

Proposal submissions of 350 words may be submitted after September 30, 2016 according to the format indicated on this call for papers. The deadline for submissions is **November 30, 2016**. Proposals are limited to two submissions per presenter.

To submit your proposal:

Complete the **Abstract Submission Form** attached as separate document in MS Word format. E-mail the abstract to Howard Gordon at howard@sun.ac.za and use title "ISSL 2017 proposal (last name)" to save the abstract submission.

If you have any questions about the submission process please contact Howard Gordon directly via e-mail or phone number at +27 21 8083645.

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

The Symposium program will become available later.

SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION

Registration may be completed online starting on **February 6, 2017**. The registration fees are as follows:

€300: Regular fee (Registrations after April 30st will be considered on a case by case basis at the €400 fee)

€250: early bird registration before March 30 2017 (presenters must register before the early bird expires to be included in the program)

€200: delegation of 5 or more from the same organization (before 30 March, 2017)

€150: Student and developing country early bird registrations.

Please direct any enquiries regarding the symposium or the call of papers to the:

Symposium Chair: Lorraine McIlrath, Community Knowledge Initiative, Institute for Lifecourse and Society, National University of Ireland, Galway, Telephone +353 91 495234 lorraine.mcilrath@nuigalway.ie.

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