



**56th Annual Conference**

**Call for Proposals**

**April 3-5, 2014**

**Washington, D.C.**

**2014 Conference Theme:**

***Supporting Policy and Practice through Research and Scholarship***

Every year community colleges are called upon to do more to serve the educational needs of communities. Community college faculty and staff use locally generated best practice to ensure the success of their programs and services. These institutions also operate in an environment shaped by policies made in state capitols and Washington, D.C. Finding the balance between locally generated best practice and the demands of state and federal education policy is the challenge given to the colleges. Our role is to support them in their work and to help them promote student growth and the development of democratic communities. This year our theme, *Supporting Policy and Practice Through Research and Scholarship* affirms our commitment to meet this responsibility. This Call for Proposals invites you to play a role in this dynamic interaction, an essential step in ensuring the continuing success of community colleges and their students.

**About CSCC:** The Council for the Study of Community Colleges (CSCC) is an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). CSCC members include university-based researchers and community college practitioners.

The purposes of the CSCC are to:

- conduct and disseminate research pertaining to community colleges;
- serve as a forum for dialogue between university professors, graduate students, and community college practitioners who study community colleges;
- provide research and other services to AACC and its affiliate councils;
- recognize outstanding service to, research in, and publication about community college education.

The CSCC annual conference is held in conjunction with the national AACC convention and serves as a forum for professors, graduate students, community college practitioners, and others interested in research and scholarship on the community college.

The CSCC Program Committee invites proposals for 1) research/scholarly papers, 2) roundtable sessions, 3) symposium sessions, and (4) poster sessions. All proposals should be submitted using the format outlined on the next pages. **Research/scholarly papers** should report on original, empirical research focused on issues important to community colleges or draw from the literature and reflect on a topic relevant to the community college.

**Roundtable sessions** provide a discussion forum to advance, enhance or share information about a topic of policy or practice, or one of historical, professional or theoretical importance to community colleges. **Symposium sessions** are focused, thematic discussions linking together the work of a panel of presenters. **Poster sessions** exhibit research in a visually interactive format on a variety of topics including but not limited to a report of a research study, an analysis of a practical problem-solving effort, a description of an innovative program or practice, an innovative idea, or a new application of technology. Posters are a visual medium with a mixture of brief narrative, pictures, tables, graphs, and/or data. Handouts are often used to supplement the display as “takeaways” for future reference. Individuals are asked to submit *no more than three proposals* in order to provide opportunities for broad-based participation.

Proposals received by **October 31, 2013 will receive primary consideration**. Proposals received by the final deadline of **January 15, 2014 will receive secondary consideration**. All submissions must be sent electronically to **CSCC2014Conference@gmail.com as Word documents using the format described below**. Receipt will be acknowledged by email. *No fax or mailed submissions will be accepted*. Each proposal will go through a blind-review by two or more reviewers. For October submissions, the principal contact person will be notified of acceptance or rejection via e-mail by **December 17, 2013**. For the January submissions, the principal contact person will be notified of acceptance or rejection via e-mail by **February 18, 2014**. **All presenters with accepted proposals are expected to attend, register, and pay registration fees for the annual CSCC meeting, which will be held in Washington, DC April 3-5, 2014.**

**Required Format for Proposals at the  
Annual Conference of the  
Council for the Study of Community Colleges  
April 3-5, 2014  
Washington, D.C.**

**I. Presenter Information**

To facilitate blind review, the first page of the proposal document should include only the presenters' information and should be the only location on the document that identifies the presenters. Provide the following: (a) names, (b) titles, and (c) organizational affiliation of all proposers. Only the principal contact person should provide an address, telephone and email (*The principal contact must be a presenter*).

**II. Title of Presentation**

Provide a title that clearly reflects the content of your session.

**III. Presentation Format**

Indicate the type of proposal (See following page for details).

**IV. Presentation Description (abstract)**

Provide an abstract of 50 to 75 words that could be used in the conference program to tell attendees succinctly, persuasively, and accurately what to expect in your session.

**V. Proposed Content and Activities**

Provide a brief description of the content and format/methods of the proposed session. Maximum length for proposals is three single spaced pages (excluding references); 12 point font maximum.

**Equipment:**

Presenters will be responsible for bringing their own laptops and other technical equipment. A technology consultant will be available during the conference for any troubleshooting.

**ONLY EMAIL SUBMISSIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**Proposals must be sent as an e-mail Word attachment to:**  
[CSCC2014Conference@gmail.com](mailto:CSCC2014Conference@gmail.com)

**Deadline for submissions – Wednesday, October 31, 2013 (early consideration); Wednesday, January 15, 2014 (secondary consideration)**

### **Types of Presentations: Descriptions & Review Criteria**

**Research/Scholarly Papers.** Research/scholarly papers should report on original, empirical research focused on issues important to community colleges or provide a clear and succinct synthesis of applicable research and scholarship on a topic of current interest to community college practitioners. Proposals for scholarly papers should include the purpose of the paper, the significance of the topic, the theoretical and /or analytical framework used, a description of the body of literature, and the conclusion of the analysis. Research paper proposals should include purpose(s) and significance of the research, the theoretical and/or analytical framework used, the methods used, the results obtained, and the implication for further research, policy or practice.

Research/scholarly paper proposals will be evaluated based on the importance of the topic to the study of community colleges, the originality of the work, the quality of theoretical or conceptual framework or analytical argument, the interpretation or soundness of the research design and analysis, the reasonableness of the conclusions and implications and the general clarity of the proposal.

**Roundtable Sessions.** Roundtable sessions provide a discussion forum to advance, enhance or share information about a topic of community college policy or practice, or one of historical, professional or theoretical importance to community colleges. The one or two conveners of the session will share significant information in a conversational manner, encourage and allow time for those in attendance to participate in discussion, and ensure that all leave with resources on the topic. Proposals should clearly state the significance of the topic, objectives and intended outcome of the session, and strategies to engage participants.

Roundtable proposals will be evaluated on originality, the significance of the issue to the understanding or study of community colleges, clarity of objectives and intended outcomes, potential for stimulating scholarly discussion, and planned method of engagement.

**Symposium Sessions.** Symposium sessions are focused, thematic discussions linking together the work of a panel of presenters and are presented in a longer timeframe than other proposal formats. The focus of a symposium is a clearly identified theme or topic that is of interest and importance to community college researchers or practitioners. Members of the symposium panel make brief presentation on the theme then provide time for discussion. Symposium proposals will be evaluated based on the originality of the topic and its centrality to the study of community colleges, the clarity and coherence of the proposed presentations, and the method of discussion facilitation.

**Poster Sessions.** Poster presentations should be designed to stimulate active discussion among conference participants about a research project in development or recently completed. Poster presenters will display their research on bulletin boards that will be provided at the conference and will also be present at the assigned time to discuss the project with conference participants. Presenters should also supply to the conference attendees handouts that provide a detailed summary of the research project.

Poster session proposals should provide a clear statement of the purpose of the research and issues being addressed, a brief summary of the theoretical or conceptual foundation for the work, a description of the methodology and project findings (if applicable), and the significance and implications of the research. Poster session proposals will be evaluated on the significance of the topic, issue, or problem to the study of community colleges, the quality and clarity of the theoretical or conceptual framework, and the overall clarity of the proposal.

**For further information please contact:** Cliff Harbour, CSCC President-elect and Conference Chair. Associate Professor, University of Wyoming, Dept. #3374, Laramie, WY, 82071 [charbour@uwyo.edu](mailto:charbour@uwyo.edu) (e-mail); 307-766-3060.