

Inclusive Excellence Symposium 2018 at Utah State University

Call for Proposals



Deadline for Proposal Submission

Monday, July 16, 2018

Symposium Mission

Empower USU students, faculty, and staff to advance equity and inclusion through education, collaboration, and research.

Background about the Symposium

This symposium is hosted by President Noelle Cockett and organized by Aggies Think, Care, Act (ATCA). ATCA embodies a set of principles embraced at Utah State University and promotes USU's [Principles of Communities](#) on diversity, human dignity, and social responsibility. ATCA believes all Aggies belong at USU and encourages each individual to play a role in making the university an inclusive campus.

The symposium will emphasize the benefits of greater diversity within our communities. Attendees will receive education and training for understanding the experiences of underrepresented groups in order to reduce barriers to their academic and career success. The symposium will also promote networking, collaboration, and dialogue among faculty, staff, students, and community members.

Proposal Focus

Aggies Think, Care, Act (ATCA) invites proposals that examine the educational, cultural, and structural experiences of underrepresented members of our communities, on and off campus. Proposals may aim to increase cultural competence of the general public or help prepare underrepresented groups for academic or career success. Your proposal should address knowledge and awareness (Think), compassion and empathy (Care), or social and individual responsibility (Act).

ATCA encourages the submission of proposals that balance theoretical frameworks with application, underscore the practical pieces of a strategy or model, facilitate reflection and engagement, and foster critical thinking and creative problem solving.

Presentations will take place on **Monday, October 29 between 8:00a.m. and 3:30 p.m.** at Eccles Conference Center on the USU Logan Campus. Presenters should plan to be available at the time their session appears in the conference program.

Developing and Submitting a Proposal

The [online proposal form](#) includes the following fields (You can see the sample form on [Aggies Think, Care, Act website](#)):

- Name, title, discipline, institution/organization name, and email address of each facilitator.
- Session format.
- Proposal topic.
- Session title (100-character limit including spaces).
- Learning objectives (minimum 3).
- Background and importance of topic (250-word limit).

- Program outline (include a plan for audience engagement).
- Relevant articles/references (minimum 3).
- Brief description of presentation to be used in conference program if accepted (50 words).
- Abbreviated curriculum vitae or resume of each presenter that highlights expertise in the presentation topic (two pages per presenter limit, and must be combined into one file).
- Suitability for distance learning (recording or broadcasting for regional campuses).
- Suitability for continuing education credits for professional licensing.

Please [submit your proposal](https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b2tNKVLoX9C5bvL) online (if you have trouble with the link, copy and paste this url: https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b2tNKVLoX9C5bvL).

Proposal Review Criteria

The proposal selection committee will include experienced academic and higher education professionals of a diverse range of backgrounds and areas of expertise. Successful proposals will be empirically-based and focus on best-practices or theory-to-practice models that advance diversity and inclusion in practice and thought. The committee will also consider proposals that are informed by experience and promote awareness and engagement.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the extent to which they will:

- Expand equity-minded approaches to teaching and learning at USU.
- Advance understanding across differences.
- Explicitly help attendees understand and apply the material through reflection, discussion, exercises, and other activities.
- Reflect diverse perspectives, innovations, disciplines, and strategies for change.
- Increase the cultural awareness, sensitivity, and multicultural perspectives of attendees.
- Empower underrepresented members of our community for academic success and advancement.

Session Formats

Workshops: (50 minutes; 1–4 facilitators; room set in round tables; audiovisual available). Workshop facilitators should present scholarship and evidence related to the topic and engage participants in reflection, discussion, and application that advances diversity and inclusion. Facilitators should guide attendees in the critical thinking process, engage attendees in problem solving, and explore new ideas in a collaborative manner.

Poster Session: (30 minutes; 1–2 presenters; Posters set up in 3rd floor lobby). Posters may present empirical research that is diversity-focused or work that bridges theory to practice. The poster session provides an opportunity for presenters to network with attendees and share ideas.

Questions?

Please contact Eri Bentley, the committee chair of Aggies Think, Care, Act at eri.bentley@usu.edu or 435-797-1012.

Aggies Think, Care, Act Inclusive Excellence Committee

Janet Anderson (Provost's Office)

Scott Bates (Department of Psychology)

Eri Bentley (chair –Aggies Think, Care, Act; CAPS)

Michelle Bogdan-Holt (Access and Diversity Center)

Amber Rae Childers (Athletics)

Amanda DeRito (PR and Marketing)

Krystin Deschamps (Office of Student Conduct)

Josh Johnson (USUSA)

Jess Lucero (Department of Social Work)

Eric Olsen (Office of VP for Student Affairs)

Justin Wheeler (Center for Women and Gender Studies)