



Campus Compact

Midwest Region

Engaged Scholars Initiative

Call for Strategic Partners

Campus Compact of the Midwest Region is seeking strategic institutional partners to collaborate in piloting a new Engaged Scholars Initiative (ESI). The ESI would support a collaborative learning and leadership cohort of scholars from May 2019 to August 2020. The purpose of the Engaged Scholars cohort is to develop, support, and connect leaders who can advance co-created knowledge, critically engaged pedagogies, institutional change, and collaborative action to address societal issues. The initiative is also being piloted in Campus Compact of the [Eastern Region](#) with the Swearer Center at Brown University serving as a strategic partner.

Engaged Scholar Initiative Details

Midwest ESI cohort members will be selected through a peer-review application process. The selection committee will include a representative from the strategic partner along with engaged scholars from the field. Selected Midwest ESI cohort members will commit to an ongoing learning and leadership process from May 2019 to August 2020. The experience includes a combination of in-person and virtual meetings, mentoring, and collaborative scholarly work. The programmatic elements include:

- Opening retreat – May 29 - June 1, 2018. This Retreat will take place as part of the the Midwest Campus Compact Conference in Minneapolis, MN. Scholars will attend the conference as a cohort (registration and lodging is included in the program fee).
- Bi-monthly meetings – Utilizing virtual meeting technology, cohort members will participate in bi-monthly meeting between May 2019 - August 2020 dedicated to collaborative work and professional leadership development.
- Mentoring – Throughout the experience, the cohort will be connected to a network of passionate and supportive peers, as well as one-on-one mentoring from an experienced engaged scholar, including community engagement professionals.
- Mid-program retreat – January 2020, location TBD.
- Closing retreat – August 2020, location TBD.
- Scholarly project – Whether new or an expansion on existing work, each project should seek to advance the understanding and practice of the field of community engagement through collaborative engagement (Longo & Gibson, 2016).
- Reporting – Cohort members will be required to submit two progress reports during the experience, one at the midpoint and one at the end of the experience.

Scholarly Work Expectations

Collaborative scholarly work can be done individually or in collaboration with others, and can focus on the scholarship of teaching and learning, the scholarship of discovery, the scholarship of integration, or the scholarship of application (Boyer, 1990). Projects can lead to tradition (e.g., academic publications, conference presentations, etc.), creative works (e.g., public art, exhibitions, etc.), and educational and community resources (e.g., program evaluations, training materials, community assessment tools, etc.).

Throughout the experience, cohort members will collaborate with each other, staff from Campus Compact, and field leaders who support relational, critical, and democratic approaches. Engaged Scholars will identify strategic priorities jointly but may form subgroups to work on collaborative engagement projects such as integrative research, joint presentations, and publications.

We know that a great deal of change can happen over 18 months, but to the extent possible we ask cohort members to bring a spirit of commitment to this experience. Additionally, cohort members will be encouraged to self-organize meetings co-located at other conferences or meetings (e.g., national, regional, and/or Campus Compact events, AAC&U, IARSLCE, Engaged Scholarship Consortium, Imagining America, etc.) or other equivalent spaces.

Who is an Engaged Scholar?

Engaged scholars include both faculty and community engagement professionals (Dostilio, 2017; Dostilio & McReynolds, 2015; McReynolds & Shields, 2015). Applicable scholarship can include original research and creative activities, scholarship of teaching and learning, and program evaluation. This program is well-suited for individuals:

- From institutions located in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Wisconsin
- With some experience in community-engaged teaching and/or engaged scholarship
- In their early- to mid-career in their role (generally the first 3-8 years)

Individuals from all institutional types are encouraged to apply. Selection criteria will include scholarly experience and interest along with a goal of building a diverse cohort in terms of gender, race, discipline, geography, institution type, and more.

Strategic Partner Role & Benefits

The strategic partner would have the opportunity to shape this new initiative and our approach to field and scholar development. This would include working with Campus Compact staff to:

- Contribute in-kind staff time and \$2,500-5,000 toward the program budget (this could include food and facilities for retreat hosting)
- Support program development including assisting in making selections
- Assist in facilitating scholar experiences
- Assist in identifying and supporting mentors
- Consider hosting one or more of the retreats
- Support program review and improvement

Each strategic partner would have priority placement for one scholar from their institution, and the ability to establish field leadership through scholarly contributions and initiative promotions.

How to Express Interest

An letter from an appropriate president, chancellor, or key administrator expressing interest in becoming a strategic partner is requested by November 30, 2018. In the letter, please include a proposed lead contact and information about the campus's capacity to serve as a strategic partner. Letters should be sent via email to Brenna Limbrick at Ohio Campus Compact, blimbrick@ohiocampuscompact.org.

If you have questions please also email Brenna, above.

About Campus Compact of the Midwest Region

The Campus Compact of the Midwest Region includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

[Campus Compact](#) and all regional and state Campus Compact affiliates are committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in our field and in our broader culture. We strive to make all events safe and welcoming spaces that value the contributions of a diversity of people, spark critical reflection, provide multiple ways to learn, and engage and recognizes various identities and their intersections, including but not limited to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, socioeconomic status, education level, political affiliation, veteran status, age, and disability. Our goal is to create an environment that demonstrates this commitment and, to this end, we welcome proposals that bring a variety of perspectives, identities, and backgrounds to our conversation.

References

- Boyer, Ernest L. (1990). *Scholarship reconsidered : Priorities of the professoriate*. Princeton, N.J. :Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching,
- Dostilio, L. D. (2017). The professionalization of community engagement: Associations and professional staff. In T.D. Mitchell, T. Eatman, & C. Dolgan (Eds.), *The Cambridge handbook of service learning and community engagement*. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press.

- Dostilio, L. D., & McReynolds, M. (2015). Community engagement professionals in the circle of service-learning and the greater civic enterprise. *Michigan Journal of Community Service Learning, 22*(1), 113–117.
- Longo, N. V., & Gibson, C. M. (2016). The collaborative engagement paradigm. In M. A. Post, E. Ward, N. V. Longo, & J. Saltmarsh (Eds.), *Publicly engaged scholars: Next generation engagement and the future of higher education* (p. 61 - 75). Sterling, VA: Stylus.
- McReynolds, M., & Shields, E. (Eds.). (2015). *Diving deep in community engagement: A model for professional development*. Des Moines, IA: Iowa Campus Compact