



2018 AAACE

AAACE 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE)

ProposalSpace ID: 856-42136

Status: **Selected**



This proposal was submitted for review Sun Mar 25 2018, 5:08pm EDT.

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Instructions

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Proposal Content

Title for your Session

Graduate Students' Perspectives of a Mentoring Learning Community

Select the FIRST area in which your presentation best fits. It is recommended you select the focus of the relevant SIG or Commission. You may indicate additional topic areas in your abstract that will be included in the program book.

Graduate Student Education

Select the SECOND area in which your presentation fits. See above for how to make a selection.

no answer

Type of Presentation Requested

Poster

Keywords

Learning community; learning environment; graduate student; student professional development; mentoring

Session Abstract

This program aims to assist graduate students' professional development utilizing both peer and faculty mentors. Students' perspectives were collected through a focus group regarding several aspects including community, diversity, integration, active learning, and reflective assessment of this mentoring learning community.

Target Audience

The targeted audience of this session includes graduate students, administrators and staff, faculty, researchers, and anyone interested in establishing learning communities for graduate students' professional development.

Learning Outcomes

After attending this session, participants will be able to:

1. Explain the importance of learning communities, specifically when integrated during the students' graduate school experience;
2. Detail the specifics of the Student Research Empowerment Program (i.e. goals of the program, student expectations, types of initiatives and groups, hosted activities);
3. Students' experience of attending this learning community, and their expectations for future improvement.

Session Description

Graduate students' learning is a key factor in their professional development as it may encourage students to create new ideas and scientific knowledge (Pyhältö, & Keskinen, 2012). Studies indicated that student involvement with the scholarly community contributes to various educational outcomes including degree completion, time-to-candidacy, and employment after graduation (e.g., Sainio, 2010). Additionally, research has shown that the more opportunities for students to interact in a community learning environment, the more likely they are to share ideas, participate among discussions and gain critical knowledge in the field (Golde, Bueschell, Jones, & Walker, 2009). Therefore, this session will introduce a learning community program initiated by graduate students and guided by faculty members in the Adult Education program at a Southeastern University. We will also note students' experiences and perspectives regarding their participation in this learning community. Finally, it is expected that this session will share ideas with faculty, administrators, and other professionals in higher education settings who desire to help graduate students prepare for career and professoriate roles.

Format & Technique

1. Briefly introduce the importance of learning communities, especially in relation to professional development of the graduate student.
2. Discuss the details of the Student Research Empowerment Program (SREP) at a southeastern University, including its goals, resources, activities/workshops, students' achievements and experience.
3. Introduce students' experience and perspectives regarding attending this learning community.
3. Future plans and reflections will also be discussed.

Internet access for your session may come at a cost to you. If you answer yes, below, and your session is accepted, we will contact you to discuss your needs and possible alternatives to this expense to you.

Yes

Efforts are made to try to schedule sessions on the day preferred by the Primary Presenter, though this cannot be guaranteed. Please check your preference.

No preference

If accepted, I will register for the conference no later than the Early Bird Registration Deadline date of August 1, 2018.

Yes

I have set ProposalSpace.com as a safe sender to my email system.

Yes

Email Address

Yes

Primary Presenter

Your proposal must include 1 primary presenter.



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Sheena Copus Stewart

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Additional Presenters: Enters In Order

Your proposal may include any number of additional presenters: enters in order.

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Session Materials

Available Materials

You do not have any materials associated with your session.

To add an item to your list of available materials:

1. Give the item a display name and brief description. (Both are optional.)
2. Select the type of item (File or URL).
 - o Select File for items stored on your computer or local network.
 - o Select URL for items available on public web sites.
3. If you select File, click the Choose File button and locate the item on your computer or local network. If you select URL, enter the web address of the item.
4. Click the Save button.

Display Name

Description**Type**

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