

# Creating a Research Agenda on Community-University Partnerships



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# Session Overview

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- Three perspectives on the study of community-university partnerships
  - IARSLCE
  - CACSL
  - CCPH
- Creating a research agenda
- Next steps



# IARSLCE: What Is It?

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- International Association for Research on Service-learning and Community Engagement
- Hosts annual international research conference
- Publishes peer reviewed volume of best papers from conferences
- Facilitates exchange among researchers
- Supports graduate students and junior faculty
- Recognition through three annual awards



# IARSLCE: Current Work

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- Community-university partnerships is one topic addressed in conference presentations
- Some awards and scholarships recognize work in this area (dissertation, early career awards)
- Research spans educational continuum, geography, disciplines
- New efforts on engaged scholarship and partnerships (former National Review Board)
- Opportunity for greater emphasis



# IARSLCE: Opportunities

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- Convene research forum on community-university partnerships in conjunction with October 9-12, 2009 conference in Ottawa
- Focus a plenary session on this agenda
- Facilitate information exchange on current and proposed research through membership
- Showcase this research as program theme
- Create parallel meetings to advance discussion



# IARSLCE: Two Focus Areas

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- Graduate Student Network
  - Virtual and in-person venue to identify and convene beginning researchers interested in partnerships
  - Build network of students and faculty mentors with interests in partnership research
- Review Board on Engaged Scholarship
  - Venue to give expert peer review on scholarship
  - Identify community partnerships expertise
  - Collaboration with parallel efforts of CCPH, Campus Compact, Imagining America

The logo graphic consists of a vertical black line intersecting a horizontal black line. To the left of the vertical line, there are three overlapping squares: a yellow one at the top, a red one in the middle, and a blue one at the bottom. The text 'CACSL' is positioned to the right of the vertical line, in a large, blue, sans-serif font.

# CACSL

- Canadian Alliance for Community Service-Learning
- Network of universities, colleges and community-based organizations interested in the practice of community service-learning
- Offers consultations, resources, education, networking, advocacy



# CACSL Activities

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- Research Working Group
- On-line forum for CSL researchers
- Research highlights in e-newsletter
- Launching national awards for SOCIAL IMPACT related to community/campus partnerships

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# CACSL

- Emerging individual research agendas
- CACSL advocating for attention to the relationships as of primary importance
- National Forum on Community-University Partnerships, September 2007: reports available
- CSL Symposium with CUP as one focus, March 2008: report in next e-newsletter
- Case study project to be led by CACSL, examining establishment of partnerships



# CACSL

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- Case studies on Canadian partnerships will identify further specific themes for research
- CACSL views the support of applied research as its priority for future: funding, education, networking, advocacy
- Develop pool of research projects for post-grad students to undertake; utilize the CSL model to advance network knowledge and resources
- Capitalize on Canadian location for 2009 IARSLCE conference to FOCUS on the critical relationship element



# CCPH: What is It?

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- Community-Campus Partnerships for Health
- Promotes health (broadly defined) through community-campus partnerships
- Diverse membership: community, academic, government, philanthropic



# CCPH: Current Work

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- Build cadre of community-engaged faculty
- Recognize exemplary partnerships
- Facilitate opportunities to present & publish
- Disseminate timely information
- Sponsor/conduct research & evaluation
- Advocate for supportive policies & funding
- Ensure community voice is heard
- Ensure findings have practical application



# CCPH: Two Focus Areas

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- Faculty for the Engaged Campus
  - Competency based faculty development models
  - Peer review, publication & dissemination of non-traditional products of scholarship ([www.CES4health.info](http://www.CES4health.info))
  - Roster of peer reviewers and mentors (community & academic)
- Community-Based Participatory Research
  - CBPR listserv & website
  - CBPR & research ethics listserv & website
  - IRB/REB work group
  - Community partner peer support & advocacy
  - Training, consultation, educational conference calls



# CCPH: Opportunities

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- CBPR listserv: [cbpr@u.washington.edu](mailto:cbpr@u.washington.edu)
- Educational conference call series on CBPR: May 27, June 13 and June 24
- Build capacity through faculty development, CES4health.info & roster of peer reviewers
- Proposal in development: community research agendas in US cities (Canada too?)
- Nominate community-university partnerships as topic of evidence-based review
- 11<sup>th</sup> conference, April 29 – May 2, 2009 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin USA



# Creating a Research Agenda

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- Generate ideas for research topics
- Exchange information on potential funding opportunities
- Network to establish new collaborations
- Seed agendas for each of the three associations



# Generate Ideas for Research Topics

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- Convene in groups of 4-6
- Introduce yourselves
- Brainstorm research topics
  - Be specific on focus
  - Address possible collaborators
- Identify funding sources
- Consider how associations can help



# Report Back

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- Topics
- Funding
- Collaborators
- Association roles/opportunities



# Resources

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- IARSLCE: [www.researchslce.org](http://www.researchslce.org)
  - '08 Conference Oct 25-28, New Orleans
- CACSL: [www.communityservicelearning.ca](http://www.communityservicelearning.ca)
  - Co-host IARSLCE conference, Ottawa '09
- CCPH: [www.ccph.info](http://www.ccph.info)
  - April 29-May 2, 2009 conference in Milwaukee



# For Further Information

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- Sherril Gelmon, IARSLCE Board Chair and Portland State University, [gelmons@pdx.edu](mailto:gelmons@pdx.edu)
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