



THE COUNCIL OF
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES

Humanities Research for the Public Good

Connecting Independent Colleges with Their Communities through Undergraduate Research
Opening Workshop · Washington, DC · June 26–28, 2019

This project is generously supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Workshop goals:

- Learn about other projects and best practices in public humanities.
- Clarify the roles of the project team members.
- Explore how campus collections and public perspectives can be incorporated into undergraduate research projects.
- Refine plans to implement campus projects successfully during the coming year.
- Learn how to build and sustain community partnerships that benefit colleges and universities, their faculty members and students, community-based organizations, and the public.
- Develop methods to assess the impact of public humanities programs and outcomes for students, community partners, and the participating institutions.

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

1:00–2:00 p.m.
Lower Lobby

Registration

2:00–3:30 p.m.
New Hampshire

Opening Session

Welcome and Introductions

Richard Ekman, President, CIC

Overview of the HRPG Project and Workshop Goals

Philip M. Katz, Director of Projects, CIC

Annie Valk, Senior Advisor, CIC, and Associate Director for Public Humanities, Williams College

Introductions of the Campus Teams and Projects

Please come prepared for one member of each team to introduce the institution, identify the community partner, summarize the proposed project, and say one thing the team wants to get out of this workshop—all in 90 seconds!

3:30–3:45 p.m.

Break

3:45–4:30 p.m.

New Hampshire

Plenary Session: Who is the *Public* in Public Humanities?

Presenter: **Annie Valk**

Research and teaching with a public audience in mind.

4:30–6:00 p.m.

New Hampshire

Plenary Session: Examples of Public Humanities Projects

Moderator: **Annie Valk**

Panelists:

Susan Falciani Maldonado, Head of Public Outreach and Information Literacy Services, Trexler Library, Muhlenberg College

David Pettegrew, Professor of History and Archaeology and Co-Chair of the History Department, Messiah College

Meredith Clark-Wiltz, Associate Professor of History and Director of American Studies, Franklin College

This session will introduce different approaches to public humanities work, with case studies of successful projects that have been developed by CIC member institutions.

6:00–7:00 p.m.

Brasserie

(Lobby Level)

Reception

7:00–9:00 p.m.

City Center

Dinner and Keynote

Introduction

Richard Ekman

Humanities and the Public Good

Edward L. Ayers, Tucker-Boatwright Professor of the Humanities and President Emeritus, University of Richmond

Thursday, June 27, 2019

8:00–9:00 a.m.

City Center

Breakfast

Discussion Roundtables

This is an opportunity to meet with colleagues and discuss topics of common interest. Please feel free to participate in more than one discussion. See page 7 for the list of tables.

Overview of the Day

Philip M. Katz

9:00–10:15 a.m.
New Hampshire

Plenary Session: What Community Partners Bring to the Table

Moderator: Annie Valk

Panelists:

Donald Braid, Director of the Center for Citizenship and Community, Butler University

Glenn T. Johnston, Assistant Professor and Chair of the Department of Humanities and Public History, Stevenson University

Kimberly Sanchez, Director of Community Partnerships, Connecticut College

This roundtable discussion will address different types of partnerships with community organizations and present strategies to forge a successful, mutually beneficial relationship. Presenters will discuss their experiences collaborating with community organizations on projects that involve undergraduates.

10:15–11:30 a.m.

Breakout Session

Note: Please meet with colleagues in similar roles at other institutions.

Potomac

Faculty Members (moderator: **Annie Valk**)

Discussion topics:

- Identifying the distinctive pedagogy of public humanities
- Supporting undergraduate research *and* undergraduate researchers
- Revising existing courses to add a public humanities component
- Understanding the role of faculty members as project managers
- Collaborating with colleagues in different areas, on campus and in the community

Dupont

Collections Experts (moderator: **Susan Falciani Maldonado**)

Discussion topics:

- Clarifying the role of the collections expert on the project team
- Explaining “collections” to students, faculty, and the community
- Helping students (and faculty members) access and interpret materials in the collection
- Supporting public programs: public access vs. conservation; consent, copyright, and other intellectual property challenges
- Highlighting the power of collections for research, teaching, and engaging questions of public significance

City Center

Administrators (moderator: **Jo Ellen Parker**, Vice President for Communications, CIC)

Discussion topics:

- Assessing the current perception of humanities research on your campus and in your community
- Clarifying the role of the administrator on the project team
- Using public humanities programming to support institutional missions
- Building and sustaining productive relationships with community partners
- Mobilizing institutional resources to support and promote the project

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. **Plenary Session:** Reports from the Small Groups

City Center

Moderator: **Philip M. Katz**

12:15–12:30 p.m.

Break

12:30–1:45 p.m.

Lunch

New Hampshire

Introduction

Richard Ekman

The National Landscape of Public Humanities

Stephen Kidd, Executive Director, National Humanities Alliance

The National Humanities Alliance recently introduced the “Humanities for All” database—a compendium of public humanities projects from across the nation, many of which were developed by liberal arts colleges and universities. Kidd will discuss the state of the “publicly engaged humanities” in American life and the role of smaller liberal arts institutions in sustaining the humanities.

1:45–2:15 p.m.

Break

2:15–3:30 p.m.

Plenary Session: Managing Your Time, Labor, and Expectations

New Hampshire

Presenter: **Annie Valk**

This interactive session will trace the lifecycle of a public humanities project from start to finish: identifying and focusing the topic, framing the research, supporting undergraduate researchers, shifting from the research phase to the public program phase, working with a community partner, outreach and implementation, project evaluation, documenting and learning from the experience, and more.

3:30–3:45 p.m.

Break

3:45–5:00 p.m.
See page 8

Team Planning Session

Note: Please meet with the other members of your institutional team. See page 8 for room assignments.

This is an opportunity for each institutional team to apply what they have learned during the workshop so far to review and revise the project plan. Additional questions to consider: What other campus or community resources may be necessary to support each phase of the plan? How will this project support the larger goals and mission of your institution? How can this project help build capacity at your institution that will be sustained past the end of the funding?

5:00–5:45 p.m.
New Hampshire

Plenary Session: Reviewing the Work of the Day

Reports from the Institutional Teams

Moderator: Philip M. Katz

Other Reflections and Unanswered Questions

Moderator: Annie Valk

5:45–6:30 p.m.
*Brasserie
(Lobby Level)*

Reception

6:30 p.m.

Dinner on Your Own

Friday, June 28, 2019

8:00–9:00 a.m.
City Center

Breakfast

Discussion Roundtables

This is an opportunity to meet with colleagues and discuss topics of common interest. There are two groups of discussion tables: by institutional role and by the type of project each team will carry out. Please feel free to participate in more than one discussion. See page 7 for the list of tables.

Overview of the Day

Philip M. Katz

9:00–10:30 a.m.
New Hampshire

Plenary Session: Evaluation and Impact

Best Practices for Evaluating Public Programs in the Humanities

Sheri Levinsky-Raskin, Assistant Vice President for Education and Evaluation, Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, and President, SJLR Solutions

Measuring the Impact on Students, Faculty, the College, and the Community

Annie Valk, Jo Ellen Parker, and Participants

What will success for the public component of your project look like? How will you measure the impact of the entire project on the students, their mentors, and the institution? In this session, an experienced museum evaluator will guide participants through potential models and tools for the assessment of public humanities projects. She will also address the challenge of aligning the college's goals with the expectations of the community partner to determine a shared definition of success. The session will conclude with a broader discussion of measurable impacts.

10:30–11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 a.m.–noon
New Hampshire

Concluding Session

Remaining Questions

Annie Valk

Next Steps, Grant Management, and Logistics

Philip Katz

Noon

Workshop Concludes

Topics for Breakfast Roundtables

The breakfast roundtables are informal opportunities to share information and ideas with colleagues who have similar interests or are facing similar challenges on their campuses. Feel free to participate in more than one discussion group during breakfast. There are no discussion leaders, so all participants need to help carry the conversations. Each table has a sheet on it for notes; please consider appointing a scribe to capture the key points of your conversation. Leave the notes on the table so CIC can collect, transcribe, and share them with all participants.

Thursday, June 27

In-depth discussion of key processes and practices:

1. Connecting students and collections
2. Creating a web-based archive/public program: how to identify and target your audience(s)
3. Promoting other public humanities activities
4. Oral history: challenges and best practices
5. Addressing controversial topics
6. Sharing expertise and academic authority with students and community stakeholders
7. Promoting the value of academic humanities research to members of the community
8. Promoting the value of publicly-engaged humanities to other faculty members and administrators
9. Working with K–12 schools and school systems

Friday, June 28

By project role:

1. Administrators
2. Collections Experts
3. Faculty Members

By project format:

4. Audio-visual productions (podcasts, documentaries, radio or TV programming)
5. Websites, online exhibitions, or digital archives
6. Physical exhibitions and installations
7. Walking tours and place-based media
8. Curricular materials

Meeting Rooms for Team Planning Session
Thursday, June 27, 3:45–5:00 p.m.

Group A (Dupont)

- Champlain College
- Connecticut College
- Daemen College
- Messiah College
- Simmons University
- Stevenson University

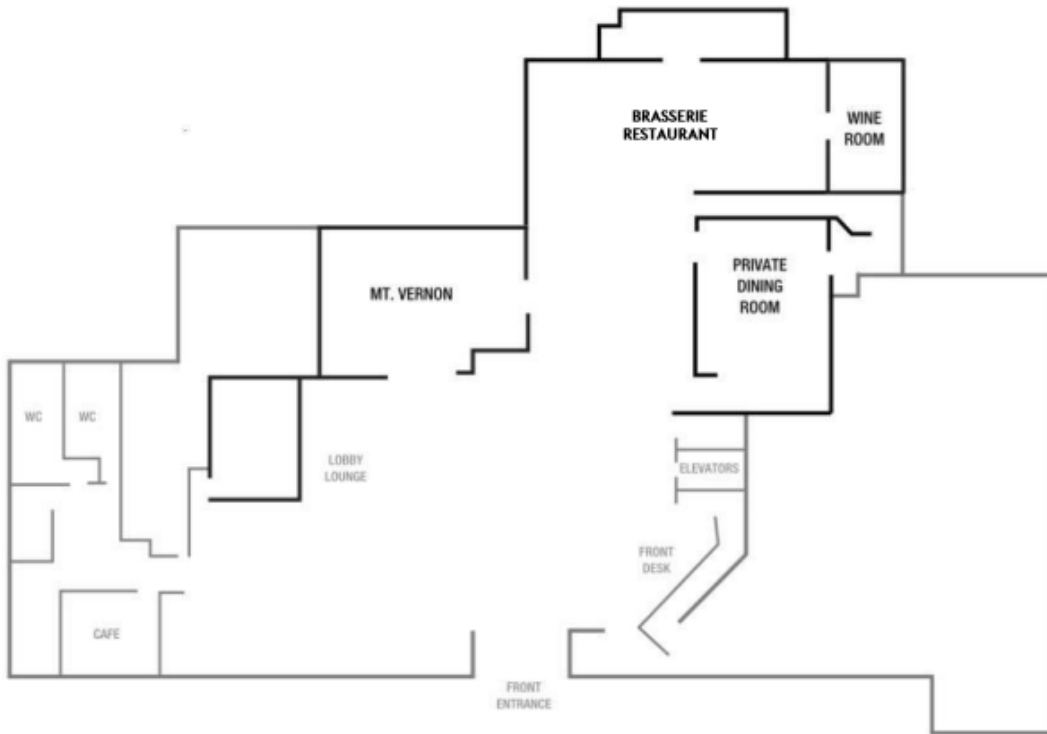
Group B (Potomac)

- Alaska Pacific University
- Augustana University
- Bethany College
- Gustavus Adolphus College
- Lewis & Clark College
- St. Mary's University (TX)
- University of Denver

Group C (City Center)

- Berry College
- Butler University
- Fisk University
- Franklin College
- Hollins University
- Mars Hill University
- Oberlin College
- Reinhardt University
- Rust College
- Saint Mary's College (IN)
- University of Findlay
- Wofford College

lobby level



lower lobby level

