Call for Proposals

[Submit Now](). Deadline is October 5

Meeting Overview

The [Community for Advancing Discovery Research in Education (CADRE)](), the resource network for DR K-12 grantees, is pleased to host the 2010 DR K-12 PI Meeting. The overarching goal of the meeting is to engage the DR K-12 community in building and sharing new knowledge, best practices, and tools critical to increasing the impact and sustainability of our work over time. To this end and with advice and guidance from the PI meeting advisors* and the evaluation of the 2009 DR K-12 PI Meeting, CADRE is designing the PI meeting to provide opportunities for networking and substantive conversations. CADRE looks forward to welcoming nearly 400 participants, including NSF grantees, program managers and guests, to the meeting. Grantees will attend from the Instructional Materials Development (IMD), Teacher Professional Continuum (TPC), and Discovery Research for K-12 Learning (DR K-12) programs within the National Science Foundation's Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings.

Session Proposals

To foster collaboration, this year's meeting will feature fewer plenary presentations, and offer more opportunities for informal conversations and working group activities. In addition, CADRE invites proposals for grantee-led sessions that are responsive to the goals of the meeting and address the guidelines below in one of the suggested formats. All proposals will be vetted and the final agenda will represent a combination of sessions and opportunities that are varied in structure, content, and presenters representing the diversity that is emblematic of DR K-12.

Panels, Presentations, and Structured Poster Sessions[1]: Through this Call for Proposals, CADRE encourages grantees to develop sessions with colleagues across institutions and projects that go beyond a simple showcase of project work. Rather, these sessions should address multiple perspectives and approaches to questions and challenges, setting the stage for discussion about the issues that these differences highlight, areas of alignment, findings, and suggestions for further exploration.

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[1] Structured poster sessions may vary slightly in format, but generally feature a collection of conceptually linked projects, brief introductions to projects' work, opportunities for attendees to visit individual posters and engage in more depth with presenters, and a portion of the session devoted to large group discussion of overarching issues or questions.

As an example, a grantee working on a project that is developing curriculum materials for English Language Learners might contact DR K-12 colleagues who are doing related work and collectively define a theme and common concern on which to focus a session. To identify related projects and potential collaborators, the grantee might search for the keywords "English Language Learners" and "Curriculum" using Project Smart Search on CADREK12.org. Together the presenters may find that they approach the challenge of developing assessments differently and decide to ask an assessment expert to join a panel presentation. During the session, there is a clear focus on the identified challenge, as the assessment expert offers his/her perspective and each of the curriculum developers presents their approach and findings to date, allowing ample time for discussion and questions.

Please submit proposals that focus on the most compelling questions, challenges, and findings within the following topic areas: STEM content, teacher and student learning, research and evaluation design and methodology, effective collaboration, dissemination, and sustainability. For those who are interested in finding colleagues engaged in work that may, when paired together, create the basis for a compelling session, we encourage you to use Project Smart Search at CADRE K12.org. You may also contact CADRE@edc.org for information about possible matching projects. If you haven't already done so, please log onto CADREK12.org to update your project description and assign keywords that will help others find and learn about your project.

Product Showcase and Feedback Sessions: Many IMD, TPC and DR K-12 projects are creating products and instruments such as curriculum units, virtual environments, observation protocols, assessment instruments, etc. The product showcase and feedback sessions are meant to focus on product – participant interaction that provides both the presenter(s) and participant with an opportunity to explore possible additional uses, adaptations and customizations, and/or refinements of a product. For example, in some cases it would be helpful to have a group engage in critical feedback during the development stage of a product such as a virtual game. In other cases, participants might want to consider if and how a product, e.g., a teacher content knowledge assessment instrument, may be used in their work and if customization is required, what that would entail. In these "hands-on" sessions, the product should be available to the participants during the session. *We also encourage those with products to feature them at the poster sessions. Please let us know if you have a product to feature so that we can best accommodate you.*

Project Management and Implementation Round Tables: In addition, this is a Call for Proposals specifically targeting those of you who have experience, tools, and expertise to share in the areas of: working with school districts, IRBs, budgeting, collaborating with partners across institutions and disciplines, samples and attrition, staffing projects, and other project implementation issues. We encourage you to facilitate a round table. The meeting will include a session during which each table will focus on a challenge related to project management and implementation. Facilitators are expected to introduce the topic, present key challenges, and encourage discussion about various approaches taken or conceived.

Proposal Submission Instructions

Please submit your proposal online by October 5, 2010. Since you will not be able to return to the site and edit your submission, you may want to prepare all the information in advance using the attached template.

Proposals Should Include:
- Presenter(s) information (Name, organization, contact information, project title)
- Session title
- Content area(s) of STEM
- Topic or product
- Question, issue, or challenge that is the primary focus of the session
- Session summary (limited to 25 words)
- Session description (limited to 500 words, no graphics; include the objectives and structure of the session)
- Session format (Panels, Presentations, or Structured Abstract Sessions; Product Showcase and Feedback Sessions; Round Tables)

Presenters: Lead presenters must be grantees invited to the 2010 DR K-12 PI meeting. (The current list of invitees is available here.) Each presenter is allowed to lead only one session, but may be a co-presenter on more than one session. Please complete the information section for all the presenters and indicate who will be the main contact.

Review Process: Proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria, and the session contact person will be notified by mid-October if their session is chosen for inclusion in the meeting.

Criteria for selection:
- Collaboration that provides multiple perspectives and examples of a theme, approaches to a challenge, and/or responses to a question
- Consideration of compelling questions, issues, challenges, and findings that might inform the work of PIs on other projects.
- Plan to share instruments, tools, or other products with the intent of soliciting feedback
- Complete and clear proposal
- Plan for participation interaction and active engagement in the presentation
- Contribute to a diverse (in terms of content, participants, and structure) and substantive meeting

Additional Information

Scheduling: All concurrent sessions will be scheduled for two hours on either December 2nd or 3rd. If you would like to make a special scheduling request (if, for instance, you are not available to present at a particular time or would like a shorter or longer session), please contact us directly.

Room Set-up and AV: Unless you request otherwise, you can expect each meeting room to be set up in rounds and to have easel paper and markers available. However, laptops, extension cords, speakers, and LCD projectors will not be available in all rooms. If you need these items but cannot bring your own, please let us know. In addition, we cannot guarantee that all rooms will have Internet connectivity. Please let us know if the internet is essential for your session.

Presentation Materials: All presenters are expected to submit their PowerPoint presentations, papers, or other materials related to the session prior to the meeting in order to be made available on CADREK12.org. If these materials should not be released beyond the CADRE community, please let us know. *Please use proper citations for all referenced materials.*

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QUESTIONS? Call 617-618-2418 or email us at cadre@edc.org.

* 2010 PI Meeting Advisors: Gary Benenson, Daniel Chazan, Chad Dorsey, Eugenia Etkina, Mary Hobbs, Andy Izsak, Karen King, Clifford Konold, Okhee Lee, Jan Mokros, Betty Zan