# NORTH CAROLINA CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT



Hope in the Face of High Waters and Headwinds:

Deepening Engagement in Challenging Times

JUNE 13, 2024

Time	Agenda at a Glance	Location
8:30 a.m.	Check-in and Continental Breakfast	Moseley Center
	Welcome and Opening Plenary Session	
9:00 a.m.	High Waters and Headwinds: A Conversation about the Higher Education Civic Engagement Movement Today	McKinnon Hall E-F
	Nancy Thomas, Executive Director Institute for Democracy and Higher Education (IDHE)	
	Leslie Garvin, Executive Director NC Campus Engagement	
10:15 a.m 11:15 a.m.	Breakout Sessions - Block I	See session information
11:25 a.m 12:25 p.m.	Breakout Sessions - Block II	See session information
12:30 p.m.	Lunch	McKinnon Hall E-F
1:15 p.m.	Group Walk/Outdoor Time (optional)	Elon Campus
1:50 p.m 2:50 p.m.	Afternoon Plenary Session	McKinnon Hall E-F
	Balancing Act: Nurturing Empathy and Resilience in Community-Engaged Endeavors	
	Allison Walker, Director of Service Learning, High Point University	
	Snacks!	
3:00 p.m 3:40 p.m.	Community Conversations/Roundtables	McKinnon Hall Moseley 215
3:45 p.m 4:05 p.m.	Share Outs	
4:05 p.m 4:30 p.m.	Closing Session: Facing the High Waters & Headwinds with Hope	McKinnon Hall E-F

#### **Opening Plenary Session**

High Waters and Headwinds: A Conversation about the Higher Education Civic Engagement Movement Today

Nancy and Leslie will reflect on the state of higher education civic engagement and the challenges and opportunities presented by the current climate and context.



Nancy Thomas, JD, EdD Executive Director of the Institute for Democracy & Higher Education (IDHE) & Senior Advisor to the President for Democracy Initiatives at the American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U)

An applied research center, IDHE's mission is to strengthen student learning for and institutional commitment to a more inclusive and robust democracy. IDHE's research-to-practice areas include educating for a democracy in question, the role of

colleges and universities in redesigning and sustaining a more aspirational democracy, improving discussion and discussion teaching on campuses, and campus climates for engagement in democracy, balancing speech and inclusion, academic freedom, and elections as catalysts for year-round political learning. Prior to relocating to AAC&U, Dr. Thomas founded and designed Tufts University's National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE), the nation's largest study of college student voting and civic participation. Dr. Thomas has published extensively on these topics. She serves on several advisory boards and committees, including the U.C. National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement, the Andrew Goodman Foundation, and the Faculty Engagement Network. She holds a BA from St. Lawrence University, a JD from Case Western Reserve School of Law, and an EdD from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.



Leslie Garvin, MSW Executive Director of North Carolina Campus Engagement

Leslie joined NCCE 18 years ago after serving in the community leadership development and interfaith service and dialogue fields. A skilled facilitator and trainer, she has trained hundreds of faculty, staff, students, and community partners across the state and country in multiple dialogue methods. She is a Collaborative Discussion Coach, Theater of the Oppressed facilitator, and Braver Angels moderator.

Leslie serves as Vice Chair of the Board of the National Issues Forum and as a member of the Board of Directors of You Can Vote. She is a member of the National Advisory Committee (NAC) of the Carnegie Community Engagement Elective Classification and the Advisory Board of guides.vote. She is a member of the Commission on the Future of NC Elections and chairs the Election Administration and Infrastructure committee. In February 2024, NC Governor Roy Cooper appointed Leslie to the NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service. She holds an MSW and a BA from Washington University in St. Louis. Leslie is a former UC National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement Fellow, a White-Riley-Peterson Policy Fellow and a proud AmeriCorps alum.

#### **Afternoon Plenary Session**

#### Balancing Act: Nurturing Empathy and Resilience in Community-Engaged Endeavors

In today's ever-evolving academic landscape, community-engaged professionals face many challenges. From dwindling financial support to navigating complex political pressures surrounding free speech and inclusivity, the journey can often feel daunting. However, despite these headwinds, there exists a transformative approach rooted in the power of empathy, resilience, and self-care.

Empathy plays a vital role in navigating the complexities of interdisciplinary collaboration and cross-sector partnerships. By cultivating a deep sense of empathy for diverse perspectives and experiences, community-engaged professionals can bridge divides, build trust, and co-create innovative solutions to complex challenges. This empathic approach fosters inclusive dialogue, encourages meaningful participation, and empowers community members to take ownership of their collective future.

However, the journey towards compassionate engagement and resilience cannot be fully realized without prioritizing self-care. As defined by the World Health Organization, self-care encompasses intentional habits that nurture physical, spiritual, mental, emotional, and social well-being. It is a transformative practice that empowers individuals to maintain their health, cope with challenges, and cultivate resilience in the face of adversity.

In essence, empathy and self-care intertwine to form a holistic framework for navigating the complexities of our field by prioritizing human connection, holistic well-being, and sustainable partnerships. This empathic approach not only enriches community-engaged scholarship but also fosters meaningful social change, ultimately paving the way for a more just, inclusive, and resilient society.



Allison S. Walker, MFA
Director of Service Learning, High Point University,
Center for Community Engagement

A graduate of the University of Alaska Anchorage, Allison S. Walker received her M.F. A. in Creative Writing in 2004 and joined High Point University in 2009. She directs the Service Learning program and the Civic Responsibility and Social Innovation interdisciplinary minor in the Center for Community Engagement and teaches in the department of English and the Communications and Business Leadership graduate

program. Her poems and photography have appeared in numerous literary journals and her recent scholarly work in the *Community Literacy Journal*, *The Journal of Writing Analytics*, and the edited collection, *Teaching Writing in the Health Professions: Perspectives, Problems, and Practices*, published by Routledge in 2023. Her research interests include narrative medicine, deliberative dialogue, and empathy studies. She directs HPU LifeLines, a service learning initiative that harnesses the healing power of the creative arts by connecting students with residents of local assisted living and after-school programs.

Allison is mom to a grownish daughter studying environmental policy at UNC Asheville and caregiver to two cats, some assorted chickens, and several hives of backyard bees. In her spare time, Allison teaches horseback riding and yoga, sometimes simultaneously, and volunteers as a vet tech for the Feral Cat Assistance Program. She's an avid bookworm, a live music lover, and she's as happy hiking in the middle of nowhere as she is on a crowded train in a faraway land.

#### **General Conference Information**

#### **SESSION LOCATIONS**

There are four breakout rooms (all in Moseley). Two are on the first floor: McKinnon D (connected to the main plenary room by the front door of the building) and Moseley 105 A. Two are upstairs: 215 and 216. Stairs or an elevator are available.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Many thanks to our plenary speakers, Nancy Thomas and Allison Walker, as well as all the workshop presenters, for sharing their knowledge and insights.

Thanks to the Elon University events and facilities teams.

#### **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS/REQUESTS**

Food buffet items are labeled appropriately by Elon's catering service so you may make the best personal choices throughout the day.

#### **MEDIA OPT-OUT**

Visit the check-in table to obtain an "optout" sticker to be placed on your name badge if you do not wish to be included in event photos.

#### **RECYCLING**

Please use the containers appropriately marked for this purpose. Recycle your name badge at check-in table, as you leave this afternoon. Please note that all paper plates, cups, and utensils are compostable.

#### **RESOURCE GIVEAWAY**

Visit the resource tables to review publications and resources. Submit your name for the door prize drawing. You must be present to win and choose your prize.

#### **Workshop Key**

#### Standard Workshop

These 60 minute sessions are intended to help participants deepen their understanding and/or practice of community and civic engagement. They are offered in the following categories: Program Management and Sustainability, Innovation, Community Partnership Development, Research & Theory, and Student Leadership and Development.

#### Community Conversations/Roundtables

These are interactive group conversations about CCE topics, issues, or models. After the 40 minute conversation, each group will reconvene in the main plenary space to share highlights of their discussion.

#### Breakout Session Block I



10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

#### People-Powered Philanthropy: Giving Circles as a Tool for Change

Innovation

Location: McKinnon D

Giving circles, where groups of people come together and collectively decide where to make a pooled gift, is exploding in popularity! University instructors are using this model to introduce students to philanthropy by hosting one-off events that bring the community together for inthe-moment giving. Join this workshop to learn why collective giving is important, how it can benefit communities, and how to implement this model at your institution.

Ilyasah Shabazz, Senior Operations and Communications Director, Philanthropy Together

#### **Grounding Community-Based Programs in Sociological Mindfulness**

Student Leadership and Development; Research & Theory Location: Moseley 105 A (Ward Octagon)

How do we have conversations about society and systems with students in a responsible and ethical way? Michael Schwalbe introduced the concept of sociological mindfulness as "the practice of tuning into how the social world works". In this session, I will share concepts from Schwalbe's The sociologically examined life: Pieces of the conversation to encourage transformative learning through CBL.

Katelyn Bodwell, Program Officer for Community Engagement, UNC-Chapel Hill

#### High Impact Community Engaged Learning Experiences: A New Framework and Toolkit for **Success**

Program Management and Sustainability; Innovation

Location: Moseley 215

This session will provide an overview of Applied Learning and High Impact Practices (HIPs) at UNCW and how those concepts are integrated with Community Engaged Learning. The presenters will walk participants through a toolkit that was developed to help both faculty and practitioners identify ways to strengthen experiential learning experiences, like Community Engaged Learning, so that they are truly high impact.

Jaime Russell, Director, Student Community Engagement, UNC Wilmington James DeVita, Director of High Impact Pathways, UNC Wilmington

#### Partnerships: Where are we? Where do we want to be?

Institution-level Data Tracking: Strategies for Success

Location: Moseley 216

Advancing a coordinated approach to engagement poised to move the needle on topics of key institutional and community priority requires a strategic approach to data. When done well, institutions can use engagement data to successfully increase understanding of and buy-in for engaged work, advocate for its recognition in promotion and tenure policies, and ultimately develop a broader acceptance of engagement as a key strategy for accomplishing institutional goals. This session will help institutions think about how they identify data needs and develop strategies for data collection in support of these efforts.



Breakout Session Block II 🕴 11:25 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.

#### Showcasing Campus-Community Engagement: Carolina Engagement Week and More

Program Management and Sustainability; Innovation

Location: McKinnon D

Learn ways the Carolina Center for Public Service, UNC Rural and others bring stakeholders together to highlight university-community engagement at UNC-Chapel Hill, with a focus on Carolina Engagement Week's progress over the past three years. Attendees also will have the opportunity to share ways they showcase engagement and to brainstorm new ideas together.

Margaret Barrett, Associate Director, Carolina Center for Public Service, UNC-Chapel Hill Adam Sotak, Associate Director, UNC Rural, UNC-Chapel Hill Gabby Diekmann, Communications Specialist, UNC Rural at UNC-Chapel Hill

#### **Boundary spanning Strategies to Enhance Faculty-Practitioner Partnerships**

Innovation; Research & Theory

Location: Moseley 105 A (Ward Octagon)

Translating knowledge and culture between stakeholder groups is a key component of building effective partnerships with respect to community engagement. While boundary spanning is well described in existing literature, practical frameworks can be used in specific contexts to guide practice. A group of Society for Experiential Education (SEE) fellows recently developed a framework for boundary spanning based on lived experiences in these spaces. This workshop will describe our collaborative process and collective learning experiences.

Dennis McCunney, Director, Intercultural Affairs, East Carolina University

#### Communiversity Partnership: Social Justice and Community Engagement

Innovation; Student Leadership and Development

Location: Moseley 215

During the academic year 2023-24, Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People Inc. (DCABPI) has worked with 50+ NC Central University student interns from multiple departments through service-learning courses to further implement a national model initiative for social justice and community engagement. Come learn about this collaboration exemplifying sustained, reciprocal, mutually beneficial, community-campus engagement.

Calleen Herbert, Director, Office of Community Engagement and Service, NC Central University Rosa Anderson, Student Support Services Manager, College of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, NC Central University

Rick Leggett, Social Justice Coordinator/Grant Writer, Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People Inc. (DCABPI)

#### Innovating Campus Pantry Inclusivity: Nurturing Communities Beyond Hunger

Program Management and Sustainability; Innovation

Location: Moseley 216

This interactive workshop will challenge typical pantry operations to expand to inclusive measures that consider all individuals and their dependents. Topics of discussion include four domains of inclusivity innovation: pet inclusivity, cultural inclusivity, unconventional student inclusivity, and dietary inclusivity. (continued on the next page)

Developments in these growth areas can create equitable resources for all individuals interested in utilizing a campus pantry.

Calvin Rausch, NCCE HungerCorps AmeriCorps VISTA, Duke University
Patti Clayton, Practitioner Scholar in Residence-NC Campus Engagement, Senior Scholar-UNC
Greensboro

#### Community Conversations ♦ 3:00 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.

#### Organizing to Support Broader Impacts Research Collaboration

Location: McKinnon D

At urbanCORE, we are leveraging our internal organizational structure and growing partnership with the Division of Research to strengthen the support we provide to UNC Charlotte's faculty researchers and community collaborators. We implemented a new process to assist research teams applying for federal funding, as they are increasingly called to demonstrate community and social impact. Please join us to discuss lessons learned and future directions for Broader Impacts support.

Holly Middleton, Associate Director of Engaged Scholarship, urbanCORE, UNC Charlotte Toye Watson, Director of Community Impact, urbanCORE, UNC Charlotte

#### Free Speech and Brave Spaces: The Promise of Pluralist Approaches

Location: Moseley 215

How can we use interfaith programming and pluralist approaches to encourage freedom of speech while also minimizing inter-personal hostility? This roundtable will explore the roles of interfaith spaces and pluralist approaches to building bridges and reducing conflict on our campuses.

Maggie Commins, Shelton Professor of Political Science, Chair, Queens University of Charlotte Adrian Bird, Chaplain, Belk Chapel, Queens University of Charlotte Mayah McNelly and Sheelove Knowles, Students, Queens University of Charlotte

### Tapping Deep Roots and Nurturing Seeds of Hope to Improve Civic Health: Leveraging the 2024 North Carolina Civic Health Index (NC-CHI) to Support Higher Education CCE

Location: McKinnon F-F

NCCE convened a team of state-based education partners to produce the 4th NC-CHI, which was just released in April. In this session we will discuss the findings and explore how the higher education community engagement field can leverage this data to advance our work, and help North Carolina fulfill its civic potential.

Leslie Garvin, Executive Director, NC Campus Engagement

#### Mark your Calendars! 2024-25 NCCE Events

Stay posted to the website for deails: www.nccampusengagement.org

NCCE Summer Network Meeting & Open House July 31, 2024

Location: Elon University

10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (Meeting) 2:40 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Open House)



REGISTER >>>>

Gain professional development on the topic "Envisioning and Leading Institutional Change," share and hear highlights from campuses, and get NCCE updates. Lunch provided. Free, but registration required.

You are also invited to visit the new NCCE office immediately following the meeting.

2024 NC College Voter Summit September 13, 2024

Location: Elon University



Join us for the longest-running state Summit in the nation focused on student election engagement. The Summit is sponsored by the NC Campus Voting Coalition that NCCE coordinates. Stay posted to the website: https://nccampusengagement.org/nc-college-voter-summit/ Or Like and Follow @ncvotersummit on IG

Community Change Collegiate Challenge (4C) November 9, 2024 Location TBD



Save the date for 4C, a biennial competition that invites student teams to engage in thoughtful investigation into a pre-announced topic within the context of their own campus. Teams design a proposed course of action for their school to address the challenge, and present to a panel of judges for the chance to win cash prizes.

2025 PACE Conference & Presidents Forum February 12, 2025

Location: Guilford Technical Community College

Conference Center



2025 marks the 26th PACE conference for faculty, administrators, researchers, community partners, and graduate students who want to gain skills, knowledge and best practice models for a spectrum of community and civic engagement pedagogies and practices.

### **NCCE MEMBERS**

**Alamance Community College** 

Appalachian State University

Bennett College

Catawba College

Central Piedmont Community College

**Davidson College** 

Davidson-Davie Community College

**Duke University** 

**Durham Tech Community College** 

East Carolina University

Elizabeth City State University

**Elon University** 

Fayetteville State University

Greensboro College

**Guilford College** 

**Guilford Technical Community College** 

**High Point University** 

Lenoir-Rhyne University

Mars Hill University

**Methodist University** 

NC A & T State University

**NC Central University** 

NC Independent Colleges & Universities

**NC State University** 

**Piedmont Community College** 

Queens University of Charlotte

Randolph Community College

**UNC** Asheville

**UNC-Chapel Hill** 

**UNC Charlotte** 

**UNC Greensboro** 

**UNC** Pembroke

UNC School of the Arts

**UNC Wilmington** 

Wake Forest University

Wake Tech Community College

Warren Wilson College

Western Carolina University

William Peace University

Wingate University

Winston-Salem State University

### **NOTES**

## NCCE IN ACTION 2023-24







