Curriculum & Pedagogy
Program Committee Report 2011

Co-Chairs: Debra Freedman and Jennifer Snow
Committee Members: Erik Malewski, Jennie Stearns, and Cole Reilly

Proposals

The Program Committee set a “priority deadline” of June 30, 2011. Note:

“Proposals received by June 30, 2011 are given priority in terms of placement on the program. Because of the peer review and schedule development processes, proposals received after July 30, 2011 may not be guaranteed a spot.”

The Call for Proposals also differed this year in that the theme was largely “open” with some guiding questions and the C&P founding framework to guide proposal writers.

Another new deadline included the following note in the CFP:

“PRESENTERS MUST BE REGISTERED TO HAVE PRESENTATION APPEAR ON THE PROGRAM. IN THE CASE OF MULTIPLE AUTHORS, AT LEAST ONE PRESENTER MUST BE REGISTERED FOR THE PRESENTATION TO APPEAR. IF REGISTRATION IS NOT COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2011 YOUR PRESENTATION WILL NOT BE LISTED ON THE PROGRAM.”

Additionally, 2011 is the first year for several initiatives (discussions archived on wiki).

- No strands for proposals. (other than Mentoring or a Colouring Curriculum & Pedagogy designation, the strands that have been used in the past to sort proposals were not in play). This also meant no “strand chairs,” and the Program Committee solicited proposal reviewers from Council and the membership at large.

- Workshops – another designation was the opportunity to propose three-hour workshops on the program.

- Field Trips also became a part of the program highlights

Town Halls

As the Program developed, the Program Committee created a Call for Town Hall Proposals. Activism and varied perspectives on the work of C&P were submitted for an initial Town Hall designed to focus on working groups throughout the conference (and after). Additionally, seed money was proposed and approved (up to $500) by Council to support the work of these groups.
Proposal Submission and Acceptance Information

Approximately 110 proposals were submitted by July 31 deadline. Most were accepted, some with minor revisions. Reminders were sent out before and after the early registration deadline so that authors were warned before their names were removed from the program. At least one author needed to have registered to remain on the program.

Printed Program

As in 2010, the Program Committee created an online program including all presentation abstracts and presenter information. The printed program had titles, authors, and times, but did not include the abstracts and other extraneous information in order to reduce paper use and printing costs.

Challenges and Possibilities

Challenges

- Encouraging enough proposals submitted in a timely manner. While, it was also an accomplishment to receive so many proposals by July 31, 2011. We would attribute this largely to our “priority” deadline and sticking to the final deadline. We also sent multiple communications to multiple sources in order to reach as many potential presenters as possible. We strongly encourage similar work for the Program Committee in the future. As well, the following statement worked:

  “PRESENTERS MUST BE REGISTERED TO HAVE PRESENTATION APPEAR ON THE PROGRAM. IN THE CASE OF MULTIPLE AUTHORS, AT LEAST ONE PRESENTER MUST BE REGISTERED FOR THE PRESENTATION TO APPEAR. IF REGISTRATION IS NOT COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2011 YOUR PRESENTATION WILL NOT BE LISTED ON THE PROGRAM.”

However the committee suggests a minor change for next year:

  “PRESENTERS MUST BE REGISTERED TO HAVE THEIR NAMES APPEAR ON THE PROGRAM. IN THE CASE OF MULTIPLE AUTHORS, AT LEAST ONE PRESENTER MUST BE REGISTERED FOR THE PRESENTATION TO APPEAR. IF REGISTRATION IS NOT COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2011 YOUR PRESENTATION WILL NOT BE LISTED ON THE PROGRAM.”

- Encouraging participation in Town Hall presentations that work toward generating policy for support (fiscal and otherwise) for activist projects stemming from work at the conference annually. The 2011 Program Committee hopes further Council discussion supports this idea and works with it in order to find
something sustainable and in line with the C&P foundational framework.

- **Figuring out a way to organize the program:**
  - to maximize attendance at all presentations;
  - and, to more deliberately/strategically stagger CCP presentations so that fewer of these occur at any given time

**Possibilities**

The committee will be working toward a reorganization of the conference program schedule for 2012. Currently ideas include

- working groups – groups of papers organized around specific topics and scheduled for longer periods of time on the program (multiple days/longer sessions). Perhaps these working groups can develop initiatives that can be further discussed at THs
- reorganization/removal of round table sessions – still in development
- more whole group presentations—not just THs

Respectfully submitted,

*Debra Freedman, Jennifer Snow, Erik Malewski, Jennie Stearns, and Cole Reilly*