

Year of Conversation Initiative

sponsored by the Academic Senate, the President's Office, and the Provost's Office at San Francisco State University

Request for Faculty-Led Workshop Proposals

ABSTRACT

At universities across the nation, we are seeing with alarming regularity increasing conflict and controversy when differing world views and ideas are brought together. Instead of engaging in conversation, or navigating points of disagreement, voices have been silenced, groups have been threatened, and the integrity of free speech and expression has been jeopardized. It is the fundamental mission of any university to question, to explore, to engage, to discuss, to educate, and to serve as safe harbor of free thought. It is in this context that a Year of Conversation is launched. This initiative offers a platform and structure for our community to explore existential questions about what it means to be a university in a world of conflict, what kind of institution we are and want to be, and what our students need from us in order to become tomorrow's leaders.

All proposals to be received in the Senate Office at senate@sfsu.edu by January 26, 2018

Workshop Title:

Eligibility: All faculty (T/TT and lecturers) are eligible to propose a workshop as lead faculty coordinators. All faculty, staff, students, and administrators are eligible to serve as second coordinators.

Faculty Coordinator

Name:

Title:

Department:

Telephone:

Email:

Coordinator #2

Name:

Title (if applicable):

Department:

Telephone:

Email:

Workshop Expectations:

1. Each approved workshop/affinity group will meet four times in Spring 2018 for a suggested 90 minutes per meeting.
2. Workshop leaders will track attendance at each event, including the attendee's department or unit. Attempts should be made to reach out to a broad, diverse audience. While the numbers of participants can be capped, eligibility should not be defined in a way that restricts participants by viewpoint, affiliation, or identity.
3. Each approved workshop will be asked to submit a report at the end of the Spring 2018 semester that outlines the workshop's outcomes, including the attendance sheets and participant feedback, a self-reflection, a summary of how the money was spent, and a description of the leader's efforts to reach a broad/diverse audience
4. Each approved workshop will be open to any member of our campus community who wishes to attend, but there may be restrictions on the size of a workshop or affinity group. Such restrictions might be managed on a first-come-first-serve basis.

5. Each approved workshop should address the central theme of this initiative: “How to be a University in a World of Conflict”.

Workshop Proposal Parameters

1. Workshop Description (Limit 150 words)
2. How will this workshop advance and develop the theme ‘How to be a university in a world of conflict’? (Limit 300 words)
3. How will this workshop explore ideas that cross disciplinary boundaries or invite divergent institutional perspectives? (Limit 300 words)
4. How will this workshop foster campus conversation and contribute to community building at SF State? (Limit 300 words)
5. Additional comments (Limit 300 words)
6. Proposed budget (up to \$1,000) that outlines projected expenses for the workshop (e.g., books, photocopying, invited speakers, etc.).