

Call for Proposals

“In all affairs it's a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted.” - Bertrand Russell

You are invited to join the 6th annual conference of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Bloomington, Indiana, USA, October 22-25, 2009. This multidisciplinary, international community of scholars will convene to share evidence-based insights and theoretical frameworks that enhance our understanding of student learning and guide our teaching practices. To be held on the beautifully scenic, academically renowned, and culturally rich Bloomington campus of Indiana University, the conference will feature workshops facilitated by leading scholars in the field, distinguished international plenary speakers, panel presentations, individual paper and poster presentations, and roundtable discussions. Please join us!

2009 Conference Themes

Solid Foundations, Emerging Knowledge, and Shared Futures in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

The conference will have three themes, each with multiple threads as follows:

❖ **Solid Foundations**

Scholarship builds on earlier thinking: questioning, testing, and modifying it; looking for transferable frameworks; and sharing it with others who may use it in other contexts. Presentations in this theme may include:

- Situated views of theory in scholarship of teaching and learning (SOTL)
- Disciplinary foundations of teaching, learning, and SOTL
- Pathways into, through, and beyond SOTL
- The geographical, demographic, historical, and culturally diverse contexts and imperatives influencing learning and teaching
- Contributions of indigenous perspectives of knowledge, learning, and teaching to understandings of SOTL

❖ **Emerging Knowledge**

Emerging knowledge and contexts catalyze scholarly conversations. New student populations, new economic realities, new technologies, and diverse traditions present both opportunities and challenges for learning, teaching, and SOTL. Presentations in this theme may include:

- Emerging approaches to teaching and learning with technology
- Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches to teaching, learning, and SOTL
- Difficult dialogues and challenging areas of teaching and inquiry
- New and transitioning students and new knowledge
- The politics of teaching and learning: new imperatives and accountabilities
- The culture(s) of teaching and learning: influences and impacts

- Explorations of new and alternative SOTL genres

❖ **Shared Futures**

Given the multiple points of view we bring to ISSOTL conversations—derived from our diverse cultural, institutional, and disciplinary contexts, experiences, values, and beliefs—what sort of future do we envision for SOTL and our work together through ISSOTL? This theme aims to make explicit these perspectives while sharing visions on where we go from here; the impact on students, academics, and institutions; what constitutes evidence of change; and what factors determine the extent and lasting impact of change. Presentations in this theme may include:

- Critical perspectives on SOTL
- Understanding how the multiple points of view we bring to SOTL are constructed, how they intersect, and how they affect our understandings of SOTL and the teaching/learning paradigm
- Collaborative and comparative scholarship among scholars, institutions, nations
- New kinds of scholarship, including ones involving emerging technologies, and the questions and methodologies they compel us to pursue
- Approaches to sustaining SOTL
- Learning communities and institutional approaches in SOTL
- Authentic assessment of student learning
- Graduate education and SOTL by graduate students
- Undergraduate research and SOTL by undergraduates

For more information: www.issotl.org or issotl09@indiana.edu

Presentation Formats

Concurrent sessions will be organized by threads within each theme to aid conference attendees in making informed decisions about which presentations to attend. During the electronic submission process, proposal authors will be asked to indicate the thread relevant for their presentation.

Panels

We especially invite the Society's members to help shape the conference through organized panels that discuss important and timely topics. Panel sessions may be most useful to consider topics that benefit from multiple perspectives, including disciplinary, institutional, and national approaches, synergies, and tensions. The goal for panel presentations is to provide panelists and audience members the opportunity to exchange perspectives, engage in discussion, and learn from each other's experiences. Panels

- feature two or three presenters.
- may be organized, proposed, and chaired by a person not presenting.
- representing two or more countries represented are especially sought.
- will last 90 minutes (for 2 presenters 35 minutes each; 3 presenters 20 minutes each) and include at least 15 minutes for discussion.

Panel proposals should be submitted by the panel organizer and must include:

- a summary (75 words) of the panel as a whole
- an abstract (500 words) of the panel as a whole
- an abstract (up to 500 words) for each presentation within the panel
- a designation of who will be the session chair (one of the presenters or an additional person)

Papers and Concurrent Sessions

We invite proposals for single paper presentations on completed scholarly projects. The goal of these sessions is to share knowledge and encourage critical dialogue among conference participants. Individual paper presentations

- will last a maximum of 30 minutes each, including time for questions and discussion. The organization of each presentation should allow adequate time for discussion.
- will be grouped into sessions of three, with a total time of 90 minutes. The third presenter in the series will chair the session.

Paper proposals should:

- address one or more of the conference threads
- include a summary (75 words)
- include an abstract (up to 500 words)
- indicate the literatures, methods, evidence, and conclusions in play.

Posters

We invite poster presentations for sharing scholarly work that would benefit from interactive and collaborative discussion. The poster session is a well-attended event that is particularly useful for presenting emerging work but may also be an excellent means of engaging in detailed dialogue about completed projects. ISSOTL will provide the backing boards and other materials for displaying the posters. Poster proposals should include:

- the focus of the inquiry
- the way(s) in which it contributes to current scholarship
- the presentation's connections to the themes of the conference
- a summary (75 words)
- an abstract (up to 500 words)

Workshops

We invite proposals for workshops in both the pre-conference (2 or 4 hours) and the conference (90 minutes) sessions. Workshops are interactive sessions (not presentations) that teach, develop, and explore questions, literatures, methods, theories, possibilities, and solutions. Workshops may or may not address the conference themes. Workshop proposals should include:

- the names of the workshop facilitator(s)
- the leaders' relevant experience for this workshop
- the learning goals and outcomes for the workshop
- plans for participants' engagement
- a summary (75 words)
- an abstract (up to 500 words)

Workshop topics may include:

- introducing an interesting research method underused in SOTL
- demonstrating innovative means of developing and sharing ideas
- describing how to establish a SOTL program at an institution
- writing a proposal for a book of contributed essays
- collaborating on a funding proposal
- exploring a theoretical framework for use in SOTL
- developing a SOTL research agenda for a particular field
- convening a working group around a particular SOTL question
- turning innovation and reflection into scholarship, including where, how, and for whom to disseminate and/or publish our scholarly practice

Roundtables

We invite roundtable presentations for topics suitable to group discussions. Roundtables are an ideal format for networking and in-depth, collaborative discussion on a particular topic. Roundtable

presentations may include 10-15 minutes of presentation, followed by discussion and feedback. Roundtable presenters should bring targeted questions to pose to others at the table in order to learn from and with those attending. Presenters are encouraged to bring handouts. Attendees will not sign up in advance and may move from one roundtable to another to follow their interests. The conversation topic will be displayed on a placard at each roundtable. There is no audio/visual equipment available for roundtable sessions. The roundtable session proposals should include:

- the focus of the presentation
- way(s) the session contributes to SOTL
- a summary (75 words)
- an abstract (up to 500 words)

Proposal Submissions

Proposals will be accepted online until May 15, 2009 at <http://issotl09.indiana.edu/>.

Proposal notifications: July 1, 2009

Participation confirmation due for all presentations: July 15, 2009

Each proposal will be reviewed by three international scholars. The proposals will be rated as one of the following: Accept, Accept with minor revisions, or Reject. Where only minor revisions are required, you will have the opportunity to revise and resubmit. The reviewers' decision will be final.

All proposals should be in accordance with local policies for research involving human subjects.

Considerations for Proposals

1. Questions and Rationale

- What important question(s) in the field do you identify?
- Do you demonstrate an understanding of existing scholarship in the field?

2. Theory/Methods

- What theories/methods are you selecting?
- Are they appropriate to your questions and your discipline's ways of knowing?

3. Outcomes

- What evidence do you raise?
- How does your work contribute to understanding of or practice in the field?
- What new areas of further inquiry open with your work?

4. Reflective Critique

- Do you offer a critical/reflective evaluation of your work?

5. Audience Engagement, especially for workshops and roundtables

- What opportunities do you plan for active audience engagement throughout your session?