Aurora Institute Symposium 2020

Request for Presentation Proposals (RFP) Questions

I.   Presentation Title

Please provide a professional title that clearly captures the main idea of your session. (Aurora Institute reserves the right to edit the title. 200-character limit)

II.   Presentation Strand

The majority of Symposium sessions fall into one or more major category or "strand," representing topics that are critical to the field of personalized, competency-based education and related policy and research. Each strand is a carefully curated selection of focused sessions and workshops. Attendees can follow one strand for an in-depth, wide-ranging view of the topic or select multiple sessions and workshops from multiple strands to meet their learning objectives.

Select the **one** strand that you feel best matches the topic and content of your proposal.

1. Designing New Learning Models / Redesign
2. Modernizing Professional Learning
3. Advancing Policy & Advocacy
4. Building an Evidence Base: Research & Evaluation
5. Shifting to Competency-Based Education
6. Advancing Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
7. Ensuring Continuity of Learning
8. Anytime / Anywhere Learning
9. Other

III. __Presentation Format__

Choose one presentation format that is most appropriate for your session. The Symposium Program Committee seeks proposals that foster engaging and interactive learning opportunities for our attendees.

It is highly desirable that sessions incorporate the personalized, competency-based approaches that we seek for students. Across the various presentation formats and strands, we also encourage presentation proposals that target specific nuances of implementation that dig below the surface and unpack big ideas rather than those that are very general in nature.

Design Workshop
In Design Workshops, participants will leave the session with a plan for implementing new learning models in their classroom, school, district, state, or country. The goal of these 2 hour and 15-minute workshops are to assist participants in implementing competency-based, personalized learning models for students. Design Workshops are typically set in table rounds and placed in smaller rooms to allow for maximum interactivity.

Hands-On Workshop
The Hands-On Workshop is a 2 hour and 15-minute interactive enrichment session that allows for a longer in-depth investigation of a particular topic, tool, or practice, and provides hands-on training. Preview materials are encouraged and can be made available prior to the Symposium via the mobile application.

Knowledge Sharing
One-hour knowledge sharing sessions are meant for deep discussion among participants. The discussion leader will spend no more than five minutes introducing the topic(s) and format to kick off the session. This sets the stage for participants to interact and discuss general topics related to specific roles or topics in K-12 next-generation learning.

Seminar
A Seminar is an interactive, one-hour conversation with attendees using a variety of formats to share trends, research, policy, and other information of interest to the field. Session leaders are encouraged to provide preview material on their topic in advance of the Symposium via the dedicated mobile application.

Debate or Panel
In these one-hour sessions, discussants will engage in a lively debate around the selected topic.

Interactive Discussion
Interactive Discussions feature three to four expert presenters engaged in a moderated discussion with dynamic audience participation. The session leaders are encouraged to prepare questions for audience members to reflect on before the session. Interactive Discussions last one hour and are typically placed in larger rooms set in table rounds and allow for audience participation.

Select Your Presentation Format (Choose one):

1. Design Workshop
2. Hands-On Workshop
3. Knowledge Sharing
4. Seminar
5. Debate or Panel
6. Interactive Discussion

IV. <u>Session Abstract</u>

Provide a description of your proposed session. This description will be posted in the program book and mobile app if your proposal is selected. Please note that content copied from other sources (e.g., Microsoft Word) may lose its formatting when pasted into this field. (500-character limit including spaces)

V. <u>Define Your Session Learning Outcomes</u>

In keeping with the competency-based, personalized learning focus of the Symposium, please list three learning outcomes that participants will be able to master and apply as a result of participating in your session. This includes the knowledge and skills that attendees will acquire to implement specific changes in their schools, districts, or states. These outcomes will be listed along with the session abstract in the program book. (170-character limit including spaces per outcome statement)

Learning Outcome #1:

Learning Outcome #2:

Learning Outcome #3:

VI. Describe Presentation Interactivity

Describe how you will deliver the session content and engage attendees throughout your session. Describe how this session will model elements of personalized and competency-based learning, such as quickly getting to know participants, dynamic grouping of participants, multi-modal delivery, and/or learner-driven pace or mastery.

Optional - If you would like to share a video that showcases your school's or district's personalized and/or competency-based model as part of your presentation proposal, please provide the URL below. The video should show examples of personalized, competency-based models in action; focus on students, teachers, and/or education leaders; and be no more than five minutes in length. (500-character limit including spaces)

VII. Target Audience for Session

Target Audience (Choose one):

1. Novice/Beginner
2. Intermediate
3. Expert/Mastery
4. General/All

Grade-Level Focus (Choose all that apply):

1. PreK-5
2. 6-8
3. 9-12
4. Higher Education

VIII.   Alignment to Aurora Institute Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission: The mission of the Aurora Institute (formerly iNACOL) is to drive the transformation of education systems and accelerate the advancement of breakthrough policies and practices to ensure high-quality learning for all.

Vision: We envision a world where all people are empowered to attain the knowledge, skills and dispositions necessary to achieve success, contribute to their communities and advance society.

Our work is also deeply rooted in six Core Values:

Student-Centered: We do everything to focus on what is best for all students. We believe that learning environments should begin and end with the learners in mind, empowering them to participate in shaping their learning experience.

Equity-Driven: Our moral purpose is to transform education such that each child has what they need to develop their full academic, social and personal capacity. We strive to disrupt the structural inequities driving the systems we've inherited. Access to high-quality, appropriately designed learning models and technologies can and should drive equitable opportunities and outcomes.

Future-Focused: We are a forward-leaning, dynamic organization committed to pushing and leading the field beyond incremental improvement toward transformation, inspired by domestic and global innovations and advancements in learning sciences and technologies.

Credible: We are non-partisan. We serve with objectivity and integrity. We activate change by being proximate and responsive to the field.

Knowledge-Driven: We are a learning organization that is grounded in research in learning sciences and technologies. We contribute to and amplify the knowledge base to inform and influence both policy and practice.

Collaborative: We are part of a larger community. We work together with stakeholders and allies to transform conditions and advance the field.

Select up to two of the above Core Values and explain how they will be reflected in your presentation should your proposal be accepted. (500-character limit including spaces)

IX. <u>Additional Questions</u>

Do you grant Aurora Institute permission to record, archive, and broadcast your presentation? (It is your responsibility to ensure you receive permission from all speakers, including any students, to have the session recorded, archived, and/or broadcasted.)

- o Yes
- o No

Will you have any presenters participating from a remote location (via Skype, web conferencing tools, etc.)?

- o Yes
- o No

How long have you been working in the field of personalized and competency-based education?

1. New to the field
2. 1-3 years
3. 4-9 years
4. 10 or more years

In the event that COVID-19 would necessitate a change in our Symposium programming, would you be willing to deliver your session in a remote format (through a technology such as Zoom, Skype, etc.)?
- o Yes
- o No

X. <u>Speaker(s) Information</u>

The lead presenter will be the main point of contact for this proposal and is responsible for all communication with his/her co-presenters.

Presenters' names, titles, and organizations will be used in the Aurora Institute Symposium program book and mobile application. The system requires that you submit unique emails for the lead presenter and any co-presenters, as well as other mandatory information, including a bio. (500-character limit including spaces)

Do not submit placeholder names, email addresses, or contact information. We request that the unique email address used for each presenter also be used to register for the Symposium.

If students are participating in your presentation, please list their information in the presenter fields. Presentations are limited to six presenters.

Required:

    Lead Presenter (First Name, Last Name):

    Organization:

    Title:

    Email:

    Phone:

    City, State:

    Zip Code:

    Twitter Handle:
    Bio (500-character limit including spaces):

Optional - Additional Presenters (up to 5):

    Presenter (First Name, Last Name):

    Organization:

    Title:

    Email:

    Phone:

    City, State:

    Zip Code:

    Twitter Handle:
    Bio (500-character limit including spaces):

XI. Would you like to receive periodic updates on educational transformation from the Aurora Institute?

If yes, enter email address to opt in:

<u>Special Note: Session Learning Materials</u>

Should your proposal be accepted, prior to the Symposium you will be given instructions on how to upload any presentation materials and other collateral for your session to the mobile app. As a means to boost attendance during your session, presenters are encouraged to upload their session slide decks and ancillary materials to the mobile app prior to the Symposium to help attendees select sessions and maximize post-session follow-up.