2019 Spring Faculty Conference
Call For Proposals

# Spaces of Belonging: Fostering an Inclusive Climate for Students, Faculty, and Staff

# **Conference Date: March 16, 2019**

For this year’s Spring Faculty Conference, we invite you to propose breakout sessions that address the multiple forms that belonging and non-belonging take across campus.

In a moment when the politics of cruelty and the targeting of difference are having palpable effects in many of our lives and those of our students, how do we create spaces where all can develop a sense of belonging? Conversely, how do we intervene in “conspiracies of silence” that too often allow both structural and interpersonal marginalization and exclusion to go unchecked?

We welcome proposals from individuals, pairs, and small groups, and encourage a variety of formats that will actively engage participants in working to foster inclusive climates. We are particularly interested in proposals relevant to multiple disciplines and to those working in a variety of roles on campus. Ultimately, we want you to use this conference as an opportunity to share your knowledge, successes, and even failures with colleagues as we collectively work toward Metro’s values of creating and maintaining an open, respectful, engaged, and inclusive climate for all.

Possible session topics could include (but are not limited to):

* Bullying and the exploitation of power differentials in the workplace, classroom, or practicum site.
* Combating practices of silencing and erasure in the classroom or meeting room.
* Differentiating between conflict and abuse in the classroom and workplace, and addressing each dynamically.
* Strategies for actively including linguistically diverse students in classroom activities.
* Antiracist pedagogies across the curriculum.
* Bandwidth recovery for students with histories of trauma, displacement, food or housing instability.
* Combating the “bystander effect” and intervening when we witness injustice on campus.
* Cultural competency in the classroom, the clinic, and the community.
* “Doing the homework” on histories and practices of marginalization and oppression as individuals who may—perhaps unwittingly—benefit from those histories.
* The potentials and pitfalls of calls for “civility” in public discourse.
* Teaching for inclusion in disciplines that often frame themselves as “difference-blind.”

Submit a proposal for a 50-minute breakout session at the Spring Faculty Conference by January 25, 2019, at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FCMWTZH>