



Call for Proposals
Service Learning and Social Justice Programs: The Role of Technology
Swarthmore College, October 24-26, 2008

NITLE invites faculty members, administrators, instructional technologists, and librarians from [participating colleges](#) to submit proposals for “[Service Learning and Social Justice Programs: the Role of Technology](#).” The following will find active participation in this conference to be particularly beneficial:

- faculty members who are incorporating service learning into their courses;
- administrators of campus offices of service learning or of civic/community engagement; and
- instructional technologists and librarians who support the development of relevant curricular and co-curricular programs and projects.

Proposals should explore selected topics—outlined below—related to how digital technology can be used to support the incorporation of service learning and issues of social justice into the curriculum and the co-curriculum. Proposals should be [submitted electronically](#) and are due by June 30, 2008.

Topics

Proposals should describe curricular or co-curricular projects, programs, initiatives, or plans that engage students at participating colleges in service and/or outreach in order to help them learn about and/or improve the community, whether locally or more broadly. The work or plans described might be of any of the following types, or a combination of these:

- Incorporating software applications and digital media into courses with a service learning component. Possible examples include individual or group creation of videos or electronic slideshows, individual or group development and maintenance of online texts and/or websites, or preparation of spatial analyses (e.g., web or GIS mapping of geographic features) for use in community or campus initiatives, policy development, or planning.
- Enabling, recommending, or supporting the use of emerging digital tools such as blogs for communication within and beyond the engaged student community.
- Using digital technologies to develop and expand student understanding of issues relating to the current presidential primaries and election, either within or beyond the classroom.
- Exploring the potential of technologies for responses to and involvement in climate change.
- Utilizing software applications, digital media, and emerging technologies to advance and publicize the programs of civic engagement or service learning offices so as to involve more students, increase awareness in the community, or facilitate access to resources on or beyond the campus.
- Incorporating media into the co-curriculum as students voluntarily engage with their communities and the wider world (e.g., by developing Internet radio stations focusing on social justice, peace, and community topics).
- Fostering community development through the use of students’ knowledge of digital applications or technologies (e.g., by engaging students familiar with GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and other mapping technologies in internships or project work to map or assist in describing features of the local landscape for environmental or civic planning, decision-making, or development, or to collect and analyze information related to local elections).

Suggestions for other topics in these or related areas are welcome and may be sent to Nancy Millichap at nancy.millichap@nitle.org.

Session Formats

Proposals should suggest one or more of the following formats as appropriate for the topic. During the conference, moderators will introduce and close each presentation or panel session on time, distribute handouts, and facilitate questions from the audience.

Presentation Sessions (1-2 presenters): 60-75 minutes

Proposals for presentations of this length should include both a narrative description of the project/program being presented and lessons learned that would be useful to other campuses interested in a similar project or program.

Workshop Sessions (1-2 workshop leaders): 60-120 minutes

We would welcome proposals for short workshops that would enable participants to learn a new skill related to the incorporation of digital technology into service learning programs or to develop a plan for incorporating such technology.

Individual Presentations for Panels: 10-15 minutes

We encourage participants to submit proposals for briefer presentations on specific projects or good ideas that may be combined with those from other participants. Panels will be constructed to facilitate comparisons of programs and discussion of trends, and to focus on approaches to broader issues that campuses face in incorporating technology into their service learning and social justice programs. Panels will be composed to promote interaction among panelists and the audience.

Poster Session: 30-45 minutes

Posters will be set up immediately preceding the conference and will be available for viewing until the end of the conference. Contributors will attend their posters at a designated time to discuss them with other participants. Posters may be in traditional paper form or may be made available digitally on a laptop computer. Conference planners will address questions and technical requirements and provide general support to presenters in advance of the event.

Submission and Review of Proposals

Proposals should be submitted online at

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=9reqpCmGdZp6COzvYhZwggw_3d_3d **no later than June 30th, 2008**. Please direct questions about the proposal process to Nancy Millichap at nancy.millichap@nitle.org.

You will be asked for the following information:

- Title: please give your proposed session a simple and descriptive title.
- Description: the description should be 200 or fewer words and should explain the central idea of your session.
- Type of session: presentation, workshop, panel, poster.
- Target audience: who will benefit from participating in the session you propose?
- Name, title, institution, address, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail address for each session presenter. (You are welcome to submit a proposal for presentation by more than one individual, either from your own institution or another institution participating in the NITLE Network.)

Acceptance

Proposal submitters will be notified of the results of the review process by August 1, 2008.

N.B. All interested in participating in this program—including accepted presenters—must register to participate no later than August 15, 2008. Registration is currently open and is managed on a first-come,

first-served basis. Persons who are eager to participate are encouraged to register early rather than waiting for the outcomes of the proposal review process. Participation in this program costs 7 program units per participant; please consult your campus liaison about your campus's approach to purchasing program units from NITLE.

Location

The conference will be hosted at Swarthmore College's Lang Center for Civic and Social Responsibility. Swarthmore College is located 11 miles southwest of the city of Philadelphia in the borough of Swarthmore, Pennsylvania. The college is a 30-minute drive from Philadelphia. New York and Washington, D.C. are about two hours away.