

Call for Proposals, 2011 Annual Meeting of the American Conference of Academic Deans

The American Conference of Academic Deans (ACAD) is now accepting session and workshop proposals for its 67th annual meeting. The theme of the meeting is ***Academic Leadership: Advancing Liberal Learning for Global Mobility***, and it will be held in conjunction with the Association of American Colleges and Universities' (AAC&U) 97th annual meeting January 26–29, 2011 in San Francisco, CA. Complementing AAC&U's conference theme, ***Global Positioning: Essential Learning, Student Success, and the Currency of U.S. Degrees***, ACAD's annual meeting program features sessions that academic administrators will find useful, challenging, and enriching. Echoing the AAC&U emphasis on “imperatives of changing international economic and political power” and the importance of creativity in meeting the needs of our students, the 2011 ACAD meeting will focus on institutional structures and leadership that successfully advance liberal learning as our world becomes progressively flatter.

ACAD sessions have become known for their emphasis on practice and the use of interactive methods of presentation. We urge all session proposers to consider using case studies, discussion of exemplars, workshops, or other approaches that engage the participants. The most successful sessions invite participants to share their expertise and experiences and incorporate time for activities such as dialog, reflection, and reporting.

We ask you, where appropriate, to work with colleagues from other schools in order to provide sessions with broad interest to our members. We invite proposals from a broad array of institutional perspectives, and we are especially interested in sponsoring sessions that address partnerships between two–year and four–year institutions. Keep in mind that ACAD's membership consists of academic leaders at the dean and provost level, and presentations should address the needs of that population. ACAD sessions also draw attendance from the broader range of AAC&U meeting participants who share our interest in issues at the forefront of academic leadership.

This year's meeting theme particularly invites presenters and participants to look beyond our current structures and processes and to consider how we will sustainably address the challenges presented by our students' needs for more opportunities to learn first–hand about the global community and their role as global citizens. In addition, ACAD always welcomes session proposals that address the professional development of deans and academic administrators.

Other topics addressed in ACAD sessions could include leadership for liberal education outcomes, program assessment, program review, curricular design, hiring and evaluation, or new teaching practices that promote intentional college learning. Recent topics of recurring interest on the ACAD listserv include anything related to tenure (*e.g.*, moving from non–tenure–track to the tenure track, tenure reviews and committee structures), 3–credit vs. 4–credit courses and the resource and policy considerations for switching from one to the other, faculty workload issues, and student course or faculty evaluations.

Proposals should include:

1. The title or topic of your session.
2. A brief narrative (50 words or less, suitable for conference promotional materials) describing the focus of your session.
3. A longer statement (up to two pages) describing the session content, format and context.
4. A brief explanation of how your session will be interactive (small group discussion; case study, etc.). In this section of your proposal, please indicate whether you would be willing to expand your session to a pre- or post-conference workshop format. The Annual Meeting Committee will follow up with you on this point if we select your presentation for a workshop.
5. The names, titles, and institutional affiliations of the session presenters (maximum limit of 3 participants from one institution). Clearly designate one session leader who will be the point of contact with ACAD.
6. Specifics about audiovisual equipment needed—please explain why it is essential to your presentation. (*e.g.*, PowerPoint, overhead projector, etc.)
7. Contact information for session leader in July 2010 (email, mailing address, and FAX)

Proposals are due by July 2, 2010 to Laura Rzepka, Administrative Director, American Conference of Academic Deans, 1818 R Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. Electronic submissions are preferred and can be sent to rzepka@acad-edu.org.

Please visit www.acad-edu.org for more information about ACAD.

We thank you for your time and consideration and encourage you to forward this information to colleagues for their consideration as well. Please contact the ACAD offices at 202-884-7419 if you have questions or need additional information.