



**18th Annual CUWFA Conference
Call for Conference Proposals
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI
May 16-18, 2012**

Reinventing Work/Life: Succeeding in a New Era

CONFERENCE THEME

This year's conference theme "Reinventing Work/Life; Succeeding in a New Era" is a fitting title for the 18th Annual CUWFA Conference as it illustrates current times with optimism for the future of Work/Life.

The past few years have been challenging for our country, our colleges, universities, colleagues, and many of our work-life programs. This conference will explore the current status of workforce initiatives, highlighted by research trends to help propel us into the future with effective strategies.

This conference aims to help us define this vision as we consider fundamental change, new partnerships, and best practices in tough times.

Successful presentations will address innovative developments, best practices, and the skills, knowledge, and abilities necessary to enable work/life program administrators to integrate their programs into higher education to produce organizational change and advance their mission.

Following are just a few ideas for stimulating creative thinking about ways to bridge the gap between inspiration and practice. Other unique proposal ideas are encouraged.

- **HERC (Higher Education Recruitment Consortium)--Recruitment and retention of faculty**
- **Student parents' work/life issues--The impact of educational, family, and work responsibilities**
- **New initiatives on the federal and institutional level**
- **Community Colleges--Work/life innovations in two year institutions**
- **Managing eldercare issues**
- **Changing culture around flexibility**
- **Defining community in the context of work/life and how to build your work/life portfolio**
- **Work/life: defining issues and solutions for faculty, staff and students**
- **Engaging men in work/life programs**

- **Social networking tools to meet Work/life demands of employees in higher education**
- **Erosion of privacy rights and threats to academic freedom; FOIA requests and more....**
- **The future of union environments, politics and collective bargaining; what is the impact on Work/life?**
- **The integration of wellness and Work/life programs on campus**
- **Training deans and chairs on Work/life and flexibility**
- **Volunteerism in the workplace**
- **New and innovative ways to promote your program: Surviving the era of tight budgets.**
- **Other relevant, innovative, and current topics welcomed**

Collaborations across institutions are highly encouraged. Work/life practitioners, researchers, human resource professionals, women's commissions, faculty, staff and students are welcome to submit proposals. **Sessions will be held Wednesday, May 16 through Friday, May 18, 2012.**

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

January 16, 2012

Deadline extended! Proposals due January 23, 2012

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE

Mid February, 2012

CRITERIA FOR SUBMISSION REVIEW AND SELECTION

- Clarity and coherence of submission
- Relevance and usefulness to the intended audience, e.g.:
 - Specific practical sessions (e.g., problem-solving, implementation, etc.)
 - Research-based/data-driven sessions

- Presentation approach and level of participant engagement in the session
- Contribution to scholarship and research and/or new innovative practice(s) in the work/life arena
- Relevance to the conference theme (a literal/linear connection is *not* required)
- Overall quality of proposal
- Extent to which proposal captures emerging trends in research and practice
- Extent to which process, project, or innovation can be replicated or modified by other post-secondary institutions

Please note: We expect to select sixteen outstanding sessions for the three-day conference. A workshop proposal may satisfy conference criteria, but it may not be selected due to the limited number of scheduled workshops.

The proposal consists of four parts: a short session title, a brief session description suitable for the conference program (150 words), a longer abstract that includes session goals (350 words), and presenter bios (100 words per person). Your proposal should be clear and concise.

Reviewers will look favorably upon proposals that (1) offer theories, research findings, practical models, and/or strategies that reflect one of the conference theme/subthemes and have proven effective, (2) are innovative and interactive, and (3) identify the intended audience and goals for the session (including what attendees will gain from going to the session). Presentations must be educational and not a platform for product or service promotion. Due to timing constraints, we may not be able to accept all meritorious workshops.

Session Formats

There are three session formats from which to choose: (1) 90 minute workshops, (2) 60 minute seminars, and (3) 60 minute roundtable discussions. Please select the format that will best facilitate participants' understanding and potential use of your work. One way to effectively engage participants across the different formats is to have them explore ways to apply your information and resources to their own institutional settings.

Workshop (90 minutes)

Workshops provide participants an opportunity to engage the facilitators and each other in learning about the session topic and applying it to their unique situations. It is suggested that workshops should begin with a brief framing of an issue, theory, model, or process and include data, benchmarks and challenges, practical examples, and evidence that you and the participants can then use to examine and discuss the topic. If you are sharing a campus-based project, provide an opportunity for workshop participants to apply the concepts to their situations. For example, if your work takes place at a research university, please facilitate discussion among participants as to how community colleges, liberal arts colleges, and comprehensive institutions might adapt your work to account for institutional differences. If your work is better suited to a particular type of institution, please make that clear.

Seminar (60 minutes)

These sessions should allow 20 minutes to provide research findings or overview of a model, 20 minutes to discuss practical applications, and 20 minutes for participant discussion. Research information or models of institutional reform or assessment can stimulate creative problem-solving discussions. Data, findings, and application should be presented in ways that are accessible to participants and allow them to engage in a discussion about the implications of your findings. Models might be presented visually as well as verbally and include strategies for implementation.

Roundtable Discussion (60 minutes; roundtables of 8; no audio-visual)

Roundtables are facilitated discussions among colleges with a common interest. They provide a valuable forum to network and reflect upon important topics in an informal setting. Roundtable discussions may range from a new area or initiative related to a conference theme to sharing best practices for replication.

BEST PRACTICE (can be any of the above options. We will request a copy of your presentation paper to be published on the CUWFA website)

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Submit the 2012 Conference Proposal Submission Form by January 23, 2012 to the attention of Lori Strom

Forms can be submitted by the following methods:

1. **Email:** strom@hr.msu.edu
2. **Mail:**
Michigan State University
Family Resource Center
Lori Strom
1407 S. Harrison Rd. Suite 225
East Lansing, MI 48823

You will receive an email confirmation that your proposal has been received.

Not sure about submitting a proposal?

If you would like to discuss ideas or questions about proposals, topics, collaborations, or the submission timeline, please contact Lori Strom (strom@hr.msu.edu) or Jennie McAlpine (mcalpinj@umich.edu). We will be happy to discuss your questions.

Condition of Acceptance

The CUWFA 2012 Conference Committee will require electronic copies of workshops and seminar presentations via an attachment to email *no later than Friday, April 13, 2012*. Email your presentations to Lori Strom strom@hr.msu.edu. All presentations will be distributed to participants on flash drives. By submitting the Conference Proposal Submission Form, presenters are agreeing to this condition.

College and University Work/Family Association (CUWFA)
 18th Annual Conference, May 16-18, 2012
Reinventing Work/Life: Succeeding in a New Era

Conference Proposal Submission Form

Title of Presentation	
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Presenter's Name(s)	Title	Institution/Affiliation	E-mail

(Add more spaces as necessary.)

Lead Presenter's Contact Information	
Mailing Address	
Telephone Number	
Fax Number	

Presentation Format	<input type="checkbox"/> Workshop (90 minutes) <input type="checkbox"/> Seminar (60 minutes) <input type="checkbox"/> Roundtable Discussion (60 minutes; roundtables of 8; no audio-visual)
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Audiovisual Equipment	Meeting rooms will be able to provide the following (please select those that you will utilize):
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Single or multiple high resolution, high power LCD Projectors with single or multiple projection screen options

Computer with: CD drive Zip drive

- Whiteboards to capture notes or drawings to save for later use
- Easel
- VCR
- DVD Player
- Document Camera
- Internet Connectivity

If you have other AV requests, please indicate here:

Brief Session Description (150 words or less) (Note: This description may be edited for the conference program)

Session Abstract and goals (350 words or less) (note: You may attach additional pages as needed but please observe word limits)

Brief Biography for each presenter (not more than 100 words per presenter). *Attach additional sheet(s) for additional presenters if necessary. Please do not submit entire resume!*