



WINNING THE RACE

THROUGH HEARTS & MINDS

A Conversation on Building Connected Communities

MARCH 30 & 31 • MONDAY & TUESDAY • 2015

2nd Annual Conference

Delta State University
Cleveland, MS

2015 Call for Posters

Theme:
**Winning the Race:
Through Hearts and Minds**

Conference Overview

Delta State University is a cultural “mecca” that champions and celebrates the multicultural identity of the Mississippi Delta, and provides leadership and programming for the community and region. The goal of “Winning the Race: A Conference on Diversity and Community” is to promote dialogue on race relations by building conversations that will bring together diverse communities in the Delta. The 2015 conference is designed to highlight conversations along the following topics or “tracks”:

Tracks

- ***Social Justice, Civil Rights, & Law***
Example topics: race and the criminal justice system, mass incarceration, healthcare and racial disparities
- ***Economic Opportunities***
Example topics: creative economy, asset building, social entrepreneurship
- ***Education & Community***
Example topics: diversity and student leadership, diversity and the college curriculum, race and race relations discourse in the classroom
- ***Culture & Community***
Example topics: faith, music, sports, arts

Submission Guidelines

Submit a brief abstract for a poster presentation to Dr. Temika Simmons at tsimmons@deltastate.edu no later than **5pm, February 6th, 2015**. In the email correspondence, be sure to include the name(s) of all presenters and the topic or “track” to which your project most closely aligns (see tracks listed above). Collaborative work between Delta State University faculty and students is strongly encouraged and preferred. Collaborative work across institutions is also encouraged; however, all lead authors/presenters must be affiliated with Delta State University. At least one author/presenter must be a student at Delta State University. Confirmation of receipt of abstract will be emailed to all lead authors/presenters by February 13, 2015. Letters of acceptance will be emailed no later than February 20, 2015. Accepted presenters **MUST** register for the conference to participate in the poster competition.

Poster Preparation Instructions

General Considerations

The display should include a statement of the problem, objectives of the project or research, the methodology used to solve the problem or implement the program, the major findings or outcomes and their significance, and conclusions. There should be logical research sequence: i.e., introduction (research questions/hypotheses), development (data collection/analysis), and conclusion. The conclusion(s), perhaps the most important part of the research, should be related to the project findings. Layout of the elements from top-left to bottom-right and/or sequential labeling will greatly aid the visitor.

Posters will be displayed throughout the day on March 30th - 31st, 2015. Judging, however, will take place from 11am – 1pm on March 30th. Display mounting must be completed no later than 1 hour *prior* to judging (10am) on March 30th. **All presenters must be present during the judging session to present and summarize their posters to the judges.** After judging, posters will be displayed throughout the remainder of the conference and should be removed no later than 30 minutes following the close of the awards luncheon on March 31st (i.e., 2pm). After 2pm, remaining posters will be discarded.

Arrangement of Materials

Presentation may be presented on a tri-fold poster board. All poster materials must fit on the board. Tables will be provided. Authors presenting a laminated research poster board must supply their own easel for presentation. Velcro strips, thumbtacks, or other adhesive material will not be available for poster mountings.

Presenters may place the following materials on a large poster board: Photographs, diagrams, charts, data and narrative text. The title heading should be at least 1-½” high. It should include the title of the poster session and all authors’ names and institutional affiliations. Visual elements are encouraged. Remember to keep it simple. Present only enough information to support your conclusions. The amount of information presented on the poster should be concise and well organized. Posters that appear crowded with too much data should be avoided. To minimize crowding, consider giving interested individuals a copy of the research project abstract.

Helpful Suggestions

Text forms: Use short expanses of text mixed with data in tables, graphs, lists or illustrations. Reader should be able to focus on the main points immediately.

Type: Large, dark, block style. Don't use all capital letters; it is much harder to read. Lettering should be simple, bold, and easily legible from a distance of 3 feet. Directional arrows can help the viewer in following the sequence.

Color: Black or dark on white or light paper. Color combinations should be carefully considered for readability.

Matting: Attractive but subdued enough not to call attention away from text. Limit number of colors used. Use color with a purpose (to bring out a point or to code one portion of the text as distinct from another).

Overall Design: an effective display, aside from content, are those that are attractive, well organized, and largely self-explanatory.

Presentation Guidelines

1. The presenter should prepare an outline or abstract of the major points of the poster.
2. The poster should not be read verbatim from the text. Not only are such presentations usually dull, but because of time constraints the author may be cut off by the session chair before reaching the most significant aspects of the presentation.
3. Oral presentations should represent, on average, a *5-10 minute summary* of the poster. Highlights may be given regarding the purpose of the study, description of the sample, methodology, problems, and major findings, conclusions, or recommendations. The amount of time devoted to each highlight will vary according to the author's evaluation of the importance of each area to the paper.
4. During the judging session, all presenters must be available at the display to provide a formal, oral presentation (see item #3) of the project to the judges and to answer questions and discuss the contents.
5. Presenters are advised to prepare a single handout (25 copies recommended) summarizing the major components of the project. Presenters may wish to have a sign-up sheet to record names and addresses of attendees who would like further information, additional copies, etc.