



Conference Planning Subcommittee February 2017 Meeting Notes

The 2018 Conference Planning Subcommittee met onsite in Long Beach, California at the Long Beach Convention Center on Friday, February 24, 2017.

Those in attendance were: Karen Campbell (NJ—Chair), Gail Clark Dickson (MD), Felicia Lanham Tarason (MD), Kathryn Nichol (NH), Jack O' Connor (MT).
A+ Events Staff: Bob Harmon (NASTID CEO—WA), Monica Kemper (NASTID Director of Events—CA), and Marcus Cheeks (NASTID Deputy COO).

Meeting Agenda

1. Conference DeBrief

What worked:

- Excellent keynotes
- High quality content

What didn't work:

- Overlapping times of many sessions
- Terrace Theater too far away
- Vendor sessions not in good locations, too much of a sales pitch
- Exhibit hall only open two days
- Competing workshops with ESSA

2. Discuss 2018 theme, presentation categories and topic areas, and thoughts about any changes to the proposal selection questions, the exhibit hall sessions and the premium exhibit spaces.

- 2018 Theme, *Liberty to Learn* - Focus on access, equity and impeding barriers to learning. Karen Campbell will expand on the theme in a narrative form.
- Recommended Keynotes: John King, Marion Wright Eldeman, Wendy Kopp – Teach For America founder
- Session Types: Lecture and Engagement, the committee agreed the concept worked well, but they would like to change lecture to something else because “lecture” has negative connotation. Keep Engagement sessions – although space was an issue. Good to have the workshop sessions longer, 1.5 hours allowed for more time to interact.
- Overarching Session Categories: Instruction, Leadership, Policy – have been used for the last several years. Keep these and add one more “Family &

- Community Engagement.” Include an explanation of these in the conference program.
- Session Topics for proposal submissions: Keep same list as last year, and add: Program Sustainability, Data Informed Instruction, and Social Emotional Learning. The committee would also like to add Native Americans but are still looking for the exact terminology.
 - The committee agreed to use the same grading process as last year, since it worked well.

The next committee meeting will be a conference call on **Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 1:00PM Eastern** (12:00PM CDT, 11:00AM MDT, 10:00AM MST & PDT, 9:00AM.)