

How can 21st-century colleges of education prepare educators to build an informed citizenry?

A DePaul University and Facing History and Ourselves Collaboration Symposium

Overview

In 2012, DePaul University's College of Education joined with the international professional development organization Facing History and Ourselves to develop a collaboration that would better equip our graduates with the tools to transform young people into engaged citizens. Facing History has spent four decades working with students of diverse backgrounds in an examination of racism, prejudice, and anti-Semitism in order to promote the development of a more humane and informed citizenry. Facing History's mission closely mirrors that of DePaul's College of Education, which strives to inculcate in its students a respect for others, an appreciation of diversity, a commitment to the poor and disenfranchised in society, and a belief in education as a force for social justice. For more information about the DePaul University and Facing History and Ourselves Collaboration, please visit our website at: www.depaulfacinghistorycollaboration.com.

After hosting our second Symposium in 2016, DePaul and Facing History are now inviting a small group of colleges of education to join us for our third national Symposium. Together, we will explore how to integrate ethical reflection, intellectual rigor, and emotional engagement into pre-service curriculum and in-service professional development in order to help educational professionals transform young people into engaged, informed citizens.

Participants will convene in Chicago, June 26 to 30, to participate in a two-part experience: a three-day Summer Institute, followed by a two-day Symposium. The Summer Institute, a professional development opportunity for in-service educators, will give college of education faculty an immersive experience with the content and pedagogy developed through the collaboration between DePaul and Facing History. After participating in the Summer Institute, college of education faculty will join their colleagues from other universities in the Symposium where they will learn about the framework for the collaboration, digest what they learned in the Summer Institute, and discuss different ideas for infusing this content and pedagogy into colleges of education. Faculty who attended in the inaugural year and the second year will join us for this Symposium. We anticipate that as the Symposium grows, participating colleges will develop relationships with Facing History and continue to learn from each other.

About the Symposium

The Symposium will offer education faculty and college leaders the opportunity to reflect on our central question: How can 21st-century colleges of education prepare educators to build an informed citizenry? In an era of high-stakes testing, DePaul and Facing History agree that we must not lose sight of one of the core obligations of a college of education: to prepare educational professionals to address complex social issues such as ostracism, racism, and violence by developing safe and inclusive schools that integrate ethical reflection, intellectual rigor, and emotional engagement.

During the Symposium, participants will learn more about the DePaul University and Facing History and Ourselves Collaboration; examine with their colleagues the underlying themes, strategies, and pedagogy that they experienced during the institute; reflect about how these complex ideas apply in their own lives and practice; and consider how they might apply what they have learned in their home institution.

The Symposium will focus on the following topics:

- How the DePaul University and Facing History and Ourselves Collaboration engages with pre-service educators, in-service educational professionals, and education faculty.
- How the various ideas and resources presented in the Summer Institute may be integrated into colleges of education.
- How methods for enhancing curriculum and professional development programming help educators create safe and inclusive classrooms and foster respectful dialogue about sensitive topics.
- How to achieve faculty buy-in.
- How to secure resources in order to develop and maintain programs and activities.
- How to evaluate the impact of collaboration programming on teacher practice and student learning.
- How to apply the Summer Institute/Symposium ideas, resources, and strategies at home institutions.

About the Summer Institute

DePaul's College of Education faculty and Facing History presenters work together to develop programming for each summer's institute, drawing on Facing History's content and methodology as well as DePaul faculty's academic expertise. The Collaboration's Summer Institute offers professional development to educational professionals and welcomes college of education faculty members who are participating in the Symposium.

This year the focus will be on one of Facing History's core topics: the Eugenics Movement. In our Summer Institute, "Ordering America: How the Progressive Era and the Eugenics Movement Shape Our Society," participants will gain important insight into a time in the early 1900s when many people believed that some "races," classes, and individuals were superior to others. During this time, many Americans used a new branch of scientific inquiry known as eugenics to justify their prejudices and advocate for programs and policies aimed at solving the nation's problems by ridding society of "inferior racial traits." By studying this era, participants will gain a deeper understanding of how prejudices and other preconceived notions can distort scientific inquiry, the dangers of resolving complex problems by dividing the world into us and them, and how eugenics continues to shape our society today. Participants will also learn pedagogical approaches for building safe and engaging classrooms and school communities.

The Institute will maintain a balance between investigating choices in history and our choices today, between the particularities of events during this period and their universal implications. By understanding the dynamics of group membership—both the dangers, such as deep hatred of the "other," and the benefits, such as communities which foster courage and resilience—participants will learn and develop interdisciplinary teaching strategies that allow students to take multiple perspectives; develop their critical thinking, historical, and literacy skills; and strengthen their moral decision-making and civic engagement. While the content is generally targeted to 6th to 12th grade humanities classrooms, DePaul faculty members have found the underlying concepts and pedagogy useful and applicable to all levels and curriculum areas.

An Invitation

DePaul University and Facing History and Ourselves are delighted to invite you to join colleagues from other colleges of education in Chicago, June 26-June 30. Institutions interested in participating must commit to sending a team of two or more faculty members and/or college leaders to participate in the full three-day Summer Institute, the two-day Symposium, and two professional development webinars (to be scheduled during the 2017–2018 academic year). Institutions will also be asked to provide a letter from their dean or other appropriate administrator confirming support for the development of the ideas and methods presented and discussed in the Symposium.

DePaul has secured resources to support attendance at this event, including reimbursement of travel/accommodation expenses.

Special thanks to the Millard Group for underwriting a portion of the annual Symposium.

Schedule of Events

Summer Institute

Monday, June 26th, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Tuesday, June 27th, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Evening Speaker Event 6 to 8 p.m.
Wednesday, June 28th, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Symposium

Thursday, June 29th, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (First-Time Participants)
Thursday, June 29th, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Welcome and Lunch (All Participants)
Thursday, June 29th, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (All Participants)
Friday, June 30th, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (All Participants)

All events on DePaul University's Lincoln Park Campus



People make choices. Choices make history.

The DePaul University and Facing History and Ourselves Collaboration is generously supported by the Donna and Jack Greenberg Charitable Trust.