



# CALL FOR PAPERS

**DEADLINE EXTENDED!**  
Now accepting submissions  
through July 14, 2006

University System of Maryland  
Diversity Network Faculty Initiatives Committee  
4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
**Rethinking and Relearning Diversity:  
From Conflict to Inclusion**

---

Friday, October 13, 2006  
University of Maryland University College  
Inn and Conference Center

---

Featured keynote speakers will include

## DR. BONNIE THORNTON DILL

Professor and Chair, Department of Women's Studies,  
University of Maryland, College Park;  
Director, Consortium on Race, Gender, and Ethnicity.

### THEME

Differences in race, gender, nationality, class, and other aspects of personal and collective identities are often framed in terms of conflict and divisiveness. However, understanding, respecting, and forging connections may be the basis for overcoming the social and cultural marginalization of ethnic, racial, religious, and other minorities, and for transforming the unjust economic and power imbalances into a more just society. Inclusion implies that all differences are valued so that everyone is provided equal opportunities and equal voice to participate fully in society. How can we in education draw on differences to achieve the aims of a more inclusive society? Finally, what are the responsibilities and roles of education in helping to shape this inclusive, diverse, and democratic society?

### PURPOSE

This conference will provide a forum for exchanging ideas and engaging in courageous conversations about diversity, conflict, and inclusion. We intend a broad definition of diversity and thus welcome presentations that relate to difference in terms of race, gender, language, culture, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and socioeconomic status, as well as physical, cognitive, and emotional disabilities and other identity constructions.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The conference is intended for college and university faculty, administrators, and staff; K-12 educators; undergraduate and graduate students with faculty sponsors; and policymakers. The conference is sponsoring a special poster session open to all undergraduate and graduate students with faculty sponsors, as well as to other presenters. Conference participants are invited to submit presentations, panels, and poster sessions based on the following strands.

## STRANDS

### CURRICULUM, PEDAGOGY, AND BEST PRACTICE

What are the responsibilities of educators in bridging difference? What curricular changes, strategies, and teachable moments work best in moving from conflict to inclusion? In online and face-to-face classrooms, how do we hold explicit conversations on controversial topics and deeply held beliefs?

### SYSTEMIC INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE: POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

What are the responsibilities of educational institutions in creating an inclusive learning community? What policies, practices, and institutional cultures inhibit or facilitate positive change in colleges and universities, K–12 schools, and other organizations? What kinds of governing structures and community relations best support diversity, reduce conflict, and promote a culture of inclusion?

### INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

What does it mean to be a global citizen, and why is global citizenship important? What are the roles of students, educators, and institutions in promoting global citizenship? What kinds of programs and practices best prepare learners for citizenship in a highly global, technological, and divided world?

### SOCIAL JUSTICE

Is diversity without the recognition of social justice simply difference that makes no difference? How can we address inequalities and gaps in education, socioeconomic status, health-care, employment, housing, technology, and access to the benefit of a democratic society? How can we respect and celebrate difference, while working together to achieve the aims of social justice?

### DEMOCRACY AND POLITICAL IMPERATIVES

How do difference and equality come together to sustain a democratic society? Are the most pressing conflicts today based on political and economic issues or on a lack of tolerance and information about group differences? To what extent are a common language, culture, and worldview necessary to avoid the marginalization of minorities? What role does education play in promoting or impeding the development of a democratic, diverse, and inclusive society?

### RECONCILIATION AND PEACE INITIATIVES

How can we achieve peace in a time of war? What strategies promote peace, reduce conflict, and move toward inclusion and mutual understanding? How can community be created from conflict, and what is the role of education in facilitating peace?

## SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

We encourage proposals that are intellectually and pedagogically adventuresome. Individual presentations will be 15–20 minutes and panels approximately one hour. Please submit a 200–300 word abstract by **July 14, 2006**, that clearly states the strand that your proposal focuses on and lists the presentation's title, goals, content, and educational implications. Send your proposal to

**Fred L. Pincus, Program Committee Chair**  
*pincus@umbc.edu*

(Address: Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Maryland Baltimore County, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250. Telephone: 410-455-2079)

Electronic submissions are preferred. Notifications of acceptance will be sent out by August 1, 2006. The abstract should include the name, job title/student status, and institution of all potential presenters, along with the e-mail address and telephone number of the lead presenter.

Special Note: Materials presented at the conference may be considered for publication on the University System of Maryland (USM) Web site after the conference. We will notify you when the style and submission guidelines are posted on the USM Web site at <http://www.usmd.edu>.