REQUEST FOR SUMMIT PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

Five years ago, the Carnegie Foundation initiated the **Summit on Improvement in Education** with an ambitious vision: Imagine a future in which systematic learning to improve is occurring every day in thousands of settings. The education field could become an immense networked improvement community. The Summit continues to strive to catalyze and support such a future. It provides a place to challenge existing norms, learn new practices, concentrate our efforts, and reinforce our commitments to improve the nation's schools.

Today, thousands of school district leaders, principals, teachers, policymakers, researchers, and K-12 and higher education administrators across the country and around the world have taken up the methods of improvement science and the formation of networked communities, and they are making headway on some of the most persistent problems in our schools.

And in just four years, the Summit has grown from 400 attendees from 39 states and 5 countries in 2014 to 1200 people from 47 states and 13 countries in 2017. It has spawned a movement.

Who are the Summit Attendees?

The Summit is a gathering of the best minds in education, improvement, and innovation: school district leaders, principals, teachers, program directors, K-12 and higher education administrators, professors, policymakers, researchers, and entrepreneurs. We expect over 1400 attendees at the 2018 Summit.

We Seek Proposals for Presentations

We design the Summit to showcase the best of our field's efforts and to support all who attend in their journey to improve. Toward this end, we invite proposals to present at the 2018 Summit (April 3-5, 2018) that relate to one of the following Summit strands:

- ▸ Improvement Science in Practice
- ▸ Networks in Practice
- ▸ Leadership for Improvement

The deadline to submit proposals is Monday, July 24, 2017.

Carnegie Foundation Summit on Improvement in Education
April 3-5, 2018 | San Francisco Marriott Marquis
www.carnegiefoundation.org/summit2018

Improvement Science in Practice

As a field, we undervalue learning to improve in ways that are systematic and organized. We have in the past lacked a methodology to structure and guide this approach to improvement. This strand introduces participants to groundbreaking organizations that are achieving better educational outcomes through the use of improvement science methodologies – organizations that have effectively turned knowledge into practice and systematically spread that knowledge to improve practice reliably at scale.

For this strand we are seeking proposals that:

▸ Tell a story about a significant improvement (such as increased graduation rates) that positively impacted the lives of students and/or teachers through the use of improvement science and include measureable results.

▸ Describe how one or more of the core improvement principles has been essential to the improvement.

　　1. Make the work problem-specific and user-centered.
　　2. Variation in performance is the core problem to address.
　　3. See the system that produces the current outcomes.
　　4. We cannot improve at scale what we cannot measure.
　　5. Anchor practice improvement in disciplined inquiry.

▸ Detail use of an explicit improvement methodology and/or tool(s) to make progress or spread results.

▸ Demonstrate the use of data and measurement (quantitative/qualitative) to track progress against a well-specified aim.

▸ Explore the lessons learned from big flops and failures.

Networks in Practice

Networks are an increasingly popular strategy for organizing collective improvement work as we look for ways to accelerate our ability to learn and improve educational outcomes for young people. There are many strategies, tools, and approaches to collective improvement work. Technological advances have also made this approach more attractive by opening up new ways to connect virtually with one another. Carnegie's approach to networked improvement communities is defined by focusing on a specific problem, having a common theory of improvement, sharing measures, and applying disciplined methods of improvement. This strand seeks to illustrate what it takes to bring a network to life and to support it to reach its improvement goals.

For this strand we are seeking proposals that:

▸ Share the story of initiating and/or sustaining a networked improvement community.

▸ Illuminate the elements of effective narratives of participation. What kinds of storytelling drive voluntary association with a network that aims to solve a specific problem?

▸ Describe how to build and sustain collective energy around a common aim in a network setting.

▸ Offer measures and tools that have been used to organize and assess the health of a network.

▸ Describe organizational structures, processes, and tools that foster effective collaboration within and across member organizations.

▸ Introduce tools and technologies that allow for the spread of promising practices and continued learning about them.

▸ Share the story of how the networked approach accelerated the ability to learn and reach improvement goals.

▸ Explore the lessons learned from big flops and failures.

Leadership for Improvement

The critical work of leaders is to bring about needed change. Transformational leaders are driven to break through the status quo and achieve new levels of performance. Leading improvement requires shifting norms and habits that are deeply ingrained in the culture of educational organizations.

For this strand we are seeking proposals that:

- Tell the story of leadership's efforts to bring about or sustain systematic improvement across a school, district, state, region, or country; their specific transformational aim(s); how the improvement principles shaped their pursuit of this transformation; and the results that they achieved.
- Describe how to attend consciously to the cultural conditions that enable the dispositions toward and active pursuit of continuous quality improvement in educational systems.
- Describe in detail the strategies to build improvement capability within systems, including how to introduce these ideas and deepen engagement over time. The presentation might also describe how to determine who needs what improvement skills.
- Describe how the use of measurement and data drive improvement and shift the culture from measurement for accountability to measurement for improvement.
- Build improvement infrastructure at the federal, state and/or local level to advance improvement science in education.
- Advocate for a policy environment that is hospitable to the ideas of improvement science and networks.
- Explore the lessons learned from big flops and failures.

How Can You Apply?

Review the important dates and logistics information below and submit your proposal online via the Summit website (www.carnegiefoundation.org/summit2018). Proposals will be reviewed by a program committee and selections made in order to provide the most compelling program for our diverse community. Unfortunately, there is a limited number of presentation slots available, and it is unlikely we will be able to accept all proposals.

Summit Logistics Information

Summit Registration

Please note that there is a maximum of two presenters per session proposal. Both presenters of accepted session proposals will receive the special speaker registration rate of $695. The regular Summit registration rate is $975.

Travel and Lodging

Presenters are responsible for their own travel and accommodations.

Questions?

Please contact Kareen Yang, Summit Project Manager, at yang@carnegiefoundation.org.

Important Dates

July 24, 2017	Proposal Submission Deadline
October 9, 2017	Notification of Acceptance
April 3-5, 2018	Carnegie Foundation Summit on Improvement in Education

PRESENTATION PROPOSAL CHECKLIST

Thank you for your interest in presenting at the 2018 Carnegie Foundation Summit on Improvement in Education! **The submission deadline is Monday, July 24th**. Below is a checklist to help you prepare for your proposal. Submit your proposal online via the Summit website (www.carnegiefoundation.org/summit2018).

☐ **Session Title**
  Limit your session title to 15 words.

☐ **Summit Strand**
  • Improvement Science in Practice
  • Networks in Practice
  • Leadership for Improvement

☐ **Session Abstract**
  Limit your session description to 100 words.

☐ **Preferred Session Format**
  Summit sessions are 75 minutes long, 15 of which are typically reserved for discussion. The Summit program team seeks to create learning opportunities for attendees and encourages session formats that include active participant engagement.
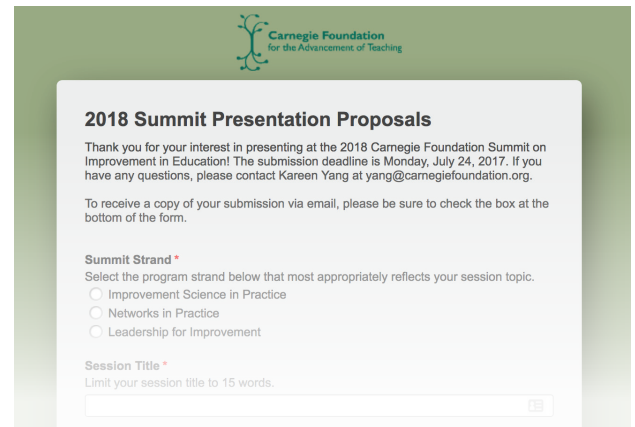
☐ **Elaborated Session Description**
  Refer to the strand description and detail how your proposal addresses the elements we are seeking for that strand. Limit your response to 500 words.

☐ **Learning Objectives**
  List at least two learning objectives for your proposed session.

☐ **Presenter Information**
  There is a maximum of two presenters per proposal.