



THE 12TH ANNUAL

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SOURCES OF **URBAN EDUCATIONAL  
EXCELLENCE** CONFERENCE

***12<sup>th</sup> Annual SOURCES OF URBAN EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE  
CONFERENCE***

**Alonzo A. Crim Center for Urban Educational Excellence**  
Georgia State University  
Atlanta, Georgia

***Catalyzing Truth in Action in Urban Education:  
Think, Question, Discover***

**Conference Dates: October 28-29, 2017**

**Pre-conference Dates: October 23-27, 2017**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**Deadlines:**

Submission: by 11:59 p.m. EST on Friday, June 2, 2017

Notification: by 5:00 p.m. EST on Friday, July 7, 2017

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

All proposals must be submitted electronically\* no later than 11:59 p.m. on **Friday, June 2, 2017**. Submission link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Sources2017>

**\*No other submission formats will be accepted.**

**GENERAL CALL:**

The 12th Annual Sources of Urban Educational Excellence Conference committee invites proposals on all topics related to the theme of *Catalyzing Truth in Action in Urban Education: Think, Question, Discover*.

For the past 12 years, the Sources of Urban Educational Excellence Conference has served as a critical space for the discussion and dissemination of solutions to the challenges facing urban education in the southeast United States. The conference serves as a gathering space for Dr. Alonzo A. Crim's *Community of Believers*; a collection of individuals from various fields who have committed themselves to breaking out of their professional silos while cultivating and sustaining quality urban schools.

The conference committee welcomes proposals that examine the different aspects of urban education from a variety of perspectives. Thus, the conference seeks to not only highlight the research and perspectives of higher education faculty and scholars, but also strongly encourages submissions from pre-service and in-service educators, graduate students, activists, policy makers, artists, business and industry members, and community workers interested in forging a positive educational agenda in urban schools. While all proposals of quality are welcome, especially encouraged are those that specifically address this year's theme – *Catalyzing Truth in Action in Urban Education: Think, Question, Discover*.

The 2017 theme speaks directly to the critical question posed by Dr. Asa Hilliard in the title of his 1991 Educational Leadership article – Do We Have the Will to Educate All Children? This year's theme challenges us to inspire positive change in urban education by connecting our perceived truths (e.g. pedagogical understandings, scholarship, and community knowledge) to our willful actions (e.g. teaching, activism, and advocacy). More important, the theme charges us to serve as catalysts in urban education; to incubate solutions where none exist, accelerate innovations that show promise, and amplify proven strategies linked to educational excellence. In this respect, presentations at this year's Sources Conference will serve as shining examples of what is possible when we connect truth to action.

## CONFERENCE STRANDS

Individuals or groups proposing a session for this year's conference should identify one of the following strands for the presentation **and** select a presentation format:

- **Think:** Submissions to this strand will focus on new and emerging ideas aimed at creating quality educational opportunities for children in urban communities. Presentations in this strand will extend or challenge established frameworks, policies, paradigms and narratives regarding excellence in urban education. This strand will serve as a space for dynamic conversations regarding excellence in urban education. While critique of existing ideas is necessary, presenters in this strand should focus on specific emerging ideas and how those ideas will support excellence in urban education.
- **Question:** Submissions to this strand will focus on work aimed at advancing critical questions in urban education. This strand provides a critical space for discussions of completed or in-progress research and scholarship conducted in urban schools and communities. Priority will be given to research and scholarship aimed at uncovering findings that may ultimately lead to improved educational opportunities for children and families in urban communities.
- **Discover:** Submissions to this strand will focus on recognized solutions in urban education. Presenters in this strand will focus on programs, strategies, innovations, and lessons learned rooted in on-going community/organizational engagement or targeted practice. These sessions will serve as a springboard for discussions around the future of the urban education and the application of the recognized solutions to emerging challenges and possibilities. Ideas that relate to building capacity for future endeavors in

urban education will be given priority. Here, we seek proposals that highlight proven solutions and/or innovative models of educational excellence.

## **FORMATS:**

- **Conversations with Community** are designed to create spaces for open dialogue among participants on a topic that connects to or supports excellence in urban education. Presenters will briefly frame the topic and then facilitate a large group discussion. Consequently, presenters should be skilled in facilitating dialogue. These sessions focus less on presenting a single person's ideas and more on connecting perspectives from a variety of participants.  
*Allotted time: 60 minutes*
- **Panel Discussions** provide opportunities for a group of individuals to present ideas on a common topic or theme that connects to or supports excellence in urban education. The session should include a panel of three to five panelists and a facilitator. Sessions should also include time for a facilitated dialogue with participants.  
*Allotted time: 60 minutes*
- **Focus15s** are brief presentations that focus on a specific topic. Each Focus15 presenter will have 15 minutes to present ideas that connect to or support excellence in urban education. These straight-to-the-point talks are meant to inspire questions and dialogue.  
*Allotted time: 60 minutes*
- **Workshops** offer a hands-on/minds-on opportunity to focus on a specific topic or idea that connects to or supports excellence in urban education. Sessions are designed to create spaces for direct engagement with the topics in creative and innovative ways. Sessions should provide participants with opportunities to explore the topic and engage in valuable discussions. **Slots for workshops are extremely limited.** *We anticipate scheduling no more than four workshops for this year's conference.*  
*Allotted time: 120 minutes*

## **ABOUT THE CRIM CENTER**

The Alonzo A. Crim Center for Urban Education Excellence (CUEE) was established in 1996 by Dr. Lisa Delpit to provide a "city-wide laboratory for the development of excellence in urban education." Since its inception, the CUEE has served the southeast region of the nation as an interdisciplinary outreach, research and educational support and development hub aimed at continuing the legacy of Dr. Alonzo A. Crim.

It is the mission of the Alonzo A. Crim Center for Urban Educational Excellence to extend Dr. Crim's vision by optimizing the life opportunities of children and families in urban communities by ensuring the availability of a prosperous and equitable school environment. We believe that through our work we can create a world where all children have equal access to educational

opportunities that prepare them to be academically excellent, culturally competent and critically conscious. Please visit us at <http://crim.education.gsu.edu/> for more information.

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*Please direct questions to [dsalter@gsu.edu](mailto:dsalter@gsu.edu)*