

PCI – FCRC – FAU CUES Workshop
Florida Atlantic University, Jupiter
June 6-7

Roundtable Discussion: Emerging Issues

Question: If we had a network of University Service programs, what would it do and how would it work?

Moderator: John Stephens, University of North Carolina

Background: As state programs in dispute resolution migrated out of state government and the field broadened, many of these programs have evolved into centers and programs housed in universities. 2 years ago nine university centers and programs met in Palm Springs and began to develop the idea of a network of university-based programs and centers focused on issues of collaborative governance. The question driving this was: How can we work together more effectively? PCI surveyed university programs and put out a publication with the results of the survey.

Primary goals for roundtable: Agree on a membership, determine whether or not to go ahead with forming a network, make a commitment to participate, consider resources for the network

Secondary goals for roundtable: Comments and improvements on the one page description developed by PCI

Network Goals / Activities

- Should try to partner with Native American colleges and historically black colleges
- More of an emphasis on “service and scholarship”
- Show more of an educational mission, reflect responsibilities of centers / programs within universities’ missions – PCI as 501(c)3 – role in university network might be seen as a trade association
- Would be valuable to have very specific info on centers on website so centers could refer to one another for certain issues / projects based on centers’ specialties (issue-based information)
- Be careful of growing too broad and losing intent
- Public policy focus limits the service provider group but expands academic program group (eg, Vinson Institute at University of Georgia)
- Finding a good balance between internal goals (within the university setting) and external goals (reaching out to leaders, eg)

Resources

- should work on building support at the university president / chancellor levels
- PCI could help centers get legislative funding

University Network One Page Description

- In description section, include educational activities and facilitating understanding of collaborative governance
- Goals:
 - o heightened legitimacy to help universities recognize centers
 - o Linking university centers to each other
 - o Promote community and campus learning about collaborative governance
 - o Measure / convey impacts of what these centers do / effectiveness of centers
 - o Help centers see their role
 - o Scholarship component (academic and scholarly interests)
 - o Act as consultants with and for each other
 - o Educate each other about the work centers do
 - o Help state centers with strategic thinking
 - o Convey importance of integrating research / teaching with service

Examples of other networks (past, present, and proposed) – many centers already have existing networks that support specific center’s work, but lack a network of just centers that do work with collaborative governance

- Cooperative Extension
- Consortia of centers within states (Georgia, eg)
- ACR
- ASCP
- USIECR
- Alumni of existing programs (NRLI Alumni in Florida, Texas training program)
- Bar association of ADR
- Industry trade groups
- CDCs
- Community-based Collaborative Research Consortium
- SCUPSO
- YMCA / YWCA (University of Delaware partners w/)

Conclusion

- Requests to distribute electronic copies of one page network explanation
- General agreement of value of such a network