

2024 HCLCA Annual Conference (May 21-22, 2024)

Adaptation and Innovation in Learning Centers

Hosted by Ohio University

The HCLCA Professional Development Committee is now accepting proposals for the 2024 HCLCA Annual Conference! Submit your proposal by March 4.

This year's conference theme highlights the many ways that learning centers have adapted and innovated as a result of the ever-changing landscape of higher education. We've seen significant changes in the demographics of our students as well as in the modalities in which they learn (e.g., in-person learning, remote learning, etc.). How have these changes impacted the work of learning centers, and how can we use the lessons learned to plan for change? We invite proposals that speak to this theme and seek to answer any of the following broadly defined questions:

- What changes are we seeing in our student populations (e.g., demographics, learning differences, academic needs, preferences for different forms of engagement, etc.)?
- What are best practices when adapting and innovating?
- What sorts of strategic planning does your center conduct?
- How do we adapt to changing student needs?
- How can data inform our innovation and adaptation?
- What role can technology (e.g., generative AI, social media, etc.) play in our efforts to adapt and change?
- How can we train our student staff to adapt and innovate to meet students' needs?

Submit your proposal here **by March 4!** This year we are offering two ways to contribute to the conference:

• **50-minute presentation.** Successful presentation proposals should both describe how the topic relates to the conference themes and identify ways that the presentation will intentionally engage the audience (e.g., small group discussion, activity, etc.). We encourage people to consider cross-institutional proposals.

• Guided roundtable discussion. The conference will once again feature a roundtable session, but this time we invite individuals to bring topics for discussion as well as questions to prompt the discussion. Topics might include challenges that you are facing (e.g., service utilization), a discussion of best practices, or other sorts of meaningful groupings (e.g., a discussion among learning centers at branch campuses). In developing these proposals, we encourage people to consider what deliverables might emerge from your discussion (e.g., a list of strategies, a new collaborative group, etc.). We encourage people to consider cross-institutional proposals.

The Conference Committee will use the following rubric to evaluate each proposal. Please be sure that your proposal addresses the following criteria.

Evaluation Criteria

Criterion #1: RELEVANCE

The topic is relevant to the conference theme or directly relates to issues/topics related to learning centers, learning center management, and related fields.

Criterion #2: ORIGINALITY

The topic presented in the proposal is innovative and original. It represents a new idea, topic, or perspective on traditional topics and/or ideas presented.

Criterion #3: CLARITY & ORGANIZATION

The proposal is well written, highlighting main ideas, concepts, and applications of the presentation to the overall field. The proposal is well-organized, presenting the material in a logical manner. It is thorough in terms of the information/topic/scope.

Criterion #4: SUPPORT

The proposal is supported by current/ongoing research, experience garnered in learning center work, and/or original research in the field.

Criterion #5: ENGAGEMENT

The topic, presentation format, and material are engaging or likely to be engaging to conference participants.