ROOTS & GROWTH

University Network for Collaborative Governance

Annual Conference

June 20-22, 2024 | Portland, OR (in person)

Introduction

The University Network for Collaborative Governance's Annual Conference will bring UNCG members and friends together to engage in a lively discussion about collaborative governance's roots and potential future growth. Our location in Oregon will also allow attendees to share how collaborative governance has evolved and grown through on-the-ground efforts.

Hosted by:

Conference Theme

Growth is grounded in roots and roots allow us to grow. We at UNCG have been reflecting on our roots as they have allowed us to grow, and are looking ahead to growth honoring our roots. As we evolve as an organization, we recognize that we are growing as individuals, thought leaders, and practitioners. Our field is also growing, as we stretch to incorporate burgeoning topics of AI, data and technology in decision-making, democracy under stress, inclusivity in contexts with a history of trauma, mindfulness, and burnout in collaborative governance.

Our goal with this conference is to **acknowledge our roots and facilitate discussion on future growth**.

Call for Proposals

The 2024 UNCG Program Planning Committee is seeking proposals for presentations and panels that align with the conference theme of roots and growth across one or more of three categorical tracks:

- Roots and/or growth in the field of collaborative governance
- Innovation and growth in particular research, teaching, and practice areas related to collaborative governance
- Roots and/or growth for UNCG members / partners as individuals and / or as organizations

We will accept a small number of individual presentations, but our priority is for: plenary sessions, concurrent sessions, lightning talks, student work.

The UNCG Conference is open to all people interested in collaborative governance in connection with a college or university. Proposals should connect to efforts that have or could potentially connect with university-based programs, centers, faculty, staff, or students. We welcome submissions from both UNCG members and non-members. If you have questions about the conference or ideas for proposals, please contact UNCG Planning Group Co-Chairs Rebecca McLain (mclainrj@pdx.edu) and Nujhat Ahmed (nujhat@pdx.edu) or UNCG staff Sarah Giles (sagiles@pdx.edu).

Student Work

Students often propose a Lightning Talk or a Concurrent Session (see descriptions below)

We encourage students to submit proposals to share projects or research they have been working on in their programs. The UNCG conference offers an opportunity for students to both contribute to the field of collaborative governance, to engage in discussions, and to get feedback on their projects from peers and experienced academics and practitioners from across the country.

Submit proposals here by April 22, 2024: https://tinyurl.com/uncg-2024-call

Plenary Sessions

Sessions are usually panel format rather than individual presentations. Panels typically last 60-90 minutes and highlight on-the-ground efforts in the host community or network-wide initiatives. The UNCG Conference has 2-3 plenary sessions over the course of the three days together.

Concurrent Sessions

Sessions typically take the form of a presentation, a panel, or a roundtable discussion. They are usually 60-90 minutes, depending on the number of people and placement on the agenda.

Since we are gathering in Oregon, where collaborative governance has a long and deep history and broad-based support within the state, government, and communities, we are seeking proposals that address collaborative governance roots and growth.

Session Questions

Sessions might address one or more of the following questions:

1. Our history. How does the historical trajectory of collaborative governance in the contexts in which you work influence your practice or your facilitation?
2. Mindfulness. What mindfulness practices are you applying to/using while teaching or facilitating? How can we be more mindful of inclusivity in collaborative governance practice?
3. Democracy & Collaborative Governance. What are the key issues related to democracy that will enhance or hinder the practice of collaborative governance?
4. Artificial Intelligence. Given the rapid advances being made in AI technology, how are you seeing AI impacts on your work or collaborative governance in general?
5. Our future. What challenges or barriers do you see for the future of collaborative governance processes, and how can these barriers or challenges be overcome?

⚡ Lightning Talks

Fast-paced talks intended to spark new conversations & collaborations, usually 1-2 presenters for ~7 minutes.

This year we will be using the 'Lightning Talks' as an opportunity for attendees to get a sense of what is happening around the country and to spark potential UNCG collaboration or cross-member projects.

We are seeking proposals for Lightning Talks in each of UNCG's three strategic areas:

**Research &
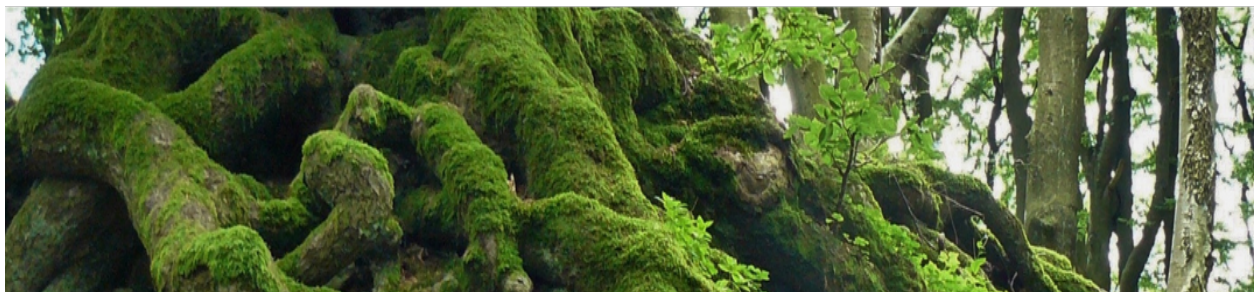Scholarship**

**Teaching
& Training**

**Practice &
Engagement**

We often group Lightning Talks together into groups of three or four and then provide space for lightning talkers and attendees to engage in discussion or Q&A after each group.

Your Lightning Talk should address:

- What and why do you / does your center do? How long have you been doing this?

- How have you/your center grown? Share your achievements or challenges.

- Where do you see you/your center going in the next five years?

- Identify where you might invite partnership or collaboration with others.
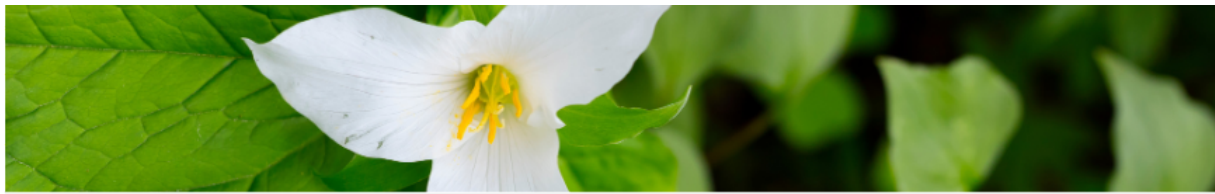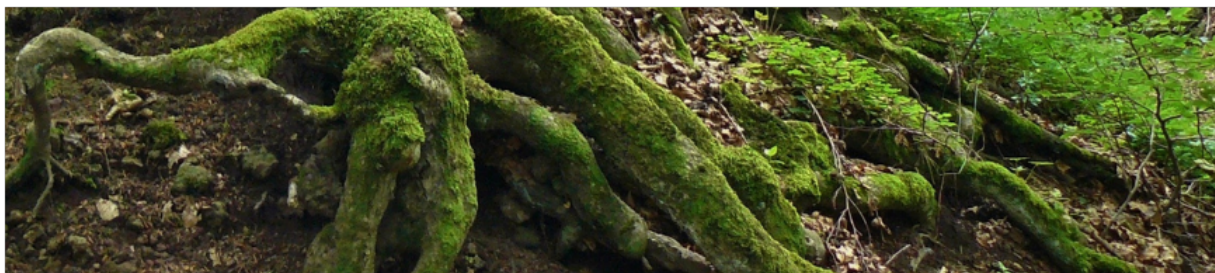
ROOTS & GROWTH

University Network for Collaborative Governance

Annual Conference

June 20-22, 2024 | Portland, OR (in person)

Submit proposals here by April 22, 2024:

https://tinyurl.com/uncg-2024-call

Conference details here:

www.kitchentable.org/annual-conference