Call for Proposals

About the Conference:

The first annual Gonzaga University Leadership Studies Student Research Symposium will take place on the campus of Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington on March 22-23, 2013. The aim of this conference is to surface and explore emerging questions and/or completed research currently occupying leadership studies undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students at Gonzaga. The conference is intended to stimulate dialogue and critical reflection of the multiple perspectives of our students, our programs and the complexity of the field of leadership studies. The conference is also intended to highlight the theory and practice of leadership studies research methodologies currently alive in our programs.

Our conference is committed to encouraging leadership scholars and practitioners from various programs and levels to participate in an all-inclusive dialogue about the state of the art in leadership studies at Gonzaga University.

Proposal Submission:

We invite your submission of paper presentation, roundtable poster, or Fireside Chat session proposals. We welcome proposals that broadly cover both traditional and experimental approaches to leadership research. We are interested in emerging conceptions or ideas that you feel are good possibilities for formal research, research-in-progress, and findings from completed research. **Submissions will be accepted through March 1, 2013.**

This year’s conference is open to current Undergraduate Comprehensive Leadership Program (CLP) students, Communication Leadership, Organizational Leadership, and Doctoral students and candidates at Gonzaga University. Students and candidates may submit either a full paper, a roundtable poster, or a Fireside Chat proposal. Faculty in your specific program will review proposals. [See faculty contact person below.] Decisions about scheduling will be made by the Conference Program Committee.

**When submitting your proposal, please be sure to indicate whether your submission is for a paper, a round table-poster, or a Fireside Chat session.** Abstracts for proposals are limited to 150 words. Please include an explicit statement of your presentation's/research's purpose and key question or questions
your research is concerned with. Guidelines and suggestions regarding presentations (for all formats) will be forwarded by faculty upon acceptance of proposals.

Possible Strands in Student Research in Leadership Studies:

We ask that applicants craft their proposals and submit to one of the following four strands or areas:

- **Conceptualization of Research in Leadership Studies & Communication** – Students who want to discuss a research design are encouraged to apply to this strand. The research is in its inception and one who submits to this strand has an emerging idea, conceptualization, or design to discuss. Perhaps guiding questions or working hypotheses might be explored or discussed.

- **Research-in-Progress in Leadership Studies & Communication** – Students interested in this strand have a working research project they wish to discuss with the audience. What are exciting methods used in your research? What are preliminary findings that seem intriguing or puzzling given one’s original research questions? What have been research challenges; how have you overcome those challenges?

- **Completed Research in Leadership Studies & Communication** – Share with the audience findings of your completed research. What was/were your original research question(s)? What were key findings or themes? What are the implications of your research? What suggestions do you have for others, post research?

- **Fireside Chats** – In this strand, we want students to propose discussion topics they would be willing to facilitate. In the proposal, one would suggest a topic and present a short introduction including a rationale for the topic and possible discussion/conversation questions. If a proposal is chosen in this strand, the student would introduce the topic to the audience with a few guiding questions, and then facilitate the conversation. Ideas for topics might include: facing and conquering writing challenges; choosing research topics; juggling many roles as a Gonzaga student; what is leadership, and so on.

Session Formats:

- **Paper Sessions**: Presenters submitting proposals for paper sessions will be grouped by the conference committee and will present a 20-minute synopsis of their design or research-in-progress or research findings. At the conclusion of all presentations in each session, a 10-minute time of questions and answers will follow. More specific detail around session structure will be forthcoming.

- **Roundtable-Poster Sessions**: Presenters submitting proposals for roundtable-poster sessions will be allocated space in a grouping with other presenters. The presentation, in the form of a “poster” or laptop display or table discussion, will be made available for at least a 30-minute block of time. During this time, presenters will be with their display to answer questions about the research one-on-one or with small clusters of viewers.

- **Fireside Chats**: Presenters submitting proposals for fireside chats will be encouraged to circle chairs into a discussion space. Fireside chat facilitators will have 30 minutes to introduce a topic, provide a few guiding questions, and then facilitate the ensuing discussion.

- **Online**: Online presentations will be possible. Please submit a proposal for an online session to the appropriate faculty member below if you are interested.

To learn more about the 1st Annual Leadership Studies Student Research Symposium, please visit [www.gonzaga.edu/leadershipsymposium](http://www.gonzaga.edu/leadershipsymposium)

Faculty Contacts:

Email abstract proposals with Subject Heading: Leadership Conference to:

- CLP- Josh Armstrong – armstrongj@gonzaga.edu
- Communication Leadership – Pavel Shlossberg – shlossbergp@gonzaga.edu
- Organizational Leadership – Dennis Conners – conners@gonzaga.edu
- Doctoral Leadership – JoAnn Barbour – barbourj@gonzaga.edu
- Online Presentations – Lazarina Topuzova – topuzova@gonzaga.edu