



## SIETAR USA 2021 NATIONAL CONFERENCE CALL FOR PROPOSALS!

### MIND, CULTURE, AND SOCIETY October 8-11, 2021

Join us to explore connections between Mind, Culture, and Society. How does the intersection of these three vital aspects change how we view and react to the world around us? The schisms in today's world such as rural/urban; immigrant/citizen; and the gaps caused by differences in religion, race, gender identity, and politics challenge us daily. How does a deeper understanding and intersection of these three factors enhance our capacity to bridge such separations? This conference will shine a light on the impact of emerging neuroscience applications, current perspectives on culture, and social parameters within the Intercultural and Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion fields. Come present at this year's conference and lead the discourse addressing these important questions.

### Tracks

**Mind:** Leveraging Neuroscience, Mindfulness, and Beyond. Scientists studying the brain have applied their findings to many areas of human interaction. Most significantly, neuroscientists are increasing our understanding of the mind in such areas as prejudice and bias, culture, resiliency, and leadership. What can we learn from them that applies to our work? How can the mind-body connection be leveraged to heal schisms and historic trauma? How can the practice of mindfulness facilitate greater understanding and more equitable outcomes? How can we decolonize the mind? What current research can we apply?

**Culture:** What are the new and emerging conceptualizations of culture, identity, and intercultural competence and their applications? Have the events of 2020 with the widespread focus on anti-racism initiatives and the increased awareness of the pervasive impact of white supremacy influenced your approach to learning and teaching about intercultural competence? Have you changed and adapted your focus on culture and identity in response to our current challenges? Why or why not? What are the ways forward?



**Society:** What have we learned about the issues facing today's societies around the world and how can they help create a more positive impact in the USA and vice versa? What is the role or duty of the intercultural or DEI professional? Prominent among the issues facing us as professionals is the impact of racial aggression, health pandemics, challenges to democracies, new and ongoing civil unrest, immigrant and migrant issues, and concerns regarding racial and gender identity. How do these issues shape the work we do on the ground and how are they shaped by our work? And finally, how do the intercultural and DEI perspectives intersect and inform each other?

**General:** This category has been present since the inception of SIETAR. It is reserved for those sessions that address intercultural and DEI education, training and/or research that **do not** necessarily fit neatly into the tracks of the conference theme. We welcome proposals on any general appropriate intercultural topic however, those addressing the Mind, Culture, or Society Tracks will be given priority.

Here are the descriptions of the format options presenter(s) can select for submissions, along with deadlines and other pertinent details.

## **Formats**

Proposals for concurrent sessions can be submitted in the following formats:

1. **Workshop:** A workshop typically features a combination of presentation and interaction with a well-defined structure, handouts, and visual aids. Within this format a simulation or set of exercises may be conducted to teach participants how these methods can be used in training and education. The length of the workshop can be 75 or 90 minutes depending on the nature of the learning experience. Please note: SIETAR-USA conference workshop participants expect both a deep level of learning and a high degree of experiential engagement.
2. **Panel Discussion:** A panel brings together the perspectives of three or more presenters in a discussion of best practices and applications of concepts and theories. These sessions are intended to engage audience members by thinking about the multiple perspectives presented and the impact on current and future intercultural professional practice. The length of the panel can be 60 or 75 minutes depending on a topic and number of presenters.



3. **Presentation:** A presentation is usually by one or two presenters who are reporting on a project, new development in their work, a new conceptualization of existing theory or practice, a revision of a method or something that is of general interest to most conference participants. Presentations are limited to 60 minutes. Please note: this is an open category for the kind of reporting and discussion that has long been the backbone of SIETAR USA conferences.
  
4. **Reflective Forum:** A forum is a facilitated discussion with participants on a topic of importance. We encourage experienced facilitators to submit their proposals of a topic describing the reflection model or format with which they would lead the process. The length of the forum can be 60 or 75 minutes depending on the topic and format. Please note: This forum is meant to be a time in which participants can contribute to processing a controversial issue or urgent topic for the intercultural field.
  
5. **Research:** This format consists of lecture and discussion of the results of a research project or academic study. Researchers are encouraged to share copies of their paper with the audience. The length of the research presentation is 60 minutes. Please note: SIETAR audiences appreciate a question and answer (Q&A) time.
  
6. **NED Talks:** One conference session time slot will be dedicated to highlighting a series of 10-minute TED-style talks. These should be on a topic of importance to you, the field, be relevant to the overall conference theme, and/or one of the tracks. Your NED Talk should be concise, well-presented, and engaging for the audience. Each Talk will be strictly limited to ten (10) minutes. If you have a video of a similar talk you have presented, please feel free to attach the link to the video file as part of your submission.  
*\*NED Talks, similar to TED Talks, are named in honor of one of the founding fathers of the intercultural; field, Edward T. Hall, commonly called Ned by his friends and family.*
  
7. **Artistic Expression:** Non-traditional presentations that place a primary emphasis on performance and may rely on music, visual arts, theater, film, or physical movement to deliver the intended messages. The performance aims to increase participants' knowledge of a dimension of the intercultural experience. The length of the presentation can be 60 or 75 minutes. Please note: When you submit a proposal for artistic expression, please identify any special technical requirements you may have in the comments. We will let you know if they involve additional costs.



### **Deadlines**

The **Priority Deadline** for submitting proposals is **April 30, 2021**. Proposals received by that date will be given priority in the review process.

Proposals will be accepted through the general submittal deadline of **May 16, 2021**.

### **Technology**

A screen, projector, flip chart and markers are provided. We do not supply computers or other equipment. Presenters should plan to bring your own laptop if needed.

### **Peer-Review**

All proposals are peer-reviewed and notifications will be made by June 10, 2021. Requested revisions to proposal will be due by June 20, 2021.

### **Conference Registration**

Once selected, presenters are asked to confirm their intention to present by June 30, 2021 and are expected to register for the conference by July 15, 2021. **Regretfully, as a non-profit organization, we do not have the budget to compensate for presentations or cover presenters' registration and travel expenses.** Presenters who have not registered by the July 15 deadline will be removed from the list of presenters.

### **Questions**

All questions and inquiries should be referred to [conferenceproposals@sietarusa.org](mailto:conferenceproposals@sietarusa.org).

To get started on your proposal, go to: [www.sietarusa.org/2021CFP](http://www.sietarusa.org/2021CFP)

Thank you for your consideration and for taking the time to submit your proposal. We look forward to seeing you in OMAHA, Nebraska, USA!