



ResilienceCon 2018

Call for Conference Submissions

Deadline: February 9, 2018, 11:59 PM CST

Conference Dates: April 29- May 1, 2018

We are excited to announce the 2018 ResilienceCon! ResilienceCon is designed to: 1) shift research, prevention, and intervention on violence and other adversities to a focus on strengths and resilience, and 2) “disrupt” the usual conference format to create a more interactive, forward-looking, think-tank environment. When great minds get together, they should talk to each other!

To this end, we are offering a range of innovative and traditional presentation formats, following on our successful programs from 2016 and 2017.

There will also be other activities, including the chance to participate in a format from the writing community called First Pages (see below), and skill-building sessions in prevention, assessment, and intervention.

Program Topics

We invite submissions on all aspects of resilience and adversity, including:

- Protective factors for all aspects of the social ecology, including characteristics of individuals, families, schools, and communities
- Strength and resilience among people and communities of color
- Cross-cultural and international research on strengths or resilience (*note that posters may be submitted in English, Spanish, or French*)
- Resilience across the full spectrum of sexual and gender identities
- Gender differences and related factors, such as the impact of rigid gender roles and peer networks on resilience
- Community resilience and the need for addressing health disparities and other systemic issues
- Resilience in children
- Resilience and rehabilitation in criminal justice and other offender settings
- Promoting resilience among active military personnel and veterans
- Aspects of well-being, health, and other resilient outcomes
- Understanding the links between violence & other adversities, protective factors, and resilient outcomes
- Understudied aspects of coping and well-being, such as benefits of sports, exercise, religious involvement, familism, and traditions
- Developmental or other longitudinal studies of strengths or resilience

- Strengths-based approaches to prevention, such as social and emotional learning (SEL), cultural connectedness, redefining masculinity, and bystander programs
- Strengths-based interventions, including but not limited to mindfulness, narrative, and skill-building programs
- Strengths-based approaches to working with historically under-served and/or stigmatized groups
- Applications of resilience and strengths-based approaches to criminal justice settings
- Post-traumatic growth
- Trauma-informed care
- Resilience and schools, including school climate and social networks
- The impact of poly-victimization and/or poly-perpetration on resilience

Session Formats

All session formats require a title and abstract (300-word limit) for each presentation (organized symposia of 20x20 or retrospectives also require an overview abstract for panel), and 2 learning objectives.

Posters. A poster is a visual presentation of a project. Poster sessions offer opportunities for informal interaction with conference attendees. Poster sessions also offer the opportunity to learn about many studies in a single session. If you are a student or someone else who is working on their first research study, then we recommend the poster format, but more senior researchers may also submit posters. Posters may be submitted and presented in English, Spanish, and French.

Data blitz option for poster presenters. Poster presenters can also indicate whether they would like to be considered for the data blitz. A data blitz gives each poster presenter 3 minutes, using a maximum of 3 slides, to present the key findings from their poster and encourage people to stop by and learn more about their study. The data blitz is primarily designed for students.

20x20 presentations. 20x20 presentations are fast-paced slide presentations that are similar in style to TED talks. The name comes from the standardized format: each presentation is 20 slides set on a 20-second automatic advance. So, each presentation lasts exactly 6 minutes, 40 seconds. The 20-second advance favors slides that focus on a few (even one or two) words or images, not densely packed text. Several presentations will be presented in a single panel. Like TED talks, these are good presentations to offer commentary, present a new idea, or offer key highlights from a current research project. Note: 20x20 presentations are best-suited for experienced presenters.

20x20 symposia. We welcome teams of 5 to 6 presenters to organize their own 20x20 symposia (with or without a discussant).

“Hot topic” panel discussions. A 4-to-7-person panel on a current question in the field. These can be trending topics, controversies, or understudied issues (or all 3). These will be moderated Q&A sessions, with questions prepared and submitted in advance by panelists, the moderator, or attendees. This is a chance to move beyond the constraints of data-driven presentations to talk about theory building, brainstorm about reconciling contradictory findings, or making new connections between research and practice.

Perspectives. Perspectives are 12-15 minute talks that *provide an overview and synthesis of at least two different datasets*. We are especially interested in discussion of insights that are best appreciated from looking at findings that did and did not replicate, “lessons learned” about methods, or how these results can inspire future research on your topic.

Perspectives symposia. Teams of 4 presenters may organize perspectives symposia (with or without a discussant as a 5th person).

Practice-to-research circles. We are committed to tapping into the knowledge of front-line practitioners as well as researchers. We invite circles of 4-to-7 practitioners to each present briefly, in 5-6 minutes, an issue they believe needs more scientific study or greater consideration by researchers. Panelists will also take questions.

Submission Guidelines

[Visit our website](#) to submit online. You will need the following information to submit: Title; 200-300 word abstract; presenter’s name, affiliation, and contact information; co-authors’ names, affiliations, and emails; 2 learning objectives; and conflict of interest certification.

Other Opportunities

Life Paths Promising Scholar Award. We are offering five travel scholarships for presentations that focus on under-served or disadvantaged communities. Scholarships include conference registration and 2 nights’ lodging at the Scarritt-Bennett center (dorm-style lodging). Eligibility is limited to current students (graduate and undergraduate), post-baccalaureate fellows, and post-doctoral fellows. For full application details, see the ResilienceCon website.

First pages. The first page of many documents is the most important, including the abstracts of scientific papers and the “specific aims” or similar overview of many grant applications. We are borrowing this idea from writer’s conferences, where it is often one of the most popular sessions. Students and junior scholars (less than 10 years post terminal degree) are welcome to anonymously submit the first page of an unpublished & unsubmitted document (bring these with you—it is not necessary to submit in advance). These will be read or displayed and then analyzed by an experienced editor/reviewer and an experienced author.

Liberating structures and other communication techniques. There will be opportunities to discuss conference presentations and themes and learn innovative interactive techniques that can be applied in many settings.

Resilience “Trade Show.” A range of materials, including assessment tools, measures for research, articles, and descriptions of intervention techniques, will be available during the conference. Many of these will be available free of charge. Contact us if you would like to host a booth during ResilienceCon.

Conference Setting: Resilience Inside and Out

The Scarritt-Bennett Center offers an exceptionally beautiful and serene environment right in the heart of downtown Nashville. The campus is a combination of historic buildings (listed on the National Register of Historic Places) and tree-lined green spaces. The Scarritt-Bennett Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to social justice and we are supporting many strengths-based initiatives by supporting the Center. We hope the space will promote ResilienceCon goals by providing space (literally) for attendees to reflect on their roles as researchers and practitioners.

Scarritt-Bennett, near Vanderbilt University, is within easy walking distance of restaurants and shops in the vibrant West End and Midtown areas. It is a short drive to Broadway music venues.

There are many local hotels and housing options near the Scarritt-Bennett Center. In addition, there is some limited housing available on site that is consistent with their mission to provide a place for mindfulness and spiritual reflection. Like many retreat centers, the housing is simple and modest (no televisions in rooms and every two rooms share a bath).

If you prefer a conventional hotel, we have a list of nearby options on our website. There are also many Airbnb or VRBO (vacation rental by owner) options in the area.

Nashville is Music City USA and one of the most vibrant cities in the United States. Experience live music, an increasingly fantastic restaurant scene, world-class shopping, and many museums and landmarks in the vicinity. There are many family-friendly activities as well.

Chairs of ResilienceCon

Sherry Hamby, Ph.D. (Life Paths and University of the South), Victoria Banyard, Ph.D. (University of New Hampshire), and Nicole Yuan, Ph.D. (University of Arizona) are the Co-Chairs of ResilienceCon.

Inquiries can be sent to Martha Dinwiddie, ResilienceCon Conference Administrator, lifepaths@lifepathsresearch.org.

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