



CONSORTIUM **on** EDUCATIONAL  
RESEARCH **&** IMPROVEMENT



# WELCOME

# CERI was started to...

- make research endeavors between our institutions more efficient and ultimately more impactful
- promote the sharing of new knowledge to educational leaders
- to help support the next generation of SMU research by faculty and graduate students

# Principles

## Mutuality

CERI is an intentionally highly collaborative research-practice collaboration developed to benefit both SMU and Dallas ISD.

## Collaboration

SMU faculty, staff and graduate students and Dallas ISD leaders are encouraged to pursue studies collaboratively. Practice-based questions may emerge from Dallas ISD leaders that SMU faculty can help investigate and/or theory-based questions may emerge from SMU that Dallas ISD leaders can help explore.

## Contribution

Findings and learnings from all CERI supported projects are expected to be shared for learning and improvement opportunities across our institutions and with our broader fields.



# Who is here today?



# That's me!

I got caught in traffic this morning.

I work for DallasISD.

I am a DallasISD alum.

This is my first time presenting at a conference.

I work for a community partner or non-profit.

I am a SMU alum.

I work for SMU.

I am an educator.

I am a current SMU student.

# Dialoguing Across Difference: An Inside-Look into the Politics of Research-Practice Partnership

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## Politics

“The realistic process of making decisions and allocating resources in a context of scarcity and divergent interests” (Bolman & Deal, 2003, p. 181).

# Domains of Negotiations

## **Politics of Race**



How should Forest Park be framed? How should it be presented? What is its mission?

## **Politics of Research**

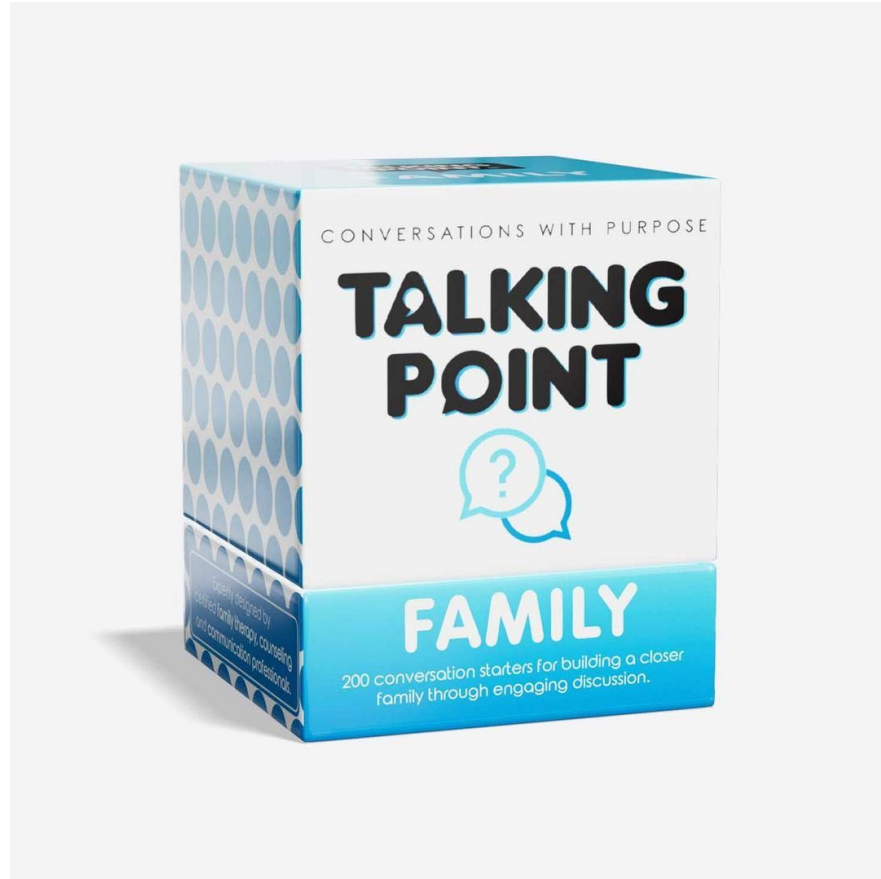


Who gets to do research? What is researched? Who makes these decisions? For what purposes?

## **Politics of Role**



How should Forest Park relate to other community organizations? What is its unique contribution? How does it fit into the local ecosystem?



# Questions to Consider

- How would I like to be more involved in the research-practice partnership?
- What are some ideas I haven't had a chance to share yet?
- What are some hesitations or concerns I haven't had a chance to share yet?
- How can we create space for these perspectives to be shared?
- What are my priorities and goals in this RPP?
- How is our work being received by others in the community?
- Are there any other voices we aren't hearing from?
- How can we dialogue across difference?





# Preview of today's schedule

# 10:40 – 11:30

## Room 104.A

- Connecting the Dots: How Focusing on Intentional Practice Can Strengthen Program Outcomes  
*Nora Douglas, STP; Justin Hensley, After School All Stars*

## Room 104.B

- Reset and Engage: A Collaborative Approach to Supporting At-Risk Students *Kelli Weaver, DISD*
- Advancing Place-Based University-Community Partnerships in West Dallas *Marc Sager, SMU*
- Combatting Inequality, Combatting Advanced Placement: Advanced Placement as Effectively Maintained Inequality *Brianna Freshwater, SMU*





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**11:30-12:00**

**Lunch &  
Networking**

# Roundtable: 12:00-12:50

Research  
Compliance  
104.A

Follow-Up  
Discussion with Dr.  
Christopher Hu  
104.B



# Posters: 12:00-12:50

## Lobby

afterschool

college  
readiness

cradle to  
career

literacy

career and  
technical  
education

teacher  
residency  
programs

# 1:00-1:50

## Room 104.A

- Storybook STEM: Integrating Literacy and STEM for Early Learners - Lessons from the Garcia West Dallas STEM School and Expansion to Community Afterschool *Karen Pierce & Jessica Murillo, SMU*

## Room 104.B

- Dallas City of Learning: Making Sense of Long-Term Summer Program Engagement and Student Outcomes *Dylan Farmer, SMU; Greg MacPherson, Big Thought*

# 2:00-2:50

## Room 104.A

- DallasISD Resource Centers *Jennifer Ells, DISD; Liliana Valadez, DISD; Blane Rogers, Brother Bill's Helping Hand*

## Room 104.B

- Read Up Early Literacy Collaborative: What we've learned and what we're doing about it! *Dana Gray, Read Up; Dylan Farmer, SMU; Celeste Fernandez, SMU; Deborah Ramos, DISD*
- Family and Community Engagement in Dallas ISD: 2024-2025 Program Evaluation and Impact on Student Achievement *Federico Ferrero, DISD*
- Evaluating Impact Together: A Partnership between Catch Up and Read and Southern Methodist University *Magda Pando, SMU; Carol Goglia & Martha Bujanda, Catch Up and Road*





**3:00-4:00**

**Reception &  
Networking**