

# MPACE 2026 Conference – Call for Proposals

Bridging Ideas, Building Possibilities

December 9-11, 2026

Fairmont San Francisco | San Francisco, California

***Priority Deadline to submit proposal - Friday, May 29, 2026 (11:59 PM PST)\****

***Final Deadline to submit proposal - Friday, July 10, 2026 (11:59 PM PST)***

*\*Submit by May 29 for priority review in the initial conference program planning process. When proposals are of comparable quality and topic, preference may be given to those submitted by the Priority Deadline.*

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\* Indicates required question

1. Email \*
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## What We're Looking For:

The Conference Programs Committee invites proposals for **60-minute breakout sessions** at the 2026 MPACE Conference, taking place **December 9–11, 2026** at the **Fairmont San Francisco**.

This year's conference theme, "**Bridging Ideas, Building Possibilities**," explores the future of career services and employer/university relations through innovation, collaboration, and people-centered progress.

We welcome proposals that:

- align with the conference theme and/or sub-themes,
- offer practical strategies, promising practices, or fresh perspectives,
- highlight meaningful partnerships, innovative approaches, or adaptable models,
- and provide value to both college and employer audiences.

Check out this 1-minute video that offers tips for submitting a successful proposal:

<https://canva.link/grykqg4o04gte5y>

## Sub-Themes

- **Power of Partnership** – strengthening collaboration and showcasing effective partnership models, including those between employers and higher-education institutions, partnerships among campus departments and units, and other cross-sector collaborations that expand opportunity and impact.
- **Purpose-Driven Digital Transformation** – using digital tools and AI intentionally to enhance access and support human-centered experiences.
- **People-Centered Progress** – emphasizing human connection, continuous learning, and practices that foster belonging and shared purpose.

**Please note:** This form is for **60-minute breakout sessions only** and is not intended for keynote, main stage, roundtable, or knowledge group submissions. This is **not a paid speaking opportunity**.

### Examples of Program Proposals

- Present creative strategies that maximize limited resources and can be applied across various institutions/organizations
- Discuss examples or case studies of re-tooling existing practices to meet the needs of today's students and workforce.
- Share innovative strategies for employers and career services to promote deeper collaborations
- Highlight initiatives and practices that elevate services and support for underserved populations

### Evaluation Criteria

- Alignment to conference theme/sub-themes
- Audience engagement
- Clear program purpose, objective, and learning outcomes
- Applicability of content to other institutions/organizations
- Innovation and forward-thinking perspectives

### Additional Guidelines and Information

- Individuals may submit up to 2 proposals (this includes being a secondary presenter for another's proposal).
- There is no limit on submissions per organization; however, the selection committee may consider this to ensure a diverse program lineup.
- Vendors may submit proposals; however, any content that promotes or solicits business, directly or indirectly, will be disqualified.
- Programs other than breakout sessions should not use this form (e.g. roundtables, keynotes, knowledge groups).
- Presenters shall provide their own laptops and adapters (if required).
- We welcome proposals from professionals at all career stages.
- Proposals are reviewed anonymously; evaluators will not see any identifiable information, including submitter's name, title, organization, or location.

### Presenter Information (Primary Contact Person)

2. Name \*

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3. Title \*

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4. Organization \*

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5. Are you an MPACE Member? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

6. If yes, what region?

*Mark only one oval.*

Mountain Central Region

Mountain East Region

Pacific Central Region

Pacific North Region

Pacific South Region

Out of Region

7. Presenter's Organization Demographics \*

*Mark only one oval.*

College

Employer

8. Will this session have additional presenters? If yes, please list each additional presenter's Name, Title, College/Company:

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9. Will presenter(s) attend the full conference or only select days?

*Mark only one oval.*

Full Conference

Wednesday & Thursday only

Thursday & Friday only

**Program Proposal**

All presentations will be a maximum of 60 minutes.

10. Presenter Background:

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*What relevant experience, perspective, and/or expertise do you bring to this topic do you bring that will help create a meaningful learning experience for participants? (3-4 sentences)*

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11. **Overall Category** \*

*Which of the following BEST describes the overarching category for your session proposal?*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Assessment & Strategy (Focuses on how data, assessment, and evaluation inform decision-making, improve practice, and demonstrate impact.)
- Career Readiness & Student Success (Explores building students' confidence, clarity, and preparedness for next steps, along with innovative ways to engage in meaningful career development.)
- Early Career Talent (Addresses development, programmatic efforts, and strategies that support students and recent graduates as they transition into the world of work.)
- Inclusion & Belonging (Considers how diverse backgrounds and equitable access contribute to organizational success, innovation, and a strong sense of belonging.)
- Organizational Effectiveness (Outlines how teams, leaders, and professionals navigate change, develop talent, and strengthen organizational practices.)
- Partnerships & Talent Ecosystems (Emphasizes how collaboration across roles, departments, institutions, and organizations create greater alignment and shared impact.)
- Professional & Personal Development (Covers topics designed to support attendees' professional growth and personal well-being.)
- Recruiting & Brand Awareness (Outlines methods and strategies for campus recruiting and effective approaches to building brand recognition among students.)
- Technology & Innovation (Describes how technology, tools, and systems are used to enhance efficiency, access, and overall effectiveness.)

12. **Title of Session** \*

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13. **Session Description for Display on Conference App \***

*(75 word limit)*

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14. **Session Topic \***

*What is the topic of your session? Please include a broad-scope overview of what this session will address.*

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15. **Session Content \***

*Please give an overview of the content that will be covered during the session. This should include session purpose and objectives, and may include any specific programs, research, or models that will be discussed during the session.*

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16. **Session's Learning Outcomes** \*

*Please list at least three learning outcomes that describe what attendees will gain/learn from your presentation.*

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17. **Audience Engagement for Session** \*

*How will you actively engage participants during the session? Examples may include discussion, reflection, case study, peer exchange, polling, pair/share, or applied activity.*

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18. **Transferability/Applicability** \*

How could the ideas, strategies, or practices shared in this session be applied at other institutions or organizations?

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19. **Sessions's Connection to Conference Themes**

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*Please elaborate on how your session connects to the conference theme of Bridging Ideas, Building Possibilities and/or to the sub-themes of Power of Partnership, Purpose-Driven Digital Transformation, People-Centered Progress.*

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20. **Intended Audience Type**

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*Please indicate the demographics of the audience type that would most benefit from the content of your presentation.*

*Mark only one oval.*

- College
- Employer
- Both College and Employer

**21. Openness to Collaborate** \*

*Due to limited program slots available, we may not be able to accommodate all strong proposals. In the event the selection committee identifies your proposal as strong and complementary to another, we would like to know if you are open to being contacted to pursue a joint presentation that could highlight multiple perspectives.*

Please indicate your willingness to explore this option:

*Mark only one oval.*

- Open to collaboration
- Prefer to present only with presenter(s) in this proposal submission

**22. Openness to Additional Opportunities** \*

If your proposal is not selected for the conference, would you be open to having it considered for other MPACE professional development opportunities?

*Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- Maybe - I'd like more information
- No

You should receive a copy of your responses, and this is your confirmation of submission. All submitters will be notified of their selection status by mid-September.

If you have any questions or requests for accommodations, please contact the 2026 Programs Committee Co-Chairs:

Jessica Rose

[Jess.Rose@lplfinancial.com](mailto:Jess.Rose@lplfinancial.com)

Amie Hammond

[akhammon@calpoly.edu](mailto:akhammon@calpoly.edu)

## Presenter Agreement

23. **Please confirm the following:** \*

I understand that accepted presenters are responsible for registering for the conference and covering their own travel and lodging expenses.

I understand that this is not a paid speaking opportunity and that no honorarium will be provided.

I understand that if selected, I will be responsible for bringing my own laptop and any necessary adapters.

I understand that conference rooms will include Wi-Fi, projector, and screen.

I understand that MPACE may publish my session title, description, presenter information, and presentation materials if selected.

I understand that this session shall not be used to directly promote or solicit business, products, or services.

I agree to notify MPACE promptly if circumstances change and I am unable to present.

### Typed Name / Agreement

By typing my name below, I confirm that the information submitted is accurate and that I agree to the presenter expectations listed above.

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