



2009 Association for Conflict Resolution Environment and Public Policy Section Conference

Mentor Orientation Workshop: Developing EPP Practitioners through Learning Relationships

Having a mentor has long been cited as one of the most influential means of leadership development and advancement. Achieving positive mentoring outcomes requires attention to the relationship itself which serves as the container for the learning to happen. This workshop is designed to provide potential mentors in the EPP Section with the knowledge, skills and tools to form positive mentoring relationships with mentee practitioners in the field. More specifically, the workshop will provide participants with:

- An understanding of what it means to be a mentor and/or mentee in the field of environmental and public policy mediation;
- Guidelines for optimal matching between mentors and mentees including mutual benefits and challenges for cross-difference matches as well as overcoming perceived obstacles
- A model for creating mentor-mentee relationship agreements including setting expectations, identifying realistic mutual goals and establishing ground rules and boundaries for the relationship; and,
- Experiential exercises for creating connection and positivity, understanding cultural/stylistic differences to appreciate diverse approaches to leadership and mentoring, and providing bi-directional feedback

Please join senior consultants Carolyn Smiley-Marquez and Laurie Hunt who will co-lead the session. Their combined significant experience in the fields of environmental and public policy mediation, mentoring and cross-cultural relationships means participants can look forward to a lively, interactive workshop where they will leave with a clear approach and practical skills for developing positive productive mentoring relationships.

When: Part 1 - Wednesday, June 10th; 1:00 - 5:00pm
Part 2 - Thursday, June 11th; 8:30am - 12:00pm
(Part 2 concludes just before the start of the ACR EPP Conference)

The second half-day (Part 2) builds on Part 1 so it is important for participants to attend both half days.

Where: University of Denver (specific location TBA)

Who: The workshop is designed for participation from individuals with many levels of experience who are interested in mentoring: senior practitioners with significant experience looking to improve their mentoring skills, impart their experience, or connect with mentees; mid-level practitioners who are both interested in mentoring and being mentored; and individuals who are newer to the field who are looking to be mentored. All are welcome. While many examples used in the workshop will be from the field of environment and public policy, all participants interested in mentoring are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Cost: There is no cost for the workshop.

For more information please contact Rob Williams at rwilliams@merid.org

Registration Deadline – Wednesday, May 20, 2009