

Campus Compact for Wisconsin members convene in Milwaukee for annual Civic Engagement Institute



Keynote speaker Harry Boyte addresses attendees of the 2019 Civic Engagement Institute on March 22, 2019. Photo by PM Photo MKE.

MILWAUKEE -- Over 100 faculty, staff, students, and community partners representing over 30 higher education institutions and community organizations convened in Milwaukee for the annual [Campus Compact for Wisconsin \(CCWI\) Civic Engagement Institute](#) on March 21-22.

This year's Institute was unique in a number of ways. For the first time, CCWI offered attendees a pre-institute session on deliberative dialogue training led by Leslie Garvin, Executive Director of North Carolina Campus Compact. Participants received strategies and sample questions for moderating a forum, as well as tips and tools for effective moderating.

"These types of opportunities are important for CCWI to offer, as connecting colleagues across the state to each other, as well as to new ideas and practices, helps strengthen the civic engagement efforts taking place across higher education in Wisconsin," Trina Van Schyndel, Director of CCWI, said.

Later that day, CCWI was pleased to recognize its [2019 Annual Awards Recipients](#), as well as the [2019-2020 cohort of Newman Civic Fellows](#) and the [2018 cohort of Campus Election Engagement Project \(CEEP\) Fellows](#) at the Annual Awards Dinner.



CCWI recognizes its 2019 Annual Awards Recipients at the Civic Engagement Institute on March 21, 2019. Photo by PM Photo MKE.

The next day, CCWI offered attendees a strong slate of sessions on a variety of civic engagement topics and saw a good mix of faculty, staff, student, and community partner presenters. Among the sessions offered was “Community Colleges for Democracy,” led by Verdis Robinson, Director of Community College Engagement for Campus Compact, to discuss the growing national network of community colleges committed to civic engagement.

CCWI wrapped up this year’s Institute with a keynote by Harry Boyte, Senior Scholar in Public Work Philosophy at the Sabo Center for Democracy and Citizenship at Augsburg University. Boyte is also the founder of the international youth civic education initiative Public Achievement and co-founder of the Public Works Academy. Boyte talked about the looming

“crisis of work” and the opportunities that this seeming crisis offers for colleges and universities to deepen their civic engagement.

“I gained valuable knowledge, ideas, and inspiration, from all the passionate community engagement practitioners and scholars involved...,” Garvin said. “I would highly recommend this event to anyone seeking to advance the higher education service-learning and community engagement field.”

CCWI would like to thank Alverno College as host of this year’s Institute, as well as Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU) as this year’s platinum sponsor.

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Campus Compact is a national coalition of 1,000+ colleges and universities committed to the public purposes of higher education. We build democracy through civic education and community development. Our national office is in Boston, MA, with state and regional Campus Compacts providing place-based support for member institutions located throughout the country. Campus Compact for Wisconsin (CCWI) was established in 2002 and comprises 27 members including public, private, and technical college campuses. CCWI is currently based at Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, WI.

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