Announcing a Request for Proposals
2024 NEA Higher Education Conference
March 15-17, 2024
Leadership Day – March 14
Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel, Atlanta, GA

Education. Democracy. Freedom. Our Right! Our Responsibility!
Promoting, Protecting and Strengthening Higher Education

The National Education Association invites your proposals for our in-person 2024 Higher Education Conference. Please CLICK HERE to access the request for proposals (RFP) form. To qualify for consideration by the conference committee, you must submit your proposal on the RFP form and include all required information.

Sessions must reflect the conference theme. Priority consideration will be given to sessions that demonstrate one or more of the NEA Leadership Competencies and: (1) present strategies to overcome the threats to higher education and the challenges to organizing; (2) tell stories of advocacy for the rights of faculty, students, and other stakeholders on campuses, in communities, and in state legislatures; (3) highlight success stories or creative strategies for organizing, bargaining, or communicating with members and potential members; (4) describe unionization or first contract campaigns; or (5) offer professional development to assist our members with current challenges and resources for social and emotional support. Please explain how your proposal specifically addresses inclusion of one or more of the following groups: women, people of color, LGBTQIA+ individuals and/or early career educators.

Workshop topics may include:

- **Organizing Successful Campaigns and Member Recruitment**: Share tactics and strategies proven to engage members, issue organizing around current threats and opportunities in higher education, e.g., attacks on academic freedom and tenure, dual enrollment, funding
- **Leadership Identification and Development**: How locals are identifying leaders and developing their skills.
- **Bargaining**: Stories of Bargaining for the Common Good are especially welcome.
- **Contingent Faculty**: How locals work toward equity for contingent faculty.
- **Academic Professional Staff and Education Support Professionals (ESPs)**: Best practices for organizing and engaging members & potential members.
- **Artificial Intelligence**: What's happening in higher ed, impacts on higher ed employees in the classroom, on campus, and at the bargaining table
- **Coalition Building**: Community and stakeholder organizing, faculty and ESP union collaborations
➢ **Racial and Social Justice**: Strategies and actions that unions are taking to address inequities in higher education for employees and students.

➢ **HBCUs and Minority-Serving Institutions**: Funding, organizing, policy issues and advocacy.

➢ **Data**: Use of data for bargaining, organizing, and member engagement and recruitment efforts.

➢ **Professional Development**: Use of PD as a values-based organizing tool.

**Proposals are due by October 27. We will notify applicants by November 21.**

If you have questions regarding the RFP process, please contact Valerie Wilk at vwilk@nea.org.

**Presenter funding**: NEA will fund one presenter per session and may consider funding a co-presenter in compelling circumstances. Besides waiving the conference registration fee, presenters selected will receive two nights’ lodging and transportation to the conference. NEA will reimburse all other travel-related expenses per the guidelines of the approved NEA travel policy.

Thank you,

The NEA Higher Education Conference Planning Committee

Chair: **Mark Jewell (NC), NEA Executive Committee**

Members:

*Peggy Hoy (ID)*

*Zena Link (MA)*

*Marcia Mackey (MI)*

*Kashara Moore (CA)*

*Will Page (CA)*

*DeWayne Sheaffer (CA)*

*Stacy Yanko (NJ)*