

CAISE AND THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION ISE PROGRAM  
ISE ORGANIZATIONAL NETWORKS CONVENING

November 17 and 18  
Melrose Hotel Room  
Potomac III  
Washington, DC

**AGENDA**

November 17

8:15 am: Breakfast Buffet and Informal Introductions

8:45 am: Welcome and Convening Overview

Jamie Bell, principal investigator and director, CAISE

Al DeSena, program director, NSF

Julie Johnson, Distinguished Chair of Museum Leadership, Science Museum of Minnesota

9:30 am: Project Introductions Round, Facilitated by Julie Johnson

Prepare a 15-min introduction about why you chose a network structure for your project. It would also be useful to know how you are measuring the effectiveness of your network and if and/or how your project directly addresses equity, diversity and access. PIs, Co-PIs and evaluators are encouraged to bring a visual representation to help communicate how you think about your network structure. Visuals may be digital or hand-drawn. Please post an image of your visual to the Project Visuals page of the wiki before coming to the convening.

Introduction order:

- Kipling, Broad Implementation: Creating Communities Of Learners For Informal Cognitive Science Education
- Wenger, Communities of Learning For Urban Environments and Science
- Dusenbery, STAR Library Education Network: A Hands-on Learning Program for Libraries and Their Communities
- Bell, Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network
- Means, Studying and Improving Networks for Disseminating STEM Educational Materials in After-School Programs
- Halversen, Communicating Ocean Sciences Informal Education Network: Scientists and Educators Working Together to Promote Ocean Literacy
- Thompson, National Science Festival Network
- McCann, Quest: Exploring Our Natural World
- Dean, TexNET: Texas Network for Exhibit-based Learning and Teaching

12:15 pm: Break

12:30 pm: Lunch and Program Officer Reflections

1:15 pm: Synthesis and Whole Group Discussion

Joy Frechtling, vice president and associate director of Westat's Education Studies Group  
Todd M. La Porte, associate professor at School of Public Policy at George Mason University  
Together they reflect on discussion and the conceptual hooks that stand out from the project introductions connecting touch-points to projects, practice, evaluation, research and frameworks. Also bring in cautionary statements about risks and capacity to build and manage networks.

2:15 pm: Small Group Discussions

Facilitated by Julie Johnson with Joy Frechtling and Todd La Porte  
Each group engages in generative dialogue about a common set of questions: what about the project introductions stand out to you? What are the differences between a network and other forms of working together? For example: compare and contrast the term collaboration and network, what are their distinctive features? Is there any clear consensus among projects about the definition of terms used to describe ISE organizational networks? The groups are to develop a set of terms, some with definitions, and topics that are unfamiliar or important to discuss. Each table has a wiki page, index cards, and an easel pad. These shall be populated with a list of terms, some definitions, and topics for discussion.

3:15 Break

3:30 pm: Whole Group Synthesis and Discussion

Facilitated by Julie Johnson with Joy Frechtling and Todd La Porte  
Each group has generated terms and discussion topics on index cards/easel pads to post on a 'jargon wall'. Each table transfers their easel pad to hang together on the wall. Group discussion surrounding word cloud generated from wiki notes and the 'jargon wall'.

4:30 pm: Informal Networking

4:45 pm: wrap

6:00 pm: Meet in Hotel Lobby

Walk to dinner, 6:30 reservation at Buca di Beppo.

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OF THE HOTEL! (BY NOON)**

November 18

8:15 am: Breakfast Buffet

9:00 am: Opening Discussion Reflections on Day 1

Initiated by Jamie Bell, Facilitated by Julie Johnson

Reflections on Day 1:

What stands out through the lens of our projects and visualizations. How has the discussion influenced thinking about our work? How would we share what we've learned here with our networks? Free-write a brief synthesis (200 - 250 words) of the day's activity and include reflection on network collaboration, research, and ways to disseminate meeting discussion. In terms of social media, consider who is in your network, who you influence in your network and who influences you. Craft tweets / social media posts.

9:15 am: Whole Group Discussion - Evolving Thinking About Networks

Initiated by Jamie Bell, Facilitated by Julie Johnson

When thinking of your own networks, how does your networking function relate to: innovation, creativity, scale-up, broadening participation, and improved efficiency of supply and distribution chains (knowledge, materials, resources)?

9:35 am:

What is it about a network whose purpose is innovation that may be different from networks of other purposes? (What evidence would you look for to know? What sorts of evidence would tell you it is not?)

10 am:

Given the previous day's exploration what new thinking do you have about your own networks? What about your networks or other types of networks?

11:00 am: Whole Group Discussion - Visioning a Plan of Action

Initiated by Jamie Bell, Facilitated by Julie Johnson

What might CAISE and NSF consider doing next with respect to moving this conversation forward?

At the PI meeting there will be a 1.5 hour conversation about networks. What do you feel should happen during that time? What do you want to plan for during that time and who among you will take up the charge?

Who is not in the room that would need to be part of this continuing action? Who in the room is willing to actively move this forward?

12:00 pm: Lunch

1 pm: Whole Group Discussion - Harvesting Group Insights

How do we as a field move this conversation forward and deepen it?

What would it mean to take this conversation out to more people? What would that look like?

2:00 pm: Closing and Thanks

2:30 pm: Wrap