

AAC&U INSTITUTE ON GENERAL EDUCATION
May 30 - June 4, 2008

Logistics Information for Team Members

Dates and Times:

The Institute runs from Friday, May 30th to Wednesday, June 4th. Check-in begins at noon on Friday and will continue throughout the evening. Meals begin on Saturday morning with breakfast. Following Saturday morning breakfast, the Institute begins with a plenary session and will conclude with a very nice banquet on Tuesday evening, June 3. Please plan on attending the banquet. Dormitories will be open Tuesday night and breakfast will be served on Wednesday morning. The Institute officially concludes Wednesday at 9:00 am.

Location:

The Institute will take place on the campus of the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities. All of the Institute activities will be concentrated on the west bank section of the University's Minneapolis campus. Overlooking the Mississippi river, this section of campus is quiet and a perfect setting for relaxed, efficient work. You can view and print a **campus map** at <http://www1.umn.edu/twincities/maps/mpls.jpg>.

Travel to Minneapolis:

Most major airlines service the twin cities' Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. Make your travel arrangements as soon as possible since fares often increase as the time of travel draws near.

Transportation into and within Minneapolis:

There are several options for transportation from the airport to campus and within the city.

Car: The drive from the airport to campus takes approximately 15 minutes. Some teams may wish to rent a car for use during the Institute and rentals are available at the airport from all major car rental companies.

Parking will be available on campus for a daily fee. Information on purchase of parking passes will be forwarded at a later time.

Taxi: Taxi service is available from the airport with fares to the campus averaging \$30-\$35.

Light Rail: The light rail system provides transportation from the airport to downtown Minneapolis in approximately 20-25 minutes. Light rail **fares** are **\$2.00** during rush hours (Monday through Friday, 6 to 9 a.m. and 3 to 6:30 p.m.) and **\$1.50** at other times. The Cedar-Riverside Station is a few blocks walk to the U of M campus, or you can take the train into downtown and catch a quick cab ride to the university. More information is available at <http://www.metrotransit.org/rail/>.

Shuttle Van: Super Shuttle provides shared van service in the twin cities, and more information about their services can be found at <http://www.supershuttle.com/>.

Bus: Within Minneapolis the Metro Transit system provides bus and rail service to many locations. Maps, fare information, and a trip planner can be found at <http://www.metrotransit.org/>.

Directions to the University of Minnesota:

Driving directions to the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis are available from the school's website at <http://www1.umn.edu/twincities/maps/directions-mpls.html>. If you are driving from the airport, follow the **north on I-35W** directions to the west bank campus.

Lodging:

All Institute participants will be housed in modern residence halls in single bedrooms with semi-private baths. All residence halls are within walking distance of the buildings where the Institute will have its meetings. In the halls, bed clothes and a pillow, 2 towels, a washcloth and soap will be provided. ***You might want to bring your own bath towel (if you expect thick and fluffy), an alarm clock (none in the rooms), hangars (probably none in the closet), and a small reading lamp.*** The dorm rooms are spacious but sparsely furnished, so bring along any comforts of home you find indispensable.

Check-in for participants will be in the lobby of Middlebrook Hall (412 22nd Avenue S, Minneapolis, MN 55455) on Friday, May 30, beginning at noon. More complete information about check-in, including what to do for late arrival, etc. will be forwarded at a later date. Check-out will take place on Wednesday, June 4. **Individuals who lose or fail to return keys will be charged \$30.**

If you are thinking of building a family vacation into your travel to Minneapolis, you should schedule family time for either the pre- or post-Institute period, since the schedule is intensive. ***Sorry! There are no accommodations on campus for family members.***

Telephones:

For ease of personal communications we recommend cell phones, but there are a few public use phones available that require a calling card.

Meals:

Most meals for Institute participants will be served in the dining room in Middlebrook Hall. The cost is included in the institutional participation fee. Dinner will not be served on either Sunday or Monday evening to allow participants to sample some of the great neighborhood restaurants.

Special Dietary Requirements:

Any participant with special dietary requirements should communicate these as soon as possible by contacting Gretchen Sauvey at (202) 884-7413 or sauvey@aacu.org.

Recreational Activities:

The conference is tightly scheduled, with little time for recreational or sightseeing outings during the week. However, Monday afternoon and evening will be free of meetings. For information on sightseeing in Minneapolis, visit <http://www.minneapolis.org/> or <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/visitors/>.

Dress:

Dress will be *casual* throughout the week, though some people prefer to dress up for Saturday and Tuesday's dinner banquets. Wear comfortable shoes for walking around on campus. The weather in Minnesota in early June can be quite variable and evenings are often cold, particularly in the residence halls at night. We recommend that participants pack clothes for a wide range of temperatures (40-80° F), as well as for the probability of rain. ***Remember: good walking shoes and clothes for both quite cold and pretty warm weather.***

Computers:

Computers are available for work and internet access in the dormitory. Internet access will be arranged for all participants: you will receive a password and an access code (more details to come). Dorm room internet access will require an Ethernet cable so plan to bring your own. We suggest that teams bring a laptop (or two...) to use for typing up notes, as well as USB memory devices for printing in the Institute office or at copy shops.

Photocopying:

There are copy shops within a short distance from the institute facilities. Details will be provided when you arrive on campus.

Additional Information:

All questions related to Institute logistics should be directed to **Gretchen Sauvey** at (202) 884-7413, e-mail address: sauvey@aacu.org.