Rooted in Values:
A Design Thinking Session

AAC&U Annual Meeting | Friday, January 26, 2018 | Washington, DC
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Introductions

Pace Center for Civic Engagement at Princeton University Core Values:

- Engaged Discovery
- Community Focus
- Impactful Programs
- Student Leadership
Objectives: Together We Will...

- Discuss design thinking, a methodology that unlocks creativity and collaboration.

- Use design thinking to explore how value formation is a key part of civic identity development.

- Identify opportunities for increasing, enhancing, or adding space for value exploration into service programming.
What is Design Thinking? Why do we use it?

- Design thinking as:
  - A cognitive style
  - A general theory of design
  - As an organizational resource

- It is solution focused, action-oriented and invites everyone to engage in the process of developing ideas.
**Inspiration**
Through interviews with and observation of end-users and other stakeholders, teams build empathy for the people for whom they are designing and are inspired by opportunities for design.

**Synthesis**
By exploring themes, connections and asymmetries in the qualitative data, teams articulate key insights and opportunities for design that might unlock impactful innovations.

**Ideation**
Using the insights and design opportunities, teams brainstorm hundreds of ideas and then develop core concepts that are viable, feasible and desirable.

**Prototyping**
Teams create low-fidelity prototypes of the concepts they have developed, test them with real end-users, and rapidly iterate based on their findings and feedback.

**Implementation**
Implementation takes place when teams have successfully piloted (and iterated) their concepts. While implementation will look different for every project, it is a sign that the teams’ ideas are ready to scale!
The Civic Learning Spiral

- Constructed around relationships and embedded interdependencies of everyday life, the spiral has six elements (or braids):
  - Self
  - Communities and cultures
  - Knowledge
  - Skills
  - Values
  - Public Action

Outcomes for Civic Learning about Values:

- Serious exploration of and reflection about core animating personal values
- Examination of personal values in the context of promoting the public good
- Espousal of democratic aspirations of equality, opportunity, liberty, and justice for all
- Development of affective qualities of character, integrity, empathy, and hope
- Ability to negotiate traffic at the intersection where worlds collide

Tasks for this Session

● Everyone participates
● Be creative - Allow yourself to think freely - don’t be constrained by organizational or budgetary limits!
● Quantity versus Quality -- we want quantity today!
● Two methods for brainstorming today:
  ○ Say it Out Loud
  ○ Post Its and You
● At the end of brainstorming, we will begin to “theme”
Question #1

What does it mean to prepare students for a lifetime of democratic engagement?
Question #2

How might we intentionally create spaces for students to examine their personal values in programming?
Question #3

How might empathy and hope be developed?
Question #4

How do we know that we are graduating civically engaged members of our society?
Taking the Work Back to Campus

- Build off of today’s conservation.
  - Concept Development
    - Forced Connections
    - Intelligent Connections

- Formulate your own questions and use design thinking with your colleagues, students and partners.