OVERVIEW

Thank you for your interest in the Lawrence B. Dumas Domain Dinners. Originating in 1998, the Domain Dinner series has featured hundreds of faculty presenters and engaged thousands of guests on a range of interdisciplinary topics. While presentation topics have ranged greatly since the series' inception, the mission has remained the same: to stimulate faculty interactions across departments and disciplines and to highlight Northwestern's distinctive interdisciplinarity.

Co-hosted by the Office of the Provost and the Office of Administration and Planning, the series has served as a launch point for various endeavors at the University and catalyzed numerous other existing research initiatives. While each installation of the series reflects the character of its presenters and the nature of the research being discussed, the general format and planning process remains the same. This guide provides faculty presenters an overview of the Domain Dinner planning process, as well as their responsibilities leading up to and after the event.

The Office of Administration and Planning coordinates the logistics of the Lawrence B. Dumas Domain Dinner series and can answer any questions you may have. Please direct all questions to Megan Blackwelder at megan.blackwelder@northwestern.edu or 847-467-1730.

PLANNING PROCESS

Below is a brief outline of the Domain Dinner planning process. The subsequent pages provide guidelines for selecting a topic, as well as the responsibilities of the presenters throughout the planning process. A full check-list of planning items can be found on page 7.
TOPIC GUIDELINES

Topics for the Lawrence B. Dumas Domain Dinners have ranged greatly since the series’ inception. Most recently, faculty panels have presented on topics such as: global poverty; music; water insecurity; trust; storytelling; and big data. In order to stimulate cross-disciplinary faculty collaboration and highlight Northwestern’s unique culture of interdisciplinarity, dinner topics must be highly cross-disciplinary in nature, appealing to a broad group of faculty across schools and disciplines. However, it is important to note that topics may be centered on completed research projects and/or new and developing research areas that are of interest to the University community.

Beyond simply being interdisciplinary, the most successful dinner topics are those that allow the presenters to pose a series of questions to attendees, opening the door to robust conversation and creating the opportunity for interdisciplinary connection and collaboration across Northwestern University. For example faculty presenters at the spring 2017 Lawrence B. Dumas Domain Dinner asked the question, “What are the consequences of water insecurity and how do we mitigate those consequences through interdisciplinary research?”

TOPIC IDENTIFICATION

Topics may be identified in one of two ways: through a proposal or suggestion from an individual in the Northwestern community; or through a suggestion from the Offices of the Provost or Administration and Planning.

It is most common that topics are proposed by a faculty leader or another individual from Northwestern. In these instances, the Office of Administration and Planning will review the topic with the Office of the Provost to determine if the topic will be pursued. In other cases, however, the Offices of the Provost or Administration and Planning may identify a topic of strategic interest to the University. If a topic is generated in this manner, the Office of Administration and Planning will reach out to a potential faculty leader for their partnership on the dinner.

In all cases, proposed topics and presenters are reviewed by the Provost and the Vice President of Administration and Planning who may make suggestions to changes in presenters or topic. Given the number of submitted proposals and numerous exciting research initiatives at Northwestern University, the Office of Administration and Planning is unable to accommodate every proposal submitted for a Lawrence B. Dumas Domain Dinner.
The faculty presenters are the most important component in the successful execution of a Lawrence B. Dumas Domain Dinner. These individuals are responsible for the following items:

- **Establish Intended Outcomes** – What should this dinner strive to achieve?

In order to best catalyze cross-disciplinary faculty connection, the Office of Administration and Planning works with the faculty leader and presenters to establish goals and intended outcomes for each dinner. Presenters are responsible for considering how the Domain Dinner might catalyze the work of the larger initiative, as well as their own individual work in advance of the first planning meeting. Below is a brief list of possible intended outcomes:

- Highlight the mission and/or direction of the research initiative.
- Showcase Northwestern’s current research in this area.
- Explain the impact of Northwestern’s research in this area.
- Highlight areas where Northwestern needs to expand research activity.
- Build community around a particular research topic.
- Establish connections with faculty from specific research areas.

After deciding upon a list of 3-5 intended outcomes, the faculty leader and presenters work with the Office of Administration and Planning to determine the appropriate mechanisms for achieving these goals. The Office of Administration and Planning then provides staff support and guidance in deploying these strategies to reduce workload on the presenters and to ensure the goals are carried out as successfully as possible. Strategies employed may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Data gathering and support.
- Tailored communications to target audiences.
- Coordination with partner offices/units.
- Marketing of future events or important, related initiatives.
- Specialized attendee surveys and follow-up messaging.
- Media coverage.

Measures to define the success of each Domain Dinner are dependent upon the intended outcomes established by the faculty presenters. Metrics by which previous dinners have been measured include:

- Attendance.
- Survey results.
- Anecdotal comments from presenters, faculty attendees, and administrators.
- New connections or collaborations reported by presenters at the six-month follow-up.
Establish Logistical Details — What questions should the presentations answer?

After establishing the intended outcomes of the dinner, the faculty leader and presenters work with the Office of Administration to coordinate several of the presentation details and logistical components. For each item, the Office of Administration and Planning can provide guidance and/or examples from past dinners to give additional context or information.

- **Presentation Framework**
  Using a draft presentation framework provided by the faculty leader as a starting point for conversation, presenters provide feedback and work with the faculty leader to establish the overarching question and framework under which they would like the presentations to be delivered. (e.g., *What are the consequences of water insecurity and how do we mitigate those consequences through interdisciplinary research?*) Presenters should consider how their presentations might coalesce with the research of others in the group and how the presentations might build into the overarching question to ensure strong audience engagement.

- **Event Description**
  Building upon the presentation framework and using a draft event description provided by the faculty leader as a starting point for conversation, the presenters are responsible for providing feedback and tailoring the text to ensure it will capture the invitees’ attention and provide an overview of what faculty may expect to take away from the dinner. An example has been provided on page 8 of this guide.

- **Individual Presentation**
  After establishing the presentation framework and the event description, the presenters are responsible for developing individual presentations that highlight their respective research and build into the overarching question the dinner. It is important to note that presentations should be at an appropriate level of detail for attendees outside of the presenters’ respective disciplines. In most cases, presentations should be created in PowerPoint, but exceptions can be made.

- **Concluding Presentation Slide**
  To summarize and outline the connection between presentations, as well as to reiterate the overarching question of the evening, a Concluding Presentation Slide is projected throughout the Question and Answer segment. Using a draft provided by the faculty leader as a starting point for conversation, the presenters are responsible for providing feedback and ensuring the slide aligns with the presentation framework. An example has been provided on page 9 of this guide.

- **Event Program**
  The Office of Administration and Planning will provide an initial draft of the event program, complete with drafts of the faculty presenters’ biographies. The presenters are responsible for reviewing their respective biographies and providing feedback to the Office of Administration and Planning. An example has been provided on page 10 of this guide.

- **Special Guests**
  In some cases, Presenters may identify a colleague (e.g. postdoctoral student) that would benefit from attending the presentation. The number of special guests is limited. Presenters are responsible for providing the names and contact information of special guests to the Office of Administration and Planning.

- **Presentation Dry Run**
  The Presenters are encouraged to schedule a dry run of their presentations in advance of the dinner. The Presenters and/or faculty leader should communicate this request to the Office of Administration and Planning which will coordinate the logistics.
Provide Six-Month Update – What resulted from this dinner?
The Office of Administration and Planning will reach out to the faculty leader and presenters six months after the event date to gather information on outcomes of the Domain Dinner. The Office of Administration and Planning will then synthesize all updates into a single Six-Month Follow-Up Report, which will be circulated to the faculty leader and presenters for review and feedback. The report will then be provided to the Provost and Vice President of Administration and Planning for their information.
The Planning Timeline below has been provided to assist the presenters at each stage of planning a Domain Dinner. Each task has been listed with the general time frame by which it should be completed. The Office of Administration and Planning will provide a calendar of specific dates to the presenters at the onset of the planning process.

**TIMELINE & PLANNING CHECKLIST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Date in Advance of Dinner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finalize event date with the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>16 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review draft intended outcomes, presentation framework, and event description.</td>
<td>12 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet with the Office of Administration and Planning to discuss intended outcomes, presentation framework, and event description.</td>
<td>12 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finalize intended outcomes and mechanisms for achieving goals with the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>10 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finalize presentation framework and event description and provide to the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>8 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide names and contact information of special guests to the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>6 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide edits to presenter biographies and finalize program with the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>2 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide finalized presentations to the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>2 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hold dry-run presentation.</td>
<td>1 Week</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**EVENT TIMELINE**

The event timeline below outlines the specific timeline of a Domain Dinner. The Office of Administration and Planning will provide an event timeline with additional information prior to the event date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presenters arrive at venue to review presentations and all A/V needs with IT staff.</td>
<td>4:45 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guests arrive for cocktails.</td>
<td>5:15 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presenters return to auditorium for final A/V check and microphones.</td>
<td>5:55 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provost provides opening remarks.</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentations begin.</td>
<td>6:05 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question and answer begins.</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provost provides concluding remarks and invites guests to dinner in the atrium.</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinner concludes.</td>
<td>9:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Power of Music: Approaches to Improving the Human Experience

There are few things as deeply integrated into the human experience as the acts of making and taking in music. As a universal and ancient form of expression and communication, music can profoundly transform our personal well-being at each stage of life no matter who we are or where we were raised. For decades Northwestern researchers have been at the forefront of gathering evidence to support the benefits of music including enhanced language development in young children; increased attention, working memory, and hearing in adults; and reduced age-related neural declines in older populations. However, new empirical evidence gathered by Northwestern faculty suggests music may have a far greater biological and social impact than previously understood—going so far as to recommend music as a transformative medium of intervention in the lives of today’s most underserved populations, including impoverished, at-risk, and incarcerated youth.

The applications of these findings have great potential, as we know our relationship to music and its remarkable benefits may be universal, but our human experience is certainly not. This begs us to ask, what role should music play in improving the 21st century human experience? In this iteration of the Lawrence B. Dumas Domain Dinner series, the following faculty will highlight the broader benefits of music and explore the unexpected role music can play in disrupting the seemingly irrevocable downward trajectories of at-risk and incarcerated youth, among other populations. In doing so, they will outline the dire outcomes of impoverished and detained youth; discuss how music training can offset the biological signatures of poverty; and explore how music can be used as a tool of intervention as well as its implications for social policy in this area.

Nina Kraus
Hugh Knowles Professor of Communication Sciences, Neurobiology, and Otolaryngology
School of Communication

Linda Teplin
Owen L. Coon Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Feinberg School of Medicine

Maud Hickey
Associate Professor of Music Education
Bienen School of Music
EXAMPLE CONCLUDING PRESENTATION SLIDE

Below is an example of the Concluding Presentation Slide to be displayed during the question and answer segment of the Domain Dinner.

Unifying research themes

**Defining** water insecurity: scarcity, safety, extreme weather hazards at each ecological level

**Measuring** water insecurity: Multi-domain, multi-scale assessments

**Solving** water insecurity: Centralized vs. de-centralized solutions, feasibility, affordability, sustainability

**Integration** of (new) technologies with policy, market economies, and human needs and preferences
EXAMPLE PROGRAM

Below is an example of the program used at a Lawrence B. Dumas Domain Dinner.

**Water Research at Northwestern University**

Water is central to all life. There is increasing global concern that limited availability of clean, safe water will impact public health, restrict economic productivity, destabilize vulnerable societies, and irreversibly damage native ecosystems – particularly in areas of the world with dense populations, contentious governance, and poor water resources. The Center for Water Research at Northwestern was formed in March 2016 to catalyze and coordinate water research across the University, increase the visibility and impact of our water research, and increase opportunities for Northwestern faculty and students in all domains touching on water. There is burgeoning programmatic development and support for water research across the University, including global strategic programs supported by the Mellon Foundation and the Buffett Institute for Global Studies, local and global research and engagement through the Institute for Sustainability and Energy at Northwestern, social science and public policy research through the Institute for Policy Research, and community and legal support through the Environmental Advocacy Center at Northwestern’s Wukum Legal Clinic.

This Lawrence B. Dumas Domain Dinner will discuss how Northwestern research can contribute to defining water insecurity from multiple perspectives, measuring water insecurity through multi-domain/multi-scale methods, and solving water insecurity through integration of new technologies with broader social, sustainability, economic, legal, and policy frameworks.

For additional information about the Center for Water Research, please visit the center’s website at: www.water.northwestern.edu

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**Event Schedule**

**Cocktails**
5:15 PM First Floor Lounge James L. Allen Center

**Welcome**
6:00 PM McCormick Foundation Auditorium James L. Allen Center Dan Linzer Present

**Panel Discussion**
Sera Young, Moderator
Assistant Professor of Anthropology
Faculty Fellow at the Institute for Policy Research
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences

David Dana
Kirkland & Ellis Professor of Law
Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
Faculty Associate at the Institute for Policy Research
Co-Director of the Buffett Institute’s Working Group on Climate Change Governance
Northwestern Pritzker School of Law

Aaron Packman
Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Director of the Center for Water Research
McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science

**Dinner and Concluding Remarks**
7:30 PM Philip and Nancy Butler Atrium Dining Room James L. Allen Center

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**Presenter Biographies**

**Sera Young** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology, Faculty Fellow at the Institute for Policy Research, and affiliated faculty with the Center for Water Research at Northwestern. Young focuses on reducing maternal and child undernutrition in low-resource settings, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. Her current work aims to better our understanding of both how to measure household-level water insecurity and the consequences of such insecurity. Young’s group is currently conducting formative work on scale development and validation in Kenya, with a long-term goal of creating a cross-culturally valid measure of household-level water insecurity. She earned a BA in Anthropology from the University of Michigan, an MA in Medical Anthropology from the University of Amsterdam, and a PhD in International Nutrition from Cornell University.

**David Dana** is the Kirkland & Ellis Professor of Law and the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs at the Northwestern Pritzker School of Law. Dana is also a Faculty Associate at the Institute for Policy Research and Co-Director of the Buffett Institute’s Working Group on Climate Change Governance. Dana’s current scholarly work focuses on a range of topics, including environmental and health risks posed by emerging technologies and climate change adaptations, among others. He currently teaches a course on Water Law, which examines the legal regime that governs the allocation and management of surface and groundwater in the United States and on international rivers and aquifers. Dana earned a BA and JD from Harvard University.

**Aaron Packman** is a Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Director of the Center for Water Research at Northwestern. His research focuses on water systems dynamics and the transmission of dissolved and suspended constituents, including microorganisms, in aquatic systems. The Packman research team is applying fundamental, interdisciplinary methods to a variety of problems in natural and engineered water systems, including nutrient and carbon cycling, contaminant transport and water quality, ecosystem degradation and restoration, and waterborne disease transmission. Packman is the recipient of numerous awards and honors including the Fulbright Distinguished Chair, Huber Research Prize, and Career Award from NSF and NIH. He received a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis and an MS and PhD in Environmental Engineering and Science from the California Institute of Technology.