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 launching 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 the presenting team with an overview of the Domain Dinner planning process, as well as his/her responsibilities leading up to, during, 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 questions to Kristi Hubbard, Assistant Director of Planning, at kristi.hubbard@northwestern.edu or 847-467-3622.

PLANNING PROCESS

Below is a brief outline of the Domain Dinner planning process. The subsequent pages describe each step in detail as well as the responsibilities of both the faculty leader and the presenters, known collectively as the presenting team.
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 the human-computer frontier, migration, neuroscience, global poverty, the power of music, and water insecurity. 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. 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 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 for topics to be proposed by a faculty leader or another individual from Northwestern. In these instances, the Office of Administration and Planning reviews the topic with the Office of the Provost to determine if the topic should be pursued before communicating the status to the faculty leader.

In other cases, 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 for changes in the topic and/or the presenting team. Given the number of submitted proposals and numerous exciting research initiatives at Northwestern, the Office of Administration and Planning is unable to accommodate every proposal submitted for a Domain Dinner.
FACULTY LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES

The faculty leader is an integral component in the successful execution of a Lawrence B. Dumas Domain Dinner. This individual works closely with the Office of Administration and Planning on the following steps:

Establish Topic – *What research area will the dinner highlight?*
As noted above, topics for a Domain Dinner must be highly interdisciplinary and appeal to a broad group of faculty at Northwestern. The faculty leader’s responsibility with regard to proposing the dinner topic varies depending on the manner in which the topic was identified. The faculty leader may be responsible for making the initial suggestion or proposal to the Office of Administration and Planning, or he/she may be contacted by the Office of Administration and Planning to assist in developing the topic idea.

Identify Presenters – *Who will present at the dinner?*
The selection of faculty presenters is one of the most important aspects of planning a successful Domain Dinner. The faculty leader is responsible for identifying potential faculty presenters and communicating those names to the Office of Administration and Planning. In situations where the presenters have not yet been identified, or if the faculty leader is desirous of additional input, the Office of Administration and Planning can assist in identifying faculty presenters. Faculty presenters should:

- Be tenured or tenure-line faculty of Northwestern.
- As a group, represent multiple schools and departments across the University.
- Demonstrate the value of Northwestern’s interdisciplinary approach to research and education.
- Have the ability to deliver a compelling and engaging presentation.

Special attention should be paid to creating a diverse presenting team in terms of gender, schools and departments, and faculty rank. Domain Dinners have been a great way to introduce new and/or up-and-coming faculty to the Northwestern community.
PRESENTING TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

Establish Intended Outcomes – What will the dinner strive to achieve?
To best catalyze cross-disciplinary faculty connection, the Office of Administration and Planning works with the presenting team to establish goals and intended outcomes for each dinner. In addition, the Office of Administration provides assistance with developing mechanisms for achieving these goals and metrics for measuring the success of each dinner.

Prior to engaging the presenting team in this discussion, the Office of Administration and Planning works with the faculty leader to identify a potential list of intended outcomes and mechanisms for ensuring success. A draft of these are subsequently provided to the presenters for review and consideration in advance of the first planning meeting.

A list of possible intended outcomes include the following:
- 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 presenting team works 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 presenting team and to ensure the goals are carried out as successfully as possible. Strategies to achieve these goals 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 presenting team. Metrics by which previous dinners have been measured include the following:
- Attendance.
- Survey results.
- Anecdotal comments from presenters, faculty attendees, and administrators.
- New connections or collaborations reported by presenters at the six-month follow-up.
PRESENTING TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

Plan and Coordinate Presentation – *What questions will the presentations answer?*

The presenting team works with the Office of Administration to coordinate the presentation details and logistical components. For each item, the Office of Administration and Planning provides guidance and/or examples from past dinners to give additional context or information.

- **Presentation Framework**
  Once the presenters have been identified, the faculty leader is responsible for drafting an overarching question and potential framework under which the presentations could be delivered. (e.g., *What are the consequences of water insecurity, and how do we mitigate those consequences through interdisciplinary research?*) The faculty leader should consider how each presenter’s individual presentation 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, the faculty leader is responsible for providing an initial draft of the event’s description. This text should capture the invitees’ attention and provide an overview of what faculty may expect to take away from the dinner. The initial draft is reviewed and edited by the presenters and central administration. An example has been provided on page 9 of this guide.

- **Individual Presentations**
  After establishing the presentation framework and the event description, the presenting team is 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. Please note that the faculty leader can serve as both a moderator and a presenter, a moderator only, or a coordinating leader only.

- **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. The faculty leader is responsible for drafting this slide or providing guidance to the Office of Administration and Planning who can provide assistance in developing this slide. An example has been provided on page 10 of this guide.

- **Event Program**
  The Office of Administration and Planning provides an initial draft of the event program, complete with drafts of the presenters’ biographies. However, the event program can also provide dinner attendees with information related to existing research initiatives, centers, or institutes at Northwestern. The presenters are responsible reviewing their biographies and providing feedback to the Office of Administration and Planning. An example has been provided on page 11 of this guide.

- **Special Guests**
  In some cases, the presenting team members may identify a colleague (e.g., postdoctoral student) who 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.
PRESENTING TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

- **Presentation Dry Run**
  The presenting team is encouraged to meet together as a group to hone the details of their presentations to ensure no overlap, smooth transitions, and an overall sense of teamwork and coordination. The Office of Administration and Planning schedules at least one dry run of the presentation on-site in the event location in advance of the dinner.

- **Presentation**
  The presenting team adheres to the day-of-event schedule, and the presentations are successfully delivered.

- **Question and Answer**
  The faculty leader moderates the Question and Answer segment, which is meant to elicit robust conversation and debate from attendees. The following guidelines should equip the moderator to lead this discussion successfully and will be provided again closer to the event.

  **Question and Answer Guidelines**
  - The Question and Answer segment generally runs from 7:00 to 7:30 PM.
  - As the last presentation is completed, the moderator is responsible for transitioning from the presentations to the Concluding Presentation Slide to the question-and-answer dialogue.
  - As the moderator makes this transition, he/she should outline the following instructions:
    - Microphones will be provided by two staff, alternating sides of the auditorium with each question. Faculty are asked to hold their questions until a microphone has been provided.
    - Faculty are asked to introduce themselves with their name, title, and department prior to clearly stating their question.
    - Faculty are asked to keep each question brief, recognizing that there will be many questions for the presenting team.
    - Discussion will end at 7:30 PM, but faculty are welcome to continue conversation over dinner.
  - The moderator directs the staff members to each faculty member with a question, attempting to ensure parity across the room. (Please note, the moderator should direct the staff members with the microphones, rather than having the staff members attempt to determine who should ask the next question.)
  - At 7:25 PM, the moderator announces last question.
  - At 7:30 PM, the Provost concludes the Question and Answer segment of the event and asks faculty to continue conversation over dinner.

**Provide Six-Month Update – What resulted from this dinner?**
The Office of Administration and Planning will reach out to the presenting team approximately six months after the event date to gather information on outcomes of the Domain Dinner. The Office of the Administration and Planning will use this information to create a summary report for the Provost and Vice President of Administration and Planning.
PLANNING TIMELINE

The Planning Timeline below is provided to assist the presenting team at each stage of planning a Domain Dinner. Each task is 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 presenting team at the outset of the planning process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Date in Advance of Dinner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finalize topic with the Offices of the Provost and Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>24 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify presenters in coordination with the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>20 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finalize event date with the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>16 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft intended outcomes, presentation framework, and event description and meet with the Office of Administration and Planning to discuss.</td>
<td>13 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 edits to biography and finalize program with the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>6 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide names and contact information of special guests to the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>4 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft concluding presentation slide and provide finalized presentation to the Office of Administration and Planning.</td>
<td>2 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hold a dry run with the presenting team on-site in the location of the event.</td>
<td>1 Week</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

EVENT TIMELINE

The event timeline below outlines the general day-of timeline of a Domain Dinner. The Office of Administration and Planning will provide a specific 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 impair public health, restrict economic production, 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 2014 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 Tickle Earth Initiative 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 policy research through the Institute for Policy Research, and community legal support through the Environmental Advocacy Center at Northwestern’s Bienen 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 multidisciplinary/multiscale 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

\Event Schedule\  
\Presenter Biographies\  

\Event Schedule\  

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

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

Panel Discussion
Sera Young  
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  
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 Kelder Atrium Dining Room  
James L. Allen Center

\Presenter Biographies\  

Sera Young  
as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology, Faculty Fellow at the Institute for Policy Research, and Affiliate Faculty with the Center for Water Research at Northwestern, Young focuses on reducing maternal and child malnutrition in low-resource settings, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa. Her current work aims to better understand the intersection of nutrition, health, and climate change, with a focus on the role of water insecurity in the context of poverty and gender. She earned a PhD 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  
as 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 member 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 the interface of law and public policy, with an emphasis on the legal and regulatory framework governing climate change adaptation, regulation, and climate-related risks.

Aaron Packman  
as a professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Director of the Center for Water Research at Northwestern, Packman has been a leader in the development of new technologies and dynamics of water systems. His research focuses on the development of new technologies for 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 Awards from NSF and NIH. He received a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Washington University in Saint Louis and an MS and PhD in Environmental Engineering and Science from the California Institute of Technology.