

# HETERODOX ACADEMY PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAMMING

On **Thursday, June 6**, HxA is proud to offer hands-on, practical workshops from 1:00-4:45 PM, followed by an exclusive networking dinner from 5-6 P. Registration for Pre-Conference programs is open to all conference registrants for a modest additional fee. See below for full descriptions, including any restrictions or requirements. Sign up using the [conference registration form](#). We are grateful to the members and partners who make this possible!

## Session Overview

(see below for full descriptions)

Category	1:00-2:45 PM Session	3:00-3:45 PM Session	Presenter
<b>Organizing &amp; Advocacy</b>	Putting Principles in Action*	Building an Impactful HxA Community	Martha McCaughey and Bethany Boucher
<b>Professional Rights</b>	When to Pull the FIRE Alarm: Understanding Faculty Rights and How FIRE's Faculty Legal Defense Fund Can Help (Attend either session)		Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE)
<b>Public Writing</b>	Writing for Mass Audiences: A Primer (Attend either session)		Musa al-Gharbi
<b>Teaching</b>	Building Capacity for Civil Exchange Among Students (Attend either session)		Mercatus Center at George Mason U
	Making Space for Contentious Topics in the Classroom (Attend either session)		Mill Institute at UATX
	Debating Contentious Ideas through Reacting to the Past (Attend either session)		David Eyck and Judy Walden
<b>Research Methods</b>	Why and How to Collaborate with Your Adversaries in Science (and Beyond) (Attend either session)		Adversarial Collaboration Project
<b>Student Affairs</b>	Foundations in Facilitating Dialogue as a Student Affairs Professional (Attend either session)		Constructive Dialogue Institute (CDI)

\*current Campus Community members only

## ORGANIZING & ADVOCACY

# \*Putting Principles in Action: A Workshop for HxA Campus Communities

**Presented by Martha McCaughey and Bethany Boucher**  
**1:00-2:45 PM only**

The value and joy of building a community with a shared purpose is foundational to creating a culture shift on your campus. The HxA Campus Engagement team invites you to this interactive workshop exclusively for active members in our HxA Campus Community Network, where camaraderie and creativity will converge as you and fellow Campus Community members identify opportunities, challenges, and strategies through a series of engaging activities that you can bring to your own Campus Communities. Serious progress can also be seriously fun—let’s turn our shared vision into reality. At this workshop, you can expect to identify your Campus Community’s distinctive approach to organizing, building and sustaining relationships across the Campus Community Network, consider what it means to be an expert and exemplar on your campus, determine what your Campus Community needs—from HxA, your campus leaders and stakeholders, and develop some strategic communication strategies for your Campus Community. **\*EXCLUSIVELY FOR ACTIVE HxA CAMPUS COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

## Building an Impactful HxA Community

**Presented by Martha McCaughey and Bethany Boucher**  
**3:00-4:45 PM only**

Leaders of existing HxA Communities, each with a distinctive approach to organizing, will offer those interested in building an HxA Community insight into proposing, starting, and structuring a community, as well as identifying goals, priorities, and potential partner groups and organizations. A panel discussion with a heavy emphasis on addressing audience questions and concerns, ending with an informal networking opportunity, will help participants understand the value, responsibilities, and impact of forming an HxA Community. This workshop will give you the tools necessary to identify what type of HxA Community is right for you, know how to propose an HxA Community, determine the appropriate cadence and priorities for meetings and programming, understand the commitments and rewards of building an HxA Community, and identify opportunities, strategies, potential challenges, and best practices.



## PROFESSIONAL RIGHTS AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM

# When to Pull the FIRE Alarm: Understanding Faculty Rights and How FIRE's Faculty Legal Defense Fund Can Help

**Presented by the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE)**

***Offered at 1:00-2:45 PM and 3:00-4:45 PM***

The Faculty Legal Defense Fund (FLDF) at the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE) offers "first responder" assistance in protecting freedom of expression and the academic freedom of public college and university faculty members. FIRE's FLDF staff will explain what these rights encompass, and what threats against them look like, as well as the scope of the program and how it operates as a resource available to you and your colleagues.

## PUBLIC WRITING

# Writing for Mass Audiences: A Primer

**Presented by Musa al-Gharbi, HxA Fellow and Assistant Professor, Stony Brook University**

***Offered at 1:00-2:45 PM and 3:00-4:45 PM***

Writing for a general audience is very different from academic writing in many respects. Scholars do not gain much training in conveying complex knowledge and ideas in a clear, concise, and accessible way for non-specialists -- however, mastering these skills can pay dividends in enhancing the reach and impact of one's research, improving one's pedagogy and enhancing one's opportunities. But for people who are interested in reaching a wider audience, it can often be difficult to know where to start. This session will provide a primer on how to compose an essay that stands a good chance of getting published in mainstream media outlets.

The workshop will be led by Musa al-Gharbi, a fellow at HxA, current professor of journalism and communication at Stony Brook University, and previous HxA Director of Communications.

Al-Gharbi's work has been published in the New York Times, Washington Post, The Atlantic, CNN, The Nation, The Guardian, The New Republic, and many other prominent outlets, and he regularly helps other scholars do the same including in the HxA Writers Group.



## RESEARCH METHODS

# Why and How to Collaborate with Your Adversaries in Science (and Beyond)

**Presented by Cory Clark of the Adversarial Collaboration Project, Univ. of Pennsylvania**  
***Offered at 1:00-2:45 PM and 3:00-4:45 PM***

This workshop will discuss Adversarial Collaboration, a methodological procedure in which scholars with contradictory empirical beliefs and hypotheses design new research together to adjudicate their competing perspectives. Dr. Cory Clark, the Executive Director of the Adversarial Collaboration Project at the University of Pennsylvania, will discuss how adversarial collaborations can improve and expedite the scientific discovery process and turn enemies into friends. She will instruct attendees on how to carry out adversarial collaborations successfully. Attendees are encouraged to BYOA (bring your own adversary) to facilitate brainstorming of project ideas. There may be opportunities to get involved in ongoing or new adversarial collaborations and to apply for seed money to initiate your own adversarial collaboration. This workshop is suitable for all, but academics and researchers might gain the most.

## TEACHING

# Building Capacity for Civil Exchange Among Students

**Presented by Benjamin Klutsey, Director of the Program on Pluralism and Civil Exchange at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University**  
***Offered at 1:00-2:45 PM and 3:00-4:45 PM***

Pluralism is one of the main ingredients necessary for a healthy democratic republic. It is the capacity in citizens to steward and appreciate diversity towards a healthy, liberal, inclusive society, even while making space for deep divides and disagreements. It's no secret that today's populace struggles to understand and practice it, but the university is the best place to reverse that trend. This hands-on workshop will provide attendees with tools that foster constructive dialogue, reflective listening, and the virtues of curiosity, authenticity, and respect. The workshop will invite participants to simulate Mercatus Center's "Pluralist Lab" experience and then breakdown the key elements so participants can use parts or whole of the training in their classrooms.

## Making Space for Contentious Topics in the Classroom

**Presented by Elisheva Avishai and the Mill Institute at the University of Austin**  
*Offered at 1:00-2:45 PM and 3:00-4:45 PM*

It can be very difficult to talk freely about contentious issues on campus. Part of the challenge we face is that certainty about our perspectives drives the oversimplification of ideas that, in turn, shuts down conversation. Join the founders of the Mill Institute at the University of Austin for an interactive session where we'll discuss how to create the conditions where students can challenge their own settled thinking. Agreement isn't the goal. Living with the disagreement is.



## Debating Contentious Ideas through *Reacting to the Past*: Revisiting Diderot's Encyclopédie

**Presented by David Eyck, Professor of French and Fellow at the Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center at Grand Valley State University and Judy Walden, Professor of History at Simpson College**  
*Offered at 1:00-2:45 PM and 3:00-4:45 PM*

Explore controversial ideas by taking a role in a complex game, set in the past. That's the idea of *Reacting to the Past*, now used at over 500 colleges and universities. Participants in this session will play an abbreviated version of the "Reacting" game: *The Enlightenment in Crisis: Diderot's Encyclopédie in a Parisian Salon, 1750*. In advance of the session, participants will be sent materials and assigned roles—such as Rousseau, Voltaire, Montesquieu, and other leading scientists and thinkers of the day. Will Diderot's dream team brave the threat of the death penalty for sedition and irreligion? Will they find enough capital to publish the most ambitious undertaking in the history of publishing? Come and reshape the contentious intellectual history of the Enlightenment—and learn about an active-learning pedagogy that's reshaping higher education.

## STUDENT AFFAIRS

# Foundations in Facilitating Dialogue as a Student Affairs Professional

**Presented by the Constructive Dialogue Institute**  
***Offered at 1:00-2:45 PM and 3:00-4:45 PM***

This workshop equips university staff in student affairs with the skills to facilitate meaningful conversations about contentious issues. Participants will learn out-of-the-box strategies to proactively create a culture of trust, techniques to support the development of students' mindsets and skills for engaging across differences, and specific tactics to intervene in tense moments of conflict. The workshop is highly interactive and experiential. Student affairs staff will learn new techniques and then will apply them through case studies and examples.

### **Workshop participants can expect to:**

- Receive an introduction to the Constructive Dialogue Institute's unique approach to setting up a culture of trust and dialogue through preparation, support, and intervention
- Gain strategies to create a culture of trust for dialogue
- Examine different ways to support student use of dialogue
- Learn how and best practices for intervening in moments of conflict

