



Campus Community Network

How to Establish a Heterodox Academy Campus Community

1 Familiarize yourself with the structure and goals of both HxA and HxA's Campus Community Network

HxA's Campus Community Network is made up of 50 Campus Communities in the US, UK, and Canada. Campus Communities, which range in size, are led by 2-4 HxA member co-chairs on that campus, with financial and other support from HxA. Over time, these campus-based groups grow and develop in different ways, based on the unique opportunities and challenges of each institution. Members of each Campus Community support each other's mission-driven efforts, showcase and model HxA values, and improve institutional policies, practices, and culture. Campus Communities are added to the Network by cohorts.

2 Review the Eligibility Criteria

Campus Community applications must meet the following criteria:

- ▶ You have a minimum of two and maximum of four prospective co-chairs as part of your applicant group. All co-chairs must be members of HxA, and at least one co-chair must be a faculty member. Other co-chairs may be staff, administrators, and/or graduate students. A maximum of two undergraduate students may also serve as co-chairs.
- ▶ All members of your applicant group must be affiliated with the same college or university and be either faculty, staff, and/or students. There must be at least 10 additional HxA members on your campus, not including the co-chairs. (To see the HxA members on your
- ▶ campus, check the membership directory [here](#).)

3 Prepare to Apply

In preparation for your application, we recommend connecting with other HxA members on campus (you can search for members on your campus via [our online Member Directory](#)), gauging their interest in forming a Campus Community, and beginning to build relationships with each other. You can also encourage colleagues to [join HxA](#) during this time.

Application Questions

1. Why are you interested in forming an HxA Campus Community?
2. How would you describe your institution and its climate, in terms of viewpoint diversity, open inquiry, and constructive disagreement to improve research and higher ed? What are its biggest challenges? Are there strengths and bright spots?
3. What steps, if any, have you already taken to work on HxA-related issues at your institution? Please describe any informal gatherings, campus programming, listservs, related organizations, dialogue with administrators, etc., and your role(s) in such efforts.
4. What, if any, programming and/or event-planning experience do any of you (co-chairs) have? Please describe.

4 Complete and Submit the Online Application Form

The application cycle (Cohort 4) opened on April 15, 2024 and will close on August 15, 2024.

5 Application Review and Interviews

After you submit your application, the HxA Campus Engagement team will review your application and schedule interviews with each applicant group on a rolling basis.

6 Final Decisions and Acceptance Announcements

Although interviews will take place on a rolling basis, the HxA team will not make final decisions and send acceptance notices until the application period has closed and all interviews have been completed. Final decisions will be made by August 30, 2024. *Please note: we interview all eligible applicants, but since our resources are limited we cannot guarantee that a group interview leads to an invitation to join the Campus Community Network.*

7 Onboarding

All new Campus Communities are expected to attend an orientation session on Friday, September 13, 2024 from 12-2pm ET to get further acquainted with the program, go over expectations and finances, and prepare to launch your new Campus Community.

8 Building a Community on Your Campus

After you complete onboarding, you are now ready to begin activities on your campus! We have provided a suggested timeline to help set expectations and guide you through the process of growing your Campus Community.

Campus Community Activities Timeline

This is a suggested timeline with some possible activities. Your Campus Community might need more or less time for the below activities and that's okay!



First 3-6 Months

- ▶ Setting up regular meetings
- ▶ Identifying key goals and priorities
- ▶ Establishing a sense of camaraderie and trust
- ▶ Recruiting members

6 Months - Year

- ▶ Hosting casual gatherings on campus (for HxA members + others who are interested)
- ▶ Building trust on campus
- ▶ Connecting and building relationships with potential campus partners
- ▶ Meeting with university leadership
- ▶ Depending on your Campus Community's capacity as well as your campus climate, you might also be at the point where you can:
 - ▶ Host a larger scale public event (either on your own or as a co-sponsor/partner with other campus organizations)
 - ▶ Implement policy changes on campus

Second Year

- ▶ Set up a governance structure and policy for making statements as a Campus Community
- ▶ Host a Heterodox Conversation
- ▶ Implement policy changes on campus - some possibilities:
 - ▶ University leadership adopting policies on items such as institutional neutrality, academic freedom, etc.
 - ▶ Auditing your campus to highlight areas for improvement
 - ▶ Having the values of open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, constructive disagreement as part of student orientation
- ▶ Administer HxA's Campus Expression Survey locally on your campus
- ▶ Host an HxA conference or summit event on your campus
- ▶ Begin a fundraising campaign (in collaboration with HxA)

Campus Community Activity Categories & Examples

HxA Campus Communities impact their institutions by cultivating a sense of shared purpose and belonging among faculty, staff, and students within their university community. These Campus Communities pursue a variety of activities which generally fall into three main categories:

Influencing Policies and Institutional Structures

Campus Communities can actively identify areas where their university policies and structures can be improved and work to implement positive changes on their campus. Here are some examples of how this has been done by current Campus Communities so far:

- ▶ **Simon Fraser University** Campus Community members worked with members of their upper administration to **redesign their faculty hiring guidelines** document, which had been steering faculty hires for the past several years. They successfully replaced the outdated, flawed guidelines with their recommended ones.
- ▶ **University of Virginia HxA Campus Community** was heavily involved with a **statewide forum on free expression**, which included all college and university presidents in Virginia and led to faculty involvement in shaping the university's future policies.
- ▶ **University of North Carolina - Charlotte Campus Community** helped **pass the faculty Free Speech Resolution** endorsing the Chicago Principles.
- ▶ **Western Michigan University Campus Community** worked with the University President's Cabinet to **revise their Principles of Community Agreement** to include the principle of "Openness and Viewpoint Diversity", wording from HxA.

Hosting Large-Scale Public Events

Another way that Campus Communities can impact their institutions is by providing platforms that facilitate open inquiry and encourage individuals to engage in intellectual curiosity and constructive dialogue with those of differing views. Here are some examples of how this has been done by current Campus Communities so far:

- ▶ Both **University of British Columbia - Okanagan and McGill University Campus Communities** hosted Heterodox Conversations, an initiative of Heterodox Academy to improve research and higher education by bringing together **two scholars who model constructive disagreement and open inquiry across differing viewpoints**.
- ▶ **Nineteen Campus Communities** hosted screenings of ***The Coddling of the American Mind***, a film based on the book by Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt, over the course of the 2024 spring semester.
- ▶ **University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill Campus Community** cosponsored a lecture by Jonathan Haidt, titled **"Academia and the Anxious Generation: How Universities Lost the Trust of America,"** with the Campus Community co-chairs moderating the Q&A portion of the event.
- ▶ **Cornell University Campus Community** hosted Jodi Shaw for an event, titled **"Skin Deep: The Battle for the Soul of Smith College"** in collaboration with the Alumni Free Speech Association (AFAS) and the American Council for Trustees and Alumni (ACTA)

Developing Programming on Campus

Through a wide range of programming, Campus Communities foster connections, strengthen relationships, and provide an avenue for professional and personal growth. Here are some examples of how this has been done by current Campus Communities so far:

- ▶ **University of Colorado - Boulder and Colorado Mesa University Campus Communities** hosted a monthly **"Reducing Polarization Dialog Series"** with three other CO colleges to practice constructive engagement and disagreement about climate change and other current issues.
- ▶ **Boise State University Campus Community** has partnered with DEI programs, student groups, and the teaching and learning center to provide **workshops that enhance tolerance and respect** across a diversity of viewpoints.
- ▶ **Samford University Campus Community** holds **monthly breakfast discussions** on research, teaching, and the meaning of academic principles at a Christian university.
- ▶ **University of California - Riverside Campus Community** regularly hosts **discussions on campus** that are open to the public and provided in a hybrid format.