2014 Conference Call for Proposals
Literacy for/and Social Justice: Inspire, Engage, Create, Transform

As educators, students, researchers, community members, and others expand notions of what “literacy” means, they must also increase efforts to ensure that literacy opportunities are equitable for and welcoming to all. Our theme this year, “Literacy and/or Social Justice: Inspire, Engage, Create, Transform” emphasizes the role of literacy, both as a means of incorporating social justice into curriculum and as a method for performing socially just practices. These theme welcomes wide-ranging notions of how one might define or practice literacy, and of how one’s understandings of literacy might include or address issues of social justice. The JoLLE@UGA Conference established itself last year as being action-oriented, bridging theory and practice, informed by research and practice, and also inventive and creative.

Submissions
We invite practicing teachers, researchers, professors, community organizers, and students to explore the following: How are you addressing social justice through literacy? In what ways are you learning about social justice issues from literacies found in schools, communities, or other places? In what ways do forms of social justice shape literacy? In what ways do literacies shape understandings of social justice?

Rather than the traditional format of presenting papers, we encourage innovative proposals that involve participation and action on the part of attendees. Below are four categories that help to frame our vision for the proposals.

Submissions are due by October 1, 2013. Find submission guidelines at http://jolle.coe.uga.edu/conference/

Conference Dates and Location
The 2014 JoLLE Conference will be held February 14-15, 2014 in Athens, GA at the Georgia Center, located on The University of Georgia’s campus. Out-of-town presenters and guests may reserve rooms at the Georgia Center for the conference.

INSPIRE
In this session, we encourage artistic and artifactual examples (e.g. paintings, digital media, photographs, interactive theater, music) that inspire participants to think differently and conceive of a better and more just future.

CREATE
These workshop-style sessions are ideal outlets for creatives of all types, for example, leading participants through the production of a digital story. Hands-on creative experiences are definitely encouraged.

ENGAGE
These sessions are ideal for showcasing research, practitioner-focused studies, and discussions aimed at providing overarching and deeper insight. Session leaders might lead an interactive panel and engage the audience in an extended conversation.

TRANSFORM
This is where ideas that work are shared, where change is happening now, and where the futures we imagine are already being created. In these sessions, we move from ideas to action, from experimentation to implementation.

For example, a practicing teacher might propose to engage participants in an innovative lesson that incorporates international children’s literature and involves music, movement, and storytelling, with an explicit focus on the importance of literacy in becoming a global communicator who embraces languages and cultures.