

TRUCEN

The Research University
Civic Engagement Network
2025 Annual Meeting

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Hosted by
Emory University

March 29-30, 2025

The TRUCEN Annual Meeting is free to all attendees thanks to the generous support of Emory University, who are this year's hosts. We're grateful to the Emory University team for their hospitality!

Thanks to our
supporting
partner!



Campus Compact

Saturday, March 29

- Beginning at 2:30 PM** **Registration & Check-In, Atlanta Marriott Marquis, International Foyer**
- 3:00 - 4:00 PM** **New member orientation & networking, International 10**
Facilitated by Maurice Smith, Associate Director, Center for Public Service, Tulane University
- 4:00 - 8:30 PM Opening plenary, cocktail reception & welcome dinner, International 7 & 8
- 4:00 - 5:30: Community Engagement Across Emory University**
A dynamic panel of Emory leaders will illuminate the biggest issues, questions, and needs for research universities committed to the public mission.
- Moderator: James Roland, Senior Director, Civic and Community Engagement
 - Michael Rich - Chair of the Political Science Department and founder of the Community Building and Social Change Program
 - Ed Lee - Senior Director of Inclusivity for Emory College of Arts and Sciences
 - Anjulet Tucker - Chief of Operations for the Office of the President
 - Vialla Hartsfield-Mendez - Director of Engaged Learning, Center for Faculty Development and Excellence and lead of Emory University's Carnegie Classification Application
 - Alex Wan - Associate Vice President, Office of Governmental and Community Affairs
 - Letitia Campbell - Assistant Professor in the Practice of Ethics and Society; Director of Contextual Education and Clinical Pastoral Education
- 5:30 - 6:30: Networking cocktail reception**
- 6:30 - 8:30: TRUCEN welcome dinner**
- Welcome remarks from Bobbie Laur, President, Campus Compact
 - Welcome remarks from George Luc, Cofounder, Give Pulse

Sunday, March 30

- 8:15 AM** **Meet at loading docks to board buses**
- 8:30 AM** **Depart for Emory University from Marriott Marquis**
(Grab a quick breakfast first, there will be refreshments and coffee at Emory!)
- 9:00 - 9:30 AM** **Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Setting**
- Welcome from Pearl Dowe, Vice Provost of Faculty Affairs, and Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Political Science and African American Studies
 - Welcome from TRUCEN Leadership Committee:
 - James Roland, Senior Director, Center for Civic and Community Engagement, Emory University
 - Renee Brown, Executive Director, Center for Community Engaged Learning, and Interim Executive Director of Career Services, Michigan State University

Sunday, March 30 (cont'd)

- 9:30 - 11:30 AM** **Meeting the Moment: Civic and Community Engagement During Turbulent Times**
During this deep-dive workshop, TRUCEN members will come together to address the most pressing issues facing our collective work.
- Political Climate and External Pressures (Lead Facilitator: Amy Cohen, Assistant Vice Provost and Executive Director of Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service, George Washington University)
 - Community Engagement Sustainability & Accountability (Lead Facilitator: Doug Barrera, Senior Associate Director, Center for Community Engagement, UCLA)
 - Navigating Change and Institutional Exhaustion (Lead Facilitator: Kwesi Brookins, Vice Provost for University Outreach and Engagement, Michigan State University)
 - Challenges to the Research Enterprise (Lead Facilitator: Laurie Van Egeren, Vice Provost for Public Engagement, University of Minnesota)
- 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM** **Networking Lunch & Fresh Air**
- 1:00 - 1:30 PM** **Launching of Sustained Conversation Groups for 2025-2026**
- Laurel Hirt, Director, Center for Community Engaged Learning, University of Minnesota
- 1:30 - 3:30 PM** **Resistance, Resilience, and Healing as a Community Engagement Professional**
This session will allow us to acknowledge and process the vulnerabilities, risks, and challenges we are navigating in higher education and across our communities. TRUCEN members will explore approaches for recognizing our stressors and working towards healing so we can continue to do the important work in front of us. Choose the session that works for you.
- Setting the Stage (5 minutes)
 - Lightning Sessions on Healing & Restorative Practices (15 minutes)
 - Trying out approaches (60 minutes)
 - Track 1: Journaling with Clayton Hurd, Director of Community Engaged Research, Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University
 - Track 2: Story Circles with Lynn Blanchard, Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Health Behavior and director of the Carolina Center for Public Service, UNC Chapel Hill
 - Track 3: Group Meditation & Breathwork with Neeraja
 - Regrouping and reporting out (30 minutes)
- 3:30 - 4:00 PM** **Closing comments**
- James Roland, Senior Director, Center for Civic and Community Engagement, Emory University
 - Bobbie Laur, President, Campus Compact
- 4:00 - 5:00 PM** **Closing Reception**
- 5:00 PM** **Return to Hotel**

Monday, March 31

We've intentionally kept Monday morning open so that TRUCEN attendees are free to either take some decompression time before Compact25 kicks off at 1:00 PM or to participate in one of the pre-conference workshops which will run from 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM on Monday morning.

1:00 PM

The Compact25 Conference officially kicks off!

TRUCEN Annual Meeting attendees who are also joining us for Compact25 should stop by the Compact25 registration desk on the Marquis level of the Atlanta Marriott Marquis to check-in and pick up their Compact25 name tag.

During the Compact25 conference, several TRUCEN sustained conversation groups will be presenting their work and outcomes including:

- **Expanding Metrics of Accountability** is leading a Roundtable session
- **Dream Lab** is presenting a workshop on the variety of topics they've explored
- **Supporting Equity-Focused Community-Based Research** is presenting a workshop on their developed tools and resources
- **Cultivating Community Voice in our Engagement Programs** is leading a pre-conference workshop

Thank you to the TRUCEN Leadership Committee for their work in guiding the agenda's development:

- Neeraja Aravamudan, Director, Edward Ginsberg Center, University of Michigan
- Renee Brown, Executive Director, Center for Community Engaged Learning, and Interim Executive Director of Career Services, Michigan State University
- Laurel Hirt, Director, Center for Community Engaged Learning, University of Minnesota
- James Roland, Senior Director, Center for Civic and Community Engagement, Emory University
- Maurice Smith, Associate Director, Center for Public Service, Tulane University
- Shalom Staub, Assistant Dean and Executive Director, Center for Community Engagement, University of California Los Angeles

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