

July 2, 2009

Dear Friends who agree that there's **No Better Time**:

The conference is now just a mere 6 days away and we are excited you'll be joining us!

Based on some "repeater" questions we've received, we've put together this special FAQ for you. Be sure to return to the [original FAQ](#) on the web site for things that aren't here. There's information in this note on sessions, your homework assignments (just kidding), parking, meals, travel, sharing rides, weather, registration, directions...

***There are 50 learning exchanges on the line-up. Do I have to choose what I want to attend in advance?***

No. You choose when you are there, and you do not have to sign up. Just go. That said, we encourage you (plead with you, really) to go to the conference [schedule](#), read the descriptions, and map out your plans A and B in advance. Both Thursday and Friday are packed. We have ten concurrent sessions and about 270 conference participants. Some of the rooms can hold only about 25 people. So you may not get your first choice. We're not trying to turn this into something calling for scalpers and black market tickets, but there will be no time for "shopping." It's the price we pay for an abundance of riches and interest.

***What happens if I arrive at the session I want and it's already full?***

You'll need to go somewhere else. We've tried to include more than one session on most topics and schedule them at different times.

We've also asked all learning exchange leaders either to seek a volunteer from their group or volunteer themselves to convene a breakfast roundtable on the key themes that emerge from their sessions. You'll have to check the ever-changing breakfast roundtable line-up to learn whether your interest will be covered on Friday or Saturday.

AND, just to be sure everyone gets what they want/need, we've set aside time on Saturday morning for a large-group learning exchange. We've designed a report-out system. We've identified a "Dream Theme Team" of volunteers who will be synthesizing and analyzing what happens in all learning exchanges. On Saturday, you will have another chance to learn about something you may have missed.

***Speaking of Saturday, what if I hear the ocean calling me?***

We can't tether you to the floor, but we hope you'll stay. This is a working conference. We need all of you to help us craft an agenda for future work. We'll be done at noon. You can take your box lunch to the beach then.

***Do I have to do any homework?***

No, but many learning exchange leaders are posting advance readings (all optional) and resources and even some session outlines on the web site and on a special wiki site.

You can access the materials on the conference web site here:

<http://www.unh.edu/democracy/readings.html>.

You can access the Wiki page here: <http://nobettertime.wikispaces.com/>

### ***How do I get onto the wiki site?***

Here are the instructions for accessing the wiki site:

1. To participate on the conference wiki, you will need to create a Wikispaces account (if you don't already have one), which is very easy.
2. Go to the wiki home page: <http://nobettertime.wikispaces.com/>
3. Click on the "Join This Wiki" tab in the left blue navigation bar.
4. Follow the instructions to create a new account on the next page.
5. You will be asked to set up a username, password and provide your email.
6. Once you register, you will receive an email from Wikispaces and you need to follow instructions in that email to ACTIVATE your Wikispaces account.
7. With your new account info, you will be ready to participate on this wiki easily.

You will find materials organized by the session name.

### ***Is there a ride board for weary travelers?***

Check the wiki site. We have 7 students coming in to Manchester airport from Alabama who can't rent a car because they are not 25 yet. Help them out!

### ***I have something I'd like to contribute to certain session(s) or to the conference overall. May I do that?***

Yes, you can add to the wiki site. Remember, this is a public space, so anyone can. If you choose to add something, you are responsible for including copyright protections on anything you post.

### ***Will you be selling books at the conference?***

You bet. Around 50 books will be on sale through a table set up by the UNH bookstore.

### ***What if I'd like to distribute some written materials about my work, organization, or something interesting?***

There will be resource tables set up so, do bring copies. Again, we expect about 270 people. To the extent that you can do it electronically on the wiki, that would be the most environmentally friendly solution.

### ***Remind me. When is registration?***

Conference registration will be taking place on:

-Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>

4:30 pm – 8:00 pm (informal reception from 6-8, and yes, there will be food)

AND

-Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>

7:30 am – 8:30 am (breakfast will be served; this is the same room as the opening plenary; 2nd floor entrance to the Granite State Room)

Click [here](#) for a campus map. See also the attachment for a layout of Holloway Commons and the MUB (Memorial Union Building), where all conference sessions will be held. These will be in your conference materials as well.

### *Any special instructions about navigating the campus?*

Yes, in keeping with our No Better Time theme, it appears that every nook and cranny within a mile of our conference is under construction. So entering buildings is sometimes challenging for lack of operational sidewalks. For example, the opening reception and registration on Wednesday will be on the 1st floor of Holloway Commons in the “Squamscott Room.” You’ll need use the Quad Way entrance to the building.

### *Remind me. How many meals are you covering?*

-Wednesday dinner (finger food, light but big enough for a meal) – if you indicated that you will NOT be attending that reception, and now you are, please, please, please let us know by contacting Joanne Lewis-McCoy at 603-860-0863 or via [email](#).

-Thursday, three squares: breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

-Friday, breakfast and lunch. You are on your own on Friday night, and there are buses to Portsmouth. You’ll have information about the buses in your conference packets.

Saturday, breakfast and, if you pre-ordered it, a box lunch.

### *If I am staying in a dorm, do I register first, or go directly to the dorm?*

It depends on whether you arrive during one of the two designated registration periods. If you arrive during registration, come there and we’ll tell you what to do. If you arrive at another time, go directly to the dorm.

### *How do I get to – and get into – the dorm?*

The dormitory where people are staying is Mills Hall. It is located in Area 2 of [this map](#). You can check into the dorm daily from 7:00 am – 9:00 pm. If you want to take a look at the dorm, click [here](#). Driving directions are below.

### *What if I am arriving after 9:00 pm?*

The staff person on-duty in Mills can be reached by calling 603-862-2491, and he/she will check you in. PLEASE NOTE: **You cannot get into the building after 1:00 am.** If you arrive late, you’ll have to make other accommodations for that night.

### *Do I need to know anything more about the hotels?*

Both the New England Center Hotel and Holiday Inn Express are located within 5-10 minutes walking distance from all plenary and meeting spaces. The New England Center is on campus: and the Holiday Inn Express is located in downtown Durham, ½ mile from UNH’s campus. For more information on the New England Center, click [here](#). For more information on the Holiday Inn Express, click [here](#).

### *Tell me about parking?*

All cars belonging to dorm residents must be parked with permits in Parking Lot C, off of Mill Road, behind Mills Hall (see map sent as an attachment). The parking attendant booth opens at 6:30 am daily. If you arrive in the evening, after the attendant has left for the day, you may park in Lot C without penalty, but you must pick up your permit at the booth the following morning between 6:30 am – 7:30 am. The parking attendant will have a roster of those who have ordered a permit during registration.

+++ If you still need to obtain a parking permit, you need to get it through UNH Conferences & Catering. Please contact Joanne Lewis-McCoy at 603-862-0863 or by e-mailing [Joanne.Lewis-McCoy@unh.edu](mailto:Joanne.Lewis-McCoy@unh.edu).

For commuters, there is metered parking on the street during the day.

### *What can I expect for weather?*

We are hoping mightily for some beautiful New England summer weather while you are here, but of course, it's best to come prepared for any eventuality, rain or shine. If you'd like to monitor the forecast for Durham, NH, here's one of our favorite weather sites: <http://www.wunderground.com/>. Just type in "03824" or Durham, NH in the "search" field at the top!

### *Do you have any more detailed driving instructions?*

Yep. You can also check out the original FAQ for other [travel information](#).

From the North: Take I-95 South, take Exit 5 (in NH) to the Spaulding Turnpike (Route 16N), then take Exit 6W (Route 4 West) towards Durham to the Exit for Route 155A. After exiting, make a left, and follow 155A approximately 1 mile to campus. You will pass athletic fields, cross train tracks, go past Whittemore Center arena on your left, past the Thompson Hall clock tower on the right. By this point, 155A will have turned into Main Street. Holloway Commons will be the building on the right at the corner of Main Street & Quad Way. To reach Parking Lot C behind Mills Hall, pass Quad Way and make your next right onto Mill Road. Your second right will be Parking Lot C.

From the South: Take I-95 North, take Exit 4 (in NH) (left hand exit) to the Spaulding Turnpike (Route 16N), then take Exit 6W (Route 4 West) towards Durham to the Exit for Route 155A. After exiting, make a left, and follow 155A a little over 1 mile to campus. You will pass athletic fields, cross train tracks, go past Whittemore Center arena on your left, past the Thompson Hall clock tower on the right. By this point, 155A will have turned into Main Street. Holloway Commons will be the building on the right at the corner of Main Street & Quad Way. To reach Parking Lot C behind Mills Hall, pass Quad Way and make your next right onto Mill Road. Your second right will be Parking Lot C.

From the West: Take route 101 East to Exit 7 (Route 125 North). Follow Route 125 North to the traffic circle. Take Route 4 East to the Durham Exit (2 miles to Route 155A). After exiting, make a right and follow 155A a little over 1 mile to campus. You will pass athletic fields, cross train tracks, go past Whittemore Center arena on your left, past the Thompson Hall clock tower on the right. By this point, 155A will have turned into Main Street. Holloway Commons will be the building on the right at the corner of Main Street & Quad Way. To reach Parking Lot C behind Mills Hall, pass Quad Way and make your next right onto Mill Road. Your second right will be Parking Lot C.

We look forward to seeing you all next week. Wishing you safe and healthy traveling,

Nancy & Matt