

## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO HOST THE 2017 AFHVS/ASFS CONFERENCE**

The Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society (AFHVS) seeks proposals for sites to host the 2017 joint annual meetings of the AFHVS and the Association for the Study of Food and Society (ASFS). We are asking for **preliminary proposals by May 1, 2015** and hope to complete the site-selection process by June 2015. The site-selection committee may request more information in advance of the annual Council meeting.

Preliminary proposals should be 2-3 pages long and discuss how the proposed site meets the following criteria:

### **HOST COMMITTEE:**

- Committed core group that is excited about hosting the conference
- Capacity to organize conference program
- Capacity to organize field trips, source locally produced food, and work with conference facilities to better ensure labor equity and sustainable use of resources

### **CONFERENCE FACILITIES:**

- Space for 400-600 attendees for three full days (conference generally is Thursday-Saturday, with field trips on Wednesday, but may vary some), typically in mid-late June, including:
  - Ten-twelve rooms that can seat 30-50 people for paper sessions and other activities
  - A larger room that can accommodate 400 or more for banquet and plenary sessions
  - Lobbies or other spaces for book exhibits, coffee breaks, posters, registration and general schmoozing
  - All available for free or at a very low cost
- Capacity to manage conference finances and budget
  - Web site development and maintenance
  - Plan for estimating registration fees (identification and estimation of costs from university fees, conference services, opportunities for fundraising etc.)
  - Capacity to accept and keep track of registrations
  - On line credit card registration
  - Registrations of various types (student, one-day, etc)
  - Combined registrations with annual dues for both organizations
- Availability of inexpensive AV equipment, including LC projectors

### **SITE AMENITIES:**

- Sites suitable for half-day or full-day field trips
- Non-conference related attractions
- Varied options for dining spots and evening entertainment
- If proposed, attractive option for a conference banquet
- Nearby airport and/or other travel options (please give average current flight costs from some major airports and estimates of round-transportation expenses)

### **LODGING OPTIONS:**

- Ideally, lodging costs of less than \$180/night, within a short walking distance to conference facilities
- Additional lower-cost options (such as dormitories or hostels)
- Easy shuttle services available if lodging is not within walking distance
- Conference attendees in Michigan occupied about 120 hotel rooms and about 90 dorm rooms total

Please consider developing a proposal, perhaps reaching out to nearby colleagues to collaborate. Hosting the conference is an exciting opportunity to showcase your programs and your region while enabling students and practitioners in your area to participate at low cost.

Please contact me (Shoshanah Inwood, chair of Site Selection Committee) or other committee members (Doug Constance and Daniel Block) for information, advice, or pep-talks.

Shoshanah Inwood  
[sinwood@uvm.edu](mailto:sinwood@uvm.edu)  
802-656-0257

Daniel Block  
[dblock@csu.edu](mailto:dblock@csu.edu)  
773-995-2310

Doug Constance  
[Soc\\_dhc@shsu.edu](mailto:Soc_dhc@shsu.edu)  
936-294-1514

Recent and Future Conference Sites  
(\*=held at a hotel with University sponsors)

2016: Toronto, Ontario (U. of Toronto-Scarborough)  
2015: Pittsburgh, PA (Chatham University)  
2014: Burlington, VT (University of Vermont)  
2013: East Lansing, MI (Michigan State University)  
2012: New York, NY (NYU and the New School)  
2011: Missoula, MT (U of Montana)  
2010: Bloomington, IN (Indiana U)  
2009: State college, PA (Penn State)  
2008: New Orleans, LA (UNO)\*  
2007: Victoria, BC (U. Victoria)  
2006: Boston, MA (BU)  
2005: Portland, OR (multiple institutions)\*  
2004: Hyde Park, NY (CIA)  
2003: Austin, TX (Sam Houston State)\*  
2002: Chicago, IL (DePaul & Chicago State)  
2001: Twin cities, MN (U Minnesota)  
2000: New York, NY (NYU)  
1999: Toronto, Ontario (Ryerson)