

452. CBR within an immigrant community

In the last decade, students, faculty and community partners have re-discovered the energizing experience of Community-Based Participatory Research [CBPR]. Civic Engagement/Service-Learning expressions have seen a growing application and appreciation for CBPR. In addition to embracing the often minimized attention to reciprocity and collaboration with community partners, CBPR integrates and deepens the scholarship, teaching and service expectations of faculty members in the academy. The workshop will divide its time equally between providing an introduction/overview of Community-Based Participatory Research, stressing three fundamental assumptions: Collaboration, Democratization of Knowledge, and Social Change/Social Justice. Two specific examples of collaborative research done with the community and graduate students will be offered as illustrations: 1) Connecting the Culture and Arts of New Immigrants and the Existing Arts Venues of the Neighbourhood and 2) Identifying and Accessing Public Parks and Mississippi River Amenities. The research setting is the Cedar-Riverside Neighbourhood of Minneapolis, home to the majority of Somali and East African immigrants as well as the University of MN and Augsburg College. The other half of the workshop will engage participants in doing preliminary designs of possible Community-Based Participatory Research in their respective communities. The workshop will relate both to participants who are based in the academy as well as those who are engaged in or work in community-based organizations. Participants will leave with a basic understanding of how CBPR [Community-Based Participatory Research] is a significant form of experiential education, linking teaching, scholarship and service/engagement with the wider community. In addition, participants will leave with a preliminary strategy and plan for engaging in a possible Community-Based Research Collaboration in their home community upon return from the conference.