



## CENTER FOR PUBLIC DELIBERATION

[www.cpd.colostate.edu](http://www.cpd.colostate.edu)

**Annual Report, Fall 2013 – Summer 2014**

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CPD graduate assistant Kacey Bull facilitates participants focusing on housing issues at the Partnership for Age Friendly Communities workshop in February 2014.

## CPD Annual Report, 2013-2014

This report details the activities completed in the eighth year of the CSU Center for Public Deliberation (CPD). The reports for our first seven years are also available online. For more information on the CPD, go to our public website at [www.cpd.colostate.edu](http://www.cpd.colostate.edu), our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/csucpd](https://www.facebook.com/csucpd), or contact Martín Carcasson at [mcarcas@colostate.edu](mailto:mcarcas@colostate.edu) or (970) 491-5628.

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## Part I: CPD Highlights for 2013-2014

The eighth year of the CPD included another significant increase in capacity, as the “deliberation track” to the Communication Studies department Masters program officially began in the fall of 2013. Former CPD student associate Mar Parsaye, beginning her second year in the MA program, switched over to the deliberation track, and she was joined by three new MA deliberative track students: Kacey Bull, Lauren Riddle, and Ruth Bruhn. With the introduction of the MA program, a new graduate course in Deliberative Theory and Practice was taught for the first time in the spring of 2014, which will provide the opportunity for CPD Director Martín Carcasson and Associate Director Katie Knobloch to equip the grad students, as well as upper level undergraduates, with a much more robust skill set connected to deliberative practice. Kacey, Lauren, and Ruth will return for the 2014-2015 year eager to use the new skills they developed last spring, and will be joined by three additional deliberative track students Krystina O’Neal, Kalie McMonagle, and Sabrina Slagowski-Tipton, who were all former student associates. These MA students will not only assist in CPD projects and training, but will also be instrumental in increasing the research profile of the CPD as we continue to improve our practice.

The 2013-2014 year was also a very active year in terms of projects. We continued to work on aging issues in Larimer County, a project started in 2011. Exciting developments this year included the development of the Partnership for Age-Friendly Communities (PAFC), which is connected to a national grant our partners received from the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging and MetLife. As part of this project, we ran three major events in the spring, one daylong workshop to introduce the PAFC, and two “Rethinking Transportation” forums connected both to PAFC and the Senior Transportation Coalition (STC). CPD director Martín Carcasson is heavily involved with both projects, serving as the co-chair to the STC and was one of three locals to attend a PAFC workshop in Washington, D.C. in June.



CPD Director Martín Carcasson addressing participants at the Partnership for Age Friendly Communities workshop.

The CPD also continued to work with multiple community partners, including the United Way of Larimer County, the City of Fort Collins, St. Vrain Valley School District (SVVSD), Poudre School District’s Think Tank, and the newly developing Northern Colorado Food Cluster. We helped run multiple events throughout the year connected to projects with these organizations. It was a particularly exciting year for SVVSD, as their superintendent, Don Haddad, won national superintendent of the year and their school board was named the Colorado school board of the year, both in part due to the innovative work they do in public engagement, of which the CPD proudly plays a key role. Leadership St. Vrain, a parent engagement program developed by

SVVSD Executive Director of Organizational Development & Communications John Poynton with assistance from CPD director Martín Carcasson, also received an international research award from the International Association of Public Participation. Lastly, Carcasson was named as the “Communicator of the Year” by the Colorado School Public Relations Association for his work with SVVSD, the PSD Think Tank, and the Colorado Association of School Boards.

On the research side, CPD associate director Katie Knobloch received a \$418,000 research grant from the National Science Foundation to continue her work with Penn State’s John Gastil with the Citizen’s Initiative Review. We are excited that the CIR process will be coming to Colorado this year to provide high quality citizen engagement on a ballot initiative concerning genetically modified foods. Dr. Carcasson was also named to the board of directors of the National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation.



CPD 2013-2014 Leadership Team (left to right): Director Martín Carcasson, Graduate Assistants Mar Parsaye and Kacey Bull, and Associate Director Katie Knobloch.

## **PART II: CPD BACKGROUND**

The CSU Center for Public Deliberation officially began operations in August of 2006, under the direction of Martín Carcasson, then an assistant professor in the Department of Speech Communication (now Communication Studies). It serves as an impartial resource to the northern Colorado community, assisting local governments and community organizations with projects to improve the quality of public discourse and community problem-solving.

**Public deliberation** is an approach to public problem-solving in which citizens, not just experts or politicians, are deeply involved in public decision making. Working with trained facilitators who utilize a variety of deliberative techniques, citizens:

- come together and consider relevant facts and values from multiple points of view;
- listen to one another in order to think critically about the various options before them and consider the underlying tensions and tough choices inherent to most public issues;
- refine and adapt their opinions and interests; and ultimately,
- come to some conclusion for action in the form of a reasoned public judgment.

Working as an affiliate of the National Issues Forum Network ([www.nifi.org](http://www.nifi.org)), part of the National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation ([www.ncdd.org](http://www.ncdd.org)) and the University Network for Collaborative Governance (<http://www.policyconsensus.org/uncg/index.html>), the CPD organizes and hosts many events in the local community, including public forums on national and local issues and various workshops tied to public participation, collaborative governance, and civic engagement. The CPD trains students as non-partisan facilitators and conveners focused on helping the local community come together and address critical issues more effectively. Deliberation requires safe places for citizens to come together, good and fair information to help structure the conversation, and skilled facilitators to guide the process. The CPD is dedicated to providing these three key ingredients to Northern Colorado. A video of Dr. Carcasson explaining the theory behind the CPD during an event at the Poudre Valley Library is available at <http://col.st/1dhQRpj>.

**The CPD has three primary goals:**

**To Enhance the Local Civic Culture**

- Increase citizen participation in community problem solving
- Decrease the sense of polarization, cynicism, and frustration with politics
- Help develop a civic habit of relying on deliberation to address local concerns

**To Expand Collaborative Decision-Making**

- Promote interconnections between local government and citizens
- Expand and improve the role of the public in decision-making processes
- Help incorporate deliberative techniques in local institutions

**To Improve Civic Education**

- Study and improve methods of developing citizenship skills at all levels (K-12, higher education, citizen education)
- Promote the inclusion of deliberative concepts and activities in curricula

The tag line used on the front of the CPD pamphlet and website perhaps best captures the overall purpose of the CPD: *Dedicated to enhancing local democracy through improved public communication and community problem solving.*

The organizational structure of the CPD during the Fall 2013 semester included Director Martín Carcasson, Associate Director Katie Knobloch, graduate assistant Mar Parsaye, an advisory board, and a group of student and community associates. In Spring 2014, Kacey Bull took over as the graduate assistant.

The current advisory board includes:

Karrin Anderson, CSU Department of Communication Studies  
Jen Johnson, Assistant Director, CSU Student Leadership and Civic Engagement Office  
Brad MacDonald, CSU Department of Political Science  
Ginny Sawyer, City Manager's Office, City of Fort Collins  
Linda Mahan, Larimer County League of Women Voters  
Rich Alper  
William Timpson, CSU Department of Education  
Deni LaRue, Larimer County Community Information Manager  
Pete Seel, CSU Department of Journalism and Technical Communication  
Mallorie Bruns, Meridian Institute  
Karina Mullen, ConverSketch



**CPD Student Associates** are CSU undergraduates that are chosen for the program through an application process. Student associates (SAs) typically make at least a two semester commitment, but a one semester program is available for graduating seniors. Student Associates receive 3 hours of SPCM 408 (Applied Deliberative Techniques) credit their first semester and then SPCM 486 Practicum credit for subsequent semesters. Approximately 15 new students are selected to begin their work with the CPD each semester, and they join returning students who completed their first semester of the program in a prior semester. Student associates are trained to be impartial researchers, conveners, facilitators, and reporters of public discussion, and are involved in all aspects of CPD projects.



**Fall 2013 Center for Public Deliberation Student Associates**

*Front row, left to right:* Sara Robbins, Nick Norton, Hannah Mallegni, Cramer McGinty, Audrey Isabelle, Emily Cubbage, Hannah Vancuren, Krystina O'Neal, Lee Halpin, *Second row, left to right:* Rachel Short, Sam Maldonado, Seth Willden, Ellen Moroney, Jessie Dore, Morgan Smith, Nicole Brown, Sarah Khavari, Marissa Borthwick, *Third row, left to right:* Kate Garcia, Connor Dawson, Kacey Bull, Lauren Riddle, Audra Barber, Lindsey Earl, Zach Lassek, *Back row, left to right:* Ruth Bruhn, Andrew Murillo, Logan Steppan, Raleigh Jackson, Clare Grady, Ryan Weir, Daniel Sewell, Will Wytias-Sobel.



**Spring 2014 Center for Public Deliberation Student Associates**

*Sitting, left to right:* Nicole Brown, Hannah Vancuren, Aubrey Isabelle, Alex Puccini, Krystina O'Neal, Iris Hentze, Logan Stepan. *First standing row:* Jessie Dore, Sanaya Stuart-Robles, Jenn Jackson, Teah Welch, Bekah Glebe, Robin Beam, Clare Grady, Ellen Moroney, Audra Barber, Sarah Khavari, Hannah Mallegni, *Back standing row:* Will Wytias-Sobel, Taylor Ramos, Cramer McGinty, Caroline Schmitz, Marissa Borthwick, Jason Sydoriak, Raleigh Jackson, Joe Leske, Rebekah Romberg, Jed Chalupa, Daniel Sewell, Seth Willden, Trace Evans. *Not pictured:* Kacey Bull, Lauren Riddle, Ruth Bruhn, Sierra Bentz, Devon Dockstader, Ryan Weir, Rachel Short, Nick Norton, Andrew Murillo, Lee Halpin, Sara Robbins

## PART III: FALL 2013- SUMMER 2014 ACTIVITIES

This section details the primary activities of the CPD during its seventh year. It is organized into four sections: major projects, ongoing projects, CPD research, and additional activities by Director Martín Carcasson and Associate Director Katie Knobloch.

### 1. MAJOR PROJECTS

#### **City of Fort Collins Fall Community Issues Forum**

On October 10, the CPD and the city of Fort Collins hosted what will hopefully become an every semester tradition with the first “City Issues Forum” event. This event focused on four topics currently of interest to city council that called for further public engagement. The hope of this event is that by combining multiple topics, we would be able to attract a broader audience that may only be



Participants at the first Community Issues Forum at the Lincoln Center

interested in one topic, but would nonetheless be present to participate in discussions regarding other topics. It can be difficult at times to attract the “middle ground” audience, so the city issues forum will experiment with multiple topics to hopefully help get beyond the “usual suspects.” This first installment was ambitious with four topics: retail marijuana policy, city bicycle plan update, downtown train noise, and outdoor smoking regulations. Roughly 65 participants attended the process, and while we will continue to improve the process, overall the evening was a success in gathering input and sparking quality discussion on several topics. The information from this event was collected by the CPD and provided to the city to inform city council on their deliberations.

**Colorado Association of School Boards Winter Conference.** On October 12<sup>th</sup>, CPD Director Martín Carcasson ran a process for around 100 school board members and superintendents at the CASB Winter Conference in Lone Tree. The conference was focused on technology in K-12 education, and Carcasson gave a presentation on wicked problems and polarity management in K-12, and then led them through a keypad process to identify and work through key K-12 polarities.

### **Local Food Forum in Steamboat Springs, CO**

On November 2, 2013, Carcasson and six student associates made the trek to Steamboat Springs to assist the Routt County CSU Extension agent, Karen Massey, with a forum focused on improving the local food economy. Massey was a part of team of extension agents Carcasson had been training on deliberative practice since November of 2011. She brought together a collection of farmers, local government officials, restaurateurs, and consumers for a two-hour conversation that focused on working through three broad approaches:

- Educating the community concerning the benefits of a local food economy.
- Helping local producers start and build their capacity for safe, high quality local food.
- How local government can remove unnecessary obstacles and regulations and work to help incentivize local food.

Data from the conversations were gathered and provided to Massey, who was also working with the local Northwest Colorado Food Coalition and the Community Agriculture Alliance



### **Mental Health Projects**

In June 2013, President Obama launched a National Conversation on Mental Health, which led to the Creating Community Solutions national project ([www.creatingcommunitysolutions.org](http://www.creatingcommunitysolutions.org)). The CPD began working with the local Mental Health and Substance Abuse Taskforce to work towards hosting an event in Larimer County as part of the national project. As part of this process, the CPD designed a special event focused on mental health issues to run as part of the University of Northern Colorado's LEAP summit on November 2. The LEAP summit brings together over 100 UNC undergraduates to focus on leadership and engagement. The two-day conference has a number of different tracks and speakers, and the CPD was provided a two-hour slot to explore issues related to mental health. We asked the participants to recall to their time in high school, thinking through what worked and what didn't at their school regarding mental health. Using material from the national conversation, we also had students react to data regarding mental health issues and surveyed them concerning their knowledge about various mental health issues. The data gathered from the event was shared with the Poudre School District as well as the National Conversation on Mental Health. The data was unique to many of the events tied to the national conversation because of the attendance of over 100 youth voices. Discussions are ongoing with Poudre School District and the PSD Think Tank to potentially run a similar process with just PSD students in the coming year.





Participants discuss mental health issues during the University of Northern Colorado's LEAP summit

As part of the Creating Community Solutions process, CPD students participated in two nationwide “Text/Talk/Act” processes that engaged small groups of people discussing mental health issues through texting. For more information on Text/Talk/Act, see

<http://creatingcommunitysolutions.org/texttalkact>

Lastly, a statewide initiative that is connected to the national conversation on mental health developed. CPD students helped with an event in Brighton on October 21, and then again at a major event in Denver on February 5. A local conversation was also hosted by Touchstone Partners. This statewide initiative is ongoing, and the CPD may be involved with additional events in the coming year.

### **Northern Colorado Local Food Cluster Forums**

On November 13, 2013 and then again on February 20, 2014, the CPD and the Northern Colorado Food Cluster held major events at the Drake Centre in Fort Collins. Each event brought together a mix of local farmers, food businesses, consumers, government officials, and nonprofits to discuss issues related to developing our local food economy. A steering committee with several task groups had been meeting for some time, and these forums presented opportunities to engage a broader audience as the organization moved toward more official status. The CPD worked with the steering committee to design an event to gather input on several key questions they were working on. Over 70 participants joined 20 CPD students and volunteers at the fall event, which was focused on introducing the food cluster to the community, and then walked through three sessions:



- Session 1: Inventory of what is currently happening
- Session 2: Assessment of key sectors
- Session 3: Considering criteria for food cluster projects

Early in 2014, the Food Cluster was awarded a “cluster grant” from the City of Fort Collins and began the process to officially become a 501c3 non-profit organization. The April meeting brought together another group of around 60 participants to again gather insights around some key questions the group was in the process of exploring. The April meeting primarily focused on development the structure for the developing organization:

- Cluster 101
- Update on progress from Fall meeting
  - Local inventory and gaps analysis
  - Criteria for high impact projects
- Polarity exercise – Top down or bottom up?
- Rules of engagement
- Membership structures

After the April meeting, the group interviewed and eventually hired their first director with funds from the grant. CPD looks forward to assisting them more in the coming semesters.

**Partnership for Age Friendly Communities workshop** – On February 20, 2014, the CPD assisted with an all day workshop for stakeholders involved in the National Association of Area

Agencies on Aging (N4A) grant that was awarded to a coalition of organizations and individuals that make up the Larimer County Partnership for Age Friendly Communities (PAFC). This project builds off of the “Growing Older in Fort Collins” process which began in November of 2011 and included several major events from 2011 to spring 2013 (for more information, see the 2012 and 2013 CPD annual reports). The Larimer County Office on Aging and the Foundation on Aging had applied for the grant from N4A and Met Life, and was

chosen as one of six communities across the country to be a part of the program. This workshop was the official kickoff for the grant process, and N4A brought key leaders

from Washington, D.C., to assist. CPD director Martín Carcasson worked with N4A and other leaders from the PAFC to design the workshop, and several CPD students assisted at the event, which included 40 invited stakeholders from key organizations across the county that had been identified and invited by the PAFC steering committee. After an introduction to the PAFC



CPD student associate Logan Steppan facilitating the mobility and access group at the Partnership for Age Friendly Communities workshop.

- Mobility and access
- Health and wellness

Housing  
Culture of aging

- Mobility and access
  - Health and wellness
- Housing  
Culture of aging

**Rethinking Transportation Forums** – On March 5, 2104 in Loveland and March 12 in Fort Collins, the CPD and the Senior Transportation Coalition hosted forums focused on engaging the community on issues related to rethinking senior transportation, particularly due to the significant increase expected in the number of seniors in living in our community in the coming years. Like the PAFC process, these forums were derived from the Growing Older in Fort Collins series from 2011-2012, as well as the event held in Loveland in April of 2013. Forty participated in the Loveland event at the Chilson Center, and 60 in the Fort Collins event at the Fort Collins Senior Center. After an overview of the background to the Senior Transportation Coalition and a “Transportation 101” presentation by SAINT (Senior Alternatives in Transportation) Director Gary Thomas, the participants then met in small group discussions that used a National Issue Forum style “choice-work” guide that had been developed by CPD Director Martín Carcasson for the events.



CPD associate Ryan Weir facilitating discussions at the



CPD associate Ryan Weir facilitating discussions at the Rethinking Transportation forum in Loveland



The participants discussed four approaches to rethinking transportation:

- **Approach One:** Seniors need to take more responsibility for preparing for their changing transportation needs and increase their comfort level and use of multiple modes of travel.
- **Approach Two:** We need to expand the capacity of non-profits and citizen/neighbor initiatives to assist with this issue.
- **Approach Three:** The business community can play a key role by increasing transportation options and delivery mechanisms.
- **Approach Four:** Local government must work to increase the quantity and quality of public transportation options that seniors will be relying on as they grow older.

The data from the two events was compiled by the CPD and presented to the Senior Transportation Coalition. The STC is connected with the PAFC process, so the data from these forums is now being used by the Mobility and Access task team of the PAFC as part of the self-directed volunteer teams process.

### City Process on City Boards and Commissions – On

February 24, 2014, the CPD assisted the City of Fort Collins with a process to gain feedback from current leaders and members of all of the city's citizen boards and commissions regarding potential changes to the overall structure of boards and commissions. Roughly 100 participants attended the event at the Lincoln Center. With the CPD leadership unavailable, CPD senior student associate Logan Steppan ran the overall process. Data was collected and provided to city officials.



CPD student associates Nicole Brown and Rebekah Glebe working with participants at the spring community issues forum

### City of Fort Collins Spring Community Issues Forum

On April 8, the CPD and the City of Fort Collins worked together again for the second community issues forum, which will likely now be an every semester / twice a year event. For this session, we focused on two topics: the city's new Nature in the City process and potential changes to the city's water restrictions plan. Nature in the City (NIC) (<http://www.fcgov.com/advanceplanning/natureinthecity/>) is an ongoing city project focused on insuring there is ample access to nature for city residents within a 10- minute walk as the city grows. During the session, NIC was introduced by city environmental planner Lindsay Ex, and then CPD students helped facilitate groups.



Groups worked on four key questions:

- Where do you access nature in our community?
- What opportunities and barriers are related to accessing nature?
- Why do you value nature?
- What is the most critical issue for us to work on with this project?

Following the NIC session, we turned to potential changes to the Fort Collins Water Restrictions plan. Utilizing the wireless keypads and small group discussions, we engaged on several potential changes such as rules on power-washing, splash parks, and pools. The NIC process will continue in the fall, with the CPD likely helping with additional meetings as the process goes into the second phase. The water restrictions data was compiled and presented to city council the week following the forum.

### **Human Trafficking Documentary and Discussion**

During the spring semester, Communication studies full professor and CPD advisory board member Karrin Anderson taught a special topics course on human trafficking. The CPD worked with the class to develop a special event on May 1 at the CSU Lory Student Center Theater. The event was a first for the CPD: a documentary screening followed by a dialogue. Around 70 participants joined 20 CPD students to watch the documentary *Rape for Profit*, and then participate in small group discussions reacting to the film. Dr. Anderson's class worked closely with many local anti-trafficking organizations, which were all in attendance. The LSC Theater space worked very well for this sort of event, so we will likely utilize a similar set up again in the future.



Small group discussions after the screening of “Rape for Profit” at the CSU Lory Theater

### **St. Vrain Valley School District Forum on District Technology Plan**

On April 17, CPD director and 10 students made the trip to Longmont to facilitate a session with 30 parents to gather feedback on the district's technology plan, particularly on the plan to provide seventh graders across the district with mini-iPads in order to improve their ability to utilize technology to improve their learning. The process involved parents working in small facilitated groups to talk through what they saw as the potential positives and negatives related to providing the I-pads. Small groups then reported on their concerns, which were captured in the front of the room on the computer, allowing us to utilize the wireless keypad system to have everyone in the room prioritize the concerns. District officials were then given some time to

respond to those concerns explaining what was already been done, and then we concluded with a final small group session to develop additional potential ideas to address the concerns. The information from the session was used by the district to improve the rollout of the program.

### **Rocky Mountain High School Student Forum**

On March 4, four CPD students and CPD Associate Director Dr. Knobloch hosted a forum at Rocky Mountain High School for two politics classes. Student Associates led the high schoolers in a National Issues Forum focused on improving the political system by using the NIF book “Political Fix” (see [http://www.nifi.org/issue\\_books/detail.aspx?catID=6&itemID=24378](http://www.nifi.org/issue_books/detail.aspx?catID=6&itemID=24378)).

### **Communication Studies Capstone Night**

Working with Dr. Knobloch’s SPCM 407 class and utilizing information gathered from the last several years of CPD processes with the capstone class, CPD students in the 407 class helped design the event, and on May 1, we took over the 3-hour class and ran an engaged process with the 52 students that attended.

### **United Way Project**

The CPD has worked with the United Way of Larimer County since the CPD was established in 2006. The UWLC has been working to completely revamp their grant allocation process, making it much more of a collaborative process that connects their work to innovative theories tied to collective impact. The CPD has been closely involved in helping with this transition. CPD staff and students assisted with a forum held during the summer of 2013. The forum engaged approximately 30 non-profit leaders and considered the best way to manage data and develop common metrics. As a result of that meeting, CPD graduate assistant Mar Parsaye began to work with the UWLC as a paid intern, a position she continued until she graduated in May 2014 to begin her work as a VISTA volunteer at the West Virginia Center for Civic Life. Dr. Carcasson continues to serve on the UWLC Allocation committee, and when the allocation process called for volunteers to help the groups in different issue areas in the collaborative grant process, CPD students volunteered to work on six different committees during May and June.

### **Kettering Foundation Projects**

Dr. Carcasson continues to work with the Kettering Foundation on multiple research projects and the Foundation’s Centers of Public Life program. In the spring of 2014, the Kettering Foundation also provided funds to support a research project for Mar Parsaye, buying her out of one of her courses. In the summer of 2014, Dr. Carcasson also arranged for graduate students Kacey Bull and Lauren Riddle to travel to the Kettering Foundation to participate in workshops, and it seems likely that they will support both of them with research funding during the 2014-15 academic year.

### **CSU Women’s Conference**

At the 2014 CSU Women's Conference several CPD students designed and facilitated an interactive process, prompting participants to assess the quality of their K-12 sexual education. With a stereotype-challenging activity to begin the session, CPD students led an informed and productive session that led participants to critically question their education while constructively thinking about ways to improve it for future generations.

## 2. ONGOING PROJECTS

**PSD Think Tank** - The CPD continues to work with a group of Poudre School District high school students that serve in the PSD Think Tank. Beginning in February of 2008, twelve PSD Think Tank students were trained as CPD facilitators during an all day workshop run by Dr. Carcasson. Additional trainings were held in February 2011 and February 2013 for the new cohort of students. In the fall of 2009, Dr. Carcasson, Think Tank organizer Elaine Holmes, and several of the students presented at the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) meeting in Colorado Springs on their deliberative work. They are the only student group that has ever been asked to present at the conference. In 2010, the students and Carcasson designed another interactive process for the CASB conference, as the students ran a full session of the student focused strand at the conference, another first for an individual student group. The Poudre School District was awarded the 2011 Commissioner's Choice Award for Engaging Students as Leaders by Governor Hickenlooper in 2011, in large part to the work of the PSD Think Tank. During the 2012-2013 year, the CPD and the Think Tank worked together to develop a process to engage middle school students on bullying issues. Individual Think Tank students also assisted with other CPD projects, such as the Loveland Connecting Seniors to your Community Process. During the past year, the Think Tank students assisted with the National Conversation on Mental Health projects.



Students from the PSD Think Tank at the end of the CPD training workshop at CSU's Tamasag Retreat Center in February, 2013

**Campus Forums** - The CPD also runs many forums on the CSU campus, both to expose students to deliberative forums and a different way of doing politics, and to provide CPD

students with additional opportunities to hone their facilitation skills. During the 2013-2014 school year, the CPD ran forums in classes that totaled over 250 students.

**St. Vrain Valley School District Leadership St. Vrain Program** – Working with John Poynton, the Communication Director for the St. Vrain Valley School District, CPD Director Carcasson has assisted in the development of a formal training program designed to deepen their knowledge of district operations and exchange ideas with staff, board members and state education officials. The program was launched in 2009-2010, and is now working with its fifth cohort. In part due to the innovative public engagement efforts completed in collaboration with the CPD (including Leadership St. Vrain, the St. Vrain 2020 process from the summer of 2012, and the school safety forums completed in the spring of 2013), St. Vrain Valley superintendent Don Haddad was named the national superintendent of the year for 2012-2013 by the National Association of School Principals, and the St. Vrain Valley school board was named as the school board of the year by the Colorado Association of School Boards.

#### **PART IV: CPD RESEARCH**

As tenured or tenure-track faculty members at CSU, Drs. Carcasson and Knobloch also have research responsibilities, and their research is often focused on the work of the CPD or related deliberation topics. In 2013-2014, a number of articles and research reports were completed connected to the work of the CPD:

Published research connected to deliberation from CPD faculty (2013-2014):

Carcasson, Martin. (2014). The critical role of local centers and institutes in advancing deliberative democracy. *Journal of Public Deliberation*. 10.1 (2014)

<http://www.publicdeliberation.net/jpd/vol10/iss1/art11>.

Carcasson, Martín. (2013). Rethinking civic engagement on campus: The overarching potential of deliberative practice. *Higher Education Exchange*, 37-48. Available online at:

[www.cpd.colostate.edu/carcasson-rethinkingcivicengagement.pdf](http://www.cpd.colostate.edu/carcasson-rethinkingcivicengagement.pdf)

Carcasson, Martín. (2013). Tackling wicked problems through deliberative engagement. *Colorado Municipalities*, 9-13. Available online at

<http://www.cpd.colostate.edu/carcasson-tackling-wicked-problems.pdf>

Carcasson, Martin, and Michelle Curie. (2013). Click to engage: Using keypads to enhance deliberation. Occasional Paper No. 6, Center for Advances in Public Engagement, Public Agenda. Available online at:

[http://www.publicagenda.org/files/ClickToEngage\\_PublicAgenda\\_2013.pdf](http://www.publicagenda.org/files/ClickToEngage_PublicAgenda_2013.pdf)

Gastil, J. R.C. Richards, and Katie Knobloch K. (2014). Vicarious deliberation: A case study of the Oregon Citizens' Initiative Review and electoral deliberation. *International Journal of Communication*, 8, 62-89.

Knobloch, K & J. Gastil. (In Press). "Experiencing a Civic (Re)Socialization: The Educative Effects of Deliberative Participation." *Politics*

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## **PART V: ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES BY CPD LEADERSHIP**

### **Colorado School Public Relations Association**

CPD Director Martín Carcasson was named the 2014 Communicator of the Year by Colorado School Public Relations Association

**National Coalition of Dialogue and Deliberation.** Dr. Carcasson was named to the Board of Directors to the National Coalition of Dialogue and Deliberation

**Citizens' Initiative Review and the National Science Foundation.** Dr. Knobloch is the co-principal investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to study the expansion of a new governing institution, the Citizens' Initiative Review (CIR). The CIR brings together a random sample of demographically stratified members of the electorate to study ballot initiatives and provide recommendations about those initiatives for voters. Dr. Knobloch was awarded a two-year grant of \$116,451 to study the quality of the reviews as they expand outside of Oregon and into other states, including Colorado. For this work, Dr. Knobloch has engaged both graduate and undergraduate research assistants who have helped with survey development and implementation as well as transcript analysis. The grant also provides a graduate research assistant for 20 hours a week for the Summer and Fall of 2014 and the Spring of 2015. Graduate student Kacey Bull is serving as the RA for Summer 2014.

### **Colorado Association of School Boards and K-12 Engagement**

CPD director Martín Carcasson worked closely with the Colorado Association of School Boards, giving numerous presentations in 2013 to school boards about deliberative public engagement. This included workshops with Eagle county schools, Thompson School District, the Centennial BOCES in Greeley, and CASB conferences in Lone Tree and Colorado Springs. He also worked with the Leadership St. Vrain Valley School District parent engagement group in Longmont and the Engage 27J parent group with the Brighton School District.

### **Kettering Foundation Centers for Public Life Program**

For the past four years, CPD director Martín Carcasson has served on the faculty of the Kettering Foundation's Center for Public Life Program. This is a training program that brings in representatives from around 10 programs from across the nation every year, equipped them to start programs similar to the CPD.

### **The San Diego Deliberation Network**

Starting at the NCDD conference in Seattle in the fall of 2012, CPD director Martín Carcasson began working with a coalition from San Diego looking to develop deliberative capacity by modeling the work of the CPD. He has been out to San Diego twice since then, and connected the coalition to the Kettering Centers for Public Life program. Right now, the coalition involves seven different institutions of higher education from the San Diego area (California State University, San Marcos; Point Loma Nazarene University; San Diego City College; Mesa College; San Diego State University; University of San Diego; University of California San Diego). the San Diego League of Women Voters, and the San Diego Foundation Center for Civic Engagement. It is essentially the only city wide deliberative coalition in the nation, and hopefully

will be a model for all large cities as it developed. Dr. Carcasson continues to serve as an advisor to the group.

### **University Workshops and Visits**

Dr. Carcasson often works with other universities as they work to develop institutions similar to the CPD. Besides his work with the San Diego institutions and the Kettering Centers for Public Life programs, he gave presentations on the work of the CPD at Metro State University in Denver, the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs, Texas A&M University, and Washington State University-Vancouver.

### **Community Development Society Conference**

In June, Dr. Carcasson was invited to give the closing keynote address at the Community Development Society Conference in Dubuque, Iowa. The title of the talk was, “What Sort of Talk Do Our Communities Need? A Call for Building Local Deliberative Capacity.”

### **Wabash College’s Brigrance Lecture.**

In April, CPD Director Martín Carcasson gave the annual Brigrance Lecture at Wabash College in Indiana, giving an address entitled, “Changing the Conversation: The Role of Colleges and Universities in Supporting Community Problem-Solving.” CPD student associates Kacey Bull and Krystina O’Neal joined Carcasson in Crawfordsville for the Brigrance Colloquy on Civic Engagement and Public Discourse, which brought together representatives from CSU, Kalamazoo College, Colby College, Providence College, Allegheny College, and Wabash College to discuss on campus civic engagement initiatives.



CPD Director Martín Carcasson, with student associates Kacey Bull and Krystina O’Neal at the Brigrance Forum, Wabash College

### **Associate Director Katie Knobloch’s research was presented at the following conferences:**

- International Communication Association Annual Conference, Seattle, WA., May 2013
- National Communication Association Annual Conference, Washington, D. C. , November 2013
- Coalition for National Science Funding Exhibition, Washington, D.C., May 2014
- International Communication Association Annual Conference, Seattle, WA., May 2014

## **PART VI: A SPECIAL THANKS TO GRADUATING SENIORS**

A bittersweet aspect of the CPD student associate program is that we must say goodbye to very special students at the end of every semester, as they graduate and move on to great things.



FALL 2013 CPD GRADUATES



SPRING 2014 CPD GRADUATES



## **PART VII: CPD FUNDING**

The CPD has received funding from a number of generous sources during its first eight years. A CSU College of Liberal Arts Academic Enhancement Program Grant was awarded in the spring of 2006 that provided funding for a course release, research assistant, and travel for Dr.

Carcasson to originally develop Center for Public Deliberation. A grant from the Council of Public Policy Education provided \$5,000 a year for the first three years (2006-2009). The CSU Department of Communication Studies matched that grant, providing an additional \$5,000 a year of ongoing support. The department and the College of Liberal Arts also provide for Dr. Carcasson's and Dr. Knobloch's salaries, as well as in-kind support in the form of offices, web support, a storage area, and access to a copier and supplies.

Bohemian Foundation through its Pharos Fund grant process has also been a very strong supporter of the CPD. In our eight years, we have received seven separate grants from the Pharos Fund, totaling over \$138,000. Pharos funding has made it possible for CPD staff and students to travel to deliberation conferences and workshops, to hire a graduate assistant, and to support more events and trainings.

The Kettering Foundation has also been critical to Dr. Carcasson's and Dr. Knobloch's own work and development, providing summer research funding, as well as providing the opportunity to interact with deliberation researchers and practitioners from across the country and globe.

We would like to express our deep thanks and appreciation to all these organizations for making the Center for Public Deliberation's work possible.



CENTER FOR PUBLIC DELIBERATION

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