

Directors' Committee INVST Meeting Minutes 9/24/21

10:00 - 11:30 am on Zoom

Attendees: Melissa Rubin - filling in for Annie, and Althea, Ellie, Sabrina, Sam C, Maymuna

- Welcome, ice breaker (10 mins)
 - Name and gender pronouns, role, something in your space that you want to share with all of us
- Assign roles, go over each role & its expectations (5 mins)
 - Facilitator - Ellie
 - Notetaker - Melissa
 - Time-keeper - Sabrina
 - Vibes checker - Melissa
- Show agenda and ask for consent (5 min) CONSENT ACHIEVED
- Meet Melissa, hear about the Administrative Assistant role, hear a little more about CU Engage, our academic home (5 mins)
- DC Introduction: how INVST governance works, what DC is for, the INVST handbook: review of key parts, decision-making in INVST, organizational chart (25 mins)
 - This agenda item led by Sabrina
 - This orientation to Directors' Committee (DC) supports us so that we all know what to expect and how to best be actively involved in the decision-making process all this year.
 - INVST handbook: link to DC information, committees and relevant information: https://www.colorado.edu/invst/sites/default/files/attached-files/invst_handbook2020-2021_0.pdf
 - Agenda items can come for anyone in our community; agenda just needs to be made in advance so that we can all be prepared, especially how much time the item is likely to take, level of priority (low, medium, high priority), who is the point person who will speak on this topic or make this proposal to us? etc.
 - It's always important to prepare in advance to be ready to join the deliberation
 - Why we spell it as Directors' because we are all equal parts of this process, we are all Directors of INVST in a co-creative process of democracy, when we come & sit at this table together
 - Please see INVST handbook & organizational chart & decision making chart all located here: <https://www.colorado.edu/invst/resources/director> Directors' Committee Corner on our web site under "Resources"
 - Reps for each cohort, please share this info with your classmates so that everyone in INVST knows how to use the levers of power & shared decision-making within INVST
- Future DC agenda items (10-15 mins)
 - Collect - what you might want to talk about now and in the future? What other agenda items could be brought up in future meetings?
 - Ellory and Julianne - would like to share a proposal about funding INVST students to be paid for their internships & their work on SOL Projects
 - How could we fund INVST internships?

- How to make INVST more equitable
 - Apply for more Grants & raise more money so that INVST students can receive this support? (Ellie)
- The level of involvement that students have in deciding when events will happen that they will be expected to be at... i.e. Fall Gathering. To get clarity and make a collective decision around these future event expectations. (Ellie)
- Opportunity to talk with the cohort more to be able to bring up these topics and other topics & flesh them out some more. This is part of group time session w/in your Monday skills class -- to collect info from your cohort & share info with them. More proposals & more future agenda items can come in the future as well -- they don't all have to be said today. This is not last call on agenda items for 21-22!
- I think it could be cool to discuss the Antiracism Study Group & how it does & does not relate to the rest of The INVST Program ... not time sensitive ... this convo could appear on any meeting agenda this year (Sabrina)
- New Space promised to CU Engage in the new SOE building, will be located in Flemming ... design input session (20 mins)
- Go around: what do you like about our current spaces?
 - What features do you want to see in our new space?
 - How would this be drawn & designed to foster inclusive community building?
 - What are we going to prioritize for the design of our new space?
- [please see two PDF attachments; we will be providing input to the architects on how we want our new Peace Room, eco-social justice library, INVST offices, plus the rest of the CU Engage office space in the Flemming building to look & feel]
- What are some features of our current space that we want to integrate into our future space?
 - Space for students to meet and study, all hours, all days of the week
 - Study over the summer is common for our students, before departure on their Justice Summers with INVST so that is in the month of July as well as early August
 - Access to a printer that students can use to print off their papers for INVST, CU Engage, & other courses as well as flyers & posters pertaining to events that are part of their SOL Project, internship, etc
 - Big collaborative table in the middle of a warm & welcoming space with light, plants, windows to outside, sunshine & art on the walls
 - A Round table to gather together around
 - Plants!
 - Windows and sunshine
 - Couch - comfortable and less formal, not like the furniture you find at a business, not plastic & uncomfortable but soft, colorful, homey -- where

you would feel like spending some time to drink some coffee and do some reading

- A lounge area. More lounge seating, rather than what feels like doctor's office or reception area furniture. Want comfortable furniture like a living room.
- Conference rooms or office work spaces that have closed doors -- to be able to shut the door and have a private conversation is important since sometimes professors & staff in INVST have sensitive conversations with INVST students; want to have privacy -- prefer private offices with doors that close over large co-working spaces where 8 or more people have only cubicles & dividers separating them from each other. Do not like cubicles at all.
- Less reception space needed and more student lounge space would be preferred for CU Engage, given the kinds of relationships & interactions we try to foster between teachers, staff, students & community partners
- Currently on campus it is hard to find a space to eat your brought-from-home lunch. A microwave and fridge. What about a fully equipped kitchen to be able to use and wash dishes in -- a sink that is dedicated to dishes & food prep as opposed to our current bathroom sink that we have to make do (in our current INVST space). A space for tea, coffee and cups. Kitchenette with open space to facilitate community, conversations and gathering to eat together. (The old School of Ed building had a room like this at the end of the hall way on the 1st floor -- a student lounge space with multiple tables with chairs, as well as a library on one side of the wall & a kitchenette on the other side of the wall.) With the addition of a fridge & microwave ...
- One big open work space for STAFF & FACULTY sounds like a challenge because of the importance for private and personal conversations with students.
- Huddle space, dry erase boards, Space to meet with your cohort or SOL project group.
- Private work space as well is important -- especially for staff & faculty
- White board and shelving for library books
- A space to display student projects such as books that students have published as the result of the SOL Projects, for example, as well as art work by CU Engage students or perhaps a poster where they display the final results of the LEAD 4000 capstone?
- One thing we very much love about our current space is a long, dedicated wall where, on 2 sides, we have displayed 33 photos (each 8 11X14) of all the INVST cohort student pictures & their mission statements. We would very much like to still have this in a public place in the new CU Engage suite, rather than in an INVST staffer's personal office. The fact that all visitors to the INVST space can see all the cohort photos has always

been something special for us. This is especially meaningful for our alumni, donors & previous staff who come visiting.

- Keep the colors bright or Earthy
- Comfortable (not plastic) furniture
- How many people do we actually have working in CU Engage and INVST? Up to ~ 26 probably
- What is happening with the peace room?
 - The peace room started in 1999 so that student activists on campus could have a space to be together and meet up about their on- and off-campus work. This was originally a SOL Project back in 1999 -- the creating of the INVST Peace Room
 - The part of Flemming that will be dedicated to CU Engage will be positioned in such a way so that we can have a space that is accessible around the clock which is why there is an external stairway to the outside of Flemming so near our proposed space, on the drawings.
 - This is the current SASC space in Flemming; they will move to the old School of Ed building after it is renovated & we will move into their space.
- Community Announcements (5 mins)
- Second-year students are putting on a film. Fri, October 1st. Showing the film on the side of the wall of the detention facility in Aurora, GEO. Film is called "The Facility."

SHOW UP! October 1st at 6:30pm. We will be projecting the documentary "The Facility" on the wall of the immigrant detention center in Aurora, CO (3130 Oakland St Aurora, CO).

"The Facility" is a documentary produced by Jeremy Flood that sheds light on the personal consequences of for-profit detention and the broken immigration system in the U.S. We will be screening the film outside of the detention facility and will follow our screening with a community vigil outside the front gates of GEO. Help us support an end to immigrant detention and to stand in solidarity with those housed inside the GEO facility. Gather on the South side of the facility on 30th St. Food and drinks will be provided.

This is an event organized by the community, for the community! Let's show up in numbers to demand an end to the criminalization of human migration.

Disclaimer: Our organizers are taking security measures to make this event as low-risk as possible for attendees. Please make your own decisions when choosing to attend. If you do not feel comfortable joining us in person, please consider sharing this with your network and spreading the word on the harms of immigrant detention in our country!

There will be more outreach coming via social media for shared rides, the flyer, etc.

Saturday November 6th -- All day

Los Seis De Boulder, Race, and Memory Symposium.

<https://www.colorado.edu/libraries/los-seis-de-boulder-race-and-memory-symposium>

Learning about Los Seis & the Latinx history of our local area. Areyana & Sabrina will be presenting & CU Engage's Dr. Johanna Maes was one of our interviewees -- come check out this cool event!

By Sam C, Presentation on coercion and systems. 5 panelists will be presenting.

Tuesday September 28th at 4:30pm

<https://secure.everyaction.com/WVUGiUwUdU-FEw5ueCot9g2?emci=cec39651-6a12-ec11-981f-501ac57ba3ed&emdi=7cab71ce-f712-ec11-981f-501ac57ba3ed&ceid=19775632>

I will outline the barriers within our systems that prevent one from making a free, informed choice. We will explore the ways that, as communities, we develop norms that perpetuate marginalization. I will explain the different cultural and social aspects of coercion. Then a panel of individuals will talk about coercion in the medical system, school system, criminal justice system, and broader society.

As well, Another event by Sam C: trivia night on birth control, Oct. 6:

https://secure.everyaction.com/Kjgdy_H4WkGWwgl2eCEaLA2?emci=6fbbb047-e709-ec11-981f-501ac57ba3ed&emdi=7541e061-5b0a-ec11-981f-501ac57ba3ed&ceid=2704133

- Closing (5 mins) feedback for the facilitator, Ellie: Nothing felt rushed - nice pace - Good job managing zoom