

Session Description Examples - LERA Annual Meeting

Note: These examples are meant to be inspirational rather than limiting. Please construct a description that reflects the nature and contributions of your session. Clear and engaging descriptions are important for attendees to understand what to expect, and rich takeaways are important for marketing the annual meeting to new audiences.

[Multi-Perspective Panel](#) | [Skill-Building Workshop](#)
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Multi-Perspective Panel

Example 1: Arbitration is supposed to be an efficient, cost-effective method of resolving disputes. Frequently, that is not the case. This session explores methods for advocates to control the cost of arbitration, while providing due process and a comprehensive, fair hearing. This session will explore practical, real-life methods that unions, employers and their advocates can develop protocols to streamline grievance and employment arbitration. Participants should expect to leave the session with tools in their toolbox to make arbitration more efficient and less expensive without sacrificing fairness or completeness.

Example 2: This practitioner panel involves multiple stakeholders in efforts to implement collaborative partnerships to improve student achievement and teacher retention especially in high-poverty school districts. Presenters include state and local leaders from the teachers' unions, school boards, superintendents, principals, and the peer facilitation team. They will describe their efforts within their respective organizations and across schools, districts, and the state to design, implement and sustain partnerships to improve teaching and learning.

Skill-Building Workshop

Example 1: What happens when labor and management move towards addressing DEIA issues through collective bargaining and contract language? In this FMCS-led workshop we will discuss why it is important to consider how to address DEIA matters in contract language and the challenges and concerns that parties face when bargaining DEIA language. There will be case studies and examples on DEIA contract language, as well as tips for how to bargain in these areas.

Example 2: A large part of the contemporary professional's job involves coaching others through conflict in the workplace. In this session, seasoned mediators will guide you through the human brain's natural response to conflict situations. Participants will gain key tips and techniques for managing the neuroscience at play in the conflict situation, supporting parties through conflict prevention (when possible) and de-escalating. In summary, participants will learn ways to help themselves and others bring their best selves to difficult situations.

Research Presentations

Example 1: The recent surge in strikes and labor campaigns has generated interest in labor activism by policymakers, practitioners, and scholars in both the United States and around the world. Questions remain as to whether this renewed activism will translate into more sustainable gains for workers and their organizations over time. Attendees will hear original research presentations involving field-based case study research and theoretical work that deepen our understanding of the challenges and opportunities confronting workers during this period of heightened labor activism.

Example 2: This session will delve into the power of strategic partnerships and collaborative structures to engage workers, improve job quality, and foster psychological well-being. Presentations will explore new research on cases and interventions across industries that highlight the significance of worker involvement in shaping workplace conditions. Through diverse examples, including the implementation of participatory voice channels, industry standards boards, and unions, this session provides insights into the ways partnerships can empower workers.

Birds of a Feather

Example 1: This Birds of a Feather session concludes a series of sessions on Creative Approaches to Worker Voice by providing an open space for participants to discuss topics from these sessions, share creative solutions and best practices, and forge connections that may lead to future collaborations. Structured discussion prompts will guide initial conversations, with ample room for spontaneous, participant-driven interactions. Anyone is welcome to attend even if they were unable to attend the other sessions on this topic.

Example 2: This Birds of a Feather session is designed for those looking to connect with other attendees interested in AI and other new technologies in workplaces. This session is an opportunity for researchers and practitioners interested in issues related to AI and other new technologies to network, meet informally, have round table discussions about these matters, and find out about each other's relevant research and experiences. Participants will leave the session with new connections and perspectives.

Other

Example 1: This "Author Meets Critics" session focuses on a new book by J. Mijin Cha titled "A Just Transition for All: Workers and Communities for a Carbon-Free Future" (MIT Press). This session will start with a presentation from Mijin about the book's coverage of the critical topics of climate change, just transition policies, and their effect on workers and communities. This will be followed by a discussion around the merits and broader themes of the book by academics and practitioners, with a chance for the author and audience members to respond.

Example 2: This session features editors from top-tier LERA journals including British Journal of Industrial Relations, ILR Review, and Industrial Relations. Each editor will discuss their journal's editorial mission, review policies, and tips for successfully navigating the submission and publication process. A Q&A session will follow, offering participants practical insights into publishing in these

journals. This workshop is open to all participants, with a special focus on supporting early career researchers and PhD students.