"Plymouth State University Partner Fair"
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What Is the Plymouth State University Partner Fair?
A: Plymouth State University is hosting a "Partner Fair" to provide an opportunity for external partners, faculty, staff and students to imagine ways we might all work together.

Q: When is the fair scheduled?
A: The fair will be held Tuesday, February 7th from 10am to 3pm.

Q: Where will it be held?
A: The Hage Room in the HUB.

Q: Who is hosting the event?
A: The event is sponsored by the Office of the Academic Deans, and is being organized by the Center for Business and Community Partnerships; Career Services; Marketing Communications and Creative Services; and Alumni Relations.

Q: What are the goals of this event?
A: The goals of this day-long, drop-in style networking event are broad - to showcase the development of clusters and open labs by providing an informal and creative environment in which folks can develop relationships, explore possibilities, celebrate successes, and ultimately explore the question of "How Might We….."

Q: Who should participate?
A: The event should include all seven clusters and and a wide array of partners. We've reached out to cluster guides, faculty, and staff and with their help have developed a broad and diverse invitation list.

Q: I didn't get that email! Can I invite some partners of my own?
A: Of course, and our apologies for the oversight. If you have any external partners in your department, center, cluster, or program that you'd like to invite, you can invite them yourself or you can let Nina Domina or Casey Krafton know right away. MCCS has developed a formal invitation and rsvp/registration system and they would be happy to add your partners to the list.

Q: This appears to be most of the day. How is the event organized?
A: The structure of this event will be "drop-in," meaning that anyone (partners, faculty, students, staff) can come for as little or as long as they like, at any time they are able. The drop-in format was chosen so that all stakeholders can come by to network and meet our partners as their schedules allow.

Q: My partner will want to set up a table. Is that okay?
A: Yes. While many partners will just want to drop in, we recognize that some will want a table. We have limited table space available, going on a first-come-first-served basis. Talk to Nina if your partner has table needs – folks can choose AM, PM, or all day so there may be table turnover and slots still available.

Q: What's the agenda? Will there be programming?
A: Because the primary goal is networking and communication, we're keeping the structure relatively light. To that end, we're planning some remarks and brief programming to keep things interesting. Details will be shared later in the week.

Q: Sounds good, but my partners have specific needs. Will there be breakout space, etc?
A: That can be arranged! if you have ideas as to how we can best engage specific folks in your area, please contact Ben Amsden, Erik Pavesic, or Rodney Ekstrom.

Q: I'd like to highlight my own work. Can I be one of the speakers?
A: Absolutely! We'd like the event to showcase current cluster and open-lab styled projects, so if your department, center, cluster, or program has a partnership that you'd like to highlight, please let Ben Amsden or Ava Tyler know. In addition to the speaking opportunities described above, the format is open and can include things like a poster, brief presentation, film, or creative work. Partnerships that include students would be especially compelling!

Q: Why is this during the day and not at night?
A: The daytime slot was chosen because many of our partners will want to send their staff (e.g. outreach or HR folks). Similarly, an evening event may present difficulties for partners/faculty/students with families. The partner fair may happen multiple times a year, perhaps future iterations will be held at alternative times.

Q: I'd love to help! Can I join in the planning effort?
A: Thanks! If you'd like to help, please contact Ben Amsden, Erik Pavesic, or Rodney Ekstrom.