

## Frequently Asked Questions

***Below are answers to some common questions that new members of OSCLG often ask. Each of the questions is answered by several OSCLG members, both students and faculty.***

### **What do you like about OSCLG's conference format?**

- "It's an amazingly welcoming environment, warm and friendly. The conference format allows for both academic engagement with panel and paper presentations as well as for socializing with events such as salsa dancing and yoga. It makes you feel proud to be a member!" –*Stephanie Young, Doctoral Student, Ohio University*
- "It is wonderful to attend a scholarly conference with important, engaging research as well as events/services that focus on the whole body. Yoga, wonderful health food – all of these things make for an amazing, rejuvenating experience." –*Shauna MacDonald, Masters Student, Southern Illinois University – Carbondale*
- "OSCLG give us lot of time just to talk to others! The conversations at this conference are the best interactions that I have had at any conference. The atmosphere is really relaxed and welcoming! This is something that you don't get to enjoy at every conference!" –*Katherine Denker, Doctoral Student, University of Missouri-Columbia*
- "It creates a supportive space for both experienced scholars and graduate students to present research. Participants provide helpful feedback." –*Shirley Dren, Professor, Pittsburg State University*
- "The variety of options to expand the mind and body and spirit." –*Sacheen Mobley, Doctoral Student, University of Missouri-Columbia*

### **How does your involvement at OSCLG benefit your personal and/or academic career?**

- "I feel that it benefits my personal and academic career because I am able to meet many faculty members and graduate students since this conference is very intimate." –*Elizabeth A. Petre, Doctoral Student, Southern Illinois University – Carbondale*
- "Not only does the OSCLG conference allow for a relaxed environment for your presentation, but the feedback and encouragement that you receive from all of the individuals is wonderful. The conference is also balanced in it's format allowing for you to be a whole individual." –*Katherine Denker, Doctoral Student, University of Missouri-Columbia*

### **Why did you get involved in OSCLG?**

- "I saw the CFP and the theme intrigued me so I came. This was my first academic conference and all I can say is I am inspired to greatness by the conference because greatness was shown to me. Thank you very much OSCLG." –*Sacheen Mobley, Doctoral Student, University of Missouri-Columbia*
- "Multiple members of our faculty are members of OSCLG and they encouraged us to submit to the conference. However, the atmosphere and all of the individuals involved make me want to remain involved for years to come!" –*Katherine Denker, Doctoral Student, University of Missouri-Columbia*

### **I am a student and money is tight. It might be difficult to attend another conference. What is the cost of the OSCLG conference?**

- "The conference registration fee is \$80 for students (if you register before the deadline). This fee includes the conference and it also includes a hospitality room at the conference site which has snacks and drinks in it throughout the entire conference. One full meal is also included in this fee. In addition, the student representatives on the OSCLG board are willing to help anyone find roommates for the conference hotel, which helps reduce the cost of the hotel for this conference!" –*Rebecca Weiler, Doctoral Student, Purdue University*
- "The conference is not only financially inexpensive but also personally rewarding. They offered snacks throughout the day and provided for most of our dinners. Personally, I benefited by meeting new people, making connections, and presenting my research. For me, attending this conference was worth any minor financial cost." –*Nicole Defenbaugh, Doctoral Student, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale*

### **What is the audience like during paper presentations at OSCLG?**

- "I feel the audience was responsive and receptive to my ideas. They seemed to recognize the diversity of scholarship that often emerges at a national conference and, they responded in a way that was open to different opinions and viewpoints. Their feedback was both supportive and constructive, encouraging and challenging. It made me want to return next year (and the year after)." –*Nicole Defenbaugh, Doctoral Student, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale*
- "I appreciated how much feedback the audience gave me. It renewed my interest in some of my former research." –*Elizabeth A. Petre, Doctoral Student, Southern Illinois University – Carbondale*
- "Audiences are helpful-giving positive and critical feedback. The audience is encouraging and aid in co-constructing a safe atmosphere for presenting research (especially for us graduate students)." –*Stephanie Young, Doctoral Student, Ohio University*
- "They are an exemplar for constructive criticism! Typically the audience members are very kind, but they also push you and really encourage you to improve your work – they just do so in a very diplomatic and encouraging way." –*Rebecca Weiler, Doctoral Student, Purdue University*

**What is the community of scholars like at the OSCLG conference?**

- The community of scholars is just that – a community. People are interested in your scholarships and also your lives, and that makes a huge difference in the way that the individuals at this conference interact. We really care about improving both scholarship and quality of life, and I love all of the advice and tips that people share at this conference that help nourish the mind, body, and spirit. That may sound like just a cliché, but at OSCLG, it's a unique way of approaching scholarship and academic life that permeates nearly everything that happens at the conference. –*Rebecca Weiler, Doctoral Student, Purdue University*
- “Extremely supportive! This is a community that seems to work well together to make the conference work. They are willing to discuss your work and help further your scholarship.” –*Shauna MacDonald, Masters Student, Southern Illinois University – Carbondale*