

Building Community Through Public Deliberation

What does *Deliberation* mean?

- Learning the concerns people have about an issue.
- Identifying the consequences, costs, and benefits associated with the various approaches.
- Exhibiting a willingness to examine all sides of possible choices
- Working through the inherent conflicts.
- Finding a shared sense of direction or common ground for public action.

What are Deliberative Forums?

The National Issues Forums (NIF) network provides opportunities for adults and older youth to deliberate challenging public issues of the day in local forums. The Oklahoma Partnership for Public Deliberation uses the NIF materials and model to unleash the civic energies of Oklahoma communities and organizations to foster a deliberative habit in Oklahoma.

Deliberative forums address topics such as the economy, health care, and crime and are organized locally by civic, service, and religious organizations, as well as by libraries, high schools and colleges.

Forums are *different* from everyday conversations or debates, in that participants engage in deliberation of three or four choices framed around one issue. The forums present each issue in a neutral, nonpartisan way that encourages people to take a fresh look at the topic and at their own convictions.

What is the OMRA?

The OMRA is a 2-day workshop taught by experienced moderators and recorders designed to teach the skills of convening, moderating, and recording deliberative forums.

Who should attend the OMRA?

- Adults and older youth seeking a better way to address important issues in their community and workplace
- Concerned citizens seeking an alternative to adversarial debate in group meetings
- Community leaders facing conflict surrounding local issues
- Public officials who want to promote meaningful dialogue between citizens and government



*Deliberation,
a different way
to talk.*

What will you learn?

Using a deliberative framework on the issue of healthcare, you will learn:

- To deliberate rather than debate or just discuss important issues
- To convene forums for deliberative dialogue
- To moderate and record deliberative forums
- To create common ground for action
- To report deliberative forums
- To connect with officeholders
- To stimulate public action

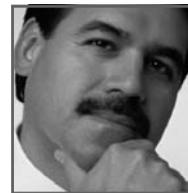
How can Public Deliberation benefit your organization or community?

Citizens will participate in making choices on public problems.



Educators can enjoy the way public deliberation enhances their students' ability to think critically and to listen to the ideas of others.

Community Groups will appreciate how public deliberation allows the public to address concerns and insights.



Religious Organizations can examine concerns through the lens of their faith.

Conference Organizers can include a deliberative forum to engage participants.

Tribal Organizations see deliberation as culturally viable in drawing participants with diverse capacities into the circle.

Libraries and Museums can sponsor deliberative forums to bring diverse programs together in a truly public space.

Civic Groups can discover ways to connect the work of their groups to the needs of communities.



Corrections and Counselors can use deliberative forums to help inmates or patients prepare for their work as citizens when they return to their communities.

Youth can lead public deliberation initiatives through their many membership organizations.

OKLAHOMA MODERATORS AND RECORDERS ACADEMY

Cleveland County OSU
Extension Office
601 E Robison
Norman, OK 73071
April 30 and May 7, 2010



Sponsored by:

- Oklahoma Partnership for Public Deliberation
- Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service
- Norman/Cleveland Co. National Issues Forum
- Southwestern Oklahoma State University
- National Issues Forums

Oklahoma Partnership for Public Deliberation

The OPPD is a partnership of statewide and regional organizations interested in fostering citizen involvement in public decision making through public deliberation.

www.OKdeliberates.org

OPPD Partners

- Common Cause Oklahoma
- Langston University/OKC Campus
- NAACP
- Oklahoma City University, School of Law
- Oklahoma Department of Libraries
- Oklahoma Federal Executive Board/Shared Neutrals Council
- Oklahoma Home and Community Education
- Oklahoma Insurance Department
- Oklahoma Library Association
- Oklahoma State Department of Education- Lifelong Learning Section
- Oklahoma State School Boards Association
- Oklahoma State University- Campus Life, Cooperative Extension Service
- Oklahoma Supreme Court- Administrative Office of the Courts, Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education- Campus Compact
- Redlands Community College
- Southwestern Oklahoma State University
- University of Oklahoma- Center for Leadership Development

For more information about the Oklahoma Moderators and Recorders Academy or on becoming an OPPD Partner:

www.okdeliberates.org

Or contact -

Susan Moffat or Kimberly Williams

Phone: (405) 321-4774 744-9921

Email: susan.moffat@okstate.edu

kimberly.williams@okstate.edu

Health Care

At the 2010 OMRA, participants will learn to conduct deliberative forums using an issue guide on **Healthcare**

Nearly three out of four Americans today worry that their income will not keep up with rising prices, according to a recent Kaiser Family Foundation survey. Specifically, 73 percent worry about having to pay more for health care or health insurance. And 65 percent are concerned that they may not be able to afford the health care they need.

A remarkable 47 million Americans go without health insurance at all. The cost of this fact—to individuals and to society as a whole—is staggering. Medical bills are one of the chief causes of personal bankruptcy—and three-quarters of such bankruptcies are declared by people who do have health insurance. The rising cost of health care is a major contributor to government budget pressures and the federal debt as well.

Refund Policy

**NO REFUNDS OR CANCELLATIONS
AFTER April 26, 2010**

OMRA

When and Where?

Cleveland County OSU Extension Office
North Classroom
601 E Robinson
Norman, OK 73071

(Registration Friday 7:30-8:00am)

Friday, April 30 8:00am—5:45pm

Friday, May 7 8:00am—5:30pm

Suggested Lodging

If you are in need of lodging suggestions, please call the Cleveland Co. Extension Office (405) 321-4774

Registration

\$75 Registration fee includes:

- Instruction Materials
- Two (2) lunches, and all breaks

Register **online** at: www.OKdeliberates.org (credit card only) OR detach the registration form and fax with a credit card or mail with a check to the address and/or fax on the registration form.

Purchase Orders cannot be accepted.

**Registration open
March 29—April 23 2010**

Registration Form

Limited to 25 participants! Register today!

Register ~~online~~ at: www.OKdeliberates.org

(~~credit card only~~) OR fill out this form and mail to the address below.

Print Name as to appear on badge

Title and/or Organization

Address

City/State/Zip

Day phone

Fax number

Email

Specify any special dietary needs/food allergies or mobility/access needs

Member or work for an OPPD partner organization? If yes, which one?

Registration Fee is \$75.00

Payment Type:

Enclosed is my check
(make payable to Cleveland County OSU Extension)

Please Mail (check) and Registration Form to:

Cleveland Co. Ok Coop Extension Service
601 E Robinson
Norman, OK 73071
Phone: (405) 321-4774 Fax: (405) 360-0319