Call for Proposals for Book Chapters

Publisher and Book

The Virginia Tech Institute for Policy and Governance invites 400-word abstract submissions from interested current Virginia Tech Ph.D. and Master’s degree students and Community Voices graduates describing possible chapters for a new ebook to be published on or about August 1, 2016 titled, Social and Political Imaginaries, Cultural Claims and Community Change, to be edited by Max Stephenson Jr. and Lyusyena Kirakoyan.

Volume Foci

The editors ask potential authors to employ one or more of the audio/video recordings and transcripts of the available public talks, radio interviews and roundtable discussions of the 30 guests (to date) in the Institute’s Community Voices (CV) series http://communityvoices.info/past-speakers/ as analytical touchstones for their efforts. Participants in the CV series have hailed from multiple policy domains, and have represented both domestically and internationally focused organizations and initiatives and all three sectors of the nation’s and global political economy. Nonetheless, each guest, although in diverse ways, has been interested in leadership and/or processes aimed at attaining peaceful and democratic community change. Questions aligned with these challenges will be the central foci of this volume. The editors aim to produce a theoretically informed and empirically rich book addressing these concerns.

Possible Subjects/Topics for Consideration

Accordingly, the editors welcome contributions from a range of theoretical and analytical perspectives and methodologies concerning dimensions of these subjects, including but not limited to, the following matters:

- Analyses of questions linked to diverse strategies to sensitize communities to currently existing epistemic frames or ways of knowing
- The import and impact of neoliberal ideology on the capacities of individuals and communities to understand the role of the commons in the creation and preservation of freedom, and thereby capacities to pursue genuine change
- Explorations of examples of forms of leadership and collaboration that might result in alternate and sustainable social and/or political imaginaries
- Investigations and theorizations of the ways in which the arts may catalyze citizens’ potentials for agency, efficacy and social innovation
- The relationship of citizen agency and efficacy to dominant imaginaries and to the processes needed to shift those to produce new community frames
• Examinations of social, cultural, political and economic impediments to possible democratic change and strategies to address those that honor the centrality and sovereignty of those targeted
• Theorizations of the multi-scalar organizational processes necessary to realize social change including, particularly, the forms and roles of trust required for the success of such efforts
• Theoretically driven analyses of specific intervention strategies aimed at promoting social innovation
• Investigations and theorizations of the role of individual and group identities in democratic social change
• Investigations and theorizations of the cultural requisites and dynamics of democratic development.

Whatever their specific arguments, the editors expect that authors will employ the Community Voices archive talks and interviews as an integral element of their chapters.

**Author Guidance and Timeline**
Those submitting abstracts should plan to provide those to the editors, Stephenson (mstephen@vt.edu) and Kirakosyan (lyusyena@vt.edu) by close of business on **October 22, 2015**. Each submission should include the contributor’s affiliation and contact details (university, or if Community Voices participant alumnus, professional affiliation, telephone numbers and email address), the abstract, also including proposed title of the work and four key words describing its contents. All submissions should be in Times New Roman12-point font and be double-spaced. The editors will notify individuals of the status of their proposals and provide a brief style guide for accepted chapters by **November 6, 2015**. Invited **DRAFT** chapters not exceeding 8,000 words, excluding notes and references, will be due to the editors on **February 1, 2016**. **Second Drafts** will be due to the editors on **April 4, 2016**. Thereafter, the editors will work individually with authors on tailored timelines as they complete final versions of their chapters for the volume.