



CALL FOR PAPERS

for the Annual Conference of

The Communal Studies Association

September 30 – October 2, 2021

Yellow Springs, Ohio



“Sustainability, Justice, & Inclusivity”

The deadline for submission of proposals is May 9, 2021

Many contemporary intentional communities have goals of creating more environmentally sustainable, socially and economically just, and/or inclusive societies. Current events in the U.S. and around the world make these goals and visions all the more relevant. The 2021 Communal Studies Association conference theme is designed to encourage scholars of communal studies and, especially, those who live or have lived in intentional communities to explore these topics. How do intentional communities attempt to build more sustainable, just, and inclusive micro-societies? How can those efforts serve as models or inspiration for the broader society? What are the challenges to scaling up or scaling out the efforts of intentional communities in the areas of sustainability, justice, and inclusivity? What does the interface between intentional communities and the broader society look like and how can we gauge the “success” of intentional communities in creating change? How can scholars serve as critical allies to intentional communities by, for example, collecting data and analyzing their efforts in these areas, providing constructive criticism and feedback, and using our positions of relative power to highlight the lessons intentional communitarians might offer to others seeking to create a more sustainable, just, and inclusive world? We strongly encourage current communitarians to consider proposing papers, panels, or other unique forms of contributing to and participating in the conference. A reduced registration fee is available to current communitarians.

As always, we are also interested in proposals that concern any other topics relevant to the field of communal studies. **Please feel free to submit proposals on any aspect of communalism or intentional communities past, present, or future.**

*****Due to the uncertainties associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, it is possible that the format of the conference will be modified. While we hope to hold the in-person conference described below, it is possible that we may have to move to a hybrid or entirely virtually model such as we did in 2020. When submitting a proposal, please keep in mind that you may be asked to make your presentation virtually.*****

The 2021 CSA Conference is planned for Yellow Springs, Ohio, which has unique connections to the history of U. S. intentional communities. It was the home of Arthur Morgan, a driving force behind the Fellowship of Intentional Communities (now the Foundation for Intentional Community) and founding of several individual communities. Yellow Springs was also the site of an early Owenite community. Yellow Springs and vicinity is today home to several contemporary intentional communities and we hope for their participation in the conference. Planned pre-conference excursions include trips to Enright Ridge Urban Ecovillage in Cincinnati and to nearby Shaker sites. Most of the sessions will take place on the campus of Antioch College, a place that still follows some of the communitarian principles that Morgan implemented when he was its President. Dining options are available at locally-owned restaurants in downtown Yellow Springs.

Please submit your proposals for individual papers, whole sessions, or other possible unique formats via the website submission portal (www.communalstudies.org/annualconference) by **May 9, 2021**. Please include an abstract of 150 words maximum describing your presentation and/or session. If you are proposing an entire session or another format, please identify each of

the presenters or participants. Also, please include a biographical statement of 100 words maximum for each presenter or participant. For information please contact Program Chair Joshua Lockyer jllockyer@atu.edu **All presenters will be notified of their acceptance by email by July 1, 2021.** A limited amount of financial support is available for graduate student assistance. If applicable, please indicate your interest with your on-line proposal submission. Successful applicants will be notified of financial support by email by early August 2021.

The Communal Studies Association is an interdisciplinary organization for people living in intentional communities, historic site personnel and academics representing topics including history, anthropology, religious studies, sociology, political science, and others. The CSA's annual conference is often held at the site of an historic intentional community or other relevant venues. For more information about the organization, see our website www.communalstudies.org.