



## Request for Proposals: 2015-2016 Urban Network Forums

The Urban Network invites faculty and campus partners to submit proposals for its 2015-2016 Urban Forums

**Theme: The New Urban Agenda**

### About the Urban Forums

The Urban Forums is a series of research-oriented interdisciplinary conferences, working groups, workshops, and other events focused on urban issues. Events range in size from 30 to 250 people. Previous Urban Forums have covered issues such as organizational perspectives on urban poverty; the effects of neighborhood structures and dynamics on urban health and welfare; city and spectacle in Brazil; and causality in political networks. This year's theme is the New Urban Agenda, in conjunction with the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development ("Habitat III").

### About Habitat III/the New Urban Agenda

The worldwide convening of Habitat III will take place in Quito, Ecuador, in October 2016, and the "New Urban Agenda" will be the product of this convening. The University of Chicago will be a leader in the creation of the U.S. national report to Habitat III, which will focus on sustainable and inclusive communities in an increasingly urban world. In this context, the outcomes of the Urban Forums will form the backbone of the University of Chicago's contribution to the U.N.'s New Urban Agenda.

### Proposals

Since Habitat III's New Urban Agenda provides a wide scope for urban discourse, events on a range of themes are welcome, with a preference for events that address:

- inclusive policy and governance
- urban youth development
- data in the inclusive city
- innovative practices in the built environment

Proposals are welcome for events of all sizes and formats. All proposals must include at least one University of Chicago faculty member as an organizer. Faculty may apply as individuals or in groups, and we encourage proposals from across disciplines and units. We also encourage co-sponsorship with other university, philanthropic, and/or community organizations. All events are free and open to the public.

The faculty or department proposing the event is responsible for setting the agenda and inviting panelists and participants. The Urban Network will provide financial support and collaborate with the Office of University Events and Ceremonies to handle all logistical considerations.

### Forum proposals should feature:

#### (1) A cover page, including:

- a working Forum title;
- a list of Forum organizers and their contact information (with a primary contact designated for planning purposes);
- the total amount of financial support requested, generally **between \$1,000 - \$30,000**;
- anticipated event format and size (e.g., workshop for 30, conference for 250, lecture for 100, etc.); and
- proposed date(s) for the event (Smaller events may be held anytime through the academic year, but proposals for the larger spring conference should ideally indicate a date **in late April 2016**)

**(2) A short narrative of FEWER THAN 2 single-spaced pages, including:**

- a brief description of the Forum topic(s);
- a compelling rationale for the event;
- an outline of the basic format of the Forum, noting style of presentations and/or discussions (*e.g.*, keynote speakers, panel presentations, breakout sessions, *etc.*);
- a list of likely speakers, facilitators, and/or other key participants;
- a description of the expected research, policy, practice, or other products (*e.g.*, journal articles, edited volumes, policy briefings, practice guidelines, videos, *etc.*). These will be posted on the Urban Forums web site, along with presentation slides and audio and/or video of the conference proceedings.

**(3) A budget, including estimates of the costs of:**

- speaker travel
- speaker honoraria (please note that funds may not be used to support University staff or faculty salaries);
- proposed conference venue;
- audio/visual services;
- marketing materials; and
- food and beverages

The budget should also list other sources of support secured or solicited for the proposed conference.

Proposals must be sent as PDF files to Anne Dodge, Program Director, [acdodge@uchicago.edu](mailto:acdodge@uchicago.edu) by 5 PM on Friday, October 9th, 2015. Evaluation criteria will include relevance to the New Urban Agenda and UN Habitat III; potential for generating cross-disciplinary participation; innovation in design; and expected outcomes and products.

**Please contact Anne Dodge, Urban Network Project Director, [acdodge@uchicago.edu](mailto:acdodge@uchicago.edu), 773-702-5116 with any questions.**