



## Accelerating Systemic Change Network: A research to practice network to promote institutional change

<http://serc.carleton.edu/ASCN>

### VISION

The Accelerating Systemic Change Network (ASCN) will serve as an open, interdisciplinary, professional network and intellectual home for individuals and groups in a broad range of disciplines who are engaged in creating and/or studying change in higher education. The ultimate vision of ASCN is that students in every institutional setting experience teaching that aligns with what we know about how people learn, and that draws in and supports all students. ASCN will help integrate what is known and soon to be discovered about organizing, leading, and evaluating change efforts to maximize the individual and collective efforts of network members.

### RATIONALE

There is a need to accelerate development of research-based knowledge about how to scale and sustain changes in higher education that improve student educational experiences and outcomes. The research-based knowledge that does exist is scattered throughout many unconnected research communities, such as the various STEM disciplines, education, faculty development, management, and sociology. Many of the same change initiatives and related research questions are being pursued in different disciplines. Yet, the lack of a venue for sharing and improving this work severely limits the development and use of this knowledge. ASCN recognizes that higher education is a complex system. Creating successful change requires an understanding of and strategic work at multiple parts of the entire system.

### WHAT CAN ASCN DO

1. **Connect people and groups:** ASCN connects and provides an intellectual home for researchers and change agents working on change in higher education. ASCN connects and coordinates with other national efforts that promote change in higher education.
2. **Curate resources:** ASCN curates and create resources (broadly defined) that are useful for supporting the work of researchers and change agents.
3. **Endorse ideas and resources:** ASCN endorses and advocates for ideas and/or materials that will facilitate change in higher education

### STRUCTURE AND ROLES

**Network Members:** Members can choose to interact with the network in a variety of ways. Anyone who is interested can join the network, regardless of interest in a particular working group.

**Working Groups:** Each working group (organized around key topics in change), will develop projects that members can choose to be involved in. Current activities of each working group can be found at <http://serc.carleton.edu/144324>

**Steering Committee:** Provide strategic guidance and support for the intellectual work of the community.

**Network Hub:** Support the work of the ASCN by developing and maintaining structures, securing funding, setting initial agendas for the network, recruiting network members, and supporting working groups.

