



CENTER FOR PUBLIC DELIBERATION

www.cpd.colostate.edu

Annual Report, Fall 2007 – Summer 2008

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CENTER FOR PUBLIC DELIBERATION

CPD Annual Report, 2007-2008

This report details the activities completed in the second year of the CSU Center for Public Deliberation (CPD). The 2006-2007 report is also available online. For more information on the CPD, go to www.cpd.colostate.edu, or contact Martín Carcasson at mcarcas@colostate.edu or (970) 491-5628.

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PART I: CPD BACKGROUND

The CSU Center for Public Deliberation officially began operations in August of 2006, under the direction of Martín Carcasson, assistant professor in the Department of Speech Communication (now Communication Studies). The official mission statement of the CPD is, “To promote the development of a vibrant deliberative democracy in Northern Colorado.”

Deliberation is an approach to politics in which citizens, not just experts or politicians, are deeply involved in public decision making. Working with trained facilitators who utilize a variety of deliberative techniques, citizens come together and consider relevant facts and values from multiple points of view; listen to one another in order to think critically about the various options before them and consider the underlying tensions and tough choices inherent to most public issues; and ultimately seek to come to some conclusion for action in the form of a reasoned public judgment.



CPD Director, Martín Carcasson , Ph.D.

Working as an affiliate of the National Issues Forum network (www.nifi.org), part of the National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation (www.ncdd.org) and the University Network for Collaborative Governance (<http://www.policyconsensus.org/uncg/index.html>), the CPD organizes and hosts many events in the local community, including public forums on national and local issues and various workshops tied to public participation, collaborative governance, and civic engagement. The CPD trains non-partisan facilitators and conveners focused on helping the local community come together and address critical issues more effectively. Deliberation requires safe places for citizens to come together, good and fair information to help structure the conversation, and skilled facilitators to guide the process. The CPD is dedicated to providing these three key ingredients to Northern Colorado.

The CPD has three primary goals:

To Enhance the Local Civic Culture

- Increase citizen participation in community problem solving
- Decrease the sense of polarization, cynicism, and frustration with politics
- Help develop a civic habit of relying on deliberation to address local concerns

To Expand Collaborative Decision-Making

- Promote interconnections between local government and citizens
- Expand and improve the role of the public in decision-making processes
- Help incorporate deliberative techniques in local institutions

To Improve Civic Pedagogy

- Study and improve methods of developing citizenship skills at all levels (K-12, higher education, citizen education)
- Promote the inclusion of deliberative concepts and activities in curricula

The tag line used on the front of the CPD pamphlet and website perhaps best captures the overall purpose of the CPD: *Dedicated to enhancing local democracy through improved public communication and community problem solving.*

The organizational structure of the CPD includes director Martín Carcasson, graduate assistant Elinor Christopher, an advisory board, student associates, and community associates.

The current advisory board includes:

Karrin Anderson, CSU Department of Speech Communication
Lyn Kathlene, Director, Colorado Institute of Public Policy
Barb Kistler, Director, CSU Student Leadership and Civic Engagement office
Ellen Laubhan, Director of Communications, Poudre School District
Michael Liggett, PSD Think Tank., Fort Collins Library Board
Brad MacDonald, CSU Department of Political Science
John Meyer, President of Fort Collins Church Network and Pastor of Summitview Church
Robert Moore, Executive Editor, *Fort Collins Coloradoan*
Ginny Sawyer, Neighborhood Administrator, City of Fort Collins
Linda Mahan, Larimer County League of Women Voters
William Timpson, CSU Department of Education
Deni LaRue, Larimer County Community Information Manager
Pete Seel, CSU Department of Journalism and Technical Communication
Jessica Thompson, CSU College of Natural Resources
James Ross, City of Fort Collins Human Relations Commission

CPD student associates are CSU undergraduates that are chosen for the program from an application process. Student associates (SAs) typically make a two semester commitment, but a one semester program is available for graduating seniors. Student associates receive 3 hours of SPCM 408 (Applied Deliberative Techniques) credit their first semester and one hour of SPCM 486 Practicum credit for their second semester with the CPD.



CPD Student Associates – Fall 2007

Back row: Helen Heinrich, Amy Wimberger, Stacy Pilgram, Rachel Lovendahl, Robert Drost, Dawneen Banks, Kimberly Goodrich, Brian Kraus
Front row: Teddy Saldivar, Keri Owen, Lindsay Byers, Bonnie Goff, Christine Cecilione, Sarah Robinson, Mallorie Bruns, Lisa Wirth, Matthew Wolf
Not pictured: Jamie Folsom, Mandi Gum

Approximately 10-15 new students are selected to begin their work with the CPD each semester, and they join around 10 returning students who completed their first semester of the program the preceding semester.

Student associates are trained to be impartial researchers, conveners, facilitators, and reporters of public discussion, and are involved in all aspects of CPD projects.



Spring 2008 CPD student associates

Back row: Jessica Garrick, Tyler Geddes, Ben Weikert, Mallorie Bruns, Meghan Smiley
Middle Row: Alicia Rehn, Renee Octaviano, Teddy Saldivar, Elise Clement, Brittany Russo, Liesl West, Kimberly Goodrich; *Front row:* Ben Prytherch, MaryKathryn Hurd, Courtney Stone, Michelle Lessans, Katelyn Konecny; *Not pictured:* Lindsay Byers, Rachel Lovendahl

The CPD also relies on community associates, which include graduate students and community members that have gone through the CPD training workshops and volunteer to assist with projects. Community associates for the 2007-2008 year included Hollie Petit, Elizabeth Sink, Alicia Earnest, Victoria Keller, James Ross, and Carissa Dunlap. Several attendees of the June 2008 Deliberative Democracy workshop have also expressed interest in joining the community associate program for the 2008-2009 year.

PART II: FALL 2007- SUMMER 2008 ACTIVITIES

This section details the primary activities of the CPD during its second year. This section is organized in four sections: Major projects, Additional CPD Events, Deliberative democracy training workshops, and Additional Activities by Director Martín Carcasson

Major 2007-2008 Events

Community Forum on Colorado Health Care Proposals

The CSU Center for Public Deliberation (CPD) and the Larimer County League Women Voters (LWV) partnered together to host a public forum on Colorado health care reform that was held in the Lory Student Center on September 29th, 2007. In Colorado, the Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform (the “208 Commission”) was created in 2006 to study and establish health care reform models for expanding coverage, especially for the underinsured and uninsured, and to decrease health care costs for Colorado residents. The forum was designed to help participants deliberate about the key aspects of the proposals. The LWV primarily served the convening role, sending out notices and press releases for the meeting, and inviting particular stakeholder groups. CPD director Martín Carcasson designed the meeting, prepared the background material, and provided the facilitators to run the meeting. LWV volunteers also helped with the sign in table and notetaking during the meeting. The meeting was well publicized, including three different notices in the *Fort Collins Coloradoan*, an article in the *Loveland ReporterHerald*, and discussions on local community radio.

Forty-five participants attended the meeting, along with twelve facilitators and notetakers. Also in attendance were Colorado State Senator Bob Bacon (D) and Colorado State Representative Don Marostica (R). Participants were divided into three small discussion groups facilitated by CPD student associates, and worked through a discussion guide specifically developed for the event by Dr. Carcasson. Participants also completed surveys on the issue. The discussion had participants consider the responsibilities of individuals, businesses, and government connected to health care reform. A report on the deliberations was completed by Dr. Carcasson, provided to the 208 Commission and posted on the CPD website.

By the People Deliberative Polling Event on Improving Colorado Graduation Rates

On October 24, 2007, the CPD, along with Regis University’s Institute on the Common Good (ICG), the Colorado Civic Canopy, and Rocky Mountain PBS, sponsored a deliberative polling event in Denver, CO (the partnership was provided a \$27,000 grant for the project). The *By the People* event was part of a nationwide deliberation project sponsored by MacNeil-Lehrer Productions. Since its launch in 2002, BTP has supported well over 200 Citizen Deliberations around the country and more than 100 national and local PBS broadcasts. In October 2007, citizens in eleven communities around the country gathered to discuss citizenship rights and government responsibilities as they relate to healthcare, education, immigration, transportation, housing, and the environment. All locations hosted conversations about citizenship in the 21st century, and then each location focused on a particular policy issue. The focus issue for the Denver event was on improving graduation rates in Colorado. We met with government officials

and lobby groups working on education to develop the topic, and Dr. Carcasson was responsible for writing the background material for the event. In the months leading up to the event, over 700 Colorado residents were contacted by a firm to assess their views on citizenship and the role of government in general and education policy specifically. Many of those were asked to participate in the event, and 200 agreed to attend. The day of the event, as expected, 100 of those did attend the all-day event, earning a \$75 stipend. Participants completed surveys upon their arrival, and then during an opening session were given presentations by Governor Ritter, Dr. Paul Alexander from the Institute on the Common Good, and Dr. Carcasson. They then spent the rest of the morning in small group discussions moderated by ICG and CPD moderators. After lunch participants were given the opportunity to ask questions of an expert panel, and then returned to small group discussions before completing the day answering a “post event” questionnaire. The event became part of a national broadcast show on PBS tied to the Macneil-Lehrer hour (<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/btp/>) that focused on all 11 cities, as well as a 30 minute show on Rocky Mountain PBS dedicated to our event. During the PBS show, Dr. Alexander and Dr. Carcasson were interviewed directly concerning the results of the event.

Fall 2007 Community Issues Forum

On Monday, November 12, from 6-8:30pm, the CPD hosted the Fall 2007 Community Issues Forum, a night of deliberative forums on a number of issues at the Lory Student Center that includes students from the SPCM capstone class as well as community members. This was the first of what will hopefully become an every semester tradition for the Fort Collins community. One hundred and twenty participants joined us in breakout groups examining seven different topics, including: the abuse of alcohol; the role of the campus newspaper; pathways to peace; health care reform in Colorado; rising poverty in Larimer County; the energy problem; and improving the student/neighborhood relationship.

Student associates chose the topics themselves, researched and worked with local community members and organizations to develop the background information and surveys for the discussions, facilitated the small group discussions, and wrote reports on the overall event.

Pathways Past Poverty project

On October 18, 2007, the CPD, along with the United Way of Larimer County, hosted the initial community meeting for the Pathways Past Poverty project (www.pathwayspastpoverty.org). The project is in response to a sharp increase in poverty in Larimer County over the last several years. The long term plan for the project is to spark a community mobilization effort to address poverty issues in the county. This initial meeting, facilitated by Dr. Carcasson with the assistance of several student associates, was attended by 100 community members, including the heads of a number of government agencies, directors of local non-profits, a state legislator, and two city council members. That meeting lead to the development of eight “approach committees” that met monthly to examine particular areas within the broader issue. The committees were formed around the following issues:

- Enhance childhood education and achievement
- Create more and better jobs that lead to self sufficiency
- Provide job training and increase skill sets
- Increase individual responsibility for financial stability
- Provide solid foundations for families

- Address diversity and inequality
- Strengthening youth and families
- Enhance safety net through policy change

Over 200 community members were a part of the eight committees that met from December 2007 to April 2008. A CPD student associate served on each of the committees. Each committee was charged to research their area, examine best practices locally and nationally, and propose a short set of goals for the community effort.

The CPD then designed and facilitated two community open houses in April and May 2008 to gather public feedback on preliminary goals developed by the approach committees, which received significant media coverage. A total of 250 community members participated over the two forums. A report on the forums was developed and provided to the P3 steering committee, as is available online at the CPD website. The P3 steering committee met over summer to prioritize the goals, and in the Fall of 2008 the project will move forward to identify and work to implement specific strategies to achieve the prioritized goals. The CPD will likely be once again involved in facilitating the project as it continues to develop.



Attendees of the April 30, 2008, Pathways Past Poverty Open House in Fort Collins participate in small group discussions.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Forums

The CPD facilitated a series of seven public forums in six cities across northern Colorado (including Fort Collins, Loveland, Longmont, Greeley, Estes Park, and Sterling) in spring 2008 concerning the role of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) in the K-12 curriculum. The forums were one part of a larger ongoing national project. Colorado was named as one of six states to receive \$500,000 grants from the National Governors Association to establish STEM education centers. The Colorado governor's office and his P-20 council was also involved to gain input on potential changes to state education policy concerning STEM education. The state was divided into six regions, and Dr. Ellyn Dickmann of the CSU School of Education was responsible for the Northeast Region of Colorado.

Year one of the larger project was devoted to bringing people together, galvanizing the community, finding avenues of support, and identifying problems. As part of this process, therefore, Dr. Dickmann requested the CPD assist with the development of public forums to gain public feedback on STEM issues. Dr. Carcasson designed the forums, and facilitated them along with CPD associates. The Northeast region hosted six convening sessions across the northern Colorado area from March 31st – June 11th.

A list of the cities and locations for the STEM convening sessions included:

Loveland, March 31
Thompson Valley High School
2 breakout rooms, total of 22 attendees.

Sterling, April 28
Northeastern Junior College Ballroom
2 breakouts, total of 26 attendees

Fort Collins, April 3
Held during 21st Century Framework
Conference, Hilton Hotel
11 breakouts, total of 100 attendees

Longmont, April 30
Radisson Hotel
2 breakouts, total of 19 attendees

Greeley, April 16
Northridge High School
2 breakouts, total of 16 attendees

Estes Park, May 6
Estes Park High School
3 breakouts, total of 46 attendees

Overall numbers: 6 public meetings, 229 attendees, 22 breakout groups, 56 surveys completed

A follow-up meeting was also held in Fort Collins on June 11th to provide preliminary results of the convening sessions.

The basic framework for the convening sessions was to start with presentations by the Colorado Mathematics, Science, and Technology Education Coalition (COMSTEC) and representatives from the governor's office to provide an overview of the project and the goals for the convening sessions. Participants were then typically divided into groups of 10-20 for small-group discussions led by CPD students. A report was developed and provided to the organizers of the grant and posted online at the CPD website. The feedback from the forums, along with feedback procured by the other five regions, will be used to develop the upcoming implementation stage of the project.

Spring 2008 Community Issues Forum

On April 21st, 2008, CSU Center for Publication hosted the second annual Community Issues Forum, held at the first time at the Hilton Hotel in Fort Collins, Colorado. The event was moved off-campus to the Hilton in order to attract a broader community audience. The purpose of this event was to offer both citizens of the Fort Collins community and students of Colorado State University the opportunity to deliberate and discuss four



The opening presentation to the 2008 Community Issues Forum

important issues affecting the community of Fort Collins and the United States as a whole. Roughly 150 individuals attended The 2008 Community Issues Forum and participated in discussion of one of the following five topics: the Energy Problem; Violence in Intimate Relationships; The 21st Century Responsibilities of Citizenship; Alcohol and Responsibility; and External Property Maintenance codes. The topics discussed in this forum were chosen by student associates under the guidance of Dr. Carcasson. A report on the External Property Maintenance codes forum was provided to the Fort Collins City Council, as an ordinance concerning the issue was currently being considered. That report is also available online at the CPD website.

Additional CPD Events

The CPD developed and hosted the Kickoff Event at the Western States Communication Association Conference in Broomfield, CO, on February 16, 2008. The event brought together communication scholars with local non-profit organizations to improve their agency's communication strategies. Participating non-profits included: Northern Colorado Aids Project, Disabled Resource Services, Children's Speech and Reading Center, Angel House, House of Neighborly Service, Meals on Wheels, Crossroads Ministry, Colorado Civic Canopy, Volunteer Connection, and Hearts and Horses. Roughly 30 professors participated in examining the organization's pamphlets, websites, and other promotional material and providing suggestions for improvements.

The CPD hosted a Community Peace Circle on campus in February 2008. Spearheaded by CPD student associate Mallorie Bruns, the event brought together 35 participants in the all day event to learn about each other and dialogue about increasing peace and cooperation in Fort Collins. The CPD hosted a forum on the "21st Century Mission of Schools" on February 12, 2008, for high school students involved in the Poudre Student Think Tank. 10 students participated in the event that was designed to give the students a sense of deliberation, and to strengthen the connections between the CPD and the Student Think Tank. Discussions were held about developing a specific deliberation workshop for high school students, who would then run forums in their schools or junior highs.

The CPD hosted a discussion zone at the "Focus the Nation" teach-in on climate change on January 20th and 21st, 2008, at the request of organizers. As participants left the scheduled lectures, they were given a chance to sit and discuss the issues with other participants, facilitated by CPD student associates, or express their opinions on easel boards set up with a number of discussion questions. Answers to the discussion questions were collected and provided to the organizers of the event.

The CPD hosted a dialogue zone at the 2007 Sustainable Living Fair at the request of fair organizers. Dr. Carcasson and several student associates facilitated impromptu discussions with fairgoers, as well as hosted specific events such as a discussion on Sustainable Nonviolence Discussion, which included presentations by Peggy Christiansen on The



Geller Center for Spiritual Development, Rob Werge on the Quaker Commitment to Nonviolence, and Bill Timpson concerning Peace in Northern Ireland. Scheduled discussions on “sustainable communication” and the Glade Reservoir were also held.

The CPD hosted forums on energy policy at the Colorado Region Phi Beta Kappa Leadership Conference in Greeley, CO, in September 2007. Spearheaded by student associate Dawneen Banks, the event drew 45 participants, who were split into three discussion groups and worked through the National Issues Forum “Energy Problem” discussion guide. A report on the event was completed by Ms. Banks. Ms. Banks was also interviewed concerning the event by researchers compiling a national report on Energy Problem discussions. The national report is available online through NIF at: <http://www.nifi.org/reports/issues.aspx>.

Deliberative Democracy training workshops

Two moderator training workshops were held for the CSU undergraduate students that had applied and been chosen to serve as CPD “student associates.” The one day events were held on September 9th, 2007 and February 9th, 2008. We held our second community workshop from June 19-21, 2008 at the Aztlan Community Center and the Tamasag Conference Center. The name of our community workshop was changed from a “Moderator Training Workshop” to a “Deliberative Democracy Workshop,” primarily because of the realization that the deliberative practitioners do much more than merely facilitating events—they also research, convene, and report, among other tasks. We had fifteen participants, including two participants from California and two from Denver. At the three day workshop, provided free of charge, the community members received the training similar to the training provided to student associates during the first month of their class, condensed into three days. Participants receive a 73 page CPD training guidebook, discuss the theory and practice of deliberative democracy, and receive hands-on instruction on designing and facilitating “National Issues Forum” style public forums. Several of the local participants have expressed interest in working with the CPD on future events as community associates.



June 2008 CPD Deliberative Democracy Workshop

Pictured (from left to right): Rod Adams, CPD Director Martin Carcasson, Karen Wong, Jessica Thompson, Kelly Evans, Tracy Smith, Placida Gallegos, Nina Burkardt, Trudy Slagter, Kerri Moncrieff, Kristin Slattery, Jami McMannes, Alana Stewart, Jodie Hemerda, and Sharon Mueller

Additional Activities by Director Martín Carcasson

As the director of the CPD, Martín Carcasson also participates in a number of events and serves the community in a number of capacities. During the last year, Dr. Carcasson has:

- Served as lead facilitator and primary advisor to the Pathways Past Poverty project.
- Served as a member of the Pathways Past Poverty Policy Change Committee.
- Moderated the Fort Collins Public Library Panel Discussion concerning Glade Reservoir.
- Co-moderated the Fort Collins Public Library Panel Discussion concerning Uranium Mining.
- Facilitated a stakeholder meeting concerning the newsrack ordinance discussion for the city of Fort Collins.
- Facilitated a stakeholder meeting for the Phantom Canyon Ranches Landowners Association.
- Was interviewed on local radio multiple times connected to various CPD events.
- Facilitated the Colorado State University Department of Foreign Languages faculty retreat.
- Hosted public forums for the Donnell-Kay Foundation on the purpose of K-12 education.
- Served as consultant to the Collaborative Governance Consortium at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM.
- Moderated a city council election forum broadcast live on local radio.
- Was a guest speaker at numerous local organizational meetings, such as the Northern Colorado Multicultural Corporation, the Fort Collins Human Relations Commission, Larimer County Facilitators group, City-County Communication Management Association, City/CSU Liaison Committee, CSU Extension, and the Fort Collins Church Network.

Director Carcasson also attended a number of training workshops and meetings throughout the year to continue to increase the capacity of the CPD and improve the training of CPD associates. Over the last two years, Dr. Carcasson has participated in the following events:

- “What is the role of the field of communication in helping make democracy work as it should?” Workshop for Communication Scholars at Kettering Foundation’s Democracy Exchange Conference, June 30-July 2, Dayton, OH (3 days)
- Kettering Foundation’s Deliberative Democracy Exchange, June 30-July 2, 2008, Dayton, OH (3 days)
- Everyday Democracy’s Annual Conference, June 12-14, 2008, Denver, CO (3 days)
- Groundwork and Grassroots: Reducing Poverty and Rebuilding Communities Conference, May 28-31, 2008, Minneapolis, MN (4 days)
- Institute for Participatory Management and Planning Systematic Development of Informed Consent workshop, April 22-24, 2008, Fort Collins, CO (3 days)
- “Strengthening Civic Education in Colorado Schools” workshop put on by Center for Law and Democracy, April 12, 2008, Boulder, CO (1 day)

- “Bridges out of poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities,” workshop put on by Phil DeVol, Aha Process, Inc., March 4, 2008, in Fort Collins, CO (1 day)
- Deliberative Democracy Consortium Researchers and Practitioners meeting, November 29-December 1, 2007, Washington, D.C. (3 days)
- International Association of Public Participation workshops on Planning for Effective Public Participation, Communications for Effective Public Participation, and Techniques for Effective Public Participation, September 16-20, 2007, Washington, D.C.) (total of 5 days)
- Kettering Foundation’s Public Policy Workshops, July 7-9, 2007, Dayton, OH (3 days)
- University Centers as Neutral Forums for Community Decision-Making Conference, April 25-27, 2007, Seattle, WA) (3 days)
- National Issues Forum Public Policy Institute Issue Framing Workshop, March 21-24, 2007, Chicago, IL (3 days)
- National Coalition on Dialogue and Deliberation Annual Conference and Pre Conference Workshops, August 2-4, 2006, San Francisco, CA (3 days)
- Kettering Foundation’s Public Policy Workshops, June 26-28, 2006, Dayton, OH (3 days)
- Denver University Conference on Public Conflict Resolution and Collaborative Governance, May 25-26, 2006, Denver, CO (2 days)
- National Issues Forum Public Policy Institute Moderator Training Workshop, March 6-8, 2006, Springfield, MO (3 days)

PART III: CPD FUNDING

The CPD has received funding from a number of generous sources during its two years. A CSU College of Liberal Arts Academic Enhancement Program Grant of \$7,795 was awarded in the spring of 2006 that provided funding for a course release, research assistant, and travel for Dr. Carcasson to originally develop Center for Public Deliberation. A grant from the Council of Public Policy Education provided \$5,000 a year for the first three years (2006-2009). The CSU Department of Communication Studies matched that grant, providing a \$5,000 a year of ongoing support. The department also provides for Dr. Carcasson’s salary, as well as in-kind support in the form of his office, a storage area, and access to a copier and supplies.

In December of 2006, the CPD was awarded a \$5,280 grant from the Bohemian Foundation through their Pharos Fund program, which provided funding for Dr. Carcasson and Ginny Sawyer, a neighborhood administrator from the City of Fort Collins, to attend a series of workshops put on by the International Association of Public Participation in Washington, D.C. In 2007, the CPD was awarded a second grant from the Bohemian Foundation in the amount of \$22,294 to support the hiring of a graduate assistant and to support additional events and training.

We would like to express our deep thanks and appreciation to all these organizations for making the Center for Public Deliberation possible.

PART IV: DELIBERATION RESOURCES

If you are reading this report, we hope you already have or are developing a keen interest in joining the “Deliberative Democracy” movement and playing a role in improving the quality of public conversations and community problem-solving in your local communities. Feel free to contact us to get involved. If you are local to Northern Colorado, email us at cpd@colostate.edu to be added to our “Event Notification” list, where you will hear about all our upcoming events. Our free community workshop is typically held each summer, reserve your space now.

Below I have provided some of our favorite resources to help others learn about deliberative democracy.

Useful Deliberation Links and Downloads

The National Issues Forum is one of the oldest and most respected deliberative organizations.

They produce 3-4 national issue books each year, and host numerous trainings. Local NIF “Public Policy Institutes” also produce local issue books that may be useful. A few of the national books are available online as PDFs (others can be ordered), while most of the local books are free online. Main website: www.nifi.org

The direct link to the list of local issue books is located at:

http://www.nifi.org/discussion_guides/guides.aspx?catID=15

Kettering Foundation. The Kettering Foundation is a research foundation dedicated to examining the question: What does it take to make democracy work as it should? The foundation works across the world to study and improve democracy based on deliberation. www.kettering.org

The National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation www.ncdd.org

NCC is a primary umbrella group organization that has information on hundreds of deliberative organizations and techniques. Their “resources” link on the top menu leads you to a very information packed search screen.

Everyday Democracy (formerly the Study Circles Resource Center) www.everyday-democracy.org Like NIF, Study Circles is a well respected national organization known for its high quality issue books and tested deliberative methods. Their books are also available free online (topics such as racism, diversity, poverty, and public education). They also maintain a “Issue Book Exchange” that provides book on a number of topics.

AmericaSpeaks www.americaspeaks.org

A national organization that focused on large scale democratic gathering that utilize technology to bring thousands together to deliberate. Many of their reports are available online.

Democratic Dialogue: A Handbook for Practitioners (free online download) The Handbook on Democratic Dialogue has been a joint effort of CIDA, International IDEA, OAS and UNDP, receiving valuable input from a wider network of organizations. An excellent overall resource. <http://www.democraticdialoguenetwork.org/index.pl>

Some Suggested Readings

For Deliberative Democracy & Public Deliberation

- Barber, Benjamin R. (1984). *Strong democracy: Participatory politics for a new age*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Briand, Michael K. (1999). *Practical politics: Five principles for a community that works*. Chicago and Urbana: University of Illinois Press.
- Fischer, F. (2003). *Reframing public policy: Discursive politics and deliberative practices*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Gastil, John. (2008). *Political communication and deliberation*. Los Angeles: SAGE Publications
- Gastil, John. & Levine, Peter. (Eds.). (2005). *The Deliberative democracy handbook: Strategies for effective civic engagement in the 21st century*. New York: Jossey-Bass.
- Leighninger, Matt. (2006). *The next form of democracy: How expert rule is giving way to shared governance and why politics will never be the same*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press.
- Mathews, David (1999). *Politics for people: Finding a responsible public voice*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press.
- National League of Cities. (2006). *Strengthening Democratic Governance. Changing the way we govern: Building democratic governance in your community*. (available free online through www.nlc.org)
- Stone, Deborah . (2002). *Policy Paradox: The Art of Political Decision Making*. New York: W.W. Norton.
- Yankelovich, Daniel. (1991). *Coming to public judgment: Making democracy work in a complex world*. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press.

Numerous articles from *The Journal of Public Deliberation* (free online journal)
<http://services.bepress.com/jpd/>

Numerous articles from the National Civic League Journal (many available online for free).
<http://ncl.org/publications/ncr/index.html>

For Facilitator Skills:

Kaner, Sam. *Facilitators Guide to Participatory Decision-Making*. 2d ed. San Francisco : John Wiley & Sons/Jossey-Bass, 2007

Schwarz, Roger M. (2002). *The Skilled Facilitator: A Comprehensive Resource for Consultants, Facilitators, Managers, Trainers, and Coaches*. San Francisco : Jossey-Bass, c2002