COLLABORATE FOR CHANGE Schedule of Events
Feb. 27, Integrative Learning Center, UMass Amherst
All Sessions Take Place in the ILC
8:45-9:45 Registration (First Floor Landing) and Breakfast (ILC Main Lobby)

9:45-11:15 Opening Dialogue: Learning Leadership, Doing Social Justice, at UMass and Beyond
Kandace Montgomery-Black Lives Matter
Lindsay McCluskey-Boston Labor Council

11:30-12:30 Sessions 1
Walk in Our Shoes: The Unique Experience of Student Parents (N211)
Consensus Decision Making (S231)
The Backbone of the Movement: Black Women in the Civil Rights Movement (N101)

12:30-1:45 Lunch (Blue Wall)
1:45-2:45 Sessions 2
Meetings that Build Community and Move The Work Forward (S231)
Mindful Leadership: Transformative Methodologies for Being The Change (S140)
Afrofuturism and Community Organizing (N101)

3-4 Sessions 3
Leadership Development, Leadership Styles (N101)
Building the Student Movement Together: Shared Vision and Values
Social Identity (S231)
Groups, Groups, Groups: How Do We Work In Groups (N211)

4pm Reception
An informal, close-up discussion with Kandace Montgomery and Lindsay McCluskey (ILC Main Lobby)

Workshop Abstracts

Consensus Decision Making, Jonathan Abbot
In consensus decision making, groups do not move forward with a proposal if a member of the group has a principled objection. Consensus is
an especially powerful tool for diverse, egalitarian or cooperative groups or any group with a variety of opinions. Through group discussion we'll discover when to use consensus and how the decision process works, learn meeting facilitation techniques and how your group can benefit from consensus. Once we've learned the basics of consensus we'll put our skills into practice with a mock consensus decision process.

**Mindful Leadership: Transformative Methodologies for Being the Change**, Shalini Bahl
This highly interactive, experiential workshop will focus on core mindfulness skills needed for self-awareness and transformation. Participants will be provided with a framework for mindful leadership that is based on practices and theory in mindfulness, emotional intelligence and leadership. Participants will explore what it means to be a mindful leader through drawing, self-reflection and other awareness practices.

**Building the Student Movement Together: Shared Vision and Values**, Erika Civitarese
UMass students are doing extremely important work to make our campus a more accessible, affordable and anti-oppressive space. In order to address the intersections at which systems of oppression operate here at UMass, student groups and coalitions need to have a shared vision of what UMass needs to become, and the values we need to hold during the process and beyond. In this workshop, you will learn the tools necessary in order to vision what a just UMass should look like and how to connect with other organizations with your shared values. We need to vision together to win together.

**Groups, Groups, Groups: How Do We Act in Groups**, Katja Hahn D’errico
All of us are group members; we belong to family, friends, RSOs, residence hall communities, community organizations, and so on. When we participate in those groups do we take charge, lead everyone toward the solution, and delegate the tasks? Or do we observe, mutable to the dynamics created by collective space? When leading a group how do we know when to support and when to direct? In this session, we’ll explore group dynamics, and how our personal social identities contribute to shaping those dynamics. We’ll also examine the stages of group development, and brainstorm strategies for maintaining peace and productivity.

**Walk In Our Shoes: The Unique Experience of Student Parents**, Amara Donovan, Deborah Cora
Students with children comprise over 20% of all college students. (IWPR#C404) We face challenges unique to other students and are rarely acknowledged throughout the University. Younger student parents face even greater odds in that just 1% of teen parents will graduate college by the age of 30. (NCSL) We will be discussing our journeys as student parents, how we arrived at UMass and the challenges we face both on and off campus. Finally, we will discuss the resources we use through the Office of Family Resources such as UMass family housing, childcare assistance and parent education programs for credit.

The Backbone of the Movement: Black Women in the Civil Rights Movement, Maija Hall
The progressions and successes of Black liberation movements have rested on the labor and intellectual property of Black women. This session will focus on highlighting and illuminating Black women leaders during the Civil Rights Movement in a dynamic workshop and discussion on racialized sexism and the lack of public and economic recognition to Black women in social movements. I will present this workshop as an interactive lecture followed by facilitated discussion

Fear of a Black Universe: Afrofuturism, Science Fiction & Black Liberatory Imagination, Josh Odam
Afrofuturism is a movement that not only addresses the lack of color in stories of the future, but also does so much more. Afrofuturist writers discuss themes which most science fiction authors avoid such as trauma, the masculinization of Black women, whitewashing of American history, compounding oppression, and the adulation of the survivor. In science fiction, we do not have to stay contained within what is possible. We can start with the question “What do we want?” rather than the question “What is realistic?” The presentation seeks to use lenses such as Octavia’s Brood, X-Men, and The Matrix to reconceptualize Blackness, grassroots community organizing, and the politics of liberation.

Leadership Development: Leadership Styles, Service and Engagement Council
The purpose of this session is to facilitate a discussion amongst the campus & community leaders at UMass about leadership development. Specifically, we will look into the different styles of leadership, and explore ways for us to collaborate with each other and support each other in our shared goals for change. This session will be facilitated by the Service & Engagement Council's Executive Board.
Meetings that Build Community and Move the Work Forward, UMass Alliance for Community Transformation

Organizations have many differences, but they all have something in common: everyone has meetings! Good social justice meeting practices involve focusing on the specific perspectives and resources of the people in the room, using techniques to open space for meaningful engagement by each participant, and mobilizing methods for moving the group forward with clarity and focus. Skilled facilitation is key to effective meetings, but effective and sensitive participation is just as important. In this workshop, UACT leaders and facilitators will share tools for making your meetings awesome, and will work with you on your specific meeting challenges.