



Visitor Studies Association

## **2017 Visitor Studies Association Conference Call for Dining Discussions**

Dining discussions are participant-led conversations over dinner; the purpose of these conversations is to provide informal networking and socializing opportunities for attendees who share a common interest around a specific topic. Participants can propose topics of conversation for groups of up to 10 people, and attendees can sign up to participate in a discussion on a first-come basis at the registration desk starting Thursday morning. Proposed topics can run the gamut from fun to serious, but they should focus on responding to specific issue, challenge, setting, or circumstance (e.g., promoting action in conservation learning, strategies for solo practitioners, responding to current events, etc.).

How it works:

1. Propose a topic—email a few sentences describing the topic you'd like to facilitate to us at [VSAProposals@gmail.com](mailto:VSAProposals@gmail.com) by May 25<sup>th</sup>. Include a preference for Thursday or Friday evening and desired number of participants (max of 10).
2. If your topic is accepted, you will be notified by June 1<sup>st</sup>, and you will be responsible for choosing a restaurant and making a reservation for your group. (We will provide suggestions for restaurants within walking distance of the conference hotel.)
3. We will post topics to the VSA website three (3) weeks before the conference. Attendees will have the opportunity to sign up for one discussion at the conference starting Thursday morning.
4. Diners will gather in the lobby at the designated time, walk to the restaurant together, dine, discuss, and pay for their own dinner.

Questions? Email us at [VSAProposals@gmail.com](mailto:VSAProposals@gmail.com).

See you in Columbus!

Claire Thoma Emmons, Allison Cosbey, and Dolly Hayde  
*2017 Program Chairs*