Deliberative dialogues are an unbiased kind of talking, where a group shares their diverse views and experiences. AASCU’s American Democracy Project (ADP) is pleased to offer a space to train facilitators from higher education institutions through the Deliberative Dialogue Institute (DDI). This virtual four-day experience also includes time for participants to convene and deploy their own deliberative dialogue and to receive feedback on it from our instructors. It is open to faculty & staff at all AASCU member institutions and there will be no cost for the DDI.

The goals for this institute are to:

- Explain the purpose and value of a deliberative dialogue
- Encourage deliberation as a mechanism for a healthy democracy
- Utilize provided resources and strategies for campus dialogue and deliberation
- Gain knowledge to customize and adapt materials and resources for courses, programs, and campus needs

Dates connected to the Fall 2021 DDI are as follows:

- Accepting applications until September 20
- September 22: Notify applicants of status
- October 1: Send pre-video and materials
- October 8, 3:00–4:30 p.m. ET: First training session (virtual)
- October 15, 3:00–4:30 p.m. ET: Second training session (virtual)
- October 22, 3:00–4:30 p.m. ET: Third training session (virtual)
- November 10, 3:00–5:00 p.m. ET: Final training session (virtual)

All virtual sessions are required, and we ask that you plan to hold a deliberative dialogue in late October/early November. Your deliberative dialogue can be a team effort, if you join the DDI as part of a campus team. Campus teams are highly encouraged, though each member must submit an individual application. If interested, please submit an application to Cathy Copeland, ADP director, by September 20. We will notify applicants on September 22 about their status.

This institute will be led by Steven Koether, foundations of science coordinator, Sam Houston State University (Texas); Kara Lindaman, professor of political science and public administration, Winona State University (Minn.); and Harriet Steinbach, assistant director, Center for Civic Engagement, Illinois State University.