

Prompt questions for July 20 - July 26:

^^ **Please have a conversation about these questions during the community dinner.**

** **Please share your response to these questions on the web space.**

-- We encourage you to address the remaining questions on your own (choose your medium), with another member of the Institute, at the community dinner, or on the web space.

Socially-responsible work and living a socially responsible life:

❖ **** During the final two weeks of the program, we encourage you to request about an hour's time to interview or have a conversation** with your internship supervisor, or to have a conversation with someone else that works at your organization site, and to **share your reflections about this interview / conversation on the web space.** As an intern, you have access to information and people who may not be available to you at any other time. The opportunities are there for you to observe and discover new developments in their field, initiate your own research or test your own theories about why things are the way they are. Below are some questions that you may want to ask this person:

- How did you become interested in this field and start in it?
- What training or education did you have? Where did you get it from?
- What are the major responsibilities in your position?
- What do you like most about your work? Least?
- What knowledge areas and skills do you use most often?
- What is the most difficult part of your job?
- How is the impact of your work evaluated?
- What are some of your greatest accomplishments?
- Do you believe you are making a difference? What is your vision for social justice in this area of work?
- What are the major challenges or obstacles that you encounter in doing this work?
- What are the rewards?
- How do you deal with the issue of burnout? What keeps you inspired?

- What advice would you give to someone interested in this field?
 - Who else or what other organizations are doing exciting work in this field?
 - Are there any books, training programs, etc. you would recommend to someone interested in the work you do and the area you work in?
- ❖ **** After the interview / conversation:**
- **Were your supervisor's answers what you expected?**
 - **What did you find most striking about this discussion?**
 - **What do you find encouraging or discouraging about this type of work?**
- ❖ **^^ Over dinner, discuss Diania's comments about urban public education, our ongoing conversations about the role of education, and our conversation during orientation about social justice, social responsibility, and privilege.**

Synthesizing your experiences; "I know what I did this summer, but I'm not sure what it means...":

Meaning making

"We need to recognize that the events that make up aesthetic experiences are events that occur within and by means of the transactions with our environment that situate us in time and space.... Made aware of ourselves as questioners, as meaning makers, as persons engaged in constructing and reconstructing realities with those around us, we may communicate to students the notion that reality is multiple perspectives and that the construction of it is never complete, that there is always more." (130-1)

"...the active learner [is] here conceived as one awakened to pursue meaning and to endow a life story with meaning. Yes, one tendency in education today is to shape malleable young people to serve the needs to technology and the postindustrial society. However, there is another tendency that has to do with **the growth of persons, with the education of persons to become different, to find their voices, and to play participatory and articulate parts in a community in the making.**" (132)

Taken from Releasing the Imagination: Essays on Education, the Arts and Social Change, by Maxine Greene (1995).

- ❖ **^^ If there are any follow up questions for Giselle or Tim, please discuss during the community dinner.**

(please see next pg.)

We encourage you to share your answers to the questions listed below on the web space sometime before the program ends and before we reconvene on September 17 in Providence; however, you are not required to do so before the end of the program.

(We prefer that you devote your focus right now towards interviewing someone at your organization [see last week's prompt Qs], preparing for your final project presentation and the product you will be turning in.)

❖ What do I know more concretely about myself and my interests as a result of my experience in my internship, with the seminar discussions, and with the intentional community piece of the program?

❖ What are the 2 or 3 intellectual questions that I am taking from this summer?

❖ What are the 2-3 personal questions I am taking from this summer?

❖ What are the 2-3 professional/career development questions I am taking from this summer?