

To whom it may concern,

Someone in your network is interested in attending an upcoming Conference for Advancing Participatory Sciences (CAPS). Below are a few thoughts on why it is worth supporting their participation and/or joining them at this event.

CAPS—the annual event of the Association for Advancing Participatory Sciences (AAPS)—is the premier gathering of scholars, practitioners, and facilitators who deliver research findings and engagement opportunities through citizen science, community science, community-based monitoring, and similar practices. This event brings together researchers from across all scientific disciplines, and experts from outside of traditional academic fields, including formal and informal educators, technology specialists, community leaders, and evaluators.

This cross-boundary audience and program connects attendees with new colleagues and critical perspectives that don't generally come together at more discipline-specific conferences. While many conferences rely on a one-way flow of information, CAPS programming is designed to facilitate discussion and conversation across the broad attendee base. The focus of all activities is on the practical application of best practices and new research insights, setting all attendees up to act on what they learn as soon as they return home.

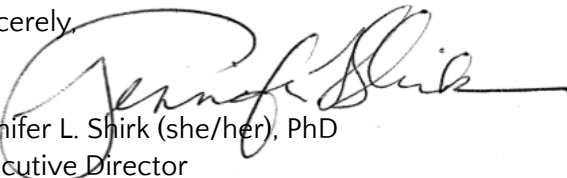
For these (among other) reasons, attending CAPS is an unparalleled opportunity to:

- Expand professional networks and connect with a global community of practice
- Engage in meaningful conversations with leaders and innovators from all sectors
- Gain feedback and insights from critical perspectives that can be hard to access
- Become an active part of this rapidly growing field

Finally, we work hard to keep CAPS affordable, and attending is likely more within reach than you might think. Details on registration rates and support options are available on our website.

Thank you for supporting the professional growth and success of your team in this field.

Sincerely,



Jennifer L. Shirk (she/her), PhD
Executive Director

Association for Advancing Participatory Sciences