

BLC created the BLC Institute in January 2016 to provide training, education, and coaching in all aspects of dispute resolution.

BLC Institute 2017 Fall Programs

Mediation Skills Training for Clergy and Lay Leaders

Tuesday, October 17, 2017 (9AM – 5PM)

Faculty: David Hoffman, Audrey Lee, Rabbi David Jaffe, Parisa Parsa, Tom Porter, Rabbi Or Rose, Jeff Seul and Bob Stains. Mediation skills can help you more productively engage with Clergy-board negotiations, intra-communal disputes between congregational members, ritual differences among and between denominations, and theological differences that arise on local interfaith clergy committees. This one-day interactive training will provide religious leaders with an overview of the mediation process. A portion of the program will be devoted to providing participants with the opportunity to practice these skills involving faith-based conflicts and coached by experienced practitioners.

Co-Sponsors: *Bob Stains and Associates, Conflict Transformation; Boston University School of Theology; Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries; Essential Partners (formerly Public Conversations Project); The Kirva Institute; The Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership, Hebrew College; The Pluralism Project, Harvard University*

Implicit Bias Workshop: Proven Strategies for Raising Awareness and Counteracting Bias

Friday, November 17, 2017 (9AM – 4PM)

Faculty: BLC Founder David Hoffman, Institute Executive Director Audrey Lee, BLC Affiliate Matt Thompson.

Are you curious to learn more about implicit bias, but perhaps reluctant to raise the topic with friends or colleagues? Could your workplace or community benefit from heightened awareness of the ways implicit bias affects our relationships and decision-making? This one-day interactive workshop will help participants have a deeper understanding of the implicit biases we all carry and specific strategies to manage them.

In the morning, the facilitators will lead interactive presentations and exercises to raise awareness about where biases come from—essentially, a form of mental shortcut that we all engage in – as well as discussion of stereotypes each of us has encountered in the way we are viewed by others. In the afternoon, the workshop will focus on strategies for counteracting bias, with small-group discussions of each strategy and how they might be implemented in the workplace.

Save the Date!

Mediation Intake 101 – Everything You Always Wanted to Ask

Tuesday, March 6, 2018 (12PM – 2PM)

Faculty: BLC ADR Case Manager Karen Richards & Institute Executive Director Audrey Lee. Bring your mediation intake and screening questions to this brown bag program! Karen Richards, BLC's long-time ADR Case Manager and Paralegal, will share her experiences vetting mediation cases for BLC. Topics include intake protocols, basic dos and don'ts, and managing strong emotions. Karen and BLC Institute Executive Director Audrey Lee will conduct a fishbowl demo of challenging intake moments and take questions from the group. Terrific for anyone interested in starting their own mediation practice.