

CISC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM
Leading with Imagination
February 11-13, 2015

**Patricia Ryan Madson – What if you already have what you need?
The Educator as Improviser**

You will be called upon to improvise today. Something or someone will cross your path that wasn't part of your scrip or lesson plan. How you respond to these continual challenges reflects your ability to think on your feet, to make the most of each moment. Believe it or not, the study of improvisation offers a roadmap and lifeline as you navigate the constantly changing landscape and never ending surprises that make up modern education. Improv is a metaphor for living. Improvisation teaches us how to be awake, how to be kind, and how to be resourceful. The rules of Improv can help us develop a flexible mind and a capacity to try new things and roll with the punches. It's not about comedy, it's all about common sense. In this keynote, we will learn the four A's of improve: Attention, Acceptance, Appreciation, and Action. Open your eyes and smile.

**Jim Knight – Why Our Own Learning is Essential. Why We Resist it.
How We Can Make it Happen**

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In education, learning is our work. Whatever our position, we spend most of each day helping other people learn. Most of us recognize the importance of learning, and yet for a variety of reasons we often fail to give proper emphasis to our learning. Sometimes we actually go out of our way to keep ourselves from learning, choosing to avoid the reflection and work that truly helps us improve. You will learn why learning is essential for personal well-being and why we so often go out of our way to avoid it. Specifically, participants will learn about (a) learning's essential role in a fulfilling life, (b) the biases that keep people from getting a clear picture of where they need to improve, (c) the reasons why people often prefer not to learn, and (d) strategies anyone can use to help themselves or others learn.

PEERS GOALS

- Powerful
- Easy
- Emotionally Compelling
- Reachable
- Measureable
- Student-Focused (Not teacher focused)