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WELCOME

Welcome to the second I2S News. This newsletter is produced bi-monthly and provides an update about new resources on the I2S website (<http://i2s.anu.edu.au/>). The website, in turn, is building a repository for concepts and methods that are useful for researching complex real-world problems, as well as conferences, journals, professional associations and networks which provide forums for like-minded researchers to exchange ideas and experiences. The focus is not on the problems, but on methodologies for tackling them, especially through synthesizing relevant knowledge, dealing effectively with remaining unknowns and combining these in an evidence-base to support policy and practice change. I2S aims to bridge multiple networks and to overcome the fragmentation which characterizes existing efforts, so that there is greater awareness and access to a range of valuable materials.

Gabriele Bammer and Peter Deane

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FEATURED METHOD

Quantitative risk matrices

Jarrett, Richard and Westcott, Mark. (2010). Quantitative Risk. In G. Bammer (Ed.), *Dealing with Uncertainties in Policing Serious Crime* (pp. 67-85). ANU E-Press: Canberra, Australia.

Detail: A brief introduction to risk analysis is provided by Richard Jarrett and Mark Westcott, showing that many of the qualitative methods currently in use are open to subjective and inconsistent interpretations. They demonstrate an effective method for quantifying consequences and likelihoods of risks, as well as for combining these assessments. They also take this further by examining different kinds of risks - death, injury and illness; economic; social; environmental; symbolic; external;

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and reputational - and show how these can be rated and combined, allowing for a rich appraisal of a wide range of situations. It therefore becomes possible to construct much more sophisticated and quantified risk matrices to assist decision-making about allocation of resources and other responses.

- Full text online at: http://epress.anu.edu.au/dealing_citation.html

For more methods and concepts, such as;

- A Philosophical Approach to Improving Cross-Disciplinary Communication - The Toolbox Project

See: <http://i2s.anu.edu.au/resources/tools>

FEATURED JOURNAL

Systems Research and Behavioral Science

"*Systems Research and Behavioral Science* publishes original articles on new theories, experimental research, and applications relating to all levels of living and non-living systems. Its scope is comprehensive, dealing with systems approaches to: the redesign of organisational and societal structures; the management of administrative and business processes; problems of change management; the implementation of procedures to increase the quality of work and life; the resolution of clashes of norms and values; social cognitive processes; modelling; the introduction of new scientific results, etc. The editors especially want manuscripts of a theoretical or empirical nature which have broad interdisciplinary implications not found in a journal devoted to a single discipline."

- Website: [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1099-1743a](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1099-1743a)
- Impact factor (2010): 0.706

For more journals, such as;

- Ecology and Society
- Emergence: Complexity & Organization

See: <http://i2s.anu.edu.au/resources/journals>

FEATURED NETWORK

Evidence-Based Policy in Development Network (ebpdn)

The Evidence-Based Policy in Development Network is a world-wide community of practice bringing together think tanks, policy research institutes and other organisations and individuals to promote more evidence-based, pro-poor development policies. The website is a key outcome of the Overseas Development Institute's (ODI) Civil Society Partnership Program. It provides a range of resources on topics such as policy engagement, advocacy, and understanding evidence. There is an active listserv, which has contributors from around the world. It provides notification of new resources, conferences, courses and other relevant materials and is a forum for lively discussion. There is also a newsletter.

- Website: <http://www.ebpdn.org/>

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For more professional associations & networks, such as;

- Science of Team Science (SciTS) Network

See: http://i2s.anu.edu.au/resources/associations_networks

CONFERENCES

New Conference Announcements

- 9 November 2011, Annual Conference of the KFPE (Commission for Research Partnerships with Developing Countries) - Research Partnerships for Development: Role and Challenges in a Globalising World, Bern, Switzerland (<http://www.kfpe.ch/registrierung/>) (*Bridging the Research-Policy/Practice Gap*)
- 9-12 January and 6-9 February **2012**, Competence Center Environment and Sustainability (CCES) Winter School: Sustainability Science Meets Practice, Männedorf, Switzerland (<http://www.cces.ethz.ch/winterschool>) (*Bridging the Research-Policy/Practice Gap*)
- 16-19 April **2012**, 3rd Annual International SciTS (Science of Team Science) Conference, Chicago, USA (<http://scienceofteamspace.northwestern.edu/annual-scits-conference>) (*General Interdisciplinarity/Transdisciplinarity/Team Science/ Action Research*)
- 4-6 June **2012**, 4th UN Conference on Sustainable Development: Rio+20, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (<http://www.earthsummit2012.org/>) (*Other*)

Upcoming Conference Announcements

General Interdisciplinarity/Transdisciplinarity/Team Science/ Action Research

- 26-27 September 2011, Action Learning, Action Research Association (ALARA) Australasian Conference - Action and change: Creative responses for new challenges, Brisbane, Australia (<http://www.alara.net.au/public/home>; http://www.alara.net.au/files/ALARA%20call%20for%20papersv3.20.12.10_0.doc (PDF))
- 13-16 October 2011, Association for Integrative Studies 33rd Annual Conference - Traditions and Trajectories: Interdisciplinarity and Integrative Learning, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA (<http://qvsu.edu/aisconference/call-for-proposals-2.htm>)
- 4-6 November 2011, CARN Conference 2011 (Collaborative Action Research Network) - Bringing a Different World into Existence: Action Research as a Trigger for Innovations, Vienna, Austria (<http://ius.uni-klu.ac.at/carn>)
- 29 February-2 March **2012**, Leuphana Sustainability Summit - Sustainability: Enabling a Transdisciplinary Approach, Lüneburg, Germany (<http://www.leuphana.de/en/faculty-sustainability/news/leuphana-sustainability-summit.html>).

Systems and Modelling/Simulation

- 14-16 September 2011, Applications of Social Network Analysis, Zurich, Switzerland (<http://www.asna.ch/>).
- 31 October – 2 November 2011, Systems Thinking in Action 21st Annual Conference - Because Sustainable Success Doesn't Just Happen, Seattle, Washington, USA (<http://www.systemsthinkinginaction.com/>)

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- 12-16 December 2011, International Congress on Modelling and Simulation: Understanding and Living with Uncertainty, Perth, Australia (<http://www.mssanz.org.au/modsim2011/>)
- 4-7 January 2012, 45th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS), Maui, Hawaii, USA (http://www.hicss.hawaii.edu/hicss_45/apahome45.htm)
- 26-29 March 2012, Symposium On Theory of Modeling and Simulation (TMS'12) (formerly known as the DEVS Integrative M&S Symposium), Orlando, Florida, USA (<http://tms-devs.org/doku.php>).

Uncertainty and Risk

- 19-22 September 2011, 13th EADI (European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes) General Conference: Rethinking Development in an Age of Scarcity and Uncertainty New Values, Voices and Alliances for Increased Resilience, York, UK (<http://www.eadi.org/index.php?id=1205>)
- 26-28 September 2011, 6th Annual Conference of the Society for Risk Analysis - Australian and New Zealand Regional Organisation: Risk in the Real World, Brisbane, Australia (<http://www.acera.unimelb.edu.au/sra/news.html>).
- 19-21 October 2011, Governing Risk And Vulnerability For Water, Energy And Climate Change, University of Twente, The Netherlands (http://www.utwente.nl/igs/conferences_events/IGS%20conference%20Resilient%20Societies/)
- 4-7 December 2011, 31st Annual Meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, Charleston, South Carolina, USA (http://www.sra.org/events_2011_meeting.php)
- 18-20 July 2012, World Congress on Risk 2012: Risk and Development in a Changing World, Sydney, Australia (<http://www.sra.org/worldcongress2012.php>).

Bridging the Research-Policy/Practice Gap

- 7 December 2011, Bridging the gap between research, policy and practice: The importance of intermediaries (knowledge brokers) in producing research impact, London, UK (<http://www.genomicsnetwork.ac.uk/forum/events/title,24718,en.html>).

Other

- 28-30 September 2011, Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand - Facing the Future: Actions for the Environmental Profession, Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia (<http://www.eianz.org/eventsplus/category/environment-institute-annual-conference>)
- 5-6 October 2011, Science for the Environment - Environment for Society: Bridging the Gap Between Scientists and Practitioners in Environmental Science, Aarhus, Denmark (<http://www.dmu.dk/en/news/arrangements/conferences/environmentconference2011/>)
- 7-8 October 2011, International Conference on Social Sciences, İzmir, Turkey (<http://www.icsscconference.net/>)
- 19-21 October 2011, Resilient societies - Governing risk and vulnerability for water, energy and climate change, Enschede, The Netherlands (<http://www.utwente.nl/igs/IGS%20-%20SENSE%20conference%20Resilient%20Societies/>).
- 2-5 November 2011, Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), Cleveland, Ohio, USA (<http://www.4sonline.org/meeting>)

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- 7-9 December 2011, 25th Annual Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management (ANZAM) Conference, Wellington, New Zealand (<http://www.anzamconference.org/default.asp>).
- 16-18 January 2012, International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society, Los Angeles, USA (<http://techandsoc.com/conference-2012/>).
- 25-28 January 2012, Shared futures/ Difficult choices: Reclaiming a Democratic Vision for College Learning, Global Engagement and Success, Washington DC, USA (<http://www.aacu.org/meetings/annualmeeting/index.cfm>).
- 26-29 March 2012, Planet under Pressure Conference: New Knowledge towards Solutions, London, UK (<http://www.planetunderpressure2012.net/>).
- 10-11 March 2012, 2nd International Conference on Social Science and Humanity (ICSSH), Chennai, India (<http://www.icssh.org/>).
- 6-8 July 2012, 12th International Conference on Knowledge, Culture and Change in Organizations, Chicago, USA (<http://ontheorganization.com/conference-2012/>).
- 15-17 November 2012, Fourth International Conference on Science in Society, Berkeley, California, USA (<http://science-society.com/conference-2012/>).

ABOUT I2S NEWS

The aim of this newsletter is to provide regular (bi-monthly) updates about resources for researchers who investigate and help tackle complex real world problems, by:

- Synthesizing knowledge from different disciplines and stakeholders,
- Understanding and managing diverse unknowns, and
- Providing integrated research support for policy and practice change.

Each issue features concepts or methods relevant to I2S – either a useful compilation or a single tool of note. We also provide information about journals, professional associations & networks, and conferences where researchers can report their methodological findings, as well as interact with like-minded peers.

The I2S News is archived at: <http://i2s.anu.edu.au/i2s-publications/newsletters/i2s-news>.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter go to "I2S Updates" at <http://i2s.anu.edu.au> or contact Peter Deane at peter.deane@anu.edu.au.

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