

WELCOME

Welcome to another year of I2S News which provides bi-monthly updates about resources for researchers interested in Integration and Implementation Sciences (I2S).

For those curious about what I2S is and aims to achieve, January saw the publication of the book *Disciplining Interdisciplinarity: Integration and Implementation Sciences for Researching Complex Real-World Problems* which explains this proposed new discipline in detail. As well as the proposal put forward by one of us (GB), the book includes 24 commentaries by leading researchers involved in inter- and trans-disciplinarity and related areas. The book is published by ANU E Press and is available free on-line at <http://epress.anu.edu.au/titles/disciplining-interdisciplinarity>.

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FEATURED METHODS

Key Dynamics in a Dialogue

Escobar, Oliver. (2011). *Public Dialogue and Deliberation: A Communication Perspective for Public Engagement Practitioners*. Edinburgh Beltane, Beacon for Public Engagement, Edinburgh, UK. Open e-booklet online at: <http://www.edinburghbeltane.net/content/dialoguethory> (viewed February 2013).

Details: Within the e-booklet, Escobar identifies and explains nine key dynamics in a dialogue. These dynamics are:

- “Building a safe space
- Openness
- Respect
- Storytelling
- Listening
- Suspending automatic response, judgment, and certainty
- Collaborative inquiry
- Finding common ground and exploring differences
- Balancing advocacy and inquiry.”

Assessing Evidence for Evidence-Informed Policies: The GRADE approach

Lewin, Simon., Bosch-Capblanch, Xavier., Oliver, Sandy., Akl, Elie A., Vist, Gunn E., Lavis, John N., Ghersi, Davina., Røttingen, John-Arne., Steinmann, Peter., Gulmezoglu, Metin., Tugwell, Peter., El-Jardali, Fadi., and, Haines, Andy. (2012). Guidance for Evidence-Informed Policies about Health Systems: Assessing How Much Confidence to Place in the Research Evidence. *PLOS Medicine*, 9, 3, e1001187. Article online at: <http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pmed.1001187> (viewed February 2013).

Details: GRADE stands for ‘Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation’. It was developed for health systems interventions. The GRADE approach separates two issues: “the quality of the evidence and the strength of recommendations. Quality of evidence is only one of several factors considered when assessing the strength of recommendations.” The intention of the GRADE approach is that the judgements (often by panels or policy makers) made in the assessments are systematic and transparent. For quality of the evidence: “The degree of confidence is a continuum but, for practical purposes, it is categorised into high, moderate, low, and very low quality...”.

Illustrated outputs of GRADE assessments are provided via the PLOS website at:

1. <http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/fetchSingleRepresentation.action?uri=info:doi/10.1371/journal.pmed.1001187.s012> (PDF 27KB); and,
2. <http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/fetchSingleRepresentation.action?uri=info:doi/10.1371/journal.pmed.1001187.s011> (PDF 30KB) (viewed February 2013).

For more methods, such as

- Health Systems Evidence: An Online Repository of Research Evidence and Implementation

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

FEATURED CASE REPOSITORY

Transdisciplinary Research: Urban Health Problems

Kirst, M. J., Schaefer-McDaniel, N., Hwang, S., and O'Campo, P (Eds.). (2011). *Converging Disciplines: A Transdisciplinary Research Approach to Urban Health Problems*. Springer: Heidelberg, Germany (<http://www.springer.com/medicine/book/978-1-4419-6329-1>) (viewed: January 2012).

Details: This book covers a range of topics (including benefits and challenges of transdisciplinary research, the research process, training and funding) and presents three case studies on, respectively, health of resettled refugees, "street health" and safety.

For more case repositories, such as

- Participatory Research: Transforming Impoverished Pastoral Communities in Ethiopia (Coppock, Desta, Tezera and Gebru)

See: <http://i2s.anu.edu.au/resources/case-repositories>

FEATURED JOURNAL

Kybernetes: The International Journal of Cybernetics, Systems and Management Sciences

Kybernetes "seeks to contribute to our understanding of human, artificial and natural systems. The journal is concerned with the interdisciplinary study of cybernetics and systems in the widest sense." Theoretical and methodological issues are welcome, as are descriptions of their applications and implementation. "Among the broad range of topics covered are:

- Adaptive systems
- Artificial intelligence
- Automation and robotics
- Biocybernetics
- Computer simulation
- Cybernetics and systems modelling
- Economic and social systems
- Ecosystems
- Interrelations between cybernetics and other sciences
- Knowledge-based systems
- Management cybernetics and systems
- Philosophy of cybernetics"

- Website: <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/products/journals/journals.htm?id=k> (viewed: February 2013).
- Impact factor (2011): 0.240

For more journals, such as

- European Journal of Operational Research
- Science Communication

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

FEATURED NETWORK

Philosophy of / as Interdisciplinarity Network (PIN)

Details: "The mission of the Philosophy of / as Interdisciplinarity Network is to find a niche within the broad field of interdisciplinarity studies by combining two directions of activities: on the one hand, philosophical inquiry into problems regarding the practices and theories of interdisciplinary research in the style of traditional philosophy of science and, on the other, initiating a new philosophical practice of reflective and reflexive engagement in the world — one that questions and overcomes the boundaries that have constituted philosophy as a discipline in the 20th Century. In this second direction philosophers leave the study and enter the field, integrating their work with scientists, engineers, and policy makers". PIN provides an email listserv service through 'interdisciplinary net' and it also hosts an annual conference.

- Website: <http://pin-net.gatech.edu/index.php> (viewed: February 2013).

For more professional associations & networks, such as

- ARACY Knowledge Brokering Network

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

FEATURED CONFERENCES

Conference on Transdisciplinary Research and Modeling: Potential of Transdisciplinary Approaches and Modelling for Supporting Transitions Towards Sustainability

"There is a need to develop tools which are able to exchange and produce knowledge at the interface between disciplines as well as between science and society... The potential of transdisciplinary research and modeling for fostering production and exchange of knowledge between science and society to induce transitions towards sustainability are at the center of this conference...

[C]ommonalities, differences and linkages between transdisciplinary methods and modeling tools in the context of transition processes" will be reviewed. The following topic areas are focused upon:

1. "Transdisciplinarity and modeling: Theoretical considerations
2. Transdisciplinarity and modeling: Methods (mediated modeling, participatory GIS, ABM, roleplay games)
3. Transdisciplinarity and modeling: Knowledge integration
4. Transdisciplinarity and modeling: Policy support and implementation"

The conference will be held in Munich, Germany from 10-11 April 2013.

- Website: http://www.geographie.uni-muenchen.de/departement/fiona/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/conference_on_sustainability.html (viewed: February 2013).
- Flyer: <http://www.geographie.uni-muenchen.de/departement/fiona/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/trm-2013.pdf> (PDF 64KB) (February 2013).

Engagement Australia 2013 Conference - Next Steps: Co-producing Knowledge for Social Impact

Engagement Australia's annual conference provides a forum for discussion about university-community engagement in Australia and internationally. The 2013 conference has three themes:

1. "Creating an Engagement Culture in Universities: This theme explores the ways in which universities have embraced the challenge to embed, support and sustain engagement. From student involvement, developing effective participatory processes and procedures, communicating the value and purpose of engagement to leading the integration of community engagement into all facets of academic practice..."
2. Co-producing Knowledge: This theme highlights the critical role that collaborative approaches to research and learning play in creating knowledge relevant to the creation of societies in the 21st century. This paradigm challenges the nature of the university as 'expert' and emphasises the co-production of knowledge, where the community are involved partners in the knowledge creation process...
3. Creating and Evaluating Social Impact: This theme explores the necessity and difficulty associated with creating social impact through university-community engagement. There is an increasing emphasis being placed on the importance of university activity to create wellbeing for families and individuals through relevant research and education. This process highlights the role for universities as catalysts for community capacity and in turn, raises challenges for universities to demonstrate the impact of their research."

The conference will be held in Melbourne, Australia from 15-17 July 2013.

- Website: <http://engagementaustralia.org.au/next-steps-conference/2013-conference/> (viewed: February 2013).

Other Upcoming Conferences

Conferences which have not been listed in previous newsletters are marked [NEW].

General Interdisciplinarity/Transdisciplinarity/Team Science/ Action Research

- [NEW] 10-11 April 2013, Conference on Transdisciplinary Research and Modeling: Potential of Transdisciplinary Approaches and Modelling for Supporting Transitions Towards Sustainability, Munich, Germany (http://www.geographie.uni-muenchen.de/departement/fiona/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/conference_on_sustainability.html)
- 7 June 2013, Swiss Conference on Interdisciplinarity and Transdisciplinarity: University Education in Transition, Berne, Switzerland (<http://www.iukb.ch/itd13>)
- [NEW] 24-27 June 2013, Science of Team Science (SciTS) Conference, Evanston, USA (<http://www.scienceofteamscience.org/2013-conference>)
- 11-13 July 2013, Interdisciplinary Network for Group Research (INGRoup) 8th Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia (<http://www.ingroup.net/conference.html>)
- [NEW] 7-10 November 2013, Association for Interdisciplinary Studies Conference: Integrating Arts and Sciences, Miami, USA (<http://www.miami.muohio.edu/aisconference2013/index.html>)

Systems and Modelling/Simulation

- April 7-10 2013, Symposium on Theory of Modeling and Simulation (TMS' 13), San Diego, USA (<http://www.sce.carleton.ca/faculty/wainer/DEVS13/doku.php>)
- 9-11 April 2013, YoungOR (Operational Research) 18, Exeter, UK (<http://www.theorsociety.com/Pages/Conferences/YOR18/YOR18.aspx>)
- 18-20 April 2013, Plexus ACTION 2013: Tales, Tools, and Tactics, Silver Spring, USA (http://www.plexusinstitute.org/events/event_details.asp?id=256114)
- 8-10 May 2013, 7th International Workshop on Self-Organizing Systems (IWSOS), Palma de Mallorca, Spain (<http://innaxis.org/events/iwsos-2013/>)
- 10-14 June 2013, 21st Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization, Rome, Italy (<http://www.um.org/>)
- 11-14 June 2013, 6th Chaotic Modeling and Simulation International Conference, Istanbul, Turkey (<http://www.cmsim.org/>)
- 24-27 June 2013, 23rd Annual International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE) International Symposium, Philadelphia, United States of America (<http://www.incose.org/symp2013/>)
- 1-4 July 2013, XXVI European Operational Research Societies (EURO) and Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) Joint International Conference: All Roads Lead to OR, Rome, Italy (<http://euro2013.org/>)
- 14-19 July 2013, 57th World Conference of the International Society for the Systems Sciences - Curating the Conditions for a Thrivable Planet: Systemic Leverage Points for Emerging a Global Eco-Civilization, Hai Phong City, Viet Nam (http://iss.org/world/Hai_Phong_City_2013)
- 21-25 July 2013, 31st International Conference of the System Dynamics Society: Creating the Future from Within, Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States of America (<http://conference.systemdynamics.org/>)
- [NEW] 3-5 September 2013, Operational Research (OR) 55 Annual Conference, Exeter, UK (<http://www.theorsociety.com/Pages/Conferences/OR55/OR55.aspx>)
- 3-6 September 2013, Operational Research (OR) 2013 Conference, Rotterdam, The Netherlands (<http://www.or2013.org/>)
- 1-6 December 2013, MODSIM2013: International Congress on Modelling and Simulation: Adapting to Change - The Multiple Roles of Modelling, Adelaide, Australia (<http://www.mssanz.org.au/modsim2013/index.html>)

Uncertainty, Risk and Decision Making

- 10-12 May 2013, International Symposium on Integrated Uncertainties in Knowledge Modelling and Decision Making, Beijing, China (<http://icml.buaa.edu.cn/IUKM2013/>)
- 21-24 May 2013, 11th International Conference on Naturalistic Decision Making (NDM11), Marseille, France (<http://www.atoutcom.com/ndm11/>)
- 17-19 June 2013, 22nd Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) Europe Conference: Safe Societies – Coping with Complexity and Major Risk, Trondheim, Norway (<http://srae2013.no/>)

Bridging the Research-Policy/Practice Gap

- 19-21 August 2013, 2nd Biennial Global Implementation Conference (GIC), Washington DC, USA (<http://www.implementationconference.org/>)

Other

- 13-15 February 2013, 2nd Annual European Postgraduate Symposium: Sustainable Development Symposium, Naples, Italy (<http://sds2013.uniparthenope.it/>)
- [NEW] 25-28 April 2013, HASTAC (Humanities, Arts, Science and Technology Advanced Collaboratory) VI, Toronto, Canada (<http://hastac.org/events/hastac-vi-international-conference>)
- 6-7 May 2013, 12th Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society (IAS-STS) Annual Conference, Graz, Austria (<http://www.ifz.tugraz.at/ias/IAS-STS/Upcoming-Activities/12th-IAS-STS-Annual-Conference/Call-for-Sessions-12th-IAS-STS-Annual-Conference>)
- 4-8 June 2013, 19th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) Conference: A Time for Integration, Estes Park Centre, United States of America (<http://www.issrm2013.iasnr.org/?p=963>)
- 9-14 June 2013, 7th World Environmental Education Congress: The Rural-Urban Relationship, Marrakech, Morocco (<http://www.weec2013.org/>)
- 12-15 June 2013, Communities and Universities (CU) Expo 2013: Engaging Shared Worlds, Corner Brook, Canada (<http://cuexpo2013.ca/Pages/default.aspx>)
- 13-14 June 2013, 13th International Conference on Knowledge, Culture and Change in Organizations, Prague, Czech Republic (<http://ontheorganization.com/the-conference>)
- 19-21 June 2013, 4th International Conference on Sustainability Transitions, Zurich, Switzerland (http://www.ist13.ch/index_EN)
- 30 June-3 July 2013, 26th Annual Conference of the International Association for Conflict Management, Tacoma, USA (http://iacm-conflict.org/sites/default/files/IACM_2013_Call_for_Submissions.pdf)
- 1-3 July 2013, 19th International Sustainable Development Research Conference: Just Transitions, Stellenbosch, South Africa (<http://www.isdrc19.co.za/>)
- 15-17 July 2013, 9th Annual AUCEA International Conference - Next Steps: Community Engaged Learning, Brisbane, Australia (<http://auceaconference.org.au/2013-conference/>)
- [NEW] 15-17 July 2013, Engagement Australia 2013 Conference: Next Steps: Co-producing Knowledge for Social Impact, Melbourne, Australia (<http://engagementaustralia.org.au/next-steps-conference/2013-conference/>)
- 19-21 July 2013, WorldFuture 2013: Exploring the Next Horizon, Chicago, United States of America (<https://www.wfs.org/civicrm/event/info/?reset=1&id=28>)
- 30 July-1 August 2013, 8th International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic (<http://thesocialsciences.com/the-conference/>)
- 27-31 August 2013, 6th Annual International Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) Conference, Bali, Indonesia (http://www.espconference.org/ESP_Conference)
- 1-4 November 2013, Association for Qualitative Research (AQR), in association with the international Discourse, Power, Resistance (DPR) community, 2013 Conference: Sub-prime Scholarship, Melbourne, Australia (<http://www.aqr.org.au/conferences/conference-2013/>)
- [NEW] 21-22 November 2013, 5th International Conference on Science in Society, Berkeley, Warsaw, Poland (<http://science-society.com/the-conference/call-for-papers>)



ABOUT I2S NEWS

The aim of this newsletter is to provide regular (bi-monthly) updates about resources for researchers interested in Integration and Implementation Sciences (I2S), which underpins the investigation and tackling of 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, methods and case studies relevant to I2S – either a useful compilation or a single example of note. We also provide information about journals, professional associations & networks, courses and conferences where researchers can learn from others, report their methodological findings and interact with like-minded peers.

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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