

WELCOME

Dear I2S News subscribers,

Welcome to the July/August I2S News. In addition to our usual features there are also several other items to report.

First, Michael Smithson and Gabriele Bammer are delighted to have been selected to present one of The Australian National University's Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) through the edX platform in 2015. More information about the course, which is on "Ignorance!", including a request for testers as the course is prepared, is provided below under courses.

Second, digital posters will be a feature of the Second Biennial Australian Implementation Conference, which will be held in September. The digital poster contributions will be run through the I2S website and the deadline is September 8, 2014. These digital posters provide an opportunity to showcase the best published work on implementation. Information on how to contribute is provided below under conferences.

Third, td-net (network for transdisciplinary research) has recently published two new resources:

- a. "Recommended reading in inter- and transdisciplinarity: introductory texts", which addresses the question "Which publications would you recommend as first readings to a (young) scientist who wants to become familiar with the key concepts and thinking in the field of inter- and transdisciplinarity?".
<http://www.transdisciplinarity.ch/e/Bibliography/delphi>.
- b. Bibliography: a tour d'horizon of literature related to Transdisciplinarity published in 2013.
http://www.transdisciplinarity.ch/documents/TD_Literature2013.pdf.

Fourth, Wayne State University's Division of Research has made available resources aimed at helping groups improve their performance of inter/transdisciplinary research and team science, including materials to support self-tutorials, short courses, modules, and workshops. See <http://research.wayne.edu/idre/>.

Finally, we are just putting the finishing touches to the new <http://i2s.anu.edu.au> website, which will go live in the next few weeks.

Gabriele Bammer and Peter Deane

CONTENTS

Featured Tool

- Rapid Outcome Mapping Approach: A Guide to Policy Engagement and Influence

Featured Video

- Does Transdisciplinarity Contribute to Sustainability? Testing and Evaluating a Framework for Transdisciplinary Knowledge Production for Sustainable Social Change (Merritt Polk)

Featured Journal

- Global Environmental Change

Featured Network

- Cognitive Edge Network

Featured Course

- Testers wanted: edX Massive Open Online Course on Ignorance!

Featured Conferences

- Contributing digital posters to the 2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference
- 7th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation: Transforming Health Systems to Optimize Individual and Population Health
- Other Upcoming Conferences

About I2S News

- How to contribute, subscribe and un-subscribe

FEATURED TOOL

Rapid Outcome Mapping Approach: A Guide to Policy Engagement and Influence

Young, J., Shaxson, L., Jones, H., Hearn, S., Datta, A. and Cassidy, C. (2014). *Rapid Outcome Mapping Approach: A Guide to Policy Engagement and Influence*. Overseas Development Institute (ODI), London, UK.

This resource, the RAPID Outcome Mapping Approach (ROMA), is a distillation of Overseas Development Institute (ODI) experience as drawn from working with many organisations that have sought to change public policy. "Policy change can take many forms: while changes to legislation are often seen as the most concrete ways of making change happen, in fact public policy comprises many non-legislative issues, such as regulations, resource allocation and decisions about whose voices to include in debates or what evidence to base decisions on". ROMA has a whole of systems approach that is scalable and based in part on constant learning in order to create improvements in policy engagement.

"[ROMA] comprises a suite of tools that any organisation can use at any stage in their policy engagement process to improve how they diagnose the problem, understand the types of impact their work could have on policy-making, set realistic objectives for policy influence, develop a plan to achieve those objectives, monitor and learn from the progress they are making and reflect this learning back into their work."

"ROMA is implemented with a mix of workshops, rapid reviews, detailed analysis and research and time spent on reflection and learning". It is made for team leaders, researchers and practitioners in research and implementing organisations and it may prove useful for communication specialists, those who commission research as well as policy makers and analysts.

- PDF available at: <http://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/9011.pdf> (viewed July 2014).
- Interactive website at: <http://roma.odi.org/index.html> (viewed July 2014).

For more methods, such as

- Collaboration Success Wizard

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

FEATURED VIDEO

Does Transdisciplinarity Contribute to Sustainability? Testing and Evaluating a Framework for Transdisciplinary Knowledge Production for Sustainable Social Change by Merritt Polk

This is a webcast from the *1st Global Conference on Research Integration and Implementation*, held in Canberra, Australia, online and at three co-conferences (Lueneburg in Germany, The Hague in the Netherlands and Montevideo in Uruguay) 8-11 September, 2013.

- Access to this video can be obtained via the website of the First Global Conference on Research Integration and Implementation: <http://www.i2sconference.org/> (click the purple ON-DEMAND VIDEO button on the right menu - a simple sign-up is required to view the video material).

It is commonly assumed that transdisciplinary research is more able to contribute to societal problem solving than traditional forms of research. This assumption is based on the analytical belief that collaboration between and among social actors, disciplinary knowledge and practical expertise is necessary for contributing to sustainability. Such collaboration is seen to capture the diversity of values, knowledge, and practical know-how that is needed to produce socially robust, legitimate and accountable forms of knowledge for sustainability. However, while analytically compelling, such assumptions do not necessarily hold up in the harsh reality of current socio-environmental challenges. In order to live up to the ambition to contribute to sustainability, transdisciplinary research requires a framework that can both manage the research process and ensure that the desired results are achieved.

This video describes how transdisciplinary research contributes to sustainability through a case study of five projects in Gothenburg, Sweden. Contributions to sustainability are assessed from a selection of criteria which appraise both the process and the outcomes. The conclusions show that the transdisciplinary framework successfully addressed many crucial issues for ensuring in-depth collaboration by a variety of diverse stakeholders from both research and practice. It successfully promoted a high level of stakeholder participation and situated learning across diverse sectors and disciplines in a variety of different substantive areas. However, while socially robust knowledge was indeed produced; institutional and organizational norms and decision-making processes effectively excluded such hybrid forms of learning and knowledge production from everyday practice. Overall, the framework fell short in its lack of mechanisms for capturing the results of the transdisciplinary processes and re-integrating them back the wider realms of everyday practice where social change occurs.

FEATURED JOURNAL

Global Environmental Change

"Global Environmental Change is a peer-reviewed international journal publishing high quality, theoretically and empirically rigorous articles, which advance knowledge about the human and policy dimensions of global environmental change".

From an I2S perspective, the journal is of interest because it publishes papers about concepts and methods for research integration and implementation, as well as case studies of their application. For example, recent issues have covered decision making under uncertain change, evaluating knowledge exchange between disciplines and stakeholders, and a case study of the application of Bayesian belief networks.

- Website: <http://www.journals.elsevier.com/global-environmental-change/> (viewed: June 2014).
- Impact factor (2012): 5.236

For more journals, such as

- Frontiers in Ecology and Environment
- Small Group Research

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

FEATURED NETWORK

Cognitive Edge Network

Cognitive Edge is a company "founded in 2005 with the objective of building methods, tools and capability to utilise insights from Complex Adaptive Systems theory and other scientific disciplines in social systems." It focuses on "developing approaches that allow organisations to absorb uncertainty, create resilience and detect weak signals which more conventional approaches would ignore."

It is particularly associated with the Cynefin framework (which characterises problems and situations as simple, complicated, complex, chaotic or disordered) and narrative techniques, especially its SenseMaker® software. There are two levels of network membership – free and paid – and a range of website library and other resources can be accessed with free membership, including a useful glossary, articles about concepts and methods, and case studies.

- Website: <http://cognitive-edge.com/main> (viewed: June 2014).

For more professional associations & networks, such as

- Society for Human Ecology

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

FEATURED COURSE

Testers Wanted: edX Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Ignorance!

"Ignorance is a neglected topic, and yet it's central to the human condition. This course presents a comprehensive framework for understanding, coping with, and making decisions in the face of ignorance. Participants will learn that ignorance isn't always negative, but has uses and benefits in domains from everyday life to the farthest reaches of science where ignorance is simultaneously destroyed and new ignorance created. They'll discover the roles ignorance plays in human relationships, culture, and how it underpins important kinds of social capital.

The course will run in two five-week blocks in April and July 2015.

Right now we're looking for people to help as testers, especially people for whom English is not their native language.

We're looking for two groups of testers to review the lectures, quizzes, games and discussions:

1. One group starts now (July) and ends in October 2014, testing each week of the course as it is produced (a new week of course materials is produced approximately every three weeks).
2. The second group will test the first five week course as a whole from early November to early December 2014.

Each week of the course will have approximately 6 lectures, each around 10 minutes long. There will also be a specific lecture each week on ignorance and complex problems. There are also multiple-choice quizzes, discussion forums and games.

If you are able to help with testing, please contact Gabriele Bammer at:

Gabriele.Bammer@anu.edu.au.

FEATURED CONFERENCES

Contributing digital posters to the 2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference (AIC), deadline 8 September, 2014

Has your research developed new implementation concepts or methods? Do you have an implementation case study that highlights how implementation concepts or methods were used? Have you done research on how well implementation works?

AIC 2014 is looking to showcase the best published implementation research and to lodge it in a repository that will live on after the conference.

We are doing this through an innovative presentation format - digital posters. Digital posters provide a concise snapshot of your work using a brief Microsoft PowerPoint presentation (less than 15 slides) which is viewed on a computer or handheld device. Digital posters can be made more eye-catching with the addition of animations, video or audio.

There is also a commenting function that allows digital posters to be discussed before, during and after the conference - the sooner you post your digital poster, the sooner it will be available for viewing and comment.

We invite you to submit one or more digital posters between now and **September 8, 2014**. Digital posters will be reviewed as they are received and will be posted online as soon as they are accepted.

GO TO: <http://i2s.anu.edu.au/digital-posters>

The 2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference will be held in Sydney, Australia on 16-18 September 2014. The conference is an "...opportunity for researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and community and organisational leaders working in the health, education and human services sectors to come together to share their knowledge, insights and practical experiences on how policies, programs and practices can best be implemented so as to most effectively make a real, positive and enduring impact on people's lives. Further details can be found at: <http://www.ausimplementationconference.net.au/index.php>. Early bird registration closes 3rd August.

7th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation: Transforming Health Systems to Optimize Individual and Population Health

"[T]he goal of Dissemination and Implementation Science is to promote and rigorously evaluate the impact of the integration of evidence-based approaches, into public health practice, healthcare delivery and healthcare policy... [T]he intent of implementation science and related research is to investigate and address social, behavioral, economic, organizational factors and policies that impede effective adoption of evidence based clinical and organizational findings, test new approaches to improve health programming, and determine causal relationships between interventions and their impacts. [This conference]... has been planned to focus ... thinking and discussion on the highest priority science - current and future - to help realize this goal [of transforming health systems]".

The conference will be held in North Bethesda, United States of America over 8-9 December 2014.

For further details, please see:

- Website: <http://sites.nursing.duke.edu/research/2014/06/09/7th-annual-dissemination-and-implementation-conference/> (viewed: July 2014)
- Important dates:
 - Abstract submission deadline: August 8, 2014

Other Upcoming Conferences

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

Interdisciplinarity, Transdisciplinarity and Action Research Methodologies

- 15-19 October 2014, Association for Interdisciplinary Studies (AIS) Conference: Interdisciplinary Public Problems, the Global Community, and Diversity, East Lansing, United States of America (<http://lbc.msu.edu/aisconference2014/>)
- 31 October – 1 November 2014, Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN) Annual Conference: Connecting Researchers, Connecting Communities - Engaging with Action Research approaches in different settings, Gateshead, United Kingdom (<http://www.esri.mmu.ac.uk/carn-conference/>)

- 8-12 November 2014, Action Learning, Action Research Association (ALARA) Australasian Conference, Lake George, Australia (<http://www.alarassociation.org/pages/events/alara-2014-australasian-conference-announcement>)
- 27-29 November 2014, From Interdisciplinarity to Transdisciplinarity: Rethinking Research Today in Social Sciences and the Humanities, Paris, France (<http://www.eaas.eu/conferences/other-conferences/from-interdisciplinarity-to-transdisciplinarity-rethinking-research-today-in-social-sciences-and-the-humanities>)

Systems, Modelling and Simulation

- 27 July-1 August 2014, 58th Meeting of the International Society for the Systems Sciences: Learning Across Boundaries: Exploring the Variety of Systemic Theory and Practice, New York, United States of America (<http://iss.org/world/iss-2014-announcement>)
- 30 July 2014, 7th Complex Systems Modelling and Simulation Workshop (CoSMoS 2014), Sao Paulo, Brazil (<http://www.cosmos-research.org/cosmos2014.html>)
- 1-3 September 2014, 4th International Conference on Computer Modelling and Simulation, Brno, Czech Republic (<http://cssim.org/>)
- 1-5 September 2014, 10th Conference of the European Social Simulation Association, Barcelona, Spain (<http://www.essa2014.org/>)
- 9-11 September 2014, Operational Research (OR) 56 Annual Conference, Egham, UK (<http://www.theorsociety.com/Pages/Conferences/OR56/OR56.aspx>)
- 22-26 September 2014, European Conference on Complex Systems (ECCS'14), Lucca, Italy (<http://www.eccs14.eu/index.php?lang=en>)
- 22-24 October 2014, 28th European Simulation and Modelling Conference (ESM'2014), Porto, Portugal (<http://www.eurosis.org/cms/?q=node/2852>)
- 4-7 November 2014, 5th World Congress on Social Simulation (WCSS 2014), Sao Paulo, Brazil (<http://www.wcss2014.pcs.usp.br/>)
- 12-14 November 2014, Complex Systems Design and Management (CSD&M), Paris, France (<http://www.csdm2014.csdm.fr/>)
- [NEW] 13-14 November 2014, Systems and Complexity Sciences for Healthcare, Washington DC, United States of America, (<http://complexityandhealth.georgetown.edu/>)
- 13-15 November 2014, Systems Thinking in Action Conference, Washington DC, United States of America (<http://conference.stiatemenos.com/stia2014washington-dc/>)
- 7-10 December 2014, Winter Simulation Conference: Exploring Big Data Through Simulation, Savannah, United States of America (<http://wintersim.org/2014/>)
- [NEW] 5-8 January 2015, 48th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS 48), Kauai Island, United States of America (<http://kholden7.wix.com/hicss>)
- [NEW] 12-13 February 2015, 6th International Conference on Computer Modelling and Simulation, Amsterdam, The Netherlands (<http://www.iccms.org/>)
- [NEW] 27-29 April 2015, Systems Engineering and Test and Evaluation Conference (SETE 2015), Canberra, Australia (<http://www.sete2015.com.au/>)
- [NEW] 10-13 May 2015, International Choice Modelling Conference, Austin, United States of America (<http://www.icmconference.org.uk/index.php/icmc/icmc2015>)
- [NEW] 26-29 May 2015, 29th European Conference on Modelling and Simulation (ECMS 2015), Varna, Bulgaria (<http://www.scs-europe.net/conf/ecms2015/aims.html>)
- [NEW] 29 November - 4 December 2015, Modelling and Simulation Society of Australia and New Zealand Congress, Brisbane, Australia (<http://www.mssanz.org.au/modsim2015/index.html>)

Team Science and Project Management

- 27-29 July 2014, Project Management Institute (PMI) Research and Education Conference: Standing on the Shoulders of Giants - In Search of Theory and Evidence, Portland, United States of America (<http://www.pmi.org/Knowledge-Center/Academic-Research/research-conference.aspx>)
- 6-8 August 2014, Joint 5th Annual International Science of Team Science (SciTS) Conference and 5th Annual VIVO Conference, Austin, United States of America (<http://www.scienceofteams-science.org/>)
- 23-25 October 2014, European Association of Work and Organizational Psychology (EAWOP) Small Group Meeting: Dynamics of Team Cognition and Team Adaptation, Lisbon, Portugal (<http://eawop.org/news/eawop-small-group-meeting-on-dynamics-of-team-cognition-and-team-adaptation>)

Uncertainty, Risk and Decision Making

- 26-27 August 2014, Society for Risk Analysis - Australia and New Zealand (SRA-ANZ): Risk Beyond the Numbers, Palmerston North, New Zealand (<http://www.acera.unimelb.edu.au/sra/news.html>)
- 7-10 December 2014, Society for Risk Analysis 2014 Annual Meeting, Denver, United States of America (<http://www.sra.org/events/sra-2014-annual-meeting>)
- 19-23 July 2015, World Congress on Risk: Risk Analysis for Sustainable Innovation, Singapore (<http://www.sra.org/worldcongress2015>)

Bridging the Gap from Research to Policy and Practice

- 17-18 September 2014, 2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference: Solving Complex Implementation Problems, Sydney, Australia (<http://www.ausimplementationconference.net.au/>)
- [NEW] 8-9 December 2014, 7th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation: Transforming Health Systems to Optimize Individual and Population Health, North Bethesda, United States of America, (<http://sites.nursing.duke.edu/research/2014/06/09/7th-annual-dissemination-and-implementation-conference/>)

Other (including Sustainability Science)

- 4-5 August 2014, 14th International Conference on Knowledge, Culture, and Change in Organizations, Oxford, United Kingdom (<http://ontheorganization.com/the-conference/call-for-papers/2014-call-for-papers>)
- 20-23 August 2014, Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) and Sociedad Latinoamericana de Estudios Sociales de la Ciencia y la Tecnología (ESOCITE) Joint Conference, Buenos Aires, Argentina (<http://www.4sonline.org/meeting>)
- 27-29 August 2014, 5th International Conference on Sustainability Transitions: Impact and institutions, Utrecht, the Netherlands (<http://www.uu.nl/faculty/geosciences/EN/IST2014/Pages/default.aspx>)
- 8-12 September 2014, 7th Annual Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) Conference, San Jose, Costa Rica (http://www.esconference.org/ESP_Conference)
- 9-12 October 2014, 28th Annual Conference for the Society for Literature, Science and the Arts: Fluid, Dallas, Texas (<http://litsciarts.org/slsa14/>)
- 10-11 October 2014, 6th International Conference on Science in Society: The Identities of Science, Vancouver, Canada (<http://science-society.com/the-conference>)

- 22-25 October 2014, XX International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology: Ecological Responsibility and Human Imagination - Saving the Past~Shaping the Future, Bar Harbor, United States of America (<http://www.sustainability.sk/aim-topics/>)
- [NEW] 23-26 October 2014, 11th International Conference for Transformative Learning: Spaces of Transformation and Transformation of Space, New York, United States of America (<http://transformativelearning.ning.com/page/about-the-conference/>)
- 25-29 October 2014, Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) Annual Conference 2014, Hobart, Australia (<http://www.eianz.org/conference/eianz-3013-conference>)
- 31 October – 4 November 2014, 77th Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) Annual Meeting: Connecting Collections, Cultures and Communities, Seattle, United States of America (<http://www.asis.org/asist2014/>)
- 10-12 November 2014, Association for Qualitative Research (AQR) with Discourse, Power, Resistance (DPR) Collaborative International Conference - Fugitive Knowledges / Practices, Toowoomba, Australia (<http://agr.org.au/conference-2014/>)
- [NEW] 27-28 November 2014, 5th International Conference on Future-Oriented Technology Analysis, Brussels, Belgium (<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/event/conference/engage-today-shape-tomorrow>)
- 3-5 December 2014, Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management (ANZAM) Conference: Reshaping Management for Impact, Sydney Australia (<http://www.anzam.org/events/anzam-2014-conference-uts-sydney/>)
- 23-24 February 2015, 11th International Conference on Technology, Knowledge, and Society: Big Data and the Politics of Participation in a Digital Age, Berkeley, United States of America (<http://techandsoc.com/the-conference/call-for-papers>)
- [NEW] 27-30 May 2015, 7th International Conference for the Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC): Art and Science of Digital Humanities, East Lansing, United States of America (<http://www.hastac2015.org/>)
- [NEW] 29 June - July 2 2015, 8th World Environmental Education Congress: Planet and People - How Can They Develop Together? Hobart, Australia (<http://aaee2014.com.au/>)

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.

In general, 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. The newsletter also reports on discussions in the LinkedIn group "Global Network for Research Integration and Implementation":

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Global-Network-Research-Integration-Implementation-4888295>.

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. To contribute material please contact Peter Deane at peter.deane@anu.edu.au.