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DST Innovation Lab – The Work of the Lab - PLEASE READ

5 Attachments, 5.5 MB

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND SEND ME ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE BEFORE YOU ARRIVE.**

Dear Lab Participants,

With your help, preparations for the Lab have quickened as we've grown closer to being together in Hawaii. Thank you all who have continued your efforts on the work of your thematic area, submitted your proposals for Open Space sessions and shared your sense of outcomes following our first gathering last summer. In this email, we'd like to share the latest updates on the planning, work efforts, and open space ideas; and ask for your continued engagement as we head to the lab in a little more than a week from now.

In this mail, you'll find information on the following topics:

1. **Lab 2014** – a recap of Goals, Opportunities, Structure and Agenda
2. **Thematic Workgroup work**
3. **Work with our Local Partners**

**ACTION: Become familiar with historical context of Hawaii** (resources described below) and **review local partner briefs.**

4. **Open Space Session** proposals – preliminary list

**1. Lab 2014 – Goals, Opportunities, Structure And Agenda**

The **goals** of the Innovation Lab are to bring together diverse, interdisciplinary and experienced scholar-practitioners working with complexity science, conflict and peace to share leading-edge ideas, methods and practices and to inspire and support collaborative work in this area for moving the work forward. In Lab 2014, the thematic workgroups, work with local partners and open space sessions provide foci to explore specific areas of interest to our community collaboratively and more deeply. The structure is also intended to support building bridges between theory and practice and across disciplinary and practice area boundaries.

As the attached **agenda** reflects, we have a busy week planned in which we try to balance formal sessions and informal time so we can continue to build relationships, identify common interests and needs, and explore collaborative opportunities.

The Lab will formally **start at 5:30 on Sunday** evening with the opportunity to greet old and new Lab colleagues and reflect on some of the outcomes of the 2013 Lab. Most importantly, we'll meet our local partners to start to understand their needs and challenges, and form partner teams. On Monday and Tuesday, the week will focus first on the four workgroups conducting experiential sessions and engaging all participants in an educational process. This will then feed our work on Wednesday and Thursday as we transition to identifying practical approaches to working with our partners in the context of complex dynamical systems and our four workgroup foci (visualization, resonance, institutionalization, and assessment). On Friday we will spend time reflecting on the learnings of the week and looking forward.

In addition to this focused work, we have six (6) Open Space sessions scheduled throughout the week. Please see paragraph 4 below for more details.

**2. Thematic Workgroups**

**Tasks**

As your workgroups continue their work, we ask you to keep the following in mind. Each group is expected to deliver and facilitate 3 related components that link theory and research, education, and practice

- 1) the **brief** (with perhaps a brief overview presentation),
- 2) an **2-3 hour experiential session** (the design of which should be vetted and eventually captured with Tucker Harding), and
- 3) an **approach to the client work**, which can also be documented as a case study (not focusing on the client, but focusing on how we translate the ideas and workshop session into an approach to client work).

These 3 components will be subsequently gathered and published together in some format or formats after the Lab.

**Session Resource needs**

Please let your workgroup staff person(s) know of any unique needs you may have for the experiential sessions so we have the appropriate resources. We will have two projectors, flipcharts, markers and sticky notes available for all groups.

**Briefs**

Two of four workgroup briefs have been distributed via an earlier email (June 23). You can also find them on the Lab website: 1) [Visualization and Mapping](#) and 2) [Resonance](#). The remaining briefs for groups 3) Institutionalization of DST attitudes, behaviors and structures, and 4) Learning and non-linear impact assessment will be sent next week. Please be alert for their arrival.

### 3. Work With Our Local Partners

#### Work and Leads

As we shared in a prior email, we'll be working with leaders from local Hawaiian initiatives. Leads from among Lab members have been identified and communications between the local partner group leaders and Lab member leads has already begun. The groups and Lab leads are as follows:

- Executive Office on Early Learning – Beth Fisher-Yoshida and Peter Woodrow\*
- Omidyar Fellows Program – Rob Ricigliano
- Wai'anāe Diabetes Prevention – Glenda Eoyang
- Hawai'i Fresh Water Initiative – Tim Ehlinger and Josh Fisher

Note: A fifth group included in our earlier list, Housing ASAP Program, is unable to join us.

**Local Hawaii Partner Briefs** distributed on June 16 are again attached to this email. Please **review before the Lab**. These briefs are NOT posted on the website.

#### Historical Context

The Hawaiian context as a settler colonial state and its history (pre-contact through overthrow, plantation era, and so forth) are critical to understanding what some of our local partners are facing and attempting to untangle. Attached are an annotated bibliography and one of several readings available on the Lab's website. We ask that you **review this reading** by Trask, at a minimum, and consider the remainder. We also suggest the video: [The Last Hawaiian Queen](#) (or cut and paste <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFF964EB1CB5B05F1>). The video is broken into 7 bite size 7-10 minute segments. Resources are posted on the Lab's website under the tab *Lab 2014*, page titled [Resources and Planning](#). Please scroll down to "Local Partner Work"

#### Partner Teams

During our opening event on Sunday evening, July 20, our local partners will provide an introduction to their work and goals for our Lab collaboration. Partner teams will then be formed based on your interests. The intent, however, is to have at least one (1) representative of each of the four thematic workgroups on each local partner team. While each partner team will be at a different point in the four stage consulting cycle we are using as a basis for the workgroups, we see the perspective and expertise of all workgroup areas as valuable in the collaboration process of the partner teams.

#### Partner Teams

If you have a specific interest in a particular team, please feel free to reach out to the partner team lead. (Howard and Jayne – we have your interests noted.)

\*Peter will be joining us as Diana Chigas, unfortunately, is unable to come. Thank you Peter for jumping in!

### 5. Open Space Session Proposals.

Last year, the "Open Space" sessions created a place to share interests and engage in informal conversations about a wide range of topics related to dynamical systems theory and practice. Open Space for these conversations has again been built into the schedule. We've asked for your ideas ahead of time to encourage your thinking about work you'd like to engage our interdisciplinary group of colleagues in a conversation about, challenges you'd like to share, or something you're just curious about. As you can see from the attached list - the ideas are as diverse as they were last year! We'll open the floor for additional ideas on Sunday evening, pole participants for interests, and work out a schedule that can honor the interests of as many participants as possible. As last year, there will be session going on concurrently in each Open Space time slot.

Note: This email and all documents (except the partner briefs) are on the Lab's website at <http://conflictinnovationlab.org> under Lab 2013, [Resources and Planning](#).

For Lab 2013 participants, please continue to consider the impact of last year's lab on your work or if you've made progress on a project outlined on the final day of the Lab 2013 ([Lab 2013 Project List](#)). We would still like to hear from you and document so outcomes can be shared.

Safe journey to all.

Aloha,  
Chris and Meg



[DST Innovat...pdf \(128 KB\)](#)



[Local Hawaii...pdf \(438 KB\)](#)



[Annotated B...pdf \(120 KB\)](#)



[Trask.pdf \(3.7 MB\)](#)



[Open Space...pdf \(1.2 MB\)](#)

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