

## **Notes from Jack for the Practitioner-researcher e-seminar on**

**26<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

Just sharing some thoughts on how we might enhance the flow of values and understandings that carry hope for the future of humanity and our own through our practitioner-research as we work to improve our practice in our local contexts and share our accounts. I'm thinking of supporting each other as we share our research programmes over the next 10 or 20 years and as we help each other to spread the influence of these values and understandings.

Whilst there's no rush for responses to this note I'm hoping that it will serve to encourage you to help to i) strengthen EJOLTS ii) to strengthen the pooling of our life-enhancing energy, values and understandings iii) to encourage beginning action researchers to share initial enquiries iv) to support ALARA v) to develop and extend the influence of natural inclusionality vi) to support CARN.

### **i) The Educational Journal of Living Theories (EJOLTS)**

Many practitioner-researchers are looking for multi-media forums for publishing their accounts that can be recognised throughout the world as being at the highest level of internationally referred journals.

I'm hoping that everyone over the next year or so will help to develop the reputation of EJOLTS.

Branko Bognar at Josip Strossmayer University of Osijek, Croatia, has used his skills in ICT to produce the web-design for EJOLTS at:

**<http://ejolts.net/>**

You can access the back issues of the Journal from this site. You can offer to become a reviewer for EJOLTS and participate in the Development Team Forum at <http://ejolts.net/node/159>. At the heart of EJOLTS is the open review process and the details of review process and the submission process can be accessed from the homepage at <http://ejolts.net/>.

I'm hoping that you will do all you can to help EJOLTS to develop a reputation that can stand alongside the presently recognised internationally refereed journals. Practitioner-researchers do need to establish such a multi-media forum for our publications so please participate by making contributions as reviewers, joining the development team, submitting accounts and accessing the open reviewing process for responding to papers that you would like to comment on.

### **2) Pooling our life-enhancing energy, values and understandings**

I've asked Je Kan Adler Collins to post some video-clips of what he is doing with Chinese students at Beijing's University of Chinese Medicine because I think we might feel a pooling of our life-enhancing energy as we connect our channels of communication with Je Kan and his students and with Sonia's (UK) video-clips at:

<http://www.spanglefish.com/soniahutchison/index.asp?pageid=191425>

as Sonia works at improving her influence in a care network and generates her living theory of caring.

In June 2010 Swaroop will be addressing approx 198,000 primary school teachers in Gujarat through video-conferencing. Swaroop will be introducing them to the importance of enhancing Life-skills in children and how it can be done effectively through drama. I'm hoping that by the end of June it might be possible for Swaroop to share some video of her work in Gujarat.

The 2011 Conference of DIVERSE - '*Disseminating Innovative Visual Educational Resources for Students Everywhere*' is to be held at Dublin City University with Yvonne Crotty organizing. Margaret Farren will let me have the details as soon as they are available. This could be an opportunity for many of us to get together to continue showing what we are doing with our practitioner-research, especially with visual narratives and to celebrate our accomplishments.

### **3) Sharing our initial enquiries**

Brian has emphasised the importance of supporting beginning action researchers and of the importance of recognising a variety of action research approaches. Here are some 15 Abstracts from colleagues at Durban University of Technology and the *Self-study for Transformative Higher Education* research group. These Abstracts mark the intentions of colleagues at DUT to develop their accounts over the next few months and I'm expecting a number of these accounts to be presented at the 'Action Research: Exploring its Transformative Potential' conference on the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> August 2010 at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University:

<http://www.actionresearch.net/writings/durban/dutabsformmu0810.pdf>

I asked participants in our e-seminar to start their individual web-sites if they haven't already done so, to let me have their urls and to continue to update the web-site. I like the way that Jacqueline Delong is doing this with her Canadian action research website at:

<http://www.spanglefish.com/ActionResearchCanada/>

with evidence of educational influences with the Brandford Master's cohort associated with Brock University in Ontario.

### **4) Supporting the Action Learning Action Research Association (ALARA)**

See <http://alarpm.org.au>

You can access the Education and Learning Virtual Networking Stream for the 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress of ALARA from the What's New page of <http://www.actionresearch.net> and make contributions in this thread of the practitioner-researcher forum.

### **5) Developing and extending the influence of natural inclusionality.**

Alan has accepted an invitation to present a keynote to the 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress of ALARA and he will be presenting his paper in Melbourne in September 2010 on

***Sustainability of the Fitting – bringing the philosophical principles of natural inclusion to the educational enrichment of our human neighbourhood***

You can access Alan's notes for the keynote at:

<http://actionresearch.net/writings/rayner/alanrayneralarakeynote0210opt.pdf>

I believe that Alan's ideas on natural inclusionality offer insights for creating a new epistemology for educational knowledge of the kind that Schon advocated that we action researchers create when he called for a new epistemology for the new scholarship. You can access a paper on:

*'From Dialectics to Inclusionality: A naturally inclusive logic for environmental and educational accountability'*

at

<http://www.actionresearch.net/writings/jack/arjwdialtoIncl061109.pdf>

One of the ideas in natural inclusionality that I've found worthwhile spending time (weeks) comprehending is from correspondence with Alan where he writes:

*"One of the students who had been reading Capra on Holism, suddenly clutched her head in her hands and said 'Oh my God - that's what Capra says - that 'wholes' are organizationally closed but energetically connected'. She had seen through the contradiction in holism/connectivism that is removed through cognizance of the 'transSpace' that renders boundaries 'distinct but not discrete', energetic configurations of space in figure and figure in space, with space a common and limitless pool throughout. No dynamic organization or boundary can in reality be absolutely closed. Space cannot be cut.*

*I think we may have here clearly in focus both the central fallacy in holism (as well as in reductionism), and how it can be obviated through the inclusion of transfigural space, which takes us through to the transfigural and natural inclusional logic, beyond propositional and dialectic definition."*

**6) Supporting the Collaborative Action Research Network ( CARN )**

See <http://www.did.stu.mmu.ac.uk/carnnew/>

The Collaborative Action Research Network support CARN study days and we could all put in a proposal to organise a CARN study day wherever we are. Lonnie Rowell has organised a CARN study day to coincide with the 7<sup>th</sup> Action Research Conference at San Diego University and you can see the publicity flyer below. These study days help to bring practitioner-researchers in a local area together and to contribute to the pooling of our global influences.

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7th Annual Action  
Research Conference

[COLLABORATIVE ACTION RESEARCH NETWORK](#)

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

· [Register Now!](#)  
ARC2010  
May 14th & 15th  
USD-SOLES

**THE ACTION RESEARCH MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR:**  
A CARN Study Day in conjunction with the University of San Diego's annual Action Research Conference!

CARN's first North American Study Day will take place May 13, 2010 at various locations in the San Diego area!

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The Action Research Conference keynote speaker and world-renowned action research expert, Dr. Jack Whitehead, along with USD faculty and a limited number of conference participants will visit three San Diego County project sites currently engaged in conducting action research in education. The site visits will include interaction with practitioners utilizing action research to address strengthening practice in teaching, counseling, or educational leadership. The day will conclude with the Action Research Conference pre-conference seminar (free to all paid attendees) at which Dr. Whitehead will reflect on the experiences and observations of the day and will facilitate discussion of action research and empowerment.

Although free, a limited number of spots are available for the CARN Study Day. Preregistration is required. To sign up for the Action Research Magical Mystery Tour, please contact Lonnie Rowell at [lrowell@sandiego.edu](mailto:lrowell@sandiego.edu).

Visit the USD-SOLES [Action Research Conference](#) website for event details and [register](#) NOW to benefit from the early bird fees available through April 16!