

CSRP Symposium 2024 – Lugano Switzerland.

Unfolding, expanding, explaining and understanding the question of “Human Centricity”. A Co-located, Collaborative, Generative Deep Dive Conversation experience.



CREATIVE
SYSTEMIC
RESEARCH
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INSTITUTE

In a Nut Shell - Our Standing Explanation of the Creative Systemic Research Platform Concept

Approaches espoused as multi-, trans-, inter-, intra-, poly- disciplinary have been declared for many years. Yet, ways in which boundaries are bridged across the variety of contexts are still vigorously debated. For creative systemic research, the development of a “platform” has been a critical methodological foundation towards supporting the breadth of contexts at play. Now more than ever, complexity across worlds of cultures and ways of knowing call for the capacity for developing and delivering a plurality of learning systems, as a “not so obvious” necessary skill set. The learning system is central to our in-depth understanding of the ways we are, and how we coexist and relate within our various, immediate conditions. This also extends to include the relationships that link us between the urban, peri-urban and rural locales.

Creative systemic research is both situated and longitudinal. The situated predisposition grounds practices in the present interplay between the immediate setting and the larger whole. The longitudinal predisposition embraces the historical provenance that has led to the present, and the long now ahead, both conscious and non-conscious. The situated and the longitudinal encourages “thinking for oneself” relationally with “thinking with others” This is an art of self resilience within a larger systemic context.

To-date, learning experiences have reflected 20th century industrial structures, as predominantly top down impositions. Identification and practice of generative thinking critically revisits the process of learning itself, elevating the emergent gained from hands-on experiences. Reflection of rhythmic processes (as exhibited with rapid prototyping) are fundamental to building understanding (the thinking) and capability (the practice) to transform long standing approaches where we now find ourselves struggling.

Learning systems provide thinking and practical support multidisciplinary communication, understanding the societal commitment to sustainability. Complex systems fuel emergent topics that link across areas of study. Dynamic teams are build from the bottom up, providing possibilities to study and learn. Working within and beyond physical, virtual and emergent of hybrid environment enables a richness of shared experiences.

Structuring learning as horizontal in nature and longitudinal in experiences increases crossovers of threads into a mesh. Participants in groups and teams gain mutual appreciations towards creating new systemic solutions at personal, urban, rural, economic and national levels. The meshes of horizontal learning can support complex decisions that extend personal networks into adaptable ecosystems.

The theme of the 2024 Symposium Discussions – The question of “Human Centricity”, impacts of current and future transformations.

This year, we amplify the theme of “Human Centricity” that emerged from prior research and project based efforts. A 5-day residential program in Lugano Switzerland enables exploration at a greater depth. This process follows and expand “Human Centricity” The Banathy Conversations methodology that has been tested and proven over decades with systems theorists.

Some forty years ago, members of the systems science community observed that at conferences, more was being accomplished in the breaks than in the sessions where papers were read to each other. Led by Bela H. Banathy, the researchers cancelled the reading of papers and created a conversational methodology that has proven far more generative. Dozens of conversations were held around the world.

The first conversation was held in Fuschl am See, Austria, in April 1982. A group of scholars from three continents representing 10 different cultures, gathered in this small village just outside of Salzburg for one week. The

overarching question they asked was, “How can we use the insights from systems inquiry for the advancement of the human condition?” (Banathy 2008).

Now in the 21st century, CSRP Institute aims to redo, enhance and experience this well-established approach for a current cohort of participants. Ultimately, the aim is to develop the methodology further, in ways that practitioner communities can bring challenges of significant importance, with an aspiration towards co-creating their futures.

The Methodological Proposal and Summary

People are invited to form teams along themes of interest (for example design thinking, AI and Human Centricity). Long-time collaborators can be enlisted to form a shared core on a theme. Alternatively, individuals can apply to join a theme as individuals, to sweep in additional perspectives and bring fresh views., These will be established during May 2024. From May/June 2024, we will encourage a meeting or two online, to set the teams going with outlining their topics and key perspectives and concepts. This work ahead of the physical meeting will serve as guide documents for the October conversations.

Outcomes

We do anticipate publications (or exhibitions, presentations or other formats), and the like, as a result of the conversations. We recently produced a book using aspects of the conversational method for Springer Nature Japan, with a successful and rapid result (full submission within 7 months).

[About the book](#)

The Conversation Statements of Interest

Each applicant is invited to contribute a statement of interest as an extended abstract or set of questions around Human Centricity that our societies are experiencing. Each perspective is informed previous or current work, thinking and practice, written or discussed, from any type of prior interactive project or process, case studies or field experiences.

We will ask you to send in your statements of interest during May of 2024, so that we can see what themes are forming. These themes will outline a tacit table of contents for open discussion, with a view to exploring the relationships with the concept of creative systemic research and practice into 2024.

The possible publication schedule for those interested will be presented as part of the introduction for the Symposium.

Location and stay

We will gather together in Lugano with a residential base at the Guesthouse University in Via Madonnetta 23 - 6900 Lugano – Switzerland. It is a guesthouse organised in apartments with a little kitchen and living space in each. There are different options of sharing among 4, 3, 2 people and for single use. The idea is to have variety of spaces where to engage and stimulate the discussion processes. Is it in the apartments themselves, little restaurants and snack bars all around, the university (next door, that’s why the name of the accommodation), the library, the parks, the riverside, the lakeside, etc. The accommodation will include also the Ticino Ticket that will give you access to all the public transport during our stay.

The residency cost per person varies according to the kind of sharing and includes a commonly organised dinner. The costs per person will be shared soon with the interested.

Meanwhile the [link](#) to the available apartments organisation for this residence.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/13dUuoeABumGPmaguHmVIO7XN_W67ObUh8dpv5eldi_A/edit?usp=sharing

www.luganoguesthouseuniversity.com

Contact

For interest and question refer to Susu Nousala s.nousala@csrp.institute or Jelena Susic j.susic@csrp.institute

Week schedule

September 29th

17.00pm – Welcome

18.00pm – Dinner

September 30th

09:15 – Meeting opening, Introductions, Methodological overview (including team organizations), and Questions.

12:00 – Lunch

14.00 – Parallel Conversations begin

17.00 – Parallel Conversations end

18.00 – Dinner

October 1st

09.15 – Parallel Conversations begin

12:00 – Lunch

14.00 – Parallel Conversations continue

16.00 - Progress check-in, as plenary

17.00 - Conversations end

18.00 – Dinner

October 2nd

<< same as October 1 >>

October 3rd

09.15 – Parallel Conversations begin

12:00 – Lunch

14.00 – Progress check-in, as plenary

15:00 – Parallel Conversations begin

17.00 – Parallel Conversations end

18.00 – Dinner

October 4th

09:15 – Summary findings for each group, as plenary

12:00– Lunch

14:00 – CSRP AGM

16:00 – AGM closes, Departures

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October 5-6 (optional)

Leisure visit to Milan