Community Based System Dynamics Institute

Washington University in St. Louis
June 25-28, 2018

Community Based System Dynamics (CBSD) is a participatory method for engaging and working with communities and organizations developed from group model building and system dynamics. CBSD is used in research and practice to engage diverse communities & organizations on a variety of issues from K-12 education, homelessness, racism, and mental health to cancer prevention and survivorship, health care reform, quality improvement, and obesity/malnutrition.

This 4-day institute led by Ellis Ballard, MSW, MPH and Peter Hovmand, PhD, MSW provides a unique opportunity to get a formal introduction to CBSD, observe CBSD in action with the parallel Changing Systems: Student Summit on Educational Equity, and to learn about the latest innovations and thinking around the practice of CBSD.

Participants will gain:

- Knowledge of current practice and theory in CBSD

- Skills on identifying and selecting issues for CBSD, framing a problem from a SD perspective

- Guidance on project design and how to frame CBSD within grant proposals

No prior training or experience in group facilitation, group model building, or system dynamics is required. However, participants currently working with or planning work with groups (e.g., classes, community meetings, focus groups, and workgroups) will find the content more relevant. Space is limited so CBSD Institute participants will be selected based on applications.

Community Based System Dynamics Institute Application

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The CBSD Institute will run from June 25 to June 28 from 10 am to 4 pm each day with lunch and snacks provided. The registration fee for this institute is $450. Participants from outside St. Louis are expected to make their own accommodations for lodging and travel.

The review of applications is ongoing, and participants will be notified and need to formally accept the CBSD Institute Fellowship. Please complete and send the application including a current resume or CV to **BrownSSDL@wustl.edu** by April 15. Decisions will be communicated by May 1, 2018.

Please answer the following questions in a single document:

1. What is your professional background (e.g., teachers, social worker, community organizer, academic researcher)?

2. What kind of experience do you have in facilitating small groups (e.g., teaching in a classroom, conducting workshops, leading a discussion group)?

3. What exposure or prior training have you had to systems thinking, system dynamics, or more broadly systems science?

4. What do you hope to gain from the CBSD institute?

5. How do you plan to apply CBSD in the future?

For more information, please contact the lab at **BrownSSDL@wustl.edu** or by phone at **314-935-3598.**