



ITD Alliance

Global Alliance for
Inter- and Transdisciplinarity

News Bulletin
17 January 2025

Dear ITD Alliance Members and Colleagues,

This News Bulletin includes:

- New Resource: *Designing Inspiring Workshops and Courses in Transdisciplinarity: A Guide* now available
- Upcoming ITD Alliance events: Toolkits and Methods Quality & Rigour event.
- Policy and Funding News.
- Relevant Conferences and Events.
- Fellowship Opportunity.
- New “Member Publications” feature: Announce your “just-out” publications.
- About this News Bulletin.

Members are invited to engage with the community through the News Bulletin by contributing questions or announcements. See “About this News Bulletin” below.



New resource

***Designing Inspiring Workshops and Courses in Transdisciplinarity: A Guide*, now available on the ITD Alliance website**

Explore a new resource for the transdisciplinary community of educators, trainers, change agents, curriculum planners, and more! [*Designing Inspiring Workshops and Courses in Transdisciplinarity: A Guide*](#), created by the TD Training Collaboratory, is now available on the ITD Alliance website.

The guide is intended to enable you to make decisions about all the components you will want to consider for your intended audience and purpose. You will find sections on training design, essential concepts and practices of transdisciplinarity, qualities of leadership, and proficiencies.

The guide can be downloaded as a PDF or viewed online as a “flip book” where you can search, share and utilize accessibility features. Visit the [Additional Materials](#) page to find a design worksheet, a series of questions that help you navigate, plan, and select. You will also find handouts you can share with your workshop or class participants on key concepts and practices in transdisciplinarity. Go to the [Tools Library](#) to find interactive activities that you can search and sort in several ways.

Background: The TD Training Collaboratory funded in 2021 by the US National Science Foundation brings together pioneering researchers and trainers from regional centers across the globe. Drawing upon their collective experience, the group developed the guide, and pilot tested its use at various conferences and institutes. The ITD Alliance agreed to host the guide on its website since many members of the Collaboratory are also members of the ITD Alliance.

[Explore the guide](#) and enter your email address [to receive updates](#) on activities related to using the guide.



Upcoming ITD Alliance events

Quality & Rigour Discussion Session, February 10, 2025, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM CET, online (live meeting).

All are welcome. See the ITD Alliance [Member Events](#) web page for details.



Policy and funding news

North American funders supporting engaged research

Representatives of funders from nine North American funding organisations have published a paper describing “the efforts of a global collaborative of philanthropic and public funders who are adapting their practices, supporting the development of infrastructure (e.g., capacity-strengthening, facilitation expertise, processes to guide relational work, etc.), and targeting system-level challenges to enable engaged research to maximize its potential. The authors integrate insights from different issue areas, geographies, and funding areas to provide concrete examples of funder activities that support engaged research and to suggest areas for further action. Recommendations include scaling changes in funding practices, deepening understanding of how and when engaged research leads to improved outcomes, and reshaping how success is defined and measured.” The paper is available at:

A.T. Bednarek, B. Miyamoto, K. Corbett, C. Hudson, G. Scarrow, M. Brass, K. DuMont, B. Holmes, L. Supplee, R. McLean, J. Bhatia, S. Chappell, M. Gorman Vélez, C. Kolavalli, How and why funders support engaged research, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 122 (1) e2400931121, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2400931121> (2025).

New Presidents and Chancellors Council on Public Impact Research active in North America

A new Presidents and Chancellors Council on Public Impact Research was launched in North America in mid-2024 to strengthen transdisciplinary and other participatory research approaches to:

- “Advance innovative and rigorous approaches for evaluating research impact.
- Strengthen partnerships among universities, nonprofits, governments, and industry.
- Advance recognition and rewards for a wide spectrum of research approaches.
- Equip researchers across disciplines with the training and tools to shape positive outcomes not only in the lab and the classroom, but also in policy debates and their local communities.”

The Council is led by Dr. Neeli Bendapudi, president of The Pennsylvania State University, and is working with the Transforming Evidence Funders Network hosted by Pew Charitable Trusts. For more information, see

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2024/06/12/university-leaders-come-together-to-spur-positive-change-through-research>

and

<https://www.psu.edu/news/research/story/president-bendapudi-helps-lead-new-higher-ed-council-public-impact-research>.



Relevant conferences and events

Complex Adaptive Systems Winter Symposium 2025: How to Deal with Uncertainty?, 29 January 2025, 13.00-16.00, Helsinki, Finland and online

Are you interested in developing and applying complex adaptive systems theory to make sense of and to influence the emergence of futures, and assisting to resolve the great challenges of our time? Participate in the Complex Adaptive Systems Winter Symposium 2025, focused on uncertainty in complex systems. Speakers include Kalle Tomperi from the UniOulu, Petri Uusikyla from the University of Vaasa, Merja Alanko-Turunen and Marika Alhonen from the Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences.

[View details and register](#) by **26 January** to attend in person or remotely.

Call for abstracts, XXVI International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology (SHE-XXVI), 18-21 June 2025, Mons, Belgium

The XXVI International Conference of the [Society for Human Ecology](#) (SHE-XXVI) will be held on 18-21 June 2025 in Mons, Belgium. SHE is intended to bring together a diverse group of educators, researchers and practitioners who utilize, or are interested in, interdisciplinary and ecological approaches. Our aim is to make this event as broadly interdisciplinary as possible, bridging science, social science, and policy perspectives with literature, humanities, and creative arts. Contributions from all areas of human ecology— theory, education, research, and practice—are welcomed.

Call for abstracts deadline: **10 February 2025**.

View details to submit abstracts for individual presentations or organized sessions at: <https://www.societyforhumanecology.org/>.

Early bird registration, Sustainability Research and Innovation 2025 (SRI2025), 16-19 June, Chicago, Illinois, USA

The Sustainability Research and Innovation Congress (SRI2025) will be held from 16-19 June, 2025 in Chicago, Illinois. For more information about the congress, please visit sricongress.org. Since 2021, SRI has united global leaders in research, government, civil society, and business to meaningfully advance sustainability. The SRI Congress offers an exceptionally inclusive and inspiring global platform for co-creating state-of-the-art solutions and innovations; building a coalition of the willing to achieve a sustainability transformation.

[Early Bird Registration is now open](#). Ticket prices will increase **after 15 March**. [Scholarship opportunities](#) are available.



Fellowship opportunity

Fully funded 36-month PhD fellowship opportunity, Department of Science Education, University of Copenhagen

The Department of Science Education at the University of Copenhagen is seeking a PhD student to join their research team. The research project seeks to investigate the potential of large-scale funding mechanisms in nurturing interdisciplinary doctoral education and advancing convergence science.

The call is [here](#) and potential candidates are welcome to contact Katrine Ellemose Lindvig (katrine.lindvig@ind.ku.dk) for further details. The deadline for application is **February 20**.

Key details:

- Fully funded 36-month PhD fellowship in Copenhagen, Denmark
- Focus on interdisciplinary higher education research
- Part of a major EU-funded initiative
- International candidates required (must have worked outside Denmark for 2+ years of the last 3 years)



New “Member Publications” feature

New “Member Publications” feature in News Bulletin and website: Announce your “just-out” publications

Just had a paper, book or book chapter published? Does it highlight inter- or transdisciplinarity or some other form of boundary crossing or collaborative mode of research and practice? Let us know and we’ll be pleased to feature it in the ITD Alliance News Bulletin and on the [ITD Alliance website](#).

Publication listings should include the:

- full citation,
- brief description of approximately 50 words (due to variable copyright restrictions, we are unable to publish full abstracts), and
- DOI URL.

Publication listings in all languages are welcome. If the publication is in a language other than English, we would welcome an English language translation of the citation and abstract.

Send your publication listings to Caryn Anderson (info@itd-alliance.org) with the subject: Member Publications.

View the [Member Publications](#) web page.



About this News Bulletin

This News Bulletin focuses on the activities of the ITD Alliance and its members.

Members are encouraged to engage with the community through the News Bulletin by contributing to sections of the bulletin:

- Consult the community – Ask questions of the community and respond to member questions to support our teaching and learning, as individuals and as a community.
- Member conferences and events – Announce inter- and transdisciplinarity related events hosted by you or your institution.
- Member news – Share news of inter- and transdisciplinarity related reports on activities, awards you have received or other good news.

We also welcome contributions that may interest members such as:

- Opportunities for consulting or employment, grants and prizes or visiting fellowships
- Policy news in education, funding and research
- Conference news about dates and locations and calls for submissions
- Conference reports
- Journal news about calls for submissions to special issues related to inter- and transdisciplinarity.

Please send contributions to Caryn Anderson (caryn.anderson@itd-alliance.org) at least a week before you would like to see them published. We aim to publish every two weeks, but the day may vary.

The News Bulletin is sent to all members of the ITD Alliance and to interested colleagues who have joined the mailing list at <https://itd-alliance.org/newsletter>. To be sure News Bulletins don't end up in a spam folder, add info@itd-alliance.org to your contacts list. Feel free to share the News Bulletin with anyone who may be interested.

Explore past newsletters on our website: <https://itd-alliance.org/newsletter/>.