



ITD Alliance

Global Alliance for
Inter- and Transdisciplinarity

News Bulletin
4 March 2025

Dear ITD Alliance Members and Colleagues,

This News Bulletin includes:

- New Resources: Times Higher Education Interdisciplinary Education Spotlight features six ITD Alliance members.
- Working Groups: Report on “transformative change & justice” interest group meeting.
- Member Courses.
- Member Publications.
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Members are invited to engage with the community through the News Bulletin by contributing questions or announcements. See “About this News Bulletin” below.



New resources

Times Higher Education Interdisciplinary Education Spotlight features six ITD Alliance members

The newest Spotlight Guide in Times Higher Education (THE) magazine’s online Campus platform, "[A focus on interdisciplinarity in teaching](#)" features 22 brief articles by 28 authors from around the world. Topic areas include curricula development, teaching techniques, assessment, real-world skills development, and inclusive education. Authors include six ITD Alliance members:

- Catherine Amerlink, Virginia Tech, USA, "[What a transdisciplinary lens brings to university teaching](#)"
- Gabriele Bammer, Australian National University, Australia, "[Universities need to move interdisciplinary professional associations to the next step](#)"
- Adam Matthews, University of Birmingham, UK, "[How to balance tension in interdisciplinary teaching and learning](#)"

- Jessica Oudenampsen, Utrecht University, The Netherlands, “[Four things to consider to create a safe and inspiring interdisciplinary learning environment](#)”
- Helena Robinson, TD School, University of Technology Sydney, Australia
- Simon Scott, University of Birmingham, UK (2 articles), “[Can you teach interdisciplinarity in 10 weeks?](#)” and “[How can we assess interdisciplinarity?](#)”

Congratulations to the authors, many of whom responded to the call for contributions which was announced in the 2 December 2024 ITD Alliance News Bulletin. Read, share and comment on the interdisciplinary education spotlight articles:

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/campus/spotlight/focus-interdisciplinarity-teaching>.



Working groups

Report on meeting of “transformative change & justice” interest group, 5 February 2025

On 5 February 2025 an online networking and exchange meeting took place to explore potential interest in forming a working group on the topic of transformative change & justice within the Global Alliance for ITD. Participants explored common interests and found that the working group would be complementary to existing working groups. While there was great interest and motivation to continue the exchange, it was decided to currently not move forward with establishing a formal working group given lack of resources at this point in time. However, interested participants are encouraged to set up their own one-time webinar/coffee break/event and use this network as a resource moving forward.

Documentation of the meeting(s) as well as a list of interested participants who could be contacted for any future events or ideas for re-activating the idea of a working group can be found [here](#). In case of interest, please add your name in the [list](#) at the bottom of the document as well. The recordings of the two presentations given during the online meeting can be found [here](#).



Member courses

Call for applications, Summer School “Inter- and Transdisciplinary Integration in Science, Policy and Practice”, 18-22 August 2025, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

The summer school “Inter- and Transdisciplinary Integration in Science, Policy and Practice”, to be held at ETH Zurich between 18 and 22 August 2025, is open for Master and Phd students from all disciplines and has no fees. The course will be led by ITD Alliance members Bianca Vienni Baptista, ETH Zurich D-USYS TdLab and Sabine Hoffman, EAWAG group leader of the ITD research group.

Integration is a fundamental process of inter- and transdisciplinary research. It implies the co-production and synthesis towards a problem and its potential solutions. In this summer school, we focus on integration when collaborating across disciplines and thematic fields

and when working at the interface between science, policy and practice. Drawing on empirical cases students will work in a hands-on experiential setting. This is an educational offer within the ENHANCE University Alliance.

[Review the call for applications](#). Deadline for applications: **May 1st 2025**.

Governance, Design and Delivery of Interdisciplinary Higher Education Summer School, 27-31 October 2025, Utrecht, The Netherlands

Utrecht University (ITD Alliance member) has adopted a comprehensive approach to broadening and deepening its interdisciplinary teaching & learning portfolio on all levels of education (bachelor's, master's, PhD and continuing education). The course combines theory and experiments in the governance of interdisciplinary higher education (IHE) with educational development and teacher professionalization for IHE and with research of IHE. The course provides this introduction via lectures, experiential learning and time for reflection. The aim is for participants to reflect on and improve interdisciplinary endeavors at their own institution by learning from the course's lecturers and fellow participants. This course has been designed for educational leaders and policy advisors in higher education and for designers of and teachers in interdisciplinary higher education.

Registration deadline: **20 June 2025**

Find out more online: <https://utrechtsummerschool.nl/courses/humanities/governance-design-and-delivery-of-interdisciplinary-higher-education>



Member publications

New Member Publications

We are pleased to announce two new publications by ITD Alliance members. The full list is sortable and searchable on the [Member Publications](#) web page. Congratulations to our member on this recent publication. See below for instructions on how to share your publication with the community.

Member authors: Benjamin Hofmann, Hanna Salomon, Sabine Hoffmann

Citation: Hofmann, B., Salomon, H. & Hoffmann, S. (2025). Roles of researchers in inter- and transdisciplinary sustainability research: a reflection tool. *Sustainability Science* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-024-01619-x>

Description: The paper introduces a new reflection tool that allows researchers to reflect on their roles in inter- and transdisciplinary projects and on related opportunities, challenges, and coping strategies. It illustrates the tool's value by reporting results from its application in two inter- and transdisciplinary projects in the area of sustainability.

Member authors: Rick Szostak

Citation: Repko, A., Szostak, R., & Phillips Buchberger, M. (2025). *Introduction to interdisciplinary studies* (4th ed.). SAGE Publications, Inc.

<https://collegepublishing.sagepub.com/products/introduction-to-interdisciplinary-studies-4-279175>

Description: We have made extensive changes in this revision, in response both to many suggestions from instructors and to the burgeoning literature in the field. We have in particular updated our discussions of critical interdisciplinarity and philosophy of interdisciplinarity. We have added an assignment in which students explain their interdisciplinary education to a prospective employer.

View the [Member Publications](#) web page, and submit your publication for announcement and inclusion online.



Relevant conferences

Registration open, Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching Conference, 'Interdisciplinary Integration: Engaging students with Interdisciplinary Thinking and Doing', 10 April 2025, London, UK

This year's Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching Conference conference is scheduled for 10 April 2025 and will be hosted by the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). It explores how to engage students in interdisciplinary thinking, focusing on methods that challenge traditional subject-focused education. It invites practical approaches to making interdisciplinary activities meaningful and valuable for students in today's marketised educational context.

Themes include:

- Creating opportunities for interdisciplinary activities
- Places for interdisciplinary learning and teaching
- Outcomes from interdisciplinary opportunities and engagement

Learn more and register: <https://info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/lse100/events/2025-Interdisciplinary-Learning-and-Teaching-Conference>

Registration open, Conference for Advancing the Participatory Sciences (CAPS 2025), 27-30 May 2025, Portland Oregon, USA

The Conference for Advancing the Participatory Sciences, 27-30 May 2025 in Portland Oregon, USA, is the premiere annual gathering of scholars, practitioners, and facilitators in this field. Sessions bring together leaders for cross-disciplinary conversations and skill building opportunities that you won't find anywhere else.

Registration now open, with a 10% **early bird discount** available through March 7th. Details online: <https://participatorysciences.org/conferences/caps-2025/>

Submissions for late-breaking posters will be accepted on a rolling basis: <https://participatorysciences.org/conferences/caps-2025/2025-call-for-presentations/>



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/>.