

LEARNING CULTURE AT THE CONGRESS

An invitation to all participants to co-create a learning community for the congress

It is up to all of us to co-create the conditions to be able to engage deeply in learning, reflective inquiry, sharing of stories and experiences around the questions and initiatives we bring.

Consider before you arrive how you will contribute to creating the conditions to engage deeply as a critical learning community. At this congress we will be teachers, facilitators, learners from one another; we will establish relationships and listen deeply to one another.

We intend the Congress to model Action Learning/ Action Research. There will be time for experiences, time for reflection, time to synthesize new knowledge in a range of different modes to challenge and extend our learning and cater for cultural and learning differences. This will also be an important time for developing new international partnerships, exchanging knowledge on activities, evaluating our current reality and impact, and for creating new and cultivating current) learning programmes and communities of practice.

We invite you to create participatory activities spontaneously throughout the conference in the open time spaces available as well as to invite people who would like to design the learning culture actively to meet the day before the Congress begins to design the learning spaces. We will form a hosting team to provide a guardianship process for the learning community.

The hosting team

The Hosting Team will emerge via email prior to the Congress and those people who are able to arrive the day before the conference commences can continue to converse on how to care for the learning community and take action to create the community.

Each day we will meet to reflect on and take action for the next day. You can join and participate at any time.

PREPARATION FOR THE CONGRESS

What is it that is calling you to the Congress?

How are we going to co-create the community for our learning to occur?

What needs to be done prior to the Congress to enable the learning community that you would like to create emerge as we come together in September?

What are you passionate about that you would like to take responsibility for or share in the preparation prior to the conference or during the Congress?

Initial ideas

Some of the ideas that have been germinated already are to have time scheduled in the program for reflection. Different hosts may have ideas to offer for these reflective periods.

Sensory experiences

One idea is to have seeds available for people to reflect through a sensory experience. Another is to have sand available for pattern making.

Musical Instruments and Music

People are invited to bring percussion or other instruments to share to enable people to create music together or alone.

Dances

If you have a circle, sacred or other dance in your repertoire please bring the music if needed and share this with the hosting team who will find an appropriate time to schedule a dance.

Stories and Poems

You may have stories or poems that evoke meaning and engagement that cannot be evoked in any other way. Please bring them to share.

Art

If you are able to bring or would like art materials available e.g. water paint we welcome this medium as well for information walls or creating pictures and images that are important for us.

Creating a mandala

If you stay in South Africa and are able to collect seeds in any form, you are welcome to bring along as many as you can!

It is up to us to bring whatever will enhance our learning individually and collectively.

A Way to Contribute Prior to the Congress

Please email your ideas and contributions to both Gail Janse van Rensburg: jvrgail@tritek.ac.za and Deborah Lange deblange@ozemail.com.au

We will begin the conversation on line and continue this on Sunday, 21st September.

We look forward to creating this journey with you.

Deborah Lange