

Culture, Innovation and Entrepreneurship:
connecting the knowledge dots

Bari, Italy | 10-12 June 2015

Special Track

Rattling - Arts-based initiatives in learning and transformation

Organizers:

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Description:

Strategies and visions about innovation abound across Europe, but there is a lack of rooted every day fast track, agile radical practices to get things done in a novel way by using several knowledge resources collectively organized between practice and the academy. Science and technology driven innovation systems are utilizing only 4% of innovation potential . In this newly emerging field of arts in innovation we need to create cultures in which collective practices for innovation management where innovation is triggered by a combination of multi-professional knowledge resources. We need approaches which mobilise people, resources, time and space across organisations to rattle and even break the hierarchical industrial age-based structures that block innovation flow in business and organisations.

The current situation with the use of arts in innovation is that there are already projects and case studies completed, within organisations in Europe. These experiences show the potential and challenge of arts as ingredients for innovation strategy building. Namely, Arts Based Initiatives (ABIs) in innovation and transformation for business, public, third sector organisations and social enterprises .

This track is inviting studies with a broader participatory orientation where employees, managers, stakeholders, customers/end users and scholar's needs, expertise and views can be utilised to develop new practices of creating knowing and understanding in co-creation and ways of organising it. One challenge is to find put together how to pull existing knowledge together in the form of a solid strategy as part of the move to the next level of arts in organisations. The Aim of this track is to discuss and explore the current nature of the art and art education practices in knowledge creation context in organisational setting. Drawing on Robinson (2011) we see a direct link between the imagination, creativity and knowledge creation in innovation processes. A culture of creativity encourages the unorthodox, questions unseen assumptions and is often disobedient. We see creativity as a relevant part of how to create new knowing and understanding rather than as an unproblematic tool to be utilised for manipulative managerial purposes. If we think of knowledge creation in innovation as a participative learning practice then we have to invite discourses on democracy alongside the discussion. Rancierre's (1991, 2009) concepts of 'the ignorant schoolmaster' and 'emancipated spectator' speak clearly to this. The ignorant director and the teacher 'Knows she must do one thing- over come the gulf separating activity from passivity, beyond this she does not know what the learner or the spectator should do or know. Each will

take something different, something unanticipated and unplanned for away for the encounter.

We are inviting researchers from various disciplines; cultural research and practice, arts and art education research and practice, innovation and management education and wider social sciences research to consider questions such as:

- How is the field or movement of arts in organisations placed if creativity is conceptualised as an ontology, a state of being which champions the unorthodox, is antagonistic to conformism, is disobedient and imaginative?
- If the arts are viewed as relational, collaborative and collective projects opening up spaces for social engagement and collective action what forms do these take in organisations and business?
- How can this approach serve corporations or business interests and also be designed in the form of democracy, and from which democracy is produced and enabled?
- There is a long history of the use of arts practices in a wide range of professional fields, for example; health care, therapy, justice systems, education, heritage. Is there something special about arts based initiatives if they are conceptualised as another form of 'socially engaged art practice'?
- How are the arts being used in critically creative ways to consider culturally and socially sustainable ways of being and working in organisations?
- We need to create new knowing and knowledge in order to face the unprecedented perplexity of the work situation; to re-think how industrial age thinking is still locking our ways of envisaging the future. What role can arts based initiatives play in this type of knowledge creation?

Keywords:

Arts based initiatives, Creativity, Imagination, Learning in Innovation, Participation

Guidelines:

Researchers wishing to contribute are invited to submit an extended abstract (in Word format) of 1000-1500 words by January 25, 2015. The abstract should address theoretical background, research objective, methodology, and results in terms of expected contribution to Knowledge Management theory and practice. Authors are encouraged to follow the guidelines for both extended abstracts as well as full papers that will be made available on IFKAD site.

Deadlines

- 25 January 2015 - Abstracts Submission Deadline
- 28 February 2015 - Acceptance notification to authors
- 25 March 2015 - Early-Bird registration deadline
- 20 April 2015 - Full paper submission deadline
- 20 May 2015 - Registration deadline
- 10-12 June 2015 - Conference sessions

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For further information

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