



The Edge:

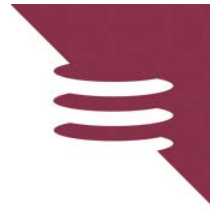
Creative and Transformative Approaches to Community Engagement ... that actually deliver results

One-Day Workshop
with Dr Wendy Sarkissian



Planning
Institute
Australia
South Australian
Division

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Friday, 11 June 2010, 8:15am - 5:00pm

Adelaide Pavilion, Veale Gardens, Cnr South Terrace & Peacock Rd, Adelaide

6 PD Points

RSVP by Monday, 7 June 2010

Synopsis

This workshop offers many opportunities for participants to explore “the Edge” in community engagement: that place where issues and problems are complex and intractable, where ordinary run-of-the-mill engagement processes do not seem to work well and where emotions are running high. Maybe there has been a history of neglect in this community or with this group. Or perhaps there have been many instances of betrayals and broken promises? Or maybe everyone is bored and cynical and there is little energy of any sort for community engagement processes on all sides. *The Edge* workshop builds on work in Wendy Sarkissian's new Earthscan book (with Dianna Hurford): *Creative Community Planning: Transformative Engagement Methods for Working at the Edge* (2010). See www.creativecommunityplanning.com as well as her 2009 book, *Kitchen Table Sustainability: Practical Recipes for Community Engagement with Sustainability*. See: www.kitchentablesustainability.com.

The workshop introduces new theoretical approaches (such as Otto Scharmer's Theory U) and explains how they could be used in community engagement.

Three case studies from Wendy's social planning practice are presented and discussed.

A hands-on workshop session in small groups allows participants to use the ideas generated in the workshop in a case study context (the redesign of Rundle Mall in Adelaide).

Dr Wendy Sarkissian FPIA



Social planner and environmental ethicist, Dr Wendy Sarkissian, is a planner who seeks spirited ways to nurture an engaged citizenry. She has recently coauthored three Earthscan books: *Kitchen Table Sustainability: Practical Recipes for Community Engagement with Sustainability* (2009). *SpeakOut* (2009) and *Creative Community Planning: Transformative Engagement Methods for Working at the Edge* (2010). Wendy has taught at universities in the USA, Canada and Australia. She is committed to finding spirited ways to nurture and support an engaged citizenry, having pioneered innovative planning and development approaches in an astonishing variety of contexts. Initially trained as an educator, she holds a Masters of Arts, a Master of Town Planning (Adelaide) and a PhD in environmental ethics (Murdoch). She has worked as a social planning consultant in Australia since 1981. Wendy is Adjunct Associate Professor at the Curtin University Sustainability Policy Institute and Adjunct Professor in the School of Sustainable Development, Bond University. She is a Fellow of the Planning Institute of Australia. Wendy lives in a small eco-community in rural New South Wales.



Program

Please Bring:

A small object that inspires you
and/or has special meaning for you

8:15 Arrivals and refreshments

8:30 **Session 1: Introductions**

Stillness in Action exercise: ways of being in the world with respect to community engagement

9:15 **Session 2: Why The Edge?**

Why now?

What is the Edge in community engagement?

The importance of EdgeWork.

Qualities of working at the Edge.

Discussion

10:00 **Session 3: Stories from The Edge:**

Brainstorming and mind mapping of participants' stories

10:30 Morning tea

11:00 **Session 4: Example of EdgeWork 1: Creating the Nonhuman Being**

Discussion

11:45 **Session 5: A New Theory to Guide EdgeWork: Theory U**

Discussion

12:30 **Lunch**

Individual exercise in Nature during lunch

1:30 **Session 6: Example of EdgeWork 2: Our Bonnyrigg Dream**

The theory and practice of guided imagery and creative visualisation in community visioning

Discussion

2:30 **Session 7: Hands-on Exercise**

(re)Visioning Rundle Mall from the perspective of children and young people

How might such a processes unfold?

Which models and theories to consider?

Inspiration provided by lunchtime exercise

3:45 **Session 8: Report back from individual groups**

Discussion

4:15 **Session 9: Example of EdgeWork 3: Eagleby Reconnecting Ceremony**

Discussion

4:55 Final words and close of workshop



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RSVP by Monday, 7 June 2010 to secure your place!

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Email:

PIA Member No:

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PIA Member No:

Attendee 3 Name:

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Attendee 4 Name:

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All prices are GST inclusive. Registrations are transferable to other attendees, but we do not accept cancellations for attendance after the RSVP date.