

## Intellectual Framework for a Knowledge Federation Course

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\*\* "[Places to Intervene in the System](#)" article by Donella Meadows:

In order of increasing transformative power:

10. Numbers (subsidies, taxes, standards).
9. Material stocks and flows, structure and size of stocks relative to flows.
8. size of delays & time constants relative to system flows.
7. Regulating negative feedback loops.
6. Driving positive feedback loops.
5. Information flows.
4. The rules of the system (incentives, punishment, constraints).
3. The power to self-organize the system structure.
2. The goals of the system.
1. The mindset or paradigm out of which the goals, rules, feedback structure arise.
0. Power to transcend the paradigm

### Requirements for Systemic Innovation

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- Understanding where present systems fail us.
- evolving a fitness metric for each system
- re-imagining systemic structures to deal with the problems at hand
- creating social and technological innovations for systemic change
- propagating this systemic innovation
- rinse and repeat

### Knowledge Federation

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The Knowledge Federation organization is key to long-term, sustainable systemic change. How is it organized?

#### COMMON GOALS:

- improving the well-being of humanity and the planet
- in the interest of all humanity, not just a nation, a corporation or a select group.

#### COMMON PRINCIPLES:

- major systems are failing us, and are unable to address the problems we face
- systemic change is the only viable solution

- innovations must evolve (based on feedback) to succeed in the long term

#### COMMON PROCEDURES:

- transparency
- legitimacy
- empathy
- collaboration
- mutual respect, non-judgemental listening, peaceful reflection
- openness to new ideas without filters

#### GOVERNANCE:

- we each govern ourselves, according to the points above
- if absolutely necessary, decisions affecting the entire group are made democratically
- Dino Karabeg and Doug Engelbart are Chief Evangelist and chief inspiration, respectively, but are NOT prophets or patriarchs.

#### Instructions for playing the Game-Changing Game

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1. Choose a field or profession you know well (e.g. education, finance, healthcare, journalism, science, technology, ...).
2. What are the societal roles and goals of that field? Where do you find it falling short?
3. What changes can you suggest that would allow that field to be more successful IN YOUR EYES at achieving its goals and/or benefitting humanity in general (the many, not just the few)?
4. What steps can you suggest that might promote or lead to these changes? Consider steps of a personal, social, institutional, governmental or technical nature. (See Dino's Debategraph for examples)
5. How does this field interact with or depend upon other systems and infrastructures? What changes in these other systems & infrastructures would help promote the changes you seek?
6. What signals could indicate whether the field as a whole was becoming more adapted to achieving the goals mentioned above? What signals could indicate whether the specific changes you introduce are moving the field in the right direction?
7. How could you introduce the changes you propose to your field or related systems in such a way that they will spread, evolve over

time based on feedback and ultimately transform the field?