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Call for Papers: Partnership and Environment (IJPS Fall 2017 issue)

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IJPS Interdisciplinary Journal of Partnership Studies

Call for Papers: Partnership and Environment

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The Interdisciplinary Journal of Partnership Studies—a peer-reviewed, open-access electronic journal—invites researchers, scholars and authors to submit original writing for publication in its **October 2017 issue (Vol. 4 No. 3)**. The submission deadline is **August 1st, 2017**. Early submissions are welcome and will receive preference in the publication process.

About IJPS Fall 2017 Issue: Partnership and Environment, an Environment Themed Issue of the Interdisciplinary Journal of Partnership Studies

While news sites often file “environment” as a topic under “science,” environmental issues are a growing theme across disciplines—and with good cause. Those seeking improved environmental policies and actions understand that information alone is not enough to drive or sustain change. Donella Meadows (2008), systems scientist and author, in her famous piece “Places to Intervene in a System,” outlines points of influence to foster systemic change. She lists them from the least leverage to the highest leverage, though they all have an influence. Near the bottom are “numbers” like taxes, subsidies, and standards. Near the middle are things like feedback loops and information flows. Approaching the top of the list are self-organization, goals, and finally her top items: paradigms and transcending paradigms. She goes so far as to say “paradigms are the sources of systems.” (Meadows p. 163) These underlying thought structures, often below consciousness, determine how we think about solutions whether these thought structures are related to our understandings of physical natural systems, or ethical beliefs that underlie human systems. Thus the humanities join the sciences as partners toward improving human relations with the larger, more-than human world.

Likewise, the interdisciplinary field of Partnership Studies is also concerned with systemic change, addressing the process of cultural transformation through the lens of societies’ underlying paradigms. Partnership studies is particularly interested in the spectrum of domination to partnership paradigms that influence and reflect human relationships. According to Partnership Studies founding scholar, Riane Eisler, the underlying paradigm of partnership

vs domination permeates society. For example authoritarian societies have their roots in authoritarian families, thus the domestic sphere and the public sphere are fed by the same paradigm, reinforced by actions that play out that world view. Partnership Studies and its Cultural Transformation Theory are a uniting lens for mutually-caring relationships across realms of human activity. Partnership Studies can and has been applied broadly to gender relations, education, healthcare, economics, as well as the environment. (Center for Partnership Studies 2017)

In this Partnership and Environment themed issue of the *Interdisciplinary Journal of Partnership Studies (IJPS)*, you are invited to propose perspectives on the environment from all disciplines and consider how these perspectives relate to cultural transformation and partnership. Articles or essays from scholars as well as practitioners are welcomed. Peer review is applied where appropriate. We invite you to explore wide-ranging questions such as “How do childhood domestic environmental experiences shape environmental partnership attitudes throughout life and in our governing structures? How does our economic valuation of the environment affect and reflect our underlying attitudes of domination or partnership? What have you learned from applying partnership principles to environmental challenges in the community? How can art and story help us see human-environment relations of the “Anthropocene” in new partnership ways? How does a partnership approach to populations most vulnerable to the effects of climate change inform environmental policy?” The environmental issues before us are one of the defining challenges we face as humans. A partnership approach includes diverse voices. We need to communicate across disciplines and beyond our institutions to foster cultural transformation toward a sustainable—if not restorative—vision for our environment. Please join us in this ongoing conversation.

—Jonee Kulman Brigham,
Guest Editor Fall 2017 IJPS Issue: Partnership and Environment
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References

- The Center for Partnership Studies. (n.d.) - Center for partnership studies. Retrieved from <http://centerforpartnership.org/>
- Meadows, D. H. (2008). *Thinking in systems: A primer*. (D. Wright, Ed.). White River Junction, VT: Chelsea Green Publishing.

About the Interdisciplinary Journal of Partnership Studies

Partnership Studies analyzes social institutions and beliefs from the perspective of where they fall on the partnership/domination continuum, illuminating how they affect all aspects of life and every social institution, from the family, education, and religion to politics, economics, and mass media. Partnership Studies provides an integrative perspective for understanding and transforming beliefs and social institutions that takes into account the cultural construction of formative relations, which are still generally ignored or marginalized in the canon. It pays special attention to findings from neuroscience showing that our brains develop in interaction with our environments, especially in our early years, and that how a society constructs the roles and relations of males and females impacts not only women's and men's life choices but also the society's values, beliefs, and institutions. Partnership Studies helps us "connect the dots" in new ways to reveal dynamics that are otherwise invisible.

IJPS was created (in 2014) through a partnership between the University of Minnesota Libraries, the University of Minnesota School of Nursing, and the Center for Partnership Studies. In 2016, the Journal had over 7600 downloads. IJPS provides article-level usage metrics, as well as visualization of the geographic reach of the journal.

The journal is published three times per year. Articles undergo double-blind peer review, and there are no fees for authors to publish accepted articles in IJPS. Authors retain the copyright for their article, and all articles are distributed with a Creative Commons license (CC NC-BY 4.0). As an open access journal, and there are no fees or subscription necessary to access any article published in IJPS. All articles are viewable immediately upon publication.

IJPS features **Conversations/Interviews** with scholars, thought leaders, and content experts about partnership worldwide; **Scholarly articles** from all disciplines including elements of partnership; **Community Voices Articles** about applications of partnership worldwide; **Media Reviews** of books, articles, films, plays, and television and radio programs dealing with themes of partnership and **Cover Art**.

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For additional questions please contact Managing Editor, Heidi Bruce, at heidigbruce@gmail.com

Thank you,

The Editors
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