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From the Chair of the Collaborating Sites Advisory Committee

Update on the Collaborating Sites Initiative,
Serge Hein

The Collaborating Sites Advisory Committee is charged with guiding the development of the collaborating sites initiative. The committee's work is grounded in the principle that the International Association of Qualitative Inquiry (IAQI) and the collaborating sites initiative "should create a dynamic, vibrant community that fills needs for the member sites" (Collaborating Sites Roundtable Discussion, 2008 International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry). The ultimate aim of the collaborating sites initiative is to create a global network of collaborating sites that is interactive, provides up-to-date information about what is occurring at each site, and meets the needs of individual member sites.

A preliminary set of goals for the collaborating sites initiative has now been generated from the recommendations, comments, and other information that was collected (a) during the Collaborating Sites Spotlight Session and the collaborating sites portion of the townhall meeting that were held at the 2009 International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry (ICQI); (b) during the Collaborating Sites Roundtable Discussion that was held at the 2008 ICQI; and (c) from members of the collaborating sites advisory committee, who reviewed a summary of the above information. These goals have been organized around four major themes and are listed below. The current membership of the Collaborating Sites Advisory Committee is also included.

Preliminary Goals for the Collaborating Sites Initiative

1) Organization of the Collaborating Sites Network

- connections are currently between individual collaborating sites and IAQI: more collaboration between individual sites is recommended
- make the IAQI website more interactive, a place where people can ask questions, send e-mails, etc.
- the structure of the collaborating sites network is important: perhaps it should not be divided according to geographical regions but according to research areas/interests and issues (to build communities of interests)

2) Making Use of Internet Technology

- collaborating sites should make use of web forums, blogs, and WIKIs
- software such as SKYPE should also be considered
- incorporating Twitter (tweeting) into the Collaborating Sites network may result in stronger connections across collaborating sites, more visits to individual sites, greater use of discussion boards at sites, greater inclusion of students and other researchers who are new to qualitative inquiry, and a general expansion of the collaborating sites network
- weekly e-mails should be sent out on a collaborating sites listserve (a community manager is recommended for this)

3) Resources Provided through Individual Collaborating Sites and IAQI

a) individual sites could provide information about qualitative researchers who are associated with the site, qualitative research being conducted at the site, on-site training in qualitative research or teaching of qualitative courses, and various forms of outreach undertaken at the site (including links to qualitative initiatives)
- videoconferences and lectures could be posted at individual sites
b) provide downloadable, non-copyrighted qualitative articles and books, or a bibliography of texts (annotated or otherwise)
c) develop an archive of qualitative course syllabi and teaching tips (e.g., class activities, assignments, projects, etc.)
d) provide downloadable ICQI proceedings (abstracts or entire conference papers) as pdf files
e) provide a list of national and international qualitative conferences
f) provide an ICQI bulletin/newsletter
g) develop an interactive site for posting qualitative research proposals and ongoing qualitative research projects (to assist people in collaborating and to provide people with support and feedback)
- the above interactive site could also include the development of a database of interested qualitative researchers, who would provide a brief personal biography, a description of their research interests, e-mail address, etc.
h) provide information about potential sources of funding for qualitative research
i) develop a web-based Q&A and FAQs that deal with various aspects of qualitative inquiry (e.g., research, teaching methods)
j) establish links to other organizations and sites that focus on qualitative research

4) Promoting the Collaborating Sites Network and IAQI/ICQI

- market the Collaborating Sites network and IAQI/ICQI further, and use the former to promote the latter internationally
- some researchers are interested in establishing independent-researcher collaborating sites: establishing a core group of such sites would encourage others to do the same

Collaborating Sites Advisory Committee Members

Dong Han, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Serge F. Hein, Chair, Virginia Tech
Ellis Hurd, Illinois State University
Jeffrey Keefer, Organizational Learning and Communication Consulting
Lubomir Popov, Bowling Green State University
Kathryne Roden, University of Central Oklahoma
Lois Ann Scheidt, Indiana University
Karin Schluecker, Independent Researcher, Germany
Judith Sutter, Argosy University

Master Plan of the Collaborating Sites Network Project

1. Goals of the Collaborating Sites Network Project

   • To construct a centralized network that promotes the active interaction of qualitative researchers around the globe.
   • By creating a centralized network, to make QI an international organization.
   (According to Serge's comments, need to list the other goals(I don't think so)

2. Requirements of the Collaborating Sites Network

   • The major form of the network will be rectangular, involving use of the internet.
   • The contents of this project should also embrace off-line interactions between researchers.
   • The network must be flexible and organic but have a central administrative location and be loosely hierarchical.

3. 5 Stages in the Development of the Collaborating Sites Network

   1) the first stage
   ->By the end of 2009, a basic structure for the network should be established.
   2. Before the Congress in May 2010, the composition of all sub-branches of the network should be completed.
   3. During the 2010 Congress, the first step should be taken toward forming "communities," which result from the interactions in sub-branches of the network.
   4. After the 2010 Congress, continued expansion of the network to meet the needs of qualitative researchers worldwide.
   5. Within four years, the network should become the "global organization" for qualitative researchers.

(1)   First Stage

 Goal: to establish a basic structure for the network

Our current situation and available information:

1) Information based on attendees at the 2009 Congress
-1016 delegates from 37 countries and 451 institutions

2) Pre-existing collaborating sites in IAQI Website
-75 registered collaborating sites

1.At this stage, a basic structure for the network tentatively involves six geographic regions, which would be segmented after Stage 4.
2. To set strategic positions along with collaborating sites.

-    Present map of distribution of C/S

- Outline of Basic Network Structure: The network will be expanded and segmented as following countries and regions.

North America	C/S America	Europe	Africa	Asia	Oceania
Canada	Mexico	Britain	S.Africa	Far-East	Autralia
-Branch 1 - Branch 2	Brazil	Portugal	Congo	Mid-East	New Zealand
Unite States	Argentina	Spain	Nigeria	Turkey	
Eastern -Branch 1 -Branch 2 -Branch 3	Columbia	Germany		South East	
Mid-West -Branch 1 - ICR	Chile	Northern		China	
Western -Branch 1 -Branch 2		Eastern			
		Italy/France			

Concrete Strategies for Stage 1

•1. General propaganda to all ICQI members by sending emails and newsletter service. (done)
•2. Reconsolidation of existing collaborating sites. (done but unsatisfied)
•3. Encouraging institutions and individuals to participate in the CS network and to build sub-branches.
  - to tentatively select 339 people to ***
  - to receive positive responses to ***

•Include those who showed a positive response in the scheme for the structure of the network.
•Resend letter to non-positive respondents who are needed to develop the network as a whole.

•With very personal letter, let them move to organize their branches by naturally assigning concrete duties.
•Let them report what they did ***in/on

(2)   Second Stage (Before 2010 Congress)

Goal: to complete the actual composition of all sub-branches of the network
Strategies:
-Establish a concrete plan to departmentalize the sub-branches, along with their positions.
-Propaganda in two ways:
    1) To let all members have identities to pertain to a given sub-branch.
    2) To establish a tentative cadre of individuals who assume responsibility for the network.

(3) Third Stage (During 2010 Congress)

Goal: to encourage network users to form their own communities

Strategies:
-To stimulate interaction within the sub-branches of the network.
- Attend to the selection and organization of a cadre of individuals for the long-term project.

(4) Fourth Stage (After 2010 Congress)

Goal: to constantly expand the network through filling up the vacuum

•Strategies:
1) The newsletter service should be transformed.
2) Deploy the cadre and appoint specific jobs.
3) Build informal communication channels, as needed, between the ICQI and regional and national leadership branches and sub-branches.

(5) Fifth Stage (Until 2012)

Goal: for the network to become the global organization for qualitative researchers
Strategies:
- The final form of the network will be transformed into a systematic organization.
- Some bureaucratic elements may be needed.
- Maintenance, as well as "special" secondary works, will be needed.

Current Enlisted CS in QI

In virtue of your vivid participation, we got to have 75 Collaborating sites in web.
As you can see in IIQI site, the North America has 36 institutions, Central and South America has 10 institutions, Europe has 15 institutions, Asia has 3, Africa 2, Oceania 7 and Independent institutions.(detailed information are described in Table 1. as below)

We are so certain of that these sites will play a crucial role in providing qualitative reseachers in given regions with space for their interactions(Illustration 1. shows the current CS in given rigions in the global network). However, unfortunately, much of these collaborating site turned out to be inappropriate space for its own purpose or even inactive site.

We are highly encouraging you to construct a specific exclusive space in your website only for interactions between qualitative researchers. Also, we welcome new joining of CS sites.

Table 1.

International Institute for Qualitative Methodology-University of Alberta

Hugh Downs School of Human Communication-Arizona State University

Sociology of Education concentration, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy-University at Buffalo

Participatory Action Research Collective at the City University of New York Graduate Center-The City University of New York

The leadership Program at Grand Street Campus-Cleveland State University

The Qualitative Research Program-University of Georgia

McGill Qualitative Health Research Group-McGill University Canada

The Graduate Center CUNYThe City University of NewYork

School of EducationUniversity of Colorado, Boulder

Center for Interpretive and Qualitative ResearchDuquesne University

Department of Speech CommunicationSouthern Illinois University

Department of Theatre and FilmBowling Green State University

Department of Communication StudiesThe University of North Carolina at Greensboro

MSU Family & Child ClinicMichigan State University

QUIG (Qualitative Inquiry Group)University of Toronto

School of Theatre and Film Arizona State University

Department of Social Work EducationUniversity of South Florida

Communication Department and the Institute for Interpretive Human StudiesCalifornia State University Fresno

Art Education and Visual CultureNorthern Illinois University

College of Education Educational Policy StudiesGeorgia State University

Department of Curriculum & Instruction Adelphi University

Literacy Inquiry Networking CommunitiesPepperdine University& Seaver College

Interpretive and Qualitative Research at Carlow (IQ@ Carlow)Carlow University

Research Center for Leadership in Action Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service

Tennessee Qualitative Inquiry for Social Justice Tennessee Technological University

Daphne Cockwell School of NursingRyerson University

School of NursingThe University of Massachusetts Amherst

Qualitative Research Centre (QRC)University of Saskatchewan

Body, Movement and Culture Research GroupUniversity of Alberta

Florida International University

Northwestern University

The Ohio State University

St. Cloud State University

At Home At School Program-Washington State University

Boston College

Western Kentucky University

Queri Qualitative Research and Training

International Association of Educators (INASED)

International Journal of Progressive Education (IJPE)

Centre for Critical Qualitative Health Research - University of Toronto

Grupo Interdisciplinario de Investigacion Gualitativa-University de Antioquia, Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, and Universidad San Buenaventura

School of Education-University of the West Indies

Instituto de Educacion-Universidad Militar Nueva Granada

CITEC (Centro de Investigaciones de Tendencias y Comunicacion)-Universidad Siglo 21

Research Institute Gino Germani-University of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Programa de P□s-Gradua□□o em Enfermagem-Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina

Center for Popular Education and Interculturality(CEPINT)- Universidad Nacional del Comahue

Salud Y Sociedad -Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco

The Paulo and Nita Freire International Project For Critical PedagogyMcGill University

Qualitative Inquiry GroupUniversidad Autonoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa

Center of Narratives and transformative learning-University of Bristol UK

Grupo de Investigacion e Innovacion en Educacion -University of A Coruna

School of Education-Sheffield University

Center for Biographic Research Ljubljana Institutum Studiorum Humanitatis -Sheffield University Slovenia

Institute of Media and Communications Klagenfurt University, Austria

Center of Qualitative Research University of Aarhus, Denmark

The York Mnagement School University of York

Mediterranean Institute of Qualitative Inquiry University of Malta

Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University

Cardiff University

Institutum Studiorum HumanitatisLjubljana Graduate School of the Humanities

Qualitative Health Research NetworkRedICS(Red de Investigacion Cualitativa en Salud)

Education and Social Research Institute Manchester Metropolitan University

Department of Primary Care University of Bradford

Department of Sociology Kaunas University of Technology

National Institute of Education-Singapore

Merlien Institute-Singapore

The Israeli Center for Qualitative Methodologies (ICQM)-Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

University of Limpopo-South Africa

AUTHER (Africa Unit for Trans-disciplinary Health Research)-North-West University (Potchefstroom campus)

School for Social and Policy Research-Charles Darwin University

The La Trobe Contemporary Qualitative Research group LA TROBE University

Faculty of Education-University of Auckland

Narrative, Discourse and Pedagogy-UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY

International Qualitative Research Collaboration-The University of Melbourne

UTS-University of Technology Sydney

Sport & Leisure Qualitative Site-University of Waikato

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2. **Basic information on the last Congress- number of Delegates by countries, by 6 Regions**

In last Congress held 2009, 1016 delegates from 37 countries.

Table 2.

North	#	C/S America		Europe		Asia		Africa		Oceania	
Canada	96	Mexico	24	Britain	24	China	2	Congo	3	Australia	24
U.S	607	Argentina	20	Austria	5	Israel	7	Nigeria	4	New Zealand	4
		Brazil	35	Belgium	4	Japan	2	S.Africa	8		
		Chile	4	Bulgaria	1	S.Korea	1				
		Columbia	61	Denmark	4	Thailand	1				
		Jamaica	3	Estonia	2						
		Puerto. R	1	Finland	2						
		R.Dominic	1	France	1						
				Germany	10						
				Ireland	1						
				Italy	2						
				Norway	2						
				Portugal	2						
				Spain	11						
				Sweden	1						
				Turkey	23						

3. **Official invitation to CS**

We seek to advocacy with leadership to play a role as a nod of the network in table.2 in this newsletter
We are please to invite you and your institution to participate CS project. We respectfully invite you to take the leading role as the representative of the network in your institutional and geographical region. As the representative in your network you could:

1. Complete and submit the Collaborating Site Registration Form that is available at the IIQI website

2. Organize the members of your network, encourage members to participate in the Congress, make a contact list or delegates in your network.

3. Organize interactions for members in other institutions in your region. We are happy to assist in any of these endeavors.

IAQI Newsletter