

The Unifying Negotiation Framework:

A Tool for Designing (and Researching) Participatory Processes for Environmental Planning and Management

TCD Workshop facilitated by Steve Daniels and Jennifer Arnold

November 18, 2010, 9am-noon 376 Grinter

This workshop was designed to get participants to think creatively about how the “Unifying Negotiation Framework 1.0” can be used for research and practice in different contexts. Is it useful? Does it need some adjusting? Could we use it to build a learning community? Participants were asked to write the names of the six dimensions (columns) of the framework on index cards and re-arrange them to think about how these dimensions related to each other. Then, participants self-organized into discussion groups according to their interests. Four groups formed on the following topics: 1) communication and information flow in public forums, 2) eliciting and understanding stakeholder values, 3) managing conflicts between economic and environmental interests, and 4) understanding the role of institutions and culture in an international context. Following a period of questions with the whole group, participants self-organized again, and this time almost everyone chose to discuss how the framework could be used as a practitioner’s tool. A few of the questions raised were, “Do you include yourself in the framework as a stakeholder?” and “Is the goal of participatory processes to redistribute power?”

Steve closed the workshop by asking about “next steps.” He suggested that if people were interested in using the framework, he could return for another workshop. He asked that people email him if they would like to use the framework, so that he can keep in touch with everyone to follow-up on how they are using it. His goal is to develop a web-based learning community. Bob suggested it would be helpful to develop a series of questions for each of the six dimensions of the framework as a guide for process design. Others felt the framework could help reflect on past projects and identify areas for future improvement.

The video of the public seminar, which was co-sponsored by TCD and the Water Institute, is on-line: <http://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/mediasite/SilverlightPlayer/Default.aspx?peid=ade0927910c5456c957d66a377a106cf1d>.

The link to the white paper on the Unifying Framework 1.0: http://works.bepress.com/steven_daniels/2/.

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Summary report written by Jennifer S. Arnold



| Attendees TCD Workshop with Steve Daniels November 18, 2010 | | |
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