THE NETWEAVER NETWORK

Designing and facilitating networks to connect and improve netweaving practice

CENTER & FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY POLICY RESEARCH

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The Netweaver Network

Our Mission is to give network managers – or netweavers - ready access to the best ideas for designing and facilitating their networks and create opportunities for them to connect to improve netweaving practice.

Through close partnerships with learning networks over the past decade, we found that best practices in network design, facilitation, and evaluation were largely inaccessible beyond the networks where they were developed. As a result, netweavers often reinvent solutions that have been successfully implemented by other networks, or adopt approaches that aren't network-centric. In addition, netweavers don't have their own community of practice where they can connect, share ideas, and develop joint initiatives.

We are addressing this urgent need by applying a network approach. Our initial plan is to consult with netweavers and see how we can provide value to them in a way that is focused, and easily accessible. We are developing a plan that combines an on-line platform that provides netweavers with ready access to useful resources, along with opportunities to connect to one another in a time-efficient and useful way. Netweavers will guide us as we develop and refine this design and advise us on how they want to be involved in the evolving project.

Project Managers

Michelle Desmarais (Project Manager) is a graduate student in the Masters of the Environment program at the University of Colorado-Boulder, where she is studying sustainability planning and management. Michelle is keenly interested in identifying how learning networks can build capacity to catalyze institutional change.

Bruce Goldstein (Project Director) is Associate Professor in the Program in Environmental Design and Environmental Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder. Bruce has been partnering with learning networks for about a decade, developing ideas about the network advantage while learning how netweavers manage their networks.

To learn more about the Netweaver Network project visit
http://netweavernetwork.org