

Moderator Guidelines for Current Conundrums

Dear Moderators,

We are excited for your panel presentation at ResilienceCon! As you know, the goal of ResilienceCon is to disrupt traditional conference formats in ways that allow participants to better exchange ideas, reflect on lessons learned, and envision new directions for their work. The idea is not only to showcase your work, but also help raise the whole field. With that aim in mind, one key difference between ResCon panels and what you might be used to seeing is that we are doing some advance planning. We recommend the following format for Current Conundrums.

The total time for your session is 75 minutes. Our goal is that the bulk of that time is spent in interaction.

Thus, the panels will be divided into 3 roughly equal segments of 25 minutes each.

Section 1. Opening remarks. Each panelist will have 4 to 5 minutes to introduce the key ideas that you want to bring to this discussion. **Please do not bring slides!** This is a chance to practice speaking as you would to a journalist or policymaker (we know some of you already have tremendous skills in this department and can be a role model for audience members). Improving all of our communication skills is a key goal of ResilienceCon.

Section 2. Moderated discussion for 20-25 minutes. All questions will be MODERATED. There will be no open Q&A from the audience. I'm sure you have all seen how tangential or long-winded questions, even when well-meaning, can derail an open Q&A, and we are hoping to make more productive use of our precious shared time together. We would ask that you develop 2 to 4 questions in advance that will lead to thoughtful discussions on areas of interests to all of your panelists. We are providing some examples in the attached documents for two Current Conundrums, one on Measurement and one on Prevention and Intervention. **Please have yours prepared in advance and share them with your panelists.** You are welcome to use or adapt our examples or develop your own.

Other guidelines for Section 2: DO NOT START WITH THE SAME PERSON for each question. Sometimes the last person may not have much to add, so it's important to mix up the order. Allow 1-2 minutes per person for each question and don't be afraid to keep it moving. Folks will benefit from hearing insights about important issues from several thoughtful people in quick succession. (No need to brain dump everything every panelist knows.)

Section 3. 1-2-4-All. 1-2-4-All is a Liberating Structures exercise that quickly sifts through a lot of ideas to highlight the best ones! In our experience, it is one of the most foolproof exercises. In the Current Conundrums version, the panelists are going to "break the 4th wall," as they say in theater, and come down from the front to engage directly with audience members.

The "1": Give each person **1 minute** to jot a few notes down in response to the following questions (1 minute total):

What are the key themes in this panel discussion that would apply to your work? (By theme we mean something mentioned by at least 2 people.)

What could be the next steps to advance science and practice? (Think especially about your area of work.)

The “2”: Have people pair up. Hopefully each panelist will pair up with an audience member, so the key experts for this discussion are interacting with more people. Encourage folks to pair up with people they don’t know. Each person gets **2 minutes** to share their ideas with their partner (4 minutes total). (It is ok if there needs to be a threesome.)

The “4”: Have each pair join another pair. In the first pair, Partner A presents **Partner B’s** ideas (in 2 minutes). **It is critically important that this shift happens** and people work with someone else’s ideas and don’t just keep saying their own. (Also, don’t announce this in advance.) Then, Partner B presents Partner A’s ideas. In the second pair, the same thing happens. Partner C presents Partner D’s ideas and then Partner D reciprocates. (6-8 minutes).

Then, still in the foursome, allow another 4-5 minutes to agree on the ideas that this foursome will present to the whole group.

The “All”: Each group of 4 presents their best ideas to the entire group. We encourage the moderators to write these ideas down and then take a picture of the notes that can be shared. Others may wish to take notes too (all ResilienceCon attendees will receive a ResilienceCon pen and legal pad when they check in).

<http://www.liberatingstructures.com/1-1-2-4-all/>

Sample questions to illustrate the sorts of discussion questions you might formulate:

Discussion Questions for Measurement Panel

- 1) Think about the benefits and/or your professional research story. How did you come to see this as a neglected but important area to do work on?
- 2) Give an example of how this form of measurement has produced a surprising result or changed a practice.
- 3) What do you see as the challenges and promises of really trying to measure the positive? How can you think about protective factors that aren’t the opposite of risk factors?

Discussion Questions for Prevention and Intervention Panel

- 1) What developmental insights or realities need to be better incorporated into prevention and intervention?
- 2) How can we let go of things that have become systemically entrenched even when they are not evidence-based?
- 3) Given that each of you have addressed vulnerable populations, how do you balance the need to protect individuals with thinking more about promoting wellness? How do you respond to fears that children or elders will be abused more if we shift off a “protection first” approach?