

UTEP Press Release



April 11, 2012

Changemaker's Summit

The development of concrete collaborative relationships, circulating and sharing of cutting edge ideas, making new connections and reinforcing established ones, discussing social change, liberating structures and participatory methodologies – all this and more can be experienced at the ***Changemaker's Summit*** being hosted over three days by the Social Justice Initiative (SJI) of the Department of Communication.

Thursday, April 12, 2012, from 3:00-6:00 and Friday, April 13, 2012, from 1:30-4:30pm, the Templeton Suite on the third floor of Union East is the place to be for the two events presented within the summit being offered by the SJI in collaboration with the Center for Excellence and Learning (CETAL). The two workshops will focus on Liberating Structures (LS) – participatory processes designed to unleash the potential of individuals in group situations including classrooms, business meetings and the like.

The ***Changemaker's Summit***, including the two LS workshops, seeks to provide UTEP students, faculty and community members the opportunity to connect with over a dozen out-of-town guests such as UN officials, human rights' lawyers, social change faculty, students, and practitioners as they share information and prospect ideas for research, teaching and practice. The meeting also provides an opportunity for those who have collaborated in the past on various social change research projects to regroup, rekindle, re-dream, and re-enact collaborative synergies.

Gatherings like the ***Changemaker's Summit*** give UTEP national and global visibility, exposing our students to a diverse range of experts, while allowing ideas, thoughts, and energies to be cultivated and shared. Henri Lipmanowicz, former President of Merck Intercontinental and Japan, and a friend of the Department of Communication will co-facilitate these workshops with faculty Arvind Singhal, PhD, (Communication), and others. "Liberating Structures workshops are very effective in engaging students with each other and the content being discussed, while liberating their knowledge, wisdom, and intelligence on different issues." said event host, Arvind Singhal, Ph.D.

Please RSVP to Arvind Singhal, Ph.D at asinghal@utep.edu or Lucia Dura Ph.D at ldura@utep.edu