

# Thinkwire.fall.10

An electronic newsletter of the Integrative Teaching International <http://integrativeteaching.org>



**ThinkTank** is a facilitated forum offered by the Integrative Teaching ThinkTank organization. It brings together art and design master teachers, administrators & emerging educators to address thematic issues of higher education. By linking educational theory to practice, ThinkTank identifies innovative new approaches to higher education.

integrative  
**teaching**  
international

higher education at a higher level

**Integrative Teaching International** evaluates ThinkTank outcomes and creates or modifies theories, policies and curricula for future ThinkTank sessions. ITI is an educational non-profit corporation registered in the State of Illinois.

#### Comments?

ITI welcomes all comments about its activities or content. Please e-mail us at [rsieg@uga.edu](mailto:rsieg@uga.edu)

Our newsletter is designed to share news of a grass-roots initiative to improve art + design foundations. We believe that change happens by those who envision it – not just from the top or just from the bottom – but bi-directionally.

If you have not heard of ThinkTank or Integrative Teaching International, that's ok. We have been steadily expanding over the past five years, from the rough beginnings of an idea to the implementation of our current week long intensive. To date, we've had participation from over 250 master and emerging educators and administrators representing 80 colleges and universities in 30 states and 4 countries.

We believe in leading change. Will you join us?

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From June 2-6, sixty-nine artist/educators gathered at the University of Georgia for ThinkTank5. Participants came from 19 states and Canada. This was a 25% increase in attendance from 2009.

ThinkTank is a high-intensity event, requiring a focused commitment and small scale. It will not work as a massive conference, with hundreds of people giving short presentations. Therefore, producing documentation that disseminates the dynamic thinking that takes place in a few days is crucial. Through publications and conference presentations we seek to expand the circle of artist/educators who are re-thinking art and design foundations for the twenty-first century. We are breaking new ground with the first issue of Future Forward, a journal for integrative teaching, due out in fall 2010, and are developing a ThinkTank Showcase, providing profiles of participants as well as an assignment archive.

Even as we are wrapping up ThinkTank5, we are looking forward to ThinkTank6 that will return to UGA on June 8-11, 2011. A preview of the agenda is featured herein. We are now accepting applications for ThinkTank6. Get your name in the queue: enrollment will be limited to fifty participants. The line has already begun to form. In your application, be sure to tell us what you hope to gain and what you can contribute to ThinkTank. For full information, go to [IntegrativeTeaching.org/thinktank-application](http://IntegrativeTeaching.org/thinktank-application). If you wish to apply for one of the five ThinkTank Fellowships, go to [IntegrativeTeaching.org/fellowship](http://IntegrativeTeaching.org/fellowship).

ThinkTank6 is more condensed than was ThinkTank5. One reason for this is the special pre-conference ThinkTank opportunity that will be offered at the 2011 Foundations in Art: Theory and Education (FATE) conference

in St. Louis. This will be another opportunity for you to get involved. A full description of the program is included in this newsletter. To apply for this opportunity, at the amazing cost of only \$22, go to [IntegrativeTeaching.org/thinktank-application](http://IntegrativeTeaching.org/thinktank-application).

The pre-conference workshop will be just one of several presentations that ThinkTank alumni will be giving at the FATE conference. Integrative Teaching International (ITI) is strongly committed to supporting FATE's mission by making this biennial conference a vital forum for the best thinking in Foundations teaching.

Finally, you may note that ThinkTank's governing organization has changed its name from Integrative Teaching ThinkTank to Integrative Teaching International. This helps to distinguish that ThinkTank is just one of the programs that ITI mounts. It also speaks to the opportunities to extend the dialogue of ITI outside the borders of the United States. As an example, this fall I will have the honor of serving as a Fulbright Scholar at the National Academy of Art and Design in Dublin, Ireland. I (along with other ITI artists who may drop by during my residency) will be carrying the dialogues that have come out of ThinkTank across the pond, and will return with fresh perspectives from Europe.

ITI and ThinkTank were founded to provide a structure and voice for those seeking a new form of visual practice for the twenty-first century.

If you want to be a part of this conversation, just join the circle!

Dr. Richard Siegesmund

## FATE/MACAA/Think Tank Collaboration, St. Louis, March 30, 2011

Anthony Fontana, Vice-President for Outreach

In partnership with FATE and MACAA, Integrative Teaching International is offering a ThinkTank intensive just prior to the 2011 Biennial FATE conference. Space is limited to 65 participants, so please submit an application if you want to attend.

### Target Audience

1. Current MFA candidates in studio art and design, or recent MFA degree recipients, with at least 1 semester of Foundations teaching experience.
2. Current PhD candidates, or recent PhD degree recipients, with at least 1 semester of teaching experience in art theory, educational theory, or contemporary art practices.
3. Foundations Coordinators, with up to five years of Foundations leadership experience.

**Deadline – September 30, 2010; Notification by October 30, 2010**

### What is the projected format and schedule?

Each full-scale week-long ThinkTank event is driven by a broad theme and employs a mix of facilitated discussions, workshops and presentations, interspersed with informal meals and social interaction. In this **distilled version**, we will introduce a range of ideas and workshops. A draft agenda for the March 30 event follows:

11:00-11:40: Arrive and register.

11:40-1200: Introductions and Overview

12:00-1:00: Simple buffet lunch with around 8-person "Topic Tables," such as:

- Teaching the 3 C's: Critique, Critical
- Thinking, Critical Theory,
- A 21st C Drawing Foundation,
- A 21st C Design Foundation,
- Figure Drawing in the 21st Century,
- Cultural Connections.
- Materials and Methods,
- Art and a Liberal Arts Context.

1:15-3:30: Lecture/Demonstrations introducing curriculum and leadership strategies,

- The Pedagogical Process: Sequencing as your Secret Weapon
- Curriculum Design, From Mission to Outcome
- Teaching with Technology

3:30-4:00: Break, with coffee and snacks

3:30-5:30: Facilitated discussions (up to 20 participants per topic), such as

- Constructing Meaning
- The Critique: Substance and Strategies
- Leading Change

5:45-6:15: Wrap Up, then join regular FATE conference.

### Application Process:

Please follow the directions located at [IntegrativeTeaching.org/ttfate-2011](http://IntegrativeTeaching.org/ttfate-2011).

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## Think Tank 6 Agenda

Jim Elniski, Vice President for Programming

ThinkTank is a facilitated forum offered by Integrative Teaching International. It brings together art and design master and emerging teachers and administrators to address thematic issues of higher education. It employs a mix of facilitated discussions, workshops and presentations, interspersed with informal meals and social interaction.

ThinkTank 6 will be a four-day event that explores the theme Leading Change. Together, we will develop strategies for developing new approaches to teaching and learning at the college level. Our goal is to move foundations education forward, developing the possibilities inherent in visual art and design to communicate values that operate within the broadest cultural equations. As shared experience, they also define the community ethic that is an essential value of Think Tank. As you will see when you look over the agenda below, a central feature of ThinkTank 6 is the participant-driven breakout sessions. These sessions serve as the catalyst for the substantive collective deliberations of various topics related to Leading Change.

THINKTANK 6 AGENDA  
LAMAR DODD SCHOOL OF ART, UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
JUNE 8-11, 2011

### Wednesday, June 8

3:00-4:30 Arrival and check-in at the Georgia Center

4:30-5:00 Conference Registration at the Lamar Dodd School of Art

5:00-6:00 Introduction to workshops and breakout topics.

6:00-7:00 Meet and Greet, Auditorium, Lamar Dodd School

Welcoming Remarks

7:00-9:00 Light Dinner and Emerging Educator Showcase

### Thursday, June 9

TT6 Continues  
Lamar Dodd School of Art

8:00-8:45 Buffet breakfast provided

9:00-11:00 Breakout Orientation: Creating Connections for the Future

11:15-12:45 Breakout Discussion #1

- Artful Leadership: Responsive Management From Adjuncts to Deans
- Curricular Leadership: From Content to Delivery
- Seeking Connections: Building a Community of Inquiry
- Learning Partnerships: Engage Student

Leadership in the Classroom

1:00-1:45 Box Lunch and Small group discussions, participants identifying own goals for TT5

2:00-4:30 Breakout Discussion #2

4:45-5:15 Facilitators debrief meeting

6:00-7:30 Reception at Cine' in downtown Athens. A wonderful film venue.

Dinner on your own.

### Friday, June 10

TT6 CONTINUES  
Lamar Dodd School of Art

Breakfast on your own

8:30-9:00 Agenda Update and Targets for Facilitated Discussions

9:15-11:30 Breakout Discussion #3

11:45-12:15 Breakout Group Progress Reports

12:15-1:00 Box lunch provided.

1:15-2:00 Presentation: Strategic Planning – Jim Hofsberger

2:15-4:00 WORKSHOPS and PRESENTATIONS: participants' choice

- Instructional Design Technologies
- Four Curricular Models
- From Mission to Outcome
- Contemporary Art & Design as Foundations Resources

4:15-5:30 Breakout Reports and Planning

6:00-7:30 Opening exhibition/reception: Gallery.

Dinner on your own.

### Saturday, June 11

TT6 RETURNS to Georgia Center

Breakfast on your own

9:00-11:30 FINAL Breakout PRESENTATIONS/STRATEGIES

11:30-1:00 Buffet lunch provided.

ThinkTank6 Ends: Commercial vans leave for airport 2:15 & 4:45

1:00-5:00 Optional Prearranged Consulting Sessions for Emerging Administrators and Educators



## Think Tank Fellowships for TT6

Peter Winant, Vice President for Education

In the most successful learning environments, distinctions between teaching and learning become blurred.

Certainly, at ThinkTank the voices of master educators and of those entering the profession blend together to raise meaningful questions about what exists, and what is possible in the changing environment of foundations education. Emerging educators have an essential role in the discussions and overall dynamic of ThinkTank. Thirty past Fellowship awardees have brought a vibrant diversity of personal experience in educational backgrounds and studio practice, and have represented a broad geographic range of large and small public and private institutions.

This year, ITI will offer five fellowships of \$850, which will defray the majority of the costs of the conference, lodging and transportation. Applications will be due by December 30, and will be reviewed by a panel of four jurors, comprised of past ThinkTank participants. Please refer to the Integrative Teaching International website: [IntegrativeTeaching.org/Fellowship](http://IntegrativeTeaching.org/Fellowship) for the application criteria and details.

We greatly look forward to ThinkTank 6, and to the contribution of our 2011 Fellows.



## Progress on Future Forward Issue 1 Planning for Future Forward Issue 2

Mary Stewart, Vice-President for Publications

Wonderful content is coming in for the first issue of Future Forward, which focuses on Four Minds for the Future. Jim Elniski is serving as the guest editor for this inaugural edition.

We have exciting articles from each Think-Tank5 breakout group and over twenty sample assignments. With the help of Associate Editor Mathew Kelly, Assistant Editors Lucy Curzon, Stacy Isenbarger, Chris Kienke and Anthony Fontana, and Copyeditor Clint Samples, Jim Elniski and I will begin finalizing the first issue, aiming for digital distribution in early fall 2010. The final journal is estimated to be around 60 pages in total.

Work is now beginning on the second issue, titled Manifestos and Manifestations, targeted for March 2010 for distribution during the FATE Biennial Conference in St. Louis (March 30-April 2, 2011). It will present four to six philosophical position papers, followed by sample curricula and innovative college-level assignments characteristic of each approach.

Possible Table of Contents:

- Inquiry-Based Visual Foundations (perhaps highlighting the WARP program at University of Florida and the Research Studio course at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago)
- Skills-based/Content-driven Visual Foundations (such as the Foundations Program at Florida State University)
- Thematic Visual Foundations (such as the ArtCore at Arizona State University)
- Trans-disciplinary Foundations (which might include service learning and sustainability education)
- Integrative Teaching (such as the approach used at Bowling Green State University)

If you are interested in submitting an assignment or article for Manifestos and Manifestations, please contact me at [mstewart3@fsu.edu](mailto:mstewart3@fsu.edu) by October 15, 2010.

## Think Tank Educators Showcase

Chris Kienke, Vice-President for Communications

This past June, I was elected to the ITI Board and I am glad to be it's newest member. My responsibilities for the upcoming year include helping to keep the information on the ITI website up to date, editing the ThinkWire newsletter and creating an online assignment archive based on individual outcomes from breakout groups that occurred at previous ThinkTanks.

Some of these assignments will also be published in the ITI journal, Future Forward, but we had many more submissions than we could put into print. This assignment archive will include all completed submissions and hopefully grow each year with the addition of new assignments from future ThinkTank events.

As you can tell by this newsletter there are a lot of activity at ITI. I have the pleasure to introduce you our new ThinkTank Educators Showcase. Each year educators from around the country come together at ThinkTank to network, connect, and share their own unique perspective on Foundations Pedagogy. To highlight some of the best and brightest individuals that have come to ThinkTank over the years, the ITI blog will profile a former ThinkTank participant each month, from emerging educators to seasoned veteran faculty. I would like to invite you to visit [IntegrativeTeaching.org/news](http://IntegrativeTeaching.org/news) each month to read about each showcased educator.

The post will contain the following:

- 150 word bio
- Head shot
- 2-3 pictures of the featured educator's own artworks
- one of their best assignments they'd like to share with other ThinkTankers
- 2-3 examples from this assignment

Anthony Fontana and Meg Mitchell deserve our thanks for all their hard work in getting this off the ground. The showcase begins August 1, 2010 and the first educator to be featured on this blog will be Cynthia Hellyer-Heinz. Cynthia teaches at Northern Illinois University and has run fantastic drawing workshops at ThinkTank in past years (I have taken one and Cynthia is an unbelievable motivator). We are planning to showcase Rae Goodwin from the University of Kentucky in September and Lucy Curzon from the University of Alabama in October. Hope everyone has a great Fall semester/quarter!