

## **My Work with Imaginal Education — by Jan Sanders**

Imaginal Education was the first course I took with the Ecumenical Institute back in 1971. I walked into the room after it had been set-up, but all faculty and participants were in the dining room. I slowly circled the room with place setting, supplies and backboard at the front of the room and realized that my life would never be the same. It has been an amazing journey!

### **The following are a few of the highlights:**

Working at Image Change in the Human Development Projects--particularly 5th City, Sungi Lui, Oyubari and Lorimor. We then did the first HDP that did not have residential staff which was Rama First Nation in Ontario on the shores of Lake Couchiching. Essentially, I worked in the community for 1-2 days each week for 2 years.

Even though we did not teach the course IE we were always doing Image Change at personal and community level. Perhaps we could add some case studies into these papers.

### **Decentralized Transformative Approaches to HIV/AIDS (DTA for H/A) 2001-2003 Nepal)**

Imaginal Education was introduced to Nepal through the UNDP sponsored program Decentralising Transformational Approaches to HIV/AIDS in 200-2003. This was a joint initiative between Rob Work's Decentralised Governance program and the HIV/AIDS unit headed by Monica Sharma. From this training a core group of national and community leaders came together to offer awareness events and health care for those infected and affected by the HIV virus. The program lasted two years. There was a component of training 20 plus leaders in facilitation methods and then that group helped us train another 100 plus leaders. The program was recognized as shifting the images of those infected and affected with the virus.

### **Social Artistry Leadership Curriculum**

Worked with understanding the 4 levels of an image and 4 types of images. (2001 to current time)

Collaboration for Education Leaders with the University of Aruba (see notes at end of this document)

In additions Evelyn Philbrook and I did IE courses in Nepal with various groups. ICA Taiwan has done excellent work with the course.

### **Education Leadership for Collaboration**

University of Aruba; Center for Lifelong Learning presents:

Educational Leadership for Collaboration, a certificate professional development program

We are now in the fourth cohort. This program could be adapted to other university settings.

### **Educational Leaders for Today**

Leadership requires both deep personal reflection and the capacity to engender collaborative action with clarity, compassion and effectiveness. The Certificate for Professional Development (CPD) program in Educational Leadership for Collaboration presents a multidisciplinary approach to educational

leadership focusing on collaboration as a new way of 'doing business' in constantly changing school settings. The purpose of this program is to provide professional development for educational leaders (current and emerging), enabling them to be effective, innovative and collaborative in their organizations by tapping into personal and collective reservoirs of symbolism, myth and wisdom.

Specifically, the program covers four competency areas: 1) personal growth, 2) inter-personal and facilitation skills, 3) organizational development, and 4) creating a culture of collaboration. The program draws upon the competencies of Dr. Jean Houston's Four Levels of Awareness and the ICA's work on Technology of Participation.

### **The 9-Month Program Consists of:**

- Four 3-day on-site face-to-face seminars with international faculty.
- Action-research projects in the school-setting.
- Monthly on-site facilitated interaction with peer group for reading material integration and practical application.
- Three individual coaching and mentoring sessions with faculty online.
- Interactive learning, personal and shared inquiry, group research and a practicum where concepts and methods are applied.
- Assessment through class participation, short reflective papers, an action research project, and a portfolio of collaborative work in the school.

Onsite sessions provide in-depth instruction and practice of authentic leadership skills. Individual and group coaching sessions help participants integrate and apply their learning.

This Post-Graduate Certificate program offered by the Center for Lifelong Learning, University of Aruba is a 15 European credit program (each credit is 28 clock hours) at a post-bachelor level.

### **Faculty**

The primary lecture/facilitator is **Janet Sanders** (leadership, collaboration, community building, social artistry, international development). Janet will be co-teaching with **Douglas Banner** (educational leadership, narrative, myth and legend, cultural change, educational research), **Scott Miller** (school administration, education curriculum development, social artistry) and **Lorraine McRae** (Native studies, leadership, dialogue, governance, conflict resolution). Program support and facilitation will be provided by **Juliet Chieuw** (strategic planning, group facilitation and coordination, quality assurance, contemplative practices). Aruban faculty are also being developed for the sustainability of this program

### **Themes for 2017**

Seminar 1: **Leadership for Collaboration: Navigating towards the Vision of Education**

Seminar 2: **The psychology of leadership in a complex and dynamic educational environment**

Seminar 3: **Embodying the new story of leadership for collaboration in theory and practice**

Seminar 4: **Sustaining a community of practice to create solutions collaboratively**