

## What does it take to build and sustain a network?

Susan Elrod, Chico State RCN Summit Meeting January 14-15, 2016 Washington, DC

# + 2017 Gordon Research Conference on Undergraduate Biology Education Research

July 9-14, 2017 Stonehill College, Easton, MA

### What kind of community are you?

### Community of Practice:

a group of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it as they interact regularly (Allee, 2000; Lave, 1988; Wenger, 1998, 2007).

# Community of Transformation:

aimed at altering more deeply held beliefs or practices because they rely on strategies that create innovative cultures or spaces where new realities can be lived; challenge the status quo (Kezar and Gehrke, in press).

From Kezar and Gehrke, in press, Communities of Transformation: Creating Changes to Deeply Entrenched Issues.

#### +Stages of Development and Key Tensions/ Challenges

Start	Stage	Tension/Challenge
	<b>Potential</b> : Start as a loose network of connections with potential for growing and developing more connections	<b>Discover/Imagine</b> : Build on what is present or explore where potential could lead; generate interest.
	Coalescing: More connections are built, coalescing into a community	Incubate/Deliver Immediate Value: Allow connections to form and build trust slowly or immediately try to show value of the community
	<b>Maturing</b> : Membership and depth of knowledge in community grows	Focus/Expand: Direct energy to own interests or expand with interests of others
	<b>Stewardship</b> : Actively share and develop knowledge formed through community	Ownership/Openness: Balance ownership over community domain with need to bring in new ideas
<b>↓</b> 0 + yrs	<b>Transformation</b> : Community evolves as new members enter and/or energy wanes	Let Go/Live On: Either let the community wane or transform in order to sustain

Adapted from Wenger et al. (2002) in Kezar and Gehrke, in press, Lasting STEM Reform: Sustaining Non-Organizationally Located Communities of Practice Focused on STEM Reform.

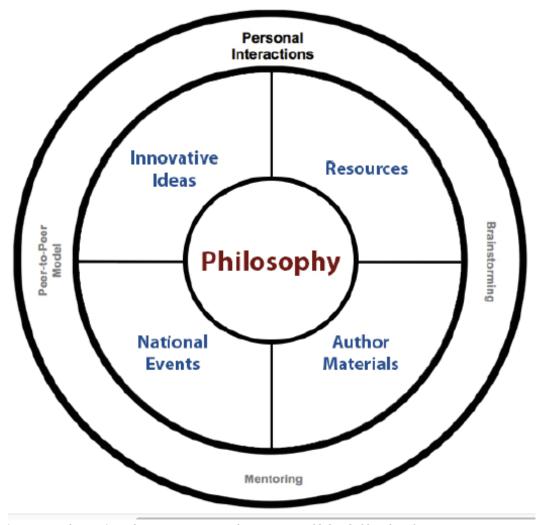
Think and Share:

- 1. At what stage is your RCN?
- 2. What tensions/challenges are you experiencing?

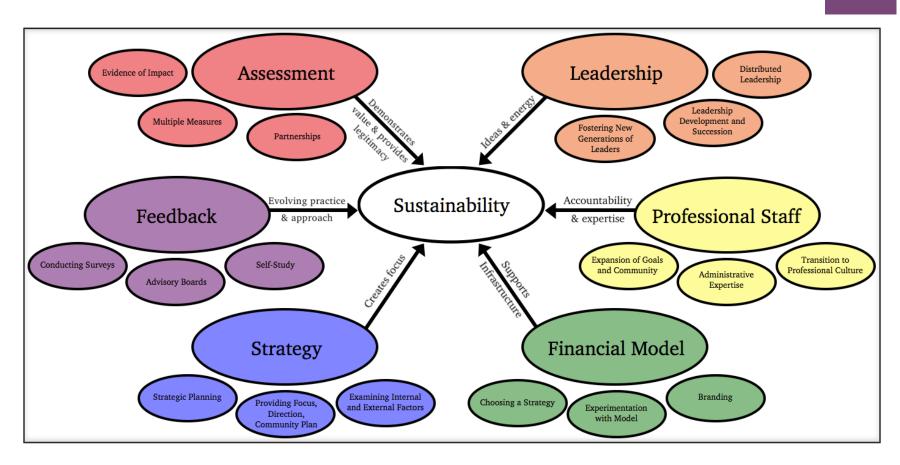
Write your RCN name on each sticky note and place them on the appropriate sheet on the wall.

Model of Core Design Characteristics for Engagement in STEM Communities of

**Practice** 



#### Sustainability Model for Non-Organizationally-Situated STEM Reform Communities of Transformation

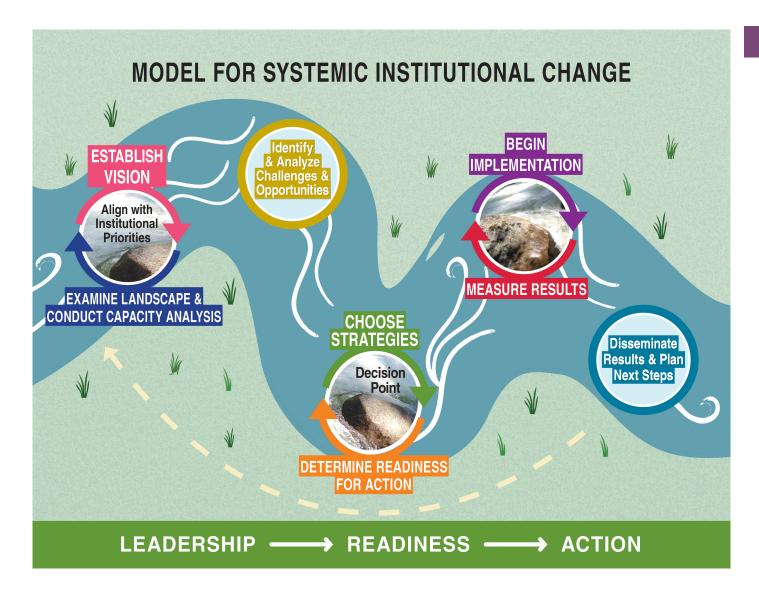


From Kezar and Gehrke, in press, Lasting STEM Reform: Sustaining Non-Organizationally Located Communities of Practice Focused on STEM Reform.

### Think and Share:

#### On the provided survey:

- Rate your RCN on how developed you are in each of these areas:
   l (low) to 5 (high)
- 2. Rate your RCN on each area with respect to how important it is: 1 (low) to 5 (high)
- 3. What other areas/factors have you found to be important?



Project Website: <a href="http://www.aacu.org/pkal/educationframework">http://www.aacu.org/pkal/educationframework</a>; also Spring 2015 Peer Review:

Elrod, S.L. and A. Kezar (2015) In *Transforming STEM Education*. Linda Slakey and Gabriela Weaver, Eds. West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press.