METHODS OF KNOWLEDGE INTEGRATION IN INTER- AND TRANS-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH
4-15 June 2012

EVALUATION

	Not at all		Moderately		V. much
1. Did the course generally meet your expectations?	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
Very much. I was expecting to know more about the methods and found it interesting and useful (score = 5)				**1**	**15**
Background and practice I can apply in my project (5)					
Very enjoyable and a lot to take away (5)					

	Not at all		Moderately		V. much
2. Overall, was the course useful for your research?	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
There are many new aspects I've to consider and they are will be useful but I fear also time consuming (4)				**4**	**12**
It gave me important insights for methods and also some preliminary discussion (5)					
Yes, the good thing is I got this course, particularly now ready to go to field so I will definitely use the methods (5)					

	Very poor		OK		Very good
3. How do you rate the introductory session (Monday morning June 4)?	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
Very good to remind oneself of Pohl's classes (5)				**3**	**12**
Maybe a 'more-easy-to-read' introductory text would be more helpful for students who are not familiar with the topic (4)	**1 missing**				
It is a good way to learn the experiences from different countries (5)					

	Very poor		OK		Very good
4. How do you rate seminar in the faculty club (Monday afternoon June 4)?	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
It gave a good insights and overview of I2S and your work (5)			**1**	**6**	**7**
Good overview of I2S (5)	**2 missing**				

	Very poor		OK		Very good
5. How do you rate the lecture on making research results useful for policy and practice change (Tuesday morning June 5)?	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
Very useful (5)			**1**	**4**	**10**
I would have liked to have heard more about practice (4)	**1 missing**				

	Very poor		OK		Very good
6. How do you rate the group discussion on making research results useful for policy and practice change (Tuesday afternoon June 5)?	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:			**1**	**6**	**9**
Very useful (5)					

	Very poor		OK		Very good
7. How do you rate the lecture on the importance of unknowns (Wednesday morning June 6)?	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
Made me aware of the fact that unknowns are an important part of research, nothing to be too worried about (5)		**1**	**1**	**2**	**11**
Very useful (5)	**1 missing**				
But it was a bit crazy concept (5)					
I learnt what I did not expect before (5)					

8. How do you rate the speed dating on the importance of unknowns (Wednesday afternoon June 6)?

Comments:
Very helpful comments of the colleagues! (5)
Too little time for elaborating (4)
Speed dating turned out to be an intense thinking exercise. It is a good way to be positively surprised about the useful advice I received from my classmates (5)
One of the best ways to improve oneself (5)
More clarity on topics (ideas) would have been nice (3)

Very poor		OK	Very good	
1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	5	7
1 missing				

9. How do you rate the lecture on systems thinking and modelling (Tuesday morning June 12)?

Comments:
I don't have background for it is quite complicated for me (4)

Very poor		OK	Very good	
1	2	3	4	5
			7	9

10. How do you rate the group work on systems thinking and modelling (Tuesday afternoon June 12)?

Comments:
Very difficult to draw virtuous cycles that make sense and stabilize them! (5)
Very helpful for focusing my own research aims (5)
I learned some useful techniques ex: vicious circles (5)

Very poor		OK	Very good	
1	2	3	4	5
			6	10

11. How do you rate the lecture on scoping, boundary setting, framing, etc (Thursday morning June 14)?

Comments:
Very useful – I still have to narrow down!! (5)
Sometime these ideas look the same while reading but get clearer during the lecture (5)

Very poor		OK	Very good	
1	2	3	4	5
			4	10
2 missing				

12. How do you rate the speed dating and other group work on scoping, framing, etc (Thursday afternoon June 14)?

Comments:
Others helped me a lot to frame my project better, still needs revision (5)
Very useful (5)
Speed dating exercises help me to be more specific, clearer, focused on what is important w/h to come first and the like (5)
One of the best ways to improve oneself (5)

Very poor		OK	Very good	
1	2	3	4	5
		1	2	11
2 missing				

13. How do you rate the lecture on dialogue and common metric based methods (Friday morning June 15)?

Comments:

Very poor		OK	Very good	
1	2	3	4	5
		4	4	7
1 missing				

14. How do you rate the group work on dialogue and common metric based methods (Friday afternoon June 15)??

Comments:
Probably it would have been better to try more methods (but not in that much detail) instead of doing only one, process was a little frustrating for me (3)
It was tough but appreciate what we are going to expect to happen in our field work, that really need preparation (4)
Watching the group process was probably one of the most exciting things! (5)
I really enjoyed this activity, as difficult as it was there were many levels to learn from (5)

Very poor		OK	Very good	
1	2	3	4	5
		1	7	5
3 missing				

15. How suitable was the length of the course?

Comments:
It was just a short overview; it would have been very, very interesting to go into more detail eg modeling(4)
For some tasks or discussion there was too little time – maybe

Too long		Fine	Too short	
1	2	3	4	5
		8	7	1

2

this is also due to the relatively big group size (4)
The length was appropriate for the course content (3)
It was very intense. I think for me would be useful to review it
again and again as my research progresses. I think maybe a
longer course would be better (3→5)
Would have loved to have more courses (1 to 2 days) (4)
We have a lot of time to prepare (5)

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16. What was the most important thing you will take away from the course?

Importance of dealing with unknowns

An insight into what kind of methodology to use for knowledge synthesis – i could already figure out mistakes I would have made in the process.

It is absolutely necessary to set boundaries, the research results will never be perfect.

That there are no perfect ways/methods, but it is worth giving your best.

Opportunity to facilitate class session. Handling the unknowns in my project. Lessons and knowledge to improve my PhD project process and methods.

The information learned will be important for me, but I also hope to deliver it to others, such as in Russia, who could be potentially inspired by it and also join the I2S team. And also the unknowns discussion was inspiring and intriguing. I also enjoyed very much the readings, and I will be going back to those I could not read in detail. Many of them will become important in my PhD project and I hope further research.

The need to engage stakeholders as much as possible to enhance the quality of research and output using all the possible methods.

The I2S framework, motivation for my work.

The course is relevant to provide options/outcome for policy makers and relevant stakeholders. in the view of project perspective. Because it consists of the d/t concepts and methods available.

That your research would be empty without others' feedback ☺.

Doing I2S means HARD work & LOTS OF REFLECTION (ITERATION & feedback!)

Knowledge integration methods and conceptual definitions and distinctions of intra-, trans- and multi-disicplinarity.

Practical skills.

The fact that I am not the only one having problems in my research.

I really enjoyed your teaching style, very perceptive of your group, extremely engaging→teaching critical thinking along the way and knowledge about the topics to boot! Thanks!

I really got an insight into the advantages of working together in an inter- and transdisciplinary oriented group. Especially when we had the interactive discussion rounds in the afternoon the colleagues made very interesting suggestions and revealed new and different perspectives from their point of view (in a very honest and straightforward way). Furthermore, I have the feeling that I am now able to better understand different thought patterns originating from different academic backgrounds.

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17. What was the most disappointing thing you'll remember from the course?

That facilitating group process is THAT hard to do!

There are no perfect solutions to my problems…

That science does not lead to certainty, but rather enhances unknowns.

Only that I am very tired; to me more alert and more focused on the reading.

Sleepless night about the "unknowns" ☺. I would have liked to train more dialogue methods.

That I2S, trans- & sustainability science is more VISION than mission, ie it's impossible to get it 100% right!

Last session was not as such interesting – too much confusion, people seem exhausted, and learning outcomes of last session not so clear.

The unknowns, managing them and finding them out. Accepting the thing that my work will not be perfect as everything is imperfect.

So DoKNE oriented… I was sorry i wasn't further along with my PhD, but I can use so many things in my project's near future.

The point mentioned above was not disappointing (ie I really got an insight into the advantages of working together…), but it was at the same time kind of challenging for me: I was absolutely impressed by the good suggestions made, but they also often broadened the perspective and I was often wondering how keep focus on my research question while taking into account these points of view (which seem very valuable to me).

18. Other Comments, Recommendations, Requests?

Very well done how you integrated all of us in the working process! Didactical concept was very, very good!

Thank you very much, I really enjoyed this course and I think it helped and inspired me a lot with my work! (at least I hope so…)

Thank you a lot for this very interesting seminar!

Slides in advance. Eventually preparation by students (with preparation).

I would like to get more reading materials from I2S. Request that you come again during our data analysis and writing. Request for your input for our joint project – later.

You are really an incredible professor who is friendly, encourage students to fully engage in the discussion and open-minded to learn from everyone. You are respectful!

I really liked the course. You engaged all people what was great. The last lesson should be done earlier. We had a lot of discussion off site, which was great.

Your teaching methodology and approach is excellent.

Adapting the I2S framework to the setting of PhD research, so that it doesn't 'scare' us at the first place ☺. Thank you so much for all the knowledge and experience, and patience that you shared.

Thanks for coming to us from the other side of the world! Meeting you and taking the course was a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Please try to come again for other students in coming years, your insights were so helpful for PhD students. If I were a facilitator in the last session, I would have used your framework (six) questions. Please try to make examples from developing countries too (experiences) or case studies. I really liked how you know and notice attention and thought of everyone in the class (I am a teacher and that is so amazing!!)

It's one of the best seminars I have attended.

Thank you for the interesting lectures and for understanding us and taking each one of us as we are.

I very much enjoyed the reading and the division of lecture/activity. I would have benefited from more clarity involving the activities or preparing for the activities.

I really, really appreciated the course. It was one of the best lectures I ever had. I really enjoyed the straightforward atmosphere and, especially, the interactive design of the lectures in the morning as well as of the interactive sessions in the afternoon.

Thank you for your feedback!