



**KLASICA ALLIANCE**

Knowledge, Learning and Societal Change  
An International Research and Action Alliance

## Save the date to participate in the 2nd KLASICA Taipei Symposium

29 September – 2 October 2018

At the Risk Society and Policy Research Center (RSPRC) National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

15 March 2018

The international **Knowledge, Learning, And Societal Change** research Alliance (KLASICA) is very pleased to announce dates and the theme of the second KLASICA Taipei symposium. We very cordially invite researchers, policy makers, community activists, and practitioners who are concerned with societal transformations to sustainable futures in accord with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to join us in this exciting and important symposium.

Theme: **Core affective narratives of vision and identity that guide and motivate societal change toward sustainable futures and their applicability for modeling social dynamics.**

We welcome applications to participate from all interested people from a wide range of backgrounds, including those in early career stages. In order that the symposium functions as a mutual learning experience in which to produce new insights and approaches to complex issues, we will limit the number of participants to a total of 50 people. We particularly encourage participation of those who have experience or are concerned with

- social movements toward sustainability in different communities, contexts, and cultures,
- narrative(s) that have played a significant role in framing or motivating actions by a community or collective, or
- computational modeling of social dynamics in the context of sustainability.

### **Call for examples of narrative expressions of vision or identity:**

We are seeking examples of narratives of vision and identity evident in local or regional contexts (see accompanying call). A limited number of papers (15-20) selected from those submitted in response to the call will be used as the basis for discussion and development of a typology of narratives, as described below.

### **Objectives:**

1) Consider and discuss a set of examples of affective expression of core narratives that present a vision for sustainability OR that reflect individual or collective identity (or worldviews). These narratives should be related to guiding and inspiring societal change toward sustainable futures as set out in the SDGs. The narratives may be expressed in various formats (e.g., visual, verbal, musical) appropriate to and resonant in local contexts. One of the key challenges is understanding the importance and power of meaning-making encoded in particular narratives and their influence on collective action.

2) Create a typology of narratives of vision and identity in regard to their function in expressing and offering guidance or rationale and motivation for or against societal change toward sustainable futures.

3) Based upon the motivations for change expressed in the narrative typology, consider whether such expressions of motivation are viable and adequate as rules for agent-based computational models (ABM). The agents in aggregate represent collectives making decisions and acting in support of their goals for sustainable futures in an alliance of purpose or a community.

Intended output and outcomes:

A) A paper in an international journal (to be determined by participating authors) describing the derived typology of narratives and the potential that narratives offer for agent-based modeling of collective behavior change toward sustainable futures.

B) Collaboration with colleagues engaged in ABM on testing the feasibility and potential for innovative studies of contexts and conditions that could facilitate (or hinder) societal change (i.e., social movements) toward sustainable futures in different cultures and contexts.

Logistics:

Costs of lodging, meals, and local transportation for the symposium within Taiwan will be kindly covered by RSPRC, National Taiwan University for those selected to join us in the symposium. There is no fee for registration.

Travel cost from locations outside Taiwan and return are the responsibility of participants. People attending the World Social Science Forum in Fukuoka, Japan 25-28 September 2018 can make arrangements to fly directly from Fukuoka to Taipei and return – about 2 hours each way non-stop for 100-430 € round-trip.

The symposium will begin with an informal gathering and dinner the evening of Saturday, 29 September and conclude around 17:00 on Tuesday, 2 October.

More information on KLASICA and the first Taipei KLASICA Symposium in 2016 is available at <http://www.KLASICA.org>.

**Application to attend and further information:**

Please send a brief professional biography and a short statement explaining your interest in participating to Ms. Angela Borowski at [angela.borowski@iass-potsdam.de](mailto:angela.borowski@iass-potsdam.de).

**Applications must be received by 15 May 2018.**

We are looking forward to receiving your applications.



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