Informing Pedagogy Through Co-operative Inquiry

Calls for Collaboration, Triangulation, and Development

Katrin Becker
Sat. 8:30-9:30
Overview

- Who AM I?
- The Usual Scenario
- What is Co-operative Inquiry?
- How Might We Proceed?
- One Case
- Lessons Learned
- Call to Action
- Resources
Who Am I?

Katrin Becker, PhD

SoTL- 2013
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**Genres of SoTL**

Credit: [Craig E. Nelson, Professor Emeritus of Biology, Indiana University](https://www.indiana.edu/)

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**Where I do Most of My Work**

Credit: Craig E. Nelson, Professor Emeritus of Biology, Indiana University
Situating Co-operative Inquiry in SoTL

Group 1:
Reports On Particular Classes

A. It worked!
B. Before & After: Qualitative Assessments Of Changes In Practice.
C. Before & After: Quantitative Assessments Of Changes In Practice.

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Genres of SoTL

Credit: Craig E. Nelson, Professor Emeritus of Biology, Indiana University
The Usual Scenario

image source: http://www.trialanderroracres.com/

image: mediwiki: Evelyn Simak
The Usual Scenario

- Instigated and directed by the instructors or facilitators responsible for course.
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- Outside researcher.
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- Instigated and directed by the instructors or facilitators responsible for course.
- Outside researcher.
- The students are the subjects.
What is Co-Operative Inquiry?

All Members
• Contribute to work
• Are participants in the activity

Heron, 1992
What is Co-Operative Inquiry?

Everyone:

- Has a say in
  - Deciding what questions are to be addressed.
  - What ideas may be of help.
- Contributes to thinking about how to explore the questions.
- Gets involved in the activity that is being researched.
- Has a say in whatever conclusions the co-operative inquiry group may reach.

Heron, 1992
What is Co-Operative Inquiry?

So in co-operative inquiry the split between 'researcher' and 'subjects' is done away with, and all those involved act together as 'co-researchers' and as 'co-subjects'. Heron, 1992
Participatory Action Research

Co-Operative Inquiry is a form of PAR.

Participatory Action Research

Co-Operative Inquiry is a form of PAR.

The learners are still primarily treated as subjects.

What roles do the students play?

All Members

- Contribute to work
- Are participants in the activity

Heron, 1992
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Heron, 1992
My Proposal

Include the Students as Equal Partners in Inquiry
How Might We Proceed?

Need to address:
• Ethics issues.
• What kinds of questions can we explore this way?
One Case

- Master's Level Education Course
- Course Topic: Digital Game-Based Learning (DGBL)
- Taught summer 2012 & winter 2013
- ~35 participants
- Reason for Inquiry:
  - Experimental Gamified Design
One Case

• Students were teachers.
• Proposed Co-operative Inquiry 1/2-way through course.
Lessons Learned

- More Support / Direction
- Advance Preparation
  - decide on research questions / direction
  - prepare means of data collection
  - provide multiple ways to participate
  - template for publications
- Not Suitable for Novice Learners
What does it look like?

- Still one P.I. (lead)
- Onboarding
- Ethics
- Data Gathering
- Dissemination
Call to Action

Who's Interested?

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Mount Royal University

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Resources