



Akademien der Wissenschaften Schweiz
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td-net
Network for Transdisciplinary Research

td-conference 2011

**Evaluation of Inter- and Transdisciplinary Research
Experiences and reflections on best practice
Berne, 14-16 September 2011, University of Bern**



Institutional partner 2011:
Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
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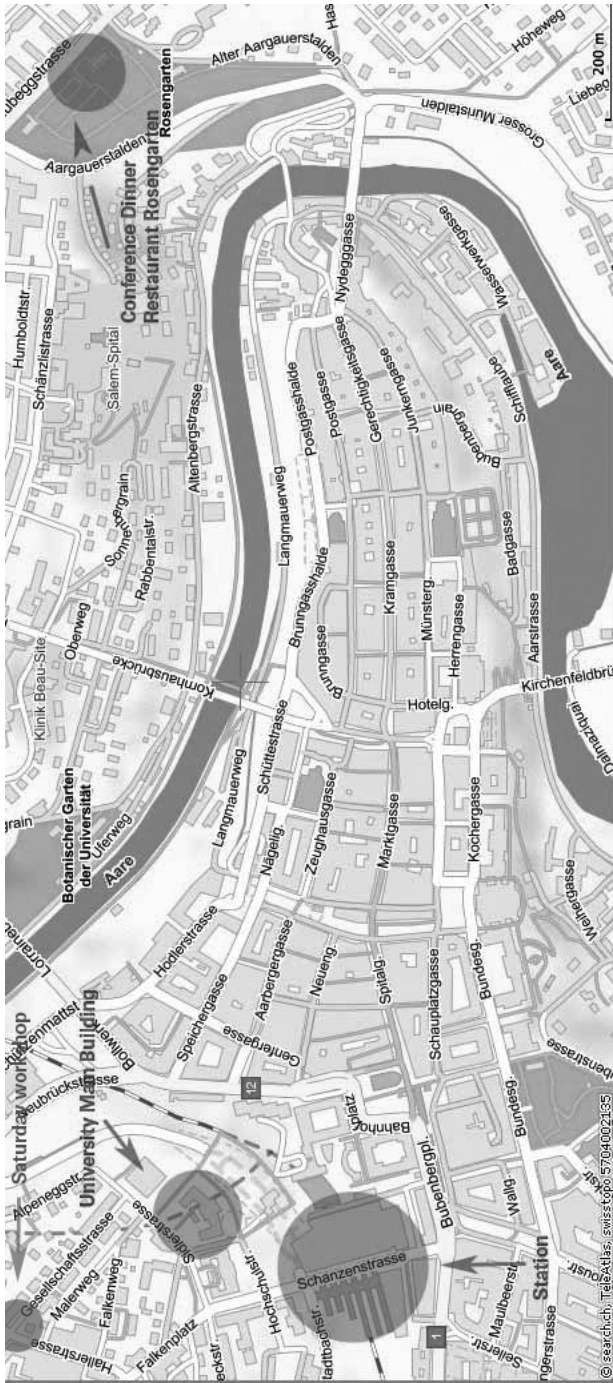
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The conference will take place at the University of Bern, in the University Main Building, Hochschulstrasse 4, 3012 Bern
 Opening and all plenary sessions: Kuppelraum
 Workshops/paper sessions: rooms 105 / 214 / 304 and 331
 Post-conference workshop, saturday 17: room 002, Hallerstrasse 12, behind University Main Building
How to get to the venue from the station:
 Go down to the station hall, follow the sign "Universität" and take the elevator to the top ("Schanze"). After hopefully being able to enjoy the beautiful sight of the Swiss Alps, turn right and you face the monumental Main Building. The Kuppelraum is right on top on the fifth floor.

td-conference 2011

Evaluation of Inter- and Transdisciplinary Research Experiences and reflections on best practice

Theme

This year, national and international experts are invited to share their knowledge about *Evaluation Models* for inter- and transdisciplinary research proposals, processes and outcomes in their larger scientific, socio-political and cultural contexts.

In contrast to most disciplinary research practices, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary projects are characterised by a variety of disciplines and various practitioners in professional fields outside academia. As a consequence, general evaluation methods that have been developed for disciplinary work can only be used to assess specific disciplinary contributions but are hence not appropriate for assessing specific inter- or transdisciplinary goals, processes and achievements. Major challenges for evaluators of inter- and transdisciplinarity include making decisions about which dimensions to select and possibly rank when judging the quality of a project – is it the ‘original’ contribution to a particular field, the potential for innovation, the quality of integration, the broader impact or rather the learning process itself, for example. In general, what is missing are established frames of reference and bench marks against which performance and outcomes are measured.

To map and examine these issues is a necessary first step for a systematic overview and critical review of the current methodologies as well as for setting an agenda for the evaluation of inter- and transdisciplinarity (ID and TD) as a tool for learning, improvement, innovation and excellence of this type of research.

The three major aims of the conference are therefore:

- to present the state-of-the-art of evaluation criteria, procedures and tools to measure the quality and potential for innovation of ID and TD research projects,
- to critically review the values that underlie and drive those criteria and methods while respecting the plurality of scientific cultures and traditions,
- to identify and prioritise the problems and needs that pertain to quality assessment in all fields of ID and TD research, practice and teaching as well as those that arise in individual fields or disciplines.

Programme

Wednesday, September 14

13:00 – 15:00 Registration

15:15 – 15:30 **Welcome**

Kuppelraum **Angelika Kalt**, Deputy Director SNSF
Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello, President td-net / U of Bern

15:30 – 16:00 **Introduction: Framing Evaluation**
Christian Pohl, Co-Director td-net

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break

16:30 – 17:15 Opening Keynote

Kuppelraum **How to Identify Good Science?**
Transdisciplinarity Adds Another Challenge

Speaker:
Dieter Imboden, President Research Council SNF /
President EUROHORCs / ETH Zurich

17:30 Conference Reception, Apéro

Thursday, September 15

07:45 – 09:00 Registration (will stay there during the conference duration)

08:15 – 10:15 Plenary 1

Kuppelraum **Experiences with Reviewing Inter- and
Transdisciplinary Projects**

Speaker:
Angelika Kalt and **Bernhard Schmid**, FA-ID, SNSF
Beat Butz and **Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello**, NRP/DORE, SNSF
Laura Raaska, Biosciences and Environment Research Unit,
Academy of Finland, AKA

10:15 – 10:30 Coffee break

Thursday, September 15

10:30 – 12:00 Parallel Sessions I: Workshop 1, Papers 1-3

105 **W1: Sustainability Sciences I** (Haas, Smetschka, Bogner)

304 **P1: Assessing the Broader Impact I**
(Hering, Hoffmann | Helgenberger | Wolf)

214 **P2: Evaluating Proposals and Cooperations
(EU and Foundations)**
(Martišune-Schwagrowski-Buyse | Martin Han | Lyall)

331 **P3: Quality Concepts and Formative Evaluation**
(Abraham | Vilsmaier)

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 15:00 Parallel Sessions II: Workshops 2-3, Papers 4

304 **W2: Learning Procedures** (Bergmann, Di Giulio, Defila)

331 **W3: Peer Review Processes**
(Rossini, Wymann, Zimmermann)

105 **P4: Process Assessment I**
(Mader | Darbellay, Paulsen | Moschitz, Home)

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 17:00 Plenary 2

Kuppelraum **Reflections on Evaluating Inter- and
Transdisciplinary Collaborations**

Speaker:
Daniel Stokols, UCI California
Veronica Boix-Mansilla, Harvard University

19:30 Conference Dinner (at Restaurant Rosengarten)

