

## How can I know Action Research as “participatory”?

**Sunday 9am-4pm**

**5<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

Augustine Centre

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\$400 Full day students \$100

A fundamental difference in validity criteria is made when the term “Action Research” is replaced by that of “*Participatory* Action Research” (PAR). What is this difference and how do we recognise it in the midst of Action Research activity?

**why**

Bringing insider and outsider perspectives, and two different but complementary standpoints to the workshop, Phil and Susan will invite participants into a day-long program in which they will learn to recognise authentic Participatory Action Research taking place, and to know why it is important to know the differences between participatory and non-participatory action research.

Participants will be invited to identify their own stances and how they recognise participatory orientations in any “action” from these standpoints. The workshop will move on to consider the “action” of Action Research as both non-participatory and participatory, referring to the participants’ data as well as introduced models, principles and cases.

**how**

The workshop concludes with a mini action research design “charette”. Participants will be invited to collaboratively analyse a case, determine the use of participatory, non participatory or blended modes of Action Research at different stages and domains of the case. The session’s intention is to reach a point that participants can knowingly select appropriate action research practices depending on the practice context, and the developmental directions and criteria that stakeholders are tacitly and/or explicitly using.

The workshop is designed for participants who have some experience of action research or participatory approaches being applied/or generated from within any other activity (such as deliberation, facilitation or planning). Seeing Action Research as a *research* activity will also help engagement. There are no limits on participant numbers, Powerpoint slides will be used and other resources will be provided on the day.

**who**

**Phil Crane** and Susan Goff have each worked the participatory mode of Action Research for twenty years in the Australian public sector. Phil, at the Faculty of Health, Queensland University of Technology, has substantial “insider” experience, securing public sector investment in PAR within a number of social programs.

**Susan Goff** has substantial “outsider” experience, running a participatory practitioner consultancy in the areas of social and environmental sustainability policy arenas. Phil works from an Appreciative standpoint, and Susan from a Critically Subjective stance. [www.cultureshift.com.au](http://www.cultureshift.com.au)

Register online [www.alara.net.au/worldcongress/2010/precongress](http://www.alara.net.au/worldcongress/2010/precongress)

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