Impact in South Africa: Research-Practice Collaboration

Research-Practice Collaboration
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This will be an interactive session in which you are invited to think about your own impact and learn from some examples about the challenges and tribulations of collaborative work drawing on some South African examples. Some of the discussion will be based on the following chapter:

Ralph Hamann & Kristy Faccer Mind the transformation gap: knowledge exchange, interests, and identity in research-practice collaboration in "Academic practitioner research partnerships: Developments complexities and opportunities," edited by Jean M. Bartunek and Jane McKenzie. Chapter 18

Abstract: We analyze two research-practice collaborations, in which we have been intimately involved: the Network for Business Sustainability (South Africa) and the Southern Africa Food Lab. We argue that knowledge co-production will likely be frustrated unless the intersection between knowledge and participants’ underlying interests is understood and catered for. The resulting need for knowledge transformation has implications for the kind of interactions that must be facilitated between researchers and practitioners. Second, we argue that an initiative is more likely to achieve knowledge transformation if participants’ personal identities and the initiative’s organizational identity involve some hybridity between research and practice, and allow for a pluralist approach to knowledge. This has implications for how such collaborations’ mission is defined and communicated.

11:00-13:00
Wednesday
October 5th 2016
FE139
Founders Building
Coffee and lunch included

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