

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

w e a v e



#### Programme Facilitators

Alan Boldon  
Founder/CEO of Weave  
United Kingdom

Raphael Constambeys  
Kempczynski, PhD  
Director of Learning & Teaching  
Learning Planet Institute, Paris

Brian Woodward, PhD  
Senior Partner, Weave  
Associate Executive Director  
Foresight Canada  
Senior Faculty, The Banff Centre  
Calgary, Canada

Bruna Lo Biundo, PhD  
Project Manager  
Learning Planet Institute, Paris

Gaëll Mainguy PhD  
Deputy Director General  
Learning Planet Institute, Paris

Christian Taylor PhD  
Weave Associate  
UK/France

#### Programme Location

Learning Planet Institute  
8 bis Rue Charles V  
Paris, FRANCE

# Leading at the Edge Place, Imagining, and Complexity

September 7th - 12th 2023, Learning Planet Institute, Paris.

Our habits of thinking, acting, working and leading have not prepared us to engage in complexity with grace, agility and imagination. We experience surprise, delays, unexpected complications, and unpredicted outcomes when we try to apply “business as usual” approaches, giving us a sense that we are unprepared.

Weave, in association with the Learning Planet Institute, invite you to a program for leaders of positive and impactful change. This Leading at the Edge program will bring together a group of leaders for a deep dive into how to engage with complex challenges.

The organisers are committed to nurturing systemic wisdom, creating new modes of empathetic communication, generating spaces for collaboration and preparing leaders to address the complex systems problems confronting us in the 21st century.

The co-creation process at the heart of the five-day program will provide insight, experiences, and tools to flourish in complexity and catalyze positive, systems-level change.

# The Learning Partners and the Wider Network



## About the Learning Planet Institute

Since 2006, the Learning Planet Institute has been dedicated to reinventing learning for all ages (lifelong learning) through collective intelligence in order to build sustainable & inclusive learning societies able to rise to the complex challenges we face.

The Institute's mission is to explore, research and share new ways of learning and cooperating in order to respond to the needs of the youth and the planet. By encouraging and disseminating a culture, methods and tools for empowerment, it transforms organisations. Ultimately, it leads communities and supports "Learning Planetizens" to take care of themselves, the others and the planet.

To achieve its goals, the Learning Planet Institute creates research and educational programmes based on interdisciplinarity, diversity and initiative. This relies on the synergies between its activities: R&D (search), Education (learn), International Alliance (unite), Transformation of Organisations (accompany) and Digital Ecosystems (provide).

## About Weave

We are an international learning network created to nurture systemic wisdom; exploring creative processes with leaders from diverse backgrounds to unearth and share new ideas on how we build a better world.

We are building partnerships with individuals and organisations interested in innovating collaboration across disciplines and/or organisations. In particular, we are building an international network of aligned academic institutions to pilot new approaches.

WEAVE provides problem solving, consulting, and unity-building services to organizations and institutions committed to transformative change through the empowerment of individuals and communities.

NGOs, educational institutions, government organizations and municipalities seeking to empower their systems, increase effectiveness, enhance community engagement, and build identity through the example of collective empowerment will all

## About the wider learning network

Weave is establishing a global network of learning labs. The Weave portfolio is comprised of: Imagination Residencies that bring leading thinkers and practitioners from a wide array of fields to explore new forms of collaboration. These partnerships are then incorporated into...

Leadership Development programmes that bring together leaders from across a region to explore place-based learning and how to initiate interdisciplinary and cross sectoral approaches to complex challenges.

These programmes set in motion solutions to major challenges locally that are then shared globally with other learning labs. The methods are then tested and refined with groups of change-makers in annual Summer and Winter Schools in each bioregion.

Weave is working with Learning Planet to establish a lab in Paris and to offer Masters Degrees and professional Doctorates through the programmes.

# The Site

...when you build a thing you cannot merely build that thing in isolation, but must repair the world around it, and within it, so that the larger world at that one place becomes more coherent, and more whole; and the thing which you make takes its place in the web of nature, as you make it. — Christopher Alexander



photo©Quentin Chevrier.



During the 5-day workshop, the Learning Planet Institute, and its neighbourhood in the heart of Paris, will be the site of inquiry in connecting to each other and 'place'.

# About the Programme

---

Leading at the Edge is a collaborative 5-day program that is anything but “business as usual”.

This program invites you to step out of your usual/normal ways of seeing and engaging, exposing you to a range of perceiving, framing and knowing.

You will then step back into your world to tackle wicked problems with an expanded repertoire of ways to engage, understand and act.

We will combine practices from the arts, business, philosophy, ecology and climate science, along with models of deep collaboration we are prototyping.

Over five days we will engage with the complexities of places through a short, intensive enquiry focusing on the area around the Learning Planet Institute.

Together we will explore different ways of knowing that will reveal, challenge, and add to our habits of noticing, thinking, acting and collaborating.

## Participants

Leaders who are engaged with complex challenges and who want to be part of the vital shift to regenerative culture and who see business as a force for societal benefit.

- Executives from large companies, small and medium enterprises, non-governmental organisations, non-profit organisations
- Social Entrepreneurs, Senior Managers, Consultants
- Mid-career training and retraining

## Practical information

September 7-12 2023

Training delivered face-to-face and in English at the Learning Planet Institute, 8 rue Charles V, 75004, Paris

Cost: 5 000 € / person

Partial or total exemption of fees may be provided to youth leaders and leaders in the nonprofit sector. Places are subject to availability.

Please feel free to inquire.

## Key concepts

- Collaborative, hyper collaborative and open system methods
- Openness, Peering, Sharing and acting globally: the attitudes of collective intelligence
- Mapping methods for “seeing systems”
- Intuitive and imaginative methods of perceiving and interpreting
- Research method and knowledge creation

## Learning outcomes

- Address sustainability with deep comprehension and a broader vision
- Imagine new postures to experiment in a turbulent context
- Understand the principles of systemic approaches to complexity and uncertainty
- Weaving different ways of knowing as a basis for meaning-making
- Provide your organisation with accessible methods and tools to facilitate learning and collaboration

Places matter. Their rules, their scale, their design include or exclude civil society, pedestrianism, equality, diversity (economic and otherwise), understanding of where water comes from and garbage goes, consumption or conservation. They map our lives

—Rebecca Solnit

## PLACE

To deeply comprehend where one is is also to know who one is and to understand what needs to be done.

—Robert Thayer Jr.

When I am working on a problem, I never think about beauty but when I have finished, if the solution is not beautiful, I know it is wrong.

—R Buckminster Fuller

One must first of all be able to not understand many things. For if we understand things too quickly, we may fail to understand them well enough.

—Fyodor Dostoevsky

You can't depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus.

—Mark Twain

Systems thinking is "contextual," which is the opposite of analytical thinking. Analysis means taking something apart in order to understand it; systems thinking means putting it into the context of a larger whole.

—Fritjof Capra

To see we must forget the name of the thing we are looking at

— Paul Valéry

## IMAGINING

How do movements create sense?  
- Sha Xin Wei

Aesthetic imagination is both a practice of becoming and a quality of being. It derives its significance entirely from the ongoing interplay of perturbing, imagining and performing.

—Brian Woodward & Mazi Raz

A butterfly flappings its wings in Mexico, can cause a hurricane in southeast Asia

Chaos & Complexity Theory

## SYSTEMS/ COMPLEXITY

I would not give a fig for the simplicity this side of complexity, but I would give my life for the simplicity on the other side of complexity.

- Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.

Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?

- Mary Oliver

# Introduction Thursday evening, September 7

8 bis Rue Charles V, 75004 Paris, FRANCE

---

In advance of the five-day intensive programme we will gather for a welcome reception and dinner.

18:00 - 19:00      Introductions & Welcome  
Brian Woodward, Raphael Constambeys Alan Boldon, Bruna Io Biundo

19:00 - 21:00      Dinner



photo©Quentin Chevrier.

# An Invitation to Participants

We'd like you to bring three things that are important to you.

What is holding your attention right now?

Please bring either books, artifacts, images or some way of representing them in our workshop studio.

w e a v e

a Learning Planet Institute partner of choice

## Our patrons and partners



photo©Quentin Chevrier.