

# University Intensive Seminar – Session 7

## Systems Thinking Part 1: Finding Connections

Date: February 24, 2022 | 4:00 - 5:00PM | Guilford House

### Purpose

In *Systems Thinking Part 1*, we will work through two group exercises on social justice: "Hopes and Fears" and "Connection Circles." This will be hands-on and interactive where students will get short introductions (~5 minutes) to large/small group exercises.

### Presenter: Dr. Peter S. Hovmand



Peter S. Hovmand (they/he) is a Professor of General Medical Sciences, Professor of Biomedical Engineering, and inaugural Pamela B. Davis MD PhD Professor of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Prior to joining the Center for Community Health Integration, Dr. Hovmand founded and led the Brown School's Social System Design Lab at Washington University in St. Louis. Dr. Hovmand has a degree in electrical engineering and mathematics with a MSW and PhD from Michigan State University in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences in Social Work and Community Ecological Psychology and cognate in Women's Studies/Feminist Philosophy. Professor Hovmand is the author of *Community Based System Dynamics*, led the creation of Scriptapedia as a knowledge commons of group model building scripts, and co-founded/co-led the System Dynamics Society's Diversity Committee and

Structural Racism Special Interest Group. His work has been funded by National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Lupina Foundation, SkipNV, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Wellesley Institute in Toronto Canada, National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine, the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank, and Google among others. Community based projects have spanned the globe and highlighted the similarity of the social conditions underlying structural violence.

### Objectives

At the end of the presentation, the Provost Scholars will be able to:

- create a connection circle illustrating causal links between variables.
- see how social justice concepts can be visualized as a system using tools from systems thinking.

### SAT/ACT WORD OF THE WEEK

**Lucrative** [**loo-kruh-tiv**] (adj.): profitable; moneymaking; remunerative. (source: dictionary.com)

Ex. *The Provost Scholars are learning skills that will very likely lead to a **lucrative** career.*

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