

Research – Into the Future (Session C), Community Classroom

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VISION FOR THE FUTURE (Opportunity Statement)

Museum-based dementia programmers would benefit from visibility of all research going on across institutions. This access could:

- Facilitate sharing new learnings, innovative ideas and best practices.
- Make it possible to partner on research and increase the size of study groups

Note: This brainstorm session mostly became about creating an opportunity to increase visibility between programs, facilitate collaboration, and create vehicles for knowledge sharing

PROMPT 1. FIND THE BRIGHT SPOTS

Who can we learn from? What other types of institutions already do great research?

- Association web sites
- Museum libraries
- Evaluators programs
- Endangered species tracking
- Restaurant inspectors
- Neurology research departments
- University research departments
- University databases
- Corporations for aging
- Neighborhood list serves
- Bloggers

Do we know specific groups that have achieved success worth emulating?

- Researchgate.edu
- Houseofmemories.co.uk (Liverpool museum-led dementia awareness program)
- Academia.edu (shares papers with millions of people across the world for free)
- Guidestar.org (online up-to-date nonprofit data)
- Artbeyondsight.org (museum education institute)
- Khanacademy.org (free expert-created online courses)
- Angie's List
- ACA (healthcare.gov)
- Blue Apron service
- Amazon "people who liked this also liked..."
- Spoonflower site
- Smithsonian Archives of American Art
- Paris Climate Accord
- Pantsuit Nation (Facebook group)
- Ravelry.com (online knit and crochet community)
- Skillshare.com (free personalized online classes)
- NFL

PROMPT 2. SCORE!

What would success look like? What attributes would we want?

- Complete list of all museum dementia programs
- National register of programs with examples of activities (stories, videos, photos) and contact list
- Streamlined modes of communication
- Easy access / simple navigation
- Timely information
- Up-to-date contact information
- More conferences like this one
- Document storing/sharing capability
- Online sharing of successful art projects and instructions
- Share art that's easy to discuss
- Sharing ways to engage people with dementia and care partners
- Collaboration
- Targeted information pushed to those interested (i.e. Facebook ad-style)
- Effective tagging and keyword searchable (easy to find what you're looking for)
- Disciplinary cross-fertilization
- Connecting with appropriate fields of research, i.e. social work, public health
- Pro-active connections to medical community findings
- Access to wide-ranging research
- Training resources such as MoMA Training Book and others
- Database of contractors
- Database of potential employees and their contact info
- Database to share dementia program stories
- Easy and clear one-sheet for facilitation strategies
- Online community for Access programming staff to share info / ask questions
- Catalog professionally organized for maximum benefit
- A dedicated social media maven that curates info for all programs to use on their social media (eliminate current duplication of effort)

PROMPT 3. TOOLS/TECHNOLOGY

How can we leverage technology to meet our goals of visibility, collaboration and knowledge sharing?

- Instagram private account with link in bio and Instagram 'stories' function
- MoMA training book
- Researchgate.edu
- Facebook groups
- Community website
- Create packaged info or activities as "museum in a box" (inspired by Blue Apron concept)
- Q&A public forum
- Webinars
- Ability to post videos
- Aggregator like Huffington Post uses
- Database capability for variety of topics
- Moderated file sharing

- Google docs-style file sharing
- Wiki component
- Distribution list capability
- Self-service contact list capability
- E-pushed notification capability

PROMPT 4. WHOOPS!

What could go wrong? What should we avoid? What should the solution not look like?

- Cumbersome communications
- Too many emails or receiving info not applicable to your program
- Receiving info too late
- Receiving duplicate info from different sources
- Avoid creating silos
- Shouldn't be funder-based
- Too much amalgamation
- Unhealthy competition between museums
- Losing humanity to research
- Making information inaccessible to general public
- Not supported by institution
- Not including medical and psych voices
- Don't reinvent the wheel
- Don't let donors dictate program parameters, content, etc.
- Something too proprietary
- Outdated information
- Solution that's costly
- Solution that's labor intensive
- Solution that's unsustainable
- Too museum centered
- Poorly organized / not intuitive
- Repeating mistakes because of poorly documented practices
- Information that's not proven by research
- Excluding the care partner from the equation
- Research that's not inclusive
- Causing confusion / muddying waters
- Too invasive
- "Subjects" being excluded from access to the information
- Overwhelming amounts of information
- Too science-centered
- Shouldn't require more passwords to remember
- Some disciplines left out
- Too segmented
- Shouldn't create or utilize list serves
- Don't make it complicated to access
- Not peer reviewed
- Not staying true to identity

- Not relevant info (people tune out)
- Don't use different vocabulary than other fields
- Using improper credit and citation

GENERAL WISH LIST

Miscellaneous wishes captured during the brainstorm session but not aligned to a particular prompt

- Scientific research, both quantitative and qualitative, that provides support for practice
- Medical community emphasizes importance of both quantitative and qualitative research
- Visiting fellowships
- More research on benefits to people with dementia and their care partners
- Regional conferences for professional development
- Increased quality of life for patients and care partners
- Formalized program to utilize students/volunteers
- National exhibition of participant artwork
- Public health campaigns for general awareness
- Social acceptance
- Scientific affirmation of what we already know
- Sensory art therapy research
- Stronger relationships between our programs and research/neurology departments
- All programs inclusive for various abilities and multiple methods of participation
- Only ethical click bait
- Peer reviewed scholarly research and connections with relevant pop culture
- Standardized programs with requirements across all museums
- Standard training to include how to handle cognitive differences
- More people using research to shape programming
- Practitioners also become active researchers
- One standard evaluation system for program impact/results
- Only using standardized measures when they fit and instead rely on qualitative data when it is more insightful