

# DI(dot)EDU – A Design Inquiry Agitation

Workshop 1  
Friday  
January 29

exhibitions in contemporary venues, conference presentations and articles on DesignInquiry topics and practises, and publications. The outcomes and gatherings also influence teaching methods of design educators who participate and then return to their design programs.

We will conduct a workshop where the methods of DesignInquiry will be introduced and briefly practiced within the topic: DI(dot)EDU. The aim is to challenge current approaches to how we—as makers, researchers, and educators—uncover design potential for ourselves and our students. Small groups will ultimately develop instructional artifacts (i.e. video, leaflet, poster) in response to a hypothetical “Not-the-schedule” based upon individual experience and expertise within each group.

Denise Gonzales Crisp, Peter Hall, Emily Luce, Ben Van Dyke  
DesignInquiry, USA, UK, CA

As design educators struggle with the challenge of responding to complex, interdisciplinary problems, pedagogical foundations that are cemented in an era disciplinary limitations are falling short of the need. Alternative and agile approaches to design education are being explored by some educators. For over ten years, the non-profit foundation DesignInquiry has evolved a developmentally-oriented approach that has implications for education as it informs alternatives for design research methods. The perspective favors interdisciplinarity, collaborative, and relational discovery.

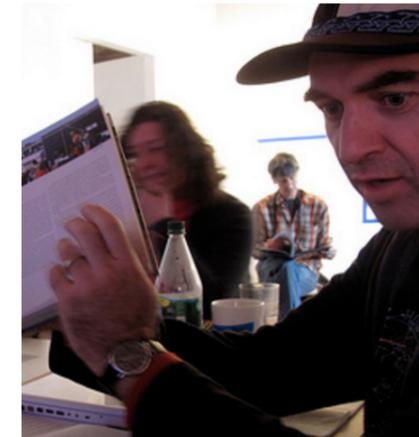
Founded in 2004, the small but influential DesignInquiry group has staged a series of intensive interdisciplinary gatherings in the USA, Canada, and Europe. Each think-and-make-tank rallies around a timely research topic. The proceedings strategically de-emphasize boundaries separating disciplines with a structure that invites permeable and responsive activity. Drawing from Constructivist approaches to learning, gatherings utilize adaptive frameworks from, for instance, 1960s counterculture and improvisational theater. Talks, workshops, cooking and other making-oriented activities combine to explore themes such as failure, designing less, site-specific design («Being Here»), speed («Fast Forward»), making-do and, in 2015, unequal and non-monetary exchange systems («No Quo»).

Outcomes from each gathering have included

## DesignInquiry

Founded in 2004, is a US-based non-profit organization devoted to researching design issues in intensive team-based gatherings. An alternative to the design conference, it brings together practitioners from disparate fields to generate new work and ideas around a single topic.

At Unfrozen, DesignInquiry is represented by Dr. Peter Hall, Central St. Martins, Denise Gonzales Crisp, Professor of Graphic Design, North Carolina State University, Ben Van Dyke and Emily Luce, Canada-based artist/designer. All serve on the Executive Board of DesignInquiry.



Unfrozen, First SDN Designresearch Winter Summit