

Educating One Health Policy Makers: *Content and Methodological Challenges*

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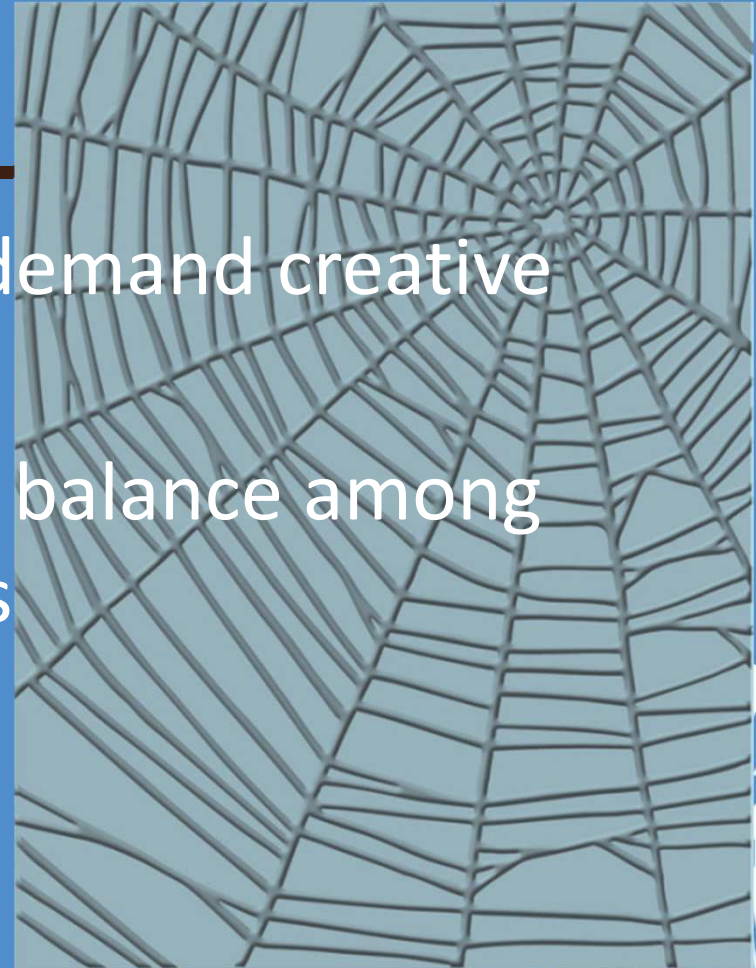
⁴ Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching

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Background

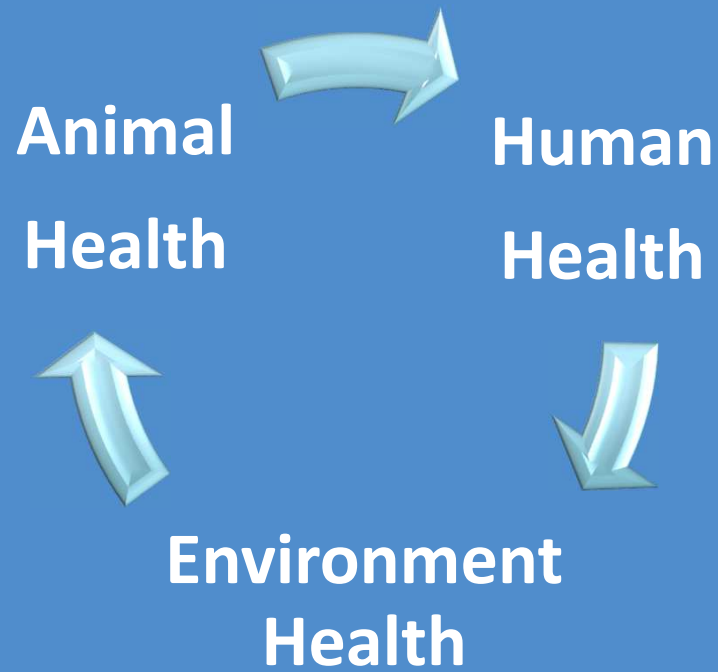
- Complex health problems demand creative solutions
- Policy makers must strike a balance among advocates for many healths



One Health Policies: A balance among many healths. Is it this...



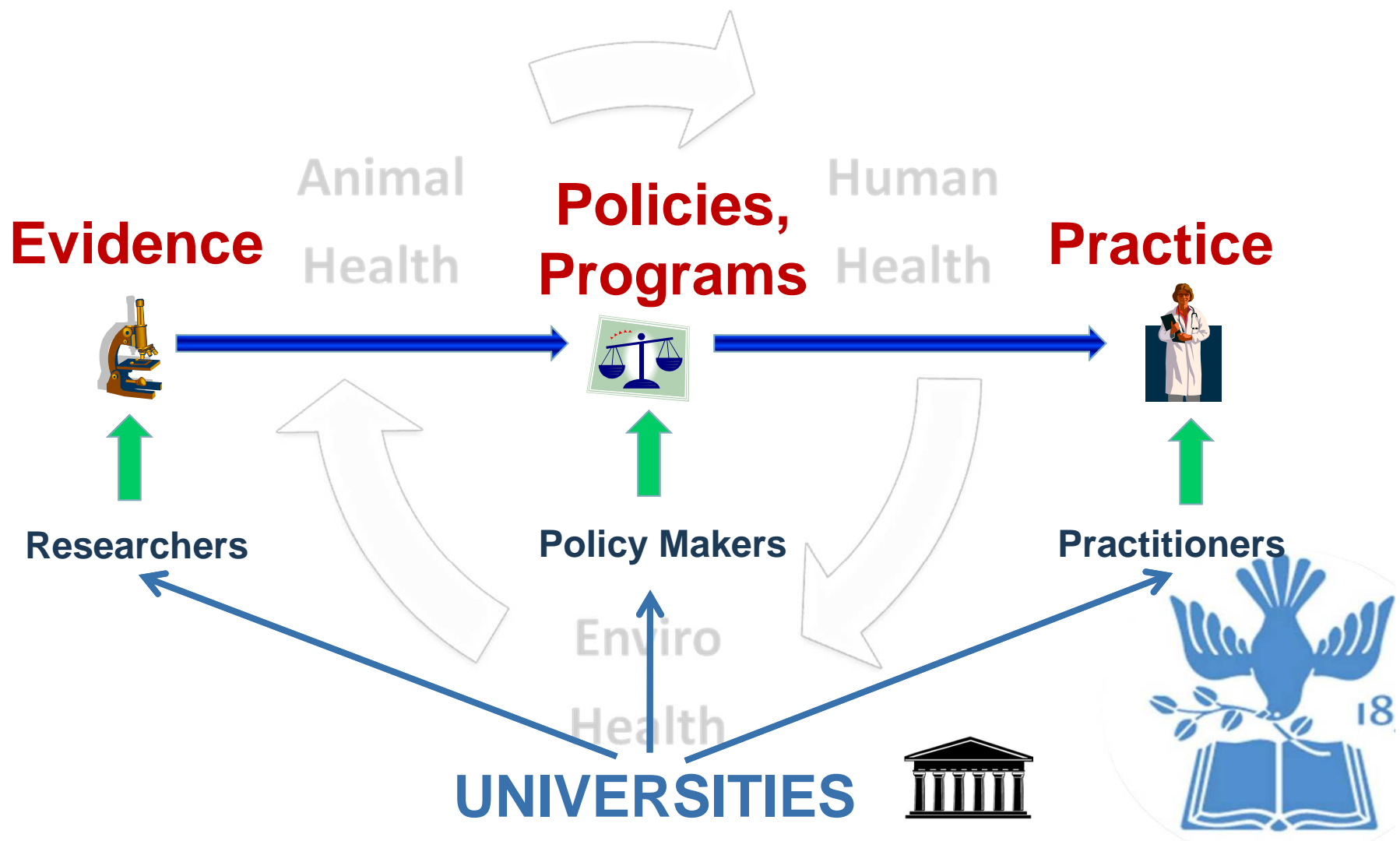
...or this?



“Our system produces the policy makers in government.”

Dean of a Central African School of Public Health

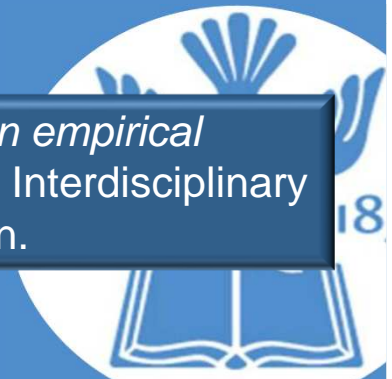




Interdisciplinary Inquiry

- A “comprehensive approach” describes and explains multiple dimensions of a topic by articulating insights from multiple disciplines which are thought to complement one another.

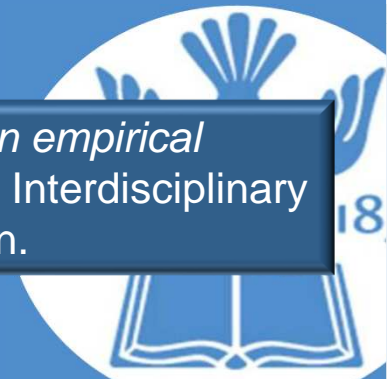
Mansilla, VB. *Interdisciplinary Work at the Frontier: An empirical examination of expert interdisciplinary Epistemologies*. Interdisciplinary Studies Project, Harvard Graduate School of Education.



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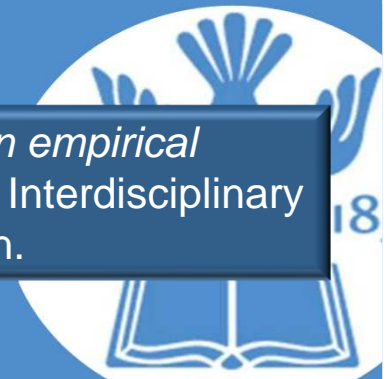
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The Spring 2011 University Seminar courses are sure to stretch your mind. Join scholars and researchers from Tufts' various disciplines and campuses. Tackle complex societal issues by exchanging ideas and knowledge.

Application Deadline: October 22nd

One Health: Interdisciplinary Approaches to People, Animals, & the Environment

This Seminar will draw graduate and upper level undergraduate students together to develop interdisciplinary perspectives on one of three pressing global health issues: the emergence of infectious disease, the pursuit of sustainable agriculture, and the loss of biodiversity. Faculty from all three campuses will provide expertise and guidance for individual and group teaching and learning. Students will examine and represent their discipline's perspective and talk to other group members; learn and incorporate other disciplines into their own thinking; and collaborate with others on the development of new, synthesized solutions. The course will prepare students and faculty to address complex global health challenges from an interdisciplinary team-oriented approach and set a framework for similar cross-school collaborative learning and teaching experiences at Tufts. Topic for 2011 Seminar: Anticipating disease outbreaks in a globalized world.

Sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching.

Stem Cells & Human Enhancement: Scientific Frontiers, Ethics, & Policy

The medical promise of embryonic and adult stem cells has generated enormous excitement because of their potential to cure human diseases for which no cure exists. However, societies must weigh the advancement of stem cell science against ethical issues that lie at the heart of the value of human life. This ethical dilemma is currently the subject of government legislation, public policy analysis and heated public debate. This course will provide a dynamic forum for its students to explore how societies can balance their desire for progress in personal health with their respect for alternative religious, cultural and societal views about the origins of human life.



Search "**University Seminar**" on **Facebook** for more info on courses and application process.

Or go to <http://provost.tufts.edu/useminar>
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Interdisciplinary Approaches to People, Animals and the Environment: *Sustainable Agriculture*

- Faculty: four schools
- Students: graduate, undergraduate
- Disciplines: public health, veterinary medicine, political science, nutrition, biology



Course Organization

Leveling Disciplinary Understanding

Interdisciplinary Work: Applying methods and tools for interdisciplinary inquiry

Active Citizenship: Expanding interdisciplinary work to the community



Leveling Disciplinary Understanding

- Understanding limitations of own discipline
- Developing a common language
- Identifying gaps in past approaches to the problem



Interdisciplinary Work: Application of Methods and Tools

- Methods: team work, conflict negotiation, facilitation
- Tools



Active Citizenship: Expanding Interdisciplinary Work to the Community

- Participatory methodologies
- Site visit
- Communicating information to diverse groups



Lessons Learned

- Teaching an interdisciplinary course is difficult!
 - Both faculty and students require significant preparation
- Faculty members must be supported to pursue it
 - Release time, resources, recognition



Lessons Learned

- University logistics can be problematic
 - Cross-registration, communication among campuses
- Topics must be chosen carefully; not every topic or course is suitable for interdisciplinary inquiry



Lessons Learned

- Creating an environment that supports interdisciplinary inquiry – comfortable, nonthreatening, open to ideas – is not easy
- All participants must learn to be comfortable with uncertainty



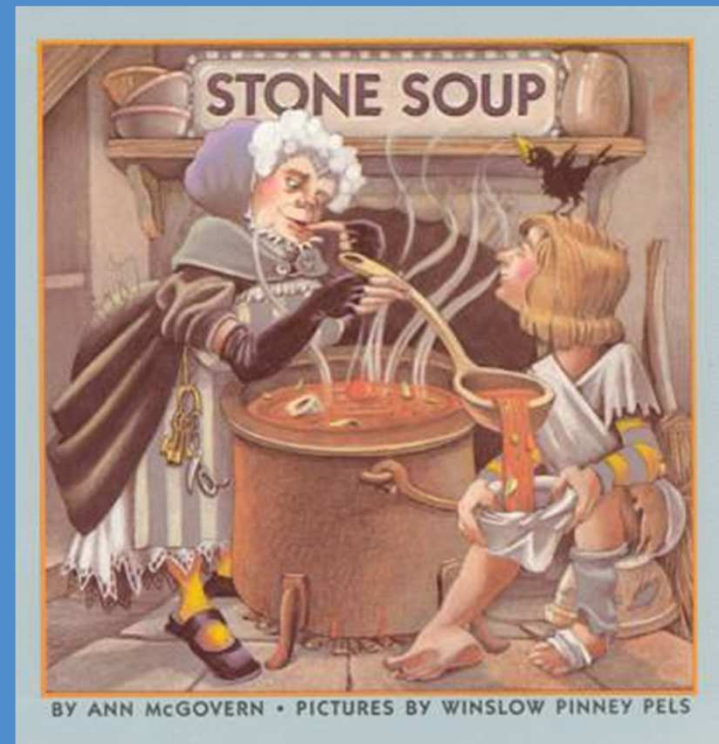
Next Steps

- Interdisciplinary Approaches to People, Animals and the Environment: *One Health Approaches to Surveillance*



The Stone Soup Fable

- A traveler with a stone and water convinces each villager in turn to add an ingredient to the pot
- The whole is bigger than the sum of the parts



Thank you

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