Collaboration Consortium
Interdisciplinary Research Dinner
Inaugural Event: March 14, 2017 @ 6-8pm

Proposed Topic
“Consumer behavior and decision-making in resource use”

Event Format
The World Café, with assigned seating for two rounds, and facilitators at each table.

Evening Conclusion Report Back

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<th>Table</th>
<th>Key Points</th>
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| #1    | • Is it ethical to use the way people think to influence socially beneficial behavior?  
       |   → If so, how can I/we use that to our advantage?  
       |   → If not, how do I change the way they think?  
       | • How do we integrate ‘static’ facts/data with dynamic understanding of social processes to affect behavioral change? |
| #2    | Unintended consequences:  
       |   → If consumers don’t know what is good for them, should we let them choose?  
       |   → How do you get people to be open to ideas that undermine their own identities?  
       |   → How do we systematically anticipate unintended consequences? (Hypocrisy?) |
| #3    | • What does it mean to be an ethical consumer?  
       | • What are the facts and values that influence decision-making in society? Who is making decisions?  
       | • How does scarcity play a role?  
       | • What is a resource? What can be considered commoditized?  
       | • What is “ours” to claim, if anything? |
| #4    | Politics of knowledge/expertise:  
       | • What counts as knowledge/expertise/trusted information?  
       | • What is the interplay of facts and values in decision-making?  
       | • What is the role of information in ethical consumption?  
       | • How do we de-center expert knowledge with community engagement? |
| #5    | What is “better”?  
       |   → For when?  
       |   → For whom?  
       |   → For what?  
       |   → For why?  
       |   → For where?  
       | We spend most of our time creating the “how”.

