

Faculty of Design

## <sup>2015</sup> The Oslo questions

Nelson, Harold, Sevaldson, Birger, Ryan, Alex, Jones, Peter, Senova, Melis, Forlizzi, Jodi, Ulloa, Manuela, Paulsen, Adrian, Stolterman, Erik and Sandusky, Robert

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## The Oslo Questions

Harold Nelson, Birger Sevaldson, Alex Ryan, Peter Jones, Melis Senova, Jodi Forlizzi, Manuela Ulloa, Adrian Paulsen, Erik Stolterman, Robert Sandusky

## Questioning is the ability to organize our thinking around what we don't know

– The Right Question Institute

## Formulating the Oslo Questions

- A shared inquiry into the nature of the interrelationship between systemics and design
- The goal is to formulate well-formed questions to guide future inquiry

### An Exemplar: <u>http://edge.org</u>

To arrive at the edge of the world's knowledge, seek out the most complex and sophisticated minds, put them in a room together, and have them ask each other the questions they are asking themselves.



# Nelson's model of the self-organizing team



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## Online Collaborative Tools Used

- Loomio.org
- Google Hangouts
- Google Docs
- Email
- http://www.osloquestions.net



Groups Search	Q
What is our shared understanding of systemic design? Oslo Questions Group	4 days ago
How/when do we know we need to systemically design something? Oslo Questions Group	4 days ago
Who/what is systemic design in service of? Oslo Questions Group	4 days ago
Is systemic design human centred? Oslo Questions Group	4 days ago
What are the outcomes of systemic design? Oslo Questions Group	4 days ago
Why is the tendency to interpret design in the context of other discip Oslo Questions Group	plines? 1 month ago
What are the dangers of systemic design? Oslo Questions Group	2 months ago
What is the higher purpose of systemic design? Oslo Questions Group	2 months ago
Why do we care about systemic design? Oslo Questions Group	2 months ago
What is the value proposition for systemic design? Oslo Questions Group	2 months ago
What are the boundaries of Systemic Design Oslo Questions Group	2 months ago

## Organizing the Results

#### Why systemic design?

Image source: http://formerfatdudes.com/never-be-afraid-to-ask-why/

Why do we care about systemic design?What are the outcomes of systemic design?What is the higher purpose of systemic design?What is the value proposition for systemic design?



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Ben Heine

Image source: http://www.cubebreaker.com/pencil-vs-camera/

ARI.

Who/what is systemic design in service of?

Who practices systemic design?



What is our shared understanding of systemic design?

How can one recognize systemic design?

What are the boundaries of systemic design?

Is systemic design human centred?

In what domains is systemic design essential?

What are the emergent properties of systemic design?

What are the dangers of systemic design?

What grounds and warrants provide valid insight into the question "what is the nature of systemic design?"



Image source: http://www.complexityandotherbeasts.com

How/when do we know we need to systemically design something?

How does systemic design affect change?

How does systemic design evolve?

How can one learn systemic design?

How should systemic design be evaluated?

#### Compared to what?



Why is the tendency to interpret design in the context of other disciplines?

What are the enemies of systemic design?

What role has design practice in the crystallization of systemic design?

#### Team Feedback and Reflection

project critique Date: August 22, 2015 at 12:49:35 AM MDT To: Harold Nelson

- 1. Knowing how to contribute...
- 2. Feeling overwhelmed by intelligence...
- 3. Multiple platforms and channels for multiple things...
- 4. Lack of personal connection with group members...
- 5. Managing commitments and contribution...
- 6. Unstructured working rhythm...

"To be frank, we both felt intimidated by the theoretical high level conversations, and not comfortable with the digital/writing tool as a means for expressing our thoughts & questions."

## GIGA-map of the Oslo Questions



http://prezi.com/9wa2njgcqwwa/?utm\_campaign=s hare&utm\_medium=copy&rc=ex0share

## Summarizing



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## A Final Question

## What are your questions?



Cartoon source: http://kiriakakis.net/comics/mused/a-day-at-the-park