WHEN SMART PEOPLE SHARE SMART METHODS TO CREATE SMART CITIES: HOW M&S ENABLES TRANSDISCIPLINARY SOLUTIONS

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ABSTRACT

The Scottish-American industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie is credited with the quote: "Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives." The pioneer in leadership studies, Warren Bennis, used the definition that "Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality." But how do we do this in our world that we recognize more and more to be complex, agile, and full of non-linear relations? How do we bring the many experts needed to build smart cities together under a common vision? How can we even make them understand each other, as the various disciplines required for a common solution speak different technical languages, using different conceptualizations of the problems to be solved? Complexity science provides a way forward, and M&S plays a pivotal role. This talk walks through some challenges and offers ideas on how to bring experts from diverse disciplines together to work towards a common vision and translate it into reality. We will see how ideas discussed for many years within the Winter Simulation Conference can be applied. Using research examples about smart solutions from various levels, we will discuss the idea of conceptual alignment as the prerequisite for successful composition of smart methods into coherent solutions to show how M&S can not only provide tools, but conceptually lead the way, not only for smart cities, but also for many other complex problem solutions.

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