Please provide a Bio-sketch

While most conference attendees share connections to social movement theory and to William Gamson’s work in particular, we don’t all know each other. To facilitate dialog, we ask all attendees to return this brief description of interests and work. These will be posted on the MRAP web-site.¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Contact information: Address/email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Areas of experience and interest (both theory and practice):
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Please cut and return with your gold card. You may also submit this information electronically to <lymperis@bc.edu. Please entitle e-mail “Bio-sketch.”

¹ [http://www.bc.edu/sociology](http://www.bc.edu/sociology). Click on Media Research and Action Project
Afternoon workshops – reworking the theory-practice relation

For afternoon workshops, we seek short submissions re your past or current efforts to rework the relation between social movement theorists and activists. We are interested in

- intentional partnerships that reached
- mutual agreement regarding goals, that
- created mutual learning, and, ideally, that
- made some progress toward those goals.

We recognize that many valuable efforts may not match this profile. Therefore, we encourage you to adapt the criteria. We encourage submissions of “glorious failures” - i.e., valiant efforts that created new insights even if unsuccessful by other measures.

Conference attendees who are interested in presenting a current or past project, send a short (250 word) description to Louise Lymperis, MRAP, McGuinn 519B, Sociology Dept., Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467. Electronic submission: <lymperis@bc.edu>.

All short reports received prior to the conference will be posted on the MRAP web-site <http://www.bc.edu/sociology. The conference working committee will select representative submissions for brief oral presentations in the workshops. (We will notify you if your submission has been selected for oral presentation). We will cluster related submissions to encourage dialog among participants with complementary interests. This outline suggests issues of particular interest. After providing background, please choose at least two questions to address. Please adapt questions to suit your project.
### Title


### Background/context

- What constituencies did you target? Why? How were they involved?
- Describe your strategy and the political landscape: organizing target, key allies, coalition partners, temporary allies, etc.
- In which arenas did the project operate – litigation, legislation, media, culture, economics (labor-management contract, for instance), other?
- What aspects of social movement theory did the project explore?
- How did you define power, and did the project seek to shift power in any dimension?

### Questions:

- What theoretical concepts worked well in practice? What gaps in theory became apparent? Could you refine the theory as a result of the practical work?
- How did you measure success – actual shifts in policy, cases won, publics exposed to new approaches, new trust between formerly divided constituencies, seasoning of leadership, building/expanding constituencies, etc.?
- Coalitions and single groups often have strong differences over tactics -- when to be confrontational, what to yield in negotiation, etc. Did this occur? How were differences resolved?

### Interplay between theory and practice

Dialog always presents challenges because goals differ.
- What opportunities for dialog and reflection between activists & theorists exist(ed)?
- What opportunities exist(ed) to raise issues, concerns, doubts, criticisms etc.?
- What challenges came with the dialog?

### Other questions

- How did you connect with the participants throughout the project?
- How did you debrief participants re what they had learned? What did you learn?
- Did the work present outstanding challenges? Do these illuminate issues regarding the interplay of social movement theorizing and social movement practice?

---

Return Best Practices submissions to Louise Lymperis, MRAP, McGuinn 519B, Sociology Dept., Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467. Or Email: <lymeris@bc.edu>