ANNOUNCEMENT

Action Research Network of the Americas 2017 Conference and 1st Global Assembly for Knowledge Democracy, June 12-16, Cartagena, Colombia

The Action Research Network of the Americas (ARNA), a non-profit association established in 2012 to bring together individuals and groups across the Americas involved with and interested in action research and all forms of participatory research, and the National University of Colombia (Universidad Nacional de Colombia, UNAL) are co-sponsoring a major international six-day two-part event, the ARNA-UNAL 2017 Conference and 1st Global Assembly for Knowledge Democracy, that will take place in June 12-16 in the historic city of Cartagena, on the north coast of Colombia.

The theme of the gathering is “Participation and Democratization of Knowledge: New Convergences for Reconciliation.” This theme reflects critical ideas and issues found at the intersections of global economic, ecological, and social progress needs. It also honors and builds upon the work of legendary Colombia sociologist Orlando Fals Borda (1925-2008) on convergences between approaches to knowledge production and utilization in the global north and the global south. The 2017 Cartagena gathering will mark the 40th Anniversary of the First World Symposium of Action Research, held in Cartagena, and organized by Fals Borda and his colleagues. The intent is to open dialogue about convergence as a space that enables actors to push the boundaries and to explore what is possible through access to knowledge and participation in its production, use and dissemination.

The 2017 ARNA Conference and 1st Global Assembly will be a time to share accomplishments, to think critically about current global issues and to envision the future. With major addresses, dialogues among scholars and activists from the global action research community and leaders of global circles of indigenous knowledge, and presentations of action research and participatory action research focused on education,
health and wellness, community development, social reconstruction, and environmental awareness, event participants will have unique opportunities to engage in sharing visions for a better future and creating collaborations and concrete plans for participatory forms of research and development projects across national borders and disciplinary boundaries.

The 2017 Cartagena gathering website will be launched in September 2017. The website will feature regularly updated information about the conference program, on-line registration, details for the Call for Proposals, and information about travel and accommodations. For more information and upcoming announcements, please visit ARNA website for [http://www.arnaconnect.org/home](http://www.arnaconnect.org/home)

The ARNA 2017 Conference & 1st Global Assembly Co-Chairs:

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