Politics of Inclusion and Exclusion: The Power of Relational and Linguistic Processes / Políticas de inclusión y exclusión: el poder de los procesos relacionales y lingüísticos

Saliha Bava, PhD; Rocío Chaveste, PhD; Marsha McDonough, PhD; ML Papusa Molina, PhD Houston Galveston Institute, Texas, USA & Instituto Kanankil, Mérida, Yucatán, México

Join us to unpack the politics of inclusion and power to create a just world. We will engage in a shared inquiry to experience collaborative-dialogic practices in-action.

What are the politics of inclusion and exclusion? How do we enact social justice from a relational and dialogical perspective? How might we understand power as a relational and linguistic process? How do we participate in and recognize inclusive/exclusive language and just/unjust relationships? How might just relationships grow into just networks and vice versa? What might we learn from ancestral stories and practices about power in language and in relationships? How have historically imperialistic, patriarchal, colonizing structures hindered/helped the politics of inclusion/exclusion; helped or hindered the power of relationships and language to move toward a more just world? How do we attune to our felt resonance and our inner dialogue in order to slow down, attend to, and dance with the complexity inherent in forming inclusive, generative relationships and in keeping alive conversations in each unique meeting with another/others? What have we noticed about how the power of the process of dialogical reflecting and how it might affect social justice?

We want to raise questions about the concepts we take for granted when we discuss our professional practices. Concepts that often unconsciously organize the way that we speak and act with others. How do these concepts relate specifically to collaborative-dialogic practices such as not-knowing, curiosity, resonance, reflexivity, the yet-to-be said, respect, etc? We will explore concepts such as power, social justice, learning, knowledge, culture, dialogue, stories, time, etc. How do our positionalities influence how we navigate the performance of these concepts in everyday practice?