Impromptu Networking

## Purpose

* Facilitate information sharing and reflection, deepening the level of inquiry/engagement with each round
* Affirm individual contributions to solutions and emphasize the power of loose and new connections: Everyone contributes to shaping the work, noticing patterns together, and discovering local solutions.

## Facilitation Guide

* Ask two questions (both answered in each round). Use one challenge question and one give-and-take question
  + E.g., “What big challenge do you bring to this gathering? What do you hope to get from and give this group or community?”
  + What problem are you trying to solve? What challenge lingers from our last meeting? What hunch are you trying to confirm?
  + “Why did you choose to attend this class? What do you want to learn from and offer to members of this class?”
* Open space without obstructions so participants can stand in pairs and mill about to find partners
* In each round, 2 minutes per person to answer the questions. 4-5 min. per round
* Three rounds

## Reference

* From: [Liberating Structures](http://www.liberatingstructures.com/2-impromptu-networking/)

## Additional Information

* This could also be modeled after a Speed Dating event, with 3 to 4 smaller questions over 10 minutes between pairs of participants. Each pair would answer the provided question prompts (provided on a screen or on printed slips of paper), then rotate to another participant and repeat the prompts.
* Some example information-sharing prompts include:  How do you keep your documents, notes, and resources organized for your thesis/dissertation? What do you like best about this system, how do you use it, and what does it enable you to do? What do you know now about organizing & managing sources that you wished you had known earlier?  What’s one thing you’d like to learn about how to organize and manage sources?