

Concept Systems Centers of Practice and Research Partners Consortium



Concept Systems

INCORPORATED

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Overview

YOU MAY KNOW CONCEPT SYSTEMS INCORPORATED as the company who brings you The Concept System®, CSI's unique proprietary software; and you may have counted on us to support your concept mapping initiatives in planning and evaluation with expert design advice and technical support. CSI's new membership programs will extend CSI's support and service to you even further-- with integrated packages of software licenses, training, professional and technical support and peer forums. As we expand research support for both veterans and new-comers, Concept Systems Centers Of Practice members will have preferred access to new tools and learning opportunities.

THE CENTERS OF PRACTICE® (CS COP) PROGRAM is a menu of products and services that you can combine to add the most value to your concept mapping research. Designed specifically for academic faculty and researchers, and staff responsible for planning and evaluation within an organization, the program encourages you to create your own package of licenses, training, design support and services. CS COP offers you classroom services and products available to you and your students—support like syllabus assistance, guest lectures in-person or virtually, classroom use licenses and classroom-context training. CS COP offers all of the products and services Concept Systems clients expect, with increased flexibility in access, pricing, ease of use and types of support. The new option of combining classroom licenses, teaching tools and support will allow the researcher in an academic environment to make ever greater strides with concept mapping.

"I'm impressed with the list of comprehensive options. Having bundled licenses and the flexibility to upgrade them to adapt to my project needs would be extremely helpful, especially when I'm in the field." -Patricia O'Campo, PhD

THE RESEARCH PARTNERS CONSORTIUM® (RPC) is a network of professional consultants and research service providers and evaluators who, working with **their own clients, use CSI's concept mapping software and methods to enhance** their own consulting practice while providing unique, value-added services and results to their clients. Similar to the CS COP, the RPC members have access to bundles of products, for ease of access and use within their client-centered environments. RPC members enjoy the benefits of a close professional connection to CSI, including knowledge-transfer seminars and forums, special licensing, and training for consultants.

THE CONCEPT SYSTEM®, the key proprietary methodology for concept mapping, is a mixed-methods set of software and process methods that gives structured support to research practitioners, academicians and students. Supporting the life cycle of an initiative, concept mapping engages those most committed to the issues and outcomes of a research endeavor, supporting rigorous but responsive planning and evaluation. Concept mapping is a six-step process: 1) preparing for concept mapping; 2) generating the ideas; 3) structuring the statements; 4) concept mapping analysis; 5) interpreting the map; and 6) utilization (Kane and Trochim, 2007).

CONCEPT SYSTEMS connects practitioners through its strong training program, where facilitation, project management, and analytics of The Concept System® are integrated as a mixed methods model. Training is customized for attendees, either in real time or virtually via webinars.

Membership

THE CENTERS OF PRACTICE PROGRAM is specifically for those whose work takes place in academic departments and social research organizations. CSI also welcomes concept mappers from nonprofit organizations, foundations, membership associations, and others who qualify for CS COP. CS COP is not for individuals who conduct consulting, project research or evaluation for hire.

THE RESEARCH PARTNERS CONSORTIUM will serve the specific needs of independent consultants and researchers who work for hire for institutions or agencies other than their home agency.

Both programs offer greater freedom and flexibility to use CS products more often and successfully for use within your department or organization, or in your client engagement.

CS COP AND RPC BASIC PACKAGES INCLUDE:

- ◆ Bundled Concept System Core® software licenses with the ability to upgrade to Concept Systems Global® Gold or Silver
- ◆ Project design consultation and technical support
- ◆ CSI's Webinar: CS Introduction to Concept Mapping for attendees from your organization
- ◆ Enrollment in Members Networking Forum

“Having a forum for people to exchange their ideas is a great benefit of the Centers of Practice Program.”

-Michael Yonas, DrPH, 2011

Member Benefits



MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- ◆ Discounted products and services
- ◆ Discounted registration for Concept Systems' events and seminars
- ◆ Access to CSI's extensive knowledge base, including:
 - Quality and Benchmarking data
 - Methodology applications
 - White papers
 - Concept Mapping for Planning and Evaluation (Kane and Trochim, 2007)
- ◆ Access to Members Networking Forum
- ◆ Free software license after multiple purchases
- ◆ Beta user access to CS Global® analysis tools
- ◆ The Concept Systems® Software Guide, printed and electronic versions

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Products and Services Options

SOFTWARE

Standard Research Use

- ◆ Bundled Concept Systems Core® software licenses with the ability to upgrade
- ◆ Individual Concept Systems Core® or Concept Systems Global® software licenses

Classroom Use

- ◆ CS Core classroom licenses to use as research or for classroom projects
- ◆ CS Core licenses to use as a classroom student group project
- ◆ CS Core classroom licenses for each student to use individually to complete a project within the semester

CONSULTING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ◆ Project design consulting
- ◆ Technology support
- ◆ Analysis support
- ◆ Publication support
- ◆ Client consulting assistance

TRAINING

- ◆ CSI Basic and/or Advanced Training in Ithaca , NY
- ◆ CSI Basic and/or Advanced on-site Training
- ◆ Webinar Training
 - Introduction to Concept Mapping
 - Idea Synthesis
 - Advanced Analysis
 - Benchmarking Concept Mapping
 - Other courses in development, to be released in 2012

TEACHING SUPPORT

- ◆ Syllabus and curriculum support
- ◆ Targeted seminars on research and methods
- ◆ Guest lectures in-person or virtually

About CSI

CONCEPT SYSTEMS INCORPORATED provides a unique blend of consulting, facilitation and technology services to empower organizations to turn the ideas of a group into measurable actions. For almost 20 years The Concept System® approach supports stakeholder engagement, elicits buy-in and awareness, and leads to concrete application and evaluation.



For more information please visit us at www.conceptsystems.com or contact CSI at csiinfo@conceptsystems.com.

Mary Kane, MS, President and CEO. Ms. Kane conducts strategic planning consulting and developed research and evaluation initiatives for federal, state, and county agencies, health and mental health organizations, private corporations, and not-for-profit agencies, including research foundations. Recognized for her organizational and coaching expertise with clients as well as her deep knowledge of concept mapping and its applications, Ms. Kane designs and delivers processes, products **and useful results for CSI's clients of all types.**



Scott Rosas, PhD, Senior Consultant. Dr. Rosas serves as the primary evaluation methodologist for CSI. Dr. Rosas is expert in the design and use of the concept mapping methodology, with emphasis on measurement approaches developed from concept mapping, and assessment of the validity and reliability of data collection tools. He designs and manages evaluation for complex systems using concept mapping as the basis. Dr. Rosas leads the formal study of the concept mapping methodology and its application. Dr. Rosas designs innovative models **and initiatives for CSI's clients, ranging from small agency** evaluations to multiple simultaneous evaluations within a research system.





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