



YCCSA Seminar Series Spring 2015

Adventures in Interdisciplinarity: Bridging the Gaps and the Creativity Observatory

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Abstract:

For four years I ran a Bridging the Gaps programme, MILES (Models and Mathematics in Life and Social Sciences), at the University of Surrey, an experience which has changed the nature of the research that I do and the way in which I approach it. I have become increasingly interested in how best to facilitate interdisciplinary creativity and in how researchers in different disciplines experience creativity in research. At one of our sandpits, the Creativity Observatory was born. We set out to explore some of the following questions through interviews with researchers. Is “creativity” the same thing in the sciences and the arts? Can individuals and disciplines learn from each other’s creative processes? How does individual creativity thrive in the professional ecosystems of collaborative projects and large-scale institutions? What is collaborative creativity? In my talk I will aim to give a flavour of the MILES programme and describe some of the findings of the Creativity Observatory.