

Welcome to our November 2014 Newsletter!

We are pleased to continue to send our *Collaborative Systems Reader*, providing you with up-to-date information and news about [The Axelrod Group](#) and collaborative change systems.

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REGISTER NOW!

Let's Stop Meeting Like This: The Workshop

Sonoma State University, CA

December 5, 2014

1:00pm - 5:00pm

Bargain price of \$295 includes copy of
Let's Stop Meeting Like This



Send us your [registration form](#)

by December 1st

Improve collective decisions by overcoming
"group grope"



In this CausePlanet post, Denise McMahan explores decision-making and how to overcome "group grope" in meetings.

Dick and Emily Axelrod waited until they had developed the perfect methodology for effective meetings before publishing [*Let's Stop Meeting Like This: Tools to Save Time and Get More Done.*](#)

Rather than simply contribute to the "noise about meetings," they waited until they had something new to say. They present what they call a "seismic shift (not a set of tweaks) in the way you view, use and participate in meetings." *Let's Stop* gives you a logical system that will help you restructure your meetings so that work gets done; everyone is engaged and respected; the meeting is energizing rather than draining; and time is valued, not wasted.

Today, we wanted to highlight the meaty part of every meeting: decision making. The entire group must be clear about the following items to make a decision: who is making the decision, how they will go about deciding and what they are deciding.

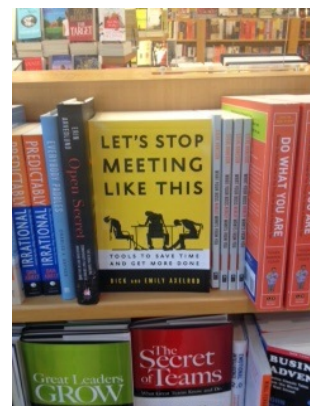
[**READ FULL ARTICLE AT CAUSEPLANET.ORG**](#)

Let's Stop Meeting Like This: In the News & On the Air

Let's Stop Meeting Like This is now available as [audiobook!](#)

Miss hearing Dick and Emily on the radio? [Listen here.](#)

Catch up on some of the

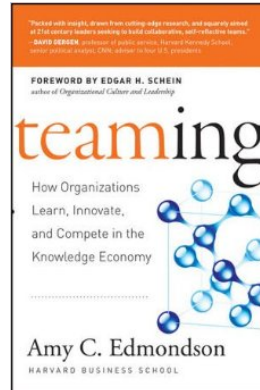


Thanks to Sharon Jordan-Evans for this

great articles written about photo taken at the Seattle Airport!
the book [here](#). (Most recent addition is from **Fast Company**: *How to Make Meetings Better, Faster, and More Fun*).

What We're Reading

[Teaming: How Organizations Learn, Innovate, and Compete in the Knowledge Economy](#)



by Amy C. Edmondson

"Teaming is teamwork on the fly...you could be working on one team right now, but in a few days, or even minutes, you may be on another team." Professor Amy Edmondson's message, backed up by solid research, is "...to be successful, groups must access knowledge, develop a shared understanding of how to apply it, and act in a coordinated manner that is reflective of new insights." All of this may seem obvious, but how to do it is not. Find the answers by reading this book, and improve your team experiences.

First Aid for Meetings

Need some First Aid for your meetings?

See tips below...



The person who talks too much

What to say or do

- Say, you've been talking for a while, I'd like to hear what others have to say about this topic. Go round the room and ask others to comment
- Alternative
 - Paraphrase what the person is saying.
 - Put in your own words what you heard.
 - Ask the other person if you got it right
 - If you didn't get it right, continue to paraphrase
 - Check with the other person to find out if they feel understood.
 - Once the person feels understood, say something like, " I'd now like to hear what others have to say about this topic.
 - Go round the room and ask others to comment

Benefit

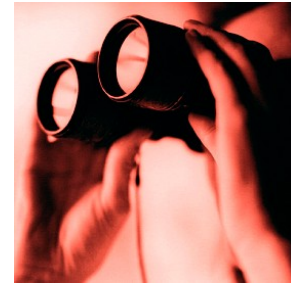
- Breaks the pattern
- Makes sure the person feels understood
- Opens up the conversation to others

TheAxelrodGroup
TRANSFORMING BUSINESS INTERACTIONS INTO COLLABORATIVE, HUMAN EXPERIENCES

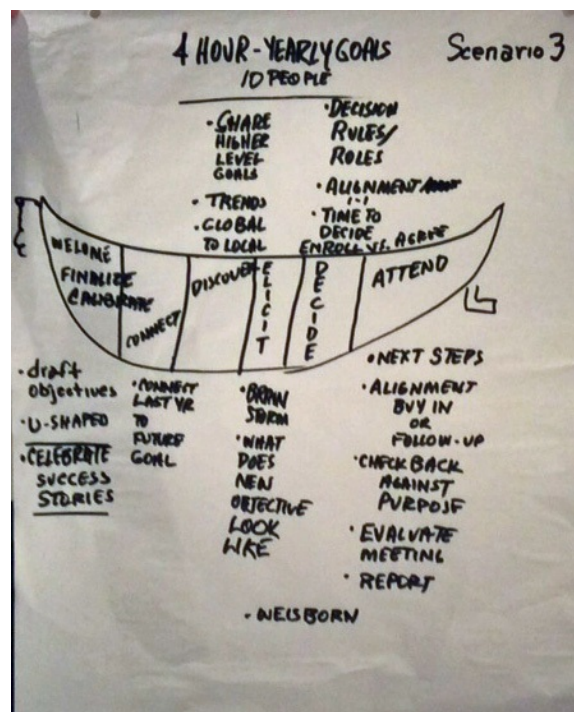
Want more? [Contact us!](#)

Axelrod Sightings

In conjunction with their workshop at **Sonoma State**, Dick and Emily are also teaching a class. Only the workshop on December 5th is open to the public, so [register now!](#)



Emily and Dick had a great session at the **2014 ODN Conference**. Here's a photo from their presentation (see the [Meeting Canoe?](#)):



Dick has been traveling to and from Turkey, leading **Employee Engagement** workshops. Click image below to learn more...



Follow [Emily](#) and [Dick](#) on Twitter
#GREATmeetings

