



NORTHWESTERN INSTITUTE
ON COMPLEX SYSTEMS (NICO)

CHAMBERS HALL
600 FOSTER STREET
EVANSTON, IL 60208-4057
T . 847 491 2527
F . 847 556 1280



NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY

Northwestern Institute on Complex Systems Seminar

Speaker: Noshir Contractor, Jane S. & William J. White Professor of Behavioral Sciences, School of Engineering, School of Communication and the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University

Title: Enabling Knowledge Networks to Enhance Innovation

When: Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Where: Chambers Hall, 600 Foster Street, Lower Level Classroom

Time: 12:00 – 1:00

Refreshments will be available and a NICO Coffee Hour will follow for questions, networking, and collaboration.

Abstract

Recent advances in digital technologies invite consideration of organizing as a process accomplished by global, flexible, adaptive, and ad hoc networks that can be created, maintained, dissolved, and reconstituted with remarkable alacrity. This presentation describes a multi-theoretical multilevel (MTML) model of the socio-technical motivations for creating, maintaining, dissolving, and reconstituting knowledge and social networks. Contractor will present a visual-analytic framework that can be used to Discover, Diagnose, and Design our knowledge networks using examples from his ongoing research on communities involved in a wide range of activities such as Communities of Practice, disaster response, public health and massively multiplayer online games (WoW - the World of Warcraft).