

# Open Space Technology

A tool for promoting intra-space conversations

## The origins of OST...

- ▶ In the 1980s, H.H. Owen started exploring how he could combine the synergy & excitement present in the *meetings that happen within meetings...*
  - ▶ During coffee breaks
  - ▶ In the hallways
  - ▶ In the parking lot after a meeting
  - ▶ At the social gathering after the meeting.

## Open Space Technology means...

- ▶ No predetermined speakers of topics
- ▶ Instead, there are interest-based conversations
  - ▶ As a group, we generate the topics for discussion
  - ▶ As an individual, you select the topic for which you feel passion

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## The Four Principles

- Whoever comes is the right people
- Whatever happens is the only thing that could have happened
- Whenever it starts is the right time
- When it is over, it's over

## Spirited OST Facilitation:

- ▶ Show up.
- ▶ Be fully present.
- ▶ Tell the truth.
- ▶ Let go of outcomes.

Thanks to Angeles Arrien, The Four-Fold Way

## How? Four easy steps...

1. State the theme
2. Describe the process
3. Create the Bulletin Board
4. Open the Market Place

## Reference

▶ **What is OST?**

[www.cgu.edu/.../Fall%202007\\_Open%20Space%20Technology%20for..](http://www.cgu.edu/.../Fall%202007_Open%20Space%20Technology%20for..)

▶ **Getting Ready - Open Space**

[www.openspaceworld.org/files/tmnfiles/DoersamClarkOSoverview.ppt](http://www.openspaceworld.org/files/tmnfiles/DoersamClarkOSoverview.ppt)