Participation

The workshop will be attended by modelers and policy practitioners. It is free of charge, open, and inclusive. However, due to limited places and for maximizing quality of workshop results, registration is mandatory and only possible for attendees committing to the full workshop process (11.30am-5pm).

Please follow this [Link to Registration](#)

The Workshop venue

The American University, Washington D.C., USA
Constitution Hall
4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016
https://www.american.edu/

Further information on the workshop:
Assistant Director Chelsea Dickson, Arizona Decision Theater, Strategy and Impact. Chelsea.Dickson@asu.edu

Workshop Organizers:
Prof. Erik Johnston PhD, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. (USA)
Prof. Dr. Petra Ahrweiler, TISSS Lab, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (Germany)

Satellite workshop

Annual Modeling and Simulation Conference 'AnnSIM 2024'
Track: Humans, Societies and Artificial Agents

Policy Modeling meets Policy Practice

@ Washington D.C., USA

May 21, 2024; 11.30am-5pm

Hosted by: AnnSim Conference 2024, American University

Featuring policy results of the international simulation program "Artificial Intelligence for Assessment" (AI FORA) funded by German Volkswagen Foundation

The challenge

Policy modeling means to identify areas that need intervention, to specify the desired state of the target system, to find the regulating mechanisms, to design policy and its implementation, and to control and evaluate the robustness of interventions.

The methodological difficulty hereby is to bridge the gap between policy practice, often expressed in qualitative and narrative terms, and the scientific realm of formal models. Furthermore, policymaking in complex social systems is not a clear-cut cause-effect process but characterized by contingency and uncertainty.

Reviewing the current state-of-the-art of policy context analysis such as forecasting, foresight, backcasting, impact assessment, scenarios, early warning systems, and technology roadmapping, the need for policy intelligence dealing with complexity becomes more and more obvious.

The workshop's objective

This workshop will provide a unique opportunity to gather together a range of well-established leading researchers working in the field and to provide a platform for discussion between modelers and practitioners.

Modeling of policy initiatives can take into account more parameters than previously possible and perform social simulations to forecast potential impacts of proposed policy measures. Changing parameters within agent-based models (ABM) is analogous to applying different policy options in the real world. These models could therefore be used to examine the likely real-world effects of different policy options before they are implemented.

Thus, altering elements of the models that equate with policy interventions makes it possible to use ABM for evaluating the results of the policy interactions that typically occur between policy interventions, policy contexts and agents. The objective of this workshop is to explore these issues.

Workflow

Agenda Setting by Practice

(Moderated lunch session to gather interests of policy practice)
- Co-creating a to-do list for modelers from policy practice: The demands of policy formation, policy priorities, and policy agendas.

Methods in Policy Modeling

(With small-group visits showcasing the Arizona Decision Theater)
- The portfolio of policy modeling and simulation methods: What is on the offer, how does it work, and what works best?

AI Use for Welfare Decisions: Policy Modeling Results

(Lessons learnt from USA, Germany, Spain, India, China and Estonia)
- Artificial Intelligence for Assessment – How to develop technology and policies for contextualized, value-sensitive, responsive and dynamic AI systems comparing countries.

Selected AnnSim 2024 Policy Modeling Results

(Lightening talks of invited best papers with policy relevance)
- Simulating social systems for policy encompassing various policy domains; domains can be pre-selected by confirmed participants from policy practice.

Evaluation and future Opportunities

(Panel re-visiting to-do list for modelers discussing practical utility)
- Assessment of utility of cutting-edge policy modeling activities: The shopping list from policy practice.