

# Introducing The Tree of Contemplative Practices

Jenna Hartel<sup>a</sup>, Kiersten F. Latham<sup>b</sup>, Beck Tench<sup>c</sup>, Hugh Samson<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Faculty of Information, University of Toronto, Canada

<sup>b</sup>Arts and Cultural Management and Museum Studies, Michigan State University, USA

<sup>c</sup>School of Information, University of Washington, USA

jenna.hartel@utoronto.ca, kflatham@msu.edu, tench@uw.edu, hugh.samson@utoronto.ca

## ABSTRACT

*Contemplative pedagogy* has the potential to transform Library and Information Science (LIS) education in positive ways. This panel is hosted by instructors who have embraced contemplative pedagogy in their courses and wish to share a signal tool—*The Tree of Contemplative Practices* (Duerr, 2004)—with the ALISE community. The Tree is a graphic representation that helps educators and students alike to understand the main principles and seven major types of contemplative practice. Using the Tree as a framework, enthusiasts can learn contemplative practices in a systematic, secular, and bespoke manner. In the spirit of contemplative pedagogy, this panel will unfold through storytelling and embodied learning. Sequentially, the three presenters will: 1) Encapsulate their commitment to contemplative pedagogy; 2) Recount an application of *The Tree of Contemplative Practices* in their teaching; and 3) Demonstrate one of the Tree’s major limbs and branches (such as the “Movement” limb and its contemplative practice of walking meditation). Ample time will follow these presentations for open discussion. At the conclusion everyone will be invited to join a virtual community devoted to extending contemplative pedagogy across LIS.

## ALISE RESEARCH TAXONOMY TOPICS

pedagogy; students; information use

## AUTHOR KEYWORDS

contemplative pedagogy; Tree of Contemplative Practices; information; contemplation

## REFERENCES

Duerr, M. (2004). *A powerful silence: The role of meditation and other contemplative practices In American life and work*. Florence, MA: The Center for Contemplative Mind in Society.