

Bridging the Academic/Business Divide: Finding Common Ground as Interculturalists

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Overview

- Introduction: The Forum Format
- Causes for the Academic/Business Divide
- Possible Solutions

Causes for the Academic/Business Divide

- Different cultures
 - Language
 - Principles
 - Missions and goals
 - Values
- A self-perpetuating cycle of degradation
- Decades-long history
- Others (Our discussion)

Possible Solutions

- Treat conflict as a cultural conflict
 - Respect and appreciate "the other"
 - Apply theory and tools of intercultural field
- Identify common ground
- Create mutually-beneficial projects based on common ground
- Adapt to operate effectively in "the other" culture

Possible Solutions

- Stop the cycle of degradation
- Avoid being defensive; instead, be appreciative of each other's strengths
- Frame relationship as complementary rather than adversarial
- Observe, listen, and develop sincere empathy
- The group's solutions
