

Re-imagining Healthcare from an ecosystemic perspective



John Seely Brown & Ann Pendleton-Jullian

Our Context

18th, 19th, 20th C infrastructure



→ The era(s) of relative stability

20th Century Era Captured by Alfred Chandler Push Economy



20th century infrastructure
roads/cars/trucks/trains/ships/airplanes

Infrastructure capabilities drive organization architecture
And *Scalable Efficiency* becomes the goal.



S-curve stable over decades.
(Few real changes in 60 years)

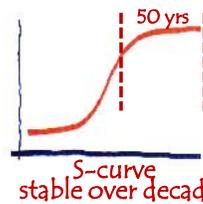
- predictable
- hierarchy
- control
- organizational routines
- minimize variance

then

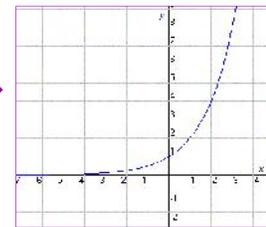
The Big Shift Happened

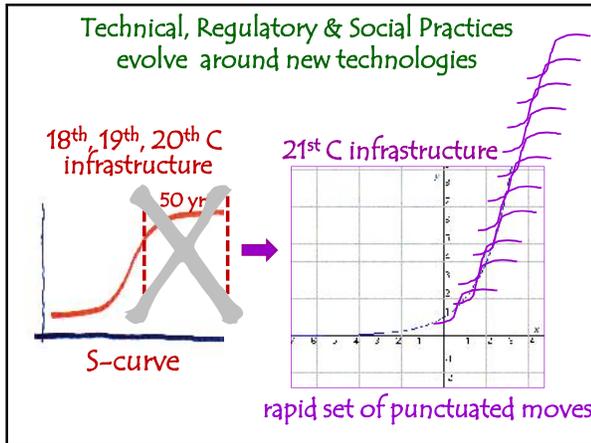
21st C infrastructure: no stability in sight driven by continual exponential advances in computation

18th, 19th, 20th C infrastructure



S-curve stable over decades.

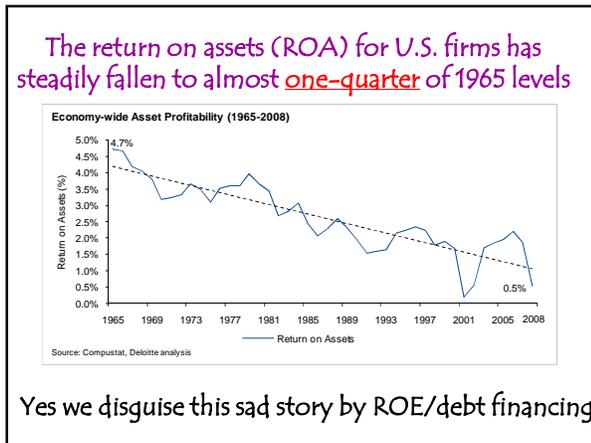




We have moved from an era of equilibrium to a new normal— an era of constant dis-equilibrium.

Our business models and our ways of working, organizing, innovating, etc needs to be reframed.

here is what is happening in the corporate world when we got stuck with yesterday's lenses



We have moved from an era of equilibrium to a new normal— an era of constant dis-equilibrium.

Our approach to healthcare also needs to be reframed.

we now have 4 great IT pillars
Cloud + Mobile + Social + Big Data (nosql)

Each advancing at exponential rate that together could be a real game changer!

Potential Shifts of Focus

Sickness =====> Wellness
from thinking disease as a thing to wellness as dependent on context

Quantified self to the extreme
from physician as driver to physician as consultant

Content =====> Context
Shaping context to change behavior

1st Shift of Focus

Sickness =====> Wellness
from thinking disease as a thing to wellness as dependent on context

This shift means:
 we need to think about
 health and
 personalized healthcare
 not like a watch
 but like an
 emergent, complex
 ecosystem

ecosystems are alive

“A mechanical system—a watch for instance—is divisible, while an ecosystem is indivisible because of well developed interdependences.”

Because ecosystems are indivisible, they are environments where all work feeds back into the system, affecting the entire system.

combining deep science
 (genetics & integrated systems biology)
 with participatory platforms (PHR, Games)

P4 medicine is the beginning of
 thinking ecosystemically

P4 Medicine – a novel approach to individualized medical care

- P4 PREDICT** shift from waiting for disease to develop to understanding propensities.
- P4 PREVENT** applying treatments or behavioral changes to delay the onset of disease.
- P4 PERSONALIZE** develop a life strategy wellness plan for each individual.
- P4 PARTICIPATE** empowering patients to create precise strategies to promote wellness & using social networks and gamification to get consumer to take ownership of their health.

EHR ----> PHR

Cancer as a thing
 Cancering as an ecosystemic process
 i.e. radically contingent on context

Danny Hillis



David Agus

BUT
 if one cannot solve or model
 complex systems, then what?

Three things you can work on:

boundaries
probes
modulators

listen to feedback, augment and amplify the good, quickly remove the bad, look for patterns and centers of gravity, nodes of efficacy.

Boundaries

determine what agents constitute the ecosystem

External: age related, disease related, geographic, socio economic, combination of these etc.

Internal: genetic and epigenetic

Probes

things you put in the system to read the system

biochemical: genetic and epigenetic testing

behavioral:

medical data from devices – e.g. fitbit
reality mining – digital breadcrumbs
(real time/place with gps),
behavior tracking with smart phones
social network monitoring;
micro-narratives;

Modulators

things you put in the system to read the systems affect change in the system

Biochemical: genetically targeted drugs

Behavioral:

games and gamification;
texting for health;
psychology;
coaching

Gamification

use of game play mechanics for non-game applications.

motivation through accomplishment, peer approval, status building, fun



leveling up may be one of the most important drivers of incremental change.

23

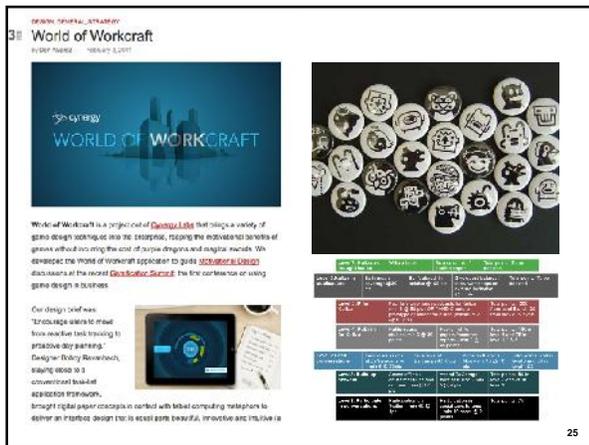
THE SUPERBETTER STORY

UNLEASH YOUR HEROIC POTENTIAL
SuperBetter helps you achieve your health goals – or recover from an illness or injury – by breaking you into small realizations. Realizations ensure staying curious, optimistic and motivated even in the face of the toughest challenges.

TEAM UP WITH YOUR CLOSEST FRIENDS & FAMILY
SuperBetter creates a private online space where friends and family become allies in your adventure toward better health. Join forces and combine your strengths – so that you're not just getting better, you're getting EXACTLY better!

WANT TO KNOW MORE?
[▶ THE SUPERBETTER STORY](#)

mcgonigal social chocolate 24



Texting 4 Health

using smart phones as prompts,
 coaches,
 aggregating information for
 early disease detection . . .

2nd Shifts of Focus

The (extreme) Quantified Self

I know about QS but
 extreme????

Larry Smarr



Larry Smarr' Approach

comprehensive
 integrated
 data collection over time!!

Externals: diet, exercise, sleep, stress reduction

Internals: Genomic analysis
 100 blood variables monthly
 Stool samples for microbiome analysis including
 metagenomic analysis
 MRI imaging turned into 3D models

but are there elements of the ecosystem for health - wellness - Larry is missing?



what about the social dimension?

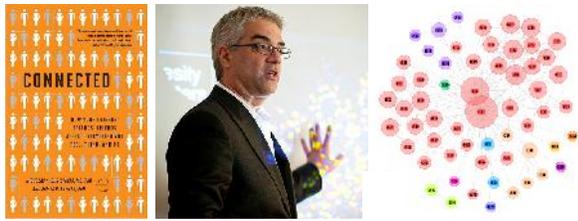


We are affected by our social networks in ways I never thought!

and shape (topology) matters, too.

Christakis and Fowler – how people’s networks affect health

good summary: your friends’ friends’ friends affect everything you feel, think and do.

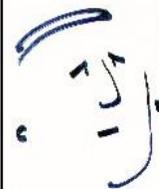
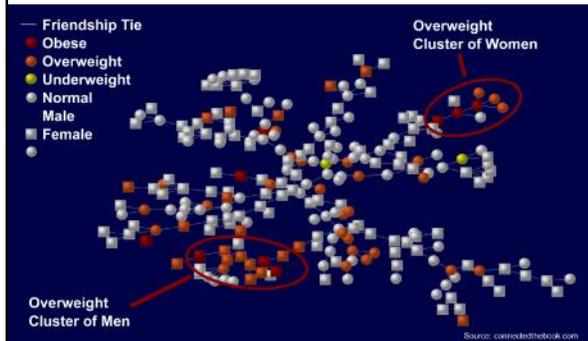


The Human Superorganism

Networks of cooperation can lead to self-sustaining “organisms,” whether it be cells in a human body or human bodies in a neighborhood!



Friendship ties on Facebook



and what if the social network is not robust enough to scaffold?

“our social network can fray at the edges, like a yarn that comes loose at the end of a sweater. If we are concerned about combatting the feeling of loneliness in our society, we should aggressively target the people on the periphery with interventions to repair the social networks” (Christakis and Fowler)

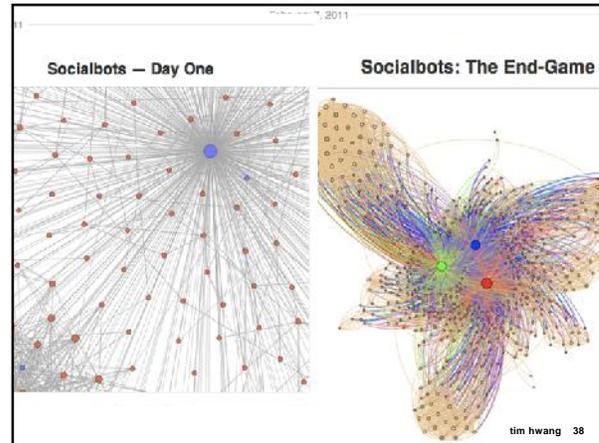
Useful But A Bit Scary

Social bots can be designed to augment the shape and topology of a social network.

Web Ecology project
Socialbot competition 2011



Hmmm, sounds like Eliza has gone social on twitter



but are there elements of the ecosystem for health - wellness - Larry is missing?



Will data really change behavior as Larry suggests?

More generally

How do we really affect behavior especially at scale?

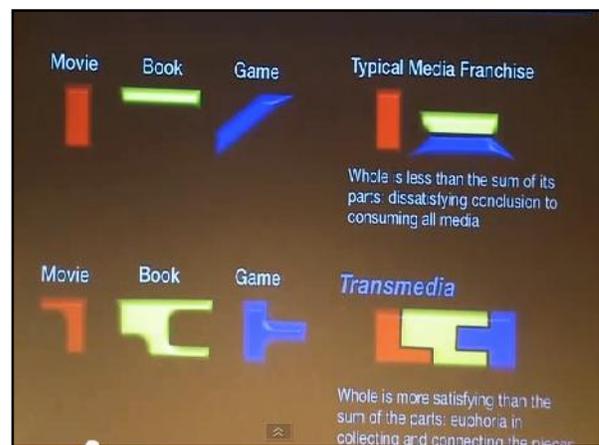


Might transmedia be a new tool here?

what is transmedia?

Transmedia storytelling is the technique of telling a single story experience across multiple platforms and formats...

...it involves creating content that engages the audience using various techniques to permeate their daily lives - multiple forms of media delivering unique pieces of content in each channel.



Harry Potter Worldwide Movement

Are we prepared for students used to creating their own global collective, intertwined with a networked imagination?



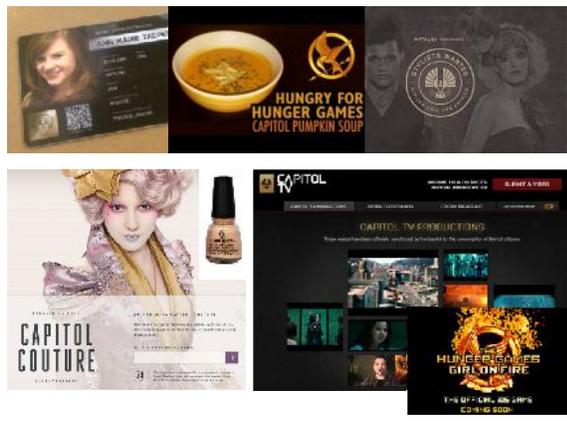
6,314 communities of interest; 1,774 discussion forums; 386,000 stories archived

most recently:
The Hunger Games



How does this work?

In transmedia stories are told as facts – and more than told only, they are enacted as well – pervasively, and extended over time for sustained emotional impact.



How does this work for health?

For providing information in context
For behavior role models and all the things one needs to do to 'be like'
For triggering
Support for sustaining



The emerging era of long tail science

Powerful networked tools now allow small groups of folks do amazing things in science
Some big science can now go small & distributed.

But what is missing is
a language of data
that captures context
to enhance share-ability.



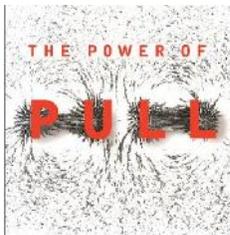
Ah – honoring diversity of approaches
yet making the whole more
than the sum of the parts..

A Cambrian Moment

Reimagining Healthcare
Using emerging capabilities of
Science, IT and the Social
to move from sickness to wellbeing

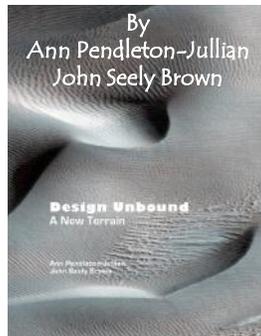
Efflorescence to Flourishing

Thank You



How Small Moves, Smartly Made,
Can Set Big Things in Motion

John Seely Brown, Paul G. Houghton, and Long Forster



By
Ann Pendleton-Jullian
John Seely Brown

Design Unbound
A New Terrain

Ann Pendleton-Jullian
John Seely Brown