



Health
Literacy in
Action

HARC
H E A L T H
L I T E R A C Y
A N N U A L
R E S E A R C H
C O N F E R E N C E

Integrating Research,
Practice, and Policy

Working Together to Support Health Literacy

Health Literacy in Action
HARC
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Optimism in Troubled Times

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Health Literacy Opportunities

- Engage with a variety of disciplines
- Increase access to information
- Remove barriers to care and services
- Reduce health disparities
- Contribute to social justice

Gains Over Time

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Mismatch between health information and population skills

- Access to Information & Services
- Measures for rigorous assessments
- Innovative interventions

Links between literacy skills and health outcomes

- Implications for health outcomes
- Disparities in chronic disease management
- Measures for continuing explorations

Policy Level Interest and Action

Plain Language initiatives & Law

National Call to Action

Healthy People G&O

Funds for further studies

Changing Focus and Scope of Work

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Definitions:

Set parameters for Inquiry

Suggest Measures

Indicate Locus of Change

Skills of individual

→

Barriers, Additional Variables

Clinical setting

→

Institutions, Systems

Disease management

→

Health System Access & Navigation,
Disaster Management & Mitigation,
Science HL literacy, Environmental HL

Evolving Concept of Health Literacy

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Broader scope
Broader engagement
New options for change efforts and studies

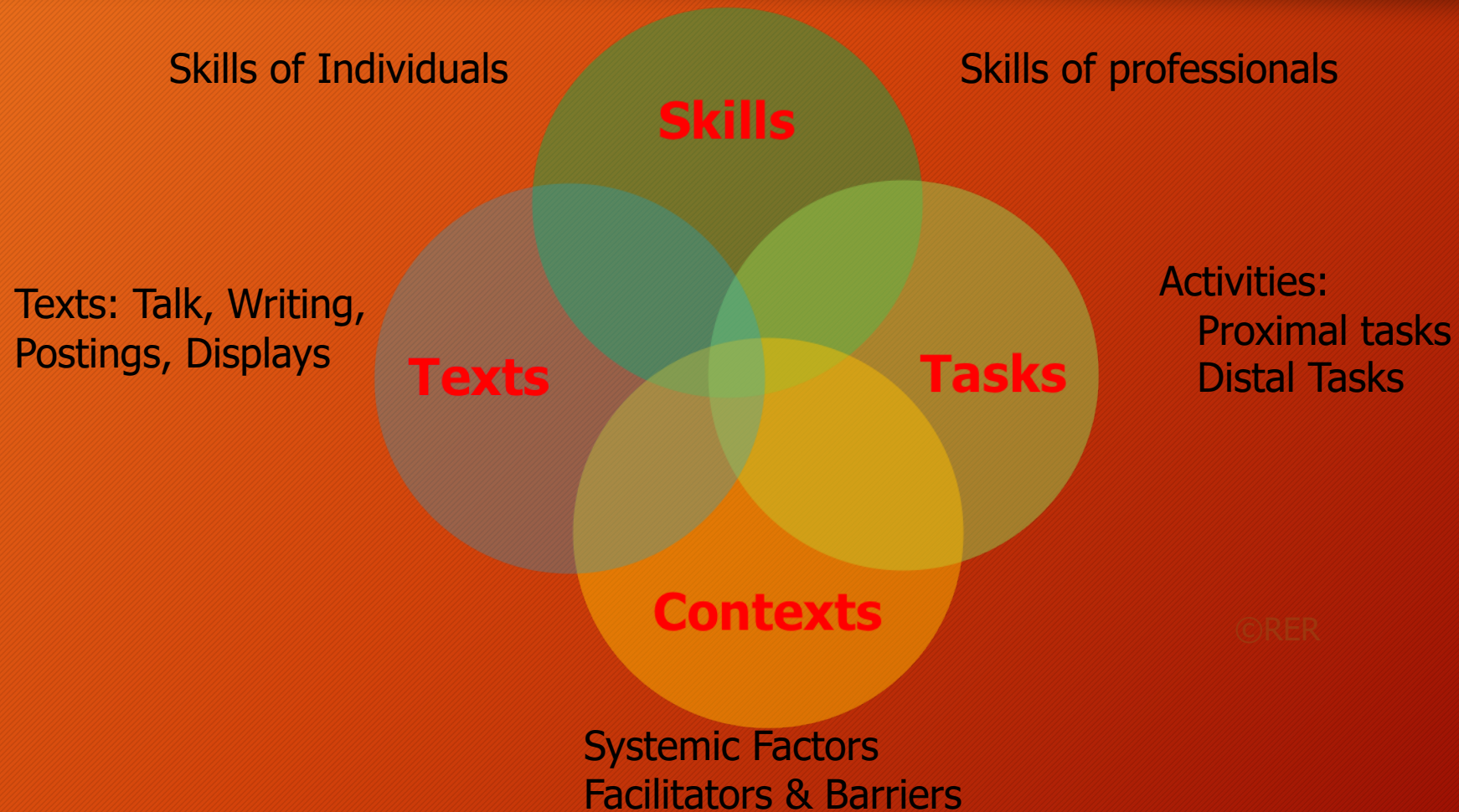
Issue Briefs to Inform Development and Implementation
of Healthy People 2030

We now more fully understand that responsibility for health literacy extends beyond individuals to include the organizations and professionals who create and deliver health information and services. Health literacy occurs when a society provides accurate health information and services that people can easily find, understand, and use to inform their decisions and actions

Health Literacy Variables

Skills, Texts, Tasks, Contexts

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Expanded Opportunities

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- Practice
- Research
- Policy

Among the Conference Intentions

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Share experiences and findings

Provide opportunities for identification of like interests

Set the stage for interaction and dialogue

Promote a forum for follow-up

Strengthen links among those engaged in

- Practice
- Research
- Policy

We Make the Road by Walking

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From the Greek:

- Thinking [*Theoria*]
- Making [*Poiesis*]
- Doing [*Praxis*]

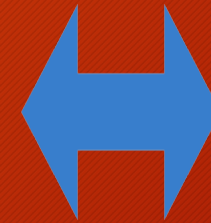
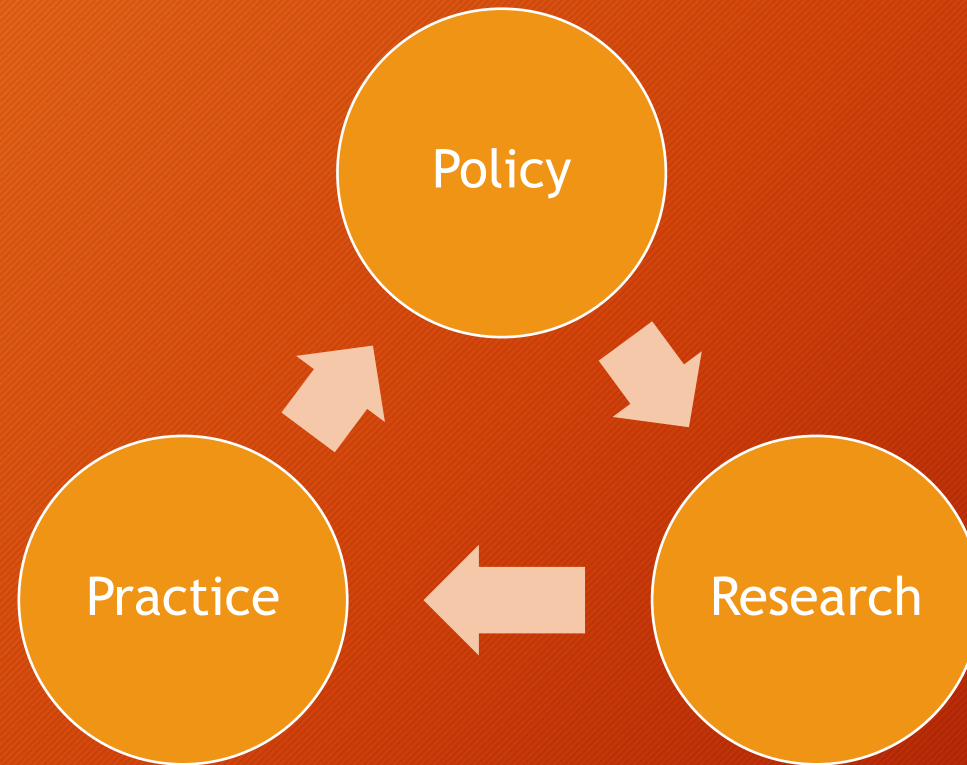
From Paulo Freire

- Theory alone is insufficient: without practice there is no knowledge
- Action alone is insufficient: Without knowledge, action can be chaotic

Redefines praxis in *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* as an ongoing cycle of reflection and action directed at the structures to be transformed

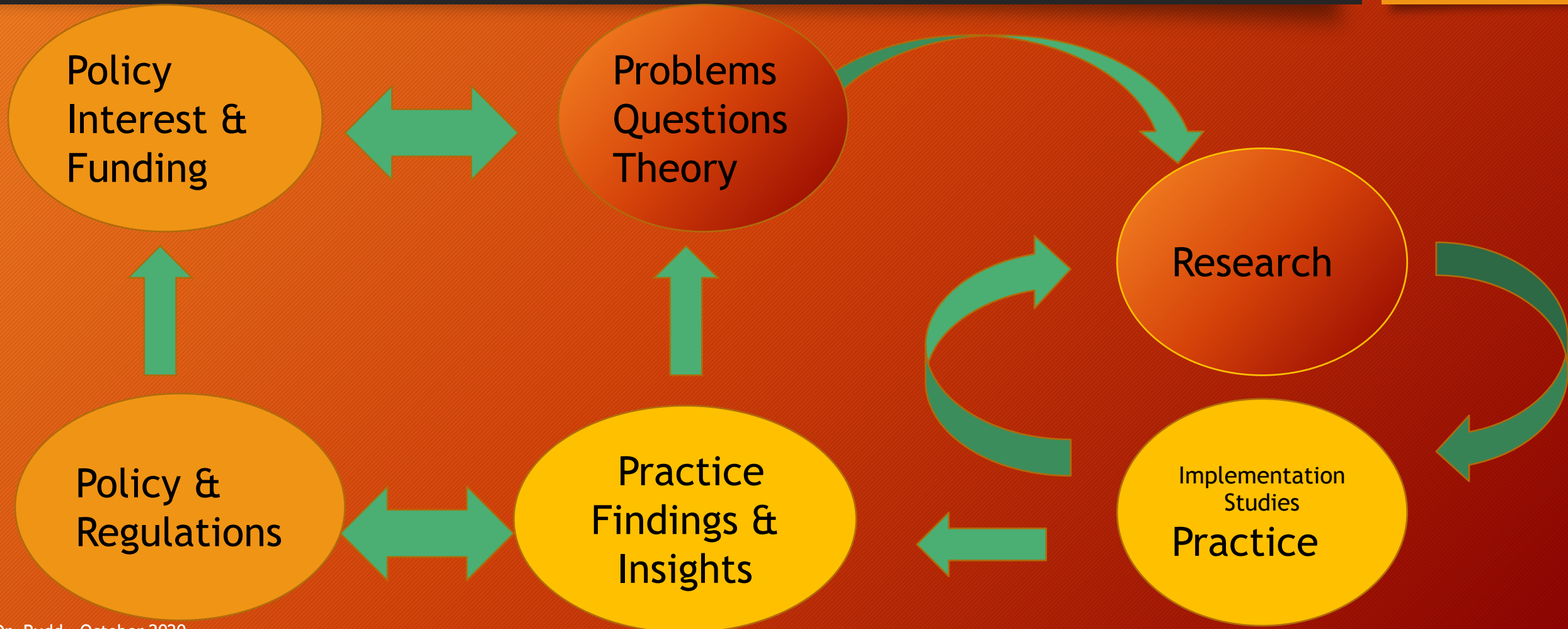
Common Visual of Interaction

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Complex Interactions

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Some Issues

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- Time
- Questions to be explored and solutions to be tested were not collaboratively generated
- Research focus and findings did not yield guidance for practice or policy action
- Community based practitioners / agencies lack the structural support needed for collaboration
- Follow-up in community was not a priority
- Poor communication: jargon calls for plain language translation
- Strategic arguments for stakeholders were lacking

Break Ranks

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Wander off track
Identify gaps
Highlight bridging interests
Identify barriers to engagement
Brainstorm 'fixes'
Follow-up online and establish links

Enjoy the Conference