



About Gisela Wendling

Gisela Wendling, Ph.D., is Senior Consultant and Vice President of Global Learning at The Grove Consultants International. Facilitating change is at the center of her practice. In her consulting work she uses collaborative engagement processes to unlock the intelligence of the whole system to move through each stage of the change process, from needs identification to visioning to implementation.



As VP of Global Learning, Gisela co-leads (with David Sibbet) The Grove's Global Learning & Exchange Network (GLEN). This network provides opportunities for practitioners and leaders to be in a well-facilitated and innovative online/offline environment to co-evolve the methodologies and practices of collaboration within and across organizations and globally, so that we become more prepared to address the serious challenges we are facing everywhere. The GLEN learning community supports rich practitioner exchanges, immersive programs, self-paced learning modules, action research collaborations, and a built-in R&D process.

Gisela's expertise in the area of transformative change and learning is based in 25 years of working with a wide range of organizations in the private and public sector. She holds a Doctorate from the School of Human and Organization Development, Fielding Graduate University, and a Masters in Organization Development and B.A. in Humanistic Psychology from Sonoma State University (CA). She has held leadership positions in the high-tech industry and education. For several years, she directed the Director of the Masters Program in Organization Development at Sonoma State University. She currently serves as faculty at Meridian University and is co-authoring *Visual Consulting: Designing and Leading Change* with David Sibbet, which will be the fourth book of the Visual Leadership series published by John Wiley & Sons.

Gisela pairs systemic perspectives with dialogic approaches, creating unique opportunities for interactive, content-rich, outcome-focused and highly transformative group experiences. Her professional development programs engage participants in well-rounded growth experiences that combine conceptual knowledge, practical application and personal development.

Her approach is deeply influenced by her experiences with diverse cultures. This includes research in South America, Southern Africa and Australia, learning from Native American traditions in the U.S., living in Australia, and being German-born and raised. Her body of work, *Liminal Pathways*, translates her cross-cultural insights into her

practice of working with change and guiding professional development experiences. Clients have shared that her cross-cultural perspectives make her approach more insightful, culturally and globally sensitive, and ultimately more impactful. She shares more about her insights and approach in her website [Liminal Pathways](#) and her blog [Beyond the Threshold](#).

Gisela loves the expressive arts and since her childhood has used the arts as a means to learn about herself and the world. For example, while in Australia, she studied Aboriginal art-making to learn about the Australian Aboriginal culture. She lives in Petaluma with her husband David Sibbet and her daughter Hannah.

Organizations that Gisela has worked with include:

Business

Business Model Inc., The Netherlands
NIKE, Senior HR, Oregon
NIKE, Memphis Logistics Campus,
Tennessee
Netscape Communications Corp, California
Arthur Andersen, United States
Coca Cola, Atlanta
Levi Strauss, California
Bamboo Sourcing, California
Andersen Consulting, United States
Shine Sydney 2012, Australia
The Center for Professional Education,
Anderson Worldwide, Illinois
Beyond.com, California
Power & Systems, Inc. Massachusetts

Education

University of California, Merced, California
University of California, School of
Engineering, California
Cal Poly Pomona, College of Business
Administration, California
Sonoma State University, California
Meridian Seminary, California
Church Divinity School of the Pacific,
California

Non-Profit

Association of Change Management
Professionals, U.S.
Environmental Incentives, California
The Garfield Foundation, California
AG Innovations Network, California
Environmental Defense Fund, California

The Global Women's Leadership Initiative,
California
The Cultural Arts Center of Sonoma County,
California
One Heart, Many Rhythms, New Mexico

Government

Metropolitan Council, Environmental
Services Division, Minnesota
City of Larkspur, California
Bonneville Power Administration, Oregon
EPIC Head Start, Washington

Associations

Spirituality, Leadership & Management
Association, Australia
Sydney Facilitator's Network, Australia
Cultural Studies Association, Australia
Consortium for Diversified Psychology
Programs, United States
Midwest Organization Learning Network,
Illinois
Association for Humanistic Psychology,
United States
Midwest Quality Improvement Network,
Illinois
American Anthropological Association,
United States
The International Association for
Organization Development, Global
Organization Development Network, United
States
Bay Area Organization Development
Network, California