**About Us**

**The Center for the Study of Scientific Ideas is a research arm of the XXIV Century Press, a privately funded organization intended to develop new approaches to learning.**

**Using the scholarly literature describing Artificial Intelligence, a learning approach called the GESTALT method is illustrated. The student can retrieve ideas that form concepts describing the topic of interest. These concepts provide a more complete description at the outset. This is in contrast to the LINEAR method where elements are added in sequence. As such, the complete picture may or may not be determined. With the entirety in mind, the student can determine:**

1. **Missing ideas.**
2. **Inconsistent findings.**
3. **New applications of existing concepts.**

**These discoveries can lead to explicit descriptions of existing knowledge as well as new strategies to acquire knowledge.**

**This method uses the worldwide authors-specialists’ ideas as the essential data. These ideas are organized as databases, thus, eliminating the need to repeatedly retrieve, identify, extract, and organize the same data. Instead, software strips the essential data from each document and presents it in a usable format.**

**Rapid learning is assisted by a classification scheme that identifies each idea’s membership in one of six dimensions comprising the subject. These dimensions facilitate organization of ideas as knowledge structures. With those, knowledge skeletons of the form – Personal 🡪 Environmental 🡪 Subject 🡪 Interventional 🡪 Outcome 🡪 Methods – may be constructed. Populating those dimensions with authors’ ideas is a rapid way of building concepts and new knowledge strategies. The forward (left to right) structure of the dimensions is an important part of building research design structures. A unique feature is the reversed (right to left) organization with Methods 🡪 Outcome 🡪 etc. 🡪Personal. That skeleton can be used to build a hypothesis and from that, a statement leading to a research design. These applications significantly assist in transforming the novice to a successful professional without the delays and fatigues associated with LINEAR learning.**

**Series contributors come from different disciplines. A primary requirement is interest in the subject or methodology. Each individual must contribute to the final presentation in a significant way. Contributions may vary from providing ideas, editing, or writing. This contrasts with usual requirements. Construction of idea databases requires individuals with knowledge of data management, library science, or quality control methodology. Construction of example analyses requires individuals with knowledge of Contextual Analysis methods. Since rapid and effective learning is the objective with assistance from the world’s author-specialists’ ideas, prior expertise in a subject may not be necessary. Indeed, the excitement of new discovery may be the primary requirement.**

**The contributors to this presentation include:**

**John M. Weiner, Dr.P.H., Director of Idea Database construction and maintenance, Center for the Study of Scientific Ideas, XXIV Century Press, Richmond, VA** [**weiner.john@tutorghost.com**](mailto:weiner.john@tutorghost.com)

**Debora Bartoo, Ph.D., Head of Innovation, PSCU, Adjunct Faculty, University of Denver, University College, Debora.Bartoo@du.edu.**

**John J. Walsh, Ph.D., Co-Director, Program in Disaster Research and Training, Vanderbilt University Medical Center.** [**john.walsh@vanderbilt.edu**](mailto:john.walsh@vanderbilt.edu)

**Sharon Weiner, Ed. D, MLS, Director of Library Services, Division of Student Success, John Tyler Community College. Chester and Midlothian, VA.** [**sweiner@jtcc.edu**](mailto:sweiner@jtcc.edu)**, Professor of Library Science Emerita and W. Wayne Booker Chair Emerita in Information Literacy**

**William McAfoos, (Degree), Director of Data Management, President, Business Technology, Aurora, NY, email address**

**Andrew Keller, Web Developer,** [**andrewkellerweb@gmail.com**](mailto:andrewkellerweb@gmail.com)

**John LaMonte, Senior Editor, Title, Organization, email address**