Date/Time: 12:15 pm Thursday, March 4th  
Location: Milne 215

Meeting time is at 12:15 pm with presentations beginning promptly at 12:30 pm and finishing at 1:30 pm. Attendees are welcome to bring their lunch and chat for a few minutes before the presentation starts. Those who need to leave at 1:30 pm for other engagements can do so, and those that wish to continue a conversation are welcome to stay.

The Decision and Policy Sciences (DAPS) Brown Bag Series began back in the fall semester of 1988. It was established as a forum for the discussion of ideas, proposals, and findings in the area of group decision support, individual expert judgment research, and policy simulation. Today, it is the longest continuously running lunch discussion forum at SUNY Albany.

Title/Abstract: What IS going on in K-12 Education with Systems Thinking and System Dynamics? Where are we 25 years later?  
More than 25 years ago the first tentative experiments with the use of system dynamics in the K-12 arena were performed at Brattleboro Union High School. Today, the movement and interest has grown from those first steps. Are we at last at the turning point of the exponential curve? Ms. Stuntz will give a retrospective on the history of the use of systems thinking and system dynamics over the past 25 years and a description of what is going on currently from the vantage point of her directorship of the Creative Learning Exchange, which has advocated use of systems thinking and system dynamics in K-12 education for 19 years.

Bio: Lees N. Stuntz  
Executive Director, Creative Learning Exchange  
Lees Stuntz, Executive Director of the Creative Learning Exchange (CLE), founded the organization nineteen years ago under the direction of a Board of Trustees, which currently includes Jay Forrester, the founder of the field of system dynamics and the inventor of the core memory for the computer and George Richardson of SUNY Albany. The CLE is a successful networking center for all K-12 educators interested in systems thinking and dynamic modeling in a learner-centered environment.

As Director of the CLE, Ms Stuntz keeps the active network of systems educators connected through the CLE newsletter, the K-12 SD listserv as well as at a biennial conference entitled Systems Thinking and
Dynamic Modeling in K-12 Education. She edits and publishes the CLE’s quarterly newsletter, free, downloadable materials available on the web as well as the books sold by the CLE. She gives workshops on systems thinking and system dynamics for educators and visits schools to coach and lend her expertise to teachers and administrators. She maintains contacts with the system dynamics community and educators who are interested in utilizing systems thinking and system dynamics in their schools, both administratively and in the curriculum.

In 2007 she co-authored a chapter in Systems Thinkers In Action: A Field Guide For Effective Change Leadership In Education and in 2010 co-edited a book in memory of one of the pioneers in the field of system dynamics, Barry Richmond, entitled Tracing Connections: Voices of Systems Thinkers.

Ms. Stuntz has her A.B. in Sociology from Wellesley College and her M.A. in Child Study from Tufts University. Her volunteer activities have included serving on the School Board in her district for many years and on the Board of Directors for a children’s discovery learning museum.