

Historical Scan Overview

(or Wall of Wonder)

The Design of the Process

The process utilizes variations of the ToP® Workshop Method and the ToP Focused Conversation Method to create and dialogue about a wall of data in their shared environment. On the front wall of the space is a chart framework with a timeline across the top and 3-4 categories down the left side. The time span often reaches back into the past to the beginning of the organization or other appropriate starting point.

When to use it

- To set the context for strategic planning
- To get new members on top of the history and background of the organization very quickly.
- To let “old hands” reconnect with their original vision that birthed the organization and that they carry within them.
- When time allows it provides a good opportunity for newer members to hear the stories of the struggles and accomplishments of the early days.
- For some members it may be the first time that they see the big picture of the organization and how it grew out of the events in the past - way of putting together a powerful story, perhaps.

Why to use it

- Quickly become familiar with the history and background of the org’n or issue.
- The participants can look toward the future with greater understanding of the events that have brought the organization to the present point.
- It functions as a way for the group to look at “where we’ve come from” before planning “where we want to go”.

How to use it

- Set up the sticky board
- See procedures for facilitating it

How to document it

- As the data is plotted
- In “chapters” as they were named