



## 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