



**Biomimicry: Innovation Inspired by Nature**  
FOCUS GROUP MEETING#1

**Individual Assignment Assessment Questionnaire**

Please complete the attached questionnaire, the purpose of which is to garner constructive feedback from current students on the course work assigned in the fall 2007 offering of "Biomimicry: Innovation Inspired by Nature".

While your participation is completely voluntary and **WILL NOT INFLUENCE YOUR GRADE** for this course, it will be of great value to my understanding of what is working well and not so well in the course, in your opinion. Your feedback and insights are important to me, and the usefulness of the information gained from this questionnaire and following focus group meeting depends upon receiving completed surveys from all of the focus group members. Please read each question carefully and respond as accurately and candidly as you can. There are 5 questions that follow the same framework and address each of the individual homework assignments that you have completed so far in the course. I have provided a packet with each of the assignment descriptions for you to refer to, if needed.

To help ensure confidentiality, please do **NOT** write your name on the questionnaire. When you have completed the questionnaire, please **seal it** in the envelope provided and return it to me. The questionnaire should take no more than 15 minutes.

**Thanks again for all of your feedback**  
**and for filling out this attached questionnaire.**

**Cindy Gilbert**

### Assignment 1: Natural History Stories

1. The objectives of this assignment were to: 1) connect students with their local surroundings, 2) foster verbal communication skills, and 3) stimulate thinking about biomimetic applications. Do you feel that the objectives of this assignment were achieved? Please **circle the point on each scale that best represents how strongly you agree for each objective.**

1) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

2) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

3) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

strongly disagree

strongly agree

One thing that I enjoyed about the assignment was \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

One thing that I would do to improve the assignment \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Assignment 2: Local Champion & Deep Pattern Scavenger Hunt

1. The objectives of this assignment were to: 1) introduce the concept of deep patterns, 2) begin the usage of the terms: function, strategy, form, process and system, and 3) foster written communication skills. Do you feel that the objectives of this assignment were achieved? Please **circle the point on each scale that best represents how strongly you agree for each objective.**

1) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

2) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

3) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

strongly disagree

strongly agree

One thing that I enjoyed about the assignment was \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

One thing that I would do to improve the assignment \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Assignment 3: Learning From Nature

The objectives of this assignment were to: 1) develop research and data collection skills, 2) extract the function and mechanism from other descriptive information, 3) develop creativity and brainstorming skills, and 4) foster creativity in written communication. Do you feel that the objectives of this assignment were achieved? Please **circle the point on each scale that best represents how strongly you agree for each objective.**

1) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

2) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

3) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

4) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

strongly disagree

strongly agree

One thing that I enjoyed about the assignment was \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

One thing that I would do to improve the assignment \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Assignment 4: Translating Science

The objectives of this assignment were to: 1) develop research and data collection skills, 2) extract the function and mechanism from other scientific information, 3) develop brainstorming and creativity skills, and 4) stimulate creativity in written communication. Do you feel that the objectives of this assignment were achieved? Please **circle the point on each scale that best represents how strongly you agree for each objective.**

1) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

2) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

3) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

4) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

strongly disagree

strongly agree

One thing that I enjoyed about the assignment was \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

One thing that I would do to improve the assignment \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Assignment 5: Life's Principle Challenge

The objectives of this assignment were to: 1) introduce Life's Principles, 2) develop an awareness of the short-falls of most human-made designs, 3) foster brainstorming and creativity skills, and 4) stimulate creativity in verbal and visual communication. Do you feel that the objectives of this assignment were achieved? Please **circle the point on each scale that best represents how strongly you agree for each objective.**

1) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

2) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

3) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

4) 1-----2-----3-----4-----5

strongly disagree

strongly agree

One thing that I enjoyed about the assignment was \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

One thing that I would do to improve the assignment \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_