

## SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSION

### BRIEF

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Host Institution: Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, US

#### Research interest:

This STSM addressed three inter-related goals: (i) planning of WG3 future activities; (ii) networking and dissemination of the APPLY action within the Rutgers network; (iii) fostering scientific collaboration between the beneficiary and the host. This brief details the progresses made on each of these aspects.

#### STSM Summary

**PLANNING OF WG3 FUTURE ACTIVITIES.** A key outcome of this STSM is the specification of detailed and effective plans for the next 18 months of WG3 in the APPLY action. Especially pivotal was the decision to include a specific Training School for Stakeholders (working title: Argument Studios) as one of the main deliverables of WG3: this idea in turn inspired our vision on how to organize the 3 WG3 stakeholders meetings that will lead to that. In addition, the beneficiary and the host elaborated detailed plans on how to fit all other WG3 upcoming activities within this agenda.

**NETWORKING AND DISSEMINATION OF THE APPLY ACTION WITHIN THE RUTGERS NETWORK.** One of the main aim of this STSM was to support and further develop the involvement of Rutgers University in the APPLY network: this was also facilitated by the partial overlapping with the preceding STSM

to RU by Marcin Lewinski, the Action Chair. The beneficiary and the host used a twofold strategy to achieve this aim: on the one hand, they took action to further disseminate awareness of the APPLY network and its characteristics among key members of the RU Faculty; on the other hand, they solicited active involvement of specific RU members and institutions within the network, in order to start building a larger “APPLY team @ RU” around the host.

FOSTERING SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE BENEFICIARY AND THE HOST. This STSM also provided an excellent opportunity for the beneficiary and the host to explore scientific topics of shared interest and to discuss the possibility of in-depth scientific collaboration on some of these issues. From a practical point of view, the beneficiary and the host started making plans for a journal special issue on “Argumentation by design”, which they plan to co-edit and that would include (without being limited to) several key contributions from APPLY members, especially those with an interest in analyzing argumentative practices and infrastructures from a design perspective. In terms of purely scientific collaboration, the beneficiary and the host individuated two areas in which their converging interests and complementary backgrounds are likely to deliver significant breakthroughs: (A) revisiting the argumentative theory of reasoning proposed by Hugo Mercier and Dan Sperber from a design perspective, focusing in particular on what kind of argumentative preconditions need to be in place for collective reasoning to work at its best, and how to make sure that such preconditions are met; (b) analyzing the role of bounded rationality in argumentation, both by surveying the (rather limited) existing literature on this specific subject, and by expanding on it with new insights, e.g. working on the difference between individually bounded rationality in dialogues and collectively bounded rationality of argumentative communities.