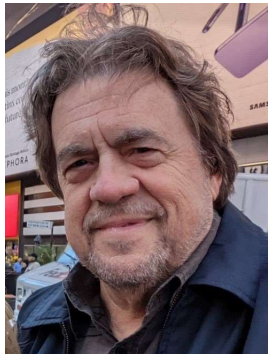


Brief Encounter with the Taos Institute

March 2023

“Commons”

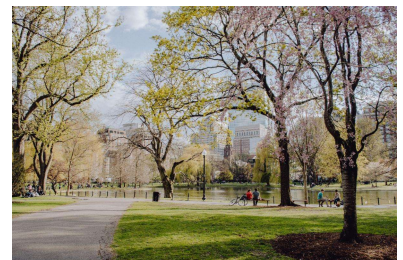


*by Dan Wulff
Taos Institute Board Member*

“The commons” is a term that refers to “a piece of open land for public use, especially in a village or town.” The commons serves as a meeting place for a variety of people from a community to come together to interact.

I am excited that conversations within The Taos Institute are beginning to use the word “commons” to describe how we do what we do. For me, the image or metaphor of sitting together under a tree to share ideas and visions captures the spirit of The Taos Institute. While we may not be literally sitting on the ground with one another, this atmosphere of connecting can be developed virtually in ways that bring people from far away places together in significant ways. Above all, we see ourselves as connecting and nurturing relationships, big and small, to address the values and concerns we have in living in our worlds.

Over the years we have embraced social constructionist ideas expressed and practiced by many persons and groups all over the globe. It seems as though there are no limitations to how social constructionist ideas could be taken-up and applied. In the early days of The Taos Institute, much of the conversation focused on applications to therapy and organizational development but now the reach is much more expansive—health care, education, governance to name a few.



The idea of “the commons” welcomes our attention to the widest range of people and endeavors. Come “sit on the grass” of the commons no matter what language you speak, what position in your society you hold, whatever your age, or whatever your background. The commons is for you, for us.

It is in this spirit that we invite you to join, if you haven't yet, the [Taos Institute Online Community](#), soon to be known as “The Taos Institute Commons.”