About Seung Chan (Slim) Lim

Seung Chan (Slim) Lim is an award-winning designer/author and researcher/engineer. He started his career in 1999 at MAYA Design practicing human-centered design and distributed computing systems research. There, he lead/participated in numerous projects to help Fortune 500 companies innovate. He then spent several years conducting research into the disciplines of craft and visual/performing arts. From this experience, he developed a new approach to the creative process through the lens of empathy.

Integrating together his 15 years of cross-disciplinary experiences, he consults, speaks, and runs workshops globally focusing on the development of empathy for the purpose of creativity, personal growth/empowerment, organizational change/leadership, interdisciplinary collaboration, innovation, and social entrepreneurship.

Currently, there is much buzz in the U.S. surrounding the word empathy. Unfortunately, there is also much confusion. For example, many reduce empathy to being emotionally affected by, feeling sorry for, or behaving nicely toward others, while also concluding that it is absolutely incompatible with reason and logic. Given that social psychologist Daniel Batson has identified eight significantly different ways people use the word, this is not a surprise.

This talk intends to not only explain what empathy is, but also to challenge our preconceived notions of empathy, by framing it as the driver/enabler of the creative process.

Launching by the Marcel Desautels Institute for Integrated Management (MDIIM), the Social Economy Initiative (SEI) is an important vehicle through which McGill’s Desautels Faculty of Management integrates social entrepreneurship and social innovation into its teaching, research and outreach activities. Please visit www.mcgill.ca/sei or contact Anita Nowak, Integrating Director (anita.nowak@mcgill.ca) for more information.

The Institute for the Public Life of Arts and Ideas (IPLAI) is about thinking big, challenging boundaries, and building bridges. A collaboration led by researchers in seven faculties and schools at McGill, IPLAI is a leader in innovative, interdisciplinary research and teaching in the humanities that reorients the university toward the world.