

# The future of the IA Profession: Transition or Transformation?

## Team 1: Knowledge is power - The Future is... Competent Experts!



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# Knowledge is power – the view from academia

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# Pitch

Knowledge is power - the view from academia.

As a researcher, consultant, teacher and observer of IA practice for over 20 years, my view is that effective IA practice requires competent experts who possess the following three attributes:

- ①. a base load of theoretical knowledge, gained through an initial period of sustained focused study,
- ② The skills <sup>and</sup> ability to be critically reflective of their own practice and the practice of others, and to adapt their practice <sup>accordingly</sup> to be more effective. Reflexive skills are built through critical thinking which periods of academic study enhance.
- ③ Awareness that expertise is more than just being able to 'talk the talk' - when a new area of practice emerges or evolves, the competent practitioner will recognise the need to become a 'novice' again and find that base load of new knowledge.

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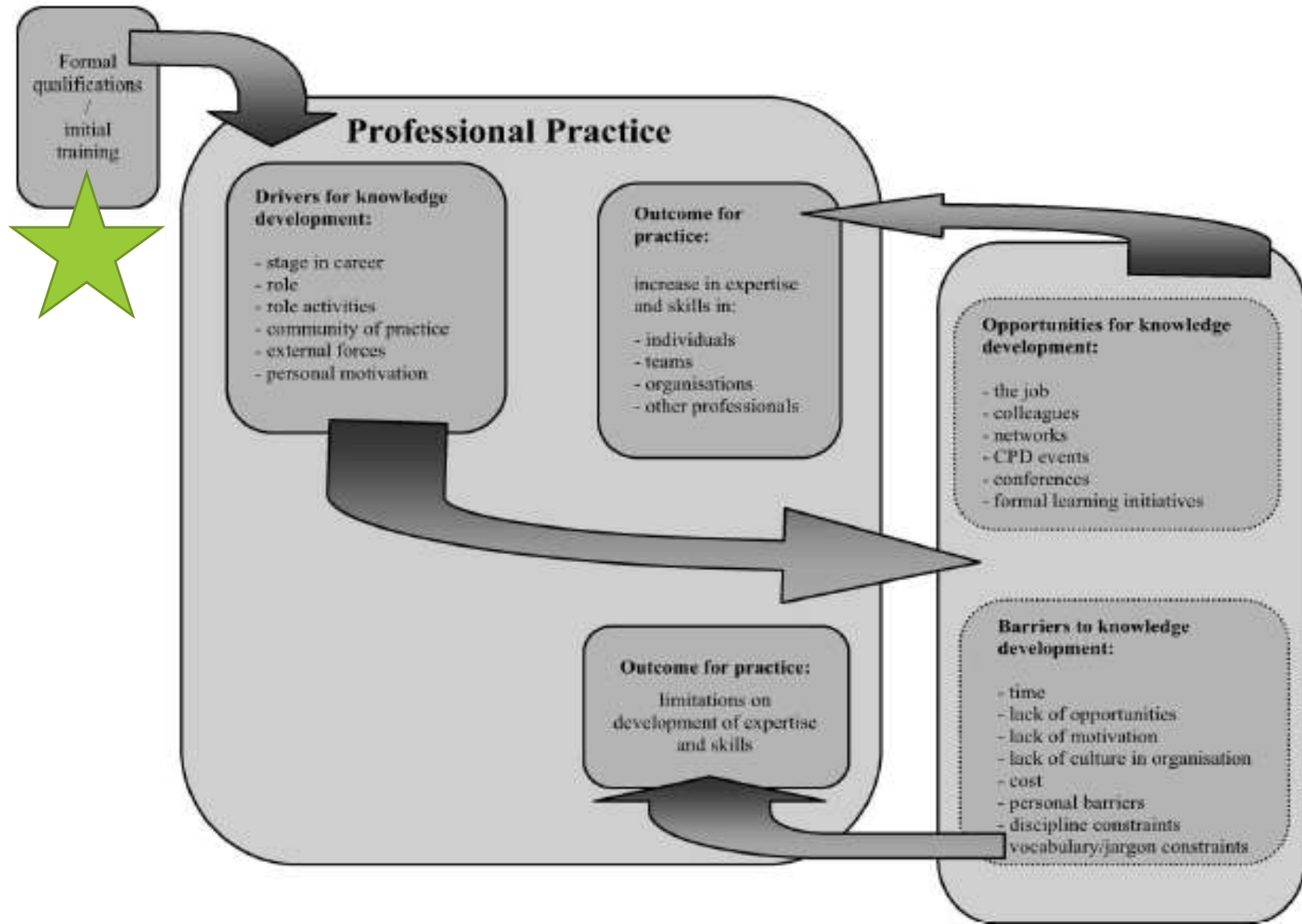


FIGURE 1. Theoretical framework. *Source:* Author's own data.

Durning et al (2010) The Spiral of Knowledge Development – Professional Knowledge Development in Planning. *Planning Practice & Research*, Vol. 25, No. 4, pp. 497–516,

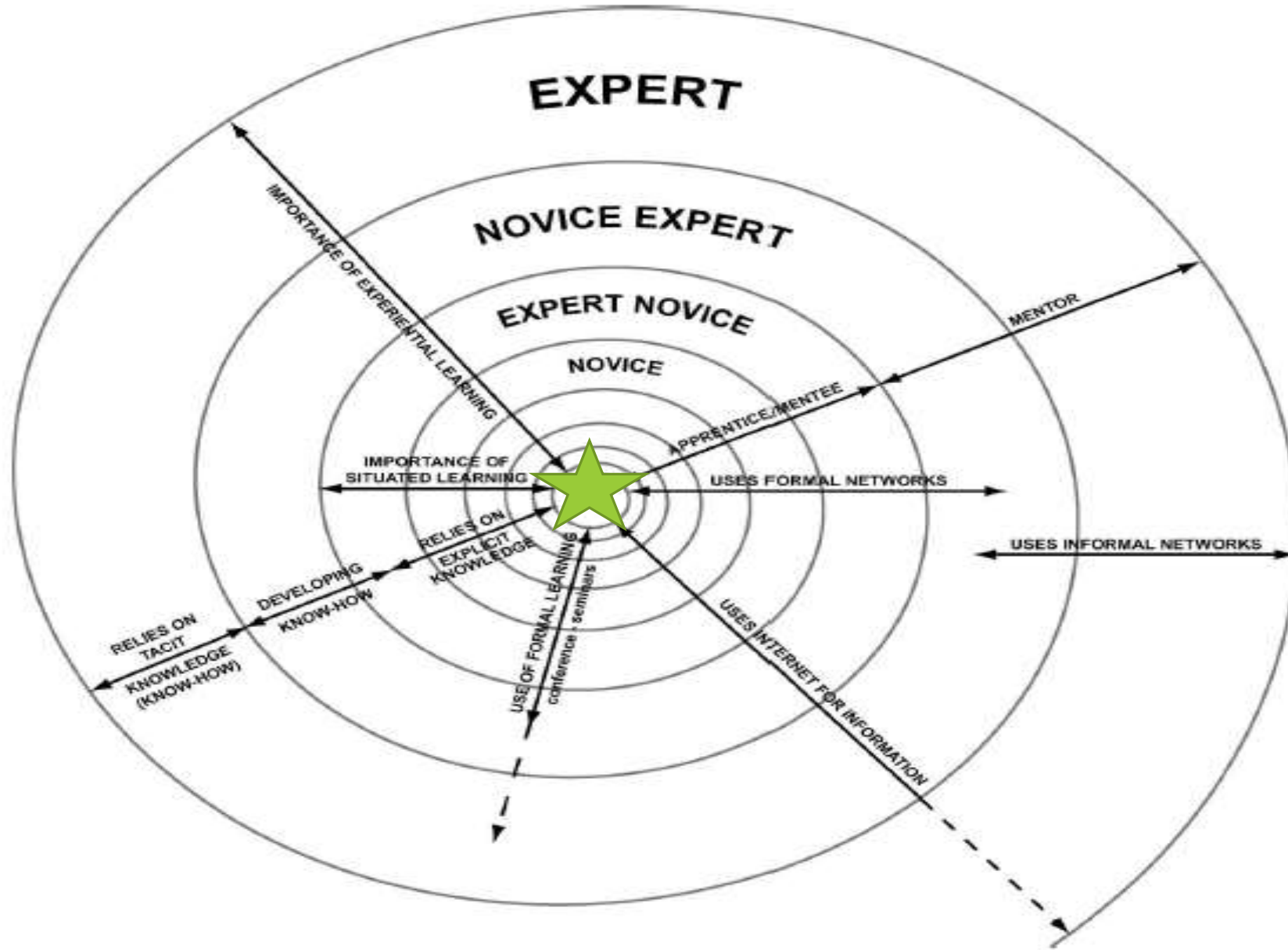


FIGURE 2. Spiral of knowledge development. *Source:* Author's own data.

Durning et al (2010) The Spiral of Knowledge Development – Professional Knowledge Development in Planning. *Planning Practice & Research*, Vol. 25, No. 4, pp. 497–516,

# Let's continue the conversation!

Post questions and comments in the IAIA24 app.



**#iaia24**

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