UNIVERSAL THEMES AND GENERALIZATIONS

1. CHANGE

5. POWER

2. CONFLICT

6. STRUCTURE

3. ORDER vs. CHAOS

7. SYSTEMS

4. PATTERNS

8. RELATIONSHIPS

1. Change

- change generates additional change
- change can be either positive/negative
- change is inevitable
- change is necessary for growth
- change can be evolutionary or revolutionary

2. Conflict

- conflict is composed of opposing forces
- conflict may be natural or human-made
- conflict may be intentional or unintentional
- conflict may allow for synthesis and change

3. Order vs. Chaos

- order may be natural or constructed
- order may allow for prediction
- order is a form of communication
- order may have repeated patterns
- order and chaos are reciprocals
- order leads to chaos and chaos leads to order

4. Patterns

- patterns have segments that are repeated
- patterns allow for prediction
- patterns have an internal order
- patterns are enablers

5. Power

- power is the ability to influence
- power may be used or abused
- power is always present in some form
- power may take many forms (chemical, electrical, political, mechanical)

6. Structure

- structures have parts that interrelate
- parts of structures support and are supported by other parts
- smaller structures may be combined to form larger structures
- a structure is no stronger than its weakest component part

7. Systems

- systems have parts that work to complete a task
- systems are composed of sub-systems
- parts of systems are interdependent upon one another and form symbiotic relationships
- a system may be influenced by other systems
- systems interact
- systems follow rules

8. Relationships

- everything is related in some way
- all relationships are purposeful
- relationships change over time