



## Thinking and Acting Like a Collaborative Network Weaver



Interaction Institute  
*for Social Change*



# A Few Words About Networks

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***“We never know how our small activities will affect others through the invisible fabric of our connectedness. In this exquisitely connected world, it’s never a question of ‘critical mass.’ It’s always about critical connections.”***

**- Grace Lee Boggs  
(community organizer)**

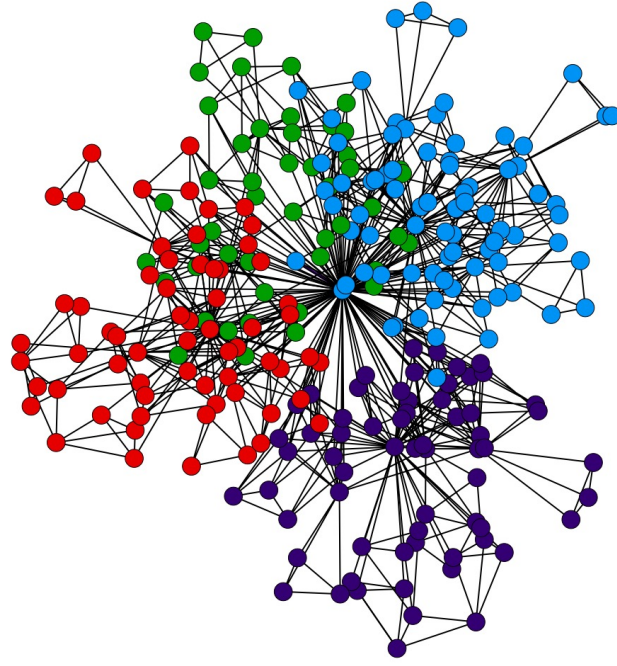
# **A Network Story**

# Green



# Healthy

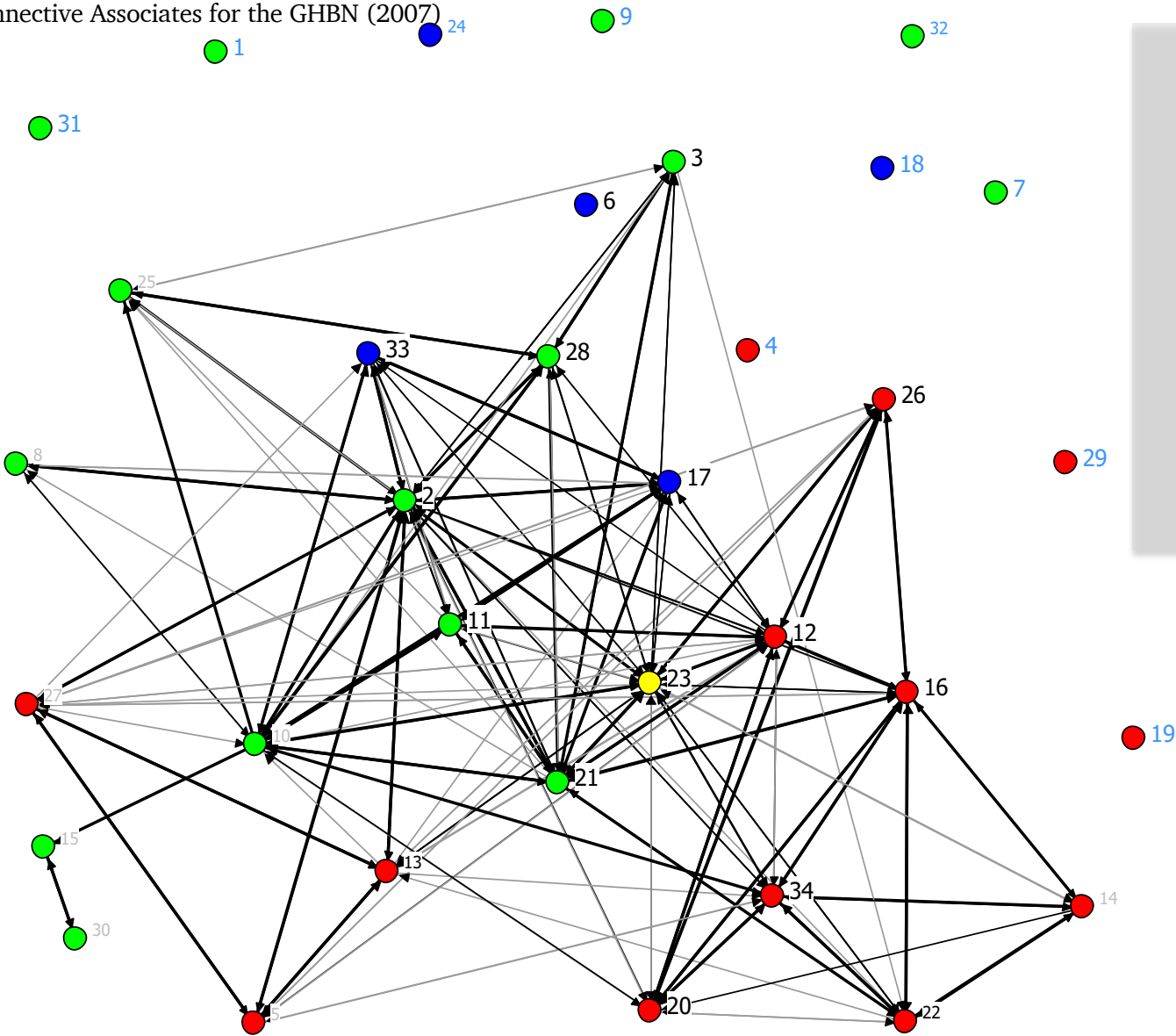




# Boston Green & Healthy Building Network

## Knowing Each Other 2005

Created by Connective Associates for the GHBN (2007)



Green	Environment
Red	Health
Blue	Government
Yellow	Funder

New Members have blue labels

Non-Respondents have small labels

- Thick line: Very Well
- Medium line: Well
- Thin line: Somewhat

# Top Ten Pairs of People Who Should 'Do Lunch'

Tom Peters  
John Meyer **42/40**

Tom Peters **28/32**  
Sam Klein

Jean Gabriel **34/22**  
John Meyer

John Meyer **26/28**  
Sam Klein

Jean Gabriel **26/22**  
Sam Klein

John Meyer **27/17**  
Paul Field



Tom Peters **32/30**  
Jean Gabriel

Susan Cook **32/21**  
Paul Field

Frank Cosgrove **32/13**  
Madeline Owens

Paul Field **24/15**  
Jean Gabriel



**3. Who is your key audience for this strategy, i.e., whose behavior are you trying to influence?**

	Standard development	Standard implementation	Education - conferences	Education - training workshops	Education - written materials	Education - videos	Education - web tools	Technical assistance	Legislative advocacy	Research & promote case studies	Community organizing	Other: A
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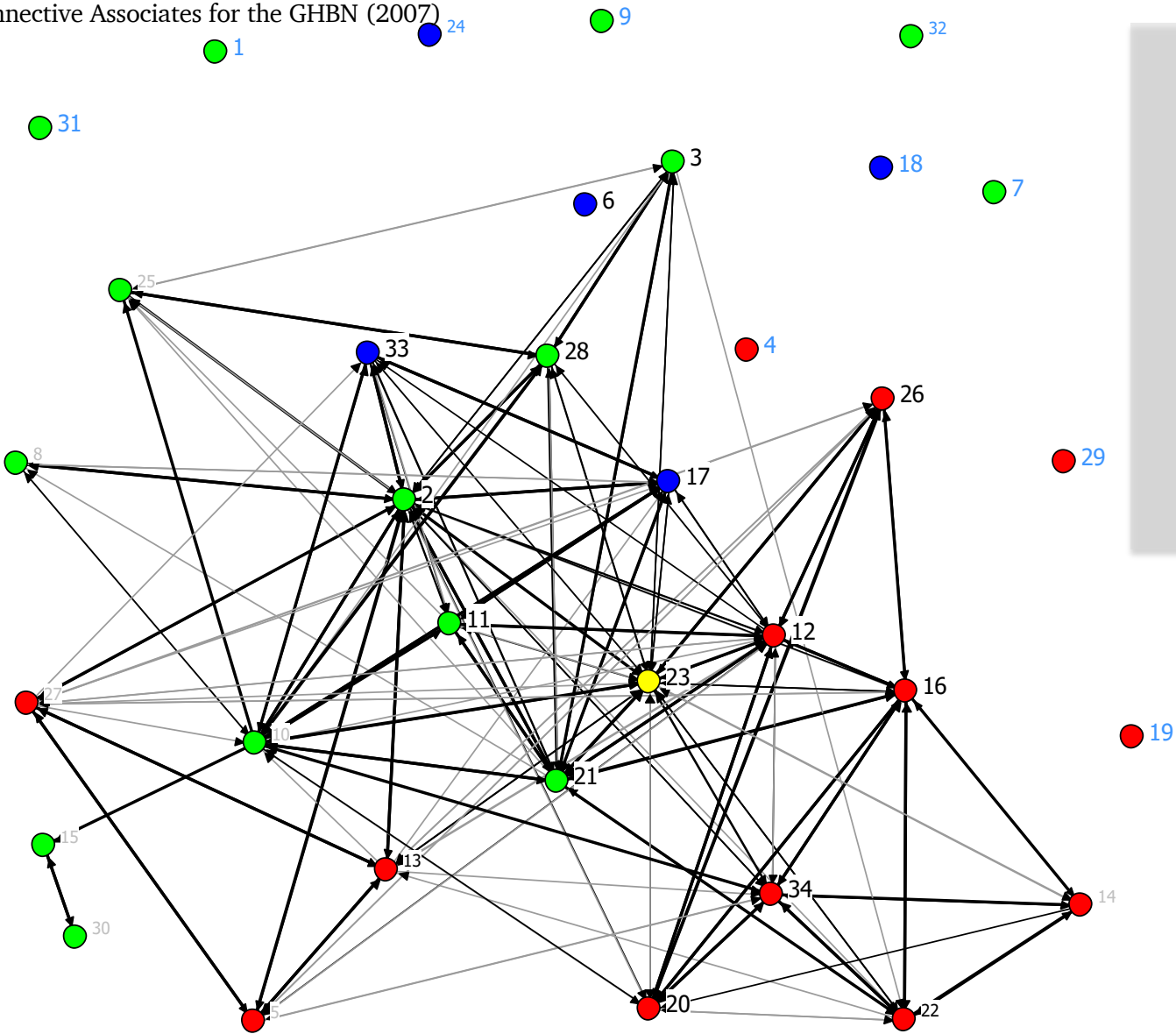
**Government**

City of Boston:	GHNE, GRT	GHNE, MC, GRT	NCHH, NESEA, GRT	GHNE, MC, NESEA, SSNE, GRT	MC, GRT		GHNE, GRT	NCHH, GHNE, GRT	MC, GRT	NCHH, GHNE, NEI, SSNE	MC	GHNE
- Mayors Office	ARC, BUAC, HCWH	NCHH, ARC, BUAC, HCWH, GRT	HCWH, NESEA, GRT	NCHH, SSNE, GRT	GRT		HCWH, GRT	GRT	BUAC, GRT	NCHH, HCWH	BUAC	
- DND	ARC, BUAC, GRT	NCHH, ARC, BUAC, MC, NEI, GRT	BUAC, NESEA, GRT	NCHH, ARC, BUAC, NESEA, SSNE, GRT	NCHH, ARC, GRT		GRT	NCHH, GRT	BUAC, MC	NCHH	BUAC, MC	
			NESEA, NESEA, SSNE,									

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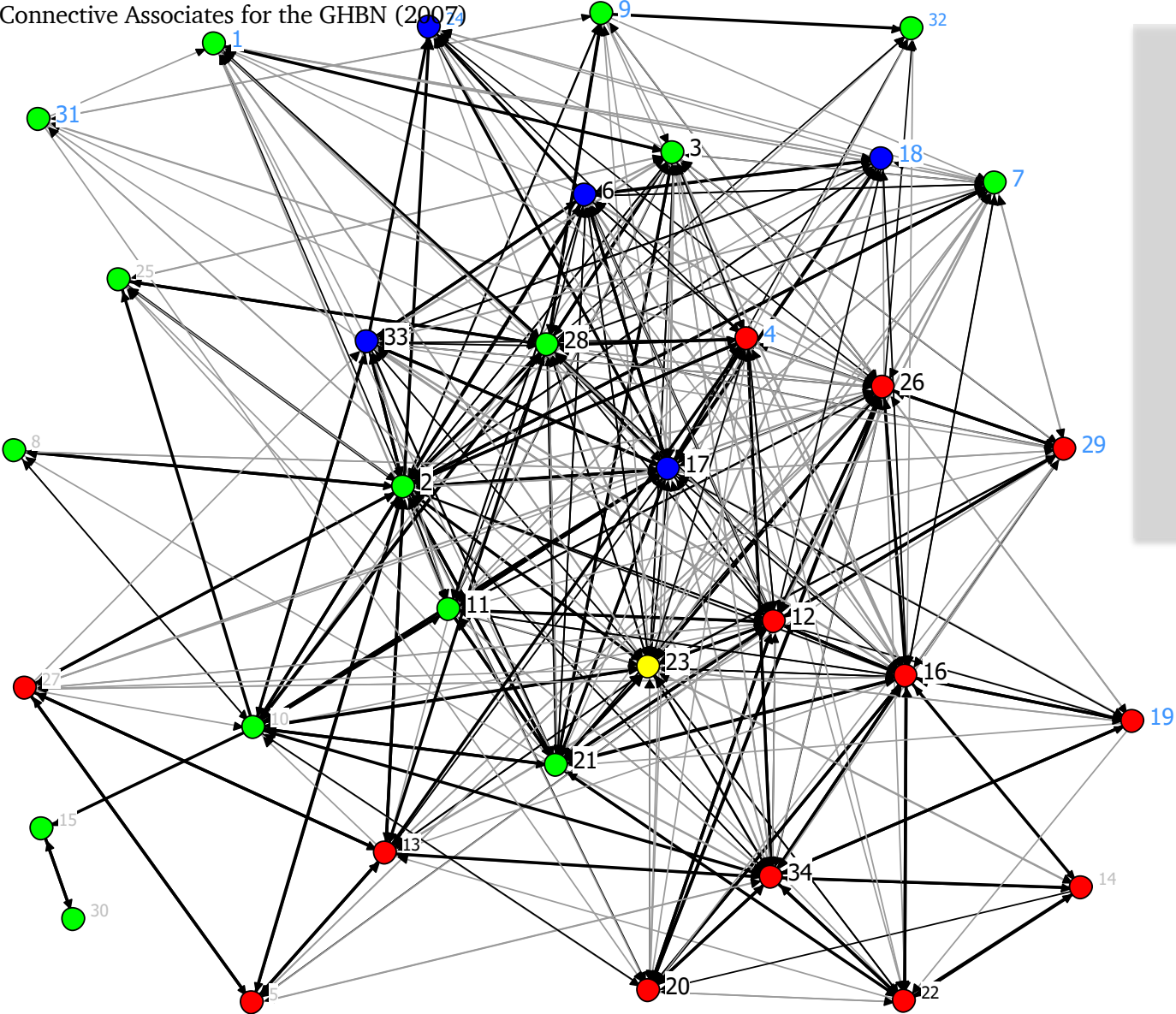
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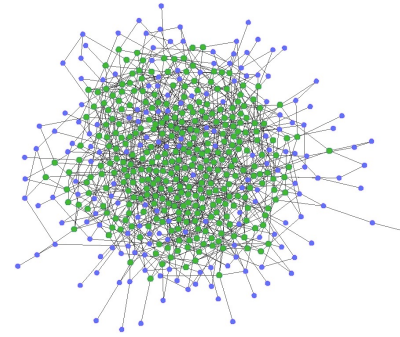
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Well

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## Results



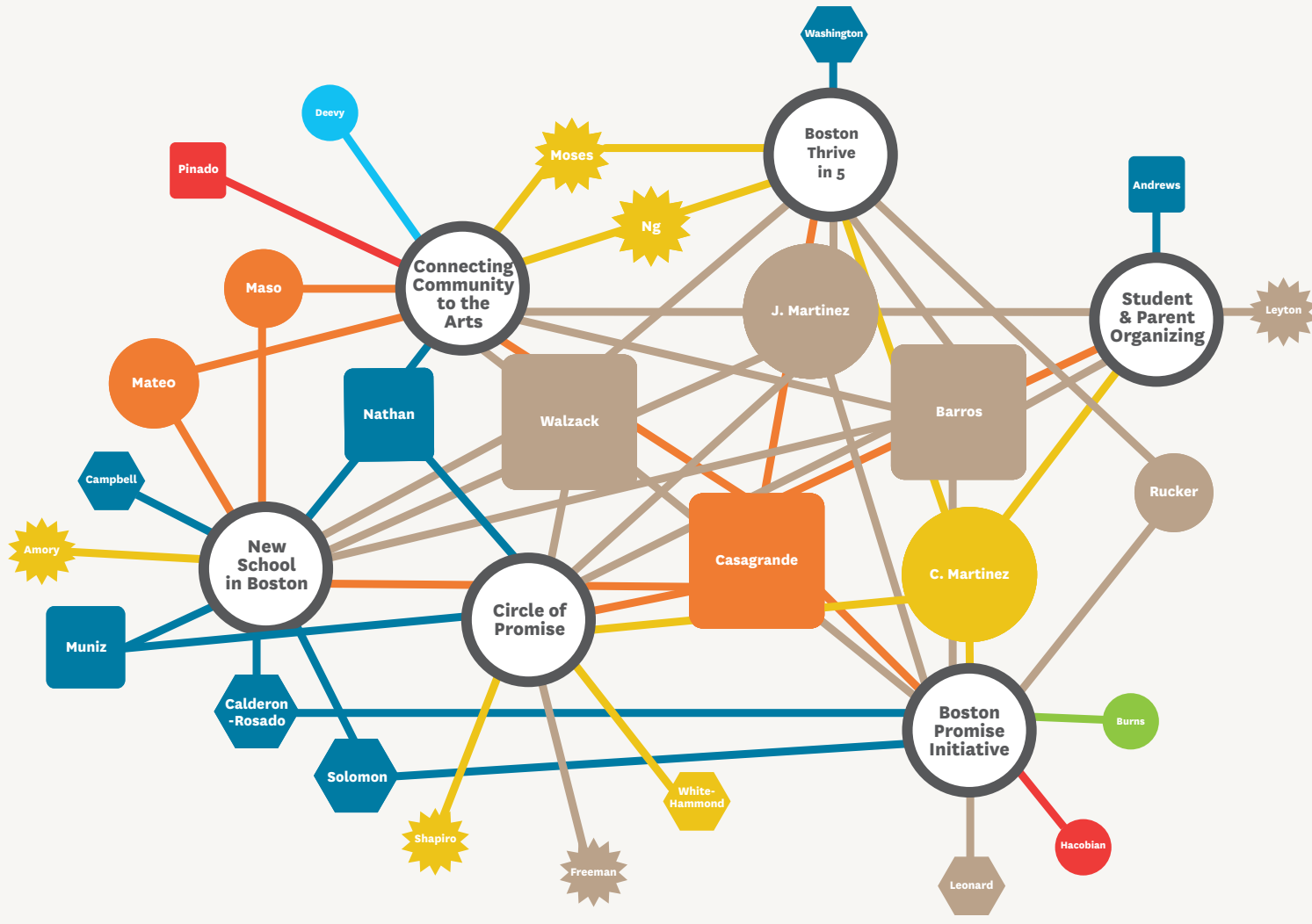
- Deeper relationships and expanded knowledge of each other's work
- Greater alignment and coordination of advocacy work
- Enhanced access to decision-makers
- Integration of network objectives in City projects
- Emergent opportunities and collaborations

# **A(nother) Network Story**

# Barr Fellows



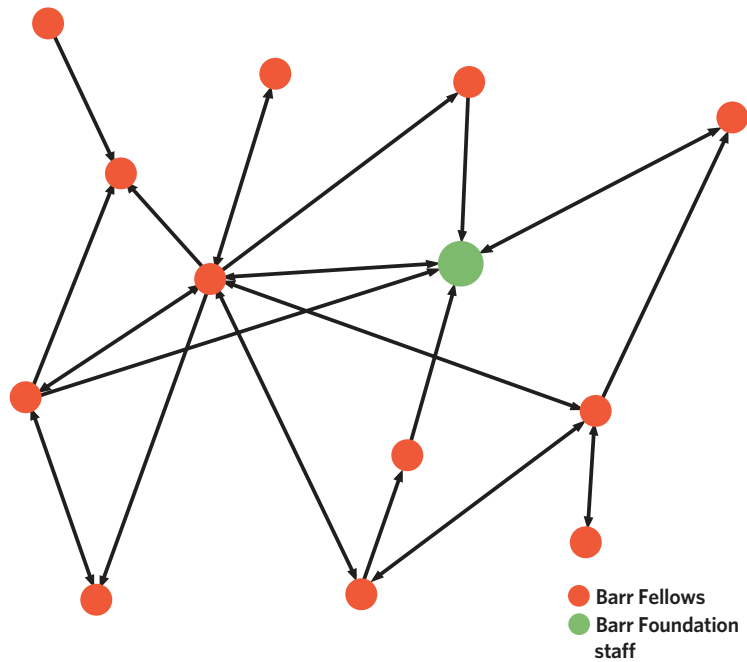
# Education Clusters



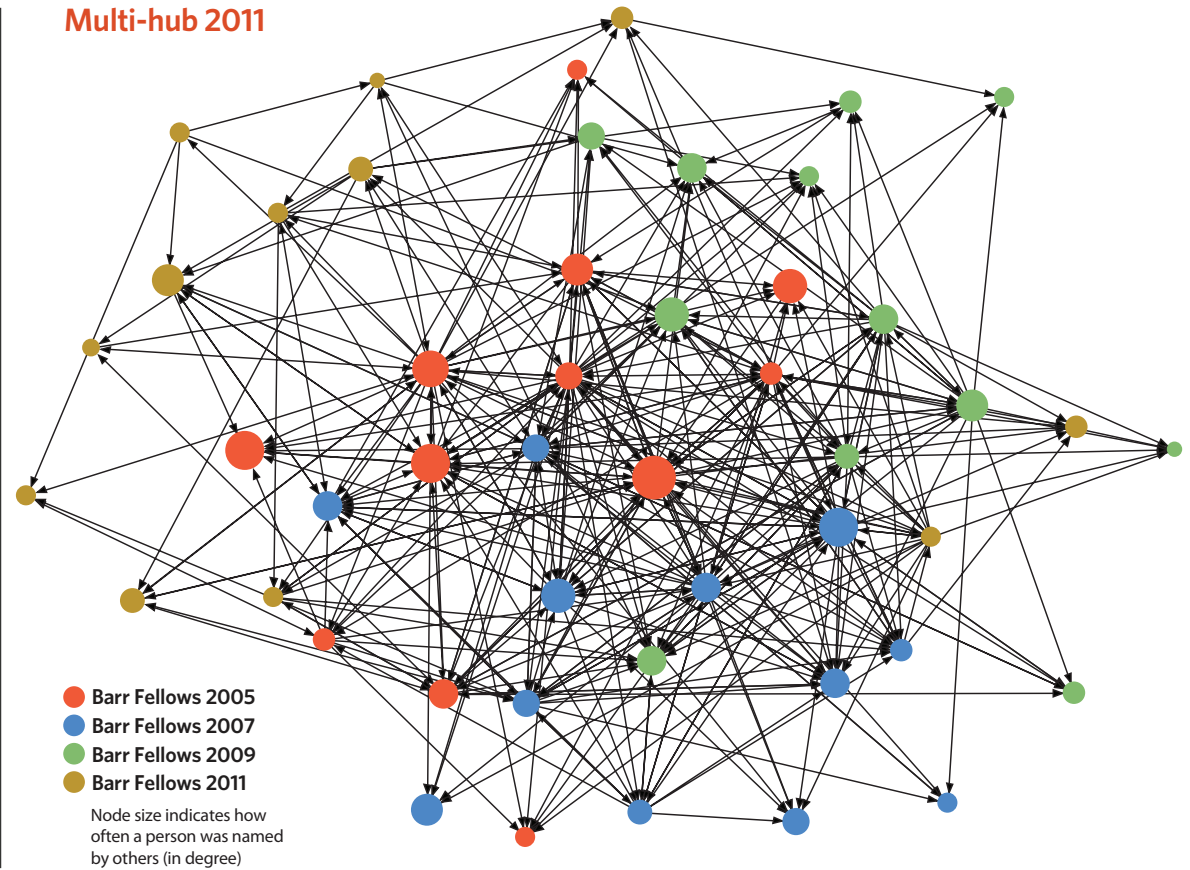
# Social/Network Capital

## Barr Fellows Network Development

### Hub and Spoke 2005



### Multi-hub 2011

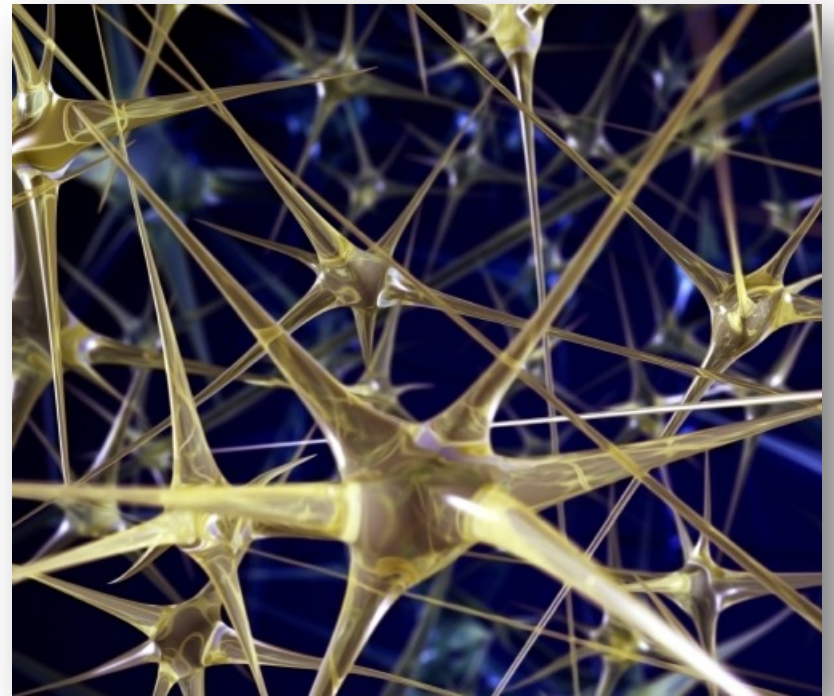




# **What, Why and How of Effective Networks**

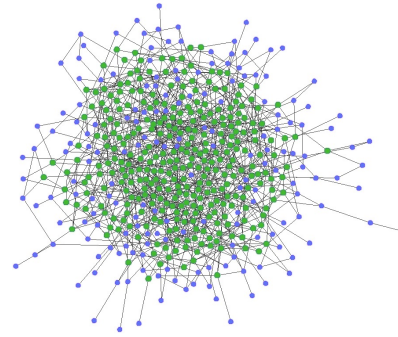
# What Are Networks?

- Sets of “nodes and links,” of elements that are connected to each other.
- “Patterns of flow” of resources, information, nutrients, etc.
- People and organizations linking to achieve *collective* goals; i.e., produce net gains





# Network Value



- Being with people who inspire and support me
- Learning about topics relevant to my work
- Getting updates on and fuller picture of the changing environment that shapes my work
- New tools, skills and tactics to support my work (policy analysis and research, communications, outreach and engagement, fundraising, management)
- Being affiliated with something that has prestige/recognition
- Amplification of voice and efforts
- Access to funding and other resources
- New partnerships/joint projects and activities



**Coordination**

**Convening**

**Weaving**

**Network  
Leadership**

**Process Design**

**Facilitation**

**Communications**

**Coordination**

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# Thinking and Acting Like a Network Weaver

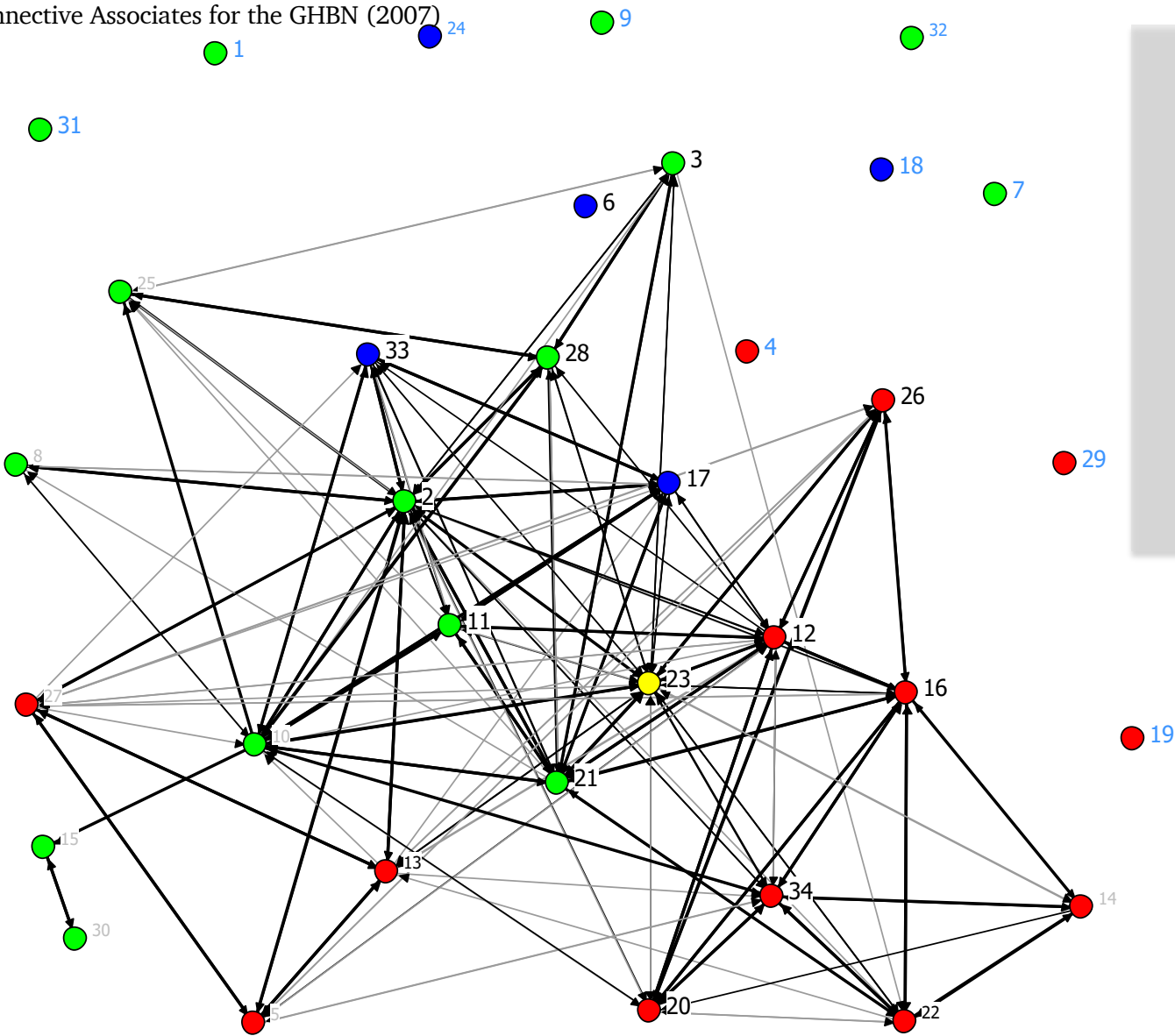
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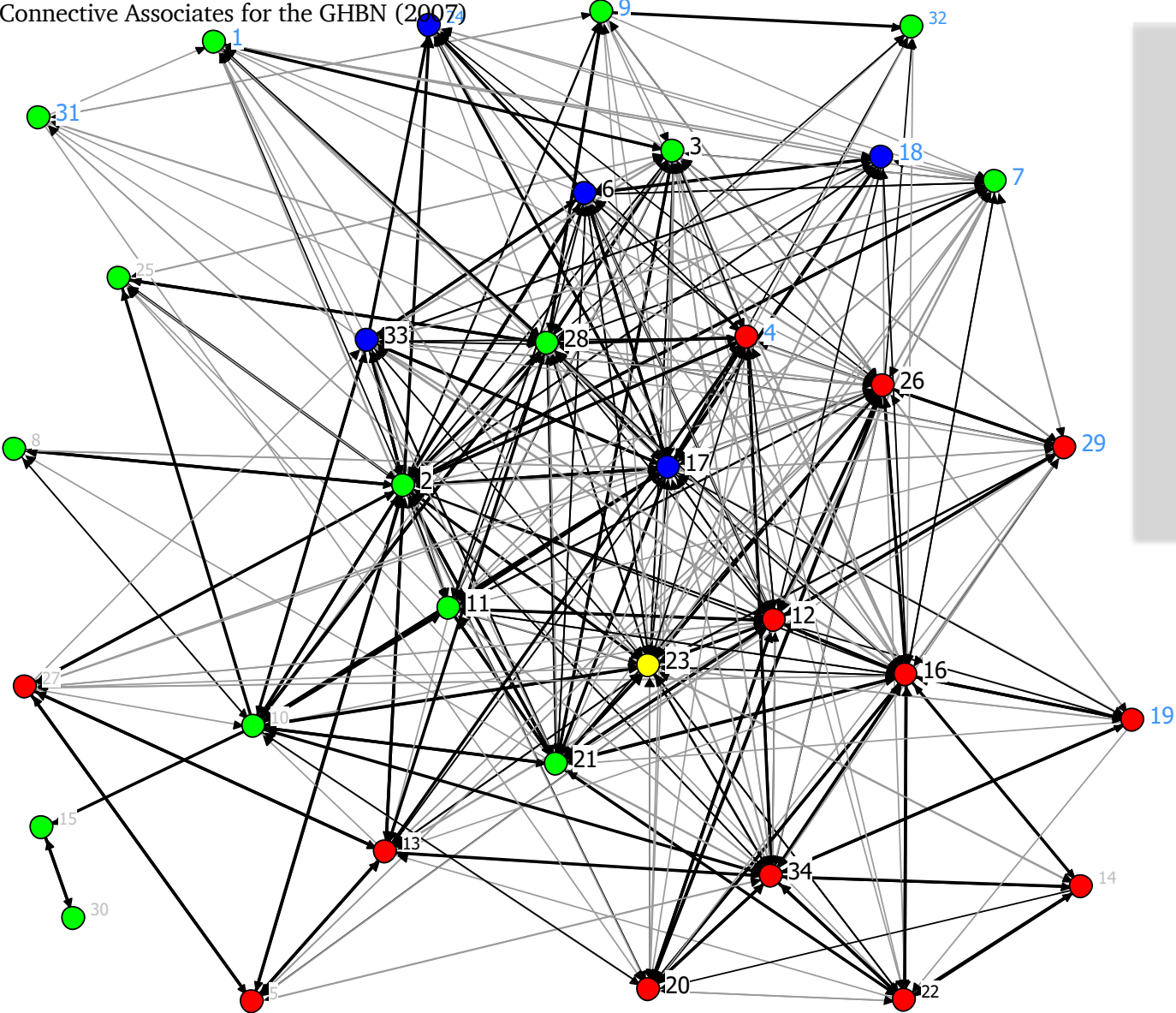
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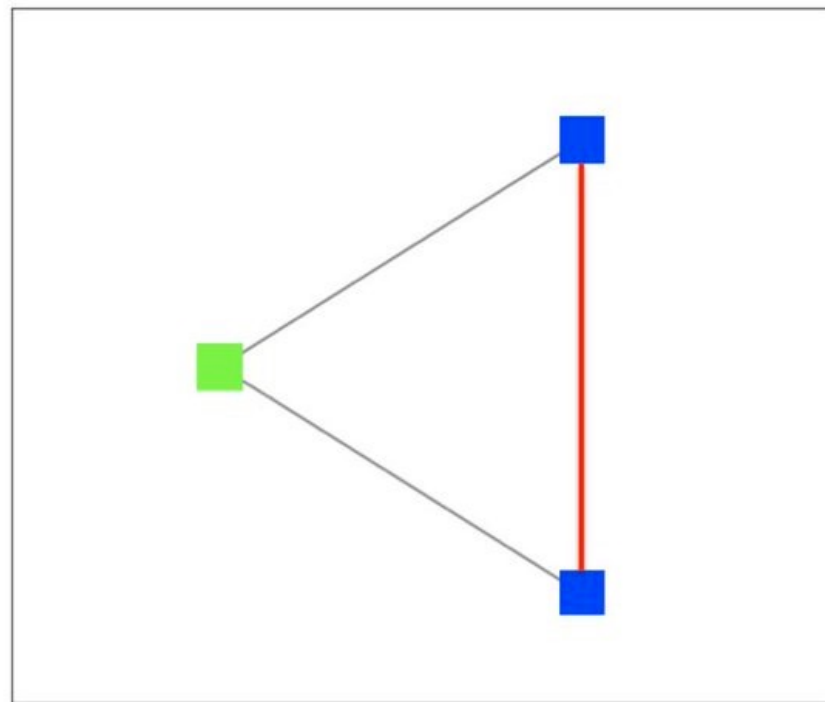
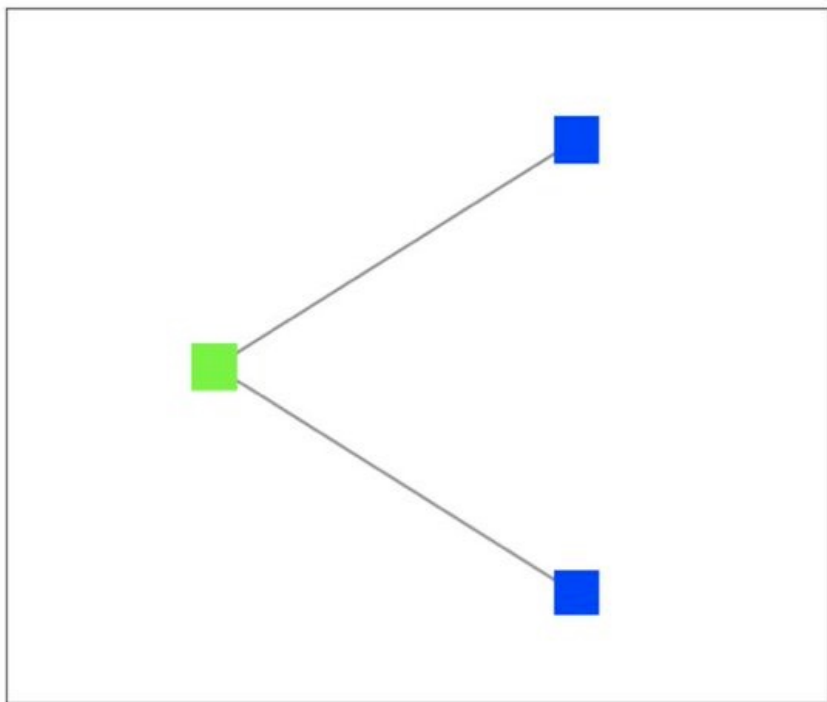
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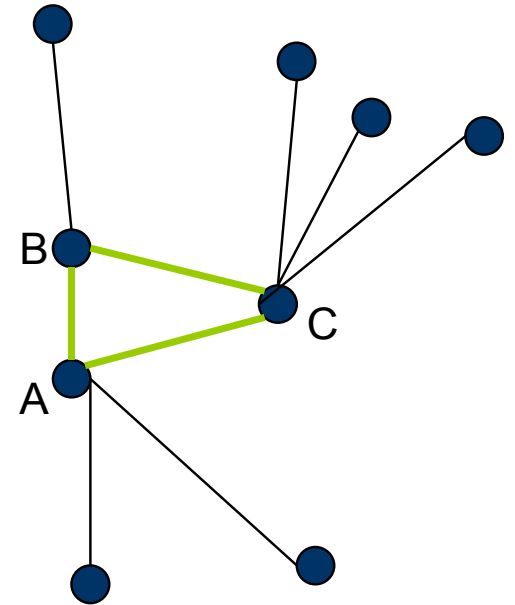
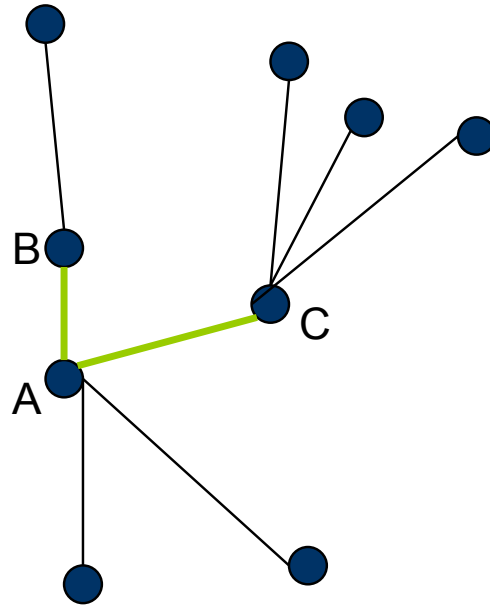
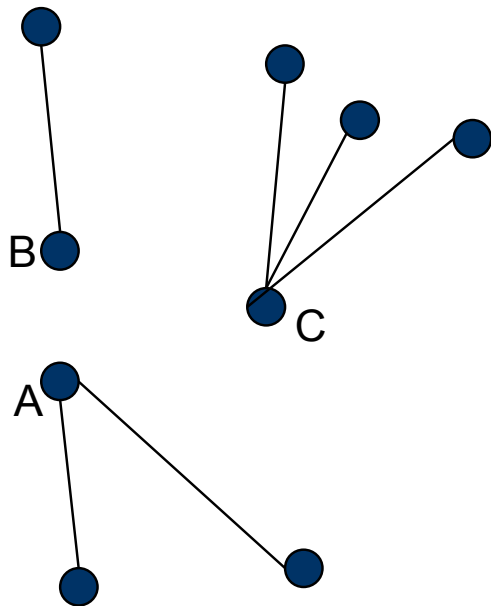
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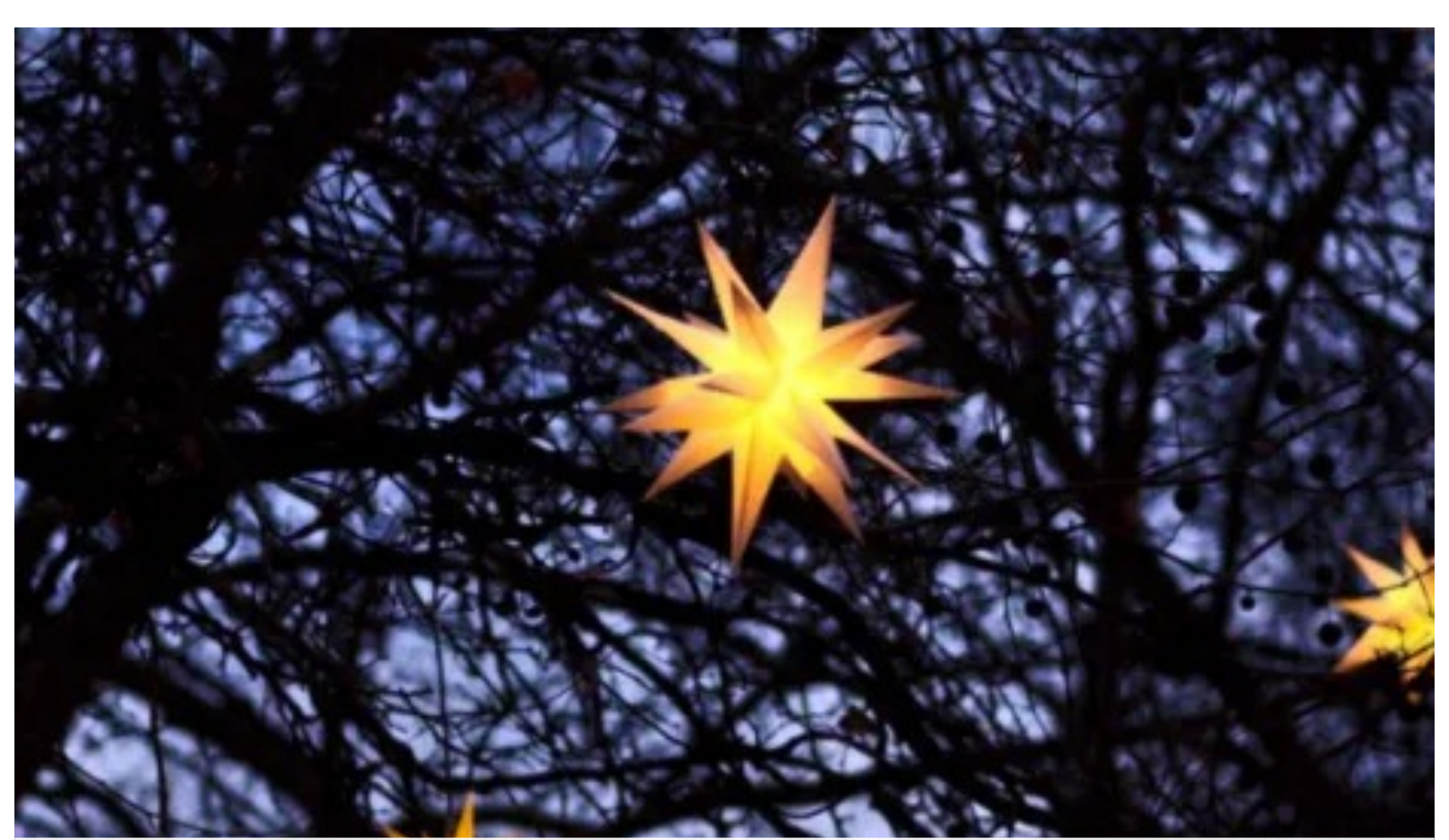


# Close Triangles



# Weave the Net





# Network Weaver Assessment

