



FUTURES BULLETIN

The newsletter of the World Futures Studies Federation

Vol. 32, No. 2 March 2007

CONTENTS

Editorial

COMMUNITY HOUSE 2

MEMBERS 2

International Award for a Dialogue
of Civilisations for JC KAPUR.....2

Kate McCALLUM.....2

Marianne RUGÅRD.....3

FEDERATION 4

IN 4

Next World Conference in Taiwan,
May 2008.....4

WFSF member (2007-2009) of the
International Advisory Board of
the Finland Futures Academy... ..4

WFSF meeting in Latin America
20076

From the secretariat..... 8

UNESCO Participation Programme
2006-2007, WFSF's winning bid .8

NEW RELEASES 8

Migration without borders8

Global Risks 20079

FUTURES RIDE 10

Developing constructive, optimistic
and creative attitudes and
behaviours about the future. Part
Three – The Self Narrative,
Optimism and Self-efficacy, and
the Evolving Future Self.....10

Fifty Years of Artificial Intelligence
– the Whereabouts of AI 14

FS IN THE WORLD17

New Listing of Global Futures
Studies Programs.....17

The University Futures Network18

FTA Forum.....18

ANNOUNCEMENTS 20

Editorial

I have been monitoring the very intense and interesting activity of on the WFSF list-serv that has been occurring in recent weeks, especially the discussions prompted by the "Detailed Roadmap of the 21st Century" video posted by Aharon HAUPTMAN. That brought many questions that I haven't recently had time to think about straight back to my head!

First, I was reminded about the problem pointed out long time ago by Hasan OZBEKHAN about the need to differentiate between 'what will be' and 'what people would want to be' in regard to technology. But, are we still able to do that? Or, are we past the point in which humanity can still control technological development? Sometimes, I feel we are like in the ASIMOV'S story* about the time viewing machine that allows people to see what has happened in the past, the machine saw the day light and there is no return any more...

It seems to me that many people believe or tend to think, consciously or not, that technology is our only hope to effectively deal with the world's problems. Technological progress will tackle energy shortages; deal with climate change, feed hungry, provide shelter, cure the sick and so on... But, will it really? Or, perhaps the problem lies somewhere else... Perhaps, the solutions to these problems do not lie in technology per se, but in people's attitudes, aspirations and wishes... Maybe it is the last moment to look at ourselves and start thinking what people actually want, and not what they are made to believe they want and made believe will solve their problems and make them happy...

Ela KRAWCZYK

* Isaac ASIMOW, *The Dead Past*, in Complete Stories, Vol. 1, 1990.

Next issues of the Futures Bulletin:

15 May 15 July 15 September 15 November 15 December 2007

SECTION 1 - COMMUNITY HOUSE

MEMBERS

International Award for a Dialogue of Civilisations for JC KAPUR [JC KAPUR]



The World Public Forum was established about 5 years ago with Mr. J C KAPUR as one of its Founders and Co-Chairman.

During this period the Forum has made a commendable progress and has become an important platform - a kind of coalition of worldwide intellectuals for the exchange of ideas for a peaceful and sustainable human order.

The annual meeting of the Forum is held every year at Rhodes, Greece. The last meeting (in October 2006) was attended by over 500 people from 42 different countries and included a large number of religious leaders, academics and wide diversity of opinion makers. The forum is thus making a significant contribution in spreading the message of peace and harmony through a dialogue amongst nations and peoples and not through increasingly violent means as at present.

In January 2007, during the *Russian-Indian conference on the problems of innovation development* the award was presented to Mr J C KAPUR for his important contributions as founder and co-chairman of the forum and the seminal ideas reflected in his speeches and interactions. Two speeches of Mr KAPUR to the World Public Forum were recently published in the Futures Bulletin (Vol. 31 (2006), Issues 2,3 & 6, Vol. 32 (2007), Issue 1).

Welcoming New Members

Kate McCALLUM [Kate McCALLUM]



Kate MCCALLUM has been actively employed in the arts and entertainment industry for over 27 years with the very good fortune to have worked with some of the top writers and creators in the business on episodic series such as LAW & ORDER, THE MARSHAL, EQUALIZER, CRIME STORY, MIAMI VICE, GIMME A BREAK and CHARLES IN CHARGE and more... In association with the production company, Alexander/Enright & Associates, she developed and was a producer on a life rights NBC TV movie "WHAT KIND OF MOTHER ARE YOU?" which starred Mel HARRIS and Nicholle TOM, and also spent several years as V.P. Creative at WESTERN SANDBLAST/ PARAMOUNT TV working with Dan PYNE (MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE 2004, ANY GIVEN SUNDAY, DOC HOLLYWOOD, etc.), John MANKIEWITZ and Aaron LIPSTADT (THE DIVISION, THE MARSHAL, MIAMI VICE, etc.) where she developed and sold MOWs and series concepts.

As a journalist, Kate created and writes her own column for *scr(i)pt* magazine, called *THE GREAT IDEA*, and founded BRIDGE ARTS MEDIA, a transmedia property development and consulting company. In addition to her work with BRIDGE, Kate recently worked with Michael CHERNUCHIN at NBC/UNIVERSAL TV where they developed TV content then served as VP Programming for the launch out of HARMONY CHANNEL.

Kate currently works for the LA OPERA as the Executive Administrator and is a member of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, holds a BA in Communications and Music from Western Michigan University and an MA in

Consciousness Studies from The University of Philosophical Research, Los Angeles. She co-founded *The Centre For Conscious Creativity (c3)* with Philip HORVATH to create an organizational think-tank which explores the power of synergizing creativity, consciousness, and future studies towards the creation of more transformational art and media.

Kate has been a guest speaker and panellist at several writers' conferences and pitch fests, teaches workshops in CREATING CROSS MEDIA CONTENT and WRITING AND CREATING FOR THE SMALL SCREEN, and recently co-produced a writers' conference in Los Angeles with The Southern California Writers Conference [www.writersconference.com]. She is member of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, the World Future Society, the World Future Studies Organization, and the Institute for Noetic Sciences, as well as an avid photographer, and a musician. She makes her home in Los Angeles with her teenage daughter.

Kate's interest in future studies came at an early age, somewhere in my mid-20's. She discovered the magazine, "THE FUTURIST" which was published by the World Future Society, found it very intriguing and became a member. Kate eagerly looked forward to reading each new edition of the publication and was compelled by the information. A few years ago she developed a TV series based on the visions of futurists, attended a WFS conference to get on camera interviews and was extremely impressed with the quality of the attendees. She is aware that future studies is an art and science in itself and while most of my formal studies have been in the arena of human potential and consciousness, along with media communication and the arts, Kate looks forward to more formalized understanding of future studies. In fact, she hopes to pursue a Doctorate in this area with an emphasis on the future of media. She believes that through education, awareness and creative thinking, people have the ability to co-create not only healthier personal futures but a more positive, life-affirming global future as well, and she looks forward to going deeper into this work.



Marianne RUGÅRD [Marianne RUGÅRD]

My name is Marianne RUGÅRD and I am a third culture kid living in Trollhättan, Sweden. My academic background is founded in economics, management and psychology with extensive work experience from the travel industry and publishing. When using the different facets of my education in my professional life, I soon found that a pattern emerged which indicated that the travel industry was a dominant and leading trend in society as it built upon western society's two most precious resources: time and money. It is, furthermore, my belief that the travel industry may be an early indicator for trends in the financial market. However, what started as an early interest soon became a fervent passion, and I started devoting my leisure to exploring different ways to prove my idea, with the aim of eventually finishing up with an equation predicting financial market trends based on activities in the travel industry.

Writing is my other passion and the way I make my living. I have my own marketing and copywriting company which caters for the international market, and a few months ago I started a small publishing company which publishes books written by youngsters for youngsters. I see that as a new trend, though I have not yet tried to formulate an equation. Who knows, it might be the next step! However, one thing is for sure, and that is that books are the cornerstones of our society, and a lovely balance to the other virtual realities in our society.

FEDERATION

IN

Next World Conference in Taiwan, May 2008 [Fabienne GOUX-BAUDIMENT]

As it has been announced on the WFSF elist, on February 19, the SA Node for the MP (associated to the African Futures Institute) and the WFSF Executive Board have decided that the 20th WFSF Conference could no longer be held in Capetown, South Africa, next November. The reasons lay in the major difficulties we had to align our mutual constraints. This experience brought a real enrichment to the Executive Team, EB included, as we better assess now the role of the WFSF culture and the need for a face-to-face communication in the constraining process of organising a WFSF world conference. Thanks mainly to the Budapest Team for the 19th WFSF World Conference, a booklet about the organisational process have been made. The Executive Board is now working on an additional part related to the WFSF culture and requirements about the organisation of such a conference.

Meanwhile, one of our EB members, Kuo-Hua CHEN, has offered to host the next World Conference in the University of [Tamkang](#), in TAIWAN, with the agreement of the founding president of this university, Dr Clement C.P. CHANG. The opportunity to hold a WFSF World Conference in Tamkang University has long been postponed as UNESCO policy did not allow it under its Participation Program umbrella. As our next conference will not be funded by UNESCO, nothing now prevents us to do so.

Thus this is with a sincere great pleasure that we can now announce that the 20th WFSF World Conference will be held in Taiwan, in May 2008.

During a meeting in Seoul in the end of March (hence the delay in the publication of this issue of this issue of the FB), Sohail INAYATULLAH, head of the Local Organizing Committee on behalf the Tamkang University team, and I have worked along the following lines. The conference would be dedicated to Futures Education, including the futures of university, virtual education, Futures Studies in education, education for future alternatives, etc. It would last from 5 to 9 May, with workshops, plenaries, sessions, panels, etc.

We will keep you posted about the evolution of this preparation. Please do not hesitate to send us, from now on, your comments, suggestions and intention to participate to this event!

WFSF member (2007-2009) of the International Advisory Board of the Finland Futures Academy [Fabienne GOUX BAUDIMENT]



Finland Futures Academy (FFA) is a national education and research network of 17 Finnish universities (including all the 16 scientific universities and the University of Art and Design). The basic task of the FFA is to offer a futures studies (foresight) subsidiary study programme (25 ECTS-credits) in the member universities. In addition, there are Futures -1-2 -courses, which are taught in English and organised together with foreign partner universities (in e.g. Italy, Estonia, and Hungary). Additionally there are post-graduate thematic courses and doctoral programmes such as The Graduate School in Future Business Competences with 26 doctoral students. There are about 350 students in the academic courses of FFA every year. In order to conquer long geographical distances multiform

learning modes applying modern information technology have been developed.

The FFA is primarily financed by Ministry of Education and it works together with the Finnish Virtual University. The network structure composes of the Board with 17 members, the Working Committee consisting of 6 Board members and 17 tutors (teachers in member universities). The Board members and tutors represent various scientific fields such as technology, business, behavioural and human sciences. The Board together with the International Advisory Board (IAB, see further) draw the guidelines for high quality and multidisciplinary in Futures education. The tutors act as teachers and administrators at their universities. They take care of practical learning facilities in their universities and are committed to assist in creating new learning contents and modes together with the FFA coordination unit. The coordinating university with a coordinator and education coordinator is located in Finland Futures Research Centre (FFRC) at Turku School of Economics (TSE).

Pro-active internationalisation

One of the inspiring goals of FFA is the pro-active internationalisation. In recent years additional steps towards international co-operation have been taken, and in the Strategic Action Plan 2006-2009 designed by the FFA Board, internationalisation is seen as one of the key guidelines of FFA. Since 2003, both FUTURES1 (How Can we Explore the Future?) and FUTURES2 (Futures Research Methods) courses have been offered in English together with European partner universities, actively implementing new technologies in education. The recent development with the establishment of both the Master's Programme and the Graduate School (a national doctoral programme) in the field of future business competences and the eInnForM – European Innovation and Foresight Masters Joint Degree - programme (Turku School of Economics together with Malta, Teeside (UK) and Potsdam (Germany) universities) further consolidates the basis of transforming national expertise into European and world-wide excellence. There is place for increasing the amount of English language courses and taking full advantage of international futures studies expertise both within and outside Europe.

The Vision of the FFA

Finland Futures Academy has a vision, that there will be an international network of universities, "World Futures Academy", promoting futures studies in a global scale. It will offer international study modules for students and create opportunities for international and multidisciplinary research projects. The overall objectives of World Futures Academy are: the enhancement of the abilities, status and opportunities of the futures researchers, specialists, and their organisations in the competition for market shares and in research co-operation; the increased future-oriented expertise, understanding, knowledge and information; and the innovative and sustainable societal progress through the futures studies.

World Futures Academy shall offer internationally co-ordinated study modules both to post- and undergraduate students. The syllabus shall be based on the standard modules and on the special modules, which will be implemented on project basis. World Futures Academy shall be responsible for the implementation of the standard modules. The special modules shall be organised, based on the demand, in collaboration with the relevant partners. The special modules offer possibilities to deepen and widen the scientific and methodological foundations of futures studies.

In order to take the first steps towards the vision of World Futures Academy, an International Advisory Board (IAB) for FFA was established in 2000.

The IAB Members in the forthcoming period

There are eight futures studies experts as IAB Members. There is an aim of consolidated co-operation and initiation of well-based and systematic co-operation between futures studies experts and organisations in the field of futures studies higher education.

The action period of the current IAB Members has expired. There is an ongoing process to renew the IAB in the forthcoming period 2007-09 and to reinforce its profile towards a more balanced representation of futures studies international organisations. There are joint efforts of planting the "seeds" of futures thinking in the universities and pooling resources in the field of futures studies higher education.

This is the reason why the World Futures Studies Federation —being interested in facilitating futures studies higher education in the universities— has been invited to work as a Member of the International Advisory Board of the FFA during the action period 2007-09.

The WFSF facilitates futures studies issues in a variety of contexts (incl. research, development and adult education). With the International Advisory Board and the World Future Academy, FFA mean facilitating futures studies in the context of higher education, mainly in the universities, and focus on creating a joint discussion forum for people who are interested in enhancing futures studies basic education in the universities (levels: candidate, Master's and post-graduate) and who are in a position of taking steps towards that, from different perspectives and starting points.

The idea of the WFA could and should be seen in this context, as an effort to intensify international co-operation in this specific futures field. Behind this initiative there is a strategic decision of devoting a part of FFA national resources to international co-operation.

On March 26th, the Executive Board of the WFSF has accepted to take part in the strengthening of the futures education as a member of the International Advisory Board of the FFA.

WFSF meeting in Latin America 2007 [Eleonora BARBIERI MASINI]



Rodolfo
STAVENHAGEN

I am writing this contribution to WFSF Newsletter to underline the importance of the proposed meeting in Mexico with that intends to bring together future studies experts in Latin America, who are at present members of WFSF or may become such. I am happy the initiative comes from Jordi SERRA DEL PINO. He was my student in Dubrovnik when he was a very young man many years ago, and is from Barcelona that has cultural and traditional relations with Latin America's cultures.

Latin America has always been very interested in the future as its history shows that futures studies have been developing there for many years since the early 70's, even if not always recognized as such. Futures studies changed due to different political situations, in the different historical moments of many of its countries. This is the reason why Futures Studies, being of interest in Latin America, in some countries more than in others, have been more visible at some times and not in others.

As to the WFSF's role, I wish to tell the new generations of members about the role played by many Latin Americans in futures studies and in the WFSF. One of them is Rodolfo STAVENHAGEN, sociologist, anthropologist and Professor at the Colegio de Mexico. In the 70's, he was very active at UNESCO, and made a very important contribution to WFSF at the end of the 70's and in the beginning of the 80's. His paper presented at the WFSF world conference in Stockholm in 1982 on the topic "The Futures of Politics, Governance, Movements and World Order" (proceedings published in 1983 by Frances PINTER, London, Editor William PAGE) is still, in my view, very illuminating for the present and the future.

The topic of STAVENHAGEN'S paper "The Amerindian ethnic groups and State Politics in Latin America", besides the specificity for Latin America, the subject of the article raises issues which are part of his thinking in other writings: old and new forms of colonialism, the unacceptable approach of integration of one ethnic group into another, the importance, on the contrary, of the need for an approach based on cultural dialogue between cultures, with the aim of respectful coexistence.

At present, we discuss the need of an intercultural approach which means reciprocal respect and listening to those that are not "us" and is different from a multicultural approach of living side by side which may, in many cases, produce conflicts **or** from the "melting pot" approach which absorbs all cultures into one.

I strongly believe that the task of futures studies is that of project building for a future based on a vision, an image of the future, which is different from the present BUT rooted in the present or rather on the "seeds of change" which have to be depicted in the present by futurists. Project building of the future implies responsibility for each one of us and the group or culture we think we belong to. These are the issues that, in my reading, Rodolfo STAVENHAGEN expressed in his writings on Latin America.

Latin America, with some differences among its countries, is rich in seeds of change and it is the task of those that, with humility, try and look into the future to develop them as indication for decision makers.

Many other Latin Americans have contributed to future thinking in their region such as Amilcar HERRERA and his group in Argentina. People belonging to HERRERA'S group at the Foundation Bariloche, where the, almost forgotten, world model, "Catastrophe and New Society" was built. The group included people such as Gilberto GALLOPIN (also very productive in the area in later years) Hugo SCOLNIK and Graciela CHICHILNISKI - all excellent academics in different areas who worked on the project in the time of the global models (mainly the 70's), with a very different approach centred on the future of those, at the time, called developing countries. They were not members of WFSF but were very much in contact with it in the 70's and partly in the 80's.

I wish also to recall Antonio Alonso CONCHEIRO from Mexico, Director of the Centro de Studios Prospectivos who participated in the project on the Futures of Cultures, sponsored by UNESCO and developed in the early 90's, which I coordinated. Rodolfo STEVENHAGEN also contributed to the same project, which had an important influence on Latin America,. Alonso CONCHEIRO developed the concept of "mestization" for Latin America. Today are we not all part of a "mestization" process where inter-marriages and migrations are changing, even more than in the past, the cultural identity of each of us and that of future generations? Alonso CONCHEIRO organized many important restricted but fruitful meetings in Mexico where WFSF was very present.



Amilcar HERRERA

I could recall many more active members of WFSF in Latin America and I think this is heritage that has to be kept, developed and nurtured as there are many young futures studies scholars and planners in different countries of Latin America that could benefit from WFSF academic strength and, in turn, enrich WFSF with their talents and commitment.

I have not spoken of all the excellent academics and committed political leaders who were and are members from Latin America of the Club of Rome, of which I am still honorary member, having originally become member in 1975. Aurelio PECCEI, founder of the Club of Rome with Alexander KING in 1968, (the same year that the first idea of a world futures studies federation, was discussed in Oslo on the initiative of Johan GALTUNG, Robert JUNGK, Igor BESTUZEV-LADA and many others) had worked for decades in Latin America and had hence many connections which he involved in the Club of Rome.

At this point I would like to thank Michel Angel GUTIERREZ, of the Centro Latinamericano de Globalización y Prospectiva, who has recently written a very good history of Futures Studies in Latin America, a contribution that has been needed for a long time. Readers will find many other details in his essay.

I have written this, for sure, incomplete history of futures studies in Latin America and the contribution of some of the Latin America members of WFSF, to underline that there is much to build on in that rich and, in my view, future oriented part of the world.

from the
secretariat

UNESCO Participation Programme 2006-2007 – WFSF's winning bid [Ela KRAWCZYK]

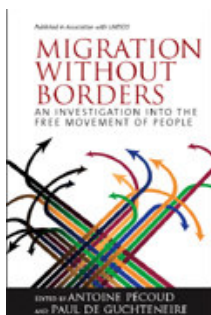


We are delighted to announce that the proposal for the development of the **"Online Futures Studies Pedagogical Resource Centre"** that WFSF has submitted to UNESCO within the Participation Programme 2006-2007 has been approved and in coming weeks we will receive US\$15000 to complete the project.

Just to remind you, the main aim of this project is to create an online pedagogical resource centre for teaching futures studies. Such a centre would collect and protect existing pedagogical resources and create an extensive database that could be used by current and prospective teachers and students and others, who wish to gain knowledge about the futures studies field and develop future-oriented skills.

In coming weeks we will provide more information about the details regarding the implementation of the project.

NEW RELEASES



By Antoine PÉCOUD &
Paul de GUCHTENEIRE

Migration without borders [from www.berghahnbooks.com]

The "Migration Without Borders" (MWB) scenario – sometimes called "open borders" – is increasingly being discussed among academics, NGOs and policy-makers. In a globalized world, in which migratory flows increasingly seem to escape attempts by states at regulation, it represents a highly challenging idea, fostering a critical rethinking of current migration policies and practices and raising the question of a right to mobility. Bringing together regional approaches by scholars from the five continents, this volume explores the various dimensions of the MWB scenario and looks at the convergences and contradictions between the different takes on the topic, highlighting both its strengths and weaknesses.

Global Risks 2007

A Global Risk Network Report



A World Economic Forum Report
in collaboration with
Citigroup, Marsh & McLennan Companies (MMC),
Swiss Re, Wharton
School Risk Centre



Global Risks 2007 [Ela KRAWCZYK]

At the heart of this year's overview of risks to the global community over the next decade is a deep disconnect between risk and mitigation. Expert opinion suggests that levels of risk are rising in almost all of the 23 risks on which the Global Risk Network has been focused over the last year – but mechanisms in place to manage and mitigate risk at the level of businesses, governments and global governance are inadequate.

The global economy has been growing faster than at any time in history – but it remains vulnerable. Some strategic achievements have been made in specific areas of risk mitigation: despite the raised threat of terrorism, cooperation on dealing with the threat continues to improve; fears of a major pandemic outbreak have driven a major effort to upgrade our global preparedness to identify and isolate new diseases; there is a growing recognition of the need to improve access to mechanisms of risk transfer in emerging markets, to allow risks to be priced in a way that allows the potential economic growth of this century to be fully unlocked. There has also been major improvement in the understanding of the interdependencies between global risks, the importance of taking an integrated risk management approach to major global challenges and the necessity of attempting to tackle root causes of global risks rather than reacting to the consequences.

Climate change is now seen as one of the defining challenges of the 21st century – and as a global risk with impacts far beyond the environment. Effective mitigation of climate change may ultimately have the consequence of improving resilience to oil price shocks in developed countries by moving them from hydrocarbons to alternative energy sources; ineffective mitigation of climate change will almost certainly be a factor in major interstate and civil wars within the next 50 years. The way in which climate change is dealt with at the global level will be a leading indicator of the world's capacity to manage globalization in an equitable and sustainable way. But the tactical gains may be illusory and are certainly temporary. The manifestation of any number of global risks in the way described in the plausible scenarios in this report could quickly put those gains into reverse.

Global Risks 2007 suggests two possible institutional innovations that may help mobilize businesses and governments to approach the global risks of the next 10 years. One is the idea of a Country Risk Officer – an analogy to Chief Risk Officers in the corporate world – intended as a focal point for managing a portfolio of risk across disparate interests, setting national prioritization of risk and allowing governments to engage in the forward action needed to begin managing global risks rather than coping with them. The second is to create an avant-garde of relevant governments and companies around different global risks – “coalitions of the willing” – allowing risk mitigation to be a process of gradually-expanding alliances rather than a proposition requiring permanent consensus. Above all, *Global Risks 2007* makes the case for the active engagement of all sections of the international community in dealing with global risks. No one group has the ability to effectively mitigate most global risks. Interdependency implies not just common vulnerability, but a shared responsibility to act.

A long version of this report and further information on the Global Risk Network can be found at www.weforum.org/en/initiatives/globalrisk. The long report includes further background on methodology, risk descriptions, numeric assessments, the process of workshops leading to this report and additional mitigation and scenario examples.

SECTION 2 - FUTURES RIDE (PAPERS)

Developing Constructive, Optimistic, and Creative Attitudes and Behaviours about the Future:

Part Three – The Self-Narrative, Optimism and Self-efficacy, and the Evolving Future Self

Tom LOMBARDO, Ph.D. (Rio Salado College, Tempe, Arizona)

www.odysseyofthefuture.net

"People often say that this or that person has not yet found himself. But the self is not something that one finds. It is something that one creates."

Thomas Szasz

This article is the third in a series of papers dealing with the nature of future consciousness and ways to enhance it. The series draws from my book *The Evolution of Future Consciousness*(1) and aligns with a set of workshops on future consciousness I am offering at Rio Salado College in Tempe, Arizona. The first article examined deep learning, emotion and motivation; the second paper addressed cognitive processes relevant to future consciousness, such as memory, thinking, imagination, foresight, planning, problem solving, insight, and wisdom(2). In this article I explore the connection between our sense of personal identity and future consciousness. I look at how the stories or self-narratives we tell ourselves about our lives and who we are affect our visions of our future; how the character traits of optimism, pessimism, and self-efficacy are related to human happiness and how these traits impact our future; and how we can create a more evolved, future-oriented sense of self-identity. Finally, I discuss the relationship between character virtues and the sense of a future self.

* * * * *

In his book, *The Feeling of What Happens*, noted neurophysiologist Antonio DAMASIO argues that the cognitive dimension of self-consciousness exists in the form of a self-narrative – an "autobiographical self" – consisting of a story a person tells him or herself about his or her life. This self-narrative connects personally significant events in the past with the present self. Further, the self-narrative connects the present and the past with an envisioned journey of who the person will become in the future (3). Hence, the autobiographical self not only contains a sense of passage through time – the self is a temporal and dynamic reality rather than a static thing - but necessarily contains a component of the future, of the goals and direction a person identifies in his or her life. This self-narrative, in tying together past, present, and future, provides temporal coherence and dramatic meaning to consciousness and self-identity. The autobiographical self answers the questions of how we have come to where we are and where the ongoing journey of the self is heading in the future.

DAMASIO notes that we are both the main character in as well as the author of our self-narrative. As the creator of our narrative, we interpret and mould the meaning and substance of our life journey and consequently who we are. The psychiatrist Anthony READING, in his book *Hope and Despair*, concurs with this self-creative, narrative view of personal identity, stating that self-consciousness is like interactive TV (4). We both watch ourselves and attempt to modify and direct what we see on the "screen" of consciousness. Moreover, the "data" of self-consciousness (our memories, feelings, and thoughts) are open to continual re-interpretation. We can decide to rethink

what has happened to us in the past, as well as reinterpret who we are in the present. The self is a creative act. Finally, according to READING, our sense of freedom and choice within self-consciousness is inextricably tied to future consciousness. Choices are different possibilities we are aware of regarding what we can do and what we can become in the future. In reflecting on our self-narrative, and with an awareness of what we might do or become in the future, we make choices among perceived possibilities regarding how we want the story to continue. Without a future-oriented consciousness of possibilities and the decision making capacity to select among these possibilities we would not possess free will.

Perceived self-efficacy is one of the most fundamental qualities or character traits of the self. This character trait has to do with our sense of control or influence over the future. Studied extensively by the psychologist Albert BANDURA, individuals with low self-efficacy feel powerless over the future, tend to set unrealistic goals for themselves in the future, and show little persistence or determination, giving up easily if any struggle or challenge is encountered in realizing a goal. People with high self-efficacy feel that they have control over the future, set realistic goals for themselves, and show persistence and tenacity in reaching their goals (5). Perceived self-efficacy, I would suggest, is almost certainly connected to a person's self-narrative; individuals who possess a self-narrative involving frustration, repeated failure, perceived incapacity, and low expectations for the future would possess low self-efficacy, whereas people with a self-narrative involving success and personal accomplishment would have high self-efficacy. Although self-narratives involve an interpretive component, a person's actual history of success and failure impacts both the overall tone of the narrative and consequently his or her expectations of success in the future. As noted in an earlier article, memories of the past strongly influence anticipations of the future.

Connected with perceived self-efficacy are the general attitudes of optimism and pessimism. These attitudes clearly have a future consciousness component, for optimism means, among other things, a positive and hopeful view of the future, whereas pessimism entails a negative and hopeless view. Optimists believe that they are capable of positively affecting the future, whereas pessimists believe that they are helpless in affecting the future. The psychologist Martin SELIGMAN, in his book *Learned Optimism*, outlines many of the psychological and behavioural features of optimism and pessimism (6). Optimists tend to believe that misfortunes are short-lived, limited in effect, and due to external circumstances; pessimists believe that misfortunes have long term and pervasive effects and are due to their own personal flaws and errors. Pessimists blame themselves for their problems. People can possess both optimistic and pessimistic dimensions to their personalities, for example, being optimistic about their professional lives and pessimistic about their personal or romantic lives.

Interestingly, optimism and pessimism are self-fulfilling prophecies; both are supported and reinforced by personal experience and the "facts" of a person's life. If a person expects things to go well, that expectation increases the chances that things will go well (of course it is no guarantee), whereas if a person expects things to go poorly, that increases the chances of problems and misfortunes. People will act in ways to confirm and maximize the chances of their beliefs being true, optimists and pessimists alike. In this regard, optimism and pessimism both create "snowball" effects; successes build on themselves, whereas failures reinforce themselves.

Although experiencing repeated and significant successes and good fortune can alter a pessimist's attitude toward the optimistic end, and experiencing repeated and significant failures and misfortunes can move an optimist toward the pessimist end, SELIGMAN believes that optimism and pessimism are not simply under the control of the environment, but are ingrained habits of thought. SELIGMAN, in fact, has developed various psychological techniques and strategies to help people alter their habits of thinking. Optimism and pessimism are learned habits and can be changed through behavioural and cognitive exercises. As the title of his book suggests, enhanced optimism is something that can be learned; a person's attitude toward the future and toward his or her capacity to influence the future in a positive way can be modified. This is not to suggest that pessimism about the future has no value and should be eliminated within human psychology. Both optimism and pessimism have value. A pessimistic attitude provides the necessary foresight regarding what can go wrong. As the philosopher of time J. T. FRASER stated, "Nightmares are dreams whose usefulness is to keep us on our toes."

Another psychological trait connected to both self-efficacy and the optimism-pessimism continuum is perceived locus of control. People can vary from seeing themselves as possessing an internal locus of control, where they perceive events that happen to them as due to their own actions, versus seeing their lives as having an external locus of control, where they perceive events that happen to them as due to external factors over which they have no control. Someone with an internal locus of control sees his or her self as the determining factor in life; someone with an external locus of control sees his or her life as under the control of external forces (7). Within such a model of personality, an optimist as well as a person with high self-efficacy would perceive him or herself as having an internal locus of control with respect to the future – they would see themselves as having power over the future. On the other hand, pessimists and people with low self-efficacy would see themselves more as powerless victims regarding their future – from their perspective the future is controlled by external forces. Connecting back to the self-narrative theme, people can create and sustain stories in which they are portrayed as passive and victimized through life or proactive and in control of their lives – these narratives are played out into the future.

Recent pop psychology and modern pop culture has been especially concerned with the quality of self-esteem and how to help people develop it. Over the last few decades it has been in vogue to proclaim how everyone is special and, in particular, to strongly praise and regularly reinforce in young children a positive self-image (regardless of how well they actually do). Yet inflated self-esteem that is not built on real and substantial accomplishments can lead to frustration, disappointment, and depression in life (8). As Howard BLOOM notes, real self-confidence and happiness is built on meeting and successfully dealing with challenges in life, rather than simply being told that one is great (9). On this point, the psychologist Mihalyi CSIKSZENTMIHALYI has devoted considerable study to the phenomenon of “flow,” the experience of being psychologically immersed in sufficiently challenging tasks, which according to CSIKSZENTMIHALYI generates happiness in people (10). Not only can one argue that real self-confidence (or self-efficacy) only develops through successfully meeting challenges, but that happiness is the direct result of setting and meeting sufficiently demanding goals. One’s sense of a future self must include identified goals that sufficiently challenge the individual.

The future can be something we look forward to with hope or something that we fear. Who we will become in the future is also something we can look at either positively or negatively. KARNIOL and ROSS distinguish two fundamental types of a future self (11). First, there is the self we hope to become – the good person – identified as the “ideal self” by KARNIOL and ROSS; second, there is the self we want to avoid in the future – the bad person – identified as the “ought self”. Just as there appear to be two major components to our internalized morality – the do’s and the don’ts – there seem to be two major moral visions of our future self. Life, or the future, can basically be seen as a challenge to realize our ideal selves – to create a positive self-narrative, and to avoid a negative self-narrative.

But what indeed is a positive self-narrative for the future? Again, referring to CSIKSZENTMIHALYI, in *The Evolving Self: A Psychology for the Third Millennium*, he discusses classical models of the ideal self that identify various virtues or character traits, such as faith, rationality, balance, or love and forgiveness, as capturing the essence of human excellence. CSIKSZENTMIHALYI though finds the modern Western image of the ideal self as sensationalistic, superficial, and hedonistic. Instead he proposes that the ideal self of the future needs to move beyond the selfish needs of the body, the ego, and one’s particular culture, and identify with something transcendent to these limiting identities. In reviewing CSIKSZENTMIHALYI’S writings I find three important dimensions of transcendence: the ecological, the evolutionary, and the cosmic. According to him, the ideal self of the future should identify with all of humanity and with the environment in which we all find ourselves; with the progressive process of evolution and the role each of us plays to further this process; and with the cosmos as a whole for we are all children of the universe. CSIKSZENTMIHALYI refers to individuals who search out experiences of flow in their lives, who repeatedly immerse themselves in something that goes beyond themselves, as “transcenders.”(12)

Walter Truett ANDERSON also discusses where the self is heading in the future. ANDERSON traces the history of the Western vision of the self and suggests that for various reasons we need to move beyond the idea of a single, unified, static, and continual self. The self needs to become more multi-faceted and fluid in the future (13). The Post-modern era, and the opening up of virtual selves through computer/Internet technology, requires the abandonment of the idea of a single true self.

In fact, ANDERSON argues that, in the spirit of a new Enlightenment, we need to transcend our identification with a personal ego or a limiting cultural heritage that separates us from others and the world, in favour of a conscious sense of "oneness" and connectedness with all reality (14). Clearly, there is a level of agreement between ANDERSON and CSIKSZENTMIHALYI on the future of the self.

In his book *Evolution's Arrow*, John STEWART highlights the theme of evolution in discussing the future human self (15). STEWART argues that people should consider present trends and extrapolate where these trends might be heading in the future, and based on this extrapolation, they should consider and work toward a future self that would thrive in such a reality. We should see ourselves as fundamentally transformative and capable of directing real change within ourselves. (We are not static beings.) In fact, we should view ourselves as evolutionary beings existing in an evolutionary universe. In the spirit of Barbara MARX HUBBARD'S concept of "conscious evolution," or what I would call "purposive self-evolution," each of us should see ourselves as directing or guiding a dynamic and progressive self-journey – we are evolutionary selves and the creators/authors of this evolutionary personal reality. Stewart sees the ideal self of the future as increasing in future consciousness (16).

Finally, in completing this survey of the self and future consciousness, I return to the ideas of Martin SELIGMAN, who in his book *Authentic Happiness*, argues that deep and long-lived happiness comes through the pursuit and development of certain basic, universally acknowledged character traits, such as wisdom, temperance, and courage. Within philosophy these traits are usually referred to as virtues. In resonance with ANDERSON and CSIKSZENTMIHALYI, SELIGMAN lists transcendence as one of the key traits which is of critical importance to happiness in life. But I should also highlight that for SELIGMAN, the character traits he lists are not qualities of the self one is born with, but rather qualities that require effort to develop and realize. In fact, in another article, I have proposed that the central virtue that all others depend upon is self-responsibility – the belief and disposition to act as if one's happiness and well-being in life depends on one's own effort. This virtue is clearly connected with the trait of self-efficacy and the theme of conscious, purposive evolution; the individual who acts as if he or she has power over life, the future, and in particular, his or her self-identify in the future, realizes happiness. I would also add that identifying a set of virtues as personal goals for oneself in the future highlights a central ethical dimension in the preferable self of the future (17).

As a concluding question, participants in the workshop on the self and future consciousness are asked to envision an ideal future self and future self-narrative in which certain basic virtues are pursued and developed further. Drawing upon SELIGMAN's list, but adding to it, I provide a list of basic virtues to start from: Self-responsibility, wisdom, courage and faith, love and compassion, temperance, justice and reciprocity, transcendence and evolution, truth and honesty, loyalty and fidelity, and gratitude. In the last workshop (and article) in the series, I focus on how these virtues enhance one's capacity to constructively and productively approach the future.

REFERENCES:

- (1) Lombardo, Thomas *The Evolution of Future Consciousness*. Bloomington, IN: Author House, 2006. See Pages 46 – 53 for a discussion of the relationship between self-identify and future consciousness.
- (2) Lombardo, Thomas "Developing Constructive and Creative Attitudes and Behaviors about the Future: Part One – Deep Learning, Emotion, and Motivation" in World Futures Study Federation *Futures Bulletin*, Volume 31, No. 6, November, 2006; Lombardo, Thomas "Developing Constructive and Creative Attitudes and Behaviors about the Future: Part Two – Thinking and Imagination" in World Futures Study Federation *Futures Bulletin*, Volume 32, No. 1, January, 2007.
- (3) Damasio, Antonio *The Feeling of What Happens: Body and Emotion in the Making of Consciousness*. New York: Harcourt Brace, 1999. Damasio also discusses a "core self" which is the feeling-proprioceptive awareness of self and body.
- (4) Reading, Anthony *Hope and Despair: How Perceptions of the Future Shape Human Behavior*. Baltimore, Maryland: The John Hopkins University Press, 2004.

- (5) Hergenhahn, B.R. and Olson, Matthew *An Introduction to Theories of Personality*. 6th Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2003, Chapter Eleven.
- (6) Seligman, Martin *Learned Optimism: How to Change Your Mind and Your Life*. New York: Pocket Books, 1998.
- (7) Rotter, Julian "Internal versus External Control of Reinforcement: A Case Study of a Variable" *American Psychologist*, Volume 45, 1990.
- (8) Seligman, Martin, 1998.
- (9) Bloom, Howard *The Lucifer Principle: A Scientific Expedition into the Forces of History*. New York: The Atlantic Monthly Press, 1995.
- (10) Csikszentmihalyi, Mihalyi *Creativity: Flow and the Psychology of Discovery and Invention*. New York: HarperCollins, 1996.
- (11) Karniol, Rachel and Ross, Michael "The Motivational Impact of Temporal Focus: Thinking About the Future and the Past" *Annual Review of Psychology*, Vol. 47, 1996.
- (12) Csikszentmihalyi, Mihalyi *The Evolving Self: A Psychology for the Third Millennium*. New York: Harper Collins, 1993.
- (13) Anderson, Walter Truett *The Future of the Self: Inventing the Postmodern Person*. New York: Putnam, 1997.
- (14) Anderson, Walter Truett *The Next Enlightenment: Integrating East and West in a New Vision of Human Evolution*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2003.
- (15) Stewart, John *Evolution's Arrow: The Direction of Evolution and the Future of Humanity*. Canberra, Australia: The Chapman Press, 2000.
- (16) Hubbard, Barbara Marx *Conscious Evolution: Awakening the Power of Our Social Potential*. Novato, CA: New World Library, 1998.
- (17) Seligman, Martin *Authentic Happiness: Using the New Positive Psychology to Realize Your Potential for Lasting Fulfillment*. New York: The Free Press, 2002; Authentic Happiness-
<http://www.authentichappiness.sas.upenn.edu/>; Positive Psychology Center -
<http://www.ppc.sas.upenn.edu/>; Lombardo, Thomas and Richter, Jonathon "Evolving Future Consciousness through the Pursuit of Virtue" in *Thinking Creatively in Turbulent Times*. Didsbury, Howard (Ed.) Bethesda, Maryland: World Future Society, 2004.

FIFTY YEARS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

– THE WHEREABOUTS OF AI –

A celebration event organised by AFIA, the French Association for Artificial Intelligence

By Patrick CORSI, KINNSYS, Brussels

When the founding conference at Dartmouth opened in 1955, a bunch of cyberneticians that followed the logics steps of a most famous mathematician named Alan TURING went on coining a term and spiriting a novel field with both name of "Artificial Intelligence." The colloquium conjectured "that every aspect of learning or any other feature of intelligence can in principle be so precisely described that a machine can be made to simulate it."

With such definitional precision, AI was *de facto* born from a fertile relationship between reasoning and representation. How TURING'S children could then, in retrospect, be up to such formidable

challenge? Would generations of indomitable researchers alter the curse of a daunting aim that was inevitably poised to fail? We are bound to doubting... if it weren't for the so many side results coming from AI research that ubiquitously share our daily living.

Today, it's been half a century of productive AI developments. And, while we routinely, with a bit of forgiveness, acknowledge that computing far outperforms man for classes of problems – chess game or code cracking to name a few – man contrastively reveals an adamant ability to, for instance, play with intelligence, resolve problems in uncertain environments, intuit a solution, and consciously monitor deepest discursive abilities.

Fifty years later, a number of recent events held in several countries in rough synchronicity were celebrating the generational anniversary. At the initiative of a few leading individuals, a major event involving above 200 participants found its way through to gather a slice of the French AI community during half a day in Paris. The event was organised through AFIA (Association française d'intelligence artificielle) on 3rd November 2006 in the very amphitheatre room where young researcher Jacques PITRAT delivered a report following his inceptive thoughts on *intelligence artificielle* on 17 April 1956. The meeting event aimed at looking back to the legacy and signposting pointers ahead. While it succeeded at covering most aspects of the general AI field, it also served as an exchange mean to enhance the promising progresses and attempt to delineate new frontiers with priorities, stakes and even some novel target domains for investigation.

Today, Professor Emeritus PITRAT says he is most deceived. A luminary who did pioneer and root many AI threads and researches in France during those fifty years, he exclaimed, while opening the debates *"Chess programs sweep world championships yet they don't even know they're playing chess!"* He campaigned for experimental approaches – *"AI is being clutched into too much theoretical work"* – those that only seed long-term results, he claimed, yet do call for senior researchers. Learning has achieved great progress, yet the experimental attitude is still rare and there is a shortage of researchers – other speakers equally asserting.

Following him, a panel of about twenty speakers – albeit a very small portion of the large and long lived French AI community – revisited classical notions such as reasoning or representing knowledge. Most, in fact, acknowledged an AI having ubiquitously invaded our daily work environment. Long gone the times where intelligence was an option in computing systems: from modern Internet search engines and databases to video games based on elaborated game play, defence applications, insurance and financial planning, from multi-agents-based games (e.g. The Sims or MASSIVE in the Lords of the Rings), and even grammatical correction in text editors, AI is found at the core of all devices we live with today and an ever vaster array of AI applications seem to govern the socio-economic planet.

And it is rather symptomatic to reckon the classical themes of international conferences, such as IJCAI, the International Joint Conference on AI, where its 2007 theme list includes constraint satisfaction, learning, knowledge representation, reasoning, multi agents systems, natural language processing, planning and scheduling, robotics, search, uncertainty, web/data and artificial life. It is global knowledge bases that are fit for information search and ambient knowledge bases for tiny objects getting smarter. (Only Doug LENAT so far did attempt the systematic construction of ontological knowledge through its encyclopaedic CYC project in the USA.)

There used to be a belief that intelligence is programmable, hence the continued predominance of logics and theoretical computing. But intelligence is now better seen as a living thing. *"It changes all the time, hence we can't imagine programming it!"* said Luc STEELS from Paris SONY Labs. Systems that dwell in the deep world can build intelligence themselves. Ambient intelligence enables the environment to become aware of the human that interacts with and the role of language is paramount in that building process. Uh, see my two pet robots talking here?

A number of other original views rapidly popped up *en séance*. For instance, the fact that AI progresses by retrofitting concepts developed much earlier, thus following a non-linear unfolding pathway. Two simple cases are the late notoriety of neural networks that based their concepts on older research done in the 60's and the concept of semantic networks that came back to the fore via the recent semantic web. On another account, new programming languages for autonomous agents are now deemed necessary, also considering that quite many agent models exist now. Current languages are either too limited (including Java) or too specific. Then, autonomic computing

becomes routine in some large enterprises under the economic pressure of Quality of Service. It organically installs, parameters, maintains and repair information systems, thus making global properties of information systems emerge.

And the AFIA conference went on, speaker after speaker. From the raise of artificial consciousness down to intelligent adaptive carpooling systems or the automation of regulation and the Web 3.0, the challenges ahead abound. In sharp contrast to more classical views, Dr. STEELS advocated that AI is uniquely positioned to help tackling multicultural issues and would greatly benefit from understanding the very process of ideas over time. And what is Prometheus AI, it not able to help tackle environmental and ecologic processes?

It seems that, on one side, AI enhanced again the power-to-the-machine motto, almost forgetting about the (hu)man factor in his dazzling complexity, cornering him in the usual so-called user interface. Not quite. If we instead were to consider human intelligence as an open system - in plain contradistinction to a closed system such as a machine - this would then call for true systemic research and the fielding of complexity sciences as well. A rebalancing with man is thus pointed on the horizon whereby human (and collective) intelligence gets on a par with artificial intelligence. In these rich fifty years of elapsed development time, planet-wide networks have sprawled to an incredible extent. In a sense, it is now Biology that constitutes the alternate reasoning framework with such notions as emergence, contagion, co-evolution, etc. But, if efficiency -i.e. beyond efficacy and performance- looms and security issues get new understanding, complexity barriers have however surged.

One point is that complex systems are bound to call for sensors and actuators inasmuch as processing capacity, communication and decision abilities. Hence the native ability of humans for perception-action that requires freeing architectures from Moore's Law offers an alternative to the problem-formulation viz. problem-resolution paradigm. Truly, the latter was based on programming ever bigger numbers of individual processors. From global knowledge bases to global sensing, where e.g. emotions trigger conducts and behaviours, new challenges require novel approaches. Did we forget that, an essential element of our intelligence, emotion plays a significant role in decision making, perception, learning, etc., i.e. influences the very mechanisms of rational thinking? Shan't we reckon the famous quote from Marvin MINSKY "*The question is not whether intelligent machines can have emotions, but whether machines can be intelligent without any emotions?*"

But wait, there's more.

What may be thus be called forth is a solid contribution of AI to resolving recurring security control issues over networks, to going global while keeping the intrinsic multicultural patterns of human societies, and to tackling the understanding of our environment as one complex eco-system. From the old problem-solution paradigm, AI is definitely gearing up to a wider relational, and more interactive, relationship model, where instantaneity marries behaviour and man's requests get inspired and solutioned at about the same time. Isn't this some other definitional challenge of modern innovation schemes and for successful economic models? Was this perhaps even another founding conference?

REFERENCES

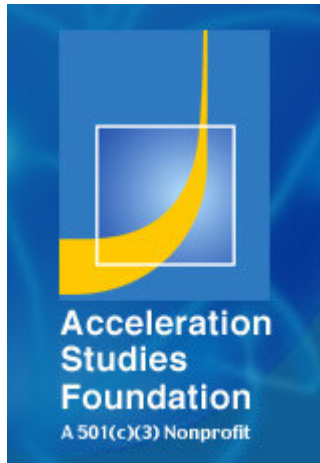
The program, explanations on demonstrations of the *50 Ans de l'intelligence artificielle* event in Paris on 3rd November 2006 can be found at <http://afia.lri.fr/node.php?node=1162> with all slides presentations or videos (in French).

For historical purpose, the verbatim contents of the 1956 document launching the Dartmouth conference are available at <http://www-formal.stanford.edu/jmc/history/dartmouth/dartmouth.html>

SECTION 3 - FUTURES STUDIES IN THE WORLD

United States

New Listing of Global Futures Studies Programs [John SMART]



John Smart is the President of Acceleration Studies Foundation

I am a recent graduate of the U. Houston M.S. in Futures Studies, under the tutelage of Peter BISHOP. I write this to give you a brief update on a new futures studies resource I and my non-profit, the Acceleration Studies Foundation (ASF, <http://accelerating.org>), have recently developed, and to ask for your help.

ASF staff has recently compiled an online listing of global graduate futures studies programs.

This resource can be found at:

<http://accelerating.org/gradprograms.html>

In some ways, this is an update of Jose RAMOS'S excellent 2002 AFI International Survey of University Futures Courses, long available at the WFSF website. However it is much less comprehensive, as it is only done at the program level, without all the impressive course detail that can be found in Jose's survey. In this web-based research we classified graduate futures studies related programs into three categories, primary, secondary, and potential.

To date, by our categorization standards, only 10 primary graduate FS programs exist to serve all of humanity at the present time. We've also found 87 programs (we are sure this number must be significantly larger) that we would characterize as secondary, having either 1) a notable emphasis on any of the primary FS subjects in their curricula, without offering a degree in FS or 2) on-campus futures research centres which may be used for potential affiliations during graduate study. Finally, we've identified 12 programs we classify as potential FS programs, at universities that have had historical FS faculty champions, and some current or prior futures courses (or programs), but which do not presently qualify as primary or secondary graduate programs.

Three decades after the first graduate FS program emerged (Houston, 1975), there are clearly far fewer primary programs today than we might hope or expect. As futurists, we must challenge the scarcity of foresight in global culture, and do everything we can to ensure our existing FS programs offer obvious value to students in a world of accelerating change. We believe that improving, networking, and promoting our best futures studies programs should be top priorities for the academic futurist community (WFSF, etc.), the professional futurist community (APF, etc.) and the lay futurist communities (WFS, etc.). As Peter BISHOP, Director of the Houston MS program notes, we must put particular emphasis on improving our FS doctoral programs, which do basic FS research and produce faculty to staff the MS programs, and we must ensure that the leaders of our primary programs and key faculty in our secondary programs are recognized, practicing futurists.

Even with the paucity of primary programs, we believe the breadth and depth of secondary programs, by comparison with previous decades, indicates that futures studies is beginning to be taken seriously both in society and by academics from a wide range of disciplines. This research suggests that business, engineering, science and technology studies, philosophy, sociology, policy analysis, statistics, and urban planning departments are all particularly promising as founding participants in an interdisciplinary, campus-wide graduate FS program. Yet, there are also

many more that might be involved. We need to raise awareness of the value of this field across the spectrum of scholarship.

The fine academic minds in the WFSF community may have different program classification criteria than we used, and if so we would appreciate hearing from you. Our categorization was also somewhat subjective, particularly between secondary and potential programs. As many students make their choice of graduate study using web-based resources, our classification was heavily influenced by what we could find online about the relevant programs, FS-related centres, and faculty, at official websites. But at many schools, particularly in developing nations, there is more futures research and education occurring than can presently be found on the web.

Do you have any edits or additions you might contribute to this list for the benefit of future-oriented students? If so, I hope you will email me at johnsmart@accelerating.org and share your insights. Best to you all in 2007 and I look forward to meeting you in the future.

Australia



The University Futures Network [Maree CONWAY]

The University Futures website (<http://www.universityfutures.org>) was established in 2006 by Maree CONWAY as a resource for planners and strategists working in universities who wanted to find out more about futures.

A new addition to the site in late January is the University Futures Network (http://www.universityfutures.org/university_futures_network), an online forum focused on sharing information, ideas and knowledge about how to 'do futures' in universities. Using futures approaches in developing university strategy is not embedded in most university planning processes, and both the website and forum aim to raise awareness about the benefits of futures approaches. Any questions about the site or the forum can be directed to Maree at maree.conway@universityfutures.org.

Europe/Spain



FTA Forum [Ela KRAWCZYK]

The FTA Forum was set up as a result of the working group discussions that took place during the International Seville Seminar on Future-Oriented Technology Analysis (FTA) in September 2006, Seville, Spain.

The main aim of the Forum is to maintain an active dialogue between the FTA community members. The Forum objectives include:

- To provide an open space for dialogue between different (yet overlapping) communities, such as foresight, technology assessment, futures studies, technological forecasting, evaluation, quality management, etc., with a view to promoting mutual understanding.
- To nurture the development of a self-organisation capacity within the FTA community.
- To identify needs within the FTA community and to enable mutual support between its members.

More information about this and other initiatives of FTA community can be found at <http://forera.jrc.es/fta/forum.html>.

SECTION 4 - CALLS FOR PAPERS AND EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 1st International Conference on CITY FORESIGHT in Asia Pacific

Call for Papers

THE CONFERENCE

Continuing from the result of the APEC CTF Mega City Foresight project in the end of last millennium, the PPDO, in collaboration with APEC CTF, developed an action-oriented initiative on city foresight to extend the utilization of foresight concept into broader perspective. '**The 1st International Conference and Workshop on City Foresight in Asia Pacific**' will be the first region-wide initiative to expand knowledge horizon of city foresight among city researchers and practitioners in various fields. The international conference will be held in Chiang Mai, the beautiful city in the north of Thailand from 5 to 7 September 2007.

The first day will be an interactive learning tour around Chiang Mai-Lampoon Development Sphere. The following day will be dedicated to close workshop for selected speakers and delegates, which will be a channel to discuss and practice on specific foresight technique, an emerging research agenda going forward and establish research relationships according to their particular interests. The last day conference is structured around a number of keynotes, four major breakouts in which a number of selected papers may be presented, details below of what could be covered in each session is not exclusive and other relevant expressions of interest are welcome.

Conference Fee: There is no Conference fee; however, all participants are required to complete and submit online registration prior to attending the Conference. All participants cover their own travel and accommodation expenses.

Conference Venue: Faculty of Architecture, Chiang Mai University.

Accommodation: suggested a hotel nearby Chiang Mai University or University's International Centre which is equivalent to 2- to 3-star hotel (to be confirmed).

CONFERENCE THEMES

1. Emerging issues on city foresight: This theme can be explored in relation to numerous issues (i.e. health, climate change, emerging pandemic, cultural shock and change, the next billion groups, institutional responsibility, financial infrastructure, aging, disable, next generation etc). We are particularly interested in comparative studies of the case studies which accelerate positive change within these different issues, divergence and convergence of an emerging issue.

2. Globalization, City and Changes: This theme focuses on the influence of globalization in trade, knowledge, technology, and investment on city. The classical concepts of social change, an applicable concept of city innovation system, city as innovation factory, the globalization of cities, futures of learning society and educational reform, barrier free and right biased of society, and etc.

3. Conceptualizing, Techniques and Processes of City foresight: This theme focuses on a development of city foresight models, the interactive roles of key stakeholders (i.e. non-profits, social businesses, networks and alliances, forms of political representation and consumption, public agencies and so on), indicators and measurement methods. Management of foresight process and new techniques, empirical analysis of new methods and techniques.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The call for papers is now announced (from 7 April 2007). We encourage those who are interested in submit their papers on the above conference themes. Submission of papers will be considered and screened by the International Steering Committee and to be circulated on this website. Deadline for abstract is 15 July 2007 and deadline for full paper is 15 August 2007. Your papers can be sent to apectf@nstda.or.th or mayuree@tmc.nstda.or.th.

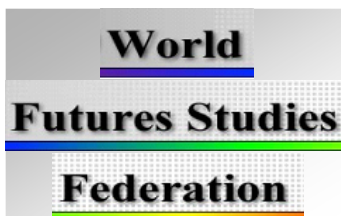
Contributions to the Futures Bulletin welcomed!

We are inviting all members to contribute to the content of the Futures Bulletin by sending us your papers, news about changes in your and your community life, info about new books, reports, conferences that you have attended and you will attend and any other things that you would like to share with your fellow futurists.

Publishing note:

©Copyright 2006 World Futures Studies Federation

Permission is granted to reproduce any part of this publication providing that full credit and citations are given.



World Futures Studies Federation

The Futures Academy
Faculty of Built Environment
Bolton Street - DUBLIN 1

IRELAND

phone : +353-1-402-3749

email : secretariat@wfsf.org or
ela@wfsf.org

<http://www.wfsf.org>

UPCOMING EVENTS



9th international conference of Finland Futures Research Centre and Finland Futures Academy at the Turku School of Economics in collaboration with Turku 2011 - Finland's Candidate for the European Capital of Culture 2011

Themes of the conference:

- Innovativeness and creative processes in economies, cultures and societies of the future.
- The future of creative clusters and industries.
- The role of cultural industries in economic development and competitiveness.
- The power of creativity and culture for the sustainable development.
- Case studies of culture, innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Futures research methodology in the study of the creative economy.
- Theoretical approaches for the future interaction of culture, society and the economy.

The program will consist of keynote lectures, concurrent workshop and poster sessions and panel discussions. Keynote speakers of the conference are:

Professor **Justin O'CONNOR** (University of Leeds); Research Director, Dr. **Alex SOOJUNG-KIM PANG** (Institute for the Future); Professor **Markku WILENIUS** (Finland Futures Research Centre); Director, Dr. **Hannele KOIVUNEN** (Ministry of Education); Research Director **Pekka YLÄ-ANTTILA** (ETLA); Artist and Farmer, M.Sc., MFA **Osmo RAUHALA**; Vice President, Dr. **Anne STENROS** (KONE Corporation) Design Producer **Kari KORKMAN** (Luovi Productions LTD).

For further information, please visit the conference website at
<http://www.tse.fi/tutu/conference2007>



The Institute for Environmental Studies (IVM) at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and its partner institutions invite to the 2007 Amsterdam Conference on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change, to be held in Amsterdam on 24-26 May 2007. This conference will be the seventh event in the series of annual [European Conferences on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change](#). This year's discussions will address the theme 'Earth System Governance: Theories and Strategies for Sustainability'.

The conference will run through three days, with keynote addresses in plenary sessions, major academic presentations in parallel semi-plenary sessions, and 175 presentations of research papers in a series of seven parallel panel sessions.

More information about the conference can be found at:
<http://www.2007amsterdamconference.org/>