

WORLD
FUTURES
STUDIES
FEDERATION



NEWSLETTER

Discussing the Future of the WFSF

1 ?

EDITORIAL

Nice and warm summer greetings from Finland, we have enjoyed exceptionally good weather for three weeks already. I hope this will last for another week while we have the mini-Council and International Committee meetings here in Turku.

Please observe the many possibilities to come together for an exchange of ideas, to experience and enrich the understanding of the future. There will be the first Asian course on futures studies in Bangkok in August, the 'IUC Dubrovnik' course supplement in Romania also in August, and the Regional Conference in Islamabad in October. Come and enjoy the good time together. Your contribution would be of great value!

Next year's futures studies courses are still open, and several possible sites exist in principle. The financial problems are, however, bigger than before because of the slow economic growth almost everywhere. The team of the course directors is working on the problems.

Ballots are on their way, the ballot for the next President of WFSF and the ballot for awards and honors to be made public in the next World Conference. Please show your interest and give your advice to those in charge of acting on behalf of us and for the future of WFSF.

The FUTURESOCO contract with UNESCO has been signed for the next year. Two issues of the new bulletin are expected to come out any time, and the preparation of the third issue on *Culture* is under way. ELEONORA MASINI has been nominated to be the author of the synopsis on behalf of WFSF. Your help and contribution is needed in delivering abstracts on futures studies in your country. WFSF is responsible for delivering them from Europe and Africa (non-German- and non-French-speaking areas), and the Pacific. Please ask your people to make futures work of your country known to the world community of futures researchers.

I am happy to inform you that the proceedings of the Budapest World Conference is available in two volumes and can be ordered from Professor ERZSEBET GIDAI, as announced elsewhere in this issue. The Sofia conference proceedings and a book of the Barcelona World Conference selected papers are already edited and waiting to be published.

Some fifty replies to the World Conference 1993 have already arrived and we hope that you will increase the number of replies soon. Please make also your suggestions for the Second Announcement which will come out in November/December, and send your application form, if you have not done so already. It would help us considerably in planning.

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Editor Pentti Malaska
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We regularly receive mail from our contributing institutional members. We appreciate this, even though we are only infrequently capable to refer to this material in the Newsletter. This material is essential for keeping us well informed.

The WFSF office has delivered the quadrennial report of activities to the UN Non-Governmental Organizations Unit in order to maintain its Category II NGO status with the UN. All the WFSF conferences and joint conferences, as well as publications and other activities during 1988-1991 were listed, and, I am happy to say, the list was quite impressive!

The many activities convince me that WFSF is working and very much alive at least as a channel between its members and as a network for amplifying mutual interests among activity centers, either institutional, or personal. PETER MOLL has published a book on the history of futures studies, touching WFSF's role in this context.

But is this enough, or is it only an idea too technocratic idea for the future of WFSF? In this issue, SOHAIL INAYATULLAH, CHRIS JONES and WENDY SCHULTZ are calling us to strategic visioning of our Federation. I agree with them on that the best moment to start the discussion is now. In the 1993 World Conference, we need to be more definitive about the future direction and challenges to be met by WFSF.

The world situation keeps us concerned. The world may be one but the human realities seem to be many and adverse, making us even strange to each other. How to cope with these strange realities – that is the futuristic question. And is violence the only viable humane answer to that question, as it is so often regarded today? There may be something fundamentally wrong in the prevailing views of human quality.

The event of most important global significance right now is the Rio conference for a sustainable future. We'll see what life will be like after Rio but I hope that the summit will give us a lot of new *impetus* for working for a better future. Do we want WFSF to have a role in it, and how?

June 10, 1992

Pentti Malaska

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THE FUTURE OF IUC

Eleonora Barbieri Masini

The world at present seems to show tension and conflicts that stem from the awareness of freedom and self-assertion and determination. These are values that are difficult to achieve at a deep level without struggle at the social level and suffering at the personal level. We, the people of the post-World War Two period, thought that Democracy and Freedom of speech and determination had already been achieved by our parents, many of whom had suffered and even lost their lives for such beliefs. We thought that we only had to bring into reality what was already a richness in a difficult-to-understand, but already recognized, theory.

This was not and is not enough. Each generation has to start anew to achieve, through suffering and through its own experience, that what is important and what has to be fought for.

This is the case of Yugoslavia, a country of many different cultures that had been linked on the basis of what seemed common goals, but in fact were not. It was a mediation among many different goals or values or beliefs, religions and cultural behaviours.

Dubrovnik, the image of the free republic of Venice in the past, in the present of what it had been and wanted to be in the 70s and 80s the crossroads of cultures not of economic and artistic differences but of cultures of cultural values and beliefs from the East, the West, the North, and the South. A *utopia*, some would say, I would call it a *vision* as it was possible.

Something has shattered this vision. Is it competition with the West? Is it the long oppressed wish for self-determination without the ability to see that such a legitimate wish has a limit in the self-determination of others? Or is it the less pure view of others, external to those that are now suffering for the dream or the vision?

In any case, the incarnation of that dream of the 70s by many, like Habermas, GALTUNG, Supek, or the IUC, was physically shattered on the 6th of December, 1991. But other people, the ones working each day for years, like Bertha Dragicevic and all her collaborators, or the many others, kept the dream alive for maybe different reasons and beliefs. They did so with the support of others like Kathy Wilkes, Chair of Philosophy of Science in Oxford, who certainly did

not need Dubrovnik-IUC for academic prestige but for respect of what academic freedom stands for in real life. Not words but facts were her expression of such an over emphasized credo by many in their comfortable university chairs all over the world, including myself in Rome. She stayed in Dubrovnik from September 1991 to March 1992, leaving only once to voice the voiceless of Dubrovnik.

The WFSF course in Futures Studies which was held annually from 1975 to 1991 was one expression of faith in the intercultural academic search. It cannot be substituted, unless in the same spirit of freedom of thought IUC, an act of faith by some in a time of contrast, must become a stronger symbol of such faith at a time when politics, the art of deciding for those who have given their trusted representation, is polluted by personal interests, when even greater injustice

is being perpetrated, when people, women and men, will no longer accept the decisions of the few over the many. Over and beyond any historical analysis of ex-Yugoslavia in its different parts, this is what has been emerging with suffering and often dignity.

In the future, WFSF will have to face such contradictions: a society of people is, I still think, looking for dignified future solutions to present inequity. Dubrovnik-IUC, in which so many of the members of WFSF have found academic satisfaction, interesting intellectual achievements and sometimes personal happiness, is more than all this. It is the symbol of a vision worth fighting for – a vision which is not Serb or Croat, East or West, North or South, but for which these and many others, will have to fight personally and socially wherever they are. A vision which is determined and perceived historically. ♦

Humanitarian Relief for Dubrovnik

With great sorrow we all have followed the Yugoslav civil war unfolding in and around Dubrovnik in recent months. Many of us who have had many good experiences in the once beautiful Dubrovnik during the past 20 years have been active in helping the suffering people in Yugoslavia as much as we could. In order to continue this help we have set up an account for the victims of the civil war particularly in and around Dubrovnik.

Account No 0281 31623

IUC Humanitarian Relief Assistance for Dubrovnik

First of America Bank – Michigan, NA

108 East Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo Michigan, 49007, USA

The contribution will be delivered to the Inter-University Centre for Post-Graduate Studies in Dubrovnik and will from there be contributed to the victimized people of Dubrovnik.

R J Siebert, Director of the Account
Professor of Religion and Society
Course Director of IUC

The Destruction of the IUC building



FUTURE OF WFSF

Sohail Inayatullah

The discussion on the future of WFSF and the dimensions of its role continues by an article by Sohail Inayatullah

Reading through the various pieces on the future of the World Futures Studies Federation and on the future of the conferences we hold (in the WFSF newsletter) my sense is that some of the frustration individuals feel is due to our different visions of what the federation is about. While one can use an external discourse to explain these perceptions (the role of the WFSF with respect to the world social intellectual and spiritual space for example) I would like to focus on the WFSF itself.

In a recent episode of the television show *Star Trek*, a meteor causes all the ship's inhabitants to forget their identities. One individual suggests that in order to find out who they are they should find out each other's rank. That is where in hierarchy do they stand. The other response is that they should find their enemy and then they would know who they are. A third possible response (not discussed in the show) is that they should find out how much money each of them has and then they would know who they are. The final suggestion is that they should find out their mission, their purpose and

then they would know who they are. That is my point of departure. What is our purpose, and what are the ways we can categorize this purpose?

It seems to me that there are at least five dimensions to the WFSF.

1 Social Movement--concerned with equity, justice, distribution, gender equality, self-reliance (an anti-systemic movement to use Wallerstein's language)

2 NGO--as an alternative to nation-centric politics Links between other ngo's are the key in this dimension. Ideology is less important than people to people links, alliances, cooperation and dialogue. This I think is what is meant by the term "federation" an association of many research and interest groups.

3 Professional Association This dimension is characterized by a group of academics and researchers united by a concern for the long term interdisciplinarian critical of present systems and paradigms. Can one have a field based on this?

History is segmented by area. How should we organize ourselves? Indeed, can one have a field based on time?

4 Family - this dimension can be characterized by the following long time friends working closely on similar projects, created by a few charismatic personalities. Closed group with decision-making based rather on wise judgements than on any bureaucratic neutral principles.

5 Organization - this dimension is concerned with issues of efficiency, bureaucracy, hierarchy, leadership, economy and so forth. That is, what should the structure of the organization be like? What are the appropriate funding mechanisms? How should normative and economic goods be distributed?

From these dimensions we can articulate various mission statements. For example, for the WFSF as a social movement, the mission statement could be to create a just and equitable future society based on. For the mission state of Family, it could read, to find ways to create supporting relationships among futurists. For the NGO dimension it could read, to create processes for dialogue among non-governmental organizations. For the Organization dimension, it could read to maximize efficiency and find ways to economize discussions and meetings.

Just as there are various dimensions to the WFSF there are various dimensions to our conferences (and to some extent there is some overlap).

1 Bazaar A bazaar is different from a "marketplace" which has been

appropriated by economics and economists. A marketplace gives a sense of order. A bazaar is more "third world" in its connotations and much more understandable through chaos theory. There are patterns but a bazaar is wild with many things going on. Our conferences appear to be of that style. Personally I like it but many feel frustrated as evidenced by the attempts to order this bazaar. In Pakistani bazaars, information is provided to shoppers by shopkeepers singing the prices and the types of goods they have. Each shopkeeper develops on the tune of the other forming an outdoor symphony. I find it delightful, others hate it.

2 Professional Central in the professional view of a conference is the presentation of papers and the critique of each others work. Professional journals are developed, job placement (which we don't have which reminds us that we are not really a profession per se, since there is no economic arena to appropriate) is conducted and proceedings are published. This type of conference is difficult to hold since the boundaries of the field are defined quite differently by different individuals. For example, Amara has a threefold division of preferred, probable and possible. I take a predictive, interpretive and critical view. SLAUGHTER is concerned with recovering metaphors (as is SCHULTZ) and focusing on our interpretations of the future. MANNERMAA would tie futures into general evolutionary theory. MARIEN ties futures into types of intellectual activities (the quantitative vs qualitative mix or the long range and short range view or the view of the educator vs the view of the planner/technocrat). In either case having a professional

conference in which there is no doxa is difficult (unless of course one enjoys the bazaar, then there is no problem). I think most of us go in expecting a professional conference and are often disappointed when the papers do not at all reflect our own work. This, however, can also be a great source of learning.

3 Organizational Closely related to the professional type of conference is the demand for an efficient conference, a modern conference, one wherein the organization's and conferences functions and structures are clear to members and these functions logically tie into an overall theme. However, inasmuch as futurists are constantly trying to find new ways to organize themselves and information and create conferences that reflect the changing world, having a modern conference is problematic. TONY JUDGE's work in particular has tried to show how conferences themselves are representations of particular worldviews. They are not neutral designs merely structured for people to meet and present papers. Rather they are representations of our modern world carefully scripted, based on text, and some Victorian theory of knowledge (placing the scripted text before the person and creating a division between spirit/mind/and body). They are boring and ahistorical. He would like our metaphors for conferences to come from poetry, drama, arts. We should be looking for new ways to organize our minds and our presentations. We should find ways to involve our senses and our spirits in our meetings. Conferences are also a reflection of the available technology, types of rooms, for example. In addition, some new software like *Visionquest* and *Groupware* (For-

tune March 23 1992) greatly helps information processing eliminating hierarchy and the problem of the loudest getting their way. All have a screen and information is harnessed through writing (fast writers not loud talkers would like this system).

4 Social Movement or, Can Futures save the world In this view conferences should be about developing clear-cut visions, scenarios and strategies on how to improve the world. This discourse, however, ends up in discussions such as are we a policymaking body or do we just encourage people to make their own policies (that is, a network of individuals who meet and inspire each other). The latter view has been JIM DATOR's position (and PENTTI MALASKA's) who argues that the work is done by the members not the federation. The Federation exists to provide a network for dialogue and perhaps some emotional support for individuals as well. In contrast is the view of the WFSF as a social movement wherein we should be developing grand policy papers (like the Club of Rome, or to counter the Club of Rome) that are more sensitive to culture, spirit, to post and pre-modern perspectives.

5 Fun In this last view, conferences are about having fun, relaxation, going to new places, meeting new people, learning about the local culture, in general, finding ways to be happier people. Many have commented that while the papers weren't interesting the food or beer or air or friendship was great. This may not be end all of academia or social movements but it is not bad.

Not only do we all have different expectations and live in different

dimensions and conferences but there are conflicts between these various categories as well. For example, there is a conflict between the bazaar conference and the efficient organizationally oriented conference. It is possible to have both but that takes a conceptual jump. There is also a conflict between the WFSF as a world organization (based on European Enlightenment principles) and local cultures and local ways of doing things. While we might want to assert international standards (on how a conference should be held, intellectual standards, protocol, topics of discussion), what meetings do show us is that while there might be an international culture in every local surrounding by and large local culture stands in sharp contrast to international culture. Similarly, at a recent conference someone asked why there wasn't more discussion on the role of the transcendental in conferences. Taking a postmodern view, I responded by arguing that the conference architecture in itself eliminates transcendental spaces. Mind takes center state at the expense of body and spirit.

We all have our own favorite stories of the various conflicts these dimensions engender. The classic one is the WFSF becoming a world bureaucracy and developing local WFSF centers versus the WFSF being an association of members. Or the WFSF taking strong positions on politics of a particular country versus remaining committed to abstract universals.

Having a conference or a WFSF that exists in harmony (in the tantric sense of harmony in conflict) with the various dimensions and styles of

conference might be possible but it will take some conceptual regrounding.

At the same time we should not unnecessarily place ourselves in either/or positions. While the approach discussed above flattens reality (many visions of the possible), it is also important to develop a vertical dimension as well. For example, at a fundamental level one might argue that the WFSF is an association of members with the purpose of the WFSF to provide a forum for intellectual exchange. However, at another level the WFSF can be a social movement (or a value oriented association) which expresses its policy concerns through conferences (where they are held, how they are held, and the topic of discussion), through Proceedings, and other publications.

It might also be possible to have organizational efficiency and a sense of family. Community does not necessarily have to exist in a village, technology and ontology (our sense of identity) can recreate community in complex organizations and between individuals separated by space. The point is that there are ways to accommodate (in vertical and horizontal axis) the various missions and styles of the WFSF.

My position however, in this discussion is not to advocate any particular dimension mission or type of conference but merely to show that there are different dimensions, missions and types of conferences. Some of our frustrations result because we believe there is only one mission or one type of conference or one type of futures studies. The strength of the WFSF is its diversity

(many types of people and dimensions and frames of reference) This strength is also its greatest weakness.

Having diversity and unity may or

may not be possible given how we have constituted ourselves and how we constitute ourselves in the future. But perhaps with imagination and focus we can move to a new level of discourse. ◇

VISIONS ARE US

A CRITICAL MANAGEMENT PERSPECTIVE ON DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION IN THE WFSF

Wendy L. Schultz

Wendy Schultz' paper from the Barcelona World Conference outlines answers to our need to get feedback on what members perceive the Federation's role to be

Forgive me if my suggestions are less lofty, idealistic, and world-spanning than the previous speakers. I have approached this task from a management/research administration perspective. This leads to more concrete, institutionally specific suggestions. Furthermore, while panel members were requested by the organizers to limit their listing of criticisms and focus instead on positive suggestions, I will briefly review the categories of constraints that emerge again and again as major themes in the chorus of members' complaints.

Constraints

When members complain about lack of participation, they refer to con-

straints, which fall into four major categories: 1) financial, 2) infrastructural, 3) temporal, and 4) lack of information. The first three are common to many non-profit or voluntary organizations. Let me summarize them briefly.

1) Financially, the Federation has insufficient funds first, to properly support membership travel needs to enable a broad range of participation particularly among younger members or potential members, and second, to pay salaries for the support staff of a five-hundred member organization requires to function effectively and efficiently.

2) Infrastructural constraints on participation include all the various problems we have communicating in

a timely way due to balky phone systems, slow and unreliable postal services, lack of equally distributed fax and e-mail capabilities

3) The temporal constraints are obvious too little time available away from our professional duties to participate to the level we'd like - we sometimes seem to be a federation of workaholics, too long a time between the Federation's general assemblies and world conferences to maintain information exchange and the sense of community or network, and too little time and creative space available within the conferences when they do occur. These constraints also interact. With no money to support release time, temporal constraints are particularly onerous on the executive officers and council of this organization, who must juggle the responsibilities of keeping the organization alive with the responsibilities of earning enough salary to keep themselves alive. As KATRIN GILLWALD has so accurately pointed out, the most active participants in the Federation must consign their professional duties to the tag ends of their time.

But the fourth category of constraint, lack of information, is what keeps us from eradicating the other three. ROBERT JUNGK has suggested that we are too inward-looking as an organization. On one level, I agree, perhaps we have been too narrow in defining our substantive focus, and our boundaries for action. But we seem to miss turning either our investigative training, our critical propensity, or our problem-solving skills on this organization of which we are all members. It's time to begin self-analysis - agonizing re-appraisal, if you will. As a group, we

seem to know woefully little about ourselves.

The Federation has no explicitly narrated institutional history, and few formal internal requirements for institutional histories on any of its regular activities. How to organize a regional workshop, the Dubrovnik course, a world conference, what works, what doesn't, what resources exist in the world to support any of these activities, what shortcuts are effective.

When we do compile and distribute budgets of our projects and activities, they leave out in-kind donations of professional time, as well as outright donations of funds made personally by organizers and participants. Consequently, we have no idea how much it costs to have all our officers keeping the organization afloat during their professional time, and meeting their professional responsibilities on the tag ends of their personal time. In fact, we have no idea of how much it actually costs to run this organization, and little factual basis for asking for increased support in the form of grants or donations if we were aggressively searching out expanded funding.

Finally, it has been a decade-long irritation to me that new members are not automatically sent a copy of the Federation by-laws. WFSF governance procedures were arcane mysteries never fully explained to me up to and including the meetings during which I was asked to vote on the President, and on nominees for the Executive Council. Imagine my surprise on realizing, in the latter case, that all I was doing was rubber-stamping a slate of candidates, instead of having the opportunity to

vote for individuals separately. I note that PETER METTLER also included by-law distribution on his list of suggestions, and upon receiving the by-laws as distributed in the President's report to the membership, has crossed that item off. Peter, you are premature now that I have read the by-laws, it is quite clear to me WHY they were not mailed to new members.

Suggestions

Basically, we need more information, distributed more effectively throughout the membership, to enhance participation in both organizational decision-making and in organizational activities. The less people know about how things work, the more shut out of the system they feel. Many of us have gained a working knowledge of Federation activities by irritable persistence, badgering the "inner circle," or proximity to decision-making -- I have been "information advantaged" by close professional association with the office of the Secretary-General, and later, the President. The inner circle may argue that an "inner circle" doesn't exist - but a structural division/power advantage does exist within the Federation with regard to information and activities.

Enhancing reporting and historical documentation will also increase the effectiveness of our activities, and our efficiency in pursuing them. Efficiency is often a dirty word among the politically critical, but if our officers must work with the tag ends of their time, then they must use that time as productively as possible.

We should not be in the business of recreating wheels with regard to our usual activities. More specifically, we need

1) more complete reports of what worked and what didn't in the organization and activities of conferences and workshops - evaluation forms offered to participants might be useful,

2) budgets which include staff time donated by members ("in-kind" donations in research admin jargon), so that we can begin to estimate the real costs of total support of WFSF activities, so that we can aggressively pursue financial support, so that we can eventually rid ourselves of constraints #1, #2, and #3, all of which are solvable given sufficient funding,

3) to summon up our energies to search out grants from governments, corporations, foundations, or to devise some profit-generating activities,

4) to stop wasting time at international conferences by forcing the Executive Council to sit through meetings with agendas identical to those of the General Assembly convocations - presuming the Executive Council exists to make decisions when circumstances preclude convening the membership, when circumstances DO bring the membership together for General Assemblies we have no need for separate Council meetings (I am assuming the Council has no reason to keep their proceedings from the members at large),

5) documentation of our organizational structure and formal rules for functioning -- all new members should be sent copies of the Federation by-laws and organizational structure, and either the by-laws or the organization restructured, I don't care which, so that they MATCH each other,

6) to spread the responsibilities around -- we ARE rich in human resources, but a great percentage of those resources are woefully underutilized, while a small percentage are close to being tapped out in terms of time and energy -- by delegating, as BART VAN STEENBERGEN has suggested, more tasks to newer/younger members, such as inviting them to chair conference working groups -- or just formally inviting them to perform / facilitate / speak as members of the working group panel -- we are seeing the same faces over and over again during this conference (I'm one of them, and I've heard entirely too much from myself) and given the intellectual resources of Federation members, that repetition is absurd and unnecessary

We must trust each other more with the Federation's goals. TONY JUDGE quipped that democracy was both bad and boring -- by which I supposed him to mean that peculiar activity in which we indulged ourselves during this most recent General Assembly, of listening to reports, entertaining prepackaged proposals from overworked peers, yawning in the warmth, and lackadaisically voting to approve whatever that motion just was. That particular approach to hearing all

voices, that example of democracy, may be both bad and boring -- but participation is not. If we are going to trust each other more to work towards Federation goals in our futures activities, we need to ask ourselves what our goals are. Answering that one question will power the shifts in perspective and the changes required to remove the constraints with which we currently struggle. If we clarify what purpose we want the WFSF to serve in the next two decades, what we want to DO, we will clarify what the Federation should look like in structure, and what related tasks members might independently initiate to contribute to those long-term goals.

I submit to you that the Federation had at its inception a vision, a mission, which its members have faithfully pursued over two decades -- and achieved. It never seems to have been explicitly stated, but interpolating from the structures, the interpersonal relationships, the kinds of activities now considered traditional, that mission seems to have been one of support and nurturance for the then-nascent field of futures studies -- allowing the early explorers a sanctuary for working out ideas, a community of support to reinforce the sanity and usefulness of building futures studies as an intellectual discipline, a proving ground for foundation concepts in the field, and a beacon to attract like-minded adventurers to join the creative project. In my feeble reading of the Federation's history, that initial vision focussed the organization on supporting all individuals and activities that would create futures studies as a respected, viable, and growing intellectual disci-

- Economic situation
- Travel costs

pline. It looks to me like much of that has been accomplished -- look to the growth in membership.

In the last few days, I have heard fears voiced that perhaps the Federation is stagnating. Say rather that we have stalled in a calm, we are missing the wind of renewed vision. My final suggestion, then, is that our next great task is to organize, as a group, an ACTIVE meeting -- not a world conference -- made up of small

teams dedicated to creating a new vision of WFSF goals and activities for the next-quarter century. I am sure that the Finnish futures group is planning a challenging meeting for us all in '93, but I regret that it is too late to focus the whole agenda on imaging a preferred future the Federation. I hope that it is not too late to request that one entire day, at the least, be set aside for such an effort.

As futures researchers, we need to envision ourselves first.

September 18, 1992

Proceedings of the World Conference in Budapest

The World Futures Studies Federation held its XI World Conference on futures studies in Budapest, Hungary, in May 27-31 1990. The theme of the Conference was *Linking Present Decisions to Long-Range Visions*.

The proceedings based on the papers presented in the conference is now published in two volumes. The editing work was done by MIKA MANNERMAA.

The proceedings can be ordered from the following address:

Dr. Erzsébet Gidai
Research Institute for Social Studies
1117 Budapest
Dombóvári út 17-19
Hungary
tel +36-1-181 2944
fax +36-1-181 294 or -161 1845

The price of the book is nil, but if you want to get it you have to pay the mailing costs which are USD 10-20 depending on where the book is supposed to be sent.

(Note: Futures-magazine Vol 24, No 2 March 1992 includes material from the Bulgarian Regional Conference held in Sofia last spring.)



Asia-Pacific Futures Course

Futures of Development Historical Roots, Present Trends and Alternative Futures

Date 23-30 August, 1992

Venue Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)
Bangkok, Thailand

All interested people particularly postgraduate students are invited to attend especially those from the Asia-Pacific Region including the developing countries notwithstanding their professional or cultural background or their age and status

Development theory and practices are largely a result of 19th Century social thought, particularly Spencer's Social Darwinism. But instead of progress and evolution generally we have focussed primarily on economic development and economic growth. Marx added the important component of class and equity but maintained that model.

A futures orientation towards development might also ask: What is next? What do we want next? Assuming that the ecological movement, the peace movement and the spiritual movements bring a change to development theory and practice, what might development then look like? And what might development look like once contradictions in these models become pervasive?

The other present emerging tension is between global and local models (with national models having been thrown out). What new global models are emerging? What new local models? What new cultures will there be in the future - global and local?

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NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

• In his long letter to us, Dr HELMUT GROSS takes a stand against fundamentalism. He is concerned about the fundamentalist thoughts published in the Newsletter which show, as he puts it, radically biased and undifferentiated positions. He is especially worried of the article "The Alger Manifesto" in Vol 16 No 4 which he thinks glorified fundamentalism and condemned Zionism, and of BERNDT HAMM's article in Vol 17 No 4 condemning the West's position in the Gulf War, and which he thinks should be as strongly condemned as the first one was in the later issues.

He writes

"With strong moral indignation Hamm condemns the position of the USA and her allies in the Gulf War, deploring the ecological damages caused by this war and the struggle that, in his opinion, has started there for the raw materials of the Third World. He makes no mention of Saddam Hussein and his (in my opinion much greater) part in this war and the formation of the international alliance against him, cruel invasion and mauling in Kuwait, breach of international law, massive violation of human rights and genocide in his own country, deliberate use of ecological disasters as a weapon, boastful provocation of a super power

International law and not moral indignation ensure the international order. Strenuously achieved by past bloody wars, we should not throw away this progress in the co-existence of the nations in Manichean blindness. But on the basis of this progress, we should make further efforts to establish a just economic order between the North and the South. It is not a simple task to develop such an order, more than one economist could deserve a Noble Prize for it."

Dr Gross stresses that WFSF is an organization whose members are engaged in pluralistic studies and research instead of monistic politics. That is why Hamm's thoughts seem to him provocative and one-sided.

"Hamm writes that he feels sorry for the time he is wasting as a WFSF-member, because the US role in the Gulf War was not condemned on the World Conference 1991 in Barcelona. Obviously he (as a sociologist!) is not aware of such statement's value: they demonstrate the own right morality, i.e. you pat each other on the back, and that's all."

"Berndt Hamm is advised to use his time for peace research instead. The year 1991 was crucial for those studies for it produced facts (not only morality) which in view of the development in arms technology and civiliza-

tion were considered to be definitely outdated the war as a calculated political device (the operation "Desert Storm") and the civil war between peoples that are ethnically related but have different socio-religious backgrounds (the Serbs and the Croats). Therefore, all those engaged in peace research must ask themselves whether important causes of war have been ignored in previous researches those resulting from intercultural prejudices,

misunderstandings, false estimations and fanaticism.

"If Hamm should come to a practicable and promising suggestion with future options to solve only one of the topics he left out of account - that is the Near East conflict in general, Saddam Hussein's dictatorship in particular, the civil war in Yugoslavia and blind spots in peace research - then he could be sure of our scientific respect"

ORANGE COUNTY AWARDED

Cole Jackson

It's been a tough year for public education in Florida and we've been fairly distracted by basic survival strategies, but I want you to know we continue to monitor WFSF activities and appreciate all those who are working to realize a better future for kids

Also, we have an announcement despite the dismal funding year in Florida, the state has awarded Orange County a \$68,000 grant to design futures studies curriculum and establish a futures studies resource center at a high school to provide students with opportunities to do research and hands-on projects that support the curriculum

As you might imagine, we are incredibly excited about this chance to put theory into action at this academic level. A dream come true. What we were thinking we might need is the benefit of any ideas

futures gurus might have for the curriculum and/or resource center. For example, the grant funds computers and software, but we are woefully ignorant about any futures-oriented software out there that might be appropriate for secondary students. The goal of the project is to improve the critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making skills of students using a futures-studies-oriented, interdisciplinary approach. Because this is a state model project, whatever is developed is intended for replication in other Florida school districts.

Any guidance or assistance with networking with others to share ideas would be much appreciated.

Mr Cole Jackson
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• TONY STEVENSON's appointment as the new Secretary General of WFSF has been well recognized and welcomed in his scientific community at Queensland University of Technology, as can be seen from the following piece of news

"Currently an executive councillor, Professor Stevenson will take up duties as secretary-general at the end of 1993. The appointment followed his election to the position at an executive council meeting held in Barcelona, Spain, in September last year

"Former secretaries-general were Peter Mencke-Gluckert (Germany) 1974-75, Eleonora Masini (Italy) 1975-81, Goran Backstrand (Sweden) 1981-83, Jim Dator (USA) 1983-90 and Pentti Malaska (Finland) 1990 to the present

"Professor Stevenson said his appointment would bring the secretariat into the southern hemisphere for the first time, and close to Asia"

Some words from his colleagues show a solid ground to our cooperation

"Associate Professor Stevenson is an unusual resource for QUT, the Faculty of Business, and COS. His network will serve us well, his vision and orientation are timely, appropriate, and full of potential"

"It is encouraging to see QUT staff taking part in activities that may enhance the University's international reputation and standing"

"I agree that such an appointment is an exciting prospect for QUT. It should bring very real benefit to the institution as well as to the Communication Centre, its staff and its stu-

dents, through the broadening and development of international contacts in teaching, research and professional areas"

WFSF highly appreciates this cooperative spirit and encouragement to the head of the coming office of the Secretary General!

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• A long time WFSF member and former Executive Council member, Professor ANDREJ SICINSKI has been appointed Minister of Culture in Poland. Congratulations and good luck in this demanding post!

o o o

• Robert Jungk, our long time Honorary Member, has been elected Candidate for Presidency for the Green party of Austria, and got a good share (6%) of votes

o o o

• Futures- magazine Vol 24, No 2, March 1992 includes articles and essays of the presentations of the WFSF Bulgarian Regional conference, held last May in Sofia

o o o

• Two longstanding members of WFSF have recently been quite ill. JOHN PLATT is documenting his own experiences with a serious brain tumor. HARLAN CLEVELAND is recovering from a heart attack

EDUCATING THE YOUNG

Bernd Hamm

In his article, Bernd Hamm tells about the plans to build a network of UNESCO's Associated Universities(UAUP)

By Resolution 71, adopted at the 25th Session of its General Conference in 1989, UNESCO approved the proposal of Germany to study the "feasibility of launching an international network of associated universities which could complement the efforts of the Associated Schools Project in the implementation of the 1974 Recommendations". This paper gives a short overview of the background on which the idea developed, the concept of UNESCO Associated University, and the strategy for implementation. All these elements have to be examined in detail in a feasibility study.

The German initiative did not develop in isolation. It came out of an already complex and effervescent situation where several sets of ideas were on the table to be tested and, if positively assessed, implemented. These include, in arbitrary and incomplete enumeration

a An initiative taken under Major Programme I in UNESCO's Biennial

Programme and Budget for 1988/89, to draw up, "on an experimental basis, at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, of teaching and research programmes centered on the analysis of world problems, their interdependence, and their implications for the future, with a view to better understanding of this new area of knowledge and acquainting certain researchers with the findings and methods of future-oriented research on world problems. Incorporation of these programmes in the curricula of certain universities with a view to providing further training to particular groups of graduates from higher education". A series of expert consultations was held on this topic, notably by the European Academy of Sciences, Arts and Humanities together with UNESCO, from December 1987 until July 1989 to discuss some projects in global and future-oriented education, and to stimulate others.

b The provisions contained in the Third Medium Term Plan of UNESCO for the 1991-1995 period, to "support

and promote the regional and international networks of institutions of higher education and research on peace and international understanding

c Project UNITWIN and its adjacent UNESCO Chairs scheme, launched upon the initiative of the Director-General of UNESCO with a view to reinforce inter-university cooperation and academic mobility through twinning, networking and other linking arrangements among universities and having as their primary objective to assist the developing countries in building up their high-level training and research capacities

d The proposal to set up an integrated network of European university studies and research, under the provisional title of The University of the Peoples of Europe, which was launched in 1988 by the Soviet Union during the Fourth European Conference of Ministers of Education and was reinforced at the 25th session of the General Conference of UNESCO in 1987

e Prep 21, an initiative of the World Future Society, to introduce Futures Studies at all universities world-wide by the year 2000

f Other programmes related to international education at universities throughout the world which recently have been assessed by the joint International Association of Universities/UNESCO Information Centre

g Work done by the United Nations University (Tokyo) and by the University for Peace (Costa Rica) with which UNESCO cooperates closely and for the activities of which it has been assigned special responsibilities by the

United Nations General Assembly, has also been essential to promote teaching and research on global issues at universities world-wide

The UNESCO Associated Universities Project (UAUP) intends to bring all these together. Very generally, the idea is that institutions of higher education which commit themselves to the intentions of the 1974 Recommendation by developing and implementing curricula for a *studium integrale* (or International Education, to use the term of the 1974 Recommendation, for the sake of brevity, I shall continue to use *studium integrale* throughout this paper) offered to students of all disciplines, undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate, and to a non-university public in continuing education, or faculties or institutes within such institutions, may be awarded the status of UNESCO Associated University. This would give them some privileged access to UNESCO resources (teaching materials, fellowships, depository library status etc.). They may form networks under the provisions of UNITWIN to enhance North-South or/and East-West cooperation, and they might be eligible for permanent or temporary UNESCO chairs. UAUP is not about developing an entirely new project but rather about coordinating existing ones to arrive at a coherent concept in which all elements have their place and weight, concentrating on means which are already available, avoiding duplicate work, and making use of synergetic effects.

The Concept of UNESCO Associated University

A UNESCO Associated University can be defined as an institution of higher

education which offers, as an important element of its entire educational programme, a *studium integrale* as described below

Education for tomorrow in the university system must take into account at least two salient features (1) it is no longer, as it was in the past, that one education before adulthood suffices for an entire subsequent professional life. Education already is for many, and will be a life-long task and experience for all in the future. It is therefore prudent to provide a solid basis of general knowledge on which several phases of specialization can build, (2) the productive and social values of specialization, division of labor, and interdependence should not be neglected, however, it is necessary to understand that specialization without a clear understanding of the specialists' position in and contribution to society leads to blindness and a lack of social responsibility. Thus, the *studium integrale* is not to substitute but rather to complement studies in any specialized academic field.

The *studium integrale* envisaged is somewhere at the intercept between peace studies, global studies, futures studies, human rights/ethics, environmental studies, and world problematique (as defined by the Club of Rome). The perspective is one firmly rooted in the social sciences. This does not exclude elements of natural sciences which may come in where natural phenomena are directly interrelated with human behavior and social action. The type of knowledge sought is one of *Orientierungswissen* and not one of *Verfügungswissen*. The *studium integrale* may be offered, in the short run, non-credit to undergraduates, graduates, post-graduates

and/or in continuing education. In the longer run, it should be made compulsory and credit for students of all disciplines. In addition, special degrees might be considered as is already the case, e.g., at the State University of Ghent, Belgium.

Studium integrale is about our way to become one global society in which all parts are increasingly independent. Today's reality as perceived in the minds of most men and women inside and outside academia is still dominated by the nation-state as the major element of social structure. At the same time, the nation-state in fact decreases sharply in significance: globalization of finance, economy, and media, the transfer of sovereignty to supranational institutions on one hand, the increasing quest for local identity, culture, and self-determination on the other are elements which work together to transcend the nation-state. In our life of tomorrow, our experience will tend to become local-regional (where 'region' is understood in the sense of continent). The region is becoming the major organizational entity, and it could make sense to put some emphasis on this new and complex reality of the region as a starting point for the *studium integrale*. However, the region must always be understood as an element in the wider context of global society. Thus, while the approach might be African, Latin American, Arab, or European, major emphasis should be placed on the dependence of the region on, and the role it plays for this global society. A purely global approach should by no means be excluded but it may turn out to be too abstract for students to understand and relate to their own reality.

Interdisciplinarity is not an end in itself, and it is not the *panacea* for everything. However, interesting an experience it might be for an economist to talk with an archeologist, such talk will usually have little or no impact on the professional outlooks of either one. This is not what is intended in the *studium integrale*. In a broad sense, *studium integrale* wants to promote social understanding and responsibility and this includes an understanding of the global society and its major problems and the social causes and effects of one's own professional work. Therefore, this is not about interdisciplinarity but rather about transdisciplinarity where *studium integrale* transcends the view of any discipline of academic study. It is only from such a holistic perspective of social responsibility that professional academic work might be geared to the major problems of society and human betterment in general. Sustainability in the broad sense (including economic, social, and environmental aspects) is considered to be the principal goal. Therefore, *studium integrale* necessarily contains at least one important element about the future, viz. the visions of a future better world and today's decisions are the very domain of futures studies. Other components may include, e.g., peace and security, development, environment, population, democracy and human rights, international economic and financial interdependence, the UN system, or globalization and localization.

It remains open for experiment which didactic and organizational forms the *studium integrale* may take. The UAU pilot projects have been encouraged to report the ways they choose and the experiences made so that such information

can be distributed to all other pilot projects, included in the advertising materials, and finally may be used for the elaboration of a UAU handbook. The important criterion is that the message is received by the respective target group. A Global Studies Newsletter might be an appropriate instrument to interlink the individual projects.

It is most likely that relatively little exists which could be used as teaching materials for the *studium integrale*. Such materials must therefore be produced, and this could be best made out of the concrete work of those who in fact offer or organize the *studium integrale* courses. Such materials have to meet at least four criteria: (a) complexity, i.e. the real diversity of different cultural, disciplinary or epistemological approaches to a problem must be reflected; (b) intellectual honesty, i.e. a critical view on the gap between theory and empirical reality and on the crucial conflicts and contradictions must be stimulated; (c) target-group specific presentation, i.e. the entire language and layout of the material must be so designed as to reach the intended clientele in the most effective way; and (d) use of the most advanced didactical technology, including videos, computers, simulation models, etc. It seems that this can only be achieved by intercultural groups of experts together with a professional educator. Therefore, provision must be made so that such production can be stimulated, and the results evaluated, translated and distributed to others in the network and, after some revision, to the public at large.

It might be advisable that one institution per region serves, permanently or temporarily, as a focal point to

educate the educators i.e. those who commit themselves to organize and offer *studium integrale* programmes. This should be a centre of excellence and it would deserve special support. The establishment of an International Institute for Global Education might also be taken into consideration. It also has to be discussed which ways of institutional implementation of *studium integrale* exist in individual institutions of higher education. Whatever solutions might come up, they should allow to bring people together, people who are already active in international education though isolated from each other and separated by faculty boundaries, in the same university.

UAU networks consist of systems of institutions of higher education which offer *studium integrale* as important part of their regular programme. Such networks may either be built on existing partnerships (my own university, the University of Trier, e.g. has formal partnership agreements with universities in France, Great Britain, USA, Spain, Poland, Canada, China, and Japan) where it would be necessary to develop this star-shaped pattern into a network with (ideally) all interlinked among each other and the introduction of *studium integrale* to make it a UAU network. Or a network may be newly formed on regional or other communalities. Project UNITWIN places emphasis on the creation of such networks in the developing countries as a means of strengthening higher education with international support and based on South-South and East-West cooperation. The universities which are member of a UAU network should have enough in common to allow

them to coordinate some of their programmes so that student and faculty exchange makes sense and, possibly, to develop some common research foci. UNITWIN might provide a frame of reference and a supporting instrument to develop UAU networks. The networking could also be among certain faculties or institutes or chairs (e.g., UNESCO Chairs) and need not necessarily involve entire universities only. Here again, a Global Studies Newsletter might be recommended to interlink the individual UAUs of a network or world wide.

UNESCO Chairs might be an excellent instrument to create and stimulate individual OAUs and OAU networks. If so intended, however it might be preferable not to establish individual and isolated chairs in individual disciplines but rather consequently use the criteria of *studium integrale* and thus transdisciplinarity on the one hand and networking on the other for decisions on UNESCO Chair applications. UNESCO Chair holders might as a first step in this position, be invited as visiting professors to UNESCO where they either direct a project related to their fields of interest or absolve an internship in several sectors, divisions, and working units of the Organization.

A project ambitious as UAUP can only be realized if sufficient incentives are given from the outset until take-off. Such incentives must not necessarily be only monetary, although travel grants, meetings contracts, prizes etc. might be indispensable. In many cases, fellowships will be such an incentive (e.g. for Third World postgraduates who want to study German unification or European integration

as part of their dissertation work). In other cases it will be granting the UNESCO depository library status. Finally, and very often, symbolic recognition would also be helpful. It might well be that UAUP attracts funds-in-trust and that of co-financing, as in the case of UNESCO Chairs, is possible. It seems a good idea to get UAUs and UNESCO Chairs involved in immediate UNESCO work as part of the consultation process, in expert and steering committees, on expert missions, and in other ways to implement the programme. To maximize the potential benefit for UNESCO, UNESCO Chair holders must be allowed to become well acquainted with the Organization and its working principles. A possible way to achieve this goal might be the introduction of Visiting Professorships as a first stage in the career as a UNESCO Chair holder (in analogy to the associated experts scheme).

3 A Strategy to Implement UAUP

The following is about how the concept of UAU, seen as a process could be developed and implemented. The strategy will begin, or better has already begun, with few pilot projects in different parts of the world. It will then need special efforts to convince a sufficient number of other institutions of higher education to join, and here is UNESCO's important task. If this is successful, a broad and general diffusion will almost go by itself because no university will want to lack behind once this is established standard. Together with the initiation of the pilot process, the recognition of pilot projects by UNESCO and the

establishment of a working group, a broad phase of consultations about UAUP should be started involving all IGOs and NGOs with at least some expertise, substantial or procedural in the field. The working group may collect, with the help of UNU, the University for Peace, the UN Centre for Human Rights, the International Association of Universities / UNESCO Information Centre and others, documentation about potential pilot projects around the world in addition to those already involved. It will establish a catalogue of such pilot projects and regularly update the information by means of the Global Studies Newsletter distributed to all participating institutions. The purpose is to encourage and stimulate as much creativity as possible, with only a minimum set of standards required. The number of pilot projects shall be determined so that every world region can be adequately represented. In some cases, pilot projects may be deliberately initiated. The working group already active in the Athens, Ghent and Tunis meetings may accept to guide the pilot phase. However, after this pilot phase the number of institutions with such projects might simply be too big as to allow each of them to be represented. This is when the possibility of a formally institutionalized steering committee might be considered. To be of a workable size, the steering committee should have no more than some 20 working, i.e. some 25 to 30 listed members. They might be composed of members of the UNESCO secretariat, directors of pilot projects, and representatives of important institutions like the United Nations University, the University for Peace, the International Association of Universities, or the Club of Rome.

Its mandate would be to advise UNESCO in all questions related to the further development and implementation of UAUP. The steering committee might be established as a sub-committee of the Consultative Committee on International Education, it will not suffice, however, to meet only once during a biennium.

The pilot projects should, after a period of two or three years, be carefully evaluated. Four sets of criteria might be applied, i.e. minimum standard of the programme according to the 1974 Recommendations, creativity, acceptance within the institution of higher education, and success in the eyes of students. Therefore, these criteria have to be carefully defined as to allow evaluation. Evaluation serves to answer three questions: (1) Does the pilot project fulfill the criteria for being granted UNESCO Associated University status? (2) Does the pilot project contain elements and/or contain experiences which should be included in the UAU handbook and reported in the

Newsletter? (3) If the pilot project has received financial support from UNESCO, should this support be continued or discontinued? An interim report on the state of affairs of UAUP may be presented to the 44th session of the International Conference on Education (1994) which will lay special emphasis on international education.

After the end of the pilot phase, a UAU handbook may be written containing the goals, standards and methods of, and possibilities of support to, new UAUs. It should be regularly updated and give latest information about all formally recognized UAUs with details of their programme and network activities. It should be available in at least all UN languages and widely distributed.

UNESCO will define the requirements for an institution of higher education to apply for UAU status. This status may be granted in a formal ceremony which guarantees some media coverage as is already the case with UNESCO Chairs. ◇

Friends of Eco-Philosophy

People are invited to join Friends of Eco-Philosophy. By joining they will contribute to the healing of the planet and of themselves. They will also regularly receive *The New Gaia Newsletter*. Eco-philosophy is an attempt to be relevant to human concerns: attempts to confront those great quests and problems which philosophy of the past met with courage and without evasion. In short, eco-philosophy tries to rethink the place of man and the place of knowledge in the universe of *becoming* as we approach the 21st century.

More information

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GLOBAL FUTURES PROJECT LAUNCHED

To make any sense of life in the 1990s contemporary trends and events need to be set in a context which includes both a global and a futures perspective. The Global Futures Project is concerned about fully educating young people for the 21st century. Now this project has moved from the University of London to Bath. Our member DR DAVID HICKS from Bath College of Higher Education writes on the Global Futures Project.

"This curriculum project focuses on the entitlement of pupils to preparation for responsible citizenship as future adult members of the community. In particular it helps teachers and pupils to a) explore current concerns about the state of the planet, b) clarify their choice of preferred futures from the personal to the global, c) envision alternative futures which are just and ecologically sustainable, d) develop both critical thinking skills and the creative imagination, e) exercise their rights responsibility as active citizens in the local and global community."

Dr Hicks writes that the project will be of interest especially to teachers (years 4 to 9) and teacher educators concerned with National Curriculum subjects as well as the cross-curricular themes.

Examples of draft classroom activities can be found in *Exploring Alternative Futures: A Teacher's Interim Guide*. The project provides in-service support as well as workshops and lectures to suit a variety of educational occasions.

More information

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• WENDELL BELL, Professor of Sociology at Yale University, on November 1st and 2nd, 1991, gave a sociology seminar and a public lecture *Bringing the good back in: Values, objectivity, and the future*, at the University of North Carolina, Greenboro, where the Department of Sociology marked its 75th anniversary and the University itself continued its Centennial celebration. A copy of his lecture may be slated to be buried on the UNCG campus in a Time Capsule scheduled to be unearthed in the year 2041. (Bell said that he has given some lectures in the past that no doubt "deserved" to be buried, but this will be the first one to his knowledge that actually was.) ◇

DISCUSSING FUTURES

MINGLE WITH THE GRASS ROOTS

André van Dam

French poet Jean Girardoux held that the well-to-do usually watch catastrophes from their balconies. Likewise, we futurists have a tendency to observe the present and the future from our academic balconies.

Yet, as the present teaches us dramatically and almost daily, I believe that it is high time to descend from our lofty positions and mingle with the crowds. For it is the grass roots that more often than not pressure their leadership for change. Sociopolitical action arises mostly from the demands of a well-informed public.

In order to understand my rationale for such a firm proposal, it suffices to peruse some recent and interesting publications on futures research which Pierre Weiss kindly sent me. 21st century studies, Brazil, cultures, and islands. These studies were made by prestigious futurists, some of them my esteemed colleagues in the Club of Rome, the World Futures Studies Federation, the World Future Society, and the Society for International Development.

Quite at random I transcribe – purely as an example – four sentences steeped in futurism-from-the-balconies

"We are reverting to a reductionist economic growth paradigm"

"The selective effort of out-migration may also have a major impact on the maintenance of cultural traditions",

"Consumption of superfluous, luxury products could be reduced or eliminated",

"The challenge of participative futures is to promote human development by removing the obstructions to human development"

Perusing these studies, as well as the published proceedings of important futuristic conferences in Beijing, Budapest and Barcelona – which I attended –, it comes as no surprise that there apparently has been little or no echo of our messages beyond the conference rooms and halls.

In addition, in these conferences we did not stretch our imagination to

such not-so-distant events as Tiananmen Square, Germany's reunification, the end of South Africa's apartheid and the demise of the Soviet Union.

Small wonder then that in a recent bulletin of the World Futures Studies Federation, two renowned futurists clamoured for what I would call a return to Bertrand de Jouvenel's original vision of futurism as *'the art of conjecture'*.

In a more up-to-date and concrete example, I cite the Worldwatch Institute's yearly *"State of the World"* reports. They are the *nec plus ultra* of well-researched, eloquently and transparently written futures studies in the wide field of the human environment. These reports are published in 23 language editions, through the mass media they reach deeply into the grass roots, student bodies and leaderships alike – across the globe.

I could also cite *"The limits to growth"*, a complex and controversial subject matter, yet edited in a transparent and easy-to-digest manner – so much so that ten million copies were sold in twenty language editions.

Other examples of futurism-mingling-with-the-crowds: ALVIN TOFFLER's *"Future Shock"*, Fritz Schumacher's *"Small is Beautiful"*, Francis Fukuyama's *"The End of History"* and Rachel Carson's *"Silent Spring"*, to name but a few.

In our futuristic conferences and magazines we attempt to cover every topic from aborigines to zoology, so to speak. Yet we have neither the human nor the financial and techni-

cal resources to spread ourselves that widely.

We should rather apply the principle of critical mass, and thus focus our futuristic endeavours more and more sharply on those topics capable of striking sympathetic chords with the mass media (television, newspapers, magazines, radio) – through them, with the grass roots, and through them, with the leaderships at all levels.

The art of conjecture has not changed since Bertrand de Jouvenel wrote the book under that title. It is the future speed and force which even the founding fathers of futurism did not anticipate, even vaguely, three decades ago.

In a nutshell, I believe that what we need in futurism is a group of motivated "translators" and "interpreters" who can transform the abstract or philosophical words, sentences and concepts of hundreds of intelligent, experienced and well-meaning futurists, into a language that the mass media and ordinary citizens can understand, appreciate, and (if necessary) act upon.

The role of UNESCO

That is "education" par excellence, "science" put at the disposal of the people, and "culture" in the true (Greek) sense of the word. Hence, I believe that it constitutes a genuine challenge to UNESCO to show futurists the shortest routes from balconies to crowds.

Buenos Aires
April 1, 1992

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— TOWARDS THE XIII WORLD CONFERENCE —

TWO THOUSAND

André van Dam

Our world is in the middle of rapid changes. Andre van Dam reminds us to discover that the future is not a supermarket of good ideas waiting for scientists but it is to guide us, we need the same kind of imagination and spirit which inspired de Jouvenel and Peccei some decades ago

When we meet in Turku, the magic year 2000 is only 330 weeks away. How did the world look 330 weeks before Turku? It suffices to open up Time magazine, Le Monde diplomatique or any other prestigious journal – let alone the Futurist and Futures – of that time to realize how much has changed since then, how much we missed the future in our scenarios and speculations. If we cannot look 330 weeks ahead, what useful role can we play? We cannot produce more future shocks, for people have become immune to dire predictions or glorious visions of a cloudless future. Nor can we bombard the public with words and expressions that float on cloud nine. The future is not a supermarket of ideas where futurists pick up items of their fancy. Tragically, Dubrovnik was shelled, and many of our futures teachings with it.

Perhaps it is time to return to the moment when Bertrand de Jouvenel published *"The art of conjecture"*, 30 years before Turku. That was the birth of futurism: the noble art of guesswork that acted like a beacon rather than a roadmap. Some ten years later, we met in the convent of Frascati (near Rome) to save the art of conjecture. Despite the presence of Aurelio Peccei, Fritz Schumacher, Bertrand de Jouvenel and other high priests of intelligent conjecture, we started getting mired in the quicksand of scientific futurism, led by the euphoria of high technology, we made others and ourselves believe that the future would be more and better than the present. That futurism perished in Beijing, Budapest and Barcelona, notwithstanding the signs on the wall – the Berlin wall that is, and all that followed.

Between 1961 and 1991, I published close to one hundred magazine and newspaper articles on future trends. Few of these have withstood the acid test of time. My only consolation, a meager one, is that I have been in "good" company. For instance, the United Nations world conference on water (1978) which I attended, did not alert governments, universities and the general public to major climatic changes. It was expected that high technology would solve water pollution as well as desertification and floods. The world did not relate climatic changes to the burning of the Amazon or the excessive use of petrol and aerosol. In fact, nobody foresaw the emergence of "green" po-

litical parties that would capture between 10 and 20 % of the votes in many countries. Greenpeace was a gleam in too few eyes.

We cannot foresee the future. Nor could Bertrand de Jouvenel or Aurelio Peccei. They had artistic, convincing visions of the future and could express these in words and verbs that struck magic chords with the public. May the title and spirit of the Turku conference capture again those aesthetic and emphatic visual images – and manage to have a ripple effect far beyond the conference rooms and August 1993! ♦

A Sustainable Energy Future in Europe – Energy Seminar for NGOs and Grassroots

Madrid 14th – 18th September, 1992

Seminar is meant for environmentally active people interested in sustainable energy development. Organized by OVE – The Danish Organization for Renewable Energy.

AWEC – Alternative World Energy Conference

Madrid 19th – 21st September 1992

What is energy for? – An unsustainable model – North-South energy distribution – Better with less energy in the North – Working for a new energy model. Organized by Aedenat, Asociazion Ecologista de la Naturaleza, Spain.

Participants at the NGO Energy Seminar the week before can participate in AWEC for free.

More information.

OVE International Secretariat
Att. Ann Vikkelsø
Willemoesgade 14
DK-2100 København Ø, Denmark
tel. +45-31-429 091
fax +45-31-429 095

FUTURES AND VISIONS OF WFSF

AN INVITATION TO THE MEMBERSHIP

Wendy Schultz and Chris Jones

We have been asked by the International Organizing Committee of the XIIIth World Conference of the WFSF to serve as facilitators /coordinators for sessions and activities relating to the futures of the Federation. In this preliminary invitation we describe our conception of the overall activities we are planning for the Finland meeting, alternative modes of individual and institutional participation before and during the meeting, and a "call for futures and visions" of the WFSF.

Background. World Conferences of the WFSF have been big on global, regional, and topical futures, but have neglected the Federation itself as the focus of "futuring" exercises of any sort. Often this neglect has been reflected in statements such as "*Why aren't we talking about OUR future?*" This was certainly an undercurrent and an overt topic at Barcelona, in particular, due to distribution of the Constitution, bylaws, and actual operating procedures of the WFSF.

The idea of a "visioning" session at Turku for the WFSF was formally

proposed by BOB JUNGK and has been incorporated into one of the two "tracks" which will be offered as part of the XIIIth World Conference.

Overview

Our concept for a "futures workshop" begins with informal, open-ended brainstorming and planning contributions and discussions (details below). These lead to two days of small group sessions at the Turku Conference which culminate in formal workshop sessions on the morning and early afternoon of Wednesday 25 August. Output from these activities are expected to link with the WFSF General Assembly Meeting later the same day as well as contribute to the closing Plenary.

Detailed Description

Pre-conference. During the year leading up to the Turku Conference, members are asked to contribute their scenario(s) or description(s) of the world (or their region) in 2020.

Scenarios should be as specific as possible describing the possible global futures that members can envision. These should not necessarily be PREFERRED, but definitely PROBABLE futures. Please describe aspects of society as completely as possible (i.e., environment, education, family life, relations between men and women, work, technology, built environment, health care, war and peace, government, North/South relations, and other sectors).

These scenarios will be sorted /aggregated as they are received and posted on the *telematic pre-conference* e-mail system and summarized in printed pre-conference materials (such as the *WFSF Newsletter*).

Similarly, WFSF members are solicited to contribute short statements reflecting their thoughts and feelings about what the role of the WFSF should be in the future. What should its mission be? What is your vision of the WFSF in the future? Also, for long-time members, what were the past visions/roles for the WFSF? Have those visions/roles been realized? Should they be recreated, empowered? These contributions will be considered anonymous, but will be incorporated into the WFSF Futures Workshop activities and process. They will also be selected for inclusion in the reporting "paths."

World Scenarios. On Monday 23 August a group session on World Scenarios will be convened to finalize a set of alternative global futures for 2020. While a set of three to five futures will be selected for the Thursday Futures Workshop, the World Scenarios effort is seen as a continuing, open-ended process.

Members will be encouraged to critique, elaborate, and recreate alternative futures throughout the Conference.

Ad Hoc Input. To that end, another "path" for participation is envisioned. Workshop organizers will be securing a space at the conference site for informal discussions (e.g., during the ad hoc time slots) and for dissemination of World Scenarios and Incasting materials. A wall which will be covered with butcher paper will be devoted to large graphic representations and descriptions of the World Scenarios. Art supplies will be made available for impromptu contributions by participants who have not previously been involved.

Yet another "path" for these discussions is daily contributions by organizers to the official *media service* slated to be an official part of Conference information services. Other members are encouraged to use this outlet for discourse on World Scenarios and Incasting exercises. Workshop organizers will also request plenary session time on Tuesday morning to report on the World Futures process.

Incasting. On Tuesday 24 August a group session will be convened to "incast" the WFSF into the set of futures selected the previous day. Incasting is a process used extensively by the Manoa School of futures studies to posit aspects of coherent alternative futures based on assumptions about that future (e.g., health care in a Collapse future). Thus, Incasting the WFSF into a range of World Scenarios will explore the advantages, disadvantages, changes in roles and functions which would face the organization. The

incasting exercise will also look closely at those roles which the WFSF and its Conferences serve and/or have served in the past

Workshop As presently conceived, the Wednesday morning workshop will have five distinct components

- 1) Introduction & ground rules followed by a warmup brainstorming exercise on "worst fears" for the future of the WFSF (catharsis) [30 min]
- 2) History[ies] of the WFSF with emphasis on successes, goals reached [45 min]
- 3) World Scenarios presented by group session participants. Different characteristics of WFSF in each future are highlighted [30 min]

5 minute break

- 4) Break out into small groups to brainstorm PREFERRED future with World Scenarios as contrast /data/food for thought. Sub-groups based on roles for WFSF finalized in Incasting group session (e.g., social movement, NGO, professional association, family, organization, bazaar, academy, fun, Open-ended space left for people to create new roles to work on [1 20])

- 5) Report back to group-as-whole. Task: describe most positive new change/goal [45 min]

Goals & Structure The Wednesday afternoon session will take the out-

put from the morning session as the starting point for small group discussions on the match between our present organization and formal rules and the vision(s) for WFSF. Should our constitution be rewritten, unwritten, videotaped? Who should the Executive Council represent? Should it be reconstituted to represent different locales, cultures, professional groups, or different images of WFSF future (e.g., 50% geographic, 50% constituencies of the different "role groups")? Or maybe we should have a separate advisory council to nurture the images, goals, strategies, and actions that emerge from the morning workshop

General Assembly Meeting Formal recommendations arising from the earlier sessions could be put to the membership for action

Closure The Friday group session will convene to draft a report on the Futures Workshop and related activities for the closing Plenary

In addition to the "call" for World Scenarios and WFSF roles past, present, and future, we are also seeking volunteers to serve as workshop facilitators (brainstorming training will be held at Turku)

Please address your suggestions and reactions to

Wendy Schultz and Chris Jones
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Room 720, Porteus Hall
2424 Malle Way
Honolulu, HI 96822 USA
e-mail Wendy@uhunix uhcc hawaii edu

CHAOS AND COHERENCE – READING MATERIAL

Pentti Malaska

JAMES ROBERTSON does magnificent futures work and has published inspiring books which come close to the theme of the next World Conference on Chaos and Coherence in Turku next summer

His latest book *Future Wealth A new economics for the 21st century* (first printing in 1989) seems especially relevant. His previous books, *The Sane Alternative A Choice of the Future* (1983) and *Future Work* (1987) are in reprint and well worth consulting, too

- Other material worth reading before the conference

Siegfried Behrendt
Selbstorganisation Chaostheorie Synergie Evolutionstrategien und Netzwerkbildung Bibliographie mit Schwerpunkt anwendungsorientierter Literatur
Sekretariat für Zukunftsforschung Gelsenkirchen Germany 1991
ISBN 3-928635-01-8

Zhang Shu-yu
Bibliography on Chaos
World Scientific 1991
7157 items 514 p

World Uranium Hearing

September 13-19
Residence Palace Salzburg Austria

For the first time in history victims of uranium mining, nuclear weapon testing and the storage of radioactive wastes from all continents will speak out on the destruction of their cultures and natural environment. What these people need most is being listened to something they have been denied for so long. Hence the most important body of the World Uranium Hearing will be a *Board of Listeners* composed of world renowned people. Natural and social scientists along with legal professionals will also be there to form a *Council of Scientists* and a *Council of Jurists* respectively both of which assist and communicate with the *Board of Listeners*. Together all event participants will frame a *"Declaration of Salzburg"* and an international trust fund is to be set up on behalf of nuclear victims

More information

The World Uranium Hearing e.V.
Praterinsel 4
D-8000 München 22 Germany
tel +49-89-228 5924 fax +49-89- 228 5340

ARTICLES AND BOOKS

THE FUTURE OF THE CULTURE

Merja Niemi

*The Future of the Culture
Volume I Meeting of the Working Group on
the Futures of Culture*

This brief essay deals with the publication of the results of the working group on the *Future of the Culture*. The meeting, which was organized in co-operation with UNESCO and World Futures Studies Federation was held in Paris on January 9-10, 1990. The group of participants consisted of experts and individuals who had been asked to present their views and suggestions on the topic of the Futures of Culture.

Culture as a term is much used, but how did the participants understand by the word *culture*? Culture was defined as an indicator of high social status, but is also as something consumable like a painting on the wall. In addition to that, culture was defined as the concept of a way of life. The concept of culture is possible to be reviewed as resistance, as a language, and as a language of communication. Culture as a political term is reification and abstraction of the way people live. If it tries to declare some certain way of life as correct, then it is also an instrument of oppression. The word culture has links to economy as well. The gradual re-

placement of the concept of *corporate strategies* with that of *corporate cultures* is for example a clear recognition of the fact that economic success depends not only on efficiency and good management practices or technology, but also on values and traditions.

One central theme of the discussions at the meeting was the state of culture today, which led to two scenarios for the future of the cultures. The main thoughts on the state of the culture today were as follows:

- All cultures and cultural values are being powerfully assaulted by great forces of standardization. Those standardizing forces are technology (especially media type technologies), modern state with its bureaucratic political institutions, and rapid spread of managerial organization as the best means of decision-making.
- These standardizing influences result in massive cultural destruction, dilution and assimilation.
- However, the very pervasiveness of these damaging forces gives rise to growing manifestations of cultural affirmation and resistance.

Cultural and authentic cultural values will according to the pessimistic

scenario be "bastardized or reduced to marginal or ornamental roles in most national societies and regional and local communities". The optimistic scenario asserts that "humanity advances in global solidarity, increasingly practices ecological and economic collaboration as responsible stewards of the cosmos" (page 9). The latter scenario suggests that numerous cultures – vital and proud of their identity – will flourish while re-

joining in differences exhibited by other cultures. The presentation of these two scenarios along with other interesting culture oriented issues created a very stimulating atmosphere for discussion. This document is more than a mere presentation of the multiple ideas and solutions, it is a vivid and inspiring source for future discussions dealing with cultures and cultures of the future. ◇

FROM SCARCITY TO SUSTAINABILITY

Pentti Malaska

PETER H. MOLL's book *From Scarcity to Sustainability: Futures Studies and the Environment: the Role of the Club of Rome* is a must to everybody involved in futures activities. It gives important background information on the leading ideas like those presented in *The Limits to Growth*, a debate which is still continuing, about the leading groups of futurists like the Club of Rome, WFSF, and WFS, and about persons involved in futures study from the 60s to the 90s, maybe even about yourself. It is rich with information not available anywhere else based on published and unpublished materials and extensive interviews of 100 people, and it includes some 600 titles of bibliography and interesting views by the author.

"It is - insufficient as it had to remain in this respect - one of the first attempts to write a history of futures studies", says Peter. One may criticize the fact how well this assertion is grounded, but Peter's contribution sure is interesting to consult.

Another strong assertion by Peter is stated already in the title, which refers to the debate on the limits to growth. The title is a sign of transcending the debate. Peter wants to bet for an "after-Brundtland-understanding" according to which "the old physical limits to growth thesis is widely rejected" (p. 213). It is interesting to see in what way the author assumes to ascertain that new common interest believing in the omnipotence of the market mechanism and

striving for an accelerated economic growth can abandon global limits and scarcity of environment in rational behaviour. The idea is a nice and clear perpetum mobile, or a brave new idea of the Titanic, which was unsinkable, as we remember. I don't deny that it wouldn't be of vital common interest to have one in operation, because it could really secure whatever is phantasized by the humans without any problems of environmental scarcity or development ethics. However, I am not confident that Peter's arguments are sufficient for such a sustainability without scarcity to exist. The issue must be more rigorously clarified and conceived before we can rely on that it is not another Titanic of the human mind we are creating. Peter's book is inviting us to serious discussion.

To the data of historical information of the book I would like to add some notes of my personal flavour and my involvement in the Club of Rome. In the bibliography, there is a booklet of the dossiers of the Club (the Club of Rome / FSFS 1984, The Club of Rome conference in Helsinki mentioned,) to which I would like to add that it was compiled and written by me for the conference. And it is not quite true that the Helsinki conference of the Club in 1984 was so much different from the previous ones arranged by Aurelio Peccei himself, as some people have told Peter (p 238). I invited the Club to have its conference in Helsinki during the Tokyo meeting, and it was immediately accepted by Aurelio and those members present. During the next two years I discussed the program several times with Aurelio, presented an outline for his approval in the Kuwait meeting, and further elaborated

it with him and some other Club members in the Budapest meeting. There was no national group working for the conference until I and Mr Sakari T. Lehto got it gathered. Peccei visited Finland during the preparations and gave his final approval to the site, arrangements, program, and he decided on the people to be invited and supported. I can hardly imagine how it could have been possible for him to "arrange it by himself" more than in this case, which became his last. He died suddenly just a couple of months before the opening of the conference, and I was very happy that a suggestion to cancel the whole conference was not accepted. We had formed an effective organization committee to work on the conference as Peccei had desired. It became the Finland Committee of the Club of Rome only after the conference, and money to the Club's foundation was arranged by the government (p 228).

During the conference a new Club of Rome project on Africa was initiated by Aklilu Lemma, Mihajlo Mesarovic and myself. During the next five years this research demanded a great effort from Lemma and me. As the manager of the project, I arranged a meeting in Lusaka for it in 1986 (p 231). The report of the project titled *Africa Beyond Famine. A report to the Club of Rome*, edited by Aklilu Lemma and Pentti Malaska, was published by Tycooly in 1989 and is now in its second printing. Information of this report is absent from page 200.

It is also worth mentioning that the latest report of the Club of Rome, *The First Global Revolution* -report by Alexander King and Bertrand Schneider, has been published last year in

many languages. The Club has changed its views from the *problematic* of the humankind to searching for a *resolutique*. In the next Newsletter I shall give a brief overview of the report. This and other changes in the Club's stand are however more recent than Peter's publishing date.

Unfortunately this is only the Newsletter and not a magazine. Peter has many other ideas to offer for discussion but I can't take more space now. It is an enjoyable and thought provoking book, which calls you to take a stand. You'd better read it yourself. ♦

Just published

Peter H. Moll

From Scarcity to Sustainability
Futures Studies and the Environment: the Role
of the Club of Rome

Frankfurt/M, Bern, New York, Paris
1991, ca 340 pp

Contents
Futures studies, Environmentalism,
The Club of Rome, Limits to Growth,
Long term planning, Global modeling,
History of ideas from the 1960s
to the late 1990s, Sustainable development

Copies
Verlag Peter Lang GMBH
Abt. WK
Eschborner Landstr. 42-50
6000 Frankfurt/M. 90
Germany

• The overall situation for futures studies in the Federal Republic of Germany is not great. Until recently there was not a single institution dealing specifically with futures studies. It is therefore remarkable that in April 1990, a new Secretariat for Futures Studies (SFZ) could start operations. It was founded as an independent and non-profit research body. Its location is Gelsenkirchen, a town of about 300,000 residents in the Ruhr District of Northrhine-Westphalia, the formerly heavy industrial "heartbeat" of the country in the North-West.

More information

Peter H. Moll
the Secretariat for Futures Studies
Leithestrasse 37-39
D-4650 Gelsenkirchen
Germany



Sally Cornish, the wife of Ed Cornish, head of the World Future Society, has passed away.

We express our sincere condolences.

New Book

Eleonora Masini & Susan Stratigos
Women, Households and Change
United Nations University, Tokyo, 1991

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

FUTURE GENERATIONS CONFERENCE

Allen Tough

What responsibilities do we have to future generations and their environment? In April, twenty scientists and philosophers met in Malta to explore this question. The Future Generations Programme within the Foundation for International Studies organized this international conference, based on the earlier work of three regional conferences.

Two key needs for today's society became evident. One is the need for widespread understanding of the concept of future generations and our responsibilities to them. This is being accomplished through dissemination of an international declaration of our responsibilities and through education for all ages. The other need is a spokesperson or Guardian as a part of the decision-making process within the United Nations, national and local governments, international organizations, and so on. Because the people of future generations have no voice or vote in our decisions, their views should be represented now by a designated person. Indeed, one participant suggested

that all of us should serve as Guardians and speak up on behalf of future generations.

The participants came from a variety of countries and were experts in their fields. At the same time, their composition was strangely unrepresentative of the likely composition of future generations. All of the speakers, all of the sessions chairs, and virtually all of the participants were white males from the North. In the 1990s it is an eerie experience to find oneself in such an unrepresentative group, discussing a draft declaration that uses the words *man* and *man-kind* throughout!

In the history of futures studies, the conference may turn out to play a key role. Years from now we may look back on it as the first international conference to focus on the need for a designated spokesperson and an international declaration in order to inject concern for the future generations into our decision-making around the world.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE FUTURE OF THE CITIES

Bernd Hamm

The First International Summer-Seminar on Sustainable Development and the Future of Cities was held at the Bauhaus Dessau from September 7-14, 1991. 34 participants (male and female) from 16 different countries (Eastern Europe, Western Europe/North America, the Third World, approximately one third from each) discussed the tasks which result from the demands of humankind's survival on a new city-policy and city-development.

The seminar, which was deeply interesting and creative, achieved a range of concrete results and proposals, the realization of which will still be elaborated. Among these, three research topics of high priority were defined:

- democratic decisionmaking and sustainable development
- rights of possession
- contributions of the city to the enhancement of natural environment

A memorandum on Sustainable Development and the Future of Cities has been passed, and a publication of the most important contributions (from William Rees, Peter Marcuse, Pandu Muttagi, Salah El-Shakhs among others) will be prepared and available from the organizer.

More information

Centre for European Studies
Prof Dr Bernd Hamm
University of Trier FB IV
POB 3825 D-5500 Trier Germany
Fax +44-651-201 3930

Second International Summer-Seminar on Sustainable Development and the Future of Cities

August 22-28 1992
Bauhaus Dessau

30 participants from Eastern Europe, Western Europe/North America and the Third World (1/3 of each) of all age groups and professions. Scholarships for participants from the Third World and Eastern Europe available. Working language English. Programs can be ordered from the organizer address.

Centre for European Studies Prof Dr Bernd Hamm
University of Trier FB IV
POB 3825 D-5500 Trier Germany
Fax +44-651-201 3930

QUADRENNIAL REPORT OF WFSF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE PERIOD 1988-1991

In order to maintain its status as a Category II Non-Governmental Organization with the United Nations, the Federation was asked to report its activities to the UN office in May 1992

Aims

The Federation was established in Paris, France, May 26, 1973, under French legislation as a non-profit, independent, and international association of a cultural, scientific and educational character. The Federation strives to be a forum where the stimulation, exchange, and examination of information, opinions, ideas, visions and plans for alternative, long-time futures can take place. The Federation promotes and encourages futures studies as well as innovative interdisciplinary analysis among all peoples by planning and holding regional and global futures studies conferences, promoting a higher level of futures consciousness in general, encouraging the democratization of future-oriented thinking and acting and stimulating awareness of the urgent need for futures studies in governments and international organizations, as well as other decision making and educational groups and institutions at local, national, regional and global levels.

The current officers

President Since 1990, Professor JIM DATOR, University of Hawaii (Secretary General until 1990). **Secretary General** Since 1990, Professor PENTTI MALASKA, Turku School of Economics. **Vice Presidents** IBRAHIM ABDEL-RAHMAN, UVAIS AHAMED, MIHAILO MARKOVIC, MAGDA MCHALE. **Chair of the Executive Council** Since 1990, Professor ELEONORA MASINI (President until 1990). **Members of the Executive Council** (since 1990) IBRAHIM ABDEL-RAHMAN, UVAIS AHAMED, ANTONIO ALONSO-CONCHEIRO, HARLAN CLEVELAND, SAM COLE, JIM DATOR, CLARE DEGENHARDT, YEHEZKEL DROR, KENJI EKUAN, MAHDI ELMANDJRA, KATRIN GILLWALD, ROLF HOMANN, SOHAIL INAYATULLAH, HUGUES DE JOUVENEL, MARIA KALAS KOSZEGI, MAGDA MCHALE, PENTTI MALASKA, MIHAILO MARKOVIC, RADMILA NAKARADA, ASHIS NANDY, H ODERA, ORUKA, QIN LINZHENG, ANA MARIA SANDI, TONY STEVENSON, ALLEN TOUGH, BART VAN STEENBERGEN.

Members of the Federation are institutes and individuals from more than 70 countries from all regions, sectors and ideological perspectives of the world. They come from many disciplines, and include scholars, policy makers, and other people seriously involved in futures studies. The membership has increased from 478 (membership directory 1988) to 531 (membership directory 1992): individual members, 48 institutional members (1988) to 53 institutional members (1992). The number of honorary members has remained three. The members come from all continents and nearly all countries (over 70 countries). Membership is open to students.

UN Representatives SAUL MENDLOVITZ (New York) and ORIO GIARINI (Geneva).

Finance The general activities of the Federation are covered mainly by membership fees from individuals (USD50) and institutions (USD200), and by the organization hosting the Secretariat (Turku School of Economics and Business Administration, Turku, Finland), as well as a yearly grant from the Ministry of Education of Finland. Professor Pentti Malaska of Turku School of Economics was elected Secretary General from 1 January, 1990 on and the Secretariat moved from Honolulu, Hawaii to Turku, Finland. Until that date, the activities of the Federation were supported financially by the Hawaii University (the Hawaii Research Center for Futures Studies). The costs of the conferences and seminars are covered in general by the local host (institution, organization). Together with some other independent sources, UNESCO

is funding the yearly futures studies courses arranged by WFSF (previously at the Inter-University Center, Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, in 1992 in Bangkok, Thailand, and in Romania). UNESCO is also funding the joint project of collecting the FUTURES database and bulletin of futures studies (details to follow).

Conferences *The Future of Development - Cultural, Economic, Scientific, and Political Perspectives*, X World Conference, Beijing, China, September 1988. In cooperation with the Chinese Association of Futures Studies and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Linking Long-Range Visions to Short-Range Decisions in the Pacific-Basin Networking Community, Nagoya, Japan, November 1989. WFSF Regional conference in cooperation with University of Commerce and Business Administration, Aichi, Japan.

Linking Present Decisions to Long-Range Visions, XI World Conference, Budapest, Hungary, May 1990. In cooperation with the Futures Research Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. *Alternative Futures for Eastern Europe*, Bulgaria, Sofia, June 1991. WFSF Regional Conference, in cooperation with the Bulgarian Future Society, Centre for Strategic Business and Political Studies. *The Designing of the Future in Europe - The Conceptions in the Year 1991*, Prague, Czechoslovakia, May 1991. Seminar supported by WFSF and organized by Czechoslovak Society for Science and Technology. *Fears and Hopes in Doing Business with Eastern European Countries*, Bucharest, Romania, May-June 1991. Seminar supported by WFSF.

Advancing Democracy and Participation - Challenges for the Future, XII World Conference, Barcelona, Spain, September 1991. In cooperation with the Centre Catala de Prospectiva
(*Coherence and Chaos in our Uncommon Futures - Visions, Means, Actions* XIII WFSF World Conference in Turku, Finland under preparation. The Future of Democracy in the Developing World WFSF Regional Conference in October 1992 under preparation)

Courses *Everyday Life in the XXI Century* March-April 1988, Inter-University Centre (IUC), Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia
Visions and Praxis April 1989, Inter-University Centre (IUC) Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia
Multicultural Ideas of Desirable Societies 1990 - ∞ May 1990, Inter-University Centre (IUC), Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia
Inventing Milieux Cultures of the Future May 1991, Inter-University Centre (IUC), Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia
(Integrating Technological and Environmental Forecasting - A Learning Approach "IUC"-course in Stina de Vale, Romania, August 1992 under preparation
Futures of Development Historical Roots, Present Trends and Alternative Futures, Bangkok, Thailand, August 1992 under preparation)

Publications *WFSF Newsletter* (four issues per year) Editor Pentti Malaska
Maria Guido Roulstone and Jim Dator (eds) *Who Cares? And How Futures of a Caring Society* Proceedings of the Honolulu Conference Honolulu WFSF, University of Hawaii, 1987

Mika Mannermaa (ed) *Linking Present Decisions to Long-Range Visions I & II* Proceedings of the Budapest Conference WFSF Budapest, Hungary, 1990
E Masini, J Dator and S Rogers (eds) *The Futures of Development Selections from the Tenth World Conference of the World Futures Studies Federation* Unesco FOS, 1991
(Proceedings of the Barcelona World Conference and Proceedings of the Sofia Regional Conference are under preparation)

Projects *Living Cultures for the Future* Joint project with UNESCO, focusing on the emerging trends of living cultures in the present and foreseeable future with two regions Latin America and Africa. Financed by UNESCO, Eleonora Masini as coordinator
FUTURESCO-(UNESCO Clearing-house) Consists of I The International Bibliographical data base (abstracts on future-oriented literature since 1988), II the Bibliographical Bulletin entitled FUTURESCO, [topics 1) *Education* (to appear soon), 2) *Environment* (to appear in the autumn 1992), 3) *Culture* (to appear in 1993)], and III The International Directory of institutions, research centres and individual experts WFSF coordinators Leena-Maija Salminen and Trish Jones, others Hugues de Juvenel, Robert Jungk Michael Marien
Project Global 2000, launched in October 1992, Vienna, Austria A global partnership for ecological and environmental security WFSF coordinator Gerald Mische

Turku, Finland
3 June, 1992



Call for the new FUTURESCO Project on Culture

The FUTURESCO team of the WFSF has the pleasure to inform all members that the first phase of this project has been completed. The covered topics were EDUCATION synopsis written by Rick Slaughter and the second was ENVIRONMENT, synopsis by Mohammed Kassas.

The Second Agreement with UNESCO has been signed in May 1992. The third topic for abstracts is CULTURE and Eleonora Masini will write the synopsis. We will welcome all members to participate in this essential futures studies effort for and within the WFSF.

Abstracts can be written on other topics too.

Please contact the WFSF Turku office immediately for more instructions.

Leena-Maija Salminen, Project Manager
Office of the WFSF Secretariat
c/o Turku School of Economics and Business Administration
Rehtorinpellonkatu 3
sf-20500 Turku, Finland
tel +358-21-330 835
fax +358-21-330 755

NEW MEMBERS

ALBERTO GASPARINI is Professor of Sociology and Director of ISIG, Institute of International Sociology, Gorizia, Italy. He has initiated several important activities at his institute on futures subjects.

ERZSEBET NOVAKY is Doctor of Economic Sciences from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Head of the Futures Research Department at the Budapest University of Economic Sciences, Hungary. She is the Vice-President of the Futures Research Committee of the HAS. The main fields of her research are methodology and reliability of forecasting, forecasting the behavior of complex large systems, Hungary in 2000 and 2020, environmental and economic strategies.

Dr Novaky has published eight books (author, co-author, editor) and over 150 papers on the subject. She delivers university lectures and courses on the methodologies and methods of futures research, global modelling and environmental forecasting. Moreover, she is in charge of methodological forecasting project on chaos and futures research in her country.

Institutional member

ESTONIAN INSTITUTE FOR FUTURE STUDIES, Tallinn, Estonia

Process-92

International Camp for Peace, Nature & Development

Aksakovo, near Moscow, Russia
July 25-31, 1992

Further information

Preparatory Committee,
Bld 2, Sokolnicheski val 6, Moscow 107113, Russia
tel +7-095-269 1321
fax +7-095-269 0929



World Futures Studies Federation

in cooperation with

European Cultural Centre, Bucharest; ICMFDS Institute of Educational Sciences,
University of Oradea

International Summer School

17-30 August, 1992

Integrating Technological and Environmental Forecasting – A Learning Approach

Sfîna de Vale (next to Oradea)
University of Oradea, Bihor County, Romania

Traditionally, there are distinct methods for technological, economic and environmental forecasting. The new trend is to integrate various types of forecasting that might enable specialists to get a broader view and give up narrow sectorial attitudes. Therefore, design engineers should take into account environmental and social impacts, economists should consider long term effects, while environmentalists must be aware of economic and technological arguments. Decision-makers at local and regional levels will have to get acquainted with the above mentioned problems.

The school offers an opportunity to discuss these issues, as well as the basic concepts and methodologies for short and long term forecasting and for impact assessment.

As university curricula usually lack such approaches, the lectures and seminars given by professors and specialists from World Futures Studies Federation, Futuribles, Club of Rome, and Romanian academic centres are aimed at filling this gap. Students, young professionals and community advisers are welcome to participate. A few scholarships are available for participants from developing and East European countries. The leisure programme will include trips in the region surrounding Sfîna de Vale, the most beautiful resort in the Apuseni Mountains.

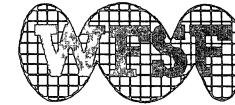
World Futures Studies Federation recognizes this international summer school as its IUC Dubrovnik course for 1992" thus appreciating the longstanding and fruitful cooperation with the Inter-University Centre (IUC) at Dubrovnik, the town with UNESCO declared European cultural heritage presently so badly destroyed, and anticipating this cooperation to continue in the years to come.

We welcome all old friends of the Dubrovnik courses as well as new participants to join this summer school learning circle.

For more information, please contact

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The Future of Democracy in the Developing World

Islamabad, Pakistan
Saturday 24th October – Tuesday 27th October, 1992

Organizers WFSF in cooperation with The Pakistan Futuristics Foundation and Institute

The Conference International Organizing Committee

Jim Dator, President

Eleonora Masini, Uvais Ahamed Pentti Malaska Ashis Nandy Sohail Inayatullah Mesbah-us-Saleheen

Dr Raja Ikram Azam Secretary General/Coordinator

Sponsors

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Papers

The papers with their summaries must reach the PFI by 30th June, 1992. Select papers will hopefully, be published in a book

Registration

Fees USD110

More information

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