

WORLD
FUTURES
STUDIES
FEDERATION



NEWSLETTER

*Work as though you would live forever
Love as though you would die tomorrow*

Editorial

Greetings from sunny Turku – or at least the weather feels sunny when I turn my feelings and thoughts to you while writing this. I wish I could know more about all your valuable work for the future and find how we could support it.

WFSF is full of inspiring activities and events all over the globe. Also the enthusiasm among our members for contributing to a better world is an encouraging and positive sign at this strange time of History.

The first Asia-Pacific futures course of WFSF, organized by TONY STEVENSON, TERUSHI TOMITA and other colleagues and participated by many young people was a real breakthrough. You can learn more about it in Tony's and SOHAIL INAYATULLAH's reports in this issue. The next Asian course is already in the planning stage.

The "IUC Dubrovnik" supplement course was held in Romania this year, and was organized by MIRCEA MALITZA and ANA MARIA SANDI. The course reached a good number of participants and featured a high level of presentations and discussion in Romania, a country so beautiful in her nature. It may well have been the starting point for a new international institution called "The Black Sea University" run by Mircea Malitza, with many courses on different subjects in various places in Romania during the coming years.

After discussing many alternatives we have reached an agreement with the government of Andorra to have the next "IUC Dubrovnik" course of WFSF in Andorra. The host of the XII World Conference in Barcelona, the Centre Catala de Prospectiva (CCP) will be the main local organization to work with in planning and executing the course, and we are lucky to have Felix Marti in the team of leaders for the course. Ana Maria Sandi will be the new member of the leaders group to replace Tony Stevenson. The topic will be on *Education* as planned before, and the dates may well be in late spring, 1993.

Other plans for conferences and events are emerging in various parts of the world. JIM DATOR met Japanese futures researchers in Hawaii at a joint seminar with his Institute, and they discussed plans for a meeting in China, organized jointly by our Chinese, Japanese, and Korean colleagues.

We have received remarkably good news about progress in futures education in India from SATISH SETH, and after coming back from the Islamabad conference via Delhi, I will be able to tell you more about it in the next issue.

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Editor Pentti Malaska
 Managing Editor Anita Rubin

BERND HAMM is taking over his new futures studies institute the Centre for European Studies, in Trier, and we will continue discussions on common interest in seminars and courses

IGOR BESTUZHEV-LADA's proposal for a seminar in St Petersburg and Murmansk is still waiting for a start

The preparations for the Africa World Conference in 1995 have been started and connections have been established with important partners It is clear that we need a long preparation period and much enthusiasm and work

The Second Announcement of the XIII World Conference in Turku next year will be mailed out to you in November PLEASE SEND YOUR FILLED APPLICATION FORMS IMMEDIATELY BACK TO THE CONFERENCE OFFICE! It is a contribution required at this moment from each participant, even if you are not one hundred percent sure, that you will attend I am one hundred percent sure, however, that your participation will be important to all of us, so please do show up!

WFSF cooperation with the UNESCO Futuresco project headed by Pierre Weiss is running favourably and is most vital to the members The first issue of the new bulletin of the bibliographical futures studies UNESCO Future Scan is available now and will be mailed by the office to all abstractors and contributors The topic of the first issue is *education*, the second one is *environment*, and the third issue of *culture* is under preparation Please keep on mailing to the WFSF office in Turku or to Jim in Hawaii abstracts of recent futures studies, published in your area That's the way to get the bulletin regularly Those interested in it, please indicate your interest to us and we will try to find out how to make the deliveries as cheap as possible You may also turn directly to Pierre Weiss, UNECO Paris, to ask how to subscribe the bulletin PLEASE KEEP ON MAKING ABSTRACTS, ALL COMMON BENEFITS OF FUTURES COOPERATION ARE BASED ON IT And a small honorary fee can be paid for your contribution to WFSF

ALEXANDER TOMOV and other good colleagues in Sofia have worked over the proceedings of the Sofia conference after a minor delay in the plans The book will come out soon The Barcelona proceedings have been finished and copies mailed out to the conference participants Please notify us if you have already received copies of the proceedings of the Beijing, Budapest and Barcelona conferences Some spare copies will be available in Turku next year, but you may make your request directly ERZSEBET GIDAI (Budapest) and Felix Marti (Barcelona)

Information and news of many other on-going activities or plans can be found in this issue I hope that this glimpse of plans and events will convince you of my assertion at the beginning, of the valuable coherence we can create through cooperation in WFSF

All the best,

Pentti Malaska

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— Presidential election results —

Jim Dator

The ballots cast for WFSF President today, Saturday, October 10, 1992, results were

Pentti Malaska-107

One other person got one vote

I hereby declare Pentti Malaska duly elected President of the World Futures Studies Federation for a term which shall begin with the WFSF General Assembly scheduled to be held in Turku, Finland, during the WFSF World Conference, on Wednesday, August 25, 1993

I will keep the ballots here in Hawaii in case there is any question about the election

§ § §

New Council Member Proposals

The WFSF members are invited to send their proposals for the members of the WFSF Executive Council 1994-1997, to be elected at the General Assembly meeting in the World Conference in Turku, August 1993, to the President or to the Secretary General

— Work in Progress —

MINUTES OF WFSF MINI-COUNCIL MEETING

Preparatory and consultative to the Council meetings

Saturday, 13 June, 1992

Hotel Rantasipi Ikituuri, Turku, Finland, from 9 15 am to 1 35 pm

Chair Jim Dator

Council members present Sohail Inayatullah, Pentti Malaska, Tony Stevenson

WFSF members present Leena-Maja Salminen, Mika Mannermaa (\$\$ 9-11)

Secretary Anita Rubin

Pierre Weiss informed us that the first bulletin on "Education", synopsis written by RICK SLAUGHTER, has been printed and mailed to the members. Leena-Maja Salminen's suggestions on the problems of the present structure and practices of the project were discussed.

It was decided that the problems will be dealt with more thoroughly at the Editorial Board meeting which probably will be held in Paris in February 1993. The Secretary General will contact Pierre Weiss and point out the importance of having that meeting.

1 § Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved

2 § Futuresco Clearing House

LEENA-MAIJA SALMINEN, one of the Futuresco coordinators, gave her report on the project. The second phase on the subject "Environment" has been completed and the abstracts mailed to Pierre Weiss, UNESCO. Altogether 60 abstracts were received and Merja Laaksonen made mild some language editing. The synopsis was written by MOHAMMED KASSAS, Egypt. The contract on the third bulletin on "Culture" has been signed with UNESCO and the process of inviting the abstractors has started. ELEONORA MASINI will write the synopsis.

The substance of the abstracts were discussed and it was decided that they should be summaries of the original text, not so much interpretations by the abstract writer on the authors ideas.

It was also decided that if someone writes an abstract on his/her own work, then this person should not be paid for it.

The importance of the relationships and contacts between the staff involved with the project, both in WFSF and in UNESCO, were stressed and it was decided to propose that for that reason, Leena-Maja Salminen

from WFSF will become a member on the Editorial Board and MIKA MAN-NERMAA will leave the Board

3 § WFSF Conferences in 1992

Romania PENTTI MALASKA introduced ANA MARIA SANDI's and Mircea Malitza's program plan for the Romanian "IUC" course in Sina de Vale in August 1992. The course will get UNESCO funds worth USD3500. The IUC has asked the Federation (as well as all other former course organizers of the IUC Dubrovnik) to have the word IUC labelled on the courses even though they are run elsewhere in order to give support to the original IUC. This matter was discussed and because it is not clear if that label can be used outside Europe, it was decided that Pentti Malaska will write to Professor Ørjar Øyen in Norway, Director General of the IUC, to get further information.

Bangkok TONY STEVENSON told the mini-Council about the economic problems of having the course in Bangkok in August. In spite of several letters and inquiries about funding from UNESCO, there has been no answer from them so far. The course, however, will be run even though the number of foreign participants might be small this time. It was decided that other funding sources will be searched for and the Federation will pay USD1000 to the organizer for supporting students. Also the site just outside the city of Bangkok is ideal for a workshop.

Islamabad Pentti Malaska and SO-HAIL INAYATULLAH explained the economic situation of the conference. Raising the funds necessary to bring foreign participants to Islamabad seems to have failed and the conference has to be run on a smaller

profile. There are funds to organize the conference on a more local level with only a few foreign participants who will take care of their flights and accommodation by themselves. The funds available are from the Pakistani government and paid in rupees which cannot be exchanged for other currencies.

It was decided to continue the preparations this way.

JIM DATOR brought up the suggestion by QIN LIN-CHENG to organize a local conference together with Chinese Society for Futures Studies and Chinese Academy of Sciences in Shanghai right after the Islamabad conference. The matter was discussed and it was decided to go ahead with the plan if the travel connections are possible. Jim Dator will keep contact with Qin on this matter.

4 § WFSF Conference in 1993

The subject was to be dealt with in the International Committee meeting right after the Mini-Council meeting.

5§ World Conference in Africa in 1995

Pentti Malaska read ODERA ORUKA's letter in which it was suggested that the conference be held in Nairobi, Kenya. Eleonora Masini's fax on the same subject was read. The theme was discussed and *the Ethics of Futures Studies* was brought up, as well as *the Environment*. It was decided to leave it up to the local organizing group to come up with a theme suggestion.

The economic possibilities were discussed and it was decided to keep Dr VAN HULTEN informed on the plans. Pentti will also contact some

UN officials who might be of help. It was decided to try to arrange funds for Odera Oruka to travel to Islamabad where a meeting of the organizing committee will be held in October.

6 § Plans for IUC 1993 Workshops

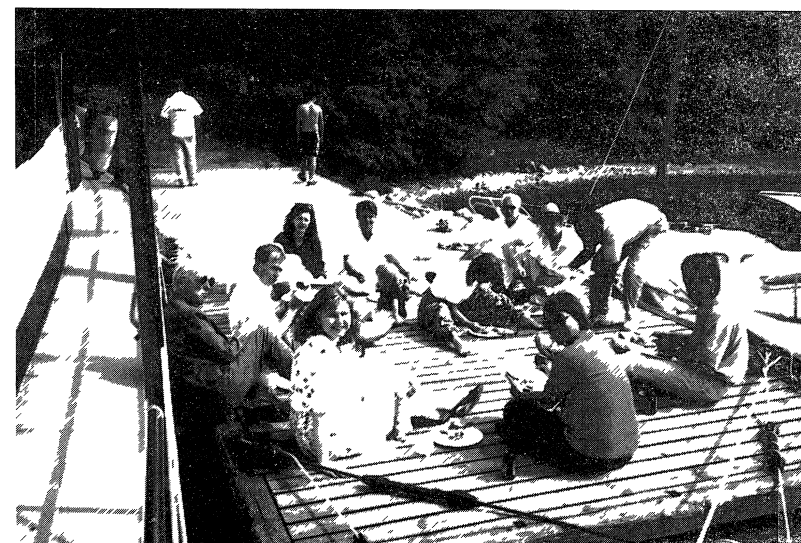
Leena-Maja Salminen told the mini-Council about the discussions with Eleonora Masini on the possibility to organize the course in Sofia Antipolis next spring. There has been no contacts from their side so far. Another possible site for the conference is Andorra and the third possibility is BERND HAMM's suggestion to run the course in Trier. Pentti Malaska and Leena-Maja Salminen explained why the La Rochelle possibility failed. It was decided that Leena-Maja and Tony

will send an invitation letter to the possible course sites and organizers to inquire about their willingness and the possibilities to arrange the course and raise the money needed for that purpose. The answers are expected back by the end of September when the final decision on the course site will be made.

The success of the Asian futures course of this year will show how that project will continue. The decisions on that will be made after the course.

7 § Plans for a Joint Conference with the All Russian Future Research Center, Moscow

Pentti Malaska told the mini-Council about IGOR BESTUZHEV-LADA's suggestions and plans to arrange



The members of the National and International Committees of the Turku Conference met in sunny Turku in June. The members were taken to the beautiful island of Seili for excursion and meetings were held aboard SS Nina.

a seminar in Moscow on the future of Finno-Ugrian nations in Russia. Discussions with the Russian society will continue.

8 \$ Proceedings

The mini-Council was told that the Budapest proceedings have been mailed to the Council members. Further copies can be ordered from Erzsebet Gidai in Budapest, only mailing costs will be charged.

Jim Dator told us about the problems during the editing process of the Barcelona proceedings, due to difficulties in international communication connections. The proceedings will include 25 selected papers and will be printed soon. Pentti Malaska told us also that the Sofia proceedings are also nearly ready for publishing.

9 \$ Funding of the WFSF office and projects

Tony Stevenson brought up the funding of the WFSF activities and the historical concern on finding funding sources. This subject has been a problem since the very beginning. The principle idea of WFSF has been to keep us independent of any outside force or institution by having our special projects and occasions, such as seminars, courses, and conferences funded by the local organization in question.

The activities of the Secretariat have been funded now by the Finnish Ministry of Education and the Turku School of Economics, and the costs of the President's activities have been funded by the Hawaii University. The projects have got financing from UNESCO, and these funds have been applied for separately on each project.

in time and the conferences and other meetings have been financed also by local sources. WFSF has no permanent sources of funding for its activities or administration.

The funding should stand on a reliable basis so that when something is to be organized, the Federation could count on getting the necessary financial resources without strenuous efforts and uncertainty.

It was decided to send a letter to ask the Council for advice how to find some more permanent external funding – by building a relationship on a permanent basis with for instance some foundation, or perhaps private company, or to try to earn money through some special projects, for instance by getting involved with paid research projects, selling advertisements in the Newsletter, or some other way.

10 \$ New Members

Jim Dator represented a letter by the Estonian futures group applying for institutional membership. The group was accepted as an institutional member. Alberto Gasparini was accepted as an individual member.

Leena-Majja Salminen's suggestion on a Junior membership category was discussed. It was decided to ask the Council members if they approve a new membership category and how to call young people to join.

11 \$ Other matters

There have been no news from either Koreans on the possibility to arrange a joint conference there. Tony Stevenson will try to contact the South Koreans on the matter.

YEHEZKEL DROR's letter expressing his willingness to resign from the

Council was read. Pentti Malaska told the mini Council that several calls from various conference and seminar organizers have been mailed to the Secretariat.

The text of the Newsletter 2/92 was given to the mini Council members for comments.

Jim Dator told the mini Council that some answers on the ballot on the next WFSF President have already arrived to Hawaii.

It was also decided to ask the members to apply themselves to the list to be represented to the General Assembly in Turku in 1993 in the election of the new Council.

12 \$ Closing of the Meeting

The meeting was closed at 1 35 pm.

Approved

13 June, 1992

Jim Dator
President

Pentti Malaska
Secretary General



Sohail testing the capacities of the Turku conference hall. There will be rooms available for meditation too.

APPENDICES TO THE MINUTES OF WFSF MINI-COUNCIL MEETING

Proposal for a Junior Membership in the WFSF

June 10, 1992

When thinking about the Future, I am always thinking about the next generation. As decisions for the future of our global village have to be made today, I do believe that WFSF needs the youth, too.

Let's open a junior membership and give young people between the ages of 15 and 25 years a chance to join the Federation with a lower (eg USD25) membership fee per annum.

Cordially,

Leena-Maja Salminen
Mother of four children

o o o

The XIV World Conference in Africa

June 3, 1992

We know that a number of the members of the council of WFSF will be

meeting in Turku, Finland, June 12-13, 1992

Our purpose in this fax is to let them know through you that the XIV World Conference of WFSF will be hosted in Nairobi jointly by the Philosophical Association of Kenya and ACTS (The African Centre for Technology Studies). The director of ACTS - a well known international center for technology studies - is Dr. Calestous Juma, the winner of the Pews Scholars Award in Conservation and Environment, 1991.

Under the ACTS we have recently launched the ACTS International Centre For Environmental Philosophy of which Prof. Odera Oruka is the Executive Director.

Prof. H. Odera Oruka
Director IIEP

Dr. Calestous Juma
Director for ACTS

Reports of the Courses**A MESSAGE FROM THE FUTURE TO THE WORLD'S LEADERS**

Tony Stevenson

The first WFSF Asia-Pacific course on futures studies for post-graduate students was held near Bangkok, Thailand in August. Tony Stevenson was the organizer of the course together with Terushi Tomita. In their articles, Tony and Sohail tell us on the experiences of this first course.

A group of young people, from 13 nations, has sent a message from the future - in the year 2020 - to the present world leaders, calling for peaceful coexistence and stewardship of the ecosystem.

The message was distributed to the press in Bangkok on September 1, 1992 immediately after the first Asia-Pacific Futures Studies course which began on August 23. The course was sponsored and funded by the World Futures Studies Federation (WFSF), UNESCO and the Communication Centre at the Queensland University of Technology, Australia.

One of the tasks for participants, averaging about 25 years in age, was to anticipate their life in the year 2020 and to consider the actions needed by the world's leaders in 1992 to ensure a preferred future for humankind in the year 2020. They pleaded, unanimously, for present decisions and actions that would lead

to a global consciousness of cooperation among diverse cultures, respect for the planet and the switch, exclusively, to recyclable products.

The course was attended by a total of 29 participants from Australia, India, Japan, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua-New Guinea, the Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Ukraine and the United States of America. The theme was *The Futures of Development: Historical Roots, Present Trends and Alternative Futures*.

Course coordinators were TONY STEVENSON of Australia and TERUSHI TOMITA of Japan. Other resource people included RICK SLAUGHTER, Australia; SOHAIL INAYATULLAH, Hawaii/Pakistan; Violeta Lopez-Gonzaga, the Philippines; and GODWIN SOGOLO, Nigeria. Course administrator was Leanne Holman of the Communication Centre Australia.

The course was designed to parallel the annual futures studies course organised by WFSF in Dubrovnik since 1975, until last year when the site at the Interuniversity Centre was bombed

In Bangkok, possible scenarios for alternative futures were developed in answer to such questions as what if women held half the important positions in government, what if genetic engineering factories replaced traditional procreation, and what if the centre of the world economy shifted to south Asia?

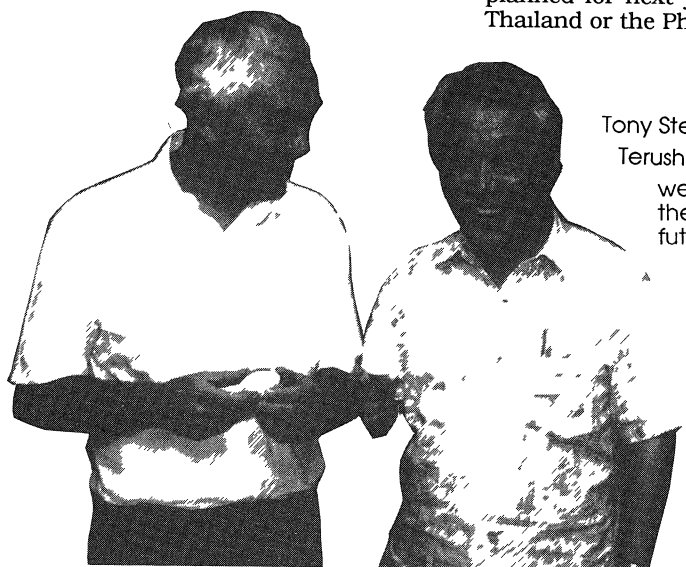
Another task was to investigate the way people in different cultures live in different concepts of time, where some ideas of time are founded in traditional culture and spiritual values, while others have a basis in the modern need for efficiency

Participants reported an appreciation of each other's cultures by meeting personally in Bangkok but looked forward to the time when they could collaborate via new telecommunications networks

The course also discussed the possible future of a world free of national boundaries, where traditional nation states were replaced by a global network of local communities

Participants made a half-day excursion to Bangkok from the site at Asian Institute of Technology, 40 kilometres from the Bangkok city centre, but about one-and-a-half hours drive through heavy traffic. An all-day excursion was made to see the ruins of temples and a palace in the ancient city of Ayutthaya

Another Asia-Pacific course is planned for next year, most likely in Thailand or the Philippines ◇



Tony Stevenson and
Terushi Tomita
were in charge of
the Bangkok
futures course



The participants were taken to an excursion to Ayutthaya



THE BANGKOK COURSE – A PERSONAL VIEW

Sohail Inayatullah

JIM DATOR had always told me that the yearly futures courses in Dubrovnik were his favorite intellectual enterprises. I managed to attend the Dubrovnik course for a few days and got a wonderful taste of it, but it was recently in Bangkok where I spent eight days at the Asia-Pacific Futures Course, that I understood what he meant.

Besides the lecture / discussion sections, every afternoon we held different types of futures workshops (what-if questions, scenario building) in small group sessions. Evenings were spent in discussion and, for some, in investigating the cultural dimensions of Bangkok shopping.

With 24 students from 13 nations, the cultural dimensions and varied experiences fit perfectly into the course theme, the futures of development theory and practice. Some students had never left their home country, one had climbed to the top of Mount Everest.

The amount of effort students made to attend the course also added to its value. One student borrowed five rupees here, ten rupees there until he made the airfare to Bangkok. Almost all went through great difficulties in making it there. Those who were there truly wanted to work together in investigating the future. And even with Unesco funding, TONY

STEVENSON took his University in deep debt to hold the course (this type of selfless activity, we cannot allow again though).

This mix of participants also led to increased creativity. We had a Christian priest working in Pakistan, to Jesuits working on creating peace zones in the Philippines. Some were doctoral candidates and others were just beginning their university life. Others were government planners. The course then could seriously examine the social, political, cultural, economic and administrative dimensions of "development." Of course, among the conclusions of the course was that development theory is dead, what is needed are general eclectic (multi-epistemological, -time, -economic, -gender and -cultural based) visions of the future not linear theories of development or cyclical theories of underdevelopment.

Finally, an important and critical part of the course began with an introduction to futures studies – basic concepts, methods, and categories. Without this course participants could not have leapt into rethinking development.

It was a wonderful experience for me and others who attended. I encourage participation of all WFSF members. What better way to understand the Asia-Pacific region. ◇

The "Heidelberg Appeal"

Discussing the Ethics of Science and World Views

WFSF members have received the following letter and an appeal from Dr Michel Salomon, asking for support for the text signed by several distinguished scientists throughout the world. This letter has aroused discussion among the members. WFSF has taken no part in planning, preparing, nor mailing the letter – the addresses were taken from the Directory without our permission. It has to be made clear also that as an international organization of futures researchers, WFSF has no reason nor appropriate way to make a stand behind the Appeal as a society, not this time, nor in the future. All the responses by individual members of WFSF received are published below without copying the text of the appeal itself. The responses show strong commitment against many of the ideas of the appeal and see no grounds for the views expressed, albeit its grand aim to make "full contribution to the preservation of our heritage, the Earth." The way chosen in it is not appealing.

"Paris, July 9th, 1992

Dear Sir,

Last April 14, 50 scientists from various European sites, including IEC member countries, gathered in Heidelberg at the invitation of "Projections" (the scientific magazine I publish), and Dr Harald zur Hausen, Director of the German Cancer Research Center.

The outcome of this meeting, which focused on hazardous substance management and was chaired by Mr Manfred Eigen, a Nobel Prize winner in the field of Chemistry and Mrs Rita Levi-Montalcini, a Nobel-Prize winner in the field of Medicine, was the Heidelberg Appeal.

The Appeal was originally intended to draw the attention of Heads of State attending the Rio Summit on June 13. To date, it has received over 525 signatures of approval from per-

sons in 33 countries, including 62 Nobel Prize winners.

We consider that our mission, which consists of keeping a watchful eye over ecological developments, did not come to an end when the Summit was over. In fact, it is our opinion that quite the opposite is true. For this reason, we've extended circulation of the Heidelberg Appeal in order to collect the maximum number of signatures from the scientific community.

As a member of the World Futures Studies Federation, I thought you would be interested by the Heidelberg Appeal. We will be honored and pleased to have your signature.

With kindest regards, I remain

Cordially,

Michel Salomon, MD
The Heidelberg Appeal Coordinator"

ASSUMPTIONS OF INNOCENCE ON THE PART OF SCIENTISTS

Anthony Judge

15th July, 1992

Dear Sir,

Thank you for sending me (as a member of WFSF) a copy of the Appeal which I will submit to the editor of our periodical *Transnational Associations* for possible publication

I read the text with some sadness in the light of the various other sub-optimal features of the Rio Summit which I attended

The text regrets the irrational in the non-scientific community and stresses the positive functions of science and technology

The lessons of the past decades would seem to indicate that science, as implemented by scientists, tends to follow wherever the funding leads - irrespective of the morality or ethics or waste of resources involved. As has been noted at the highest policy levels, one does not need to persuade professionals of the merits of a course of action, one merely hires them to justify that course with an appropriate research methodology. The voice of "scientific responsibility" remains hard to hear and one is justified in wondering whether it is merely an exercise in tokenism akin to that practiced by many of the larger corporations

What I find most offensive in the Appeal is the assumption of innocence on the part of scientists. Science and technology have contributed directly and most enthusiastically to the emergence of many of the severest problems of pollution (not to mention the weapons-related issues), with little real concern for calls for restraint. This tendency continues. How will history judge the sciences employed by WHO or FAO in support of a variety of blinkered development programmes that, as with economics, seem merely to have exacerbated the problems of the societies in question? But, perhaps worst, the behaviour of scientists in response to each other is the epitome of irrational action and perceptions, when greater maturity is to be expected.

In support of the latter statement, need I cite to you the names of your colleagues (Nobel Prize winners included) who refuse to talk to each other or appear at the same meetings? Need I mention the egotism and self-seeking that surrounds the leadership of large scientific projects, or the territorial squabbling which is characteristic of the relationships between specialities and disciplines? All of this has been noted many years ago. Nothing has been done about it - indeed the problem is not even acknowledged by 'science', precisely because it is irrational.

The Appeal therefore only tells one side of the story. Many have been exposed to what scientists choose not to say. People are aware that eminent "scientists" can be found who will accept payment to offer "scientific proof" in support of any dubious perspective - whether it be the non-pollutant origins of acid rain, the safety of nuclear reactors, or any dietary fad.

The Appeal is correct in referring to the evils (if that is to be considered a scientific rather than an irrational notion) of ignorance and oppression. Many find that establishment science (acting through education, legislation, etc.) is one of the strongest instruments of intellectual oppression, and the history of the evolution of science supports this view. Others note how different disciplines of science act with the greatest of arrogance in dealing with the insights gained from other disciplines, including other faculty sciences. How rational are the fundamental sciences in endeavouring to maximize resources allocated to them at the expense of the social and applied sciences?

My point is simply that the Appeal is less than helpful because it reinforces the image of arrogant self-righteousness to which many are now reacting. They are of course over-reacting, but who is to be blamed for that? Many have noted how organized science is replicating the historical pathway of organized religion: priest-hoods, dogmas, repressive structures, dubious reward structures, factionalism, treatment of heretics, diminishing constituencies, etc. Can they be blamed if they see hope in some further historical swing of the pendulum, given that the "rational"

has reinforced so many dubious initiatives?

I confess to increasing irritation at the implications of references to "monitoring" in various environment-related programmes and appeals. Quite frankly it is becoming difficult to distinguish between monitoring that which is of some real value in empowering more appropriate responses and that which is really just a convenient way of channelling funds to cohorts of people who want to write papers. Does science object to calls for "scientific whaling"? How serious is the restraint on invasive anthropology?

The paragraph in response to the increasing distrust of hazardous science has a plaintive note to it. Is it not naive to expect people to believe that scientists can act responsibly on these issues? There are too many emerging opportunities for unscrupulous scientists and institutions: drugs, bio-chemical warfare, genetic engineering, etc. And who is to monitor scrupulousness effectively under circumstances of research confidentiality and 'national security'?

Frankly until science and scientists are prepared to understand (and acknowledge) how they are part of the problem of the times, they cannot be considered to understand the nature of the solution required.

Scientists can make part of their "full contribution to the preservation of our common heritage" by taking steps to put their own house in order. Perhaps ICSU could address itself to the flaws in institutional science in addition to its ASCEND initiative in clarifying the role of science.

in response to the challenges of the times? It is ironic that the appeals for integrative approaches required to heal the planet tend to come from those responding to "irrational ideologies" Institutional science has been notably lax in efforts to develop interdisciplinary methodologies of more than the most modest scope

Under the circumstances I do not think it appropriate for me to sign the Appeal, even if I was qualified to do so

Yours faithfully,

Anthony J N Judge

A FRONT FOR PRO-INDUSTRY ATTACK

Trevor Hancock

Dear Dr Salomon,

I have received your letter and the enclosed Heidelberg Appeal and it causes me great concern The impression I get is that it is a front for a pro-industry attack upon ecology & the environment movement replete with code phrases such as "an irrational ideology which is opposed to scientific and technical progress" and reference to "a Natural State, sometimes idealized by movements with a tendency to look toward the past Which particular (and un-named) ideology and movement did you have in mind?

Your group's own ideology is only too clear, rooted firmly in the domination over nature paradigm and widened by your belief "that progress and development have always involved 'increasing control over hostile forces' and your reference to 'scientific ecology' (whose science?) " for a universe

whose resources must be taken stock of, monitored and preserved" - presumably for humans to exploit I note, incidentally, that it is the universe, no less, you wish to encompass, no mere ecosystem for you, not even a planetary one! Your group's interest is made clear in the final paragraph, where science, technology and industry are linked and capitalized

It is regrettable that so many scientists, including Nobel Prize winners, have signed this Appeal, but it shows, if nothing else, that winning a Nobel Prize does not equate with wisdom For my part, I shall continue to oppose the ideology and movement that you and your group represent, in the firm belief that in your path lies the destruction of nature and of humankind

Yours truly,

T Hancock

QUESTIONING THE CONTINUOUS PROGRESS

Eleonora Masini

Saving the Planet is of course the most important common goal for all people They may be academics, politicians, or people just living in our times of destruction which was produced in the past for the present and the future, and which unfortunately is still being produced in many countries of the world The damages, as we all know, are more severe for the survival and nutrition of the poorest in the world We all also know that the gap between the rich and the poor is increasing everywhere at the international or even national level Environmental damages increase the gap and project the effects of the gap for decades ahead

I think that much is being done, not by irrational ideologies, as stated in the appeal, but by people who in many places are re-discovering as well as offering to the world the knowledge, cumulated by generations which were able to live on gifts by the nature Such people offer knowledge that aims at diminishing the damages which are being done to the nature This is the case of groups such as those stimulated by Wangari Maathai in Kenya and Vandana Shiva in India Such groups are

mainly composed of women who understand very well that their children are the first to benefit from the gifts of the environment and, at the same time, the first to suffer from a damaged environment Women, in fact, are the first to have to walk longer and further for water and wood in the rural areas, and their children are the first to suffer from both the lack of such primary resources and the efforts of their mothers

Science has helped immensely the Humanity and, at the same time, it has been the creator of irreversible damages to the environment The continuous progress, of which the Heidelberg Appeal speaks, can be the source of continuous damage to the environment if the benefit for all involved is not the chosen goal If the goal is the benefit for a few, as often is the case in industry, then we cannot speak of progress It is indeed surprising that the Heidelberg Appeal seems to support industry in a time when the future oriented trends in society are towards a so-called post-industrial society based on information The issue stressed by the appeal is that of ignorance while in reality in an industrial society it is one

of oppression by a few who know versus the many who do not know

Overcoming diseases and starvation is indeed a fundamental goal towards which science has given a great contribution. At the same time, the dif-

fusion of the knowledge and of the benefits of such contribution to many beyond the few that want to use it for power, is crucial. At the same time the growing awareness of all people of the world is the negation of such use and will bear its fruits in the future

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Contact X

CONTACT X the national academic conference which brings together some of the nation's foremost scientists, science fiction writers and artists to exchange ideas, explore possibilities and stimulate new perspectives about humanity's future will convene February 26-28, 1993, in the San Francisco Bay area.

For further information please contact

Jim Funaro
Anthropology department, Cabrillo College
Aptos, CA 95003 USA
tel (408) 475-1160
E-mail funaro@ucscb.ucsc.edu



THE HIDDEN IDEOLOGY: NATURE AS STOCKPILE OF RESOURCES

Pentti Malaska

The invitation to sign the appeal came to me a bit delayed, only after I already had received letters from ANTHONY JUDGE and TREVOR HANCOCK, with their responses to Dr. Salomon. They were wondering whether WFSF was somehow involved with and behind the appeal - which is not the case. I commit myself fully to their ample critique against the main views of the appeal.

The text of the appeal has many attractive sayings in which one would find nothing to oppose. But then, some other wordings ring alarm bells as if there were hidden there something which one would not like at all if noticed. The appeal is worried about a "pseudo-scientific" and "irrational" ideology which opposes industrial progress and the increase in harnessing nature to productive needs. The appeal gives some vague hints of its own hidden ideology: "Nature is but a stockpile of resources for material use having economic utility to somebody".

The view that in progress there is nothing but "increasingly harnessing Nature to needs" is a most vulgar

and destructive view of Nature and of humans as its actors. During the last centuries we have witnessed a serious narrowing of the meaning of Nature to be only a stockpile of production resources and material inputs for producing economic utility. This road has led us to the worsening of problems encountered in the environment. It is a pure pseudo-scientific illusion and a kind of irrationality to believe that if we only use more natural resources in exploitative technology as we do now, we will find a better world and a brighter future as a result.

But what to do when even some of the most distinguished natural scientists see Nature only as a stockpile of matter and energy for exploitation and a prevailing 'technology fix' ideology as the scientific way to human progress?

The appeal seems to me to include some of what it is most worried about: irrational pseudo-scientific ideology. However, this may be too strong a statement because the appeal expressed the aims only very briefly. ◇

— WFSF in the Pressure of Changes —

THE CHALLENGE OF OUR TIMES

Anthony J N Judge

This letter is a response to the communications by WENDY SCHULTZ and SOHAIL INAYATULLAH in the June Newsletter, stimulated in part by the fact that they both chose to cite me

My regret over the years since the founding of WFSF is the manner in which international organizations tend to distinguish between their substantive interests and the implications of those interests for their own structures and processes. Whilst this distinction may be considered unremarkable in many organizations, this should not be the case with WFSF. Partly this is a consequence of the academic tradition which sees no need whatsoever to improve the context in which interaction between meeting participants occurs. The degree of innovation in meetings based on that tradition is negligible compared to the innovation which is discussed in such settings. The same may be said with respect to the structure of professional organizations

Many will respond that these points are of little interest compared to the real substantive concerns of WFSF with futures "studies". And I think that their views have held sway. Over the years there has however

been a drift towards less hierarchical structures and this has had some influence on the organization of WFSF. But as a "futures" organization WFSF should, in my opinion, be leading the way, not simply moving with the crowd. A touch of "networking", with some fancy e-mailing, never does any harm, but it has not made the differences it was hyped-up as offering (and I was a missionary for both in the 70s). We need another degree of innovation if we are to move towards high orders of consensus within new kinds of structures.

Many would share the concern at the conceptual gridlock in which the international community finds itself. The extremely modest results of the Earth Summit (the failures to find any creative way to respond to 40 million starving in Africa, Yugoslavia, etc etc) all suggest that somehow we are collectively failing to respond to the challenge of the times.

I find it useful to argue that WFSF is faced with a similar conceptual gridlock, if only because we have some greater chance of exploring ways of getting our own house in order. I appreciate the contributions made by Sohail and Wendy, but they correspond to modes in which I too can

communicate. And I am finding that such modes, in which we have considerable skills, do not actually move us forward. In my view they correctly pose questions and indicate constraints but I am not convinced that they actually empower recipients of such communications to engage in appropriate innovation. The next step remains elusive, even if one agrees with the insights offered.

It is for this reason that I find it useful to argue that we are trapped in inappropriate metaphors which effectively inhibit our ability to engage in social innovation. As with the United Nations itself, we can then play at tinkering. I suspect that there is something about the language of international community discourse (general assemblies, programmes, committees, working groups, etc) which keeps us functioning at a level which maintains the gridlock. And part of the problem is that we are each reinforcing the problem and

have considerable difficulty in understanding how we could possibly be doing that.

It is especially regrettable that WFSF should not have been able to address this dilemma over the years - with a view to becoming a kind of "post-modernist" organization, showing others the way into the future. In this sense I would reinforce Wendy's proposal for a one day session in Turku to focus on imagining a preferred future of the Federation. But I repeat my earlier point that such an initiative should not be seen as institutional navel gazing, but rather as using WFSF's problems as an exercise in transcending the gridlock situation to which we will be increasingly exposed in wider society. Frankly, if we cannot do it for ourselves we do not have much of a mandate to offer insights to wider society.

I look forward to Turku

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Interested in the Quality of Congresses?

Tony Judge is building up a small mailing list of people who are interested in new ways of dealing with some of the classic problems of international conferences (unstoppable speakers, lack of cross-fertilization, waste of resources, lack of focus etc). The concern is with key events, like the Rio Earth Summit, in which so many hopes are placed.

At some stage a meeting is envisaged (possibly even during the Turku Congress) but in the mean time please send any comment to

Tony Judge
UIA
40 rue Washington
B-1050 Brussels Belgium
Fax 32-2-646 0525

WFSF - WHAT NEXT?

Satish C Seth

The WFSF Newsletter (Vol 18 No 2 Issue 63) of June 1992 does provide a wholesome menu for reflection as to the Future Goal setting from WFSF. Little purpose will be served by playing the blame game, no matter how gently the darts are cushioned in multi-coloured velvet. We should respond to the question "what next"

I would like to place on record my personal and global Futurist Community's appreciation to those who have set up WFSF and who, I am sure, to the best of their vision and ability have brought us together right into the mid-nineties. Let us not feel frustrated on how well or badly decisions were made, or how the earlier conferences have been structured. We are a global body and we need to reach out to

- i) regions
- ii) allied professional bodies (UN systems/others)
- iii) fellow futurists at the individual level
- iv) governments (the policy level)
- v) the people (the community level)

Undoubtedly, all this is *networking*, and WFSF is doing it anyhow. But what we should be also doing is providing *structures*, decentralized but linked, to make a success of our networking efforts.

I have neither any recipe to recommend nor do I have any special axe to grind. Whenever I have looked at other global bodies, be it the meeting of surgeons, footballers, chartered accountants, telecom engineers, they usually discuss different aspects of their profession. They don't discuss esoteric, but nevertheless important topics like democracy, culture etc. Surely we are different, we have to discuss democracy, even if it be a Dubrovnik-type of futures studies course. Maybe all this could be done for a day or two, but not country after country. If this is WFSF's key goal, let us rename the Federation, but I would still like to be there to vote for Democracy. My only problem then would be to whom I should turn to to learn more about futures studies. I couldn't care a fig at my age whether there exists or not something that WENDY L. SCHULTZ calls an *inner-ring* in WFSF. I have done my duty in India and, believe it or not, the rings I had to cope with were not of academic professionals, but people with power, more sinister than that of scorpions and sharks.

With God's grace I survived, the Futures Studies Movement survived in India. More than that, it got institutionalized. Historians will one day (those from India) have to analyze how it happened. To make their task easy, I shall tell them this. In the

70s when the Department of Science & Technology was created, futurology was a part of the Presidential mandate for the allocation of business to this department. (This was the international phase when 'Computer' had come as an aid to analytical policy making, and futures studies with its different names was getting institutionalized in country after country. I do suspect that the Club of Rome movement, for all its latent aspects did help decision makers globally to accord a due place to the study of the future.)

Now my survival (as I want to leave a clue to future historians of the futurology movement,) was partly because the science fraternity in the Department of Science bureaucracy paid no attention to this subject. Its pursuit would not have and still does not gain them a grain of weightage in their career growth. If anything, anyone indulging in futurology would have lost their respect as a scientist. A dreaming fool that I am, it did not hurt me a bit. My silent slogan to fellow Indians who rallied behind me - first for funds, and then because they too, like me, could find a more fulfilling mission in life - was that a patriot Indian need not be a futurologist. But a futurologist has no choice but to be a patriot and, above all, has to think in global terms.

And therefore I have suggested that

- i) We pay due attention and review the state of the art in futures studies - continent wise/country wise/edu-

cation institution wise. (Let there be an afternoon plenary session on it each day.)

- ii) We do everything that can get futurism, futures consciousness, futures studies, prognostication, technology forecasting, systems analysis, or policy science a due professional status.

I do not know if I have expressed my views amply and clearly but I feel that whatever WFSF's High Priests may finally decide, I am certain that it is high time we re-examined WFSF's future Boards' goals, and sub-goals (research being our low-point presently), and think of regional structures to strengthen global networking.

The Editorial of PENTTI MALASKA in the Newsletter mentioned earlier deserves to be reread. I am still reflecting on a paragraph there which begins with the words "*The world situation keeps us concerned*" and ends with the telling point "*There might be something fundamentally wrong in the prevailing views of human quality*". My instant reaction is that we futurists have a special obligation as the promoters of futures consciousness since the *Second Literacy* the Computer Literacy, (the first being the three Rs) is an essential but inadequate tool of developing humans, the world is ready for the *Third Literacy*, the futures consciousness, the futures enterprise, in its myriad context. ♦



News and Reflections

The Turku World Conference is getting nearer and the preparations are well on the way. The organizing committees are working for it to be successful, but the efforts and opinions of all of our members, however, are necessary in order to make the conference worth attending. In his letter of June 23rd, ANDRE VAN DAM writes on the problems of European identity. His words are well worth quoting also in this context, when he tells us to

" carry a torch, like Fritz Schumacher's Small is beautiful, and ring bells of alarm or joy among the public, not only among the elites. In Beijing, Budapest and Barcelona we talked to each other, with no echo beyond the conference halls "

But, however, the relationship between scientists and the public is not easy

"The road to the future, I believe, runs through 'mediatique'. If the mass media pick up your idea, the ripple effect will be extraordinary, if not, you have no visibility beyond a small circle of well-intentioned colleagues who create learned and abstract papers that strike no chords with the grass roots "

"French playwright Jean Girardoux said that the elites watch disaster from their balconies. Likewise, we futurists watch the passage from now to to-morrow from our academic balconies. Let's go down and mingle with the crowds, and produce a booklet that, like 'Small is beautiful', is so simple and striking that it moves media into publishing and people closer toward European identity "

...

David Skrbina from the Eco-Philosophy Centre, Ann Arbor, tells us that the inauguration of the Chair, HENRYK SKOLIMOWSKI, in Eco-Philosophy at the Technical University of Lodz, Poland occurred in February. The local media attended and several speeches were given. Now comes the ongoing work of building up the department, finding instructors, and establishing a viable graduate program. Professor Skolimowski is planning to be in Lodz about four months every year, to both teach and continue developing the program. ♦

...

S O S

On behalf of two of my graduate students who are preparing a thesis on matters related to education and futurism I appeal to colleagues experts in these fields, to kindly provide some inputs case studies bibliographies and/or suggestions

1 Thesis *The future use of television and comic strips in education at the level of primary schools*

Please send materials to

Miss Uschi Lutzeler
Nicolas Granada 630
(1641) Acassuso Argentina

2 Thesis *The future possibilities of incorporating the topic of ecology in the curriculum of primary and secondary schools*

Kindly send materials to

Ms Marcela Garriga
Alem 175 12-A
(1642) San Isidro Argentina

Many thanks for your kind cooperation

André van Dam

Creating the 21st Century Rights, Responsibilities, and Actions

World Future Society (WFS) announces its 7th General Assembly for 1993 to be held at the Sheraton Washington Hotel in Washington D C on June 27-July 1, 1993

For more information, please contact

Robert Schley or Frances Seagraves
World Future Society
7910 Woodmont Avenue Suite 450
Bethesda Maryland 20814 U S A
tel (301) 656-8274

A letter from SATISH SETH from India, dated September 10, brings good news

"I am glad to inform you that after 2 1/2 years hard work by the Indian Futurist Network along with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) of India, from this academic year (1992) 3500 schools in India, over the years, would be teaching Futurology at the IXth and Xth class in the Indian School System. The movement, I am sure, will spread slowly and steadily. We now have the task of training about 5000 teachers to understand what 'futurology' is all about. This is a major breakthrough and we did it without any assistance from the Government."

Professor Seth would be most glad for any advice and help. His address is

Satish Seth
EB-166, Maya Enclave
G-8, Area, New Delhi -64, INDIA
tel +91-22-540 2903

Congratulations for a great achievement! Let's have a closer look at India in our next Newsletter

• • •

Professor PENTTI MALASKA has been elected member of the scientific council of the FUTURIBLES International by its General Assembly last spring. The responsibility of the newly elected council is to provide the organization the scientific guidance, recommendations, support and

assessment which is necessary to ensure an international development of high quality production in the field of futures studies

• • •

After several years of planning activities, Finland Futures Research Centre was founded under the guiding principles of the Turku School of Economics and Business Administration as an independent department. The Centre is a national research institute administrated by representatives of all the three universities of Turku and for the present directed by Professor PENTTI MALASKA. Its activities include research, consulting, education and further education as well as international cooperation in the area of futures studies

The XIII World Conference will be the occasion to officially connect the Centre to the international network of futures institutes and futures activities

• • •

In the June Newsletter in the WFSF NGO report to the UN there was a note which needs clarification

The Project *Futures of Cultures* (and not *Living Cultures for the Future*, as stated in the report) is not a joint project of WFSF with UNESCO but a project of UNESCO which is coordinated by ELEONORA MASINI

Sorry for the mistake

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FOR THE FUTURE SYNTHESIS DEMOCRACY

Jiri Rasanen

With this introduction, the Finnish Citizen's Power Association seeks contacts with and information about similar organizations and people interested in the future of democracy

The Finnish Citizen's Power Association (FCP) is a group aimed at those interested in the future of democracy. FCP has tackled the problems of the growing needs for plurality, free flow of information, decision-load, and giving to an ordinary citizen more possibilities to have influence in public life – quite the same issues that have been discussed in the WFSF meetings recently

Synthesis Democracy is the concept in the heart of our wholly new democracy model. It means the synthesis of direct and representative democracy – not compromise, not hybrid, but a real synthesis. The model in a nutshell

1 Free flow of information

Every document created by the state is public and available in the citizen's network. Citizens can make legislative proposals and the prework is open to everybody – live, or via network

2 Personal representation & deputation per constituent

The Parliament does not vote according to the principle "one member – one vote" but to the principle "one constituent – one vote"

3 Up-to-date election & citizen's vote

A citizen can change his/her representative any day by voting through network. He/she can also cancel the deputation and vote himself/herself on each issue

4 Weighted acceptance voting

In the Parliament, everything is decided by the voting procedure where a voter can give as many acceptance votes as there are proposals, and one supportive vote. The result is summarized as weighted acceptance voting

5 Accountability of the Cabinet Ministers

Get away with the monolite government! Every minister is elected separately

rately by the Parliament. Ministers make decisions on an individual basis concerning their ministries. Ministers are personally accountable directly to the Parliament.

6 Local self-government

Power is de-centralized, everything that can be decided at the local level is done so. The principles above are adjusted to the local level.

This short introduction is just a rough sketch. The dynamics of the model are much more interesting and surprising, big parties break up, representatives begin to seek generally acceptable proposals, and citizens become active. A comprehensive and ambitious book on the issue is being written and several projects have

been and will be carried through, such as participating in the Helsinki CSCE conference, lobbying (read propagating) the Finnish Parliament, and outlining a "democracy experiment" with the students' association of Helsinki university.

If this program interests you, please contact us and we will send you our brochure describing the model in detail more precisely.

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sf-00610 Helsinki, Finland
tel & fax 358-0-797 646
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E-mail Jiri.Rasanen@Helsinki.FI

Designing the Future in Europe 1993

Second International Colloquium
Prague, May 25-28, 1993

We have the honor to invite you for the continuation of historical and futurological meeting of those who feel the need to discuss and to elucidate the conceptions functioning in geopolitical, economical space educational and information policies in Europe.

The Colloquium in spring 1993 will be concentrated on critical choices in policymaking and on the identification of conceptual guidelines decreasing risk and uncertainty in the political practice of European institutions.

An input into mass media will be opened for each participant.

More information

Ing. Benti Raga
CSc. Center Interuniversity Futures Studies
The University of Economics Prague
Cerna 13 Praha 1 11000 Czechoslovakia
fax 42-2-204 474

Books and Articles



THE CHOICES OF DEVELOPMENT

The Futures of Development. Selections from the Tenth World Conference of WFSF. Beying 3-8 September 1988. Edited by E. Masini, J. Dator and S. Rogers. UNESCO Future-oriented Studies Programme (FOS). August 1991. 491 pp.

This selection of papers presented to the Tenth World Conference of the WFSF offers a most interesting overview of approaches to the understanding of world developments and to development thinking. The texts are, apart from the introduction, presented under the following chapters: Future of the Future, Norms and Values of Development, Culture, Industrialization and Political Structure, World Economy, World Market, Environment and Development, Rural and Urban Development, High and Traditional Technologies, Changing Political Institutions, Education, Women, Children, and, finally, Working Group reports (12 working groups), and Concluding Remarks.

This extensive overview of the Conference gives an insight into what the futures of development may or should be. Judging by the papers presented, the futures studies try to avoid strict specialization and the aim is to perceive the future, or de-

velopment, primarily as understanding different cultures and values. The activities that induce development, namely science and technology, and the idea of progress linked to them, seem to be the second relevant entry point. The futurists try to analyze the relationships between progress and different value-systems (MASINI). Future may be understood as a resource (SETH), but also as a revision of the 'wisdom of yore' (MLIKOTIN). However, it seems that future is much more than studies. It is politics (JOHAN GALTUNG), developmental politics perhaps, and thus a relevant issue in the daily lives of people. Galtung also finds that the futures studies branch out into art and intuition, and therefore cannot be of the same nature as other kinds of scientific endeavours. This characteristic of the futures studies is not only stimulating, but also a problematic aspect of analyses of development and changes.

As soon as they are confronted with concrete issues of development, the futurists present very different approaches, ranging from pure intuition to an effort to systematize possible outcomes of development. This may

be stimulating for academic discussions, but hardly helps in defining developmental policies. Futures studies seem to opt for 'planning like a river' (CLEVELAND), i.e. just feeling the conditions for development and adapting themselves to the given realities. This may be reasonable, and such an approach might have led mankind to a more harmonized and humane development. Unfortunately, many river-beds have already been built by strict planners, who did not perceive development as an interaction between man and nature but, on the contrary, as man's domination over nature.

A lot of interesting and useful observations may be found in the large number of texts. In a sense, this

book presents a manifold 'wisdom' on development. The most difficult issue remains, however, the choice, and the way it could be made. If we are expected to share 'our common future' (Brundtland Commission Report), then it is up to all of us to define our particular futures, having in mind that intuition is not always the best guide. The futurists are helping by setting some principles to be followed in the course of development and by presenting the possibilities of choice. The book promotes a tolerant and open approach to the choices of futures, and puts together very different perceptions of 'our common future'.

(First published in *Culturelink*, 7/1992, pp 108-109) ◇

The Barcelona Proceedings came out

The Proceedings of the XII World Conference *Advancing Democracy and Participation Challenges for the Future* have been published and copies have been mailed to the participants of the conference by the publisher and organizer of the conference, The Centre Catala de Prospec-tiva Barcelona.

Extra copies can be purchased from the publisher for the price of USD20 (including mailing costs).

Address

Centre Catala de Prospec-tiva
Mallorca 285
Barcelona 08037 Catalunya Spain
fax +34-3-457 5851

SEEDS OF EXCELLENCE

Joseph F Coates

Alternative Futures for the State Courts of 2020 James A Dator and Sharon J Rodgers. State Justices Institute and American Judicature Society. Chicago Illinois 1991. 206 p.

Dator and Rodgers have produced a landmark in applied futures research. The report has three great strengths. First is the substance of the work itself, which looks at alternative futures for the state courts over the next 30 years. Second it is the clear and complete account of the process. Unusual features of this report are the full details of the preliminary and the meeting activities. Third is the collection of incidental material which adds to or supports the analysis. It all adds up to the conclusion when you know what you are doing and have spent decades doing it, as Dator has, there is a high probability that a good and useful outcome will result.

The main event, a conference in May of 1990 lasting five days, involved hundreds of judges and others connected with the state court system as well as a small cadre of professional futurists. In addition to Dator and Rodgers, there was support from CLEM BEZOLD and Heather Kurent of

the Institute of Alternative Futures, who prepared a workbook for the conference. There was a nice Delphi study done by Franklin Zweig and his associates at Georgetown University as preparation for the meeting.

Nearly half of those present were trained to be "faculty". They were people connected with the court system who were given specific futures training in order to make the network click. Bezold was primarily responsible for workshop planning.

The meeting was organized around four kinds of activities: analysis of trends, the development of scenarios, the creation of visions, and the identification of strategies for achieving those visions.

The pre-conference preparations included the Delphi study mentioned. It did not prove to be a positive augury for a meeting of judges and others to be oriented toward the future. The basic material coming out of the Delphi resembled the front pages of the last 60 issues of the *New York Times* or *Washington Post*. The top ten societally important issues noted in the Delphi affecting the court system in 2020 were

- Illegal drug trade
- Children in poverty
- Growth of the aging sector
- Poverty cycles
- Weakening family structures
- Availability of handguns
- Child abuse
- Environmental disputes
- Declining public schools
- Spousal abuse

With such a strong commitment to the short-term, that Dator and his associates were able to so futurize the meeting is a tribute to the second step, which was faculty training. There were five plenary and 28 breakout sessions. The faculty coordinator's training workshop was held two months prior to the conference.

The structure of the meeting involved plenary sessions, breakout sessions, and small groups, which produced material in the four categories mentioned earlier. Rodgers and Dator collected all the material from the groups and put it together into seven future scenarios, each running about six to seven pages. They vary from prosaic to super-high-tech. Others involve extensive institutional changes. Others have a strong green and feminist cast. An outstanding job was done in converting all that raw material into cogent scenarios.

In preferred futures, they first created some visions and then broke them down in an interesting and cogent way, as described in the book. They came to the conclusion that there were three kinds of visions. First was the status quo with some bells and whistles. Second was one of modest change. Third were four separate visions involving substantial and radical change. The authors used two convergent techniques to get a sense

of how the conferees received these radical change scenarios. It is gratifying to realize that despite the prosaic input from the Delphi, 49% preferred the modest change model, and a surprising 40% preferred a great change model.

The book includes a collection of the plenary and major addresses. Each one merits close attention. The discussion of the implementation of the foresight programs in Hawaii, Virginia, and Arizona are encouraging as to what old-line, highly conservative institutions such as the courts can do. They further show - particularly the Hawaii and Virginia models - the long continuing activity required (largely by Jim Dator) to constantly nudge the system, present the opportunities, lay out the necessary materials, and work cooperatively with key people to move in an effective future direction.

One outstanding value of this report lies in the close attention to the details of what made the whole thing click, including the history underlying the meeting. Of equal value is the application of techniques for taking a group of people, with every reason to believe they are committed to the short-range and locked into a conservative model, and have them unfold in an attractive way the need for substantial and radical changes in their enterprise.

We can only hope that this approach will be adopted by executive agencies of federal, state, and local government and by the US Supreme Court. Many American corporations now wrestling with their long-term future could benefit from being Datorized and Bezolded. ♦

A BOOK FOR YOUTHS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Jukka O. Mattila

Youth Action Guide on sustainable development AIESEC International Brussels Belgium ISBN 90-800722-1-4 248 p

Based on the conference on sustainable development, held in Tokyo in August 1990, AIESEC (International Association of Students in Economics and Business Administration) has produced a detailed Youth Action Guide on sustainable development. Its main themes are environmental problems and development cooperation. The book has been directed primarily at the youths, but as an overview on the contemporary global problems and the possible models for their solution, it is suitable for all age groups. In addition, the book is an important compensation to other works on the subject because it doesn't merely describe the problems, as so often can be seen in similar works, but also gives concrete advice for action.

The Tokyo conference had two main intentions: first, to awaken the consciousness of the world youth with a method which is based on deep action and interaction. The second aim was to influence in national and international attitudes and, first and foremost, decision-making at all levels through the opinions and concern of young people.

The size of the conference, 200 participants from 45 different countries, gives special weight to the guide. This is reflected also in the subject index of the book, containing among other things thorough descriptions on such problems as population explosion and the dangers of desertification.

The functional body of the book is divided into four chapters:

1 Human

sustainable development and the awakening of the responsibility of the young/population/employment/production of nutrition and consumption habits/urbanization

2 Physical environment

the greenhouse effect/ozone layer and acid rain/forests

3 Industry and trade

industry and environment/usage of proper techniques to diminish the technological differences/international trade/energy/waste handling and circulation

4 Structural factors

institutionality as an obstacle to sustainable development/the public sector/education

The first 15 pages of the Youth Action Guide describe clearly and intensively the starting point of the book, its purpose and the many ways to affect young people. The book works on the level of youths, concentrates on the possibilities of education, and teaches youths to think beyond the present and into the future in every subject.

Because global problems are linked with each other in many ways, references to other chapters are marked in the margins of the book. There are no pictures in the book, but because of numerous subtitles, getting acquainted with the matters is easy even for those young readers whose mother tongue is not English. The role of the pictures has been given to tens of citations, also in the margins.

The importance of education and the awakening of consciousness, in creating possibilities to affect, and lobbying in order to influence legislation, and the meaning of a way of life are emphasized in the book. When try-

ing to influence directly, it is important to reach key persons and groups. Among others, parents, educators in general, and different youth organizations are also regarded as important. The book, edited by the young for the young, shows a very realistic picture of the possibilities of working on opinions. According to it, opinion leaders are noisy, and necessary as such, but they have a short attention span, when compared with organizational leaders who are described as long sighted, cooperative, and aiming at internationality. In the long chain of influence, everybody is needed.

It is warming to see the thoroughly positive attitude of the book on the possibilities to affect, and especially the trust in youths. In addition to a source of action projects in schools, high schools and other educational establishments, the book is also a good guide for local decisionmaking and for courses on sustainable development, regardless of the age of the participants. ♦

LET THERE BE LIGHT

Leena-Maija Salminen

Paradigms in Progress: Life Beyond Economics
Hazel Henderson 1991 Knowledge Systems Inc. Indianapolis USA ISBN 0-941705-21-8

HAZEL HENDERSON's new book titled *Paradigms in Progress* gave me new

light. Her work is an interesting invitation for everyone to get involved, to act and to try new ideas into the past ways of economic thinking.

Henderson has studied the transition of industrial societies from their non-renewable resource base as they shifted toward a new base of renewable resources. Since the 1960s, many fruitful metaphors of transition have emerged, which have helped to map the ongoing restructuring of industrial societies. In *Creating Alternative Futures* (1978) Henderson has summed up this emerging global view as *The End of Economics*, since economics (from left to right) was primarily concerned with industrialism as method of producing material goods efficiently and with greater technological virtuosity.

She goes further and discusses the dawning of the Solar Age which in her terminology means a shift to renewable resource management and sustainable forms of production. This kind of repatterning of the exploding Information Age, is nothing

less than a paradigm shift, where we take off the old spectacles of all the narrow separate disciplines economics, sociology, physics, engineering, psychology, and the rest, and compost all these fragments into a holistic view of the entire human family, now inextricably linked by our globe-girdling technologies into one emerging planetary culture. This Age of Light lies beyond the Information Age which is no longer an adequate image for the present, let alone a guide to the future.

In the book, the text part is intertwined with three poems called Prelude, Interlude and Postlude which reveal different approaches of the phenomena discussed. Also the clear visualization by several plates excellently clarifies the issues Henderson wants to emphasize.

Paradigms are definitely in progress, and let's hope that there be Light in the Future! ♦

Unesco Future Scan-Bulletin

The first issue of the Unesco Future Scan-bulletin of WFSF-UNESCO co-operation project has come out. It focuses on education and the articles were written by Michael Marien, Rich Slaughter and Bernd Hamm & Walter Spielmann.

The bulletin can be ordered from:

Pierre Weiss
UNESCO
Bureau of Programme Planning
Place de Fontenay, 7
Paris 7, France
fax 33-1-4306 0108, -4655 1917

New Members



INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

RUDRESHANANDA AVADHUTA from Mainz, Germany, has a Ph D from Stanford University, California, in Psychology, and M Sc in physics from University of Illinois. He has been Acharya (teacher of meditation) at Ananda Marga, Washington D C and Copenhagen, for seven years. Dr Avadhuta's work has focused on developing the scientific and medical aspects of the new theory of *microvita* (a new theory about the origin and matter of life), and the analysis of geographic polar data for evidence of the beginning of a polar shift, described by P R Sarkar in 1986. Co-editor of *New Renaissance* magazine since 1990, Dr Avadhuta has published several articles on microvita, the shifting of the Earth's poles, psychology, health and science linking scientific metaphors with spiritual metaphors.

DONALD P CHIMANIKIRE has received his Ph D in International Relations with INU University, New Delhi, and M A and Kiev State University. Presently a Senior Research Fellow in development studies and international relations at the Institute of Develop-

ment Studies in Harare, Zimbabwe, Dr Chumanikire is planning study projects concerning the economic aspects of sustainable development and the problems of globalization versus localization. In addition, Dr Chumanikire tells us that he is interested in environmental matters.

JYRKI KAKONEN is a Doctor in Political Science and Director of Tampere Peace Research Institute (TAPRI) in Tampere, Finland. He has completed studies on the future of the European security order, the changing roles of Peripheries in the future world order, and Civil Society as a future actor in international politics. In addition to writing several books and articles on peace and future subjects, Dr Kakonen has also been co-ordinator of TAPRI's international project *Alternative Security and Development in the Arctic*, and directed the project *Sustainable development and security in the Arctic* at the same institute. Presently he is planning a project called *Return of the Past Middle Age regimes as an order for Future Europe*.

ROBERT B TEXTOR from Portland, Oregon, is Professor of Anthropology, Emeritus, with Stanford University, California. Experienced in futures research he has developed theory and method for futures studies within the framework of sociocultural anthropology for 15 years. His Ethnographic Futures research method is widely used in futures research. Professor Textor has wide experience in research, both in the USA and in Southeast Asia, especially Thailand and earlier Japan. Having trained as a Buddhist monk and speaking fluent Thai, Professor Textor is involved in planning projects in Thailand.

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION FOR THE FUTURE LTD (Carlton Vic, Australia) was founded to support the process of change towards a better future, to inform debate and decisions of critical consequence for the future, to undertake long term planning for public and private sector clients, and to create an effective network of information on important emerging issues to schools and the community. The Commission publishes journal called *21 C* and its chairman is Robyn Williams, managing director Susan Oliver.

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INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

WORLD ORDER MODELS PROJECT (WOMP) (New York, NY, USA) is an association of scholars and political figures from various parts of the world engaged in research, education, dialogue and action aimed at promoting a just world order. WOMP conceives of the world's peoples as facing problems that are global in reach, though local in significance by utilizing an analytical/ethical framework that calls for inquiry and inter-related value solutions organized around concepts of peace, economic well-being, social justice, ecological stability, positive identity, and meaningful participation. Organized in the mid-sixties WOMP publishes *Alternatives*, a journal for social transformation and humane governance. SAUL MENDLOVITZ IS THE FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF WOMP.

At the General Assembly meeting in Barcelona it was proposed that the Membership Directory issue should introduce the members with more information than as usual, the addresses and contact numbers. This proposal was published in the Newsletter (Vol 17 Issue 61 Nov 1991) and following members have responded to the plea so far with short entries.

DENIS GOULET
JAGDISH CHANDRA KAPUR.
CHRISTIAN KUNZ
FUMIO NAKAJIMA

Please mail short entries to the Secretariat. If there will be enough entries available, they will be included in the next Directory issue. ♦

MISSING MEMBERS

MOCHTAR BUCHORI, Indonesia
DEONAU MBILIMA, Swaziland
JANICE TAIT, Canada



Call for the new FUTURESOCO Project on Culture

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 es-
sential 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 instruc-
tions

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Coherence and Chaos in Our Uncommon Futures

- Visions, Means, Actions

The XIII WFSF World Conference

will be arranged in Turku Finland from August 23-27 1993 together with
the Finnish Society for Futures Studies (FSFS)

A telematic pre-conference has already begun and it works by an
electronic mail system specially organized for the Conference

The second announcement with more specific details will be mailed to
the members in a few weeks

More information on the arrangements

Ms Merja Laaksonen Conference Secretary
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More information on the contents

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More information on the telematic pre-conference

Ms Auli Keskinen General Chairperson of the Futuremail
Ministry of Environment
P O Box 399
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WORLD FUTURES STUDIES FEDERATION



Let's look at the same direction toward our common,
uncommon future!
(Sohail Inayatullah and Helen Salminen)

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