

ISSS

47th Annual Conference

of the International Society for the Systems Sciences

AGORAS OF THE GLOBAL VILLAGE



CRETE

Conscious Evolution of Humanity:
Using Systems Thinking To Construct
Agoras of the Global Village

PROGRAM

Conference
Secretariat



Heraklio: Ethnikis Antistaseos 116, GR-713 06, Heraklio, Crete, Greece
Tel. +30 2810 333420, Fax. +30 2810 333430
e-mail: crete@triaenatours.gr

Athens: Atchley House, 15 Mesogion Avenue, GR 115 26 Athens, Greece
Tel.: + 30 210 7499300, Fax: + 30 210 7705752
Email: congress@triaenatours.gr, <http://www.triaenatours.gr>



Creta Maris Conference Center
July 6th - 11th, 2003 Hersonissos, Crete

AGORAS OF THE GLOBAL VILLAGE

P R O G R A M

July 6th-11th, 2003

Creta Maris Conference Center
Hersonissos, Crete

47th Annual Conference
of the
International Society
for the Systems Sciences
(ISSS)



Conscious Evolution of Humanity:
Using Systems Thinking
To Construct Agoras of the Global Village

Alexander N. Christakis, Ph.D.
President and Co-Chair

Kenneth C. Bausch, Ph.D.
Co-Chair

CONSCIOUS EVOLUTION USING SYSTEMS THINKING AGORAS OF THE

The conference theme has been chosen to focus attention on: (a) the challenge facing humanity as it transforms from “evolutionary consciousness” to “conscious evolution,” and (b) the role systems thinking must play in constructing 21st Century Agoras in the context of globalization.

Globalization is being described by many as an emerging new system of world order that has accelerated following the end of the Cold War order in 1989. Systems thinking must make clear what is being eliminated and what constructed by globalization.

We must rise to the challenge of democratizing the processes of conscious evolution to ensure that globalization empowers all peoples and not just elites.

Dialogue is essential for understanding cultures and subcultures in the emerging global village. Boundary-spanning dialogue across disciplines and civilizations, if conducted wisely, can generate democratic agreement on the courses we must pursue to create *Agoras*. Thus, the ability to engage in dialogue becomes one of the most fundamental and most needed human capabilities. Dialogue becomes a central component of any model of conscious evolution.

Dialogue was practiced very effectively in the agoras of Ancient Greece, like the one in Athens. The agoras were public spaces where people congregated and deliberated on their issues. If we want to democratize the emerging global village, we must provide agora-like places where people can engage in meaningful dialogue.

ISSS (www.ISSS.org) has long advocated “transdisciplinarity.” This was indeed the common feature of the four aims of the Society for General System Research (the forerunner of ISSS) as stated by its founders in 1954. Concepts, laws and models developed in particular fields were to be investigated to see if they could be properly transferred to emerging phenomena which were less well

UTION OF HUMANITY: THINKING TO CONSTRUCT GLOBAL VILLAGE

conceptualized. The challenges of the 21st Century, associated with conscious evolution and globalization, demand the identification and general transmission of such concepts, laws and models in whatever field they were originally developed in order to enhance humanity's capacity to design the 21st Century Agoras. Systems thinking remains the best hope for this to be achieved.

ISSS 2003 will engage participants in earnest discussion and structured dialogue on topics such as the following:

- › Defining what a democratic global discussion might look like (agora as process);
- › Describing what a global village achieved by an effective global discussion might look like (agora as product);
- › Exploring how local discussions as processes and agoras as product might come about;
- › Making explicit what thinking globally and acting locally means for individuals and groups within ISSS;
- › Fashioning ISSS into a model functioning agora;
- › Deciding how ISSS can become organized for influencing the course of globalization;
- › Discovering how to enhance the practice of boundary-spanning dialogue across disciplines and civilizations.

Conference Objectives:

1. To work towards making ISSS a living model of a Society capable of appreciating and practicing "conscious evolution;"
2. To explore and identify the role of systems thinking in the context of the emerging phenomenon of globalization;
3. To identify action steps in the pathway of constructing the agoras of the global village;
4. To enhance the praxis of boundary-spanning dialogue across disciplines and civilizations.

Conference Committee



Aleco Christakis	Aleco@CWALtd.com (Co-Chair)
Ken Bausch	kenbausch@earthlink.net (Co-Chair)
Evelyn Andreewsky	andreews@ext.jussieu.fr
Nikitas Assimakopoulos	assinik@unipi.gr
Oguz Babouroglu	baburoglu@sabanciuniv.edu
Kenneth Bailey	kbbab@aol.com
Surinder Batra	cimi@nde.vsnl.net.in
Sabrina Brahms	sabejams@pacbell.net
Diane Conaway	Diane@CWALtd.com
Cesar D'Agord	dagord.2@osu.edu
Ali Granmayeh	aligranmayeh@hotmail.com
Jifa Gu	ifgu@jaist.ac.jp
Laura Harris	lharris@unm.edu
Aretousa Ieronimaki	aretusa@her.forthnet.gr
Richard Jung	Richard.Jung@post.harvard.edu
John Kineman	ijk@nexial.org
George Kokkinis	gkokkini@ebch.gr
Alexander Laszlo	alexander@syntonyquest.org
Kathia Castro Laszlo	kathia@syntonyquest.org
Larry Magliocca	Magliocca.1@osu.edu
Marios Michaelides	mariosmi@spidernet.com
Gianfranco Minati	gianfranco.minati@iol.it
Nikos Paritsis	paritsis@med.uch.gr
Karen Sanders	sandersk12@aol.com
Markus Schwaninger	markus.schwaninger@unisg.gr
Eva Stavrakaki	kesan@her.forthnet.gr
Reynaldo Trevino-Cisneros	rtrevino@presidencia.gob.mx
Ioanna Tsivacou	itsi@aegean.gr
Jennifer Wilby	jmwilby@dial.pipex.com

SCIENTIFIC program

July 6th ● Sunday

13:00–19:00 Conference Registration

HALL ZEUS

19:00–21:00 **Welcoming Party**
Entertainment by the Quartette
of the Heraklion Municipality and the dancing
group of the “Lyceum of the Hellininen”

21:00–23:00 **Dinner**

July 7th ● Monday

HALL ZEUS

9:00–9:30 **Welcome, Blessing and Announcements**

9:30–11:00 **Chairs: Laura Harris and Mike Jackson**

9:30–10:15 **Reforms: Complexity and Conflicts**
Keynote: Dimitri Pappoulas

10:15–11:00 **Indigeneity: An Alternate Worldview**
Plenary: LaDonna Harris

11:00–11:30 **Break**

11:30–13:00 **Chairs: Kathia Laszlo & Alexander Laszlo**

11:30–12:15 **What Can Cybernetics Contribute to the
Conscious Evolution of Organizations out
Society?**
Von Bertalanffy Lecture: Markus Schwaninger

12:15–13:00 **The Dilemma of Autonomy**
Plenary: Ioanna Tsivacou

13:00–17:30 **Lunch and Free Time**

July 7th ● Monday

SCIENTIFIC

program

17:30-20:30 Parallel Workshops
and SIG Sessions

HALL ATHENA

Indigenous Wisdom of the People Forum
Chairs: LaDonna Harris and Laura Harris

HALL ARTEMIS

Greek Co-Laboratory
Chairs: Ioanna Tsivacou and Marios Michaelidis

HALL DIANA

Spanish Co-Laboratory
Chairs: Enrique Herrscher and Cesar D'Agord

HALL EUROPA

Global Agoras Co-Laboratory
Chairs: Ken Bausch and Gianfranco Minati

HALL IKOSI ENA

Systems Approaches to Business
Chair: David Ing

HALL DEKATESERA

Evolutionary Development and Industry
Chairs: Kathia Castro Laszlo and Alexander Laszlo

HALL IKOSI

Epistemology and Metamodeling
Chair: John Van Gigh

HALL DEKAENIA

Foundations of Informational Science
Chair: Soren Brier

21:00-23:00 Dinner

July 8th ● Tuesday

SCIENTIFIC

program

11:30-13:00 Parallel SIG Sessions

HALL DEKATESERA

Evolutionary Development

Chairs: Kathia Laszlo and Alexander Laszlo

HALL DEKAENIA

Applied Systems

Chair: Dennis Finlayson

HALL ENTEKA

Human Systems Inquiry

Chair: Arne Collen

HALL IKOSI

Information Systems Design

Chair: Olov Forsgren

13:00-17:30 Lunch and Free Time

17:30-20:30 Parallel Workshops
and SIG Sessions

HALL ATHENA

Indigenous Wisdom of the People Forum

Chairs: LaDonna Harris and Laura Harris

HALL ARTEMIS

Greek Co-Laboratory

Chairs: Ioanna Tsviacou and Marios Michaelidis

HALL DIANA

Spanish Co-Laboratory

Chairs: Enrique Herrscher and Cesar D'Agord

July 8th ● Tuesday

SCIENTIFIC program

HALL EUROPA

Global Agoras Co-Laboratory

Chairs: Ken Bausch and Gianfranco Minati

HALL IKOSI

Designing Educational Systems

Chair: Patrick Jenlink

What is Life/Living

Chair: John Kineman

HALL ENTEKA

Systems Approaches To Business and Industry

Chair: David Ing

HALL DEKATESERA

Spirituality and Systems

Chair: Hisako Koizumi

Women and Children

Chair: Anne Nelson

HALL DEKAENIA

Applied Systems

Chair: Dennis Finlayson

HALL APHRODITE

Syntegrity

Chair: Allenna Leonard

21:00-23:00 **Dinner**

SCIENTIFIC

program

July 9th ● Wednesday

HALL ZEUS

9:00-13:00 **Chairs: Sabrina Brahms
and Jennifer Wilby**

9:00-9:15 **Review and Announcements**

9:15-9:30 **Break**

9:30-13:00 > Optional Tour of Knossos and Heraklion Museum
> Parallel Paper Sessions/Discussion Groups
> Poster Sessions

13:00-17:30 **Lunch and Free Time**

17:30-20:30 **Parallel Workshops
and SIG Sessions**

HALL ATHENA

Indigenous Wisdom of the People Forum
Chairs: LaDonna Harris and Laura Harris

HALL ARTEMIS

Greek Co-Laboratory
Chairs: Ioanna Tsivacou and Marios Michaelidis

HALL DIANA

Spanish Co-Laboratory
Chairs: Enrique Herrscher and Cesar D'Agord

HALL EUROPA

Global Agoras Co-Laboratory
Chairs: Ken Bausch and Gianfranco Minati

July 9th ● Wednesday

July 10th ● Thursday

SCIENTIFIC program

HALL IKOSI

Critical Systems
Chair: Mike Jackson

HALL ENTEKA

Living Systems
Chair: Tracy Lane

HALL DEKATESERA

Organizational Transformation
Chair: Maurice Yolles

HALL DEKAENIA

Participatory Design
Chair: Janet McIntyre

21:00-23:00 Dinner

July 10th ● Thursday

HALL ZEUS

9:00-13:00 Chairs: Karen Sanders and
Dimitris Potamianos

9:00-9:15 Review and Announcements

9:15-10:15 In Memory of Past Presidents of ISSS

10:15-10:45 Vicker's Award - Student Presentation

10:45-11:15 Break

SCIENTIFIC

program

- 11:15-13:00 > Panel and Paper Sessions
> Poster Sessions

13:00-17:30 Lunch and Free Time

17:30-20:30 Parallel Workshops
and SIG Sessions

HALL ATHENA

Indigenous Wisdom of the People Forum
LaDonna Harris and Laura Harris

HALL ARTEMIS

Greek Co-Laboratory
Ioanna Tsviacou and Marios Michaelidis

HALL DIANA

Spanish Co-Laboratory
Enrique Herrscher and Cesar D'Agord

HALL EUROPA

Global Agoras Co-Laboratory
Ken Bausch and Gianfranco Minati

HALL DEKATESERA

Organizational Transformation
Chair: Maurice Yolles

HALL DEKAENIA

Foundations of Information Science
Chair: Soren Brier

HALL ENTEKA

General Evolution Research Group
Chair: Larry Magliocca

July 10th ● Thursday

July 11th ● Friday

SCIENTIFIC program

HALL IKOSI

Information Systems Design

Chair: Olov Forsgren

HALL APHRODITE

Participatory Design

Chair: Janet McIntyre

21:00-23:00 Dinner

July 11th ● Friday

HALL ZEUS

9:00-13:00 Chairs: Larry Magliocca and Nikitas Assimakopoulos

9:00-9:40 Presidential Address
Wisdom of the People
Aleco Christakis

9:40-10:10 Incoming President's Speech
Fifty Years of Systems Science
Kenneth D. Bailey

10:10-10:30 Break

10:30-12:00 Group Presentations of Collective Findings

12:00-13:00 Community Self Reflection

13:00 ADJOURN Formal Conference

13:00-15:00 ISSS Board and Other Business Meetings

Conference Hotel

The Conference Hotel is **Creta Maris Hotel & Conference Center *******

Location: The hotel is situated on the northern coast of Crete in Hersonissos, only 25km away from Heraklion and 23 km away from the Heraklion International Airport.

Registration fees

STATUS

- Members €400
- Non Members €450
- Students €200
- Accompanying Persons €250

The Registration fees include:

For Participants (Members, Non Members & Students):

- > Arrival Transfer from airport to Hotel on Sunday July 06th, 2003
- > Admission to all Scientific Sessions
- > Conference Material (Program, Conference bag, Plastic badge, Certificate of attendance etc.)
- > Conference Proceedings in CD-ROM
- > Conference Abstracts
- > Welcome cocktail
- > Coffee breaks

For Accompanying Persons:

- > Arrival Transfer from airport to Hotel on Sunday July 06th, 2003
- > Welcome cocktail
- > Half Day tour to Knossos Palace & the Archaeological Museum of Heraklion

Congress Secretariat Desk

The Congress Secretariat will operate as follows:

July 6 th , Sunday	13.00-20.30	July 9 th , Wednesday	08.30-20.30
July 7 th , Monday	08.30-20.30	July 10 th , Thursday	08.30-20.30
July 8 th , Tuesday	08.30-20.30	July 11 th , Friday	08.30-15.00

The Congress Secretariat will not operate between 13.30 -17.30 throughout the Congress days.

Conference Secretariat



Tours & Congress S.A.

Heraklio: Ethnikis Antistaseos 116

GR-713 06, Heraklio, Crete, Greece

Tel. +30 2810 333420, Fax. +30 2810 333430

e-mail: crete@triaenatours.gr

Athens: Atchley House, 15 Mesogion Avenue,

GR 115 26 Athens, Greece

Tel.: +30 210 7499300, Fax: +30 210 7705752

Email: congress@triaenatours.gr, <http://www.triaenatours.gr>

Transportation

Shuttle service will be available from the Airport to the Hotel on Sunday July 06th, 2003 to all the conference hotels for all the participants. Service is included in the registration fee.

Participants arriving a different day must arrange their transportation by themselves or in co-ordination with the Conference secretariat on request basis.

Banks in Greece

Banks are open from Monday to Thursday from 8:00 to 14:00, Friday from 8:00 to 13:30. The official currency of the country is EURO

Voltage

The voltage used in Greece is 220V

Shopping

Shopping hours are:

Monday/Wednesday/Saturday: 09:00-14:30

Tuesday/Thursday/Friday: 08:30-13:30 & 17:30-20:30

Climate

A typical Mediterranean climate with short springs, long hot summers and mild winters. The average temperature in Crete ranges between 12-17 degrees centigrade (enter the temperature in Farenheit too) in November-April and 30-40 degrees centigrade in June-September.

Optional Tours

WEST CRETE - CHANIA & RETHYMNON

(Monday, July 7th, 2003)

Rate per person EURO 40

KNOSSOS - HERAKLION ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

(Wednesday, July 9th, 2003)

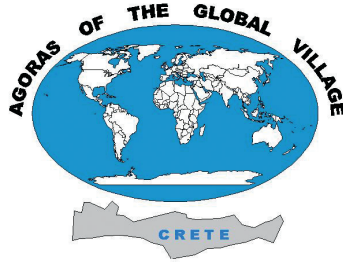
Rate per person EURO 35

The tour is included in the registration fee of the accompanying persons

ELOUNDA / SPINALONGA / AGIOS NIKOLAOS

(Thursday, July 10th, 2003)

Rate per person EURO 45



The ISSS Committee would like
to express its appreciation
for the contribution and generous support
to the following sponsors:



CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL
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MUNICIPALITY OF HERAKLION

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Η ΝΑΥΤΕΜΠΟΡΙΚΗ ΝΑΥΤΕΜΠΟΡΙΚΗ

UNIVERSITY OF PANTEIOS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BACKCOVER INTERIOR