



The Governance of Diversity: 1994 Assembly of the WAAS, Sept. 28 - Oct. 1

Preliminary Report by Harlan Cleveland and Walter Truett Anderson

The 1994 Assembly can only be described as a rousing success. It was attended by 85 Fellows from six continents (nobody from Antarctica); by more than a dozen invited experts who helped us think through issues of population policy and biotechnology; by members of the Minnesota Advisory Council; and by a good many other Minnesotans attracted to the substance of the program.

It was a time for grappling with world-class issues in the organized sessions, for informal conversations among people representing many cultures and fields of knowledge, for networking and organizing, for reminiscing about the Academy's rich past and making plans for its future activities in the late 1990's and the twenty-first century.

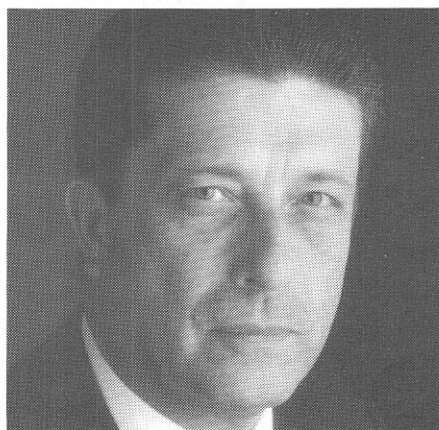


James P. Grant

Special Award: James P. Grant

The first event of the Assembly was the Welcome Dinner on Wednesday evening, which began with presentation by WAAS President **Harlan Cleveland** of a Special Award to **James P. Grant**, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). In his acceptance remarks, Mr. **Grant** reviewed some of the daunting problems that now confront the global community, but also pointed

to the more positive effects of the information-communications revolution: "We are beginning," he said, "to treat individuals as individuals. As long as it was not possible to easily provide large-scale relief, and far-away victims of disaster and war remained faceless, it was possible for the rest of the world to turn its back... Now, not only has our productive capacity increased, but we are brought face to face with these tragedies -- knowing that we can get there if we really want to... Global morality is marching with our changing capacity."



Federico Mayor

Keynote: "The Celebration of Diversity"

In his keynote address, UNESCO Director General **Federico Mayor** of Spain noted that the same global changes which bring us into closer contact with victims of disasters also heighten the need to learn to live with diversity -- not only to tolerate it, but to celebrate it and recognize it as a basic source of cultural and political progress. Speaking as a biologist, he noted that: "All complex systems including our biosphere draw their strength from diversity. Anything that limits diversity weakens the potential of the system to evolve along new and

promising paths. So it is for societies as well."

Plenary Session: "The Spread of Knowledge"

The Assembly proceedings began on Thursday morning with a provocative discussion of the global impacts of changing information technology. Former US Federal Communications Commissioner **Nicholas Johnson** successfully encouraged a lively exchange between panelists and audience on the coming multimedia environment, and the emerging global "information gap" between those who are able to participate actively in the benefits of the revolution, and those who are left behind by it. Other major issues raised included the need to evaluate more critically the content -- be it information, misinformation, entertainment, knowledge, or wisdom -- of what is actually being communicated.

Panelists were former Cray Research chairman John Rollwagen, futurist **Ana Maria Sandi** of the University of Bucharest; information specialist **Arthur Cordell** of the Canadian Department of Communication; and chairman **Knut Hammarskjold** of the Atwater Institute in Montreal.

Luncheon: "Diversity: The Minnesota Experience"

The luncheon discussion shifted the frame of reference from thinking globally to hearing about the experience of a group of Minnesota community leaders who have been acting locally -- and with considerable success -- to govern diversity in their own part of the Midwestern United States. The panelists were (as chair) Dean G. Edward Schuh of the Hubert Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman,

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Rochester Mayor Chuck Hazama, Minneapolis City Council President Jackie Cherryhomes, corporate diversity specialist Eric Watson, and Hispanic community leader Hector Garcia.

Plenary: "Population Policy"

Under the general chairmanship of **Luigi Mastroianni** of the University of Pennsylvania, four separate panels discussed global population and the vastly different faces it presents to different regions and peoples. Panelists noted, among other issues, the increasing recognition that the "population problem" is not merely a matter of numbers, but also of mobility as more people move and migrate than at any previous time in human history. It was also noted that the most important breakthroughs in scientific research relevant to population are emerging from the developing world. The UN Cairo Conference, two weeks earlier, was judged to have enhanced the status of women in future policy-making about population.

The four panels were: (1) "Migration and Population," with M. Djuhari Wirakartajusumah of the University of Indonesia's Demographic Institute and Prof. Lilian Trager of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside; (2) "Contraceptive Development in Developing Countries," with Prof. **Elsimar M. Coutinho** of the University of Salvador in Brazil and **Sheldon Segal** of the Population Council; (3) "Population Policies Revisited" with Thomas Merrick of the World Bank and Amy O. Tsui of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; and (4) "New Perspectives on Population and the Environment," with Elaine Murphy of the Program for Appropriate Technology in Health and Stephen Sinding of the Rockefeller Foundation.

Special Award: M. S. Swaminathan

The Friday morning session, chaired by WAAS past-president **Carl-Göran Hedén** of Sweden, began with presentation of a Special Award to **M. S. Swaminathan** of India, Chairman of the International Commission on Peace

and Food. The commission, a group of world leaders from 15 countries, has been working for five years under the sponsorship of the UN Development Program, and its report -- entitled *Uncommon Opportunities: An Agenda for Peace and Equitable Development* -- was released publicly at the Assembly. In his acceptance remarks, Dr. **Swaminathan** noted that the major transformations taking place in the world today -- such as the growing democratization of societies, the increasing concern for the environment and the changing status of women -- are all presenting the global community with great problems, but at the same time with uncommon opportunities to bring about major improvements in the human condition.



Dr. M. S. Swaminathan

Plenary: "The Global Future of Biotechnology"

We then proceeded into two panel sessions dealing with the rapidly-emerging changes in agriculture and medicine being brought about by research in microbiology. The first, "Convergence: The Biological Revolution and the Information Revolution," noted that modern biotechnology is information, and that its impacts on the world will be affected by the progress of new ways of storing, processing and communicating knowledge. Panelists were political scientist **Walter Truett Anderson**, polio vaccine developer **Jonas Salk**, Sir Lankan economist **Susantha Goonatillake**, Associate Chancellor **Paul Silverman** of the University of California at Irvine, and scientist-businessman **Burke Zimmerman**, currently working in Finland.

The second panel, on "The Global Future of Biotechnology," picked up on the theme of the human uses of science that had been sounded by Dr. **Salk** in comments Thursday morning. Another kind of "information gap" is emerging -- that the developing countries have most of the natural biological diversity, whereas the developed countries have a near-monopoly of the science and technology to make optimum use of those resources. Panelists were Dr. **Hedén**, Dr. **Swaminathan**, plant ecologist **Mohamed Kassas** of the University of Cairo, chairman **Alfred J. Roach** of American Biogenetic Sciences, and executive director **Horácio P.R.C. Menano** of the Gulbenkian Institute of Science in Lisbon.

Luncheon Session: "A Global Code of Values"

Rushworth M. Kidder, President of the Institute for Global Ethics and author of the recently-published book *Shared Values for a Troubled World*, has been traveling widely and interviewing many people about their personal views and values. Out of this experience he has drafted a sort of global code of ethics. Mr. Kidder told of his discussions, of the ethical principles that emerged from them -- expressed in such terms as truth, love, compassion, freedom, unity, responsibility, respect for life. There followed a general discussion around the important and difficult question of how much universality of values is possible in our enormously pluralistic global society.

Plenary: "World Governance as an Uncentralized System"

The last panel session -- which in a way encompassed the subject matter of all the previous sessions -- engaged the question of global governance. Its starting point was the proposition that the world is moving beyond the era of domination by sovereign nation-states, but does not appear to be creating (and does not need to create) the "world government" that many in the past have prescribed as necessary to achieving

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peace and equity. This panel was chaired by political scientist **Lincoln Bloomfield** of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and featured a presentation by Sir **Shridath Ramphal**, co-chair of the International Commission on Global Governance. Its report is to be released in January 1995. It will be one of the key documents in the 50th-anniversary review of the United Nations. The other panelists were former ambassador **Mircea Malitza** who now heads the Black Sea University in Romania, Prof. **Yehezkel Dror** of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, foreign-policy scholar **Vitaly Zhurkin** of Russia, and former UNESCO Deputy Director-General **John E. Fobes**.

Closing Sessions

The final day of the assembly began with a general review and discussion of the previous days' activities, and was followed by a business meeting of the Fellows.

Later that day, those Fellows who had not had to catch planes gathered for a dinner conversation -- not originally planned as part of the Assembly -- on the subject of science. The session was proposed by Garry Jacobs, secretary of the International Commission on Peace and Food, who had written a paper entitled "New Foundations of Knowledge for Science." It began late Saturday afternoon, chaired by Dr. **Salk**, and continued through dinner. Although it reached no immediate consensus or conclusion, there was a general feeling that an ongoing exploration of the values and foundations of science might be an appropriate future activity for the World Academy.

(A more comprehensive report on the Assembly is being prepared, and will be available early in the coming year.)

Fellows' Business Meeting

During the business meeting of the Fellows October 1, 1994, President **Harlan Cleveland** announced that **Eleonora Masini**, President of the European Division was stepping down from office as this term ends. Dr. **Horácio Menano** was elected President of the European Division for the coming five year term beginning October 2, 1994. He will also continue as Chairman of the Awards Committee until January 1, 1996.

Walter Truett Anderson was elected President of the American Division on October 10, 1993 and will serve until the end of 1998. Professor **Magda McHale**, Dr. **Larry Ng** and Professor **Nicholas Johnson** will continue on the Executive Committee until January, 1996.

As required in the Bylaws, President **Cleveland** announced the formation of a Search Committee for the purpose of selecting a candidate for the office of President whose term would begin January 1, 1996 and continue through the year 2000. Search Committee members are: Professor **Magda McHale**, Chair; Dr. **Hahn-Been Lee**; Dr. **Mohamed Kassas**; Dr. **Horácio Menano**; Dr. **Mircea Malitza**, and Prof. **James Dator**. Please contact any member of the Search Committee with nominations of Fellows for President.

The Executive Committee is considering adding three "At Large" members to the Executive Committee. Please contact President **Cleveland** with your suggestions and nominations.

President **Cleveland** asked for a motion to confirm these actions. Fellow **Anthony Judge** moved and Fellow **Jonas Salk** seconded. The motion passed unanimously. President **Cleveland** extended his thanks to Prof. **Eleonora Masini** for her service as Vice President of the World Academy and as President of the European Division.

News of Fellows

by **John H. Proctor**, Secretary General

Belated congratulations to Professor **Joseph Rotblat** who was awarded the 1992 Albert Einstein Peace Prize (jointly with Hans Bethe). Fellow **J. L. Cloudsley-Thompson** writes that he is active in retirement. He continues to edit the *Journal of Arid Environments* and the book series, *Adaptations of Desert Organisms*.

Pierce Bauchet has been elected a member of the "Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques de l'Institut de France."



Fellow **Rem Petrov** (see above) and Secretary General **John Proctor** are shown in Moscow presenting a Fellow's certificate and recognition pin to Academician **Rakhim M. Khaitov**, Director, Institute of Immunology.

Fellow **Chungliang Al Huang** continues his cultural-scholar exchange program through his Lan Ting Institute in Huangshan Mountain, Anhui, China. He writes that Fellow **Peter Brook** is currently directing a play titled, "The Man Who" at the London National Theater.

Fellow **Imre Varga**, former member of the Hungarian Parliament and noted sculptor, writes that he is so busy creating that he finds no time to read the books he has accumulated over 50 years for the long days of his pension. In 1992 he was elected to the European Academy in Paris.



New Fellows

The following Fellows were elected by the Executive Committee since its March 1994 meeting:

Prof. Ba Denian, M.D., Ph.D.
President, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences
Beijing, China

Prof. Sergie E. Blagovalin, Ph.D.
President, Institute for National Security and Strategic Studies
Moscow, Russia

Dr. Paz G. Buttedahl
Education
Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Juan Jimenez Collado
Anatomist and Embriologist
Madrid, Spain

Prof. Virgiliu N. Constantinescu, Dr. Sci.
President, Romanian Academy of Sciences
Bucharest, Romania

Miguel Setien Delibes
Author
Valladolid, Spain

Michael Geoghegan
Diplomat
United Nations, New York, USA

James P. Grant
Executive Director, UNICEF
New York, New York, USA

Thomas Ronald Ide
Educator, Broadcast Executive
Scarborough, Ontario, Canada

Anthony Julien Nesbitt Judge
Union of International Associations
Brussels, Belgium

Prof. Rakhim Khaitov
Head, Institute of Immunology
Moscow, Russia

The Honorable Yuri I. Kostenko, Ph.D.
Minister for Environmental Protection
Kiev, Ukraine

Dr. Alberto Krygier
President, World Management Council
Venezuela

Dr. Jim Muller
Director, Institute for Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease
New England Deaconess Hospital, Harvard
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Nobuaki Oda
Diplomat
United Nations, New York, USA

Sir Geoffrey Palmer, J.D.
Law
Former Prime Minister
Nelson, New Zealand

Dr. Peter Raven
Biodiversity Conservation
St. Louis, Missouri, USA

Prof. Ciaran Martin Regan, Ph.D.
Zoology, Pharmacology
University College
Dublin, Ireland

Alfred J. Roach
Financier, Biomedical Research
Copiague, New York, USA

Dr. Ana Maria Sandi
Mathematician, Futurist
Bucharest, Romania

Dr. Andrzej Sicinski
Sociologist
Warsaw, Poland

Dr. Paul H. Silverman
Associate Chancellor, Health Sciences
University of California at Irvine
Irvine, California, USA

Dr. Ivo Slaus
Physicist
Zagreb, Croatia

Dr. M. S. Swaminathan
Agriculture
Madras, India

Dr. Juan Mendendez Tamargo
Pharmacologist
Madrid, Spain

Academician Vitaly Zhurkin
Director, Institute of Europe
Russian Academy of Science
Moscow, Russia

Deceased Fellows

Reported deaths of Fellows since the March 1994 Newsletter:

Dr. Boris Kuharetz
Physics
Union City, New Jersey, USA

Dr. Lorenzo Vilas Lopez
Emeritus Professor of Microbiology
Madrid, Spain

Prof. Michel Magat
Physiochemist
Bievres, France

Prof. Theodore A. Monod
Zoology
Paris, France

Prof. Linus Pauling
Twice Winner of the Nobel Prize
Big Sur, California, USA

Prof. Amerigo Pomales-Lebron
Microbiology, Tropical Medicine,
Bacteriology
Puerto Rico

Dr. Parvis Saney
Attorney at Law
Scarsdale, New York, USA

Prof. Joseph J. Spengler
Economics of Aging, History of Ideas
Durham, North Carolina, USA

Prof. Harold Taylor
Philosophy, Education, Psychology
Staten Island, New York, USA

Prof. J. Tuzo Wilson
Professor, University of Toronto,
Geophysics
Toronto, Canada

Dr. James H. Zumberge
Office of the President
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, California, USA