



# WORLD ACADEMY OF ART AND SCIENCE

## NEWSLETTER

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### PROF. MOHAMED KASSAS HONORED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

Prof. **Mohamed Kassas** of the University of Cairo is one of the winners of the first annual Zayed Prize, a major environmental award sponsored in honor of H.H. Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates. The Award Ceremony is being held this April in Dubai.



The Prizes, totaling US\$ 1 million, are awarded in three categories: The winner in Category I—for outstanding global achievements and substantial impact on policy in the field of the environment—is former U. S. President Jimmy Carter. The awardees in Category II—for scientific contributions—are Prof. Kassas and the World Commission on Dams (South

Africa). The winners in Category III—for achievements by non-governmental and civil society organizations—are Yolanda Kakabadze, for her leading role in the preparation of the NGOs Chapter in Agenda 21 at the Rio conference of 1992; and Stephan Schmidheiny of Switzerland, founder of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development.

The award to Prof. Kassas notes “his life-long dedication to the study of arid lands ecology, their biodiversity and the delicate and complex relations between human beings and the ecosystem in the management of natural resources, the protection of biodiversity and the linkage of water to management.” Particularly cited were his leadership and vision during his presidency of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, especially in the preparation of the Earth Charter.

Prof. Kassas is still active in providing guidance and advice to students, national governments and regional organizations, including the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment. He continues to promote awareness on the need to conserve arid land ecosystems to achieve the sustainable development of natural resources and biodiversity protection. He also serves as a member of the World Academy’s Board of Trustees and as chairman of the Nominations Panel.



### DR. MICHEL BATISSE WINS PREMIER UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PRIZE

The United Nations Environment Programme’s Sasakawa Environment Prize for 2000 was awarded to Dr. **Michel Batisse** for his contributions to the conservation of the earth’s natural resources, the protection of the terrestrial and marine environment and the promotion of sustainable development. The Prize, considered one of the most prestigious environmental awards in the world, was presented at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.



One of Dr. Batisse’s greatest contributions was the organization of the Man and Biosphere (MAB) Conference in Paris in 1968 — a pioneering event which paved the way for the 1972 Stockholm Conference; and resulted in the establishment of biosphere reserves where the conservation of biological diversity is combined with research, monitoring and education as a way of implementing sus-

tainable development and preserving biological diversity in cooperation with local communities.

Dr. Batisse’s experience was widely used in the preparation of the UNEP Conference on Desertification in 1977, and in the establishment of a number of national desert research institutes. He was also the driving force behind the Mediterranean Blue Plan where all bordering countries and the European Union cooperate towards sustainable development in that region.

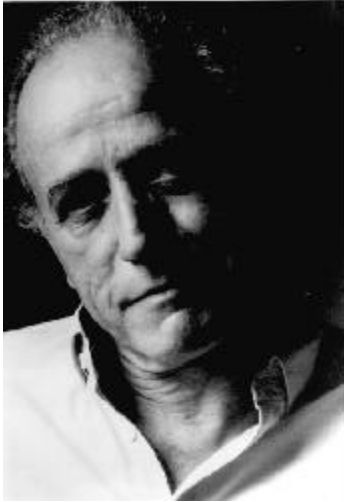
The UNEP Sasakawa Environment Prize, sponsored by The Nippon Foundation and founded by the late Mr. Ryoichi Sasakawa, has been awarded annually since 1984. Past winners include Nobel Laureate Mario J. Molina; Lester Brown, Director of the Worldwatch Institute in Washington, D.C.; and WAAS Fellow **M. S. Swaminathan** of India.



**DONALD N. MICHAEL**

by Maureen O'Hara

On November 5, 2000, Academy Fellow **Donald N. Michael** died peacefully at his home in San Francisco. He was 77, and had been a truly extraordinary human being—a towering intellect, a wise colleague, teacher, and loving friend.



He earned degrees in Physics (Harvard, 1946); Sociology (University of Chicago, 1948); and Social Psychology (Harvard, 1952). He spent many years in Washington, D.C. working with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Brookings Institute, the National Science Foundation, and the Institute for Policy Studies. After Washington he went to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he held Professorships in Planning and Public Policy, and Social Psychology.

He was elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Psychological Association, Society for the Study of Social Issues, and the World Academy, which in 1998 presented him with a Special Award citing him for “exceptional contribution to global civilization” and “leadership in thought that leads to action”.

Upon retirement in 1981, Don left Michigan for the San Francisco Bay Area, where he followed his passion for nature and the arts as well as a life-long fascination with the human psyche. He

was also actively involved with a number of progressive organizations, including the Club of Rome, the Global Business Network, the Meridian International Institute, Commonweal, Saybrook Graduate School, the Western Behavioral Sciences Institute, and the Esalen Institute.

Among the defining generation of serious futurists, his books include *Cybernation: The Silent Conquest* (1962), *The Next Generation: Prospects Ahead for the Youth of Today and Tomorrow* (1962), *The Unprepared Society: Planning for a Precarious Future* (1968) and *Learning to Plan and Planning to Learn: The Social Psychology of Changing Towards a Future-Responsive Societal Learning* (1973, republished 1997). In his many articles and book chapters he discussed subjects as far-ranging as the psychological effects of nuclear attack, the psychological impact of information technology, the future of governance, and the genetic and unconscious underpinning of public life.

In his final years, Don gave generously of his time helping others think about the complexity and uncertainty of contemporary life. In his last published work, “Some Observations with Regard to a Missing Elephant,” published in the *Journal of Humanistic Psychology* and based on a presentation he had given at Saybrook, he summed up the themes at the core of his career and his life. Chief among these were his insistence on the need for compassion and deep, ongoing learning: “One must be a learner/teacher, a wary guide, an explorer in the wilderness. Be question askers — not answer givers.”

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**NEWS OF FELLOWS**

**Francis Dessart**, vice-rector of the Universite Francophone Internationale, Brussels, has been appointed secretary-general for international relations of the Central European Academy (CEASA), an international academic body co-presided by the rector of Banat University (Romania) and the president of the Slovakian Academy of Sciences.

Marine biologist **Sylvia Earle** has been inducted into the Women’s Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, New York. Earle is a National Geographic Society explorer-in-residence and former chief scientist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

**Jose Ireneu Dos Remedios Furtado** has been appointed a visiting professor at the T. H. Huxley School of Environment, Earth Sciences and Engineering, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, University of London.

Send news items of 100 words or less to the president’s office address on the back of this Newsletter, or by e-mail to: [waltt@well.com](mailto:waltt@well.com).

## MARGARET MEAD: CENTENNIAL OF A GREAT SCHOLAR

by Mary Catherine Bateson

This year is the centennial of the birth of acclaimed American anthropologist and World Academy Fellow **Margaret Mead** (1901-1978). I have been working with the Institute for Intercultural Studies in New York (which Mead founded) to disseminate information about the centennial and to promote the availability of Mead's work.



There are two central issues here: One is the role Mead played, along with other anthropologists of her generation, in incorporating the concept of culture into the ordinary thinking of people around the world. Even as professional anthropologists critique the concept and worry that it sometimes blocks honest discussion of

other issues such as class, it has become an indispensable concept in facilitating communication between different groups. The concept of culture is also a reminder of how much of human behavior and ways of thinking is learned — and therefore of the possibility of change and adaptation.

The other key issue is the preservation of knowledge about the life ways of peoples who were not literate when Mead studied them. Every ethnographer is limited by her or his cultural background, but field notes and films and photographs are closer to primary data than the books written at a particular point in time to interpret them. Yet they are often discarded or unusable.

The IIS has been working to bring Mead's books back into print in three different series: HarperCollins is issuing new editions of six of her trade books, starting with *Coming of Age in Samoa* and *Growing Up In New Guinea* this month. Transaction Press is reprinting her more specialized scholarly monographs, including *Continuities in Cultural Evolution* and *Kinship in the Admiralties*. And Berghahn Press has brought out the first two of an eight volume series on the *Research in Contemporary Cultures* series, starting with *And Keep Your Powder Dry* and *The Study of Culture at a Distance*.

At the same time, the Mead archives at the Library of Congress are now almost entirely available to researchers and in continuous use. The collection contains some

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## NEWLY INDUCTED FELLOWS

**Professor José de Vicente-González**  
Veterinary Science, Murcia University,  
Madrid, Spain

**Professor Jan W. Dobrowolski**  
Goetel's School of Environmental  
Protection and Engineering,  
Krakow, Poland

**Professor Leonard Duhl**  
Public Health and Urban Planning,  
University of California,  
Berkeley, USA

**Professor Gerardo Estrada-Rodriguez**  
Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico,  
Mexico City, Mexico

**Professor Patricia N. Howard-Peebles**  
Medical College of Virginia,  
Richmond, Virginia, USA

**Professor Francis Paul Heylighen**  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel,  
Brussels, Belgium

**Ms. Anne Ironside**  
Ashoka House Educational Retreat Center,  
Bowen Island, British Columbia, Canada

**Dr. Narpat Singh Jodha**  
International Centre for Integrated  
Mountain Development, Kathmandu, Nepal

**Dr. Shimon Kornitzer**  
School of Psychotherapy, Haifa University  
Israel

**Professor Vinay Lal**  
Dept. of History, University of California  
Los Angeles, USA

**Dr. Adrian Marino**  
Literary critic,  
Cluj Napoca, Romania

**Dr. R.A. Mashelkar**  
Council of Scientific and Industrial Research,  
New Delhi, India

**Professor Gavrill K. Popov**  
International University,  
Moscow, Russia

**Dr. Bartolomé Ribas-Ozonas**  
National Health Institute,  
Madrid, Spain

**Dr. Nitin M. Trasi**  
Physician and author  
Mumbai (Bombay), India

**Professor Harvey A. Whiteford**  
Dept. of Psychiatry, University of Queensland,  
Brisbane, Australia

## COMMISSION ON THE YEAR 3000

by *Graham T. T. Molitor*

Should the World Academy undertake a Commission on the Year 3000? Such a project would be a sequel to the enormously successful and productive Commission on the Year 2000 initiated in 1965 by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. That project drew upon many visionary leaders including Daniel Bell, Erik Erikson, David Riesman, Daniel Moynihan, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Herman Kahn, and Eugene Rostow. Its report, *Toward the Year 2000: Work In Progress*, was a powerful influence on subsequent thinking about the future.



The Commission on the Year 2000 was not an attempt to predict the future, but rather an attempt to identify structural changes that might have long-term social impacts. Neither did it address globalization and global civilization as we are now beginning to understand them; its concern was the future of American society within the context of what was described as the “international system.”

Why set up a Commission to anticipate the global challenges of the New Millennium? For one thing, the enormity of impending epochal changes heightens the need for a sense of direction. Both the increasing speed of social and technological developments, and the far-reaching effects of many of our present actions require forward thinking. We may not be able to see the future in great detail, but we are nevertheless responsible for it, and morally required as never before to stretch our field of vision.

Fields or topics to be explored in such a project might include biology and genetics, social and demographic changes, science and technology, politics and government, economics, resources, and values.

The purpose of this article is to obtain feedback from members on the following questions:

1. Should the World Academy undertake such a project?
2. What topics should be included?
3. Are World Academy experts and visionaries willing to contribute (or be commissioned) to prepare articles/chapters for such a project?
4. Do you have any specific ideas regarding ways to finance/

underwrite the project, (including the possibility of commissioned articles and publications)?

Please let us know what you think. Mail correspondence may be sent to the World Academy of Art and Science, One Sansome Street, Suite 2100, San Francisco CA 94104 USA. E-mail messages may be sent to [Gttmolitor@aol.com](mailto:Gttmolitor@aol.com), or [waltt@well.com](mailto:waltt@well.com).

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### *Margaret Mead Centennial - continued from page 3*

500,000 items and is the largest collection of an individual's papers in the Library, which will open an exhibit on Mead in late November.

The centennial is being commemorated in many places. Mead stood for so many important ideas that we are encouraging people to commemorate her in whatever way is useful to them. Whether you stand for peace or the environment or education or women, Mead was there working on the issue.

Please see listing of events at the centennial website: [www.Mead2001.org](http://www.Mead2001.org).

[ Margaret Mead's daughter, **Mary Catherine Bateson**, is Scholar in Residence at Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies, Harvard University. ]

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT: MEMBERSHIP LIMIT RAISED

At the Board of Trustees meeting, held in November 2000 in San Francisco, Section 1 of the By-laws was amended as follows: Paragraph 3, “The number of Fellows on the active membership rolls of the World Academy shall not exceed five hundred.” was amended to, “The number of Fellows on the active membership rolls of the World Academy shall not exceed six hundred.”

The membership limit has been raised several times in the past, and this most recent change reflects the feeling that the increase will help the Academy to become more effective as a truly worldwide organization, and that the resources of electronic communication facilitate activity among a larger membership.

Comments from Fellows on this subject are welcome.

In other action, the Trustees authorized the President and Secretary-general to identify up to four new candidates for Board membership and to submit their names to the Board for election.

**CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION****LINUS PAULING: SCIENTIST AND ACTIVIST***by Walter Truett Anderson*

World Academy Fellow **Linus Pauling** (1901-1994) devoted his energies in equal measure to scientific research and to political causes, was highly controversial in both fields and also remarkably successful in both—winner of the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1954 and the Nobel Peace Prize in 1962. He remains the only person to have been awarded two unshared Nobel Prizes.

His early work focused on the chemical bond and culminated in the publication of a major book on that subject in 1939. During those years his interests were gravitating toward the field now known as molecular biology, and he began research into such subjects as the binding of oxygen to hemoglobin in the blood and — work that is fundamental to the current cutting edge in biotechnology — the structure of proteins.

In the 1940s he was working toward a description of the structure of DNA, and his biographers believe he might have discovered the double helix configuration before James Watson and Francis Crick if he had been able to attend a scientific conference in England in 1952 at which he would have seen the detailed crystallographic photographs of DNA that Rosalind Franklin and others were then making.

The reason he could not travel to England was that his strong pacifist views had gotten him in trouble with the guardians of American loyalty in those troubled Cold War years, and he was denied a passport by the U. S. State Department. The government only reluctantly granted him a passport two years later so he could travel to Sweden to accept the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his research into the nature of the chemical bond and its application to the elucidation of the structure of complex substances.

He became, in the years that followed, one of the world's most prominent and vigorous critics of war in general and of atmospheric nuclear testing in particular. His book *No More War!* was published in 1958, and in 1962 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts on behalf of a nuclear test ban treaty.

He developed cancer in 1991, when he was 90 years old, and died in 1994 at his home in Big Sur, California.

Memorial observations are taking place at the Linus Pauling Institute at Oregon State University, where Pauling received his undergraduate education, and at the California Institute of Technology where he spent much of his life as graduate student and faculty member.

For further information please see website:  
<http://pauling.library.orst.edu>

**NEWLY INDUCTED  
ASSOCIATE FELLOWS**

**Dr. Gadi Fibich**  
Tel Aviv University,  
Tel Aviv, Israel

**Dr. Iris Manor, MD**  
Geha Psychiatric Hospital  
Petah Tiqva, Israel

**STANLEY KALPAGE**

Dr. **Stanley Kalpage**, a founding Fellow of the World Academy, recently died of cancer in Sri Lanka. During his long and active career he had been, among other things, a senator, university administrator, ambassador, and advisor to the prime minister and the president of Sri Lanka. After his period of service as Sri Lankan ambassador to the United Nations, he continued teaching and writing a regular column in the newspapers; he also remained active in national politics. In 1999, he was instrumental in establishing an endowment at the Sir **Arthur C. Clarke** Center for Advanced Technology at the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, in honor of Prof. **Harlan Cleveland**. (Sir Arthur is also a founding Fellow of the World Academy.)

-- **Patrick Mendis**



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**If you have questions or comments concerning the content of the Newsletter, please contact:**

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