World Academy of Art and Science

NEWSLETTER



June 2004

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We're on the Web www.worldacademy.org

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Send comments on the content of the Newsletter to Dr. Walter Truett Anderson, President. For address and other contact information changes, email Keith Vargo at the address noted above.

A Letter from the President / Walter Truett Anderson

Although the World Academy's history is not long – it was formally established less than a half century ago - it is nevertheless one of the oldest truly global nongovernmental organizations, with no formal ties to any nation-state or intergovernmental agency. Its manifesto, signed by four of its founding members (Lord John Boyd Orr, Hermann Joseph Muller. Hugo Ostwald and Hugo **Boyko**), declared that it would be a forum "for distinguished scientists and scholars to discuss the vital problems of mankind, independent of political boundaries or limits whether spiritual or physical; a forum where these problems will be discussed objectively, scientifically, globally and free from vested interests or regional attachments."

The manifesto also stated: "All existing international organizations which decide on vital problems of mankind are constructed on the principle of national or group representation. *This* forum is international, or more truly trans-national."

I mention this document because it gave me some guidance recently as I was trying to clarify my own stance toward issues that have arisen during our search for an appropriate site – outside of the regions where most Academy activities have been conducted in the past – for our next General Assembly.

In the course of this exploration (still not completed – see the article elsewhere in this newsletter) a country on the Arabian Gulf offered to host the conference. This offer, which was tentative, was also quite attractive and most of our Board members responded positively to it. But questions arose as to whether the host country would be hospitable to Fellows of Jewish descent, and particularly whether Israeli citizens would be allowed to enter. Other Fellows pointed out that the country's government had a low score on indices of educational development and adherence to international human rights standards, and questioned whether holding a General Assembly there would be taken as an endorsement of the government's policies.

While I was making inquiries relevant to these concerns through the U.S. embassy, the offer was withdrawn. In the meanwhile, another group proposed that the General Assembly be held in Israel. This did not seem practical to me – simply because Israel is a dangerous place and I doubt that many of our members would take the risk of traveling there – but I did proceed to contact Academy members in Israel to explore the possibility of a smaller regional meeting. I then heard objections from some of our members who believe that we should boycott Israel because of its government's treatment of the Palestinians. I am now pursuing the following course of action:

 Enlisting the help of all Fellows in identifying prospective Fellows of the Academy from Middle Eastern and Islamic countries, and exploring the prospect of future Academy activities in those countries.
Proceeding with the organization of a conference in Israel – which I plan to attend, as do several other Fellows I have contacted – and encouraging the nomination of new Fellows from Israel.

I don't expect new members to check their national loyalties or political biases at the door when they join the Academy, but I do hope we can all remind ourselves occasionally that we are not representatives of our nations or groups, and that in the 21st century global citizenship is now a practical necessity and not an idealistic abstraction. I also want to establish a policy that the Academy will function anywhere and everywhere in the world, and that our presence in a country does not mean that we endorse the current behavior of its government. If the latter were the case, I am not sure I could continue to maintain my office in the United States.

This is the course that I propose to pursue during my presidency, and which I believe to be congruent with the founding principles of the organization. I welcome comments on it from all Fellows. •

News of Fellows

Mary Catherine Bateson announces the upcoming Gregory Bateson Centennial Conference, "Multiple Versions of the World," celebrating the centennial of her father's birth and the continuing influence of his work in many fields of knowledge. The conference, to be held at the University of California, Berkeley Nov. 19-20, features numerous speakers including Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown and Jay Ogilvy, author of *Creating Better Futures*. For information contact: GordonF20@comcast.net. Web site: www.batesonconference.org.

Frank Biermann, formerly with the Potsdam Institute for Global Climate Impact Research, is now chair of political science and environmental policy sciences at the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam, and also head of the Department of Environmental Policy Analysis at the university's Institute for Environmental Studies. His new e-mail address is: frank.Biermann@ivm.vu.nl.

Jacky E. L. Foo is now chairman of the International Organization for Biotechnology and Bioengineering (IOBB). The organization's secretariat has been moved from Brisbane to Stockholm, and IOBB is scheduling a wide range of activities including co-sponsorship of the 3rd International Congress on Biotechnology, which will be held July 20-24 in Tacna, Peru. www.biotech.kth.se/iobb

"He has found his style, when he cannot do otherwise."

Paul Klee

Barry Gills of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne has been appointed editor of the new journal *Globalizations*, whose first issue is scheduled for September 2004. The announcement states that the new journal "is dedicated to opening the widest possible space for discussion of alternatives to a narrow economic understanding of globalization. The move from the singular to the plural is deliberate and meaningful. Moving to the plural 'globalizations' signifies a serious skepticism of the idea that there can ever be a single theory or interpretation of globalization. Rather, the journal will seek to encourage the exploration and discussion of multiple interpretations and multiple processes that may constitute many possible globalizations, many possible alternatives and futures." www.tandf.co.uk/journals

Brian Locke: An Engineer with Style / 1924-2004

Brian Locke was passionate about engineering, and about the application of new ideas throughout the developing world.

He joined Imperial College to read Chemical Engineering in 1942, but volunteered for war service. After he returned to college in 1946, a

bout of rheumatic fever made study difficult and so without completing his degree Brian launched himself into the chemical industry, taking his professional examinations for the Institution of Chemical Engineers in 1948. Subsequently he joined the Ministry of Power and in 1965 he moved to the National Research Development Corporation where he became head of Special Projects. He left to set up his own company, Cadogan Consultants, in 1977. He was a founding member of the Club of Rome, served as president of the Design Industries Association, and was visiting professor in the Faculty of Computer Sciences and Engineering at de Montfort University. He was elected a Companion of the Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management, and was also a Fellow of the Institution of Chemical Engineers, a Freeman of the City of London, and a member of the Athenaeum. He was a mainstay of the City and Guilds College Association for over half a century, serving as its president in 1991/92.

He lectured, wrote and traveled extensively, and was brimming with ideas and plans to the end. He died a month before his 80th birthday.

--Roderick Rhys Jones

WAAS Website

The Academy's web site is currently under construction, and will be expanded to include more material on our history, activities of Fellows, plans for the future, etc.

The Membership Directory, which contains current information on the names and coordinates of all Fellows, has recently been updated. To obtain access to it, please contact kvargo@hhh.umn.edu. We also appreciate being informed of any changes and/or necessary corrections.

WAAS General Assembly 2005

The General Assembly tentatively planned for fall 2004 has been postponed to 2005, owing to difficulties in establishing a suitable site, organizational foundation and funding sources.

The delay is regrettable, but appears to be an unavoidable part of the Academy's growing pains as we transform into a more truly global organization.

In the early decades of the Academy's existence, General Assemblies were relatively small-scale events, generally held in Western Europe or the United States. They gradually grew in size, complexity and cost; the most recent, in Vancouver in 1998, included close to 200 participants and was funded by a number of sources including private donors, foundations, a government agency, and the Academy's general fund.

The task of organizing such an event in a region where the Academy has less of a local support group is a challenging one, but we believe it is well worth the effort. Sites in Asia and Eastern Europe are currently being considered, and we will of course inform all Fellows as soon as a final decision is made.

The Kurt Lewin Conferences: 2004-2005

The World Academy is co-sponsoring --with The Professional School of Psychology (PSP), the William James Graduate Institute and the Coaching Alliance -- an innovative series of educational programs dedicated to the memory of Kurt Lewin, one of the last major figures in European and American intellectual life who consistently linked psychology to other disciplines of human inquiry: philosophy, physical sciences, education, and the humanities. The Lewin Conferences are intended for accomplished adult learners who wish to expand their own conceptual horizons. Some offer certification in areas of human service such as executive coaching and appreciative consultation. Overall organizer of the program is **William Bergquist**, WAAS Fellow and president of PSP.

• Authoritarianism and Power in the 21st Century: An American and International Perspective Section A: "The Frankfurt Sessions" October 22-24, 2004 [3 days] Section B: "The Berlin Sessions" October 24-26, 2004 [3 days] Both sections will meet in Sacramento, California Primary Facilitators: Dr. Richard Lichtman, Prof. Fred Massarik (UCLA), Dr. Christopher McCullough, Prof. William Bergquist (PSP), Dr. Nadine Greiner • Leadership Consultation and Organizational Change: An Experiential Approach to Confronting the Challenges of Postmodern Organizational Life November 8-12, 2004 [5 days] in Mill Valley, California Primary Facilitators: Massarik, Bergquist, Greiner • Executive Coaching: An Appreciative and Enneagram-Based Approach November 13-17, 2004 [5 days] in Sacramento, California Primary Facilitators: Prof. Bergquist and Michael Goldberg • The Consultative Process: An Appreciative Approach February 19-23, 2005 [5 days] in Sacramento, California Primary Facilitator: Prof. Bergquist

To register or obtain more information telephone Thomas Michael Smith, Conference Director, at The Professional School of Psychology: (916) 364-0252 or (800) 408-4633.



Dr. Humphrey Osmond: Pioneer in Drug Research / 1917-2004

Born in England and educated at the University of London, Humphrey Osmond served as a psychiatrist in the British navy during World War II, and (in later research at St. George's Hospital in London) developed the hypothesis that schizophrenia was a form of self-intoxication caused by chemicals produced in the body. After moving to Canada, he became known for his controversial belief that any doctor wishing to treat schizophrenics should personally experience schizophrenia, which could be accomplished by taking the drug mescaline. Aldous Huxley (also a fellow of the

World Academy) heard of this work, volunteered to be a research subject, and -- profoundly impressed by his mescaline experience – described it in the famous book *The Doors of Perception*. Dr. Osmond – who first coined the word "psychedelic" as a term for mind-altering drugs – was also known for his work in treating alcoholics with LSD.

"Psychology [is a] sublimated spiritualism: a secular, ostensibly scientific way of affirming the primacy of 'spirit' over matter." Susan

Sontag

Books by Fellows

Vinay Lal is the author of three recently-published books:

• In Empire of Knowledge: Culture and Plurality in the Global Economy, Prof. Lal argues that oppression can no longer be understood only through the familiar categories of class, the military-industrial complex, and so on, but rather ought to be viewed as an aspect of a global politics of knowledge which ensures the hegemony of Western knowledge systems.

(London: Pluto Press, 2002) www.styluspub.com

• Of Cricket, Guinness and Gandhi: Essays on Indian History and Culture. Views of the political culture of the Indian state and such Indian phenomena as eunuchs, cricket and the Bollywood film provide a dissenting, hermeneutic perspective on the tension between the idea of India as a civilization and the idea of India as a nation-state.

(Calcutta: Seagull Books, 2003) www.seagullindia.com

• The History of History: Politics and Scholarship in Modern India charts the troubling ascendancy of the historical mode of thinking in modern India, and offers an interpretive account of iconic debates in Indian history over Hindu-Muslim relations, the role of the colonial state in promoting religious violence, the rise of the Hindu right, the relationship of history to the nation-state, and school textbooks. A final chapter considers the role of the Indian Diaspora in promoting revisionist Hindu histories, particularly on the Internet. (Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2003) www.oup.com

″A physicist is an atom's way of knowing about atoms."



Ervin Laszlo has recently published two books:

One, the work he considers his most important scientific publication, is the fruit of twelve years of research and reflection: The Connectivity Hypothesis: Foundations of an Integral Science of Quantum, Cosmos, Life, and Consciousness. (Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 2003) www.sunypress.edu

You Can Change the World: The Global Citizen's Handbook for Living on Planet Earth is essentially a "how-to" book that gives an overview of the current world situation and practical guidelines for those who wish to counter currently-threatening trends through responsible behavior in their private lives, in business, and in the civic domain. Written on behalf of the Club of Budapest by Prof. Laszlo with an introduction by Mikhail Gorbachev, contribution by Masami Saionji, and postscript by Paulo Coelho. (New York: Select Books, 2003-2004.)

Uzo Mokwunye, Director of the UNU/Institute for Natural Resources in Africa, was elected to a two-year term as Chair of the Governing Board of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics. ICRISAT, whose headquarters are in Hyderabad, India, is dedicated to improving agriculture and reducing poverty in the semi-arid regions of 48 developing countries, home to approximately one-sixth of the world's population.

Paul Silverman's article in the May 24 issue of *The Scientist* has touched off a worldwide dialogue about the implications of the Human Genome Project. Entitled "Rethinking Genetic Determinism," the article raises fundamental questions about the validity of the one-gene-one-protein doctrine and the assumption that "the gene is deterministic in gene expression and can therefore predict disease propensities." Silverman calls for "a reevaluation of the genetic determinism doctrine, coupled with a new systems biology mentality," in order to reap the rewards of the many genome sequencing projects now underway.



Carl Hodges, chairman of the Desert Development Foundation, reports from Africa that the first wholly integrated system of seawater-irrigated agriculture and forestry is up and running on the coast of Eritrea. It provides human food, livestock fodder, building materials, firewood, and employment for hundreds of local people while enhancing and beautifying the environment. Seawater Farms Eritrea uses untreated seawater from the Red Sea as the basis for a coastal desert development of salt-loving plants, nonpolluting shrimp and fish farming, mangrove forestation and salt production. The ultimate goal is to develop seawater farms along 25,000 miles of coastal desert. For information contact: info@seaforests.org. Web site: www.seawaterforests.org.

George Wald

"The Future of Higher Education in the Global Information Society"

An exploratory symposium on the extraordinary changes and challenges facing institutions of higher education worldwide was held in San Diego, California, March 19-21. Organized and self-funded by members of the Meridian International Institute, the meeting was chaired by Dr. **Maureen O'Hara**, president of Saybrook Graduate School. This was the first of the preparatory conferences leading up to the 2005 General Assembly on "The Future of Knowledge."

Among the themes explored:

- The growth of "for-profit" institutions which compete with traditional universities and introduce new policies such as non-tenured entrepreneurial faculty members and a shift from faculty-student to producer-consumer relationships.
- The rapid development of educational technologies which create a revolution in pedagogy and challenge smaller institutions to what sometimes resembles a technological "arms race."
- The global diversification of student populations and new challenges to the universal dominance of the European Enlightenment model of knowledge.
- The growth of freestanding think tanks, government commissions and laboratories, consulting firms and other institutions which challenge the role of universities as the creators of knowledge.

Among the participants in the conference were Walt Anderson, Napier Collyns, Bob Horn, Elsa Porter, Paul Silverman and Ralph Wolff.

Book Review

Sheldon J. Segal and **Luigi Mastroianni, Jr. Hormone Use in Menopause and Male Andropause** New York: Oxford University Press, 2003

Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) involving combinations of estrogen and progestin for the treatment of symptoms of menopause has been used for millions of women for over 50 years. Hundreds of scientific studies have confirmed the beneficial effects of hormone therapy (HT).

So, it was with much consternation and confusion that a report was greeted in mid-2002 by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that it was abruptly ending the first of two large studies (begun in 1993) involving 16,000 post-menopausal women because of little apparent benefit from HT but, on the other hand, showing an increase in breast cancer and heart disease as compared with placebo treatment. The study, part of an NIH Women's Health Initiative (WHI) created panic and anxiety amongst medical practitioners and patients.

The situation has been exacerbated further by the announcement in February 2004 that the second WHI study of estrogen-only treatment of 11,000 postmenopausal women was stopped prematurely because an interim analysis detected little benefit but some risks. Dr Lori Mosca, Director of Preventive Cardiology at New York Presbyterian Hospital was widely quoted as saying, "This is the final nail in the coffin"...for HRT.

Fortunately, before the completion of their book, Segal and Mastroianni were able to review the protocol and the results of the first WHI study. It is clear from their analysis that the declaration of the end of HRT is itself premature. Of the many results that they examine in detail, none support the conclusions that were widely publicized. One example concerns the protocol exclusion criteria for study participation that resulted in a "...clinical trial [that] never really represented the population for whom hormone therapy makes most sense". Hopefully, this analysis will help professionals and lay people to deal with the conclusions of the second WHI study when its details become available. The authors calm and systematic treatment of the WHI study should go a long way to calming the mediainduced hysteria and misunderstanding about the appropriate use of hormones for menopause/ andropause symptoms.

This small (197 pp) book is packed with the wisdom of two experienced professionals. The chapters are organized around questions that are frequently asked by physicians and patients. Menopause and andropause are treated with equal consideration. Where appropriate, scientific mechanisms and molecular interactions are clearly presented without resorting to jargon. The relation of HT to various ailments and conditions afflicting aging male and female patients is considered and evidenced-based advice is given with clear cautionary admonitions. The benefits as well as the unfounded hype of herbal and phytosteroids are treated with balance. This book is an important contribution to health care that every person approaching menopause/andropause should read.

Paul H. Silverman, Ph.D, D.Sc. University of California, Irvine

"I was brought up to believe that the only thing worth doing was to add to the sum of accurate information in the world."

Margaret Mead "It must

without

victory..."

Woodrow

Wilson

be a peace

Newly Inducted Fellows

Prof. Albert Bandura

David Starr Jordan Professor of Social Science in Psychology, Stanford University (US)

Past president, American Psychological Association

Napier Collyns

Co-founder and Managing Director, Global Business Network Senior Associate, Cambridge Energy Research Associates (US)

Dr. Barry Gills

Reader in International Politics, University of Newcastle upon Tyne (UK) Editor, *Globalizations*

Prof. Jose Goldemberg

Professor, Institute of Electronics and Energy, University of Sao Paolo (Brazil) Former Secretary of State for Science and Technology; Secretary of the Environment; and Ministry of State for Education, Federal Government of Brazil.

Dr. (Mrs.) Mashooda Hasan

Member, Federal Public Service Commission (Pakistan) Former Professor of Chemistry and Acting Dean, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad

Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, M.S.

Chairperson and Managing Director, Biocon India Ltd. Chairperson, Syngene International, Ltd. Chairperson, Clinigene International, Ltd. (India)

Dr. Antoinette Molinié

Director of Research, National Center of Scientific Research (France) Laboratory of Ethnology and Comparative Sociology, University of Paris X (Nanterre)

Prof. Deane Neubauer

Director, Globalization Research Center and Interim Chancellor, University of Hawaii (US)

Dr. Erling Norrby

Former Secretary General, Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (Sweden) Former Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Karolinska Institute

Tiahoga Ruge Ministry of the Environment (Mexico) Founder, *Bioplaneta*

Dr. Levan Urushadze

Senior Research Fellow, Institute of History and Ethnology, Georgian Academy of Sciences, Tbilisi (Georgia) Chairman, International Asociation "CAUCASUS: Ethnic

Relations, Human Rights, Geopolitics (IACERHRG)"

Prof. Ruut Veenhoven

Professor of Social Conditions for Human Happiness, Erasmus University Professor of Humanism, University of Utrecht (Netherlands) Editor in chief, *Journal of Happiness Studies*

Dr. Ralph Wolff

Executive Director, Senior College Commission, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (US)

Guidelines for Nominating New Fellows

All Fellows of the Academy – including Associate Fellows – may nominate new members. There are no formal qualifications -- such as age or possession of advanced degrees -- for becoming a Fellow. Criteria to be used in selecting candidates include:

- Distinction or accomplishment in one's profession. A nominee should be a person who would qualify for membership in a national academy of his or her field.
- Interdisciplinary interests or accomplishments.
- Record of public service.
- Global perspective. To be a Fellow of the Academy is to be a member of global civil society, concerned for the welfare of an increasingly-interconnected global civilization.

The prospective nominee should have provided a CV or resume to the nominator, and have indicated interest in being nominated. Prospective nominees should be informed that nominations are ordinarily voted on four times yearly, and that nomination does not guarantee election to the Academy. All nominating materials must be on electronic file, preferably MS Word, and should be submitted to: Prof. Ana Maria Sandi, Chair, Admissions Committee, World Academy of Art and Science. Address: <u>asandi@worldbank.org</u>. Membership in the Academy involves no dues or financial obligations, but members are invited annually to make a voluntary contribution to the Academy's work.