

# ESEE Newsletter

Information from The European Society for Ecological Economics - Issue N°4 – February 1998

## From the Secretary

It is now 18 months since the ESEE was created. A lot of energy from many people has been invested in putting the new Society on the map - through a variety of publication initiatives, university teaching initiatives, the involvement of members in scientific and policy workshops, and so on. In a few weeks the ESEE International Conference at Geneva will be the first major scientific meeting organised under the Society's own name. Hosted by the University of Geneva, there is a very full programme of more than 150 presentations during the 3 \_ days from Wednesday 4 March to Saturday 7 March 1998. This event is very important for confirming the momentum created by the 1996 inaugural conference and for establishing Ecological Economics as an intellectual and political force.

The ESEE exists in legal terms as an "Association" registered in France. So that all members know what this signifies, we have made an English translation of the Statutes of the ESEE (the French "Statuts") which defines the objectives and structure of the Society. All members should receive a copy together with this Newsletter. At the Geneva conference, elections will take place for officers of the Executive and the Administrative Council of the ESEE, in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes. These officers will be elected for 3 years and will carry crucial responsibilities for building up ESEE resources and network strength. Statements from all candidates for ESEE office are included in this Newsletter.

One way that the Society establishes its visibility is through self-publicity - notably the creation of the ESEE Newsletter and the ESEE website - and through publications in its name. At present five books containing selected revised papers from the 1996 Inaugural Conference are in final stages of preparation. These will be available for inspection in Geneva, and orders taken by the respective publishers for copies at special discount prices. In the new series International Library of Ecological Economics, created by an agreement between the ESEE and Edward Elgar in the UK, the first two volumes are being prepared for late 1998 appearance - on the themes of "Environmental Evaluation" and "Globalisation" respectively. We envisage two new volumes in the ILEE series per year, thus building up a permanent collection. In the French-language collection *Economie Ecologique* with Editions Georg in Geneva, several volumes are in advanced stages of preparation and the first wave of books are expected in late 1998. We should look at the prospects for establishing similar publications programmes in other major European languages. Also, ESEE members with monograph manuscripts on an Ecological Economics topic should be aware of the series *New Advances in Ecological Economics*, also with Edward Elgar, directed by Robert Costanza. We invite ESEE members to bring examples or order information for published work of their own to the Geneva ESEE meeting, where display space will be available (an informal bazaar for members only).

An opportunity has been created for the Ecological Economics community in Europe and elsewhere to take a major role in the animation of three international scientific journals published by Inderscience (Geneva). These are: the **International Journal of Environment and Pollution** (IIEP published since 1990), the

**International Journal of Global Energy Issues** (IJGEI, published since 1990); and the new-in-1998 **International Journal of Sustainable Development** (IJSJSD). These are journals for refereed scientific publications of an inter-disciplinary character, at the interface of science - policy - society - industry. As such, the Inderscience journals are complementary to the ISEE's journal 'Ecological Economics'. Partnership proposals have been developed between ESEE members and Inderscience which would enhance publication opportunities for Ecological Economics and related inter-disciplinary researchers through sympathetic editorial policy and the inclusion of Ecological Economics people in Editorial Advisory roles worldwide. By agreement, special subscription rate opportunities will be available to all Ecological Economics members as a privilege of their membership - an exclusive benefit not available to non-Ecological Economics members. More details of the proposed tie-up are included elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Also publicised in this issue is the next conference of the International Society for Ecological Economics, to take place in Santiago in November this year. The conference theme of "policies and institutions for sustainability" is dear to many ESEE members, and although travel costs are quite high it may be worthwhile for members to combine their wits to offer some sessions of papers in concerted fashion that show in Santiago the range of Ecological Economics work and thinking in this area. The deadline for paper proposals (individual or as concerted actions) is the end of March 1998.

The numbers of people registered and proposing papers for the Geneva Conference is an indicator of the importance of building the strength of the ESEE as a scientific network. The success of this Conference depends on your participation, to make the hard work of the Geneva organisers pay off. Also, during the past two years many people involved in the ESEE Secretariat at the C3ED, and elsewhere in Europe, have worked to create some infrastructures for the Society. I want to mention and thank, especially, Sarah Dwyer, Jessy Tsang, Julia Haake, Sybille van den Hove and Houda Allal, Nicolas Lesciellour, Christelle Hue, and others, whose combined efforts have brought into existence most of what you see. Now it is up to all of us to make the Society a strong Europe-wide movement that can bridge the distances, language and disciplinary divides to make Ecological Economics a *sine qua non* of European environmental research and sustainability policy.

Martin O'Connor

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# THOUGHTS

## Cultural sustainable development for the humanisation of the city

by Luigi Fusco Girard, Italy

### 1. The city today, between globalisation processes and local identities

The city is the human product par excellence: the place of its creativeness and innovation, where the project of modernity is expressed. But the city can also become the place of its failure. The city has not to be considered only as a physical and spatial structure but as the place of the relationships I/us/nature, where the rules to cope with the conflicts among different values/interests have been improved; where the economic, social, political and ecological exchanges take place.

The city is a very relevant cultural problem: a place where modernity culture, that is basically an economic one, is "coagulated". This economic culture has broken the social contract of the city. The city is becoming a global hypermarket, the place of the fiction that improves/facilitates consuming levels and where social exclusion is concentrated. This city is not at man's service, does not produce human values, but it multiplies fragmentation, emphasises individualism, erodes belonging sense: in this way it makes social cohesion more and more difficult to realise. The city is the place of inequalities, concentration and ecological crisis. But the city is also the most promising laboratory to build our society's future.

The above is worsened by the processes of the more and more intense economic globalisation. Economics has become stronger than Nations' sovereignty, eluding the political, public and social control. New informational technologies intertwine in this process that goes often goes with an illegal financing of the same economics. It produces a society in which inequalities, differences, and unsolved problems of justice are strengthening.

This process does not lead to the "global village", to humanisation; on the contrary, it leads to the explosion of particularism, differences, conflicts. What kind of city and society is it possible to build in future times by means of this economic culture? What kind of man does it produce/mould?

How to build opposing elements to this process? How to build collective actions against this society's dehumanisation process in the general context of increasing individualism?

The starting point of this resistance strategy is at a local level, that is in the city. In the city economic/financial networks meet with local identities; it is its weak point in which to develop new strategies of civic coexistence, in which to reconstruct the relationship I/us/nature.

To rebuild the city's contract we need a new strategy that should be oriented by a new culture. It should oppose to economic culture of modernity, producing links between the present generation and future generations, between present generation and nature. It should bring long term intrinsic values and not only instrumental/immediate values. In the time of the rejection of value hierarchisation this cultural strategy must propose a value hierarchies deduction constructed through the participation of various subjects, developing new shared values. It is bearer of a new ethics, enlarged to not yet born generations and ecological systems.

### 2. The notion of a city's sustainable development and the new contract

#### 2.1. The four urban systems

In every urban system it is possible to distinguish four systems: a private economic system, a public economic one, a social economic one and a natural economic one. The different combination of these four systems makes the specific "character" or "profile" of a city (Fusco Girard and Nijkamp, 1997). Each system has its dynamics, specific organisational rules, its evolutive logic and its rationality in the use of the different forms of capital, i.e. man-made, natural, human

#### 2.1.1. *The private economic system*

This is the system in which the creativity of scientific knowledge is transformed in marketable technological innovations.

The aim of the private economic system is to optimise profits. It is founded on the instrumental rationality of the goals/means ratio, that leads to a behaviour orientation to select priorities on the "mechanical" rule of the maximisation of the returns/costs ratio. The assumption is that the society's global order is secured by the competition of each subject with respect to the others. Each subject is guided by its interest, i.e. by its individual gain.

An ideal goal of this system would be a man-free production (see the more and more widespread engineering processes): man is not essential to produce but it is fundamental to consume. The relationship among the various subjects is established on the money exchange in the market, that is an immediate, impersonal anonymous exchange and does not need neither the "face to face" relationship nor a specific physical space. The system needs a capital share reserve at the end of each productive cycle to reinvest in the successive cycle, to be able to develop. This system does not satisfy neither some specific individual needs, nor some collective needs (such as the natural environment preservation). In its evolutive dynamics, this system grows globalising.

#### 2.1.2. *The Public economic system*

The existence of a public economic system is justified by the need of "sustaining" private economics, because of the incapability of the market to satisfy needs and secure solidarity with respect to weaker subjects. It is characterised by assets and services supply through institutions and by production costs and political prices (fares). This system's rationality is of redistributive kind. It has a more or less highly centralised form that secures redistribution by means of cash flows from periphery to centre, with sequences of the kind BA/CA/DA/EA/FA, that are followed by an event of the kind A/BCDEF. It uses formal rules that regulate also the penalties ad it is characterised by a control/duress power. This system that has grown more and more (and especially in some regions it has resulted in a bureaucracy organised as a pyramid, that is often cumbersome and inefficient, source of feigned jobs, feigned services, wastes, privileges, rents, etc. needing more and more new capital to be able to "sustain" itself) is now decreasing.

#### 2.1.3. *The natural economic system*

This is a self-sustainable system that, re-employing and reproducing natural capital, "sustains" both the private economic system and the public economic one, because it is based on autopoietic circuits. Its rationality is of the circular kind (ecological rationality), being linked to the reproduction of the different long term cycles (of air, water, oxygen, etc.). This system is highly stressed by the functioning of other systems. It is not destabilised, because of its homeostatic capabilities. But these capabilities disappear beyond certain thresholds.

#### 2.1.4. *The social economic system*

The social economic system is a self-sustainable system, based on social exchange, whose principle (or rationality) is reciprocity. The sequences of the events is of the kind: AB/BA, i.e. AB/BC/CA. The social exchange is never free from personal relationships. The subjects of the exchange are free to decide the equivalence between given and received services. This equivalence is not imposed, but reflects what is freely considered adequate, with respect to the culture, the uses, etc.

Anyway, the voluntary social exchange determines an "opening" attitude towards time horizon, that starts a co-operative attitude expecting a service whose time, amount and specific characteristics

are not known. The above depends on the mutual trust between the subjects of the social exchange. The movement in one direction leads to an expectation not necessarily equivalent in terms of utility, that on its turn leads to the production of relational values. After the merchant exchange everyone is completely free from ties. To this kind of exchange, i.e. "take and give", the social exchange, i.e. "give/receive/return", clashes. This social economic system is characterised by voluntary work, and in particular in those associations in which members feel involved in the general interests achievement and not in getting individual benefits. It produces co-ordination capability, trust, loyalty, i.e. it produces relational values and social capital.

### 3. The cultural dimension of a city's sustainable development

#### 3.1. A city's sustainable development

Sustainable development is the intentional construction of a dynamic co-evolutive long term equilibrium among the four systems in the city. The co-ordination among these four evolutive dynamics, that follow different trajectories with very strong interdependencies, depends on institutions, that is on the organisational rules. Whether it will result in a possible co-evolution that leads to sustainability or in the growing of one system at the expenses of the other systems, with the risk of final systemic destabilisation, depends on institutions.

For example, the development of the private economic system (and its globalisation) often destabilises the natural economic system, because of the existing rules that regulate the exchange among these systems and allow a stress that could overcome the resistance capability of the very natural system. At the same time, the growing of the private economic system is characterised by a progressive consumption of social/cultural capital. In fact, if it is true that the force of this system is individualism, it is also true that it needs some widespread values that make the climate favourable, the atmosphere propitious for its development. These values are loyalty, social virtues, trust, etc. that favour the respect of mutual obligations in the long term even without explicit institutional guarantees.

The market, on its turn, (with its functioning based on "here and soon", on "take and run away", etc.) does not stimulate a future time horizon that goes beyond the exchange's instant. Because the relationships is over in the same moment when exchange takes place, the market does not promote co-operative processes.

The growth of the private economic system implies not only natural capital consumption, but also social capital consumption. This destabilises the social economic system that tends to decrease as the merchant exchange increases, and, moreover, has to absorb/amortise the employed labour force expulsion because of the new technologies introduction.

Then it should be necessary to reproduce natural and social capital at the same speed as they are consumed, by means of new adequate institutions.

#### 3.2. Culture and institutions for the humanisation of the city

New institutions, i.e. new organisational rules are necessary to regulate economic, social, political and ecological exchanges in a new contract. The institutional dimension of sustainable development is the critical one. But institutions reflect and are the result of a specific culture. Culture has a fundamental but at the same time ambivalent role. Culture (as indeed the economic culture) can destabilise. But culture can also stabilise.

To gain the challenge of humanisation means to make private economic system evolution compatible with natural system evolution, balancing out the reduction of the public economic system by improving the social economic system; new reference values or new priorities between them are necessary. We need a rationality that

combines the instrumental efficiency rationality, the redistribution one, the relational/ecological one and the relational/community one.

The new contract for the city cannot be constructed on the current economic culture that ignores values in itself, reciprocity and solidarity values, and de-values future and past time. Institutions should reflect the new co-evolutive urban contract, based on a post-economic, post-mechanistic culture. It is necessary to promote specific actions in the new urban contract to overcome this economic culture (Viedermann, 1996). A post-economic culture should reflect the idea of a man linked with his social and ecological environment.

#### 3.3. A post-economic culture for the humanisation

In a time when there is refusal of the acknowledgement of priorities among values, post-economic culture should propose a hierarchisation of values derived by means of open participation of every subject (in spite of the uncertain and complex context), developing new shared values that express the general interest. The Jonas' principle: "behave in such a way that the effects of your action are compatible with the permanence of an authentically human life of the Earth" should characterise this culture (Jonas, 1992).

A post-economic culture acknowledges the future time value and not only the present instant value. This encourages a sentiment that puts into relationship the "I" with the "Us" and the Nature, valorising a designing and creative perspective and the importance of forecast/anticipation.

The "expansion" of time is the condition to construct a relationship that goes beyond short term, and develops in medium/long term during which the misunderstanding that faster means more efficient can be overcome. It is necessary to rediscover the importance of the slow pace, that is the value of time "slowing down", finding a better harmony between economic time and ecological/cosmic time.

Post-economic culture is that of "solidaristic individualism", based on the responsibility of each person towards the others and towards Nature, that rejects the "external" control, i.e. authority's control, because it is capable of self-control.

Post-economic culture shows all the "irrationalities" resulting from the short term economic rationality, with reference to the social, human, environmental, etc. impacts and therefore it introduces the notion of "limit", of equilibrium and an attitude of precaution (precaution principle).

A post-economic culture is capable of a comprehensive, multiple dimensions view that pays attention also to "the other face of the medal", the more hidden and implicit one, and then to every perspective of a problem, without reducing it to the only utility perspective. This culture, accepting the multidimensionality consciously, i.e. the conceptual link among different perspectives, rejects every simplification and accepts to cope with the complexity of reality, because it tends intrinsically to search for the equilibrium among different aspects (and not to the absoluteness of a perspective to the detriment of the others).

The above leads us to evaluate things, resources, people and actions in a richer way constructing critical consciousness and discernment capability: it encourages wisdom and prudence. It is the culture by which it is possible to cope with the question of the new informational/telematic technologies, i.e. with their "good use", avoiding a future when the risks of tight links among technologies, economic/financial powers and political powers are more and more high and dangerous.

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# THOUGHTS

## Towards an integrated policy to improve competitiveness, employment, technology, and environment in Europe

by Fritz Hinterberger and Andreas Mündl, Wuppertal Institut, Germany

Today, competition is mainly perceived as a problem of (relative) costs, which often leads to an assumed antagonism between competitiveness, social cohesion and the environment. This view is much too narrow since other factors such as the quality of labour force, environmental legislation or social partnerships play an important role as well. It is necessary to consider competitiveness in an interdependent context with other socio-economic objectives explicitly integrating environmental policy concepts. The following key questions should be points of departure for a comprehensive discussion and a future research agenda: Can a richer understanding of competitiveness, its structural and dynamic features lead to a reconciliation of the three objectives? Consequently, can a country or region, that economises on resources instead of labour, be competitive?

### Systemic competitiveness and sustainability

As a new theoretical concept, the idea of *systemic competitiveness* was developed based on empirical findings from studies on international competitive advantage. It widens the view of relevant factors of competitive behaviour by including meso and meta levels in addition to the traditional macro and micro levels, because competitiveness today cannot be seriously analysed (and existing patterns not be explained) without taking into account the so far neglected institutional factors and the regional networks at the meso level. The theory of systemic competitiveness is so far unconnected to sustainability, i.e. to societal and environmental development. A common view of the ecology-economy relationship today assumes social benefits from high environmental standards but high economic costs for achieving such an aim. Supposedly, environmental standards therefore reduce the overall competitiveness of an economy. An integrated concept of sustainable competitiveness (or competitive sustainability) should provide us with the means for a more differentiated analysis, beyond the latter, rather short-sighted conclusions. A new concept would also permit to elaborate, ask, and at least partly answer new questions like: Do innovations addressing environmentally friendly 'technologies' enhance competitive-ness? How can they be promoted by state activities? How can social innovations be integrated and assessed together with technical ones?

### Integrating social cohesion

In our context, social cohesion is understood as a complex issue that can to some extent be measured using employment and socio-cultural segregation indicators. One field of particular interest is on labour

market conditions. Related to this the central questions are: Which structural and technological changes are likely to accompany a progressive environmental policy and an increase in competitiveness? Which consequences does this have for the labour market? What kind of qualification is consequently required on the labour market, are problems like an *education gap* foreseeable? How can the integration of the current work force in a changing organisational-technological environment be managed?

### Integrated policy strategies

Based on the insight that environmental and economic policy must be integrated, an *ecological economic policy* can be defined as one possible integrative policy strategy. This can be achieved by a strategy focusing on environmental threats in a very broad and comprehensive sense rather than trying to "steer" every single pollutant towards a proposed optimum, which cannot be determined anyway. A general reduction of material flows has been identified as such a strategic goal. To reach it, all kind of economic instruments (from restructuring tax- and subsidisation-schemes to tradable permits) should be discussed. Some of the possibilities and effects of the transition towards such a *dematerialization* could be increased competitiveness e.g. by challenging innovation capabilities and a low waste economy.

### Future challenges for the European Union

In the context of the growing need to integrate several objectives into development strategies the discourse and the answers to these questions could offer useful insights into the construction and implementation of integrated policies and of the effectiveness of restructuring efforts that have been so supported. These insights have policy-relevance also in the context of the implementation of the Amsterdam Treaty and the planned future expansion of the European Union to embrace states that, today, are heavily dependant economically on unsustainable extractive industries. They will be valuable as well for the future design of the Community's Regional Policy as for the rearrangement of the Structural Funds.

*These ideas were partly submitted to the European Commission for funding.*

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<http://www.cs.tu-berlin.de/~jms/compete/index.html>

# News

## Trade impacts on forest communities, a workshop held in Atvidaberg, Sweden, January 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 1998. Arranged by EPOS, the Environmental Policy and Society Network

by Anders Hjort, Linköping University

The case of forests serves as an example of the debate over sustainable development. The majority of concerned NGOs have tended to advocate more restrictive policies, such as trade boycotts and other barriers on the trade of forest products, as well as favouring more active recognition of the rights of indigenous forest communities. This contrasts with the position taken by many governments, who have favoured free international trade in forest products, arguing that this is the most suitable measure for ensuring the continual survival of both forests and forest communities.

Conflicts often occur between indigenous communities, commercial logging companies that have been granted concessions by governments and immigrants' communities. In the latter case conflicts occur, e.g. in instances where poor and landless groups, who have gained access to remote forest areas as a result of roads constructed by concessionaires, arrive in search of opportunities to clear land for subsistence farming.

Three themes emerged during the workshop and will be elaborated further:

1. Macro environment impacts on individual decisions on land use (examples from Southeastern Asia and Eastern Africa); in particular what contributes insecurity over tenure.
2. The role and usefulness of valuation of forest resources (examples from Laos, Cambodia and Brazil); focus on historical contexts.
3. Forest communities and the emergence of global activities (Finland and Sweden); the global/local interphase seen from a community perspective by looking at structural and

symbolic aspects of forest trade dependency in a community.

The ambition is to follow up the workshop with empirical research. Proposals for co-operation also around other subjects are welcomed.

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### **Improving the societal process of decision making for sustainability: the crucial role of mass media in communicating scientific information and framing public debate, forthcoming workshop organised by the ESEE in Florence, Italy, July 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 1998**

The ESEE is organising a Workshop at the VII International Congress of Ecology, INTECOL: "New Tasks for Ecologists after Rio 1992". The following subjects will be treated:

#### The crucial role of the media

"Mad Cow disease", "Nuclear Energy", and "Genetic Engineering in food production", are all examples of events in which the general public showed a major loss of confidence in information provided by scientific authorities. Indeed, controversies about decision making related to natural resource management are the rule rather than the exception. They involve questions about which it is very difficult to reach a general consensus, even among scientists, and for which there may be no "correct answer" or even a single correct way to frame the problem, e.g., what is the effect of population growth on sustainability? What is an acceptable level of pollution? What should the criteria be for determining "economic viability"? Historically, decision-makers have relied on scientific committees to provide justification for controversial decisions, while the media has played a crucial role in framing these controversies and shaping public perception of them. Recent events (e.g., the ban on genetic engineered crops in many European countries in spite of the "go ahead" given by scientific committees) suggest that decision-makers are increasingly ignoring the indications given by their scientific advisors fearing the reaction of their voters. This has in turn contributed to a crisis in governance because it undermines the credibility and legitimacy of science-based decision models. This points to the need to fundamentally re-examine the way scientific information is used in decision-making, and the decision-making process itself, which can also be viewed as a means of achieving a mutual understanding that is needed in order to make controversial social decisions in which high stakes and high uncertainty are inherent.

#### The impasse of scientific reductionism

Recent developments in scientific knowledge indicate that it is the very nature of socio-economic systems and ecosystems that is making the job of decision-makers difficult. Socio-economic systems and ecosystems are complex characterised by the existence of multiple and alternative descriptions for the same process and non-linearity in evolution. Surprise and novelty, counter-intuitive behaviour, the inevitable existence of contrasting indicators for the same process when seen from different perspectives, sudden changes after long periods of stability are the rule rather than the exception. The economies of scale in animal agriculture, for instance, are associated

simultaneously with better protein availability and human nutrition, higher economic returns to some farmers, epidemics of animal and human ailments (e.g. Classical Swine Fever in the Netherlands and foodborne enteric human infections and obesity world-wide), and often catastrophic increases in non point-source pollution. To make things worse, the more urgent the decisions and the higher the stakes, the more decision-makers are confronted with conflicting interests, insufficient and contrasting scientific information and, above all, uncertainty. Reducing complex problems to a single cause and effect, or "smoking gun", is convenient but leads to avoidance of controversial issues because it only represents a partial perspective. On the other hand, failure to do so makes it difficult or impossible to allocate "blame". The end result is that, often, scientific controversies, crucial for the development of societal awareness, are only partially covered by the media.

#### The goal of the ESEE workshop

With this workshop, the European Society of Ecological Economics wants to open a dialogue on these issues. The goal is to bring together: (i) people handling scientific information within radio and television networks; (ii) scientists working in the field of sustainable development who share an interest in the implications of complexity for decision-making. The panel members will be asked to provide an analysis of current problems from their particular perspective, to suggest workable solutions, and identify key questions to be addressed in future activities (representatives of the media are being invited from public and private television companies in Europe and North America). Some key questions and underlying objectives are:

- to examine the role of the media in handling controversial scientific information and informing the decision-making process for complex social problems;
- enable scientists to better understand the constraints on media professionals and to be more effective in communicating scientific perspectives on social problems in a relevant manner;
- consider how quality control of information can be achieved without scientific censorship of the press, with mutual respect for the independence of the two professions;
- further explore the implications of complexity for decision-making by bringing the perspective of the media into an ongoing dialogue on the subject.

*(For a more detailed presentation see the following website: <http://inn.ingrm.it/compsys/intecol.htm>)*

### **Ecological Economics Exposition at the University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala, Sweden, June, 1998**

An Ecological Economics Exposition will be held at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala, Sweden over the first two weeks of June. The exposition will involve a series of postgraduate courses together with an international workshop on

Trade and Environment and finally an Ecological Economics forum. The plan for the exposition is as follows:  
Tuesday June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June Postgraduate course on Ecological Economics Theory

# News

Monday June 8<sup>th</sup> - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June Trade Liberalisation and Environment; Ecological Economics and Agricultural Sustainability

Thursday June 11<sup>th</sup> - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June International Workshop: Trade Liberalisation, Development and Environment; International Workshop: Ecological Economics and Agricultural Sustainability

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June International Forum: Environmental Degradation - Is there a role for (Ecological) Economics?

1. Forum: Environmental degradation. Is there a role for (Ecological) Economics?

Environmental degradation continues to be a major world problem despite twenty years of extensive environmental economic application and now the emergence of Ecological Economics. Some of the key issues which modern environmental economic analysis does not appear to have addressed very well include the increased globalisation of major environmental problems and the concentration of environmental problems in regions of poverty. In this setting, the following questions are asked: Has environmental economics, in the neo-classical vein, provided any insight into environmental problems and their resolution? Is there a role for environmental economics on environmental problems at all? Does Ecological Economics offer a radical and constructive alternative to neo-classical environmental economics?

2. Two International Workshops

Both workshops will be restricted to no more than 40 participants and about 18 papers will be selected for the interest of the papers relative to current research, policy issues and insight on particular country problems. Persons wishing to participate should provide a two page abstract of their paper no later than Thursday March 30<sup>th</sup>. The Abstract should be emailed to the co-ordinator of the particular workshop as an email attachment. Completed papers will be expected by Friday the May 15<sup>th</sup>. The papers, after revision, will be considered for publication in a commercially published book volume. Participation in the workshop will be free, including coffee breaks. Some assistance with travel and accommodation may be available on a case by case basis.

a. Trade Liberalisation - Development and Environment

The trend towards globalisation and trade liberalisation is seen by many economists as an international win-win game. However, there is also evidence that there may be negative impacts. The theme of this workshop is to consider the balance of positive and negative impacts especially in terms of the developing countries, the environment and sustainability. For

further information and for the submission of abstracts contact Professor Andrew Dragun, E-mail: Andrew.Dragun@ekon.slu.se

b. Ecological Economics and Agricultural Sustainability

Sustainable land use is not only a question of pricing, allocation, technology or economic policy. It is also a matter of negotiating agreements among people with diverse interests about what land is used for, by whom and how it is arranged. This involves better tools for dealing with conflict, adaptive management, resource quality assessment and user friendly monitoring indicators at various levels of social aggregation.

This workshop will explore these issues. For further information and for the submission of abstracts contact Professor Janice Jiggins, E-mail: Janice.Jiggins@lbutv.slu.se

3. Postgraduate courses in Ecological Economics

The continued despoliation of the environment and imbalance of international natural resource use has focussed much new attention on the sustainability of the human race. This concern for human sustainability raises issues as to the applicability of the mainstream theory to deal with such profound issues, especially in the setting of the apparent inequity of natural resource use exhibited between the countries of the North and the South. The course objectives are to enlighten the weaknesses in the conventional approaches to sustainability and equity in international natural resource use, and to suggest alternative approaches which emphasise equity and fairness in a transparent and democratic way.

The course will operate in two components, each of 5 credits. The combined components comprise a 10 credit course. In the first week all students will have the opportunity to be involved in the core lecture series focussing on the theoretical foundation and principal methodological considerations within Ecological Economics generally. The course outline and programme are given below. In the second week the students will select one of two options for more intense study and research. These options will involve a mix of about 50 lectures and applied group work. Assessment will involve several pieces of written work, oral presentation of a case study and active participation in all parts of the course.

The course will be held during weeks 23 and 24 in 1998, that is between the June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The first week will involve about 30 hours of lectures, with additional time for discussion and a case study workshop, while each option in the second week will involve about 15 hours of lectures and 15 hours of workshops and applications.

**Proposals for Scientific Publishing Partnership between 'Ecological Economics' and 'Inderscience'**

by Martin O'Connor, ESEE Secretary

As announced in an earlier ESEE Newsletter, investigations have been proceeding on the opportunity for the Ecological Economics community in Europe and elsewhere to take a major role in the animation of three international scientific journals published by Inderscience (Geneva). These journals are:

- The **International Journal of Environment and Pollution** (IJEP, published since 1990);
- The **International Journal of Global Energy Issues** (IJGEI, published since 1990);
- The new-in-1998 **International Journal of Sustainable Development** (IJSDD).

Each of these journals is, for its specific domain, conceived as a forum for publication of refereed scientific work, of an inter-disciplinary character, at the interface of science-policy-society-industry. This vocation seems to respond well to ESEE objectives; and the journals are complementary in character to the ISEE's journal 'Ecological Economics'. They are also complementary to other journals such as 'Environmental Values' and 'Environment and Development Economics' with which the ESEE has a special friendly relation. The proposed Inderscience-Ecological Economics partnership is as follows:

- The three journals: IJEP, IJGEI, IJSD are widely publicised through the Third World as well as Europe, and the partnership would enhance publication opportunities for Ecological Economics and related inter-disciplinary researchers through sympathetic editorial policy and the concerted involvement of Ecological Economics people in Editorial Advisory roles world-wide. (Note: If the partnership is agreed, the sub-title of the IJEP will be modified so that it reads: "Science-Policy-Ecological Economics-Engineering". The other titles will remain unchanged.)
- In recognition of the role being played by the Ecological Economics community in scientific support and promotion of the journals, special subscription rate opportunities will be available to all Ecological Economics members as a privilege of their membership - i.e., an exclusive relationship, a benefit not available to non-Ecological Economics members.

The special Subscription arrangements proposed for ESEE members (which will also be available to other Ecological Economics regional chapters involved in the venture) are as follows:

- *For the IJEP (8 issues per year): £90 (compared with £250 full rate)*
- *For the IJGEI (8 issues per year): £90 (compared with £250 full rate)*
- *For the new IJSD (initially 4 issues per year): £70 (compared with £200 full rate)*

The integration of Ecological Economics members into the scientific management of the journals is proposed to take place in two phases.

- First, an initial set of appointments to editorial advisory functions has already been agreed by Inderscience (see below). The ESEE is strongly represented.
- Second, if the partnership is approved by the ESEE membership, a subsequent step will be to take formal proposals for expansion of the « Special Relationship » between the three Inderscience journals and the worldwide ISEE network, to the next meeting of the ISEE being held in Santiago, Chile in November 1998. This would mean that, during the next few months, discussions should take place with other regional chapters, and gaps in coverage on the Editorial Advisory Boards for the three journals should be filled so as to establish the world-wide network of co-operating persons as Regional Editors, Advisory Board members and so on.

New appointments (as of January 1998) to the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Environment and Pollution (IJEP) include:

- Within Europe : Martin O'CONNOR (as Editor), Bruna DE MARCHI, Andrew DRAGUN, Bernard GUIBERT, Giuseppe MUNDA, Jerome RAVETZ, Clive SPASH
- Elsewhere: Kanchan CHOPRA (India); Carlos Eduardo Frickmann YOUNG (Brazil); Michael YOUNG (Australia); Peter VICTOR (Canada); James KAY (Canada)

Appointments to the Editorial Advisory Board for the new International Journal of Sustainable Development (IJSD) include:

- Within Europe : Sylvie FAUCHEUX (as Coeditor), Silvio FUNTOWICZ, Jacques THEYS, Walter RADERMACHER, Jacques WEBER
- Elsewhere : Peter MAY (Brazil); Olman SEGURA (Costa Rica); John PEET (New Zealand); Michael TOMAN (USA); Gilberto GALLOPIN (formerly Colombia; now Sweden); David BELL (Canada); Richard HOWARTH (USA)

New appointments (as of January 1998) to the Editorial Advisory Board of the International Journal of Global Energy Issues (IJGEI) include:

- Within Europe : Samir ALLAL, Christian AZAR, Mario GIAMPIETRO
- Elsewhere : Kozo MAYUMI (Japan); Maurício Tiomno TOLMASQUIM (Brazil)

*Note:* A number of other people active in the Ecological Economics community in Europe and other parts of the world have also been approached, and further nominations are pending to ensure a wide geographical, disciplinary and institutional coverage.



# Presentation of the Candidates for the ESEE Election in March

## Candidature for President

**Sylvie FAUCHEUX**

**(Professor in Economics and Director of the Centre d'Economie et d'Ethique pour l'Environnement et le Développement (C3ED), Université de Versailles – St Quentin en Yvelines, France)**

*I was elected Inaugural President of the ESEE in May 1996 with the commitment to work to establish the strength and visibility of the new society throughout Europe. During the last two years I have pursued this goal by several different means: (1) the ESEE Secretariat has been created thanks largely to resources provided by my research centre and by the Université de Versailles - St Quentin en Yvelines; (2) I have been active in lobbying for recognition of Ecological Economics and of the ESEE in particular across Europe, especially with the European Commission; (3) I have contributed, with the help and hard work of colleagues, to the creation of the ESEE Newsletter, the opening of the ESEE website and to new publications of the ESEE (the books from the 1996 ESEE Conference, the new International Library of Ecological Economics series with Edward Elgar, and the partnership between Inderscience and the ESEE for the journals IJEP, IJSD and IJGEI); (4) I have helped to organise a number of international workshops to promote and develop Ecological Economics perspectives in Europe.*

*During the coming few years I would like to carry on all these activities, being helped by a vigorous participation of the members of the Administrative Council and Vice-Presidents. We are developing plans for a European Masters in Ecological Economics and for coordinating doctoral programmes in this field. I should also like to support the creation of an Ecological Economics society in Africa (I can help especially with Francophone Africa), where there are really needs and opportunities. I also plan to find more outside funds for the development of ESEE, such as from European institutions and private sector sponsorships. We need to work together to improve the fuzzy situation of ISEE to make it more international, and in all these things I want to encourage more active participation of members in the development of ESEE.*

*Assuming that the ESEE Secretariat stays located at the C3ED, it will be practical to have the Secretary and Treasurer quite close. The Secretary could be Martin O'Connor although I think that he wants a rest. For funding the ESEE Secretariat, even if my institution can continue to give some help, we also need inputs from other members, particularly the support of institutions of the members of the Administrative Council.*

## Candidacies for Vice-Presidents

**Clive L. SPASH**

**(Lecturer in Environmental Economics and Director of Cambridge Research for the Environment (CRE), in the Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge)**

*My past research has covered a range of environmental issues including: compensation of future generations for damages due to the enhanced greenhouse effect, economic appraisal of regional crop damages due to ozone, sulphur emission and deposition in Europe, biodiversity valuation, nitrate pollution and agriculture, marine conservation and valuation, and more generally the application of cost-benefit analysis to the environment. Before coming to Cambridge, previous posts include research and/or lecturing at the University of Versailles, France, Lincoln University, New Zealand, the University of Stirling, Scotland, the University of Wyoming, USA, and the University of British Columbia, Canada. Current research involves combining economics, ethics and psychology in the area of environmental valuation. I am committed to inter-disciplinary research. This can be seen from the range of my publications, which include articles for Ecological Economics, Environmental Ethics, Environmental & Resource Economics, Energy Policy, Journal of Agricultural Economics, Journal of Economic Surveys, Journal of Environmental Management, Philosophy and Geography, the International Journal of Environment & Pollution, and the Review of Political Economy. Amongst my contributions to edited books are chapters in Environmental Sustainability: Case Studies on the Prospects of Science and Ethics (ed. Lemons, Goodland & Westra); Valuing Nature: Economics, Ethics and Environment (ed. Foster); Ecological Economics, The International Library of Critical Writings in Economics (ed. Costanza et al.), Sustainable Development: Science, Ethics and Public Policy (ed. Lemons & Brown); The New Global Oil Market: Understanding Energy Issues in the World Economy (ed. Shojai); Ecological Economics: The Science and Management of Sustainability (ed. Costanza).*

*My environmental research projects have included work for the Commission of the European Communities Directorate-General XII, the World Bank, and in the UK the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Department of Environment, the Scottish Office Agriculture and Fisheries Department, and the Forestry Commission.*

*Work in the academic community past and current includes being: Vice President of ESEE, environmental editor for Environment & Planning C, book review editor for Environmental Values and reviews co-editor for the new International Journal of Sustainable Development. In addition I was co-founder and co-ordinator of the Scottish Environmental Economics Discussion Group and editor of its newsletter, co-founder and editor of the Ecological Economics Discussion Papers series at the University of Stirling, and co-editor of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Newsletter. I have also been actively involved in student environmental organisation.*

*On the educational front, I have taught several graduate and post-graduate courses, in the U.K., U.S.A. and New Zealand, covering environmental, resource and Ecological Economics. I helped establish an Ecological Economics degree programme at Stirling University and am currently external examiner for the MSc./Diploma in Ecological Economics at the University of Edinburgh. I have promoted environmental education by being a member of various inter-university and inter-disciplinary committees, and I hope to continue this sort of activity through,*

# Presentation of the Candidates for the ESEE Election in March

## **Fritz HINTERBERGER**

*(Project manager at the Wuppertal Institute, Wuppertal, Germany, division for structural change and material flows)*

*As Vice-President of the European Society for Ecological Economics, I intend to foster the scientific co-operation among ecological economists in Europe in terms of joint research and teaching. The recently launched network CompETE (Toward an Integrated Policy of Competitiveness, Employment, Technology and Environment) may serve as an example for this. The aim of this network is to develop a richer understanding of the interdependency of economic, ecological and social developments (see the article in this newsletter). I would also be active in an initiative for a European graduate programme in Ecological Economics, since I do work with many German and international PhD students, who seem to lack a coherent international teaching of our science.*

*I also would find it important for the ESEE to try to get more influence on European environmental policy. Working with the Wuppertal Institute for almost five years, I developed some insight in the underlying mechanisms necessary to influence.*

*In terms of issues and topics, I am especially looking at the socio-economics of the economy-ecology interaction from a material flows point of view, which can serve as a socio-economic device both for a green management and for an ecological economic policy. Moreover, I find a pluralistic look more essential than sophisticated theories of particular problems (see my article in ESEE newsletter No.3).*

## Candidacies for the ESEE Administrative Council

### **Christian AZAR**

*(Institute of Physical Resource Theory, Chalmers University of Technology, University of Goteborg, Sweden)*

*During the past two years, I have been in the administrative council of the European Council for Ecological Economics (ESEE). I wish to continue to participate in this work. Solving our environmental and development problems and challenges is an important task that requires interdisciplinary approaches. Ecological Economics is important because it provides a platform for such work, and that is why I am keen on participating in the development of this field. My background is in physics (MSc) and physical resource theory (PhD), and my main research interests include: economics of climate change, discounting, long-term energy modelling, renewable energy, technology policies, energy policies and indicators for sustainable development.*

### **Kristin M. JAKOBSSON**

*(Division of Natural Resource and Environmental Economics, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden)*

*Currently I am Associate Professor at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden, after having obtained my doctorate in Economics in 1994 at La Trobe University, Australia. My main research activities and areas of interest include: Ecological Economics as applied to issues of gender and particularly women, sustainability and environment in poor countries. Other involvements include issues of non market valuation techniques; biodiversity conservation; water and soil management; agricultural economics and sustainable agriculture; environmental policy and gender; equity and development issues. I have a wide network of research contacts, through my membership of the International Society of Ecological Economics; Australian Agricultural Economics Society; International Women's Development Agency; International Association for Feminist Economics; Contingent Valuation Method Network; Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics as well as the European Society of Ecological Economics. I have more than twenty published works including two recent major books. One of my priorities as a participant in ESEE activities is to raise the profile of gender and development issues as matters of concern in Ecological Economics discourse.*

### **Mario GIAMPIETRO**

*(Istituto Nazionale della Nutrizione, Rome, Italy)*

*I am a current member of the ESEE Administrative Council and am seeking re-election for another term. During the last few years I have been particularly active in scientific terms (modelling of human societies as adaptive dissipative holarchies; discussing future scenarios of sustainability of food production by using models based on the parallel readings; working on concepts taken from the emerging field of complex systems theory discussing their implications for policy making and sustainability) - more than 15 papers published in international journals. Also I have worked to promote several events that put Ecological Economics on the map in Europe. One is the organisation of an ESEE sponsored workshop at the VII world conference of Ecology "INTECOL new Tasks for Ecologists after Rio 1992" entitled: "Improving the societal process of decision making for sustainability: the crucial role of mass media in communicating scientific information and framing public debate" (please visit our site at: <http://inn.ingrm.it/compsys/intecol.htm>). Another is the involvement in the organisation of an International Workshop on Advances in Energy Analysis (Portovenere, Maggio 1998) in which we will gather the major experts of energy analysis with the attempt to force the group to work out packages of complementary analyses rather than fighting as usual on who is right and who is wrong. If elected as a member of the ESEE Council, I will continue these sorts of efforts, and I will also push for a re-discussion of our relation with ISEE (the structure of the International Society must become federal so that the management of both the society and the journal is obtained through the interaction of regional chapters). Within the ESEE I*

# Presentation of the Candidates for the ESEE Election in March

**Sandrine SIMON**

*(Department of Environmental Social Sciences, Keele University, United Kingdom)*

*I was born in North Africa and have studied in France and the United Kingdom, having just completed my doctorate on green national accounting and sustainability indicators. I remember reading once "It is common to contrast the British tastes for a wild environment, the romanticism of the Germans for their forests, and the French preference for an environment above all utilitarian and nourishing - dare I say, 'gastronomic'?" (Lavoux, 1991). This – somewhat caricatured – 'mapping of feelings' towards the environment can also be related to the physical and political characteristics of the 'Four Europes of the Environment'. Different imperatives in the formulation of environmental policies, different ways of questioning our environmentally unfriendly lifestyles, different environmental awareness media, different terms for 'sustainability', even. Yet, we are all Europeans! It is refreshing to see how the down to earth environmental issues and the efforts to improve the quality our environment, thanks to the common 'European enterprise', are taken seriously, even by some who are otherwise sceptical about 'Europe'. It is also interesting to note how, in the case of the environment, for which we are allowed to care even in different ways, the notion of 'diversity in unity' becomes meaningful. We are privileged - the European institutions encourage initiatives to protect the environment. Our participation is requested, and best illustrated through our communication, exchange and understanding of how our differences can complement each others and help us in achieving ultimate common environmental goals. The networking offered through the ESEE is ideal and adds the multidisciplinary to the multi-nationalities and cultural dimensions of the society. It has the potential for being a Forum for the collection of 'non-technocratic', 'practical' and diverse European visions of the environment; the harmonisation of goals does not mean that we all have to be shaped in the same mould. Being part of it is both an opportunity and a privilege not to be missed.*

**Anne Mette DE VISSER**

*(Department of Social Sciences, Roskilde University, Denmark)*

*Generally, I want improve the conditions for theoretical development of Ecological Economics as the transdisciplinary science of sustainable development - and especially to advance the practical application of a more holistic and ecological, economic way of reasoning in planning, administration and decision making.*

*A specific area that I would give special priority is education. I would like to suggest a ESEE-working group (in which I would of course participate myself) that considers initiatives to further educational possibilities in Ecological Economics at university levels (bachelor, master and PhD) in Europe. A long time goal could be that all students of economics should be at least acquaintant with "the school" of Ecological Economics and the alternative analytical framework it offers.*

*Concerning the theoretical development of the field, I hope to contribute through my work between the boundaries of economics and philosophy - more specific ethics and especially environmental ethics. I believe it is necessary for theories of Ecological Economics and sustainability to consider explicitly the ethical dimensions of the relationship between man and nature. My aims are to advance interdisciplinary discussions of the value-premises behind Ecological Economics and sustainable development - for example by establishing connections to philosophers working with environmental ethics.*

*The knowledge of and the interest in the field of Ecological Economics is generally very poor in the Danish academic societies - even within the field of environmental economics - and it is even more so in the sectors of public planning and administration. As a member of the Administrative Council I would also consider it an important task to advance the knowledge of and further the interest in both research and education in Ecological Economics in Denmark - and of course to distribute specific information about ESEE (ISEE) events, publications etc. For this purpose, I believe it will be fruitful in the coming period to develop my contacts to; the Danish "Environmental Economic Network" (network of junior- and senior scientists at universities and other research institutions), The Danish Research Councils ("the Ministry of Research and Information Technology"), which is now beginning to show an interest in Ecological Economics and "the Ecological Council" - the management committee of "the Ecological Society" - a kind of NGO-organisation established by people working with science, unravelling and teaching as opposed to "the Economic Council"; economists advising the Danish government. (The purpose of "the Ecological Council" is to influence the public opinion in directions necessary to achieve a sustainable development and to affect the political agenda in this direction). I also believe that these efforts could be strengthened by an engagement in Nordic co-operation and exchange of information.*

# ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE ESEE

will be held:

on Friday 6 March 1998, at 18.30 – 19.30, at the University of Geneva, Switzerland.

## Agenda

1. Report by the President on the Society's activities since its inauguration in May 1996.
2. Financial Report for the period June 1996 to December 1997.
3. Election of ESEE Officers for the period 1998-2000.
4. Basis for setting Subscriptions for ESEE for 1999.
5. Report on Publications projects of the Society:
  - (a) *imminent publications from the May 1996 ESEE Conference;*
  - (b) *the new «International Library of Ecological Economics» with Edward Elgar;*
  - (c) *the «Collection Economie Ecologique» chez Georg, Geneva;*
  - (d) *Proposals for partnership between ESEE and Inderscience (concerning the International Journal for Environment and Pollution; the new International Journal of Sustainable Development; and the International Journal of Global Energy Issues) and developments in network with other regions of ISEE;*
  - (e) *opportunities within the ISEE publishing programme;*
  - (f) *promotion of initiatives in other European languages;*
  - (g) *friendly relations with Environmental Values, Environment and Development Economics, and others;*
  - (h) *any ESEE publication projects that may emanate from the Geneva ESEE Conference;*
  - (i) *the ESEE Newsletter;*
  - (j) *proposal for the constitution of an ad hoc «ESEE Publications Projects Sub-Committee».*
6. Relationship between ESEE, ISEE and other regional chapters of the International Society.
7. Proposals for a European Masters in Ecological Economics.
8. Consideration of options for the next ESEE conference.
9. General Business.

## Notes :

(a) Under Article 21 of the ESEE Statutes, the Ordinary General Meeting shall .... «.... deliberate openly on all questions of general interest to the association and all items submitted for consideration by the Administrative Council, except matters relating to modification of the Statutes.» ESEE members should communicate to Martin O'Connor at the ESEE Secretariat (email: esee@c3ed.uvsq.fr) or to the President (Sylvie.Fauchoux@c3ed.uvsq.fr), no later than 25 February 1998, any matters that they wish to be put on the Agenda for the General Meeting.

(b) Procedures for Election of Officers for ESEE for the period 1998–2000. Under Articles 12–14 of the ESEE Statutes, the Society is guided by an Administrative Council composed of at least 9 and not more than 15 members. The Executive of the Administrative Council is made up of a President, one or several Vice-Presidents (maximum 2), a Secretary and a Treasurer. The President and the Vice-President(s) are elected by the General Meeting of members by simple majority of the members present or represented. These officers cannot simultaneously hold other functions within the Executive. They are eligible for re-election once only, with the exception of the initial President and Vice-Presidents who are re-eligible twice. The Secretary and Treasurer are elected by the Administrative Council by simple majority of the Council members present. There is no constraint on re-election to these offices and these two functions may be held simultaneously by a single person. The ordinary members of the Administrative Council are elected at the General Meeting by simple majority of the members present. All outgoing Council members are eligible for re-election without limit. Under Articles 18 and 20, at a General Meeting each Society member has one vote, and may also exercise proxy votes authorised in writing on behalf of other Society members, up to maximum of 3 proxy votes per member present. The term of office for elected Administrative Council members is normally 3 years. (The constitution Article 12 defines a year as the interval between two successive annual ordinary general meetings. However, Article 19 requires ordinary general meetings to be held only "at least once every two years". This means that elected office-holders will remain in office through at least one and possibly two ordinary general meetings, as will be determined by common sense.)

(c) The inaugural term of ESEE Council members expired on 31 December 1997. For the renewal of office holders, the rules provide for election of a President, one or two Vice-Presidents, and up to 10 ordinary members of the Administrative Council. The outgoing Administrative Council determined that nominations for office should be received in writing and in advance of the March 1998 Geneva ESEE conference. The following nominations have been received:

- For President: Sylvie FAUCHEUX
- For Vice-President (maximum of 2): Clive SPASH, Fritz HINTERBERGER
- For the Administrative Council (maximum of 10): Christian AZAR, Mario GIAMPIETRO, Kristin JAKOBSON, Sandrine SIMON, Anne Mette de VISSER.

Remark: The election of one President, 2 Vice-Presidents and 5 Council members (with Treasurer and Secretary to be appointed by the new Council), would leave open the possibility of electing in, say 1999, a second wave of 4 or 5 further Council members whose term of office will partially overlap with that of members elected in Geneva.

# Ecological Economic Teaching and Courses

## International Master and Doctoral Program in Ecological Economics and Environmental Management, Barcelona, Spain

The Universitat Autònoma (Barcelona) offers a master degree and a doctoral degree in Ecological Economics and environmental management. The master programme requires two years of courses and a master thesis. After the master degree, the students may write a doctoral dissertation to obtain a doctoral degree.

The courses will be given by professors of UAB and invited professors. The basic principles and applications of Ecological Economics will be presented. The main topics are the relationship between economics and thermodynamics, the co-evolutive paradigm, the incommensurability principle, the inter and intragenerational distributional issues, weak and strong sustainability, "natural capital" substitutability, environmental statistics, uncertainty, risk, post-normal science, and instruments of environmental policy (i.e. multicriteria evaluation, "contingent valuation", "green" accounting methods, integrated environmental assessment, environmental auditing, product life-cycle analysis, etc.).

This master and doctoral program has been planned for students with a good mathematical background, and having a degree in Environmental Sciences, Natural Sciences or Engineering, Economics or Geography. All students are expected to understand English and Spanish.

Applicants should send a curriculum vitae and official academic transcripts from institutions attended (undergraduate and graduate), an English level certificate (if it applies), two letters of recommendation, as well as a statement of 300-500 words explaining your motivation to study Ecological Economics. The application deadline is: June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1998. The semester will begin in October 1998.

Send your applications to:

J. Martinez-Alier or Giuseppe Munda, Departament d'Economia i Història Econòmica, Edifici B, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, 08193 Bellaterra (Barcelona), Spain, Fax: (343) 5812012, E-mail: iehe6@cc.uab.es

## MA Programs, Keele, United Kingdom

The Keele University offers the following four distinct MA programs on environmental issues:

- Environmental Law and Policy
- Environmental Economics and Policy
- The Politics of Sustainable Development
- Environmental Politics

The first three programs are all oriented towards policy issues, and all contain a range of compulsory components necessary to give students a broad perspective on environmental issues. The MA in Environmental Politics is oriented towards both theoretical and policy issues. All four MA programs require students to complete six taught modules and a dissertation, and all last one whole academic year for full time students. Part-time study is also available. Keele is a recognised centre for social science research into environmental issues, and all of the MA programs are supported by staff who are experts in their various fields.

*For further details of any of these MA programmes, please contact:* Postgraduate Admissions, Department of Academic Affairs, Keele University, Staffordshire ST5 5BG, UK, Tel.: ++ 44 1782 584002, Fax: ++ 44 1782 632343

## Contacts

### Call for expressions of interest aimed at establishing a list of experts in the field of evaluation

The list will be divided into four sublots as follows:

- Carrying out of interim and/or ex-post evaluation of Community programmes and other activities (pilot projects, subsidies, awareness and information campaigns, networks, etc.);
- Carrying out of works relating to the development and ex-ante evaluation of an activity, including feasibility studies, requirement analyses and, where applicable, the organisation of participative workshops and assistance and advisory services to explain the programme's motivation;
- Carrying out of other works relating to evaluation activities, including: a feasibility study of an evaluation; methodological research and assistance and advisory services for the preparation of an assessment; primary data collection for evaluation; summarising the results of several evaluation studies.
- Preparation and organisation of training seminars, preparation of didactic material and the drawing up of general or specific guidelines in the field of evaluation.

For further information, please see the OJ. An official reply form may be obtained from:

European Commission, DG XIX – Budgets, Brigitte Devereux, Unit XIX/02 (JECL 6/40), 200 rue de la Loi, B-1049 Brussels, Fax: 0032 2 2953145, E-mail: brigitte.devereux@dg19.cec.be

### Contacts wanted in the field of sustainable management of groundwater for irrigation

An Indian professor of Agricultural Economics is working for some months in a lab in France (until October 1998). His research topic pertains to Groundwater Institutions for Sustainable and Equitable Resource Use. He wants to carry out a comparative study on groundwater institutions (for irrigation) in India, France (and other European countries), USA. The key issue is: how to meet farmers' demand for groundwater, while discouraging the overdraft in a way that is sustainable, economically, efficient, equitable and politically feasible? If you have written papers on this subject or if you are carrying out research on this topic, please exchange ideas and papers with him.

His address: Dr N. Nagarraj, INRA-ESR, BP 01, 78850 GRIGNON, FRANCE, Tel: ++ 33 1 30 81 53 63; Fax: ++ 33 1 30 81 59 12; E-mail: genepi11@grignon.inra.fr

# Diverse Publications



**Working paper: "Prevention through Process Policy and Product Policy - A Study of European and German Environmental Policy", by: Siebenhuener, B., Antes, R., Zabel, H.-U.**

The paper starts with a theoretical analysis of prevention and its implications for environmental policy to develop some criteria for evaluating European and German environmental policy. Major European regulations are examined, as well as the most important German environmental policy instruments.

The paper can be ordered from: Bernd Siebenhuener, Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg Institute for Business Administration - Environmental Management, D-06099 Halle, Germany, Tel.: ++ 49 345 55-23464, Fax: ++ 49 345 55-27199, E-mail: shuener@wiwi.uni-halle.de

**Journal: "Environment and Development Economics", edited by: Charles Perrings, University of New York**

This journal, firmly positioned at the intersection of economics, environment and development, publishes original papers addressed equally to the research and to the policy communities, and is designed to be accessible to a broad readership. The editor and associate editors are supported by distinguished panels of advisors from around the world, who together ensure that the journal is a major forum for key research conducted in low-income countries as well as elsewhere, and for the work of young scholars. The journal is divided into two main sections, Theory and Applications and Policy Options, and also includes book reviews and review essays. Articles include research on theoretical and applied aspects of sustainable development, on the valuation of environmental resources in low-income countries, on the "greening" of national income accounts, on the environmental implications of institutional change, and on specific issues such as biodiversity loss.

Subscriptions to the quarterly published journal (1998-Vol. 3): £84 for institutions, £44 for individuals, **£35 for members of ESEE**, £22 for individuals from low-income countries. The prices include delivery by air.

For subscription contact: Journals Marketing Department, Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building,

Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge, CB2 2RU, UK, Tel.: ++ 44 0 1223 325806 Fax: ++ 44 0 1223 315052, E-mail: journals\_marketing@cup.cam.ac.uk, website: <http://www.cup.cam.ac.uk>.

**"Implications of Ecological Economics to Regional Economics", edited by: Jörg Köhn and John Gowdy**

This book, published in the series "Rostocker Beiträge zur Regional- und Strukturforchung", aims at an integration of ideas developed in Ecological Economics and Regional Economics. The basic idea is that the implantation of sustainable development should start at a local level, whereas the assembled papers (some of which are written in German) "bridge the gap between the theory and practice of sustainability". Contributing authors are: Jörg Köhn, Fred Luks, Faye Duchin, John Gowdy, Sabine O'Hara, Raimund Schwendner, Mario Giampetro, Danilo Pelletiere, Fritz Hinterberger, Maria Jola Welfens and Liane Möller.

The book can be ordered at Rostock University, Tel.: ++ 49 381 498 2980, Fax: ++ 49 381 498 2977

## **NEW BOOK PROPOSAL - CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The Economics of Ecological & Environmental Toxicology: European Experience, by C. Spash and S. McNally (editors)**

This book aims to use European case studies to analyse economic issues relating to pollution with special attention on the economic valuation and management of pollution impacts. Several papers have already been accepted but we wish to expand the contents and would be interested in original unpublished work addressing the topic. Papers should provide a link from natural science through to economic analysis with policy implications, but with the concentration on the socio-economics. We would also consider comparative studies reviewing United States or Australasian experience. Papers should be in English and of good quality for consideration and peer review. Send suitable completed manuscripts only to: Dr. Clive Spash, Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge, 19 Silver Street, Cambridge CB3 9EP, UK.

## Job offer

### *Post doc and PhD in the Netherlands*

The Faculty of Philosophy of Science, Technology and Society (FWT) of the University of Twente in Enschede and Maastricht Economic Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (MERIT) of Maastricht University in the Netherlands jointly offer 3 research positions in the project *Technological Regime Shifts to Environmental Sustainability*. The project is part of a larger project on *Environmental Policy, Economic Reform and Endogenous Technology: A Dynamic Policy Analysis*. The project will analyse possible paths of more sustainable development in electricity generation and transport, and how public policy affects these paths. The research positions are for two postdoc researchers and one PhD student. The postdoc positions are for a minimum of 19 months, and the PhD studentship is for 3 years. ■

# Forthcoming Events

## Conference on "Le sfida della Ecologia Politica nel XXI Secolo", Rome, Italy, February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 1998

The Review *Ecologia Politica-Cns* and the *Principia di Roma* invite to a conference on Ecological Politics for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

For further information contact:

by E-mail: [workshop@comunicanda.it](mailto:workshop@comunicanda.it) or see the website <http://www.comunicanda.it/webforum/ecopol>

## Conference on "Eco-Efficiency: a modern feature of Environmental Technology", Düsseldorf, Germany, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1998

For further information contact:

Herwig Bertelmann or Kerstin Kluth, Wuppertal Institut, Tel.: ++ 49 202 2492 192, Fax: ++ 49 202 2492 108, E-mail: [eco-efficiency@wupperinst.org](mailto:eco-efficiency@wupperinst.org), or consult the following website: <http://www.envitec.de/conference>.

## Fourth Annual International Sustainable Development Research Conference, Leeds, UK, April 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>, 1998

For further details contact:

Elaine White, Conference Co-ordinator, ERP Environment, PO Box 75, Shipley, West Yorkshire, BD17 6EZ (Tel.: 01274 530408, Fax: 01274 530409)

## Workshop on Participatory Natural Resource Management in Developing Countries, Mansfield College, Oxford, UK, April 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 1998

For further information contact:

Roger Jeffery, Centre for South Asian Studies, c/o Department of Sociology, University of Edinburgh, 18 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh EH8 9LN, Tel.: ++ 44 (0)131 650 3992 or 3976, Fax: ++ 44 131 (0)650 3989 or 6637, E-mail: [R.Jeffery@ed.ac.uk](mailto:R.Jeffery@ed.ac.uk)

## Workshop on "Promoting individual and collective action in real-world social dilemmas", University of Southampton, UK, April 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>, 1998

For further information contact:

Dr. Mark van Vugt, Southampton, Tel.: ++ 44 1703 594601, E-mail: [Vugt@psy.soton.ac.uk](mailto:Vugt@psy.soton.ac.uk) Or: Dr. Anders Biel, University of Goteborg, Tel.: ++ 46 31 7731659, E-mail: [Anders.Biel@psy.gu.se](mailto:Anders.Biel@psy.gu.se)

## Conference on Innovative Options in the field of Nuclear Fission Energy, Centre de Physique des Houches, France, April 27<sup>th</sup> - May 1<sup>st</sup> 1998

For further information contact:

Prof J.P. Schapira, Institut de Physique Nucléaire, IPN, 91406 Orsay cedex, France  
Tel : (33)-1 69 15 51 97  
Fax : (33) 1 69 15 64 70  
E-mail : [schapira@ipno.in2p3.fr](mailto:schapira@ipno.in2p3.fr)

## International Workshop "Advances in Energy Studies : Energy Flows in Ecology and Economy", Porto Venere La Spezia, Italy, May 27<sup>th</sup> - 31 1998

For further information contact:

Sergio Ulgiati, Department of Chemistry, University of Siena, Siena, Italy  
Tel : (39)-577 280 405

## Forum: Environmental Degradation. Is there a Role for (Ecological) Economics ?, Uppsala, Sweden, June 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> 1998

For further information contact:

Professor Andrew K. Dragun  
Division of Resource and Environmental Economics

Box 7013 - 750 07 Uppsala, Sweden

Tel : 46 18 671751

Fax : 46 18 673502

E-mail : [Andrew.Dragun@ekon.slu.se](mailto:Andrew.Dragun@ekon.slu.se)

## World Congress of Environment and Resource Economists, Venice, Italy, June 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> 1998

For further information contact:

Congress Organisation Inc, 1998 World Congress, Cannaregio 4133, 30100 Venezia, Italy

Fax : ++39.41.5212705

E-mail : [susan.venice@popmail.iol.it](mailto:susan.venice@popmail.iol.it)

## UFZ-International Summerschool, Leipzig, Germany, June 29<sup>th</sup> - July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1998

For further information contact:

Irene Ring, UFZ-Centre for Environmental Research, OEKUS, PO Box 2, D-04301 Leipzig, Germany, Tel.: ++ 49 341 235 2480, Fax:

++ 49 341 235 2511, E-mail: [ring@alok.ufz.de](mailto:ring@alok.ufz.de)

## Conference on "Environmental Management in States with Coastal Problems - Through Research, Education and Leadership Towards Sustainable Development", Riga, Latvia, July 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>, 1998

For further information contact:

University of Latvia, Riga, Fax: 371 7820113

## 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference on Socio-Economics, "Challenges for the future: structural changes and transformations in contemporary societies", Vienna, Austria, July 13<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>, 1998

For further information contact:

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, PO Box 39008, Baltimore MD 21212, Tel. / Fax: ++ 1 410 377 7965, E-mail: [saseorg@aol.com](mailto:saseorg@aol.com)

## Conference on Environmental Engineering and Management, Barcelona, Spain, September 30<sup>th</sup> - October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1998

For further information contact:

Liz Kerr, ENVMAN 98, Wessex Institute of Technology Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst, Southampton SO40 7AA, UK.

Tel: 44 (0) 1703 293223 Fax: 44 (0) 1703 292853

E-mail: [liz@wessex.ac.uk](mailto:liz@wessex.ac.uk)

## International Meeting on Georgescu-Roegen, Strasbourg, France, November 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> 1998

Call for papers: Proposals should cover in particular the following topics:

1. Epistemology/Methodology
2. Environment/Energy/ Development
3. Utility and Uncertainty
4. Production and Growth Models

Paper proposals (2-3 pages in French or in English) to be sent to the following address before March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1998:

Georgescu-Roegen Meeting,

Bureau d'Economie Théorique et Appliquée 38, boulevard d'Anvers, 67000 Strasbourg - France

Co-ordinator : Eric FRIES GUGGENHEIM,

Phone : 33 (0)3.88.41.52.27 / FAX : 33 (0)3.88.61.37.66

e-mail : [GR.meeting@cournot.u-strasbg.fr](mailto:GR.meeting@cournot.u-strasbg.fr)

<http://cournot.u-strasbg.fr/beta/ldb/ldb97.htm>

# Forthcoming Events

## **ISEE Conference on "Beyond Growth: Policies and Institutions for Sustainability", Santiago, Chile, November 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>, 1998**

The International Society for Ecological Economics holds its Fifth Biennial International Conference, on the theme of "pathways toward sustainability". Topics for proposed papers are widespread, reaching from environmental indicators, over ecological - economic modelling, globalisation and environmental fairness, to political ecology and cultural identity. The deadline for abstracts is March 27<sup>th</sup>.

For further information see the conference website:  
[www.uchile.cl/facultades/isee3.html](http://www.uchile.cl/facultades/isee3.html), mail to:  
[iseecon@abello.dic.uchile.cl](mailto:iseecon@abello.dic.uchile.cl).

## **Conference on Geostatistics for Environmental Applications, Valencia, Spain, November 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>, 1998**

For further information contact:  
by E-mail: [geoENV98@dihma.upv.es](mailto:geoENV98@dihma.upv.es) □

## **Second International Conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics 4th and 7th March 1998 at the University of Geneva on**

### **ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS AND DEVELOPMENT**

#### **CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

The response to the Call for Papers has been much greater than anticipated. Not less than 205 Abstracts have been proposed for the Parallel Paper Sessions by authors living in 32 countries. (In comparison, there were 125 paper presentations at the inaugural Conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics in France in May 1996). All these Abstracts have been reviewed by two members of the Scientific Advisory Committee in order to assess whether they deal with the themes and topics of the Conference and to ensure there is no evidence of discrimination.

#### **Extended Timetable of the Conference**

Owing to the interest in this Conference the Programme has been extended. The Conference will now begin on the afternoon of Wednesday 4th March and continue until about 12.30 on Saturday 7th March 1998.

#### **Conference Venue**

The Conference venue will now be the UNI Bastions Building of the University of Geneva. It is located in the Bastions Park, built in the 19th century after the demolition of the fortifications around the mediaeval city. This venue is within walking distance of many hotels and readily accessible by bus and tram.

#### **Display of Scientific Publications**

Arrangements are being finalised with at least seven major Publishers to display books and journals that consider the theme and topics of this Conference.

#### **Conference Registration and Hotel Bookings**

This Conference is open to all not only members of the European Society for Ecological Economics. All Registration Forms and a Hotel Bookings are being handled by: KUONI CONGRESS, 7 rue de Berne, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland, Tel: + 41-22-9081811, Fax: + 41-22-9081835, E-mail: [CONGRESS.GENEVA@KUONI.CH](mailto:CONGRESS.GENEVA@KUONI.CH)

The registration desk, all plenary sessions and parallel paper sessions will take place at UNI BASTIONS, the main building of the University accessible from Place de l'Université 3, and the Park Bastions. All the sessions will be held in rooms of the first floor of that building.

For updated information about this Conference Programme consult the World Wide Web page: <http://ecolu-info.unige.ch>





**Wednesday March 4, 1998**

16.00-19.00 p.m. Registration  
Display of Scientific Publications  
18.00-19.00 p.m. Welcome Drinks

**Thursday March 5, 1998**

8.00 a.m. onwards Late Registrations  
8:45-9.00 a.m. Welcome  
Prof. Sylvie FAUCHEUX, *President ESEE*  
Prof. Beat BURGENMEIER, Dean, *Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences, University of Geneva*  
9.00-9.45 a.m. Keynote Speech:  
Prof. Richard NORGAARD, *University of California, Berkeley*  
The Future of Ecological Economics: A European Perspective  
9:45-10.15 a.m. Refreshments  
10.15-11.45 a.m. Parallel Paper Sessions I  
11.50a.m.-12.40 p.m. Keynote Speech: Dr. Mario GIAMPIETRO, *National Institute of Nutrition, Rome, Italy*  
Challenging the Conventional View of Demographic Transition : The Biophysical Link Between Population, Natural Resources and Material Standard of Living  
12.40 - 2.00 p.m. Lunch  
2:00-3.30 p.m. Parallel Paper Sessions II  
3:30-4.00 p.m. Refreshments  
4.00-5.30 p.m. Parallel Paper Sessions III  
5:40-6:25 p.m. Keynote Speech:  
Professor Theodore PANAYOTOU, *Harvard University*  
The Economic Significance of Sustainable Development  
6.30-7.15p.m. Forum : Innovative Research Initiatives  
7.15 p.m. Reception

**Friday March 6, 1998**

9.00 - 9.45 a.m. Keynote Speech:  
Prof. Ignacy SACHS, *Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris*  
Negotiated and Contractual Management of Biodiversity  
9.45-10.15 a.m. Refreshments  
10.15-11.45 a.m. Parallel Paper Sessions IV  
11.45 a.m.-12.30p.m. Keynote Speech:  
Ambassador Thorvald STOLTENBERG, *President of European Consultative Forum on the Environment and Sustainable Development*  
Building Bridges for Sustainable Development  
12.35-1.45p.m. Lunch  
1:45-3:15p.m. Parallel Paper Sessions V  
3.15-3.45 p.m. Refreshments  
3:45-5.15 p.m. Parallel Paper Sessions VI  
5.15-6.30 p.m. Keynote Speech: Prof. John PROOPS, *Keele University, England*  
Whose World is it Anyway ? Grappling with North-South Environmental Issues  
6.30-7.30 p.m. Ordinary General Meeting of the European Society for Ecological Economics  
Free Evening

**Saturday March 7, 1998**

9.00-9.40 a.m. Keynote Speech: Dr. Friedrich Hinterberger, *Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy*  
Competitiveness, Employment and the Environment: Integrated Policies from an International Perspective  
9.40-10.00 a.m. Refreshments  
10.00-11.00 a.m. Parallel Paper Sessions VII  
11:00 - 12.30 a.m. Plenary Session: Summary and Conclusions  
Roundtable: Is Ecological Economics sustainable?  
Chaired by Sylvie FAUCHEUX, *President of ESEE*  
with  
Joan MARTINEZ ALIER, *Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain*  
Carl FOLKE, *Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden*  
Silvio FUNTOWICZ, *Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, Varese, Italy*  
Martin O'CONNOR, *University at Versailles, France*  
Jan OPSCHOOR, *Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands*  
Clive SPASH, *University of Cambridge, England*