



# International Federation For Systems Research

## NEWSLETTER

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Prof. Dr. h. c. and Mrs. Francis de Paula Hanika

### Prof. Dr. h. c. FRANCIS DE PAULA HANIKA †

In the night from January 1 to 2, while asleep, the long-term vicepresident of the Austrian Society for Cybernetic Studies, member of the Board of the International Federation for Systems Research, associate editor of *Cybernetics and Systems: An International Journal*, editor of the IFSR-Newsletter and editor of the International Cybernetics Newsletter, Professor F. de P. Hanika, died in his new apartment in Bad Gams, Austria. Professor Hanika was 84 years old.

My cooperation and friendship with Paul Hanika started in 1971. One day, when I was sitting in the (then) only room of the just recently established Austrian Society for Cybernetic Studies, I received a call from a man who told me that he had just passed by from Khartoum and would like to meet me. Puzzled that the knowledge about our society had already spread so far, I invited him to come right to our office.

He told me that he had just retired from the chair of management science of the University of Khartoum and, though his wife was Scottish, they had fallen in love with a nice place in Styria and they were planning to buy some land and build a house where to spend the rest of their life. Most of the rest – because he felt fully active and wanted to help us wherever we could need him.

If we could! We had considered to arrange some kind of a conference of cyberneticians and systems researchers in Austria, both in order to exchange ideas and to spread the "cybernetic seed" in Austria. But we had no

experience how to do it. Paul had. Though it was very late, a few months only before the date we had envisioned, he drafted the program, invited chairmen, looked for contributors, and gave a name to the conference: Since we hoped that at least some scientists would come from outside of Austria, "European" wouldn't be too wrong. And since we were not sure if more than 30 people would come, "Meeting" would suit anyway. Thus, in 1972, the first "European Meeting on Cybernetics and Systems Research" took place, with about 150 participants, coming from more than 20 countries, also outside Europe. From then on, the Meetings took place biennially, thanks to the initiative and the efforts of Paul Hanika. And we decided not to change the name, e.g. to "International Congress" though the meetings had really become international.

It took some time until we learned more from Paul about his life. And it was a really unusual one! Born in 1880 in St. Pölten, about 60 kilometers west of Vienna, he was educated in a Jesuit school in Czechoslovakia, he worked in an international timber business company with centers in London, Hamburg, and Vienna. He worked his way up to senior management level, and in 1931 formed his own company, Continental Hardwoods Ltd. 1939 ended this timber business, but soon thereafter he started his second career as production manager of Aetna Steelworks in Sheffield, and added the Diploma in Metallurgy to his accomplishments.

In 1950, the Royal Technical College of Glasgow decided to build up a management school: Paul Hanika seemed to be their right man to join the foundation team. Thus, at the age of 50, Paul Hanika started his third



career, staying at Glasgow for 11 years and becoming the Warden of the Residential Centre for Management Studies.

In 1961, at an age where other people only think about their retirement, Paul Hanika again switched his position: He accepted the invitation of Cambridge University to help establish postgraduate studies at its newly founded Churchill College. He was elected a senior member of Churchill College as Lector and Tutor, and awarded the degree of Master of Arts.

And again: When Paul Hanika was 64 years old, he accepted an invitation to go to the Sudan and build the Department of Management Science for the University in Khartoum. Seven years later, B.Sc. and M.Sc. courses were flourishing and a staff of 15 Sudanese was capable to run the department.

So Paul Hanika, at the age of 71, could start his next, and as we now know, last career. He not only initiated and ran the European Meetings, he also established the International Cybernetics Newsletter which became part of Cybernetics and Systems: An International Journal, the official organ of the Society, published by Hemisphere in Washington, DC. Eventually, 26 honorary scientific correspondents from 18 countries all over the world provided him in his "Gams office" with scientific news. More than that: When in 1980 the International Federation for Systems Research accepted the invitation of the Austrian government to take its seat in Austria, Paul Hanika founded its Newsletter which was sent, 3 times a year, to 4000 scientists.

Paul Hanika was not only teaching management and practising it, he was also a pioneering thinker in management science. He was one of the first to realise the importance of cybernetics and systems analysis for management: He not only launched the first full-time systems analysis course for managers, his book "New Thinking in Management" established a benchmark in what is now called management cybernetics, being translated into seven languages and published in 3 editions in English. While his intellectual and international stature was honored by the Austrian Federal President who decorated him in 1980 with the Cross of Honour for Science and Arts, First Class, the City University of London awarded him in 1981 with the Degree of Doctor of Science Honoris Causa for his scientific contributions.

Paul Hanika and his second wife, Alyson, were the ideal partners. When Alyson Hanika died unexpectedly in 1982, we were afraid that he might lose his initiative to continue his work. Due to the care of a lady from Bad Gams, Mrs. Imma Bodirsky, he soon gained his high spirit and continued to work. It was about Christmas, after he had moved to another apartment, that I talked both with him and her about the finalisation of the IFSR Newsletter and the galleys for the next ICNL. He was full of initiative and planned to start with the preparation of the next ICNL on January 2, after New Years Eve.

Not only the Austrian Society for Cybernetic Studies and the International Federation for Systems Research have lost with Professor Hanika one of their most efficient officers, the scientific world has lost him one of the founders of the cooperation of cybernetics, systems science, management science, and operations research. And many of us have lost one of their dearest friends. Paul, we will miss you.

Vienna, January 1985

Robert Trappl

## LIST OF MEMBERS OF IFSR

The following organizations are members of IFSR:

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The Society of Management Science and Applied Cybernetics (SMSAC)

Secretary: A. Ghosal, O. R. Unit, C.S.I.R. Complex, N.P.L. Campus, New Delhi - 110 012 India



# BASIC AND APPLIED GENERAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH A BIBLIOGRAPHY 1977-1984

R. Trappl, W. Horn, G. J. Klir

In May 1977 George J. Klir and Gary Rogers compiled a bibliography on 'Basic and Applied General Systems Research'. This bibliography is still available from the IFSR at Hofstrasse 1, A-2361 Laxenburg, Austria at the price of US-\$12.00 including postage.

To continue this work, the International Federation for Systems Research (IFSR) has collected material on this topic from the year 1977 onwards. 1944 items have been processed. The result is presented in a bibliography which totals 354 pages.

This bibliography consists of four parts:

1. Statistical information:

- 1.1 A list of journals covered, together with the number of papers in this bibliography from each journal.
- 1.2 A list of publishers of the books, followed by the number of entries in this bibliography.
- 1.3 A list of institutions and the number of papers and reports from these institutions.
- 1.4 The number of items of each type of publication. 'Collection' denotes an edited book containing a collection of papers. The bibliography contains all entries of the General Systems Depository of the IFSR, i.e., unpublished papers, which are available from the IFSR. These papers are labelled with the type 'IFSR-Depository'.
- 1.5 The number of items for each year of publication.

2. An Author Index, listing for each author the titles and the reference numbers in the bibliographical list of all the items of which she/he is one of the authors (first author or coauthor).
3. A KWIC-Index, containing a listing of the title of each item, ordered by the keywords in the title. Additionally, the name of the first author and the reference number in the bibliographical list is given.
4. The Bibliographical List, ordered by the name of the first author and the year of publication. It gives the complete bibliographical information of each item. If the language of the reference is not English, an English translation of the title is given and the language is denoted in brackets. Papers and reports available from the General Systems Depository of the IFSR are marked by 'IFSR-Depository'.

This project was supported by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Science and Research.

This report, the bibliography, is now available from Hemisphere Publishing Corporation, Washington, DC, as a special issue of "Cybernetics and Systems: An International Journal".

IFSR arranged a drastic reduction of its price for members of its member organizations.

To: Hemisphere Publishing Corporation  
1010 Vermont Ave., NW  
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# **Eighth European Meeting on Cybernetics and Systems Research**

**April 1-4, 1986  
University of Vienna**

A number of Symposia will be arranged and we are grateful to colleagues who have undertaken the task of preparing these events. As on the earlier occasions, the EMCSR 86 will open and close with Plenary Sessions, to be addressed by eminent speakers of international reputation.

## **SYMPOSIA:**

- A General Systems Methodology  
G. J. Klir, USA
- B Cross-Disciplinary and Empirical Refinement of Isomorphies  
L. Troncale, USA
- C Designing and Systems  
W. Gasparski, Poland
- D Humanity, Architecture, and Conceptualisation  
G. Pask, UK
- E Cybernetics in Biology and Medicine  
G. Porenta, Austria, and L. M. Ricciardi, Italy
- F Cybernetics of Socio-Economic Systems  
G. Balkus, USA, and O. Ladanyi, Austria
- G Computers in Health Care  
W. Buchstaller and J. Retti, Austria
- H Fuzzy Sets - Meeting of the EURO Working Group  
C. Carlsson, Finland
- I Systems Engineering for Design Automation  
K. Kellermayr and F. Pichler, Austria
- J Communication, Computers, and Networking  
D. W. Davis, UK, and E. Neuhold, Austria
- K Methodological Improvements and New Applications of Expert Systems  
W. Horn, Austria, and C. A. Kulikowski, USA
- L Knowledge Based Natural Language Processing  
R. Brachman, USA, and H. Trost, Austria

## **TUTORIALS:**

We plan to organize two half-day tutorials, one on Cybernetics, the other one on Artificial Intelligence.

**SUBMISSION OF PAPERS:** Acceptance of contributions will be determined on the basis of *Draft Final Papers*. These papers must not exceed 7 single-spaced A4 pages, in English. They have to contain the final text to be submitted, however, graphs and pictures need not be of reproducible quality.

The Draft Final Paper must carry the title, author(s) name(s), and affiliation in this order. Please specify the symposium in which you would like to present your paper. Each scientist shall submit only one paper.

Please send 3 copies of the Draft Final Paper to the Conference Secretariat (*not* to symposia chairmen!).

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:** October 1, 1985.

## **SPECIAL CONFERENCE:**

### **FUTURE AND IMPACTS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

This Conference will be held in conjunction with the Eighth European Meeting on Cybernetics and Systems Research. It is a sequel to a meeting held in Laxenburg, Austria, on the same topic. Among its participants were Margaret Boden, Ron Brachman, Stefano Cerri, Nils Nilsson, Peter Raulefs, Tibor Vamos; its proceedings "Impacts of Artificial Intelligence: Scientific, Technological, Military, Economic, Societal, Cultural, and Political", ed. by R. Trappl, Amsterdam and New York: North-Holland, 1985, will form the basis of this Conference.

The aim of this Conference is to help determine and assess future developments and impacts of AI in order to avoid potential damage and to encourage socially helpful and economically useful AI research and applications. It is addressed to

- the concerned AI researcher,
- the decision-maker in private companies, governments, and funding institutions, and
- everybody who wants to know more about the potential risks and benefits of AI for her/his life.

This Special Conference will consist of presentations by invited speakers, notably leading AI researchers, contributed papers, panels, and general discussions.

Registration for this Conference is done by registering for the Eighth European Meeting. The conference fee covers both Meetings. We intend to separately publish the Proceedings of the Special Conference which shall also include highlights from the discussions.

These Proceedings can be ordered at the Conference.

Colleagues who wish to contribute a paper are asked to follow the same rules as given for the Eighth European Meeting.

The Special Conference *Future and Impacts of Artificial Intelligence* is supported by the *International Federation for Systems Research* (IFSR).

## **ORGANIZER:**

Austrian Society for Cybernetic Studies  
Schottengasse 3  
A-1010 Vienna, AUSTRIA

Just announced:

## **APPLIED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL**

This journal is not only addressed to AI researchers but also to all other scientists interested in the possibilities and limitations of present AI-systems, demonstrated by state-of-the-art applications.

The first issue will appear in January, 1986.

IFSR has successfully negotiated to obtain a large reduction of the subscription rate for members of its member organizations.

For more information (subscription rates, information for authors, conditions for advertising):

Hemisphere Publishing Corporation  
79 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016

Please refer to this announcement.