



Newsletter

*Official Newsletter of the
International Federation for Systems Research*

Editor-in-Chief: Gerhard Chroust

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*General Assembly of the International Academy of Systems and Cybernetic Sciences
Chengdu, China, Oct. 2010*

Dear Members!

The most important event during the 2nd half of 2010 was the first public appearance of the International Academy of Systems and Cybernetic Sciences (IASCYS) after its official foundation at the Board Meeting of the IFSR in April 2010. This was highlighted by the first General Assembly in Chengdu, China, parallel to a conference on issues relevant to the IASCYS. Special thanks go to our Chinese hosts at the university of Chengdu for organizing this event.

This has triggered a second achievement: After several years we again have more than one IFSR Newsletter per year and I hope to be able to keep up with this ambitious target.

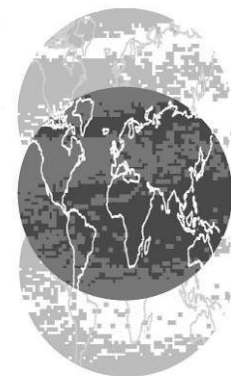
We also have the first French language report in the Newsletter; so that English is not our only language of communication.

Please accept my very best Season's Greetings and all the best wishes for a Successful New Year.

With my best wishes

Yours sincerely

Gerhard Chroust



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Note: this is version 1.1: a few minor typographical error of version 1.0 have been corrected



IFSR President's Message

I am honored to be introducing this edition of our newsletter as the latest President of the IFSR. Having been a vice president and member of the Executive Committee, I recognize both the work and the responsibility which comes with this role. I am grateful for the support and work of my colleagues on the Executive Committee: Vice Presidents Kyoichi (Jim) Kijima, Amanda Gregory, and Leonie Solomons, and Secretary General, Gerhard Chroust, without whom the federation would simply not function.

This year saw a number of changes for the Federation. For the first time, the bi-annual Conversation (traditionally, the Fuschl Conversation) was held in a location other than Fuschl Am See. There are many important things about history and tradition. They provide grounding and a sense of continuity, and even security. There are dangers, though, in tradition for its own sake. The serenity of Fuschl Am See had not changed. The facilities which we were using, though, had for some years. With much regret it was decided that we should try a new location, in a renovated monastery, at Kloster Pernegg.

The new location brought both advantages and disadvantages. The quality and outcomes from the Conversation itself, though, did not suffer at all, due to the focus and diligence of those who participated. Plans for the 2012 Conversation are already beginning, with a new location in Linz, Austria. Details are still subject to discussion and member input.

Also new this year was the unveiling of the International Academy of Systems and Cybernetic Sciences (IASCYS, or the Academy). This is the result of an effort begun in 2003 by Matjaz Mulej, working with Jifa GU who was IFSR President at that time. Assisting Matjaz as President of the Academy, and GU as Vice President, are Ranulph Glanville, Vice President, and Pierre Bricage as Secretary General.

The inaugural members of the Academy were honored at its opening event, held at Sichuan University in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, People's Republic of China. We owe many thanks to Jifa GU and to Sichuan University for their work and support in bringing that conference to reality – and also to the faculty and students who put in many, many hours of effort, and could not have been more gracious hosts. We look forward to the future growth and work of the Academy, and to many more nominations of new academicians from you, our member organizations.

Our greatest challenge as a federation is probably our sense of connection to each other. Web sites and digital means of communication of all kinds don't, by themselves, create anything. They have generally caused more demands of immediacy on our time and attention, which tend to distract us from longer-term considerations. What brings most of us together is that different way of seeing the world – that different way of understanding – which is rarely shared by the world at-large. For that, we need each other. And for that, the world needs us. I ask for your cooperation in supporting each other as we move ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Metcalf', is positioned in the lower right area of the page.

Gary Metcalf, President, IFSR 2010



International Academy of Systems and Cybernetic Sciences (IASCYS)



On April 7, 2010 the General Assembly of the IFSR approved the founding of the International Academy of Systems and Cybernetic Sciences (IASCYS) together with the necessary documents like statutes, criteria for membership and the initial Executive Committee. It is a body of activity of the International Federation for Systems Research (IFSR).

Two IFSR Board Meetings - particularly the IFSR Board Meeting on 26 March 2008 in Vienna, Austria-, several sessions of the IASCYS Executive Committee (EC) (mostly by e-mail), and intensive discussions with many members of IFSR member associations around the world, and finally the deliberations of the first General Assembly at Chengdu, China, in October 2010 helped to formulate

- the statutes of the Academy
- the acceptance criteria for Academicians
- the ethical point of views of the Academicians

Aims

IASCYS is aimed to honor and activate outstanding **members of IFSR member-associations**. While the traditional disciplines of science focus on their selected parts of the given reality of life and consider them from their more or less narrowly selected viewpoints, **the systems and cybernetics theories and practices deal with a world-view of holism**. Thus we tend to help humans to use requisite holism and attain the requisite wholeness and thus to cover the left-aside empty spaces between the spaces covered by individual (and not co-operating) traditional sciences. Systems theories and cybernetics, in both theory and application, attain this mostly, although not in all applications of systemic and cybernetic principles, by enabling interdisciplinary creative cooperation leading to insight into synergies and mastering of the processes and attributes of the given reality of life that the traditional sciences fail to cover. Thus, the otherwise resulting oversights tend to be replaced by new insights. This effort and its success tend to help humans as individuals, their organizations of any kind, and the entire humankind to attain more or even requisite holism of behavior, made of monitoring,

perception, thinking, emotional and spiritual life, decision making, communication, and action, and therefore to attain more success and well being.

Nobody can apply for membership in IASCYS as an individual, but every member association of IFSR, can suggest candidates in an official letter supplying all official data on the candidate's scientific and professional achievement in accordance with the criteria of the IASCYS. Data about IASCYS academicians shall be published on the IFSR web-site.

Motivations

IASCYS fills in the gap resulting from the failure of national and international academies of sciences and arts or learned societies (as British name this kind of organizations) **to include systems and cybernetic sciences** in their list of sciences and arts supposed to have their outstanding professionals included in academy membership. This situation makes systems and cybernetic sciences second class, although their contributions are enormous and backing many achievements in other sciences and **real life practices**.

The major reasons to establish IASCYS are the following ones:

- To build a new **bridge among the IFSR member associations** (37 by Feb. 2010);
- To know the pool of the most qualified **scientists and practitioners** in the field covered by IFSR and its member associations, **in order to invite special speakers to conferences**;
- To make one more step toward recognition of systems and cybernetics as a science equal to the other sciences;
- To help the most distinguished members of the systems-and-cybernetics community receive recognition in this community and elsewhere, while most national academies of sciences and arts are rather closed to them, because they do not belong to the traditional sciences;
- To make the link between IFSR and its member associations with distinguished scientists and

practitioners of systems and cybernetics strong and sustained.

Intentions

In order to honor the most distinguished S&C professionals and simultaneously to promote the systems thinking world view of holism, each year during a ceremonial assembly, could take place the delivery of the Bertalanffy/Wiener medal of the Academy.

The 2 first major missions of the IASCYS are, through the co-ordination of the actions of the IFSR member associations

- to create a basis of an internationally accepted frame-work curriculum in systemics and cybernetics,

- to create an auditing process aimed at validation and promotion of education in systemics and cybernetics.

The officers of the IASCYS EC (the Executive Committee) are:

- Matjaz MULEJ- IASCYS President
 - Jifa GU - IASCYS Vice-president
 - Ranulph GLANVILLE - IASCYS Vice-president
- Pierre BRICAGE – Secretary General and main contact point (bricagepierre@gmail.com)
More details can be found on the homepage of the IFSR (<http://ifsr.ocg.at/world/node/68>).



IASCYS Academicians

Status October 27, 2010

1. Mary Catherine BATESON (America) Cultural Anthropologist, Cybernetics
2. Ockert J. H. BOSCH(Australia) Quantitative Ecology & Vegetation Management
3. Pierre BRICAGE (France) Biologist, Health & Social Systems Engineering **Secretary General**
4. Pille BUNNELL(Canada) Systems Ecologist
5. Guangya CHEN(China) Operations Research & Systems Engineering
6. Gerhard CHROUST(Austria) Systems Engineering & Automation
7. Charles FRANCOIS(Belgium) Cybernetics, Systems Theory & Systems Science
8. Ranulph GLANVILLE(Britain) Cybernetics & Design **Vice-President**
9. Jifa GU(China) Systems Engineering **Vice-President**
10. Enrique HERRSCHER(Argentina) Economist & Systems Scientist
11. Wolfgang HOFKIRCHNER(Austria) Information Science, Internet & Society
12. Michael C. JACKSON(Britain) Management System, System Scientist
13. Louis H. KAUFFMAN(America) Mathematician, Cybernetics
14. Kyoichi J. KIJIMA(Japan) Decision Theory
15. Humberto MATURANA(Chile) Neuroscience & Second Order Cybernetics
16. Matjaz MULEJ (Slovenia) Systems Science **President**
17. Yoshiteru NAKAMORI(Japan) Systems & Knowledge Science
18. Laurence D. RICHARDS(America) Operations Research & Engineering Management
19. Bernard SCOTT(Britain) Educational Psychologist & Cybernetician
20. Stuart UMPLEBY(America) Systems & cybernetics
21. Robert VALLEE(France) Cybernetician & Mathematician
22. Ernst von GLASERSFELD(Austria) Philosopher & Cybernetician
23. Shouyang WANG(China) Operations Research & Systems Engineering
24. Andrzej P. WIERZBICKI(Poland) Decision Theory & Knowledge Science



Appointment of candidates to the IASCYS

Procedure for the appointment of academicians (status October 28, 2010)

Step 1: A potential candidate for the IASCYS must be a member of an IFSR member association. The application must be submitted by the member association together with the candidate's credentials and the required documents and a summary according to the criteria for membership.

Step 2: The IFSR member association double-checks the data before submitting. Data are to be transmitted on line.

Step 3: The IFSR member association submits the approved candidacy to the IASCYS's Secretary General.

Step 4: The IASCYS's Secretary General will, after checking, submit the candidacy to the IASCYS's Executive Committee for voting. Voting is done in writing within two weeks, if a face-to-face session is not possible. Traditional text and e-mail apply equally.

Step 5: If the voting is positive (by a simple majority with the decisive vote by the President, if necessary), the IASCYS's Secretary General submits the approved candidacy to the IFSR's Secretary General to submit to the IFSR Executive Committee for final approval.

Step 6: Once the IASCYS's Secretary General is notified of the approval of a candidacy, he or she notifies in writing the IFSR member association and the new IASCYS's academician that the candidate has been appointed.

Step 7: Certificates of appointment of IASCYS academicians are handed out on the next feasible official meeting of either the IASCYS, or the IFSR, or an IFSR member association, or by mail (if this way is agreed upon by the new IASCYS academician).



General Assembly 2010 of the IASCYS

A travel report of the pilgrimage of the Academicians of the first General Assembly of the IASCYS (Oct. 24-27, 2010) through the province of Sichuan (China).

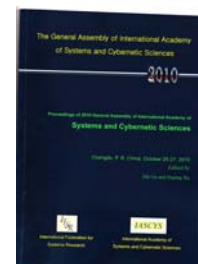
The General Assembly took place Chengdu, Sichuan, China and was accompanied by a conference on issues of systems and cybernetics.

The town of Chengdu, Sichuan, China, was established in 316 B.C., on the Jin Jang River.

Chengdu's and Sichuan's names mean respectively "the perfect city" and "the four rivers"

At Chengdu, all the members of the IASCYS, with the President of the IFSR, were individually welcomed at the airport by our Chinese organizing friends. A troop of nice student girls in management had been guiding us culturally each minute throughout the whole stay.

On Sunday, a journey was organized, for the early present people, on the site of the biggest Buddha in the world: **the Great Buddha of Leshan**. The departure was early in the morning. The Chinese are morning people and the route was very long. First, there was a stop with a great tribute to **the Sichuan cooking of fishes** at midday. Then, during the afternoon, it was the climbing of the magnificent site in the confluence of the Dadu and Min rivers where, sculptured in the rock, the Buddha's statue is elevated, but in the mist. A lot of Chinese



people are going there from every part of the Popular Republic of China and from anywhere else. In the evening we had a new degustation of **the Sichuan cooking of tofu** and soya under all its forms and in all kind of sauces! But, as body pleasure comes after mind pleasure, it was only after the visit of **the Museum of the ebony**. There, sculptured giant fossilized wood pieces -a fantastic painstaking but brilliant job- tell the history of the Chinese people. This whole pleasant day was supported by the bank of China of Sichuan which was a great sponsor of our scientific meeting.

During the Chengdu Conference at the University of Sichuan, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the days were dedicated for half to the scientific international workshops and for half to the rough debates between the present academicians at the general assembly.

Proceedings of the conference have been published by the Sichuan University, China.



Fortunately, during the spare time and in the evening, we were pleasantly submerged by very friendly activities into Chengdu:

- visit on foot of the main avenues leading to **the big place of the People** at night,
- visits on foot of **the Jin Lin Street** both at night and in the daytime,
- visit of **the Dufu Thatched Cottage Museum and Garden** (Du Fu was a great poet of the Tang Dynasty),
- visit of **the Museum of the University of Sichuan** where are kept the exceptional relicts (and which are usually not shown) of the ancient

Chinese culture of Shu, and a lot of pieces of the Sichuan Chinese traditional arts of which we were gently authorized to exceptionally take *exceptional* pictures.

And, last but not least, a great evening in a common Chinese restaurant with our very kind Chinese companions. We were also on visit one half-day in **the Zoo-Park-Museum of preservation-research-reproduction of the huge Pandas**, who are great eaters too. But, the press only had eyes for the parade of the international Beauty Queens who were there in a show.



After the scientific international culture and the gastronomic Sichuanese culture ("*Un esprit sain dans un corps sain.*"), Thursday was dedicated to the Chinese historic culture, with a visit at **the tremendous site of Sanxingdui with its sumptuous Museum**: "a door half-opened on the exceptional civilization, but mysteriously suddenly disappeared, from a Chinese Kingdom of more than 4000 years ago". With its bronze artifacts and its mysterious royal gold masks and a lot of extraordinary hyper-technical objects (more than 6000 found), the only visit that you must not miss when you come in China!



Friday was dedicated to the symbolic culture, with a visit of **the sculptures of the site of Dazhu**. That exceptional place ("*the hill of the precious summit*") of the Buddhism and the Taoism (which soaked the Chinese soul) is registered on the UNESCO world heritage list. Before arriving, another "*pantagruelic*" meal was offered to us by **the district of Chongqing**, with a stop in an exceptional hotel.

We must thank very warmly our hosts, in particular our academician colleagues **Professors Gu and Xu**. Thanks to the University of Sichuan and to the Municipalities of Chengdu and Chongqing: they have implemented all the possible actions to satisfy us, gastronomically, culturally, scientifically and humanely. All this was regrettably

always too quick, doubtless to be sure that we will have the very strong urge to come back to China! And during the whole stay at Chengdu we were hosted in an idyllic place, the respectable and internationally famous Jing Jang Hotel. They could not do better. Everything was at its best. It was an unforgettable trip! Especially since during all these routes (of which the durations were very long, as China is not at all a small country!), we had long and fruitful working discussions - in English, German, Chinese and in French- about "requisite variety" and about the Academy and the IFSR.

"Zhongguo hen dà! "XièXie"

Further pictures can be found on

<http://ifsr.ocg.at/world/files/IASCYS-General-Assembly-and%20Conference-2010.pdf> and

<http://gallery.me.com/ranulph/100010>



Proceedings of ISSS 2010 (July 18-23, 2010)

The International Society for the Systems Sciences held its 54th Meeting on July 18 – 23, 2010 in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. Full papers submitted for this congress can be found on <http://journals.iss.org/index.php/proceedings54th/issue/view/10>

For a rather personal report see also

<http://www.valdes.titech.ac.jp/~kk-lab/cat35/report-of-the-54th-meeting-of.html>



Workshop on Disaster Prevention and Recovery - Systemic Challenges

ISSS 2011 (July 17-22, 2011) 0th April 15, 2010 -

Following the very successful Pre-Conference Workshop of ISSS 2010 Congress in Waterloo, Canada ('Modeling Support for Disaster Prevention and Recovery Systemic Challenges for First Responders') a further workshop is planned for the ISSS Conference 2011 in Hull, UK, July 17-22, 2011 in cooperation with the Austrian Society for Cybernetic Studies (OSGK). The basic direction of the workshop is given by

<http://ercim-news.ercim.eu/en81/special/training-for-cbrn-emergencies> and by four papers presented at ISSS 2010 (see <http://journals.iss.org/index.php/proceedings54th/issue/view/10>):

- no 1352: Aceves, F.J., M. Valdes , J. Alvarado *The A H1N1 Influenza Pandemic: A Systemic Analysis of its Genesis, Evolution, and Socio-Economic, Cultural and Health Consequences*
- no 1353: Aceves, F.J., J. Audefroy , J. Alvarado *The 2010 Earthquakes in Haiti and Chile. A Comparative Systemic Analysis*
- no. 1367: Chroust, G., K. Rainer, N. Sturm, M. Roth , P. Ziehesberger *Improving Resilience of Critical Human Systems in CBRN-Emergencies: Challenges for First Responders*
- no 1350: Reissberg, A. C. *A Cybernetic Approach to Hurricane Hazard Management on O'ahu, Hawaii*

For further information please contact Gerhard Chroust (gerhard.chroust@jku.at)



15th IFSR Conversation 2010: Pernegg, April 2010

Information on the 15th IFSR Conversation 2010 in Pernegg, (April 10 - April 15, 2010) can be found in the IFSR Newsletter vol. 27, Nr. 1 (see http://ifsr.ocg.at/world/files/NL27_1.pdf.)

In the meantime the Proceedings of the IFSR Conversation are also available on the IFSR Web Site. Go to the IFSR Website (<http://ifsr.ocg.at/>) and look under "Proceedings of the IFSR Convers."



16th IFSR Conversation 2012: St. Magdalena April 14 to 19, 2012.

Based on the considerable success of the 2010 Conversation in Pernegg, the EC of the IFSR has decided to continue with the bi-annual conversations. After considering other possibilities it has been decided to hold the Conversation 'Bildungsheim St. Magdalena' (***) on the outskirts of Linz, Austria. As a result of personal experience Gerhard knows that this provides better facilities than Pernegg and is certainly preferable to the Fuschl location. For details of the location look at www.bz-magdalena.at (at the moment unfortunately only in German. We expect to announce a first Call-for-Topics-and-Participation early 2011. Watch the IFSR and the IFSR homepage.



Cybernetics of Cybernetics—a Competition

A reminder

The American Society for Cybernetics reminds all interested parties of our Cybernetics of Cybernetics competition (open to all, prize fund up to US\$ 1500), to propose cybernetic ways in which a society for cybernetics might be organised and behave. This follows a suggestion from Margaret Mead, the founding mother of cybernetics summarised below. Submissions should be received by noon, GMT, on 31 January 2011. Full details can be found at <http://www.asc-cybernetics.org/CofC/>. We welcome your interest and your suggestions! The submission date is 31 January 2011.

In 1967, Margaret Mead, one of the original attendees at the Josiah Macy Jr. conferences and the founding mother of cybernetics, presented a paper (published in 1968) called "Cybernetics of Cybernetics" to the American Society for Cybernetics (ASC). Following on from a suggestion by Gregory Bateson, at the end of her address Mead proposed that the ASC should consider itself as a cybernetic body, and apply cybernetic insights and techniques to its own organisation and operation.

Although Mead proposed a number of specific questions the ASC could ask about how it might be run (see full quote here), her suggestion received little attention. Rather, the title of her paper (given to her by Heinz von Foerster) became used more generally in the application of cybernetics to cybernetics, or second order cybernetics.

The "Cybernetics of Cybernetics" paper thus leaves two legacies. The ASC has come to recognise the need to take up Mead's original challenge and address the conflict that occurs when a cybernetic society is not run according to cybernetic principles. The ASC can be seen as convention-bound in its operation, which is particularly odd for a cybernetic society.

The ASC (and no doubt other societies) needs ideas and renewal, and we are looking to competition entries for inspiration and direction developed from cybernetic principles. As the established home of second order cybernetics, these cybernetic principles should reflect, preferably, second as well as first order cybernetics.



GESI: Argentine Association of Systems and Cybernetics

SYSTEMIC ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA

Lectures offered and institutional meetings

At the USAL (Universidad del Salvador) and at the UTN (Universidad Tecnológica Nacional) F.R.Buenos Aires lectures were offered by members of GESI and other professionals interested in different subjects, considered and applied from the systemic approach.

Participation at international meetings

- Reunion internacional sobre complejidad, Universidad de La Habana, Enero 6-8, 2010 (Participation of Enrique Herrscher) <http://www.complejidadhabana.com/>
- EMCSR Meeting in Vienna University and at the IFSR Conversation at Pernegg, Austria, April 10-15, 2010 (Participation of E. Herrscher and S. Herrera (member of FundAringenio, S. del Estero)) <http://www.osgk.ac.at/emcsr/> and [http://ifsr.ocg.at/world/files/\\$10g\\$Pernegg-2010-proc.pdf](http://ifsr.ocg.at/world/files/$10g$Pernegg-2010-proc.pdf)
- II Encuentro Internacional Academico en Ingenieria de Sistemas, Universidad Nacional del Centro, Huancayo, Perú, Mayo 25. (Contributions of Ernesto Grün and Charles François)
The group of students participating at the Meeting received orientation and advice for the

study of systemic concepts and practice from Prof. E. Grün and Charles François's didactic material. Answers to questions sent by the students, about several systemic themes, were also provided.

- ISSS 54th ANNUAL MEETING. Waterloo, Canada, July 23-28, 2010 (Participation of R. Barrera and collaborators (ALAS and CEDES)), http://iss.org/world/Waterloo_2010
- Meeting of alas members, 2010 (Asociación Latinoamericana de Sistemica). Foz de Iguazú, Brasil, Octubre 28-29, 2010, within the 6to. CONGRESO BRASILEIRO DE SISTEMAS (Contributions of R. Barrera (CEDES y ALAS) R.Porebski and A.Vichi (GESI) and members of FundAringenio (Santiago del Estero)) <http://cbs2010.unioeste.br>
- ELAPDIS (Escuela Latinoamericana de Pensamiento y Diseño Sistémicos) Ibagué, Colombia, December 2-7, 2010. (Contributions of E. Grün, A. Martino, Ch. François) http://www.unibague.edu.co/sitios/elapdis/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=91:elapdis-2010&catid=52:noticias



AFSCET: Association française de science des systemes

Assemblée Générale du 25 novembre 2010

(Rapport par le Secrétaire Général Valérie Gacogne)

1. Composition du nouveau bureau

Le CA est composé de 20 membres. Le CA a procédé à l'élection du nouveau bureau le 26 janvier, conformément aux statuts de l'association :

Président : François Dubois

Trésorier : Jean-François Vautier Secrétaire Général : Valérie Gacogne

4 vice-présidents : Danièle Bourcier, Gérard Donnadieu, Esther Dubois, Stéphane Grès

Un Secrétaire général adjoint en charge de Res-systemica : Pierre Bricage

Nous rappelons par ailleurs que Robert Vallée et Emmanuel Nunez sont Présidents d'honneur

2. Activité des groupes de travail

-Le groupe *Modélisation des systèmes complexes* AFSCET/CNAM, animé par François Dubois, continue de se réunir très régulièrement au CNAM le lundi, généralement de 14h30 à 16h, et a invité de nombreux intervenants parmi lesquels Jacques Lorigny, Laurent Vergnon, Michel Gondran, Pierre Marchais, Laurent Nottale, Evelyne Gayou, Christian Schmidt ;

-L'*Afscet-café « savoir dire ce que l'on sait faire »*, animé par Stéphane Grès, demeure toujours très actif, en accueillant de nombreux intervenants dans un cadre informel, généralement le mardi soir à partir de 19h au Royal Jussieu (1 Rue des Ecoles, Paris 5^e) tous les mois ;

-Un nouveau groupe *Terminologie*, animé par Eric Beaussart, a été créé à la suite de la dernière AG. Une dizaine de réunions ont déjà eu lieu, elles se tiennent généralement un mercredi par mois à partir de 18h à la brasserie Le Falstaff à Bastille. L'objet de chaque séance consiste à réfléchir sur un mot, choisi préalablement, et sur son emploi par les systémiciens (réfléchir à quelle acception est la plus proche du "Concept" évoqué pour eux)

-Le groupe de travail intitulé *Un nouveau métier : le savoir relier*, qui devait être lancé cette année par Esther Dubois, est actuellement en suspens ;

-Un nouveau groupe de travail *Dynamique des Systèmes* est en phase de création, il sera animé par Valérie Gacogne à l'AFSCET et plusieurs autres spécialistes de la Dynamique des Systèmes avec qui il est mis en place. Son mode de fonctionnement reste à définir, il sera dans tous les cas ouvert à tous ceux qui sont intéressés par la systémique (sans être pour autant spécialiste de la Dynamique des Systèmes), et à toute personne francophone (il ne donc pas limité à la France).

3. Journées d'Andé des 15 et 16 mai 2010

Ces journées ont eu pour thème « Vers une nouvelle systémique ? ». Une place particulière a été accordée cette année aux jeunes. Trois d'entre eux ont été choisis par le CA, tous en cours de thèse ou ayant récemment soutenu leur thèse de doctorat. Leurs frais ont été intégralement remboursés (hébergement et déplacement, soit un peu plus de 100 euros par personne).

Session 1 : systémique et développement durable (*Valérie Renault, Anne Muller*)

Session 2: systémique et niveaux d'organisation 1 (*Henri Ollagnon, Pierre Bricage, Louis Baslé*)

Session 3: systémique et niveaux d'organisation 2 (*Julien Broquet, Emmanuel Nunez*)

Ces journées ont réuni une trentaine de participants et l'invitation de jeunes doctorants a été très bien accueillie par l'ensemble des participants, concourant ainsi à redynamiser l'association.

4. Res-systemica

Numéro spécial :l'Anneau des disciplines

L'épouse de Francis Bailly, disparu il y a deux ans, a proposé au CA de l'AFSCET de reprendre le numéro de la Revue Internationale de Systémique qui avait été éditée sous le titre « l'anneau des disciplines » en 1991 (Dunod), en y ajoutant des compléments et modifications importantes, rédigés en 1992 et 1993, mais qui n'avaient jamais été publiés. Un numéro spécial de la revue électronique Res-systemica (volume 8) a pu ainsi être publié en hommage à Francis Bailly en reprenant ses travaux exceptionnels.

Numéro spécial à paraître issu des travaux du groupe *Systèmes symboliques*

Le groupe *Systèmes symboliques* organisé par Jacques Lorigny et Gérard Donnadiou s'est achevé comme convenu au cours de l'année 2009 (il avait été lancé en 2007). Un numéro spécial de Res-systemica sera entièrement consacré à l'ensemble de ces interventions qui ont couvert un grand nombre de thèmes sur les systèmes symboliques.

Avenir de la revue électronique européenne Res-systemica

L'AFSCET a joué un rôle très actif dans Res-systemica bien qu'il s'agisse d'une revue européenne dépendant théoriquement de l'UES (Union Européenne de Systémique), Evelyne Endreowsky s'en est occupée pendant plusieurs années, et Pierre Bricage en est actuellement le *managing editor*.

L'ensemble du CA de l'AFSCET a convenu qu'il fallait faire évoluer cette revue électronique et a proposé de formuler un certain nombre de propositions suite à celles qu'Andrée Piecq, actuelle présidente de l'UES, a également formulé lors de sa venue à la réunion de CA au mois d'octobre dernier. Danielle Bourcier a accepté d'être responsable pour l'AFSCET de ces échanges avec Andrée Piecq sur l'avenir de la revue.

5. Préparation du 8^{ème} Congrès de l'UES

Le 8ème congrès de l'UES est programmé du 20 au 22 octobre 2011 en Belgique, à l'Institut de Sociologie de l'Université Libre de Bruxelles ; une soirée inaugurale aura lieu le 19 octobre. Le thème retenu est le suivant : "Approche systémique de la diversité : Du savoir à la pratique - De la pratique au savoir". Il est organisé par la société belge de systémique S&O, dont Andrée Piecq est présidente, elle est également l'actuelle présidente de l'UES. Elle a été reçue par le CA de l'AFSCET au mois d'octobre notamment dans le cadre de la préparation de ce congrès.

6. Actions diverses

Election de Robert Vallée et Pierre Bricage à l'IASCYS : Robert Vallée et Pierre Bricage ont été élus au sein de la nouvelle académie IASCYS (International Academy of Systems and Cybernetic Sciences) qui dépend de l'IFSR (International Federation for Systems Research ; fédération mondiale basée à Vienne). Tous deux ont été élus, cette académie ne comptera pas plus de 30 membres.

Nouvelle édition du « Que sais-je » La systémique par Daniel Durand: La nouvelle édition du « Que sais-je » sur la *Systémique* écrite par Daniel Durand est parue cette année.



BCSSS: Diaries of Maria von Bertalanffy saved for posterity

Maria von Bertalanffy, the wife of Ludwig von Bertalanffy, kept a diary on all her private life with Ludwig since they left Austria (1948) until his death (1972) and beyond that. Obviously you will find in there important dates about the professional life of Ludwig. Each year sees one diary with an entry for each day of the year written in German. There are only three days she refused to make an entry. All of these diaries were recently donated to the Bertalanffy Center for the Study of Systems

Science (BCSSS) in Vienna by the widow of Ludwig's son Felix, Gisèle. They were handed over by Michel Saint-Germain, Professor emeritus of the University of Ottawa. They are now located together with the rest of Bertalanffy's legacy in the Department of Theoretical Biology at the University of Vienna (which belongs to the follow-up institute of the Institute of Zoology Bertalanffy worked with during the World War II). They are open to research.



International Federation For Systems Research

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