San Diego State University

AIS Conference 2010 October 7-10: Preliminary Report, 2 years out

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Integrating Ethics and Sustainability

I. Conference Planning Team

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Conference Chair, Stuart Henry, Director, School of Public Affairs, SDSU

Mike Kalichman, Division of Neuropathology in the Department of Pathology and Director of the UC San Diego Research Ethics Program and Center for Ethics in Science and Technology

Larry Hinman is Director of the Values Institute and Professor of Philosophy at the University of San Diego, where he has been teaching since 1975. He is co-founder with Dr. Kalichman of the Center for Ethics in Science and Technology

Diane Ballard, Administrative Assistant, Research Ethics Program, UC San Diego and Center for Ethics in Science and Technology

Dena Plemmons, Lecturer Anthropology and Research Ethics, School of Public Health SDSU and UCSD

Chris Frost, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies, SDSU

Geoff Chase, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, SDSU

Stacey L. Sinclair, Ph.D. Director, SDSU Honors Program “Honors Without Borders”

Kim Collins, Director of the Institute for Border Economic and Policy Development at San Diego State’s Imperial Valley Campus

Carl Winston, Director of Hospitality and Tourism Management, SDSU

Cecilia Gutierrez Administrative Coordinator, School of Public Affairs, SDSU

Nancy Flitcraft Administrative Support, School of Public Affairs, SDSU

Julie O’Connor, Secretarial Support

Aurora Velasco, Technical Support

Students (to be recruited Fall 2009), including students from SDSU’s hotel and tourism program who will do their internship in conference planning for the AIS conference
II. Conference Planning Subcommittees

Subcommittees will be formed in October 2008 following the AIS meeting, although some preliminary members of the Conference Planning Team have been assigned below.

Design

Design and produce all conference materials, including call for proposals, conference program, promotional materials, and signage during conference

- Stuart Henry
- Julie O’Connor
- Diane Ballard

Entertainment events

Arrange receptions for Thursday and Friday and UIS events on Thursday night and Saturday night.

- Cecilia Gutierrez
- Nancy Flitcraft
- Student Interns from Hotel and Tourism

Exhibit

Arrange for books, journals, and other interdisciplinary materials to be displayed. Set up exhibit table at conference.

- Nancy Flitcraft
- Julie O’Connor

Food

Work with hotel and Peggy Johnson’s staff to select food for receptions, breakfasts, lunches, and dinner. Track special dietary requests.

- Stuart Henry

Outings

Plan Saturday afternoon and evening activities. Schedule guides. Signs and logistics at conference (with Design).

- Larry Hinman
- Mike Kalichman
- Karl Winston
• Student Interns from Hotel and Tourism Program

**Program**


• Stuart Henry  
• Chris Frost  
• Stacey Sinclair  
• Larry Hindman  
• Mike Kalichman

**Publicity**

Identify associations, programs, people, listservs, and websites through which to advertise conference announcement. Send announcement.

**Registration**

Process registrations. Compile information packets and name tags. Staff the registration table and information table at the conference.

• Cecilia Gutierrez  
• Nancy Flitcraft  
• Julie O’Conner  
• Student Interns from Hotel and Tourism

**Speakers**

Identify and schedule speakers and pre-conference workshops. Submit proposals for grants to Illinois Humanities Council, UIS Speakers Fund, and others.

• Members of the Ethics Center: Henry, Kalichman and Hinman  
• SDSU Undergraduate Studies/Honors: Chris Frost and Stacey Sinclair

**Technology**

Design and maintain website. Set up on-line registration. Arrange A/V equipment. Provide technology support at the conference.

• Cecilia Gutierrez  
• Diane Ballard  
• Aurora Velasco
III. Dates

Thursday October 7 to Sunday October 10, 2010 (includes Wednesday October 6 for Board).

IV. Overall Theme

The theme: “Interdisciplinary Approaches to Integrating Ethics and Sustainability” came out of discussions with the principal groups interested in participating/sponsoring the conference: The Center for Ethics in Science and Technology, the School of Public Affairs at San Diego State University and the Division of Undergraduate Studies/Honors Without Borders Program. Kenneth E. Boulding is recognized as a leading systems theorists focusing on economics and the environment.

As we have become increasingly aware of the need to conserve the world’s resources attention has become focused on the core concept of “sustainability.” Sustainability refers to the infinite maintenance of resources, systems; serving present needs without compromising future needs. Sustainability has emerged not simply referring to material resources such as (environment, atmosphere/air, land, water/oceans, energy) but also to the ways educational and academic institutions can be adapted to provide a more collaborative and supportive role to enable sustainability. A good example is in Mining Studies where what began as sustainable development for mining and mining communities, expanded to include “how sustainability should be integrated in a functional manner into our academic culture for educational and research development” (Coster and Scoble, 2003). This involved incorporating social, political, economic and environmental issues into a holistic framework, and developing an interdisciplinary learning model of networking to serve educational and research needs. The aim was to develop a new kind of researcher/practitioner who would be “familiar with the scientific and engineering challenges but also able to contend with the complexities of ecological, economic, and social realities” (Coster and Scoble, 2003). Similar developments can be found in agriculture where the aim is to “help farmers, authorities and politicians to manage the agro-landscape towards sustainability and socio/cultural appreciation” through integrating values proposed by a range of participating disciplines into a consistent, coherent, comprehensive system of knowledge (Masveldt, 1997). Overall the approach addresses how to integrate sustainability in higher education curriculum.

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1 We also have San Diego University for Integrative Studies (SDUIS) in Old Town. It is a small, private university with a humanistic and integrative philosophy. They offer Certificate, Undergraduate Bachelor degree, Master degree and Doctor degree programs, mostly in psychology and I will be approaching them to see if they also want to be involved.
2 The Kenneth E. Boulding Award is given by AIS to leading scholars who have advanced interdisciplinary thinking.
Key concepts in sustainability:

- **Sustainable development** is balancing the fulfillment of human needs with the protection of the natural environment so that these needs can be met in the present without jeopardizing their availability in the future (Brundtland Commission, United Nations. 1987). Sustainable development involves "interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars" of sustainable development as economic development, social development, and environmental protection (World Health Organization, 2005).

- **Environmental sustainability** is “the process of making sure current processes of interaction with the environment are pursued with the idea of keeping the environment as pristine as naturally possible.”

- **Sustainability governance** is the process of decision implementation that puts sustainability measures into effect (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Board. 2003).

- **Sustainability science** is “defined by the problems it addresses rather than by the disciplines it employs; it serves the need for advancing both knowledge and action by creating a dynamic bridge between the two.” (Clark & Dickson, 2003; Komiyama & Takeuchi 2006; Clark, 2007). “Sustainability science attempts to understand the integrated “whole” of planetary and human systems. It requires cooperation between scientific, social and economic disciplines, public and private sectors, academia and government [and] a massive global cooperative effort . . .of cross-disciplinary coordination.”

- **Sustainability accounting** is “the variety of measurements used as a quantitative basis for the informed management of environmental, social and economic sustainability” (Lamberton, 2005; Schaltegger, Bennett & Burritt, 2006)

Key Questions on Ethics and Sustainability:

A central question is “What is education for sustainability?”

Why is interdisciplinary integration necessary to accomplish education for sustainability?

Can ethics education alone lead to sustainability and if so what kinds of ethics? Are all ethics approaches (e.g. utilitarian ethic, discursive ethic, and the ethic of care) of equal value (O’Hara, 1998)?

Is integrating ethics across the curriculum (EAC), enough for sustainability?

Is it enough to unify science and ethics in a 'scientific management' approach or do corporate interests distort “sustainable development” into economic privatization projects—rather than focusing on sustaining of the commons and living communities and how do we prevent such distortions (Schroyer, 2004)?
Are the environmental, social, and economic pillars of sustainability equal in their impact/relevance?

V. Possible Speakers

Al Gore
Ralph Nader
Naomi Oreskes is Provost and Professor of History and Science Studies at the University of California, San Diego’s Sixth College.3

VI. Tentative Schedule

Wednesday
5:00-8:00 Registration
2:00-6:00 Afternoon meeting of AIS Board
6:00-7:00 Reception Kona Kai Beach
7:00 Catered dinner at Kona Kai Hotel and Spa

Thursday
8:00-8:00 Registration
9:00-12:00 AIS Board Meeting (sponsored breakfast and lunch for AIS Board Members?)
9:00-12:00 Workshops
12:00-1:30 Lunch/Welcome to the Conference
1:30-2:45 Concurrent Sessions
2:45-3:15 Break
3:15-4:30 Concurrent Sessions
5:00-7:00 Reception Kona Kai Beach
Dinner Kona Kai Hotel and Spa
7:00-8:30 Book Conversation or Other Event

Friday
8:00-5:00 Registration
8:00-9:00 Continental Breakfast
9:00-10:15 Concurrent Sessions
10:15-10:45 Break
10:45-11:45 Concurrent Sessions
12:00-1:30 Keynote Lunch
1:45-3:00 Concurrent Sessions
3:00-3:30 Break

3 Science historian Naomi Oreskes’ work has played a critical role in establishing that there is a clear consensus about global warming among scientists. http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/newsrel/awards/02-08NaomiOreskes.asp

4 http://www.apbspeakers.com/speaker/joseph-stiglitz
3:30-5:00 Workshops
3:30-4:45 Concurrent Sessions
5:00-6:30 Reception Kona Kai Beach
6:30 Dinner Circles (at local restaurants) or dinner on your own

Saturday
8:00-5:00 Registration
8:00-9:00 Buffet Breakfast
9:00-10:15 Concurrent Sessions
10:15-10:30 Break
10:30-11:45 Concurrent Sessions
12:00-1:30 Keynote Lunch
1:45-3:00 Concurrent Sessions
3:00-5:00 Sightseeing excursions (San Diego Zoo; Sea World; Balboa Park Museums)
5:00-7:00 Dinner on your own
7:00 Enjoy San Diego

Sunday
8:00-9:00 Continental Breakfast
9:00-10:15 Concurrent Sessions
10:15-10:30 Break
10:30-11:45 Wrap-Up Session hosted by AIS Board Members

VII. Sources of Funding

Ethics Center Subvention $6,000
Undergraduate Studies, SDSU $1,000
School of Public Affairs, SDSU $ 750

VIII. Special Events

- Pre-conference Workshop at Rueben H. Fleet Science Center, Balboa Park?
- Museum of Natural History, Balboa Park hold major exhibits (recently Dead Sea Scrolls, Pompeii, Bodies)
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay on Shelter Island attracts national artists; last show is October 19 so this event should still be available.
- The Kona Kai Marina is located at the tip of Shelter Island in San Diego. Kona Kai Marina is the closest marina to Point Loma Inlet and the Pacific Ocean. It is located minutes from Downtown San Diego, Lindbergh Field, San Diego's International Airport.
- The Kona Kai Resort is just a very short drive from both Sea World and the San Diego Zoo. Within an hour's drive, you can spend the day at San Diego Wild Animal Park. Many other great places to visit include Cabrillo National Monument, Historic Old Town, Downtown including Gaslamp District, and Seaport Village, Balboa Park, Palomar Observatory and the Del Mar Race Track. Tijuana and Mexico is accessible on the Trolley some 40 minutes ride from downtown San Diego.
Conference Hotel Information

The Conference site for 2010 is the Kona Kai Resort and Spa on Shelter Island in San Diego, 1551 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92106. Kona Kai has 13,000 square feet of indoor space with 23,000 square feet of outdoor space encompassing courtyards and gardens, as well as a private beach. Phone (800) 566-2524 or (619) 221-8000. The hotel is very close to Lindberg Field Airport, San Diego’s International Airport. See: http://www.resortkonakai.com/

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<th>Kona Kai Hotel, Spa and Resort</th>
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<th>Included in Room Rate</th>
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| Rooms | • In-Room Coffee Brewers with Complimentary Coffee  
• In-Room Hair Dryers  
• In-Room Refrigerator  
• Safe Deposit Boxes  
• In-Room Iron & Ironing Board  
• Wireless High-Speed Internet Access  
• Voice Mail and Data Port  
• Premium Entertainment Channels, Pay-Per-View  
• Movies and Nintendo  
• AM/FM Clock Radio  
•Pets Allowed (25lbs and under; fees apply) |

| Airport and Transportation | The hotel is three miles from San Diego International Airport and just five miles from downtown. Complimentary Airport and Amtrak Station Transportation. Shuttle vans also available to take guests within a 3 mile radius based on availability. |
|---------------------------|
| Parking | Parking is available on property. $15.00 per day unlimited in/out provileges |
| Technology | SDSU will supply equipment at no cost |
| Meeting Room Fees | Meeting room rental is waived based on guest room block and meeting a food & beverage minimum of $15,000 |

| Ballroom | Point Loma Ballroom seats 1100 and divides into three sections (I, 320, II, 400, III 320). |
| Breakouts | Coronado seats 50; Point Loma 140; La Jolla 50; Del Mar 50 |
| Board Meeting | Bay Conference Room |
| Registration, Exhibition | Point Loma Foyer |
| Food, general | Food & Beverage tax is 7.75% and service charge is 18% |
| Breakfast | Point Loma II: Breakfast selections range from $16.25 –21.00 per person  
Breakfast Buffet ranges from $15.95-$26.95 per person |
| Lunch | Point Loma II: Chilled luncheons from $19.95-22.75 per person; luncheon buffets $28.75-36.75; Boxed lunches $19.95-21.50 |
| Dinner | Point Loma II: $42.40-65.50 per person; dinner buffets $54.25-56.75 per person; themed buffets $48.50-53.75 per person |
| Breaks | Marina View Terrace, Cabo Courtyard: Refreshment Breaks: $11.95-17.95 per person |
| Reception | Kona Beach: Special Receptions: $6.50-19.50 per person; reception displays: $3.25-6.50 per person; cold hors doeuvres $3.25-4.95 per piece |
| Walkable | Shelter Island Village, Kona Kai Marina, Pacific Rim Park. |
| Overflow Hotels | Island Palms Hotel, next door |
| Additional Amenities | Heated swimming pool and spa, full service fitness club (nominal fee), a sunning beach with volleyball courts on the sand, bicycle, volleyball & tennis court rentals (adjacent), jogging paths. Health Club with spa services, Massage Services and Fitness Center (professional massage therapists are fully certified and licensed. Techniques include Swedish, Circulatory, Deep Tissue, Oriental, Sports and Passive Joint Movement Massages) http://www.resortkonakai.com/spa_services.htm. |
| Key Contact | Peggy Johnson, Director of sales (619) 819-8142 pjohnson@resortkonakai.com |