

Sammelmail 2/11/2006

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- (1) Neue Homepage und zum Netzwerk im Allgemeinen
- (2) Konferenzankündigung des German Historical Institute in Washington, DC.
- (3) IIASA Young Scientists Summer Program 2007
- (4) 2007 Summer Academy (Munich Re Foundation) call for applications (PDF)

- (1) Neue Homepage und zum Netzwerk

Es hat eine Weile gedauert, aber nun ist die Homepage mit neuem Design online. Inhaltlich hat sich nicht so viel, aber doch einiges geändert, schaut sie Euch doch mal an. Jede Anregung zur (Um-)Gestaltung ist herzlich erwünscht. Wenn Ihr Hinweise oder Links auf der Homepage vermisst, teilt es uns bitte ebenfalls mit.

Das Netzwerk zählt mittlerweile 170 Mitglieder, das ist eine beachtliche Zahl! Damit gewinnen wir auch an Aufmerksamkeit. Bisher wird die Mailingliste kaum für inhaltliche Diskussionen genutzt. Dies sollte sich ändern, damit wir auch durch mehr oder weniger kluge Wortwechsel diesem Bedeutungszuwachs gerecht werden. Für inhaltliche, gerne auch provokative Beiträge kann und sollte die Mailingliste direkt genutzt werden. Wenn sich dann bestimmte Themen herauskristallisieren, die einer weiteren ausführlicheren Diskussion bedürfen, könnte die Diskussion auch in dem erneuerten Diskussionsforum fortgesetzt werden. Die Liste eignet sich aber auch für den Austausch von Literaturhinweisen, eine schnelle Umfrage, wer gerade zu einem ähnlichen Thema arbeitet usw.!

Im kommenden Jahr 2007 streben wir die Internationalisierung des Netzwerkes an. Das Ziel ist es, die deutsche Diskussion an die internationalen, zunächst freilich die englischsprachigen Debatten anzuschließen und einen intensiveren Austausch zu ermöglichen. Das bedeutet im ersten Schritt, die Außendarstellung des Netzwerkes zweisprachig aufzubauen. Dies geht dann endgültig nicht mehr ohne finanzielle Mittel, um deren Einwerbung wir uns weiterhin bemühen, wir bitten aber dafür abermals um Eure Unterstützung! Wer irgendeine Möglichkeit zur Finanzierung weiß (dies könnte von der Schaltung einer Anzeige auf der Homepage bis hin zur Finanzierung einer Stelle zur Pflege des Netzwerkes reichen), möge sich bitte an uns wenden.

Abschließend: Alle Sammelmails samt den Anhängen zu den Beiträgen werden nun zusätzlich stets auch auf die Homepage zum Download gestellt, falls es bei dem einen oder der anderen nicht mit dem Empfang klappen sollte.

Wir freuen uns weiterhin über Euer aktives Engagement!

Herzliche Grüße

Martin

- (2) Konferenzankündigung des German Historical Institute in Washington, DC.

Uncertain Environments: Natural Hazards, Risk, and Insurance in Historical Perspective

Conference at the German Historical Institute, Washington, DC
September 13-15, 2007

Conveners:

Uwe Luebken (German Historical Institute)
Christof Mauch (German Historical Institute)

In recent years, the history of natural catastrophes has become a flourishing area of research. The existing literature has focused on questions of perception, interpretation, coping strategies, and institutional change triggered by such events. Thus far, little attention has been paid to problems of uncertainty in the history of natural disasters. This is especially the case for the modern era, when the destructive potential of natural forces has reached new heights due to the steadily increasing entangling of the environment in the infrastructure of human activity. Therefore, this conference aims to take a closer look at the historical intersections of uncertainty, hazards, risk, and extreme natural events.

We are interested in different historical approaches to dealing with uncertain environments, ranging from individual and local attempts to national programs and transnational or even global undertakings. Especially interesting in this respect is the history of natural hazard insurance - both in a very practical sense and as an innovative way of spreading the risks of natural hazards over time and space.

Some of the questions to be explored are: How has risk been defined in the past and how have these concepts changed over time? When and how have natural hazards been transformed into risks (and maybe back again)? How have seemingly random "freak events" been incorporated into scientific discourses and thereby made "predictable"? How much chaos and unpredictability remained in these events? Furthermore, if - as many authors have pointed out - risk is manufactured by society, how is the access to risk management devices distributed along the lines of class, race, ethnicity, and gender?

Possible topics include, but are not limited to, the history of

- programs devoted to emergency planning by governmental and non-governmental organizations
- technological, material and built devices to avoid or soften the impact of an expected disaster like flood control works or building codes for earthquake-prone regions
- case studies of particularly exposed cities and landscapes
- legal programs developed to deal with natural hazards
- the importance of cultural factors in anticipating and preparing for disaster, such as concepts of trust and confidence on the one hand, and a certain "culture of risk", i.e. the (willing) acceptance of an uncertain and unstable environment, on the other
- the development of emergency financial reserves
- the history of natural hazard insurance schemes, such as flood, hail, earthquake, storm, or crop and livestock insurance, as well as the history of particular insurance and reinsurance companies
- the importance of statistics and probability theory in rationalizing nature

Please send a short proposal of no more than 300 words and a brief CV including a list of relevant publications to Bärbel Thomas at B.Thomas@ghi-dc.org (fax: 202-483-3430). The deadline for submission is March 1, 2007. Participants will be notified by mid-April at the latest.

The conference will be held in English and focus on the discussion of precirculated papers of about 7,000 to 8,000 words (due by August 15, 2007). The GHI will cover the cost for travel and accommodations of participants. Please send inquiries to Uwe Luebken (luebken@ghi-dc.org).

Baerbel Thomas
German Historical Institute
1607 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

USA
B.Thomas@ghi-dc.org
Fax: 202-483-3430

(3) IIASA Young Scientists Summer Program 2007

*Summer Fellowship in Austria for Graduate Students in Natural and Social Sciences, Math, Policy, and Engineering *

Each summer, the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) near Vienna, Austria, hosts a selected group of graduate students, primarily doctoral, from around the world in its Young Scientists Summer Program (YSSP). These students work closely with IIASA's senior scientists on projects within the Institute's 3 theme areas of Natural Resources & Environment, Population & Society, and Energy & Technology. The U.S. Committee for IIASA provides airfare and a modest living allowance for the applicants from American institutions who are selected to participate.

*APPLICATIONS DEADLINE: 15 JAN 2007 *

PROGRAM DATES: 4 JUNE-31 AUGUST 2007

WHAT IS IIASA AND WHAT ARE ITS PROGRAM AREAS?

IIASA is an international institution, supported by the U.S. and sixteen other governments, that engages in scientific research aimed at providing policy insight on issues of regional and global importance. Its suite of programs and initiatives in 2007 will include the following:

Energy and Technology

**

Energy

New Technologies**

Dynamic Systems* *

Integrated Modeling* *

Natural Resources and Environment

**

Land Use and Agriculture**

Forestry**

Evolution and Ecology**

Atmospheric Pollution* *

Greenhouse Gas Initiative

*Population and Society *

**

World Population* *

Risk and Vulnerability

International Negotiation

Population and Climate Change

Health and Global Change Initiative

Detailed information about each program is available on the IIASA

Website: [_http://www.iiasa.ac.at/_](http://www.iiasa.ac.at/)

*SHOULD YOU APPLY? *

You should consider applying if:

- * You are an advanced graduate student at a U.S. University;
- * Your field is compatible with ongoing research at IIASA;
- * Your research and career would profit from interactions with scientists from all over the world;
- * You would like to investigate the policy implications of your work.

*HOW DO YOU APPLY? *

Each applicant must submit the on-line application form, including 2 references and descriptions of research interests. The form begins at http://www.iiasa.ac.at/Admin/YSP/register/index.html?sb=10_

Questions? contact: Margaret Goud Collins, Program Director for the U.S. Committee for IIASA
National Academy of Sciences, W1010 500 5th St.NW Washington, D.C. 20001
Phone: (508)548-2502 Fax: (202) 334-2231 Email: [_ mcollins@nas.edu](mailto:mcollins@nas.edu)
<<mailto:mcollins@nas.edu>>_

(4) 2007 Summer Academy call for applications

Dear Colleagues,

Attached please find a call for applications for the 2007 Summer Academy on Social Vulnerability. This year's academy will focus on megacities. We kindly request you to circulate this announcement to qualified PhD candidates doing their dissertations on topics related to social vulnerability and megacities.

The 2007 Summer Academy is hosted by the Munich Re Foundation and the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security. More information can be found on our websites at www.ehs.unu.edu and www.munichre-foundation.org.

Thank you.

Dr. Koko Warner

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Sammelmail vom 03.11.2006

Inhalt dieser Mail:

- (1) Stellenausschreibungen DRK (Pakistan und Eastern Afrika)
- (2) Wittener Tagung zur Katastrophenforschung, Referent gesucht
- (3) IIASA YSSP 2007 Fellowshipprogramme
- (4) 4th International Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management Delft, the Netherlands
- (4a) ISCRAM 2007: Virtual Teams & Communities in Emergency Preparedness & Response
- (4b) ISCRAM 2007: CFP - Geographic Information Science and Crisis Management
- (5) CFP: 25th Standing Conference on Organizational Symbolism
- (6) CFP: 17th World Conference on Disaster Management

Liebe Leute,

die vergangene Woche brachte so einiges zusammen, was vielleicht für Einige von Euch von Interesse ist.

Viele Grüße

Martin

(1) Stellenausschreibungen DRK (Pakistan und Eastern Afrika)

Siehe Anhang oder [?Jobs](#)

(2)

Herr Dr. Frank Ahland, Vorsitzender des Vereins "Historikerinnen und Historiker vor Ort", einem vor allem in Nordrhein-Westfalen tätigen Verein von Stadthistorikern, von denen viele in kommunalen Archiven tätig sind, bat mich, die folgende Mail über das Netzwerk weiterzuleiten:

"Für Freitag, den 19. Januar 2007, bereiten wir eine wissenschaftliche Tagung vor, die sich mit dem Umgang mit industriellen Risiken vor Ort befasst. Anlass bietet eine Explosionskatastrophe in Witten 1906, die derzeit in einer Ausstellung des Westfälischen Industriemuseums dargestellt wird.

Für diese Tagung suchen wir Referentinnen und Referenten, die zu vergleichbaren Katastrophen vor allem in sozial- und kulturgeschichtlicher Weise geforscht haben. Reine Technikgeschichtsschreibung hingegen passt nicht in den Rahmen der Tagung.

Nach einem einführenden Vortrag, der voraussichtlich von einem Vertreter der Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin in Dortmund gehalten und sich mit Entwicklungslinien in der Risikowahrnehmung und -beurteilung befassen wird, planen wir 4 bis 5 Fallbeispiele. Neben der Katastrophe in Witten sollen die Beispiele Oppau 1921, Bitterfeld 1968 und Enschede 2000 behandelt werden.

Denkbare Facetten der Referate könnten sein:

- Verlauf und Phasen der Hilfsaktion
- Formen der kollektiven Traumatisierung
- individuelle und kollektive Formen der Verarbeitung
- Konsequenzen aus der Katastrophe
- Phasen der Erinnerung
- Instrumentalisierung der Erinnerung

Möglicherweise ist Ihnen jemand bekannt, der zu einem solchen Thema

geforscht hat, einen Diplomanden oder Doktoranden beispielsweise, es braucht auch kein Historiker zu sein. Uns geht es nicht um eine technikgeschichtliche Darstellung des Unglücks, sondern um den Umgang mit der Katastrophe, die Auswirkungen auf die lokale Gesellschaft. Vielleicht können Sie selbst zum Thema vortragen. Für einen Hinweis auf einen denkbaren Referenten wäre ich Ihnen außerordentlich dankbar. Gerne geben wir auch jüngeren Wissenschaftlern Gelegenheit, ihre Ergebnisse vorzustellen. Eine Publikationsmöglichkeit steht in Aussicht.

Wenn Sie mehr über die Tagung, den Verein und die Ausstellung erfahren möchten, empfehle ich Ihnen die folgenden Links:

- www.historiker-vor-ort.de
- www.zeche-nachtigall.de

Kontakt: Dr. Frank Ahland, office@frank-ahland.de

(4) IIASA YSSP 2007 Fellowshipprogramme

IIASA Young Scientists Summer Program 2007

*Summer Fellowship in Austria for Graduate Students in Natural and Social Sciences, Math, Policy, and Engineering *

Each summer, the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) near Vienna, Austria, hosts a selected group of graduate students, primarily doctoral, from around the world in its Young Scientists Summer Program (YSSP). These students work closely with IIASA's senior scientists on projects within the Institute's 3 theme areas of Natural Resources & Environment, Population & Society, and Energy & Technology. The U.S. Committee for IIASA provides airfare and a modest living allowance for the applicants from American institutions who are selected to participate.

*APPLICATIONS DEADLINE: 15 JAN 2007 *

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Energy and Technology

- * Energy
- * New Technologies**
- * Dynamic Systems* *
- * Integrated Modeling* *

Natural Resources and Environment

- * Land Use and Agriculture**
- * Forestry**
- * Evolution and Ecology**
- * Atmospheric Pollution* *
- * Greenhouse Gas Initiative

*Population and Society *

- * World Population* *
- * Risk and Vulnerability
- * International Negotiation
- * Population and Climate Change
- * Health and Global Change Initiative

Detailed information about each program is available on the IIASA Website: [_http://www.iiasa.ac.at/_](http://www.iiasa.ac.at/)

*SHOULD YOU APPLY? *

You should consider applying if:

- * You are an advanced graduate student at a U.S. University;
- * Your field is compatible with ongoing research at IIASA;
- * Your research and career would profit from interactions with scientists from all over the world;
- * You would like to investigate the policy implications of your work.

*HOW DO YOU APPLY? *

Each applicant must submit the on-line application form, including 2 references and descriptions of research interests. The form begins at [_http://www.iiasa.ac.at/Admin/YSP/register/index.html?sb=10_](http://www.iiasa.ac.at/Admin/YSP/register/index.html?sb=10)

Questions? contact: Margaret Goud Collins, Program Director for the U.S. Committee for IIASA

National Academy of Sciences, W1010 500 5th St.NW Washington, D.C. 20001
Phone: (508)548-2502 Fax: (202) 334-2231 Email: [_ mcollins@nas.edu_](mailto:mcollins@nas.edu)

(4) 4th International Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management Delft, the Netherlands

(4a) ISCRAM 2007: Virtual Teams & Communities in Emergency Preparedness & Response

ISCRAM 2007 Special Session Call for Papers

SESSION: Virtual Teams and Virtual Communities in Emergency Preparedness and Response (Session ID: 52VTC)

CHAIRS: Starr Roxanne Hiltz (hiltz@njit.edu) & Leysia Palen (palen@cs.colorado.edu)

The 4th International Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management Delft, the Netherlands, May 13-16 2007
<http://www.iscram.org>

Virtual or Distributed teams are a prevalent means of managing tasks, from software development to disaster response. Disaster response teams are often far-flung, and must collaborate and coordinate efforts across distance, which includes supporting response workers who are new to a geographical region.

Disaster response can benefit from deliberate, designed inclusion of technology for better, more efficient coordination across time, space, and organizational boundaries.

Virtual Forums or Communities: with the increasingly accessible Internet, online forums have allowed people to cross geographical boundaries that normally constrain the reach of crises to share information and coordinate citizen-led efforts, in addition to any official government and non-governmental websites.

For example, many citizen-created online sites sprang up in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, and FluWiki is currently a very active website for people interested in preparing for a possible avian flu epidemic.

Some non-exhaustive examples of topics that could contribute to this session are papers or practitioner reports or demos that address the following questions:

. What are the problems that occur when virtual or partially distributed teams need to coordinate to manage disaster response, and how can they be resolved?

. In regard to virtual communities or forums: What role could these sorts of forums have in future disaster preparation and response? How could their efforts be better facilitated? What socio-technical conditions should be in place to make them most beneficial?

. What possibilities are present for the integration of these distributed efforts by the public and by formal response teams?

Type of contributions:

. Academic Session: we especially invite researchers from academia or research labs to present their research or research-in-progress papers. Prospective presenters submit a regular research (or research in progress) paper which will be reviewed according to the usual academic standards.

. Practitioner Session: we invite practitioners to present their practice or experiences in the use of virtual teams and virtual communities in disaster response. Prospective presenters submit a PowerPoint presentation which will be reviewed according to standards of relevance and contents.

. Demonstration and Simulation Session: we invite presentations of non-commercial demonstrations of information systems with case study content demonstrating actual systems used to support virtual teams or virtual communities in emergency response. Prospective contributors submit a description of the demonstration or simulation they intend to present at the conference. These will be reviewed according to standards of relevance to the general theme of the conference.

Submissions:

Please see for submission instructions:

http://www.iscram.org/dmdocuments/ISCRAM2007/CFP_52VTC%20Hiltz_Virtual%20Teams.pdf

Important ISCRAM2007 Deadlines:

Paper Submission Deadline: January 15, 2007 Notification of acceptance: February 22, 2007 Closing date Early Registration: March 1, 2007 Final version submission deadline: March 15, 2007

About ISCRAM:

The ISCRAM Community is a worldwide community of researchers, scholars, teachers, students, practitioners and policy makers interested or actively involved in the subject of Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management. At its annual international conference alternating between the US and Europe, the ISCRAM Community gathers to present and discuss the latest research and developments in this growing area during an interactive and stimulating 3 day program. The ISCRAM Community also organizes ISCRAM-CHINA, an annual conference for ISCRAM research in China. All information on ISCRAM can be found at <http://www.iscram.org>

A PDF flier for this special session can be found at:

http://www.iscram.org/dmdocuments/ISCRAM2007/CFP_52VTC%20Hiltz_Virtual%20Teams.pdf

Session Chairs:

Starr Roxanne Hiltz (hiltz@njit.edu)
Department of Information Systems
New Jersey Institute of Technology

Leysia Palen (palen@cs.colorado.edu)
Computer Science; Institute for Technology, Learning and Society;
Natural Hazards Center
University of Colorado, Boulder

=====

Leysia Palen
Assistant Professor

connectivIT Lab
Computer Science, ATLAS & ICS

University of Colorado, Boulder

<http://www.cs.colorado.edu/~palen/>

<http://www.cs.colorado.edu/~palen/connectivIT/>

(4b) ISCRAM 2007: CFP - Geographic Information Science and Crisis Management

The 4th International Conference on Information Systems for
Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM)

Delft, the Netherlands, May 13-16 2007

<http://www.iscram.org>

CALL FOR PAPERS

FOR A SPECIAL ACADEMIC/PRACTITIONER/DEMONSTRATION
SESSION ON

Geographic Information Science and Crisis Management

Session ID: 32GISC

Motivation for this session:

Geospatial information and technologies are often critical elements of emergency response systems, and critical elements of the disaster cycle as a whole. Through all phases of the disaster cycle, planners, responders, decisions makers, and the public have a need for data, information systems, and technologies that contain a geospatial component. Examples of this range anywhere from the real-time tracking of relief supplies to public web interfaces showing evacuation routes and shelters. The geospatial component in crisis management is critical as ever. Disasters of larger geographic scales and intensity necessitate complex response, coordination, and sustained commitments over time from a myriad of actors requiring geospatial information, in part, for situation awareness and decision making.

Research Area:

Geographic Information Science (GISci) encompasses the theoretical and conceptual elements that underlie Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and the related geospatial technologies relevant to crisis management. These elements include geospatial

information visualization, representation, interaction, and sense making, spatiotemporal reasoning, the impacts of GIS on society and individuals, the impacts of society and individuals on GIS and fundamental spatial themes from fields such as geography, geodesy, and cartography. Furthermore, GISci is fundamentally interdisciplinary, incorporating research from the fields of geography, information science, cognitive science, computer science, psychology, mathematics, philosophy, statistics, and anthropology. Because of this broad interdisciplinary perspective, research in GISci is well suited to address a wide variety of application domains that utilize geospatial information and technologies. GIScience has the potential to address the critical crisis management research challenges that currently exist. GIScience, however, cannot address the key problems on its own there needs to be collaboration between GIScience and the other disciplines involved in advancing information technologies and our understanding of their use in the crisis management domain.

Topics:

Some non-exhaustive examples of topics that could contribute to this session are:

- Interfaces to geospatial information and technology in crisis management (HCI, human-factors, user requirements, GISystem interface design/strategies/techniques, integrated web-field-office systems)
- Geographical Visualization and GeoVisual Analytics in crisis management
- Geocollaboration with geospatial technology (theory, concepts, best practices) and its relationship to Computer Supported Collaborative Work (CSCW)
- Geospatial knowledge management to support crisis management
- Geospatial cognition in individuals, teams, and groups in crisis management (including distributed cognition, transactive memory, situation/context awareness)
- Opportunities and challenges with geospatial information to support crisis management. Including social/cultural issues and overcoming barriers to data sharing and cooperation
- Spatial Decision Support Systems
- Geospatial data collection and models for crisis management (including integrating geospatial data with non-spatial data)
- The use of Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) Standards (Web Map and Feature Services, GeoRSS etc.) as a means towards geospatial data standardization, sharing, and system interoperability
- Spatial algorithms for crisis management

- Time in GISystems

Type of contributions:

- Academic Session: we invite researchers from academia or research labs to present their research or research-in-progress papers. Prospective presenters submit a regular research (or research in progress) paper which will be reviewed according to the usual academic standards.

- Practitioner Session: we invite practitioners to present their practice or experiences in information systems development, use or needs. Prospective presenters submit a powerpoint presentation which will be reviewed according to standards of relevance and contents.

- Demonstration and Simulation Session: we invite presentations of non-commercial demonstrations of information systems.

Simulation (games) are also welcome. Prospective contributors submit a description of the demonstration or simulation they intend to present at the conference. These will be reviewed according to standards of relevance to the general theme of the conference.

Important Notice: All submissions must be submitted to the ISCRAM2007 central email address: iscram2007@iscram.org. All submissions must be formatted according to the ISCRAM2007 instructions published on iscram.org. All papers, presentations or demos will go through a double-blind review process, leading to a decision of (conditional) acceptance or rejection.

Acceptance rates at previous conferences were at 50-60 percent.

Accepted papers will be included in the ISCRAM2007 program and published in the official proceedings if and only if (1) the paper is formatted according to the instructions, (2) the authors sign the copyright transfer form (see iscram.org) and (3) one of the authors registers for the conference and pays the registration fee before the cut-off date for early registration.

Authors who have multiple papers accepted can only register for and present one paper at the conference; co-authors need to register separately.

Session Chairs -

Brian Tomaszewski
bmt139@psu.edu
Department of Geography
GeoVISTA Center
Penn State University, USA

Dr. Menno-Jan Kraak
kraak@itc.nl
ITC - International Institute of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation
Chairman, Department of Geo-Information Processing
Enschede, The Netherlands

Dr. Alan M. MacEachren
maceachren@psu.edu
Department of Geography
Director, GeoVISTA Center
Penn State University, USA

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This year the conference will be held from 13-16 May in the Netherlands in the city of Delft. All details on this conference will be made available via the ISCRAM website mentioned above.

A PDF flyer for this session can be found at:

http://www.iscram.org/dmdocuments/ISCRAM2007/CFP_32GISC%20Tomaszewski_GIS.pdf

(5) CFP: 25th Standing Conference on Organizational Symbolism

25th Standing Conference on Organizational Symbolism
1-4 July 2007, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Call for Papers

SIGNS OF THE FUTURE: MANAGEMENT, MESSIANISM, CATASTROPHE

Today the future seems both more promising and more perilous than ever before. What will the future look like, and by what signs will we know it? How are we organizing for the future, and how might we plan for different futures of culture and organization? After various attempts to bring history to an end, today we again sense a mood of possibility. There is, it would seem, a future for the future. What will that future hold?

Victor Hugo writes: 'For what tomorrow will be, no one knows'. This kind of remark might seem a poetic extravagance when faced with the need to plan and to organise for the future. Any practical person knows that in order to bring about our plans we must organise gradually and methodically, paying due care and attention to the demands of time. But at the same time, we sense that the more routinized our planning for the future, the less likely that the future will be particularly surprising. In this way, maybe the last thing that any manager wants is to come face to face with the future.

The future often appears today in the popular imagination as complete system failure or global ecological catastrophe. The end of the world is now no longer a religious problem, but something of immediate concern to policymakers and newspaper readers. If the future involves increasingly unmanageable waves of risk, out of this crisis emerges the possibility of a different future, the promise of a future as radically different.

If we learned from the twentieth century the dangers of eschatological promises of a perfect future, today we sense both the peril of those promises and at the same time the catastrophe that the future will bring if we remain on our current course. The theme of the future therefore asks profound questions about alternative futures. If these no longer appear in the form of Utopia, they do however imply the impossibility of refusing messianism and hope. Hence the prospect of speaking, following Jacques Derrida, of a 'messianicity without messianism' and a future that is forever to-come.

Writing in the spring of 1940, Walter Benjamin offered the image of Angelus

Novus, which looks back at the past and sees 'one single catastrophe which keeps piling wreckage upon wreckage' ('Theses on the Philosophy of History'). But what if the angel looked over its shoulder to glimpse the signs of the future? If the angel could read those signs of the future, would it stop, would it shudder, would it take flight?

Contributions are invited that consider any aspects of the future of work, culture and organization, and some indicative topics follow:

- a.. Visions of the future: utopias, dystopias, brave new worlds
- b.. The future of the economy: prospects for capitalism and the state
- c.. Trading on the future: futures market and their philosophical grounds
- d.. Spectacle and speculation
- e.. Prediction, anticipation, planning
- f.. Interruption and discontinuity
- g.. Attempts to create new worlds: 'Another world is possible' (The World Social Forum)
- h.. Mourning, loss, trauma
- i.. Memory, nostalgia and the relation to the past: the 'future within the present' and the celebration of the past in the name of the future
- j.. Responsibility, promise, justice
- k.. Mastering the future: chaos and control
- l.. Managing risk and event
- m.. Planetary futures: the rise of new economic and cultural superpowers
- n.. Pensions funds, saving for the future
- o.. The end of work, the endlessness of work
- p.. The future of nature: ecological sustainability, environmental catastrophe
- q.. Responsibilities for not yet born others
- r.. The future of diversity, gender and difference
- s.. The future of communication: new media technologies, the end of the book
- t.. The future of the academy: the business school of tomorrow
- u.. Cyborgs and other hybrid bodies
- v.. Fictions of the future: science and fantasy
- w.. Accessing the future: futurology, divination, sacrifice
- x.. Concepts of time past, present and future
- y.. The 'now', the out of joint and the untimely
- z.. The future of the sign: asignifying practices and the war against the signifier

This list is intended to be indicative only. We actively encourage innovative takes on the conference theme, as well as those that focus on more than one of the above areas. With its long tradition of inter-disciplinary reflections, SCOS encourages papers that draw insights and approaches from across a range of disciplines. In addition to scholars working in management and organization studies we welcome contributions from anthropology, sociology, philosophy, politics, art history, communication, film and gender studies. Contributions can be theoretical, empirical or methodological, but should address their subject matter in a critical and rigorous fashion.

Workshops

We also welcome suggestions for workshops, performances or events. Outlines of proposed workshops should be the same length as a paper abstract and should clearly indicate the resources needed, the number of participants, the time required, the approach to be taken and the session's objectives.

Open stream

An open stream at SCOS XXV will facilitate interesting presentations of recent developments in research on organizational culture and symbolism that do not connect directly to the conference theme. Papers are therefore invited on any aspect of theory, methodology, fieldwork or practice that is of continuing interest to the SCOS community. If submitting to the open stream, please indicate this clearly on your abstract.

Venue

SCOS 2007 will be held at Ljubljana, capital of Slovenia. Situated to the east of Italy and south of Austria, Slovenia is one of the most beautiful countries in Southeastern Europe. The capital, Ljubljana, with its walled river, castle and outdoor cafés, is a beautiful miniature of Prague.

Daily sessions will take place at the Faculty of Economics at the University of Ljubljana, a large university situated 2 miles from the centre of Ljubljana. Accommodation will be in hotels, a choice of which will be provided to delegates, at a range of prices and locations, and at negotiated conference prices. Social events, receptions and meals will be held around the city, and we hope to hold the conference dinner at Ljubljana castle.

For more information about conference events visit www.scos.org, and for information about Ljubljana, www.ljubljana.si/en

Organizing Committee

Working in collaboration with the Faculty of Economics at the University of Ljubljana, SCOS 2007 is being organised by a committee of researchers based at the University of Leicester School of Management. This committee consists of:

Armin Beverungen

Michèle Bowring

Jo Brewis

Gibson Burrell

Nick Butler

Pippa Carter

Ishani Chandrasekara

Stephen Dunne

Leonidas Efthymiou

Nick Ellis

Gavin Jack

Norman Jackson

Campbell Jones

Eleni Karamali

Ruud Kaulingfreks

Tom Keenoy

George Kokkinidis

Geoff Lightfoot

Simon Lilley

Ming Lim

Mark Tadajewski

Martin Parker

Carl Rhodes

Charlotte Sanderson

Christiana Tsaousi

For informal discussions about SCOS 2007, please feel free to contact any member of the organising committee. For more information about the University of Leicester School of Management visit www.le.ac.uk/ulmc

Abstracts

Abstracts of no more than 500 words should be submitted as e-mail attachments (all common formats accepted) by Friday, 29 December 2006 to scos@le.ac.uk

Conference Website

For more information on SCOS 2007 visit www.scos.org

(6) CFP: 17th World Conference on Disaster Management

17th World Conference on Disaster Management
Emergency Management and Business Continuity Working Together
(<http://www.wcdm.org/>)

Call for Papers

The Canadian Centre for Emergency Preparedness (CCEP) is calling for presentations for the 17th World Conference on Disaster Management (WCDM).

The Conference will be held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Canada from July 8-11, 2007.

WCDM is the premier annual event that addresses issues common to all aspects of disaster/emergency management. The conference program includes speakers from many parts of the world and provides excellent opportunities for training and networking among those in Emergency Planning/Management, Business Continuity, Emergency Response, Disaster Management Research, Emergency Communications, Emergency Health, Risk Management, Security, IT, HR, Environmental, Community Planning, as well as for the organizations which supply and service these professions. The 2007 Conference is expected to attract over 1,700 attendees from Canada, the United States, and from around the world.

The Conference theme will be:

“Emergency Management and Business Continuity Working Together”

A major goal of the 17th WCDM is to offer a program that challenges delegates by examining traditional concepts and methods, and provides:

- new ideas and approaches to problem solving
- both leading edge and topical presentations
- opportunities to connect with key individuals and organizations across the disaster management spectrum

Presentations should fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Real Events/Lessons Learned
- Emerging Trends in Disaster Management
- The Human Element in Disaster Management
- Technical Issues/Threats
- Disaster Management Principles & Practices
- Research and Development

Presentation abstracts must be submitted by December 3, 2006.

If you have some knowledge to share and would like to submit an abstract, or know of someone who might be interested in presenting, please visit our web site at <http://www.wcdm.org/> to access the Call for Papers and to see a more detailed description of the program outline.

If you have any questions please call Adrian Gordon at (905) 331-2552 or email: agordon@ccep.ca