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Kommande konferenser

International Conference on Culture and Development

Lillehammer, Norway, September 5-7, 1997

The world Commission on Culture and Development was established by decisions in the General Assembly of the United Nations and UNESCO's General Conference in 1991, after a Nordic initiative. Led by Pères de Cuèllar, scholars with backgrounds in politics, science and the art were given the task of producing a document which could have asignificant impact on the international political agenda and actively engage individuals, groups, organisations and states.

A major conclusion in the Report, which was presented to the UNESCO General Conference in November 1995, concerns the importance of seeking to establish a *global ethic*. Based on the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and rooted in a multitude of different civilizations, this ethic is conceived as a set of basic rules for interaction within a global cultural diversity, not as a contribution to a global homogenization. On the contrary, and as the title of the Report indicates, *our creative diversity* is regarded as a potential both for improved understanding and for creating a basis for individuals and groups to develop a future built on mutual respect.

This conference will figure as part of a worldwide follow-up process to the Report. Leading up to this international conference, a series of activities have taken place at colleges and universities in Norway. Seminars, debates and discussions about the Report have been organised with various thematic approaches. Along with the planning of the conference itself, these activities were initiated by a special working group established by The Norwegian Committe of the World Decade for Cultural Development in early 1996.

The conference is primarily intended for researchers from a variety of backgrounds who are interested in linking cultural aspects of development more closely to political agendas. However, politicians and others who take a special interest in these problems are also welcome.

Three members of the World Commission have been invited as speakers to the conference and have accepted:

- *Lourdes Arizpe*. Anthropologist, Mexico, former President of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences.
- *Angeline Kamba*. Public Service Commissioner, Government of Zimbabwe.
- *Ole Henrik Magga*. Linguist, President of the Sami Parliament in Norway, expert in Sami culture.

The purpose of the conference is to build on the work done by the world Commission on Culture and Development, embodied in the Report *Our Creative Diversity*, by further examining, in a critical, but constructive manner, two central and related themes:

- global ethics and cultural diversity
- creativity and communication

The two issues, although distinct, are also related. Both are concerned with diversity of culture and manifestations of creativity: how differences in culture can not only be reconciled but treated as positive – with communication playing an important part in both respect. Is it possible to create a common frame for diverse beliefs, actions and cultural expression? Can this be done in ways which are inclusive rather than conditioned by the exclusion of otherness?

The conference will be *critical* with expectation to move beyond the ways in which the two central themes are dealt with in the Report. The approach will be *constructive* with the aim to contribute to the important processes the World Commission has intituted.

More specifically the aim is to avoid two pitfalls: On the one hand a conference of purely theoretical discussion or non-committal discussion, in the sense of deliberately avoiding any ethical stance. On the other, a conference with calls to action which are either ill-grounded or outside the participant's scope of action. The conference is aimed at researchers rather than policy-makers, but will seek to motivate the participants to become engaged in what are necessarily normative issues. The conference will be concerned not only with human rights but also human responsibilitites; and while recognising and relishing diversity, it will seek to establish common understanding and the basis for common action.

The report consists of an Executive Summary, an introduction and ten chapters, the last of which is concerned with research needs. This is followed by an International Agenda – indicating specific proposals for action.

The Commission recommend a short-list of seven actions. This conference focusses especially on the first two:

1. enhance and deepen the discussion and analysis of culture and development;
2. foster the emergence of an international consensus on culture and development, particularly through the universal recognition of cultural rights, and of the need to balance these rights with responsibilities.

The two central themes of the Reports – global ethics and cultural diversity and creativity and communication – are the two main topics of the first four chapters, and it is here that much of the Report's innovative thinking is to be found. The aim is two-fold:

- To re-examine, and hence reinforce, some of the central ideas surrounding these two key themes;
- To apply these ideas again to the topics that are taken up in the remainder of the Report.

The programme is therefore rather clearly structured, while allowing for a wide range of discussion.

Outline of programme:

Part 1. An overview of the Report

Plenary session: two speakers followed by discussion

Part 2. Global Ethics and Cultural Diversity

Plenary session: (focusing especially on chapters 1 and 2)

Two speakers followed by discussion

Working group session

Part 3. Creativity and Communication

Plenary session: (focusing especially on chapters 3 and 4)

Two speakers followed by discussion.

Working group session

Part 4. Research Need and the role of researchers in the International Agenda

Plenary discussion introduced by a panel

Working groups

A. *Gender and Culture*

B. *Children and Young People*

C. *Cultural Heritage for Development*

D. *Culture and Environment*

The report from the World Commission, *Our creative Diversity*, has been put out on a web-site by UNESCO. This Web-site is intended to inform and strengthen international debate on issues related to culture and development and global concerns in general. The web-site includes background information, an international directory, a discussion forum and a calendar of events pertinent to the issues raised in *Our Creative Diversity*: http://WWW.unesco.org/culture_and_development

Organizing committee: Desmond McNeill, economist, chairman of the organizing committee; Mette Newth, writer and illustrator; Arne Martin Klausen, Social Anthropologist, chairman of the Norwegian National Committee of the World Decade for Cultural Development; Knut Lundby, Media scholar; Ingrid Eide, sociologist, President of the Norwegian National Commission for UNESCO. Corresponding member: Ole Henrik Magga, executive secretary; Hans Hognestad.

Crossroads in Cultural Studies

Tampere, Finland, June 28-July 1, 1998

In the midst of all virtual communities and realities with abstract bodyless persons, we still need to meet each other in flesh and blood. The great success of the first Crossroad conference in 1996, with over 500 participants from all continents, proved that a meeting point like that is greatly needed in international cultural studies.

The special theme of the conference will be borders and border-crossings, but there will also be an open forum for all topics that interest the diverse international cultural studies community; to make contacts, exchange views and gain inspiration from each other. This time there will be more parallel sessions, which allows a little more time for discussion in the sessions. The organizing committee encourage international participation from different countries, disciplines and cultural backgrounds, and from a wide range of research areas with concept such as:

- gender
- ethnicity
- identity
- body
- otherness
- age
- media
- power and knowledge
- traditions today
- nation-states
- globalization
- culture and economy
- centre and periphery
- new information technology

If you would like to organize a session, just send a title and an up to 150 words description of the theme (a session abstract), along with your complete contact information.

Session proposals must be sent by September 30. Names of the sessions that are accepted by the conference organizer will be listed in the Invitation Programme published in November 1997. You may also want to look for others sharing your areas of interest in the crossroads list. The acceptance of a session in the final programme is provisional until the session organizer has sent the abstracts and registration forms of at least five participants, and made sure that they have paid their registration fees. In November, the session organizers will be sent a session organizer's manual to inform them about the details.

Like the first time, the conference is organized by the Department of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Tampere, and Network Cultural Studies, supported by a cross-disciplinary organizing committee.

The conference fee including lunches and refreshments daily will be about FIM 1000-1200 (approx. \$ 200-240) and hotel accommodation FIM 260-550 (approx. \$ 52-110) per person in a single room, FIM 148-335 (approx. \$ 30-67) per person in a double room (breakfast included).

For further information about scientific things please contact the organizing committee: Crossroads in Cultural Studies, University of Tampere, Department of Sociology and Social Psychology, P.O. Box 607, 33101 Tampere, FINLAND, fax: +358-3-2156080, email: iscsmail@uta.fi

For matters concerning registration, payments, travelling etc. contact: *Crossroads in Cultural Studies*, Tampere Conference Service, P.O.Box 32, 33201 Tampere, FINLAND, tel: +358-3-3664400, fax: +358-3-2226440 email: conference@vip.fi

The Conference Home Page with several useful links to other websites: <http://www.uta.fi/crossroads/>

AEJMC Annual Convention

Chicago, July 30-August 2, 1997

The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication will celebrate its 85th anniversary as the 1997 Convention returns to Chicago, the city of its founding.

A variety of workshops, panel sessions, and research paper presentations will be part of the four-day convention. A special brochure on the convention, containing a convention registration form, hotel reservation form and information about the convention, will be mailed to all AEJMC members in early May. Non-members may request a brochure by calling Kyshia Brown at 803-777-2005, or by emailing aejmc@sc.edu

The keynote session on July 30 will feature discussion on whether communication researchers should address public and media policy, and if so, how. A panel of distinguished scholars including former U.S. Senator Paul Simon, now a professor at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, will explore this issue. Other panelists are Steven Chaffee of Stanford, Sharon Dunwoody of Wisconsin-Madison, Oscar Gandy of Pennsylvania, George Gerbner of Pennsylvania, Ellen Wartella of Texas at Austin, and moderator Everette Dennis of The Freedom Forum.

The plenary on July 31 will investigate research ethics online. The session will focus on the issues, implications and opportunities of online research. Amy Bruckman of the MIT Media Lab whose research focuses on virtual research communities, is the special speaker for the plenary. There will be two respondents to Bruckman's remarks: Seth Goldstein, president and CEO of SiteSpecific, which specializes in web site development and online market research; and Jay Black, Poyn-ter-Jamison chair in Media Ethics at South Florida-St. Petersburg. John Pavlik, executive director of the Center for New Media at Columbia, will moderate the session. The plenary is co-sponsored by the Research, PF&R and Teaching Standards Committees.

For more information about the 1997 Convention, contact: AEJMC, 1621 College Street, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208-0251, tel. (803) 777-2205, fax. (803) 777-4728, e-mail: aejmc@sc.edu

48th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association

Jerusalem, Israel, July 20-24, 1998

He drew a circle that shut me out Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But Love and I had the wit to win. We drew a circle that took him in. (Edwin Markham (1852-1940) from *Outwitted*)

Each one of us belongs to an array of different social groups, such as national, regional, religious, ethnic, age, occupational, gender, etc. etc. Within any one of these, the academic realm for instance, there are numerous allegiances to which we can subscribe. Without colluding in the reproduction of divisions here, it is non-contentious that there are different kinds of interpersonal scholars - in the same way that there are very different enclaves of organizational as well as media scholars. Sometimes these groups are clearly visible and obvious to us and our communications are a function of our memberships in them. Other times we are oblivious to their influence, although they nonetheless impact our way of connecting with, or dissociating from, others.

We need to come to terms with *how, when and why*, messages are triggered by group boundary mechanisms; when, for instance, individuals' self-disclosures and self-presentations are, in actuality, group-disclosures and group-presentations. While metaphores of bridges, barriers, margins, transition and buffer zones are useful for our purposes, the focus on "boundaries" in the Theme was deliberate for a number of reasons.

First, it is a core construct in much theorizing in social geography, geolinguistics, demography, sociology, social psychology and anthropology. We have a reservoir of knowledge and ideas to call upon from these disciplines as, for example, in the distinction between hard and soft boundaries, perceived and objective boundaries, and so on. It is interesting to note that the notion of boundaries surfaced spontaneously in a number of the most recent Calls for Papers in the context of other foci.

Second, a move toward "boundary theory" already exists in interpersonal and organizational communication respectively with regard to privacy and boundary spanning. It seems important, again as the opening sentiments attest, to determine when our personal, family, cultural, and political (and other group) boundaries presupposes and appeals to a host of other constructs dear to our academic armory, such as identities, conflict, power, stereotyping, norms, prejudice, expectancies, justice, and even morality.

For further information contact Howard Giles, Conference Program Chair, Department of Communication, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4020, USA. Tel. (805) 893-4657, fax (805) 893-7102.

Implementation and Evaluation of Information Systems in Developing Countries

Bangkok, Thailand, February 18-20, 1998

The IFIP WG 9.4 on Social Implications of Computers in Developing Countries invites submission of papers and panel proposals to its 4th conference at the Asian Institute of Technology, near Bangkok in Thailand. The conference is intended to explore two professional activities which directly address the social and organisational context of information technologies: implementation of information systems and assessment of the value of information systems.

For further information contact Dr Chrisanthi Aygerou, Department of Information systems, London School of Economics, London WC2A 2AE, UK or via e-mail to: ifip9.4@lse.ac.uk

The Sixth International Conference on Narrative

Lexington, Kentucky, October 10-12, 1997

The University of Kentucky, Department of Communication and the School of Journalism and Telecommunications invite to the Sixth International Conference on Narrative. The theme of the 1997 conference, *Talking - Writing - Broadcasting* suggests topics addressing the diverse ways in which narrative is used in general interpersonal, organizational and mediated contexts. In addition to the broad range of contributions always represented at the conference, this year's special program track focuses on print and broadcast media narrative: news, features, op/ed, talk show, sitcom, sports, drama, animation, human interest, and various other information and entertainment formats.

As in previous years, the conference bring together scholars from a wide range of disciplines, including journalism, media studies, cultural and critical studies, education, psychology, literatures and languages, communication, linguistics, anthropology, sociology, folklore, social work, medicine, art history, history, women's studies and all others interested in narrative. Theoretical and methodological contributions of all persuasions are as welcome as studies of narrative in different contexts. The conference language is English; data sessions should be conducted in the most appropriate language.

Up-to-date conference information is available at the conference web site www.uky.edu/~jknuf/narrative-_conference.

The 9th European Television and Film Forum

Lisbon, Portugal, November 6-8, 1997

The European Television and Film Forum met for the first time in Luxembourg in December 1989. Plenary meetings have taken place in Warsaw, Nice, Seville, Istanbul, Liege, Crete and Amsterdam. The 9th European Television and Film Forum will take place in Lisbon from 6 to 8 November 1997, on the invitation of the SIC and the Portuguese Government.

The task of this Forum has been to encourage a productive debate on the future role of television in Europe. The forum is sustained by the corporate members, of which there are around fifty, including European television companies, regulative bodies, production companies, viewers' associations, electronics enterprises and government bodies.

Through its annual Plenary Meeting the Forum is able to address issues affecting the interests of its members, to commission research and to publish the results and findings. The Working Groups of the European Television and Film Forum continue to convene throughout the year and instigate new research and assist in ongoing research carried out by the European Institute for the Media. Several Working Groups are active on regulatory agencies in Europe, the film industry in Europe, consumer and viewer interests, new communication technologies, legal aspects of the audiovisual media, language transfer in television and film, and the content of television.

For further information, and to receive a registration form for the 9th European Television and Film Forum, please contact Monique van Düsselddorp at the European Institute for the Media. E-mail: info@eim.org

The Second Nordic-Baltic Summer School in Communication Studies

Jyväskylä, Finland and Lalamaa, Estonia, August 9-16, 1997

The second Nordic-Baltic Summer school in Communication Studies with the theme *Media and Socio-Cultural Change* is aimed for Nordic and Baltic doctoral students. The first part of the course consists of the 13th Nordic Conference for Mass Communication Research in Jyväskylä, Finland, August 9-12.

The conference offers several plenary sessions (with internationally renowned speakers like Paddy Scannell, Jostein Gripsrud and Johan Fornäs) and some twenty different working groups. The second part, with the discussion of participant's papers, takes place in Lalamaa, Estonia, August 12-16. Faculty includes James Curran (Goldsmiths College, University of London), Jan Ekecrantz (University of Stockholm), Frands Mortensen (University of Copenhagen), Jostein Gripsrud (University of Bergen), Risto Alapuro (University of Helsinki), Raimo Blom (University of Tampere), and the organizers Marju Lauristin (University of Tartu), Peeter Vihalemm (University of

Tartu), Svernik Høyser (University of Oslo) and Kaarle Nordenstreng (University of Tampere).

The course aims at stimulating dialogue and exposing each doctoral student and the faculty involved to a critical exchange.

Organizers: *Professors Marju Lauristin* and *Peeter Viha-lemm*, Research Fellow *Epp Lauk*; University of Tartu, 18 Uli-kooli st., EE-2400 Tartu, Estonia; phone: (372-7) 465 188, 465 189; fax: (372-7) 465 440; e-mail: kati@naba.jrnl.ut.ee

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Public Service i en digital framtid

Nordisk public service-TV kan inte konkurrera i kvantitet med Hollywood. Men public service kan konkurrera i kvalitet – genom att den digitala framtiden kommer att möjliggöra brukarstyrning och tvåvägskommunikation. Genom ett aktivt samspel mellan massmedier, nätverksmedier och kunskapsmedier kommer digitalisering att vitalisera nordisk tradition och samfundskultur.

Det är slutsatsen av rapporten *Public Service selskapenes stilling i den digitale framtid*. (Nord 1997:3)

Rapporten tar upp möjligheter, men också problem, som nordisk public service-TV ställs inför med digital teknologi; statens roll i den digitala framtiden och förmodade reaktioner hos brukarna, dvs tittarna.

Rolf Brandrud, redaktionschef för *Norsk Riksringkastings enhet for internett, intranett og multimedia* har skrivit rapporten på uppdrag av Nordiska Ministerrådet.