

International Institute of Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics: IIS

A Very Short History of the Origins of the IIS

The main origins of the The International Institute of Informatics and Systemics were (1) the *experience* obtained organizing the 1981 UNESCO's Systems Congress, which was also sponsored by the WFEO (World Federation of Engineering Organizations) and (2) the *knowledge* apprehended in a 1975 PhD dissertation that provided a Mathematical Solution of the Condorcet Paradox which, at that time, was 185 years old.

The decision of organizing the 1981 UNESCO/WFEO Systems Congress was taken by the 1980 UNESCO General Assembly, via its member states¹. The WFEO selected the Engineering Organization to be responsible for the organization of this congress. This organization appointed the General Chair and the President of the event. The general chair, in turn, appointed the Organizing Committee from many countries and decided the languages of the conference to be the UNESCO's official languages, i.e. English, Spanish, and French. Organizing this conference provided the experience of working with many nations and cultures and illustrated the *importance of Inter-National and Inter-Cultural Communication in the Academic and the professional worlds*.

On the other hand, the appointed General Chair and President of this Congress happened to be the author of the dissertation in which the Solution to the Condorcet Paradox² was presented in 1976³. The process for solving this paradox convinced him about

- 1) *The importance of relating several disciplines which is a source of Analogical Thinking and, hence, of creativity*. Since this requires inter-disciplinary communication, he persuaded the sponsoring organizations to allow him to organize the 1981 UNESCO's Systems Congress as a **multi-disciplinary** one, in order to provide a platform and a forum for **inter-disciplinary communication**. Consequently, the forum in the 1981 UNESCO's Systems Congress had disciplinary and trans-disciplinary presentations on Science, Engineering, Humanities and Art.
- 2) *The requirement of intellectual clarity with regards to the **Logic of Ends/Means** in the solution of real life problems*. Mathematics was used as a means (an intellectual tool) not as an end in itself. This helped escape from the axiomatic method in mathematics and apply the pragmatic-teleological epistemological perspective that characterized the System Approach and provided the conceptual infra-structure and methodology of Operation Research which is primarily (though not uniquely) based on mathematical optimization. This knowledge was also acquired thanks the **multi-disciplinary approach** that resulted in the Solution of the Voter Paradox.

These experiences and the acquired implicit/explicit knowledge helped trigger the idea of founding the IIS directed to both: (a) *disciplinary and interdisciplinary communication*, based on *multi-national and multi-cultural forum*; and (b) *the objective of inter-disciplinary and inter-cultural communications*. This is the nature of the IIS and its essential and general purpose.

Since the concepts, theory and methodologies of Systemics/Cybernetics and the Information and Communication Technologies were (and are) among the best intellectual and instrumental supports for relating disciplines and fostering analogical thinking, the IIS was conceived and founded in 1995 with these three *initial* intellectual, academic, and professional domains. Other domains will be addressed in future planning phases.

In 1996 the IIS organized its first yearly conference, and in 2002 the bimestral Journal of Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics (JSCI). In 2003 an equivalent journal biannual journal was created in Spanish and Portuguese.

For 23 years (1995-2018), the IIS published a) more than 150 printed volumes as proceedings, as well as their electronic versions and b) more than 30 journal issues with about 4000 papers, which are the top 25-35% of the papers⁴ presented at the IIS conferences. Scopus has been indexing the proceedings since 2005 and the journal has been indexed by DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals)⁵

Quality of IIS's Conferences and Publications.

More than [5,000 members](#) of the IIS, its [JSCI's Editorial Advisory Board](#), and about [15,000 reviewers](#) have perceived the quality level of the IIS's conferences and publications. The [testimonials of high prestige and reputable academics and professionals](#) represent and describe this quality level. All of these testimonials come from plenary keynote speakers who have been participating YEARLY in IIS's conference. Most of them participated for 6-15 consecutive years.

Another illustration of the quality level of IIS's conferences and publications can be found in its **plenary keynote speakers**, all of whom have also been authors of peer-reviewed and invited papers, and who come from reputable organizations and universities like Harvard; Yale; Purdue; Duke; California Institute of Technology (Caltech); Johns Hopkins; Carnegie Mellon; f Los Alamos National Laboratory; Institute for Defense Analyses, USA; Kennedy Space Center, NASA; Indiana-Purdue University, USA ; University of Florida, USA; University of Pittsburgh, USA; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; HP Labs, Israel; *Georgia Institute of Technology, USA*; University of Vienna, Austria; University of Alberta, Canada; University of Waterloo, Canada; University of Ottawa, Canada; The Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology; RMIT University, Australia; Kogakuin University, Japan; MITRE Corporation, USA; Harris Coportation USA; OrangeTechLab, Japan, Chief Executive Officer; Syniverse Technologies, USA, Senior Business Leader; Corporate Development Associates, USA; Evoelectronics, Italy; Selex-SI, USA; The George Washington University; President-Emeritus, Southwest Area Division, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the largest scientific society in the EUA and in the World (who participated in about 18 ISSS conferences); Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, USA; University of North Carolina, Pembroke, USA; Former President of West Coast University, USA and Recipient of the UCLA Physics Prize; President of Florida Polytechnic University, USA; University of South Florida; University of Central Florida; University of South Alabama; Universität der Bundeswehr München, Germany; University of Düsseldorf, Germany; University of Turku, Finland; University West, Sweden, University of West Florida, USA; University of Applied Sciences, Germany; Helmut-Schmidt-University,

Germany; University of Applied Sciences and Arts Switzerland; Czech Technical, Laval University, Quebec , Canada; University in Prague, University of Wisconsin, USA, University of Michigan, University of Illinois at Chicago, National Technical University of Athens, Greece; Jagiellonian University, Poland; Georgia State University, USA; University of Applied Sciences Technikum Wien, Austria; Mississippi State University, USA, Berkeley College, USA; Rector of the Turku University of Applied Sciences. Finland; The Royal College of Art, UK; RMIT University, Australia; Lund University, Sweden; Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic; University of Colorado at Denver, USA; East Carolina University, USA; University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT), Canada; Indiana State University, USA; Oslo School of Architecture and Design, Norway; Louisiana Public Defender Board-Office of the Governor, USA; Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences, Finland; University of South Australia, Australia; Universite Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI), France; University of Economics & Business; Munich University of Applied Administration, Vienna, Austria, etc., etc., etc.

The following links provide more detailed information about the plenary keynote speakers at IIS's conferences since 2011:

- 2017: <http://iis.org/keynotespeakers-2017.asp>
- 2016: <http://iis.org/keynotespeakers-2016.asp>
- 2015: <http://iis.org/keynotespeakers-2015.asp>
- 2014: <http://iis.org/keynotespeakers-2014.asp>
- 2013: <http://iis.org/keynotespeakers-2013.asp>
- 2012: <http://iis.org/keynotespeakers-2012.asp>
- 2011 <http://iis.org/keynotespeakers-2011.asp>

The 99% of all these plenary keynote speakers registered and paid for their respective registration fees because our conference has never had a financial sponsor. The registration fees and the work of about 15,000 voluntary reviewers is what has been supporting the IIS's conferences for 23 years,

More details regarding the conferences since 2011 can be found at <http://iis.org/recentconferences.asp>, and regarding the conferences since 2002 at www.iii.org > “past conferences” > “Last Conferences Videos” you can find the videos of the plenary addresses since 2012.

¹ UNESCO had 147 member states by 1980 and has 201 plus 10 associate members by 2018.

² This paradox was discovered in 1785 by the French philosopher and mathematician Marie Jean Antoine Nicolas de Caritat Condorcet (1743–94). The Nobel laureate Kenneth Arrow proved mathematically, via his Impossibility Theorem, that this paradox has no solution. But, Dr. Nagib Callaos showed, who solved the problem in his PhD dissertation, showed the inconsistencies among the axioms on which Professor Kenneth Arrow based the demonstration of his Impossibility Theorem.

³ Nagib Charlie Callaos, 1976, “*A Conceptual Development of a Socio-Political Information Systems*,” Dissertation presented to the Faculty of Texas at Austin in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, December, 1976.

⁴ These 25%-35% best papers are selected by the audience of each session where the paper was presented and by the reviewers according to the average of the quantitative evaluations of the reviewers. The number of the

reviewers, who actually made their reviews, had been (in the last 5 years) an average of SEVEN per paper. The best 25%-35% represent about the 12%-18% of the submitted papers.

⁵ According to Doaj, the following are the benefits of the journals indexed by them

“*Benefits of supplying DOAJ with metadata:

- *Our statistics show more than 900 000 page views and 300 000 unique visitors a month to DOAJ from all over the world.*
- *Many aggregators, databases, libraries, publishers and search portals collect our free metadata and include it in their products. Examples are **Scopus, Serial Solutions and EBSCO.***
- *DOAJ is OAI compliant and once an article is in DOAJ, it is automatically harvestable.*
- *DOAJ is OpenURL compliant and once an article is in DOAJ, it is automatically linkable.*
- *Over 95% of the DOAJ Publisher community said that DOAJ is important for increasing their journal's visibility*
- ***DOAJ is often cited as a source of quality, open access journals in research and scholarly publishing circles.***”