

«Towards a modern humanism».



WORLD
KNOWLEDGE
DIALOGUE

2006

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

«Towards a modern humanism».

The gap between the natural sciences and the human/social sciences («the humanities») remains a major obstacle in our global and comprehensive understanding of the world, despite numerous individual attempts by internationally recognised scholars to bridge it. Many signs of concordance and cross-fertilisation are nonetheless beginning to emerge, suggesting that the present time is propitious for renewed attempts to bring these « two cultures » closer together. The Swiss university system – with its longstanding international reputation in education and science – is committed to bridging this gap. To meet the challenge it has created in 2006 the “World Knowledge Dialogue” Foundation and its inaugural project, the World Knowledge Dialogue Symposium.

The project will initially extend over 6 years: it consists in bringing together, at two yearly intervals, several scientists who have recently

made a significant discovery conducive of a paradigmatic shift in the natural sciences or humanities. The chosen speakers will use the opportunity to explain the essential features of their discovery, and evaluate its consequences for our vision of the world.

During the same session, expert personalities from the “other culture” will give their own perspective of the same discovery and its likely impact on our global knowledge and society.

The principal objective of such a meeting – organised for a limited number of primarily scientific and academic, but also political and economic opinion leaders and decision makers – is to develop new methodologies and concepts that favour a synergistic analysis of new scientific breakthroughs. The dual approach will foster mutual help and understanding by putting the debate between natural sciences and humanities on an equal footing.

The project entails preliminary discussions before the symposium between the speakers, which will enable them to elaborate on their points of discovery and convergence or divergence. These preliminary stages of debate will also illuminate the limits of their understanding, revealing to each where the most significant areas of misunderstanding lie and allowing them to identify ways to address those issues.

The first Symposium will be held in Crans-Montana (Switzerland), a Swiss alpine resort 2 hours away from Geneva International Airport, from 14-16 September 2006, for an audience of internationally recognised opinion leaders/decision makers, and young scientists.

The dialogue will include keynote lectures, main lectures, short presentations, a roundtable and workshops, and will be moderated

by the Foundation's first "Scientist in Residence", Dame Julia Higgins, who will help to conceptualise new approaches to bridge the gap between the two cultures.

Largely subsidised by Swiss and European public and private institutions, the World Knowledge Dialogue should contribute to a better understanding of our present and future knowledge and create new pathways for a productive cross-fertilisation between the natural and human/social sciences.

Prof. André HURST

President of the WKD Foundation

Prof. Francis WALDVOGEL

*President Emeritus of the Swiss
Federal Institutes of Technology
Program Director of the WKD*

INTRODUCTION

Despite an ever-expanding body of scientific knowledge, the comprehension of our surrounding world - i.e. the whole of the discoveries and observations reviewed from the perspective of our historical and humanistic values – has scarcely advanced. The gap between the natural sciences and the human/social sciences, which appeared during the age of Enlightenment – what C.P. Snow called in 1959 “the two cultures” – is at risk of growing larger. We are nevertheless forced to admit that both cultures are looking at the same world, albeit using different, if complementary, tools.

There are numerous reasons for such a fragmentary dialogue between these two cultures: firstly historical, since some communities have looked suspiciously upon the demystification of the unknown through science; then epistemological, since the tools of the natural sciences have of late allowed an accumulation of knowledge at a rate that has never been reached before; and finally instrumental, deriving from the fact that each discipline uses tools that are not necessarily applicable to others.

The time is ripe for proactive efforts to bring these two developing cultures closer together: Recently, certain extremist and/or harmful positions of both the natural sciences and humanities have been

clearly identified – pseudo-science serving the 20th century politics for some, and philosophical and religious radicalism limiting scientific development for the others. Furthermore, the present moulding of our vital environment and of our planet by natural and technical sciences demands a thorough analysis of the role they will play in the future knowledge society.

In fact, many fields of new scientific convergence already inspire us to sweep away the obstacles of the double culture by showing us the benefit of a common or convergent approach: the neurosciences already allow us to partially comprehend the mechanistic process of understanding; the history of the development of humanity, combined with contributions from our understanding of genetics, allows in certain cases the passage from hypothesis to veracity by adding biological facts to historical discoveries and theories; contributions from the disciplines of climatology and the environmental sciences now temper our understanding of complex physical phenomena and of human behaviour itself.

THE WORLD KNOWLEDGE DIALOGUE SYMPOSIUM 2006

The Symposium 2006 is an institutional attempt to bridge the gap between the natural and the human/social sciences starting from recent, revolutionary discoveries with potential impact at the scale of paradigmatic changes.

Principles

A) To allow 2-3 scientists who have recently made a fundamental discovery in either the natural sciences or the humanities to explain its content and sketch out to what extent it could change our vision of the world and/or of society/culture- or how their discovery could be further expanded by contributions from other fields.

B) To allow experts from other sciences (natural sciences and/or the humanities respectively), to analyse this discovery and share their view on the question (“crossed views”); or show how contributions from their own field can expand our understanding.

C) To develop and refine, starting from this dialogue, a methodology of “crossed views,” promoting the same dual and synergistic approach to the study of other future discoveries.

In pursuing these principles, the objective of the World Knowledge Dialogue Foundation, is to set up a project that will be of service to the international community, based on the long-standing Swiss tradition of hospitality and humanistic values.

THE DEBATE : 14-16 SEPTEMBER 2006, IN CRANS-MONTANA SWITZERLAND

Speakers

This year's dialogue will be organised around two main topics. For each topic, three internationally recognised authorities, either from the natural sciences or from the humanities, have been selected. Each speaker will present the discovery he has made, explain its essential features and describe his perception of its consequences for our world. As a consequence of preparatory meetings earlier in 2006, the speakers will elaborate on points of convergence/divergence with "the other culture", describe the limits of the implications of their discovery and their domain for the "other culture" and identify areas where they may need help from others.

The speakers will also analyse any misunderstandings that have been identified during their dialogue, and discuss how they could best integrate the knowledge of other fields into their own research.

One half day will be dedicated to each topic and the following debates will entail an active participation of the audience. The debates will be moderated by this year's Foundation's "scientist in residence", Dame Julia Higgins. She will also give the closing lecture and help in setting up the "post-Symposium working group", whose task will be to prepare the 2008 event.

To conclude the debates, a general session will take place in which all the participants are encouraged to share their new knowledge, insights and perception of the convergences and divergences that exist between the natural and humanities/ social sciences. The session will be an opportunity for all those present to help elaborate the new methodologies of understanding for the future and prepare the next Symposium.



Participants and General Organization

The Symposium's participants have been recruited upon invitation from personalities from around the world holding positions of influence in the academic and scientific fields (Presidents/Rectors/Deans of Universities, Institute Directors etc.) and in the economic and political fields (opinion leaders and policy-makers).

A special effort has been made to provide subsidies for travel fellowships for representatives from developing countries.

A number of selected young scientists, recruited by national/international research agencies, have also been awarded travel grants and special financial conditions for their participation.

A cultural event and gala dinner, to which all the participants are invited, will take place on the evening of September 15. **The evening will start with a unique and unforgettable musical experience with *Jael*: Coline Pellaton, violinist and singer and Thierry Chatelain, accordionist, will take us on a magical journey to explore a melodic dialogue between jazz, classical, tzigane and medieval music.** The event will take place in a small chapel within walking distance of the Symposium Hall.

The permanent presence of the participants throughout the symposium is expected, since the meeting is considered to be a workshop platform for all present.

The first "World Knowledge Dialogue" Symposium takes place in Crans-Montana, Switzerland.



TOPICS

I New Discoveries defining Complexity

Three main presentations are scheduled on this topic to focus on particular aspects of complexity, i.e. complexity and biological systems; complexity in climatology; complexity with an approach from epistemology and philosophy.

There are many ways of studying complexity. They generally all handle it by trying to understand the dynamic behaviour of complex systems that range from individual organisms to the largest economic, technical, social, and political systems. By confronting and allowing these approaches to interact, by exchanging views on different complex systems, we expect to gain new ideas and to try to answer such questions as : Which way did science work until now, how did it evolve, and how might it evolve in the future? How do big pictures emerge from a sea of data?

II Origin and Migrations of Modern Humans

Three main presentations will try to answer the following questions: From the origin of the modern human being to today's Society, what are the forces involved, from where and how did we arrive at the point where we are now?

Palaeontology, anthropology, genetics and linguistics can contribute to our better understanding of our history. The three main presentations scheduled on this topic illustrate how these different approaches cross-fertilise each other and explore in depth what have they learnt and what they are poised to learn from each other.



Workshops : Reshaping university education for improved dialogue and societal responsibility

The aim of the workshops is to reflect upon how the principles of coordination and dialogue between the natural sciences and the humanities/ social sciences can be most effectively integrated into everyday decisions and strategies. The participants from different horizons who will take part in the discussions include leaders from politics, industry, science, as well as student representatives and young researchers from a broad cultural spectrum. The workshop chairs will guide the discussions towards attempts to incorporate ideas that emerge from the previous days debates.

The three parallel workshops will explore possible measures on three levels of academic and scientific management:

- 1. Political, at the level of the Government (eg what are the political incentives)**
- 2. Institutional, at the level of the University (eg reshaping the faculty structure)**
- 3. Pedagogical, at the level of the courses (eg what curricula for the students)**

A concise set of propositions will be prepared and distributed for each workshop, on Friday evening. These will be introduced by the chairperson at the start of the workshop sessions. After brief interventions from representatives of the humanities and the natural sciences, the discussions will be pursued in parallel within different subgroups.

The reflections of the various groups will be combined into a set of proposals by the workshop. These summaries will be presented to the plenum and will form the basis for general discussion.

PROGRAM

Thursday, 14 September

1:00 p.m.

Registration

3:00 / 3:05 p.m. **Opening**

André Hurst, President, WKD Foundation

3:05 / 3:15 p.m. **Introduction to the Symposium**

Pascal Couchepin, Swiss Federal Councillor, Head of the Department of Home Affairs

3:15 / 3:25 p.m. **Bridging the Knowledge Cultures
in the Age of Innovation**

Jàn Figel', European Commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Multilingualism

Scientific session 1 - Chair : Hiroyuki Yoshikawa, President, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Japan

3:25 / 3:35 p.m. **Introduction: "Two Cultures, one Human Mind"**

Francis Waldvogel, President Emeritus of the Swiss Polytechnical Institutes,
Program Director of the WKD

3:35 / 3:45 p.m. **Address (video)**

Edward O. Wilson, Pellegrino Research Professor in Entomology, Harvard University, USA

3:45 / 4:00 p.m. **"The Rules of the Game" of the first Symposium:
Objectives and Importance of the Dialogue**

Dame Julia Higgins, Professor of Polymer Sciences at Imperial College,
London, Foreign Secretary and Vice President of the Royal Society, UK

4:00 / 4:15 p.m. **Break**

4:15 / 5:15 p.m. **Keynote Lecture I : From Brain Dynamics to
Consciousness: how Matter Becomes
Imagination**

Gerald M. Edelman, Nobel Laureate, Director of the Neurosciences Institute and President
of Neurosciences Research Foundation, Professor and Chairman of the Department of
Neurobiology, The Scripps Research Institute, USA

5:30 p.m.

Welcome cocktail and networking

Friday, 15 September

9:00 a.m. / 12:15 p.m. **Scientific session 2 - Main topic I : New Discoveries Defining Complexity / Moderator : Dame Julia Higgins**

9:00 / 9:30 a.m. **Searching for Simplicity in Complexity; Growth, Innovation, Economies of Scale, and the Pace of Life from Cells to Cities** Geoffrey West, President and Distinguished Professor, Santa Fe Institute, USA

9:40 / 10:10 a.m. **Understanding and Managing Planetary Complexity** John Schellnhuber, Founding Director, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Professor at Potsdam and Oxford Universities, Distinguished Science Adviser of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, UK

10:20 / 10:30 a.m. **Break**

10:30 / 11:00 a.m. **Why Physics is Easy and People are Hard** Ian Hacking Professor Emeritus, Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto, Canada; Professeur au Collège de France, Paris, France

11:00 / 12:15 p.m. **Discussion and short presentations**

12:30 / 1:30 p.m. **Working lunch**

Round Table : 6 short presentations

1:30 / 2:30 p.m. **Keynote Lecture II : Towards a Neuroscience of the Capable Person : Unity, Diversity and Oneself as Another** Jean-Pierre Changeux, Professeur au Collège de France, Professor & Chairman of the Department of Neurosciences at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, France

2:30 / 6:00 p.m. **Scientific session 3 - Main topic II : Origin and Migrations of Modern Humans | Moderator : Dame Julia Higgins**

2:30 / 3:00 p.m. **Human Migrations in Prehistory – the Cultural Record** Ofer Bar-Yosef, Professor of Anthropology at Harvard and Curator of Paleolithic Archaeology, Peabody Museum, Harvard, USA

3:10 / 3:20 p.m. **Break**

3:20 / 3:50 p.m. **The Origins of Modern Humans: Linguistic Issues** Bernard Victorri, Director of research CNRS, Lattice Laboratory, France

4:00 / 4:30 p.m. **A Genetic View of Human Origins** Svante Pääbo, Director, Department of Genetics, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany

4:40 / 6:00 p.m. **Discussion and short presentations**

/ 7:00 p.m. **Cultural event and Gala dinner**

PROGRAM

Saturday, 16 September

Scientific session 4

9:00 a.m. / 10:30 a.m. **Workshops (parallel sessions)**

9:00 / 10:30 a.m. **Workshop 1: Dialogue driven by political instruments and respecting academic autonomy**

Chair : Ruth Dreifuss, Former Swiss Federal Councillor and former President of the Swiss Federal Council

9:00 / 10:30 a.m. **Workshop 2: Dialogue driven by academic institutional governance**

Chair : Georges Haddad, Director, Division of Higher Education, UNESCO, Honorary President, University of Paris 1, Panthéon–Sorbonne, Paris, France

9:00 / 10:30 a.m. **Workshop 3: Dialogue driven through education**

Chair : Richard R. Ernst, Nobel Laureate, Professor Emeritus of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zürich

10:30 / 10:50 a.m. **Break**

10:50 / 12:00 a.m. **Feedback from workshops and General Discussion**

12:00 / 12:30 p.m. **Concluding Lecture : What have we learnt and where do we go from here?
A perspective for the 2008 Symposium**

Dame Julia Higgins, Professor of Polymer Sciences at Imperial College, London, Foreign Secretary and Vice President of the Royal Society, UK

12:30 / 13:30 p.m. **Farewell buffet**



SCIENTIST IN RESIDENCE

Julia Higgins,

Professor of Polymer Science, Imperial College, London; Vice-President and Foreign Secretary of the Royal Society of Great Britain.

Julia Higgins obtained her doctorate in Physical Chemistry at Oxford in 1968. She has been on the academic staff of Imperial College since 1976 and was appointed to a professorship in 1989. Her research involves the use of neutron scattering to study the behaviour of complex materials in terms of their molecular structure, organisation and motion. She has chaired the British Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council and the British Association for the Advancement of Science and is a foreign member of the US National Academy of Engineering. Julia Higgins is also a vociferous advocate of the need for continuous dialogue between science as an enterprise and society as a larger whole. She has pioneered exploration of the responsibilities of being a scientist in the modern world and has been instrumental in bringing consideration of gender issues in European science to the political forefront.

Among the numerous distinctions Julia Higgins has received in recognition of her contributions as a public ambassador for science, she became a Dame of the British Empire in 2002, and a Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur in 2003. Her remarkable scientific credentials and her long-standing involvement with humanist issues made her the outstanding choice to become the first "Scientist in Residence" of the WKD "Foundation" and the Moderator of its first Symposium.

SPEAKERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

Hiroyuki Yoshikawa,

President, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, (AIST) Japan

Hiroyuki Yoshikawa is a former President of the University of Tokyo. His capacities as scientist and modern humanist earned him election to the Presidencies of the Science Council of Japan (1997-2003) and the International Council for Science (1999-2002), tasks which he carried out with distinction. As president of AIST, he continues to champion the principle of scientific responsibility towards humankind as a whole.

Edward O. Wilson,

Pellegrino Research Professor in Entomology, Harvard University, USA

Edward O. Wilson is an entomologist, a sociobiologist, a provocative theorist and a prominent man of letters. He has received the highest distinction in both scientific (National Medal of Science, Crafoord Prize, among many others) and literature worlds (he has twice won the Pulitzer Prize). In 1996, an international poll ranked him one of the 100 most influential scientists of all times.

Gerald M. Edelman,

Director of the Neurosciences Institute; President of the Neurosciences Research Foundation; Professor and Chairman of the Department of Neurobiology, Scripps Research Institute (USA).

Gerald M. Edelman is one of the world's most famous neuroscientists. He is the father of «neural Darwinism», a multidisciplinary theory that combines insights about brain composition, connectivity, structure, function, and evolution. He is the recipient of many prizes, including the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine, 1972.

Geoffrey West,

President and Distinguished Professor, Santa Fe Institute

Geoffrey West was a theoretical particle physicist and leader of the particle theory group at Los Alamos National Laboratory. In the mid-1990s, his focus shifted from particle to biological physics, studying the most complex of all systems: life. Since then, he has done major work at the confluence of biology and physics, including seminal work on biological scaling.

Hans Joachim Schellnhuber,

Founding Director, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research; Professor at Potsdam and Oxford Universities; Distinguished Science Adviser of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, UK.

John Schellnhuber, a world leader in the field of climatology, actively serves on many international panels for scientific strategy and policy advice regarding environmental and developmental issues. He has made remarkable contributions in the field of climatology, especially regarding the theory of complex non-linear systems and regional and global environmental analysis.

Ian Hacking,

Professor Emeritus, Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto; Professeur au Collège de France.

Ian Hacking is certainly one of the world's most prominent philosophers alive. He is a specialist in epistemology, in the philosophy of sciences and in the philosophy of languages. He is particularly interested in the different styles of scientific reasoning.

Jean-Pierre Changeux,

Professor, Collège de France; Professor & Chairman of the Department of Neurosciences, Pasteur Institute, Paris.

Jean-Pierre Changeux is considered one of the fathers of modern neurobiology. In an era of specialization, he is one of the rare scientists who has not only disregarded interdisciplinary boundaries, but in fact bridged them. He is the recipient of many prizes, including the Balzan Prize 2001 and the Louis Jeantet Prize for Medicine, 1993.

Ofer Bar-Yosef,

Professor of Anthropology and Curator of Paleolithic Archaeology in the Peabody Museum, Harvard, USA.

Ofer Bar-Yosef is one of the world's most renowned scientists in paleolithic archaeology. He has done major work, including the seminal discovery that the Qafzeh hominids were actually 80,000-100,000 years old. This major discovery will serve as a starting point for the discussion on human migration.

Bernard Victorri,

Director of Research, CNRS, Lattice Laboratory (Languages, Texts, Computer Processing, Cognition), France.

Bernard Victorri is an international authority in linguistics who has done very important work on modeling in the language sciences. He is the head of the "Languages, Language and Cognition" team at the Lattice Laboratory, CNRS.

SPEAKERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

Svante Pääbo,

Director, Department of Genetics, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany

Svante Pääbo is a pioneer and world leader in ancient DNA studies. He has done reference work on the analysis of DNA from archeological samples. He has focused his recent work on comparative genome evolution. He is the recipient of many academic prizes, including the Louis Jeantet Prize for Medicine, 2005.

Ruth Dreifuss,

Former Swiss Federal Councillor and former President of the Swiss Federal Council, Switzerland

After having worked as a civil servant in the field of development cooperation and as a leader of the Swiss Labor Union, Ruth Dreifuss was elected by the Parliament as one of the seven members of the Swiss Government. From early 1993 to the end of 2002, she acted as Minister of domestic affairs, with responsibility for public health, research, higher education, social security and other political fields. Ruth Dreifuss is now active in many national and international organizations. She currently chairs the Commission on Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Public Health of the WHO.

Richard R Ernst,

Professor Emeritus of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zürich, Switzerland

After having received his Ph. D. in Technical Sciences from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Richard R Ernst worked with Varian Associates in Palo Alto, California. He returned to the ETH in 1968 where he became Full Professor in 1976. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1991, for his contributions to the development of the methodology of high resolution nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy.

Georges Haddad,

Director, Division of Higher Education, UNESCO, Honorary President, University of Paris 1, Panthéon–Sorbonne, Paris, France

Georges Haddad holds a PhD in Mathematical sciences. He is “Agrégé en mathématiques” and a University professor, former President of the University of Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne, from 1989 to 1994.

He was the President of the Board of the World Conference on Higher Education (UNESCO, 1994-1999) and acts now as the Director of the Division of Higher Education of UNESCO.

SHORT PRESENTATIONS

In order to stimulate the dialogue between the natural/technical sciences and human/social sciences among the participants and with the speakers, several short presentations will be given either during the discussions in scientific sessions 2 and 3 or during a working lunch on Friday 15:

Speaker	Affiliation	Title	Session
Christopher L. Barrett	Virginia Tech, USA	Complexity Science, Simulation and Public Health	Session 2
Paul Cilliers	University of Stellenbosch, South Africa	Knowing Complex Systems. The Limits of Understanding	Session 2
Ernest Hartmann	Tufts University, Boston, USA	Boundaries between Fields and Boundaries in the Mind	Session 3
Michael McCormick	Harvard University, USA	Initiative for the Scientific Study of the Past at Harvard University	Session 3
Edward Slingerland	University of British Columbia, USA	Who's Afraid of Reductionism? Consilience, Cognitive Science and the Humanities	Session 3
Markus B. Karner	Singapore Management University, Singapore	Cross-disciplinary Dialogue in Academia: Debating Complexity and Organic Development at Singapore Management University	Round Table
Mark M. Freed	Central Michigan University, USA	Toward a NonModern NonHumanism	Round Table
Wei Wu	Nanyang Technological University, Singapore	What Went Wrong? The Losing Battle of Confucian Doctrine against Cheating in Science	Round Table
Karuvannur P. Mohanan	National University of Singapore	Many Cultures of Academic Inquiry	Round Table
Veronica Boix Mansilla	Harvard Graduate School of Education, USA	Nurturing Students' Capacity to Bridge	Round Table
Akimasa Sumi	University of Tokyo, Japan	A new Initiative at the University of Tokyo - Integrated Research System for Sustainable Sciences (IR3S) and Transdisciplinary Initiative for Global Sustainability (TIGS)	Round Table

ORGANIZATION

The project is the main objective of the **newly created “World Knowledge Dialogue Foundation”**, with its headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland). The Foundation’s Board consists of leading figures in Switzerland, with a strong participation of University Rectors. The Conference of the Swiss Rectors has unanimously endorsed the project. The Board includes the following members:

- Prof. André Hurst, President of the WKD Foundation, Genève, Switzerland
- Prof. Hans Weder, Rector, Universität Zürich, Switzerland
- Prof. Jean-Marc Rapp, Rector, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland
- M. Claude Roch, Conseiller d’Etat, Chef du Département de l’Education, de la Culture et du Sport du Canton du Valais, Switzerland
- Prof. Martin Vetterli, Vice President, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland
- PD Dr Gertrude Hirsch Hadorn, Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich (ETHZ), Switzerland
- Ms Laetitia Henriot, President, Swiss Universities Students Association, Switzerland
- M. François Mudry, Vice President, Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch, Sion, Switzerland.

The **Honorary board** includes the following members:

- Pascal Couchepin, Federal Councillor, Head of the Department of Home Affairs, Switzerland
- Prof. Phillip L. Clay, Chancellor MIT, Cambridge, USA
- Prof. Heidi Diggelmann, former President of the Swiss National Research Council, Lausanne, Switzerland
- Don Gibbons, Associate Dean for Public Affairs at Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA
- Prof. Peter Gruss, President Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, München, Germany
- Charles Kleiber, State Secretary for Education and Research, Switzerland
- Prof. Kishore Mahbubani, Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore
- Dr Ryoji Noyori, President Riken Institute and Nobel Prize Laureate, Japan
- The Hon. Koji Omi, Director STS Forum, Tokyo, Japan
- Albert H. Teich, Director, AAAS Directorate for Science and Policy Programs, Washington, USA
- Prof. Volker Ter Meulen, President Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina, Würzburg, Germany.
- Prof. Edward O. Wilson, Pellegrino Research Professor in Entomology, Harvard University

The scientific contents and the speakers are proposed by an **International Scientific Board**, which includes the following members:

- Bertil Andersson, Professor, Chief Executive of the European Science Foundation, Strasbourg
- Werner Arber, Professor Emeritus, Biozentrum, University of Basel, Nobel Prize Laureate
- Ruth Dreifuss, Former Swiss Federal Councillor and former President of the Swiss Federal Council
- Peter Fulde, Professor, Director of the Max Planck Institute for the Physics of Complex Systems, Dresden
- Georges Haddad, Director, Division of Higher Education, UNESCO
- Dame Julia Higgins, Professor, Imperial College, London, Foreign Secretary and Vice President of the Royal Society
- Dieter Imboden, Professor at the ETH in Zürich, President of the Swiss National Research Council
- Hiroshi Komiyama, Professor and President, University of Tokyo
- André Langaney, Professor, Department of Anthropology and Ecology, University of Geneva, Director, Anthropology Laboratory, Musée de l'Homme, Paris
- Jean Starobinski, Professor Emeritus, University of Geneva, member of the Institut de France; Professor in French Literature and in the History of Ideas.
- Frank Wilczek, Herman Feshbach Professor of Physics, MIT, Nobel Prize Laureate

The decisional structure of the project is the **Executive Committee**, chaired by Prof. Em. Francis Waldvogel. Its members include the Project Manager, Gilles Crettenand, and the Scientific Secretary, Jérôme Billotte. The WKD operational Team is composed of Karima Amiguet (Administration), Moira Cockell (Scientific Assistant), Françoise Michaud (Director's Assistant), Nelli Sanne (Media Relations Manager). The organization is completed by partnerships with «Le Régent» (Congress Center), Rezonance (Registrations) and ICVolunteers (Welcome Services and Technical Staff).

WELCOME TO CRANS-MONTANA / SWITZERLAND

Are you looking for relaxation, emotion and new sensations?

We are pleased to welcome you in Crans-Montana, a plateau framed by a panorama of majestic alpine summits.

Here, enjoyment has many different forms: skiing, winter sports, hiking, as well as entertainment and events for all tastes.

Let yourself be carried away by these colourful activities and enter the absolute dimension!

Crans-Montana in the heart of the Valais, near to international airports.

- Geneva: International Airport 2 1/2 hours from Crans-Montana: Railway station of Geneva directly at the Airport.
- Zurich: International Airport 4 hours from Crans-Montana
- Sion: Regional Airport 40 minutes from Crans-Montana
- Milano Malpensa Airport 2 1/2 hours from Crans-Montana

Motorway A9 to Sierre, then follow the indication for Crans-Montana (approx. 15 km)

- From Lausanne : A9 motorway to Sierre
- From Basel, Bern,Zurich : through Lötschberg tunnel then A9 motorway to Sierre
- From Brig: A9 motorway to Sierre
- From Sierre: main road Chermignon-Crans-Montana or Mollens-Crans-Montana
- From Sion : main road Lens-Crans-Montana
- From Milano: Simplon Pass then A9 motorway to Sierre

By train to Sierre. Shuttles from the railway station of Sierre to Crans-Montana (approx. 15 km).

Representatives of WKD at the Sierre railroad station will guide you to the WKD shuttle.

LE RÉGENT



Congress Centre

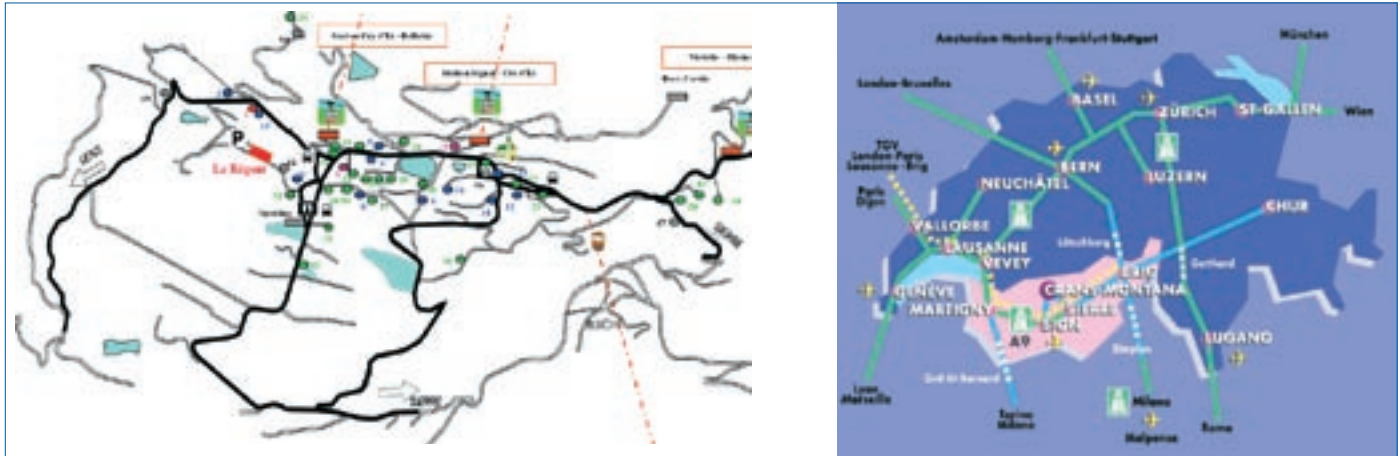
The Congress Centre «Le Régent» is located close to the center of the resort. Thanks to this exceptional location, memories of a stay in Crans-Montana will be slow to fade for both participants and speakers.

WEBSITE

www.congres.ch

www.crans-montana.ch

MAP AND HOTELS



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|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Pas de l'Ours 5 étoiles | 11. Rhodania | 22. Crans-Belvédère | 41. Central |
| 2. Crans-Ambassador | 12. St. George | 23. Curling | 42. Robinson |
| 3. Royal 4 étoiles | 13. de l'Etrier | 25. Eden | 43. Villa NotreDame 2 & 1 étoiles |
| 4. Aïda-Castel | 14. Intergolf | 34. Le Mont-Paisible | 46. Olympic (2*) |
| 5. Alpha | 15. Mirabeau 3 étoiles | 35. National | 47. Diligence |
| 6. Alpina & Savoy | 16. des Alpes | 36. La prairie | 49. Crans-sapins |
| 8. Excelsior | 17. Beau-Site | 37. Primavera | 50. Dent-Blanche |
| 9. Le Green | 18. Bella-Lui | 38. Serenella | 52. Caddie's Résidence |
| 10. du Parc | 19. Belmont | 39. Le Splendide | |

SCIENTIFIC PARTNERSHIPS

- Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina, Wuerzburg (Germany): Networking & Young Investigators
- European Science Foundation, Strasbourg (France) : communication among European scientific community
- Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, München (Germany) : Networking & Young Investigators
- Fondation Science et Cité, Berne (Switzerland) : Networking
- Swiss National Science Foundation (Switzerland) : Networking & Young Investigators

KNOWLEDGE PARTNERSHIPS

- ICVolunteers, Geneva (Switzerland): operational aspects of the 2006 symposium
- Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch, Sion (Switzerland): operational aspects of the 2006 symposium
- Qualilearning, Vevey (Switzerland): Networking
- Rezonance, Geneva (Switzerland): operational aspects and communication in Europe
- Swiss Embassy, Tokyo (Japan): operational aspects and communication in Japan
- Swiss House, Singapore: operational aspects and communication in Asia.
- Swiss Scientific Consulate “SHARE” Boston (USA): operational aspects and communication in the USA

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European Science Foundation

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