

Harnessing Virtual Worlds for Arts and Humanities Research

Synopsis of Program: Scholars and researchers from many disciplines within the humanities are on the verge of a profound change in the way they search for, construct, and present knowledge to colleagues. Virtual Worlds, in addition to an array of other digital tools, will bring about significant changes within the humanities by facilitating multi-institutional, cross-disciplinary research and collaboration as well as providing new ways to recreate and contextualize evidence that heretofore was impossible to study or publish. <snip> see the original call by the Federation of American Scientists and SRI International on the last page or: www.fas.org/programs/ltp/emerging_technologies/humanities/_Media/proposal-harnessing-virtual.pdf

Virtual World Proposal LOI

(by Heiner Benking)

This LOI is done late night after the UNESCO-DESD and UNU gatherings in Bonn [UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development ...](#) by a German who is "electrified" by the title, scope, and potential and potential of using real virtual worlds for participatory explorations and negotiations. After subsuming and resonating I feel it is time to bring together real and virtual "places" as a combination of augmented and merged and morphed index and orientation spaces so we can display and immerse into fields or patterns that connect. I have presented the pro's and con's of virtual reality and public spaces at the University in Tuebingen in 1994: <http://benking.de/VR-Oeffentlichkeit-pro-con.html>

As you can see on that site, this table showing the dangers and challenges were later published by **WILHELM FINK VERLAG** and later in: [The Internet as a Diverse Community: Cultural, Organizational, and Political ... - Seite 171](#), von Urs E. Gattiker - 2001 - 272 Seiten, SEE: [ZOOM](#) (This table benefited from discussions with Heiner Benking) - the chapters of the book, which is highly recommended is based on he schema developed by Wägenbauer/Benking (see above).

And the merger of "realities" at this ICSU CODATA event in 2005:

 <p>CODATA TASK GROUP ON MULTIMEDIA, DATA, AND INFORMATION</p> <p>Multimedia in Sciences and Technologies Multimedia. Where Do We Go From Here?</p>	 <p>MIST 2005</p> <p>Berlin, Sept 2005</p>	<p>Using Maps and Models, SuperSigns and SuperStructures</p> <p>powerpoint slides:</p> <p>very long version</p>
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For augmented , merged and morphed realities at this very long collection **very long version** (here) as PDF: www.benking.de/systems/codata/CODATA-MIST2005-long.pdf the slide: 32,33 and 42 and for the general idea of 4d and 9d reference spaces the other slides and this site (work in progress): www.9-d.org

As it has to do with maps and models, see for the history of the concepts this article in: [KnowMap - The Knowledge Management, Auditing and Mapping Magazine](#) Heiner Benking In this first part, Benking sets the framework for new ... www.knowmap.com/current_contents/0105.html

And this link: [KnowMap](#)

KnowMap Vol. 1, No. 5, August 2001. Spacial versus Spatial: ... **Heiner Benking**.
<http://newciv.org/cob/members/benking/knowmap.html> ...
benking.de/covenant-add-on/covenant-b/tsld009.htm

Multi-lingual UN UNESCO Terminology research work

Discussions with colleges in our “**Knowledge Management Team**”

Harnessing the Collective Wisdom of the People – see 21 Century Agoras here:

I called the President a moment ago and he agreed to be willing to support this endeavour with the US academic credentials needed for such a wide, deep and broad exercise:

[How People Harness Their Collective Wisdom and Power to Construct ...](#)

These are explained in depth in a book authored by Alexander N. Christakis with Kenneth C. Bausch: Co-Laboratories of Democracy: How People Harness Their...

books.google.de/books?

[id=k3vvYZLBhS8C&dq=bausch+christakis+harnessing&printsec=frontcover&source=bl&ots...](http://books.google.de/books?id=k3vvYZLBhS8C&dq=bausch+christakis+harnessing&printsec=frontcover&source=bl&ots...)

and to explore this proposed endeavour further: (as summed up here for the UN AMR 2008)

<http://www.quergeist.net/AMR-2008/>

as a response to these questions:

[I. Challenges countries face in integrating the goals of economic growth, social development and environmental protection](#)

[II. Concrete policy initiatives that can help States to achieve sustainable development.](#)

In this proposal to the Anna-Lindh-Foundation (Alexandria): (43 countries): located in the Library of Alexandria, Egypt:

N) Proposal for [Anna-Lindh-Foundation](#), *European – Mediteranian Countries, Berlin-Alexandria 2008.*

[Transcultural Dialog and Peace-Making](#)

Roundtable learning from experience during the last 40 years and new ideas

Stumbling blocks preventing true dialog, peace-making, and reconciliation:

- 1) we fight over words but do not check the meaning,
- 2) we do not question and compare the values attached to statements and attitudes,
- 3) we do not contextualize and embody concepts and meaning, do not check the sectors, regions, scales, proportions and consequences of alternative actions,
- 4) we do not give voice, empower, listen, cherish and cultivate difference or variety in dialog and decision making,
- 5) Disorientation and dumbing-down in Cyberculture and a mis-administered and misunderstood, intangible “[Globalisation / Glocalisation](#)”: Where we get overloaded by communication noise (sign/symbol melange) and media demagoguery which means: no trust and fidelity in the statements and no ways and means to check the credibility and impact/relevance, and get lost between the scales, brackets, and sectors.
- 6) The above incompatibility and incomparability opens the door for over-claims and oversimplifications. Leaders use intangible jargon (plastic-words), neglect impacts and avoid instead of exploring differences and alternatives.

And presentations around the ISY in Pasadena in 1991 or in the field of UNESCO and ISKO terminology bodies, over the years: more at benking.de/systems and benking.de/Global-Change/ and benking.de/culture and benking.de/dialog/

[systematik](#)

Benking 1989 GeoJournal. **Benking** Access and Assimilation **Benking ISY** -JPL AIP pasadenaand. **Benking** Bridges and a Maserplan ICSU CODATA Beijing UNEP-HEM ...

benking.de/TKE-99.html - 86k

[UN - ISY Boulder & ISY Pasadena, 1992](#)

benking.de/powerpoint-presentations-1990-2004/sld003.htm

or the G7 EEES **harmonisation meta-data** exercise under the umbrella of UN Agencies managed by UNEP: (see in the above AMR 2008):

We used with a G7 - EEES Environmental Experts of the Economic Summit and later UNEP mandate and project from the 70ies ([meta-data Environmental Information Harmonization Project](#)) managed by UNEP-HEM in Munich in the late 80ies/early 90ies) the governing citation "Much is known, unfortunately in different heads". So what? HOW CAN WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER AND OLD AND NEW "OTHER" APPROACHES and bring them down to Earth ?

In this UNEP project I learned that there are so [many lessons learned and good news](#), but the access, bridging and digestion is missing and little is put into action. With these views and experience I read the contribution in this eDiscussion very carefully, but have little time on the last day (AMR, section I May 22) to respond, but will update this collection, as a co-laboratory work hopefully elsewhere.

Please see that we have outlined this to some depth here: (the author is in the academic board)

<p>"Benking entries" in the International Encyclopedia of Systems and Cybernetics Academic Committee Encyclopedia Product Sheet: _ - Saur Publishers</p>	
<p>0479 COGNITIVE PANORAMA 1) - 2) 1 0484 COGNITIVE SPACES 1) 1 0999 ECO-CUBE/KNOW MAP 1) - 2) - 3) 2 2001 MAP (Mental) 2) - 3) 2 2002 MAP TERRITORY RELATION 2) - 3) 3 2003 MAPPING 2) 3</p>	<p>2104 METAPHORIC FRAMEWORK 1) - 2) - 4) 3 2105 METAPHORS (Classes of) 2) 3 2228 MULTI-PERSPECTIVISM 1) - 2) - 4) 4 2462 PANORAMA OF UNDERSTANDING 1) - 2) 4 2463 PANORAMA THINKING 1) - 2) 4</p>

1) general information 2) methodology or model 3) epistemology, ontology and semantics 4) human sciences 5) discipline oriented

And so I hope you have a chance to revisit the [US-UCAR-GRAND-ENVIRONMENTAL_RESEARCH-CHALLENGES](#)

Grand Challenges in Environmental Sciences (2001) National Research Council (more ... <http://benking.de/Global-Change/global-change-english-context.html> ...

benking.de/Global-Change/grand-challenges.html

And please make sure you visit from above for more: this **Questions:**

[I. Challenges countries face in integrating the goals of economic growth, social development and environmental protection.....](#)

[II. Concrete policy initiatives that can help States to achieve sustainable development.](#)

tSorry, here was no time now to list possible partners and make a preliminary budget scheme, but I hope the appropriate academic depth is shining through the material included above. I also invite to check the GRAND CHALLENGES above.

Yes – we can

Greeting from old and new “worlds”.

Heiner Benking