



GENERAL
SYSTEMS
BULLETIN

VOL. I NO. 1
DECEMBER 1969

VOL 1
NO 1
1969

ONLY 1 VOL IN 1969

Society for General Systems Research

An International Organization For
The Development of Theoretical Systems

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General Systems Bulletin

Lawrence L. Schkade

The GENERAL SYSTEMS BULLETIN is a quarterly publication of the Society for General Systems Research with issues scheduled for March, June, September, and December. Communications concerning the BULLETIN should be addressed to: Dr. Lawrence L. Schkade, School of Business Administration, The University of Texas, Arlington, Texas 76010. Other communications should be addressed to: Society for General Systems Research, Joseph Henry Building, Room 818, 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.

BRIEF REPORT OF CURRENT AFFAIRS

from the Managing Director

INITIAL ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN

This is the first issue of the General Systems Bulletin prepared by Professor Schkade, as forecast in the October Newsletter. It represents the beginning of an evolution, over the next few issues, to a vehicle for communication to, by and between members of considerably greater scope and purpose than our traditional Newsletter has served. I am sure all members join me in expressing to Professor Schkade and his staff our thanks for the undertaking, and for the promise it holds for substantially improving the Society's publication list.

Because of the timing involved in getting the Bulletin underway, only a few weeks have elapsed since I reported to you on the range of activities in which the Society is presently involved. Even so, the following comments seem appropriate to bring you up to date on progress in certain vital areas, in anticipation of our discussions at the Boston meeting late this month.

PUBLICITY LEAFLET REVISION

A revised publicity leaflet has recently come off the press, and is being distributed widely, both here and abroad. By the time you receive this Bulletin, a copy will likely have reached you in a mailing of the printed program for the Society's annual meeting. You will see that this time we have incorporated a membership application form into the six-panel leaflet; already some have come back to me. It appears that this will be a very useful dual-purpose instrument. If you would like more, please let me know.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

We are pleased to report that the formation of European chapters of the Society has commenced. An organizational meeting was held November 29th in Utrecht, co-Chaired by Professors Lindenmayer and Hanken, and we are awaiting word just now on how the event went. Professor Gordon Pask, as Acting Chairman of the Formative Committee for the London group, has called a meeting for December 5th at Brunel University. Groups in other European centers, as indicated in the October Newsletter, are in varying stages of formation. There seems every reason to believe that the envisaged "European Division" of the Society will indeed evolve in the next year or so.

In this connection, I would like to thank Professor Taschdjian very much for his translation into German of the leaflet referred to above. Translations into other languages -- particularly French, Spanish and Swedish -- are indicated as priorities. But, considering the interest shown in a European Division by members abroad, doubtless translation into other languages -- Italian, Greek, Czechoslovak, Norwegian and Portuguese, for example -- will eventuate. And we may assume that the publicity leaflet will be only a beginning. Surely the Yearbook itself

will soon need publication in other than English. But this is for the future.

JOURNAL PUBLICATION

The Governors of the Society have been conducting fairly intensive conversations in recent months, looking forward to the publication of a Society journal. The name General Systems and Cybernetics is among those titles being considered, since for some people (especially, apparently, in England) "cybernetics" carries a "general systems" connotation. We are not yet ready to communicate much more to you than this, but we want members to be aware of the fact that considerable time and effort is currently being spent in this area of the Society's development.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

The Ad Hoc Committee on Long Range Planning for the Society has been meeting virtually fortnightly in recent weeks. Discussions have occurred in New York, in Detroit, and in Potsdam, New York in recent weeks. A final meeting prior to a report to be given at the Boston meeting will occur in early December in Toronto. Chairman Paul Medow will be prepared, at the Boston meeting, to provide members of the Society with the proposed design of the Committee's work, and to seek member involvement in the several planning task forces which are proposed to be established.

R. F. Ericson

BULLETIN PUBLICATION PLANS

The next issue of the General Systems Bulletin is slated for March 1970. Copy that is intended for this issue should be received by the Editor by February 1, 1970. Please double space all submitted copy to provide room for marking copy for the printer. Also, please submit articles as they are to appear, rather than sending a brochure, meeting announcement, or other form that cannot be adapted readily as copy for the Bulletin manuscript. Do not hesitate, however, to submit material simply because it is not in the requested form, for many items are received in a variety of forms that are adapted easily for inclusion. This is particularly true concerning personal news items, brief announcements, etc.

The current plan is to formalize the preparation of material for the Bulletin a bit more by the naming of associate and contributing editors, who will assume responsibility for the compiling news and other material for a limited portion of the activity of the Society. Progress in the further organization of the Bulletin staff will be presented in the March issue.

The Editor of the Bulletin expresses appreciation to the officers and members of the Society for their valuable contributions of material for the December issue. Special recognition is given to Milt Rubin and Dick Ericson for news items and general assistance, Jere Clark, Dan Duncan, and Alan Sheldon for committee news, Charles Marsh and Edgar Taschdjian for chapter news, and Ludwig von Bertalanffy and Claire Adler for information concerning news about publications.

PROGRAM FOR THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Society, to be held in conjunction with those of A.A.A.S., is slated for December 27-30, at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel. The events on the program are listed as follows:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1969

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Fairfax Room

CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF MENDELEYEV'S PERIODIC TABLE

Extension of the Structure of Mendeleev's Periodic Table to Physical, Biological, and Social Sciences

The Council for Unified Research and Education's Twenty-First Anniversary Symposium

AUSPICES OF THE SOCIETY FOR GENERAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH, A.A.A.S., SECTION L

Generalization of the Structure of Mendeleev's Periodic Table.
EDWARD HASKELL

Empirical Basis of the Periodic Table of Human Cultures.
ARTHUR R. JENSEN

How Unified Science Vitalizes Education.
JERE W. CLARK

Nature and Meaning of the Generalization of Mendeleev's Work.
HAROLD G. CASSIDY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1969

9:00 - 12:00 noon

Gardner Room

GENERAL SYSTEMS EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR THE FUTURE

Chairman: Jere W. Clark, Southern Connecticut State College

Models of Educational Information Systems. BELA BANATHY, Far West Educational Laboratory for Research and Development, Berkeley, California.

General Systems Research as a Constructive Channel for Student Agression. HAROLD RASHKIS, University of California, Irvine, California

Progress Report on General Systems Education. JERE W. CLARK, Southern Connecticut

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1969

2:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Gardner Room

SYSTEMS ASPECTS OF SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS I

Legal Aspects of Environmental Defense. JOHN YANNOCONE,
Environmental Defense Fund, State University of New York,
Stony Brook

Law and the Population Explosion. JOHN BATT, University of
Kentucky Law School, Lexington, Kentucky

The Evolution of Ecological Theory. E. TASCHDJIAN, St. Francis
College, New York

Regression Analysis of Pollutants in the Long Island
Groundwater System, DAVID D. MARTIN, State University of
New York, Stony Brook

A Transactional Approach to Environmental Planning.
CHARLES R. DECHERT, Catholic University, Washington, D. C.

A Precis of an Anatomy of Problem Solving Systems.
GORDON K. C. CHEN, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1969

9:00 - 12:00 Noon

Hampton Room

SYSTEMS ASPECTS OF SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS II

Chairman: RICHARD SEDER, Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia

On the Design of Communications Environments. GORDON THOMPSON,
Northern Electric Lab, Ottawa

Human Ecology and Evolutionary Economics. FREDERICK FIRESTONE,
Scripps College, Claremont, California

A Potential Tragedy, A Systems Analysis of Disaffected Youth.
RONNAL LEE, University of Colorado, Boulder

Control of Crime and Violence in Public Housing: A Systems
Framework for Improving Security in Detroit Public Housing.
LAWRENCE M. THALL, Bendix Corporation, Ann Arbor, Michigan

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1969

2:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Hampton Room

SYSTEMS MODELS OF URBAN SYSTEMS

Chairman: BRITTON HARRIS, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

Participants: JOHN W. DYCKMAN, Chairman, Department of City and Regional Planning, University of California, Berkeley

JACK ELLIS, Department of Electrical Engineering, Waterloo University, Ontario

CORINNE L. GILB, Professor of History, Wayne State University

YEHEZKEL DROR, The Rand Corporation and the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

BERTRAM GROSS, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1969

9:00 - 12:00 Noon

Hampton Room

RATIONAL USE OF WATER

Chairman: CHAUNCY STARR, AAAS General Symposium
Jointly sponsored by General Systems Research Society

10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Andover Room

Business Meeting - An Open Discussion of the State of SGSR

11:45 - 2:00 p.m.

Boraschi's, 793 Boylston St.

LUNCHEON AND PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Environmental Design in Response to the Population Crisis,
L. B. SLOBODKIN, President, Society for General Systems Research

2:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Hampton Room

TOWARD THE UNIFICATION OF
MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION THEORY

Arranged by EDWIN TONNASON, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Participants: STANELY YOUNG, University of Massachusetts
STEPHEN MICHAEL, University of Massachusetts
ROCCO CARZO, School of Business, Pennsylvania
State University
EDWIN TONNASEN, School of Business, University of
Massachusetts

COMMITTEE NEWS

TASK FORCE ON GENERAL SYSTEMS EDUCATION

Nature and Purpose

The Task Force on General Systems Education was organized in April, 1968, to serve as the education arm of the Society for General Systems Research.

The Task Force now consists of approximately eighty members drawn from a wide variety of educational, governmental, and industrial institutions throughout the U.S.A. and from as far away as the Sudan. Represented are all of the main sciences (physical, biological, and social) and the fine arts and humanities. Included also are the major "systems groups" such as systems management, operations research, linear programming, cybernetics and information theory, game theory, simulation modeling, and instructional systems technology.

The general purpose of the Task Force is to cooperate with other systems groups in promoting the general systems approach in education wherever appropriate from nursery school through graduate school and in adult education generally.

The top priority for the next two years is generating promotional strategies, development models, innovative materials, and other prerequisites to success in synthesizing, simplifying, and vitalizing all educational curricula.

Procedure

Recognizing the crucial need for basic, long-range, conceptual modeling, and the equally urgent, immediate need for adaptive measures at the practical level, the Task Force is proceeding on both fronts simultaneously.

At the conceptual level, the emphasis is on developing an operational, master model or paradigm for functionally unifying progressively more facets of the sciences, arts, and humanities. That meta-model is expected to provide a basis for developing an operational meta-language which is more or less equally applicable to the basic elements of many different disciplines.

At the practical level are a number of activities designed to help educators incorporate several basic features of the general systems approach and vocabulary into their work almost immediately while avoiding the frustrations of making drastic changes.

This common, action-based orientation to several disciplines is being designed to provide the traditional specialist with a means of preserving his identity as a specialist by enabling him to meet the interdisciplinary demands of a dynamic, interdependent society. In other

words, by working gradually toward qualifying as a "specialist with a universal mind," the scientist or educator can use these interdisciplinary tools not as a substitute for but as a supplement to specialized expertise.

To expedite these general promotional developments, the Task Force is developing plans for a national -- ultimately an international -- network of centers and institutes for general systems education, each with its own emphasis or focal point.

Steering Sub-Committee

JERE W. CLARK, Professor and Chairman, Department of Economics,
Southern Connecticut State College, Chairman

BELA H. BANATHY, Coordinator of Systems Planning, Far West Laboratory
of Educational Research and Development, University of California,
Berkeley, Coordinator of Western Division

JUANITA S. CLARK, Free Lance Artist and Editorial Consultant, Cheshire,
Connecticut, Secretary

SHERMAN PRICE, Free Lance Motion Picture Producer, New York City

HAROLD H. RASHKIS, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior,
University of California, Irvine, Coordinator, Student Chapters

EDGAR TASCHDJIAN, Chairman Emeritis, Department of Biology, St. Francis
College, Brooklyn

Additional Information

Address inquiries regarding the Task Force to Jere W. Clark, Director,
Center for I-D Creativity, Southern Connecticut State College, 501
Crescent Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06515 (203/387-6661)

Address other inquiries regarding the Society for General Systems
Research to Richard F. Ericson, Room 818, James Henry Building, 2100
Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006 (202/659-8893)

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES GROUP

OMS Group Business Meeting in Boston in December

Although four separate projects are discussed below, the need grows for innovative structure and process within the OMS Group. Hopefully, the business meeting to be held at the AAAS session in Boston will provide an opportunity to define the future direction of the OMS Group and the mechanisms for traversing that path. The OMS Group business meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 30th, at 5:00 p.m. All OMS members and interested visitors are welcome. The following agenda is suggested:

1. Contributions to SGSR long-range planning.
2. Establishment of a sub-committee on personnel and officers.
3. Future meetings of OMS.
4. Local sub-groups of OMS.
5. Open discussion.

Annotated Bibliography

Mr. James W. Greenwood III reports that he has received some three to four hundred bibliographic items. Further, with an assist from Dick Ericson, 120 publishers have been contacted and their submissions requested. The continuation of this project is being encouraged strongly, for it is felt that the Society and the OMS Group will find the bibliography a useful document. With the exception of the six people who have contributed bibliographies, the project to date has been largely a one-man effort. Offers of volunteer help toward the completion of the final steps of this project will be very much appreciated by Dan Duncan. Please contact him if interested.

OMS Participant Directory

Mr. Phil Nunn reports that he would like to prepare the second edition of the OMS participant directory prior to the Boston AAAS meeting. OMS members are asked to check their listing in the directory and send any corrections to Mr. Nunn. Members added since December 1968, (the original publication) should have received a directory survey designed for return to Mr. Nunn.

1969 AAAS Program

The 1969 session sponsored by the OMS Group has the title "Toward a Unification of Organization and Management Theory." This title was submitted by Dan Duncan who then later asked Dr. Ed Tonnesen to chair the meeting. The topic stems from the observation that the OMS Group membership represents a broad spectrum of interests and backgrounds and that possibly the OMS Group provides a mechanism through which an exciting theoretical synthesis might occur. The session planned by Dr. Tonnesen will consist of five short papers, a dialogue between the panel members and an opportunity for audience interaction. Hopefully the substantive aspects of the session will lead directly into the business meeting which is scheduled to conclude the program.

1970 AAAS Program

Bertram Gross will head the 1970 meetings of the Society with connection with the AAAS. The theme of the entire session is "World Cities of the Future." On Monday, December 28, 1970, a session entitled "Systems Management for the Urban Regions of the Future" is to be chaired by Dan Duncan and is to be sponsored by the OMS Group. A tentative statement of the objectives for the 1970 sessions is given below. Any feedback from any group member regarding these objectives will be appreciated by Dan Duncan. Further, volunteers for papers or recommended participants

would also be appreciated. The tentative objectives are as follows:

1. To define management in general systems terms. That is, to obtain a definition of management and the management processes apart from the commercial/industrial/military/bureaucratic context and to define management as a part of the vital negentropic mechanisms of an on-going living system.
2. To identify the general system managerial processes within an urban system. That is, to show that managerial processes must occur and do occur and to show that vital organic managerial processes can occur without formality, hierarchy, rigidity, constancy, recognition, or legitimacy.
3. To indicate how this "new form" of managerial mechanism which occurs within an urban system can be improved in ways other than striving toward the Weberian/classical models. That is, to indicate that managerial vitality can be obtained by following the lead of numerous models.
4. To elucidate meaningful cross-level insights as they pertain to various urban systems and subsystems. That is, to bring to bear insights from other levels of living and non-living systems which pertain to the understanding of, improvement of, and vitality of the management of urban systems.
5. To envelope the above concepts in the dimensions of historical time, present, and future time to the year 2000.
6. To relate the above messages to the other topics constituting the SGSR/AAAS Program.

OMS Group Publication

The suggestion has been made that a committee of OMS Group members might be interested in editing a compendium of readings drawn from the SGSR Yearbooks and previous annual meetings. Such a compendium might make available under one cover, a text suitable for graduate courses in organization theory, management, etc. Members interested in this effort should contact the chairman.

Dan Duncan

HEALTH SYSTEMS COMMITTEE

The Health Systems Committee is the newest major division of the Society and was formed in 1969. This group, which will liaison closely with the other committees of the Society, hopes to actively encourage the exchange of ideas regarding general systems theory, research, service, and training as applied to biology, medicine, and medical care. The chairman of the committee is Alan Sheldon, Harvard Medical School. Other members of the Executive of the Health Systems Committee include Frank Baker, Harvard Medical School; Harold Halpert, National Institute of Mental Health; and Curtis McLaughlin, University of North Carolina.

The size of the Executive will be increased following the annual meeting of the Society in Boston. The current membership is approximately 75 persons, one of the largest memberships of the committees of the Society.

Responses to a Health Systems Committee Survey

The tabulation of the responses to a recent questionnaire distributed to the membership of the Society indicates substantial interest in and suggestions for a variety of activities for the Health Systems Committee. The following presentation of the results indicates the number of returned questionnaires for which the responses were yes, no, and no response for each category of questions. The numbers in parentheses following each part of a question correspond to the number of responses that were yes, no, and no response, respectively.

In response to the question concerning potential committee activities, respondents were asked whether they favored formal meetings with presentation of papers (34, 13, and 21), informal meetings with discussions (54, 5, 9), national meetings with AAAS (32, 14, 22), regional meetings (36, 13, 19), and special interest meetings (34, 6, 28). In response to the question concerning other potential committee activities, the development of an international dimension to the committee with foreign context was suggested by Eric S. Albone and Adelaide Bullen. Robert F. Edwards indicated that there is a desperate need for health care delivery systems, and special emphasis should be given to the areas of prevention and cost reduction through the alteration of existing delivery systems. Robert M. Foulkrod suggested lecture series and workshops, John H. Frenster proposed meetings with medical students, and possible meetings with APHA or other organizations were indicated by Richard H. Seder. Finally, concerning member interest in participating in committee meetings, the responses were presenting a paper (38, 7, 23), organize a meeting (32, 10, 26), and help in some other way (38, 7, 23).

The survey asked for responses concerning the function of a newsletter for the committee. The responses are summarized as follows: Report members' work in progress such as research, service, training, theory (55, 3, 10); provide bibliography of members' papers (35, 37, 27); provide bibliography of systems papers (44, 4, 20); provide calendar of meetings of interest (47, 3, 18). Other responses included the suggested inclusion of comments on trends in the field by Robert H. Colbourne; coverage of the degree of social need and corresponding need for focusing research on these social needs by Robert F. Edwards; Robert M. Foulkrod proposed a digest of meeting presentations for the benefit of members absent; Milton J. Hirshberg suggested reports on past meetings and organizational progress of the committee, and Jacob L. Wank indicated that some items should be included as regular features, while others should be included periodically.

A variety of responses were received from members that suggested additional activities for the Committee. These include a greater emphasis upon relating systems to reality by Daniel Cappon; conducting workshops directed at specific problem areas by Charles J. Erickson; the organization of specific contract research on national issues, health systems, and related topics to offset the disadvantages of existing institutional arrangements by Edgar W. Francisco; providing consulting services to members on how to get systems research started by Robert

H. Giles; provide reviews of papers on current "state of the art" with respect to systems research in mental health by Harold T. Halpert; discussions of course development by George H. Murray; conduct a problem-centered workshop with an interdisciplinary attendance by Mario Pérez-Reyes; and the compilation of a bibliography of special papers from symposia by Louise Speck.

Committee members were also asked if there were activities that they would like to organize and the responses included: a conference on "the city" at York University by Daniel Cappon; the organization of a program for cross-training engineers in technology and health care delivery systems under the auspices of the Society by Robert F. Edwards; special periodic workshops on health subsystems such as data processing communication by Robert M. Foulkrod; the organization of a conference to consider collaborative research efforts to provide a broader systems study by Harold P. Halpert; a regional systems group for health proposed by Harold D. Holder; the organization of a symposium on biological regulatory mechanism by G. Alan Robinson; a study group of political economics of medical "ethics" and access to life supporting resources by Richard H. Seder; and a study group to develop and further define the concept of "system of service" by Jacob L. Wank.

Responses concerning interest in the December annual meeting are as follows: Will you be attending the Society meeting in Boston in December (28, 23, 16), and if so, will you attend a meeting of the Committee during that time, if convenient? (37, 6, 25). The following members of the Health Systems Committee have indicated that they plan to attend the December meeting:

Donald Alan Bloch, M.D.
Gilbert R. Barnhart
Roger M. Battistella, Ph.D.
Adelaide K. Bullen
Edward J. Carroll, M.D.
Gordon Chen
Robert H. Colbourne
Allen Y. Davis
Dr. Robert Francis Edwards
Robert M. Foulkrod
Edgar W. Francisco III
John J. Gallagher
W. L. Garrison
Arnold Golodetz, M.D.
Dr. Harold P. Halpert
Dr. Robert W. Hawkes
Dr. T. C. Helvey
Milton Jay Hirshberg, M.D.
Harold D. Holder
Dr. Beat Alexander Jenny

Leland Royce Kaiser
Jack A. Kinney
Ronald L. Lee
Dr. J. Daniel Loubert
Dolores J. Loyko
John McIver, M.D.
Prof. George H. Murray
Ronald L. Nuttall, Ph.D.
Harold A. Rashkis
Dr. Herbert Charles Schulenberg
William B. Schwartz, M.D.
Professor Walter A. Sedelow, Jr.
Richard Henry Seder
John O. Stoeckle
Louise B. Speck, M.D.
Richard P. Wakefield
Jacob L. Wank
Gerald G. Wheeler
Prof. Henry Winthrop
Michael A. Woodbury, M.D.

Alan Sheldon

CHAPTER NEWS

Boston Systems Group

At the June meeting, a new slate of officers was selected. The new officers are as follows: Charles M. Harsh, President; R. Palmer Benedict, Vice-President; and Stillman E. Williams, Secretary-Treasurer. The Boston Systems Group conducted an open discussion of interests and objectives. It became clear that the program for the coming year should concentrate on large social and governmental systems, in recognition of the pervasive spirit of involvement.

The meeting scheduled for October 15, was cancelled at the last moment to avoid conflict with the burgeoning Moratorium.

Professor Henry D. Jacoby of the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, presented a paper entitled "A Mathematical Model of Public Decision" at the November 19, meeting. This predictive model assumes that political decision is a compromise between conflicting desires of constituent groups. The outcome is dependent upon the political influence of the contending parties, which can be represented mathematically. Professor Jacoby discussed an application of the model to problems of water pollution control, a topic on which he has recently co-authored a book with Professor Robert Dorfman.

Charles M. Harsh

New York Chapter

A series of three lectures was arranged by Dr. E. Taschdjian, and sponsored jointly by the New York Chapter and St. Francis College. These lectures were on the general topic of "The Modeling of Biological Systems."

The first of these lectures was presented on October 14, by the President of the Society, Dr. Lawrence Slobodkin. The topic of the lecture was "The Modeling Process in Ecology." The second of the lectures was presented on November 18, by Dr. W. L. Kilmer of Michigan State University on the topic "Modeling Studies of the Vertebra Command System, the Reticular Formation." The third of the lectures is scheduled for December 9, and will be presented by Dr. Taschdjian of St. Francis College and President of the New York Chapter, in conjunction with Mr. W. Lawler, Director of the Computer Center, St. Francis College. The topic of this presentation is "The Modeling of Transient Biological Systems."

Edgar Taschdjian

PUBLICATION NEWS

VOLUME XIV OF THE YEARBOOK TO BE AVAILABLE IN DECEMBER

The 1969 edition, Volume XIV, of General Systems is scheduled to be in the mail to subscribers in mid-December, according to confirmation that has been received from the printer. The new volume of the Yearbook includes a stimulating preface by the acting editor, Richard L. Meier, an excellent collection of contributions, and the addition of a book review section. The book review section reflects the fact that within the last few years, general systems theory has matured to a full fledged "category" among publishers. The editors of General Systems are Ludwig von Bertalanffy, Anatol Rapoport, and Richard L. Meier.

In the preface to the new volume of General Systems, Dick Meier describes the new level of maturity that has been achieved by the field of general systems theory, which has been successful in developing its stature incrementally without becoming the subject of "the rolling thunder of vigorous criticism" the level of maturity of general systems is reflected by the variety and quality of literature that is typified by the writing of Ashby, Bear, von Bertalanffy, Buckley, Berrien, and others. Most of the reviews of the literature published in this new volume have appeared in other periodicals, but Meier cites that this is important because "it feeds back to the members the image presented to the respective disciplines." It is interesting to note that all of the reviews the editors have read range from mildly positive, with mystification being expressed regarding certain view points, to being emphatically favorable. At no point does there seem to be an expression of outrage or a condemnation for methodological error."

The papers contributed to the new volume reflect the thought and research in the field of General Systems over the previous one to three years. Material that is republished in the new volume has been drawn solely from obscure sources that are not readily available. Also, this year an attempt has been made to include greater emphasis upon synthesis and design in contrast to analysis and methodology.

Several contributed papers that could not be published in the new volume of General Systems, either due to delay resulting from a publication with prior rights or an insufficient context was provided in the presently available draft, seem to suggest that "a minor revolution in systems design for human usage seems to be ready to break out into the open . . . a few teasing harbingers are incorporated into this issue. Perhaps some of the key items will be available next year."

While General Systems is searching for new directions, it is still concerned with the old problems, and the Yearbook reflects these interests as a recognized key periodical in the field. For example, Part III on The World System conveys the theme that "while the world political system threatens to get out of control, it is possible to prevent the worst calculations." The balance of the contributions are largely continuations of earlier themes, with biology apparently neglected as compared to earlier years, but perhaps this only reflects the fact that

biological analogues are being utilized with greater effectiveness in coping with problems posed by social organizations.

PROCEEDINGS PUBLICATION SLATED FOR EARLY 1970

Milt Rubin reports that the most recent word from Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, Inc. is that Man in Systems, a compilation of selected papers presented at the 14th annual meeting of the Society will be released in April or May of 1970. Milt is hopeful that the publication date can be accelerated, for, in contrast to last year, he has already received some papers that are to be presented at the forthcoming meeting in Boston and have been submitted for consideration for inclusion in the next publication of the Proceedings. It is hoped that the Proceedings for the 15th annual meeting can be published in 1970.

NEW SYSTEMS PUBLICATIONS

Ericson, Richard F. Toward Increasing the Social Relevance of the Contemporary University. Program of Policy Studies in Science and Technology, The George Washington University, Washington, D. C., August, 1969. 31 pages. This monograph presents a resume of the philosophical bases and the activities of the Interdisciplinary Systems and Cybernetics Project since 1967 and its plans for the future.

Gray, William, Frederick J. Duhl, and Nicholas D. Rizzo, editors. General Systems Theory and Psychiatry. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1969. 481 pages. \$15.00. This new volume contains 28 different contributions by leaders in the field of psychiatry and has just been released. A review of this volume is planned for Volume XIV (1970) of General Systems.

Koestler, A. and J. R. Smithies, editors. Beyond Reductionism. New York: MacMillan, forthcoming. This volume is based on the Alpach Symposium and is also available from Hutchinson: London, a 1969 publication.

Kupperman, Robert H. and Harvey A. Smith. Mathematical Foundations of Systems Analysis. Reading Mass.: Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., 1969. 214 pages. This first part of a two-volume series is intended to present the mathematical basis of systems science and is concerned primarily with the development of a theoretical background that will permit the understanding and the solution of elementary constrained optimization problems that are basic to much of systems analysis. The manuscript for this volume was developed from a course on mathematical analysis that was a portion of a program entitled Defense (Systems Analysis) Education Program instituted jointly by the Department of Defense, the Institute for Defense Analysis, and the University of Maryland. The topical sequence and style of presentation were selected to provide a somewhat rigorous presentation of techniques and abstract notions. This first volume presents a development of the calculus of a function of a single variable, linear algebra and linear programming, and topics from the calculus of functions of several variables including Lagrange multipliers and the Kuhn-Tucker conditions. The presentation of these topics includes brief discussions of a limited number of applications in the systems area.

Sadovsky, V. N., editor. Research on General Systems Theory and Systems Research, Yearbook - 1969. Moscow, 1969. These volumes, in Russian, include papers by Ludwig von Bertalanffy.

Texty ke studiu teorie rizeni Rada: Teorie systemu e její aplikace. Cast III. Vysoka Skola Politicka KSC, 1969. This volume, in Czech, contains papers by A. Rapoport, L. von Bertalanffy, and other members of the Society.

von Bertalanffy, Ludwig. General System Theory. New York: George Braziller, Inc., 1969. 289 pages. \$3.95 paperbound, \$8.95 cloth. This volume describes one of the most exciting and significant developments in the contemporary analysis of scientific inquiry, and presents an introduction to general system theory, its principles, methodology, and its relevance to various fields.

OTHER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW SEMINAR OFFERED BY SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE

An interdisciplinary seminar entitled "Assembly of the Sciences" is to be offered under the sponsorship of the Center for Interdisciplinary Creativity, Southern Connecticut State College. The seminar will be conducted by Edward Haskell, Chairman, Council for Unified Research and Education, and past president, New York chapter, Society for General Systems Research. The seminar is designed for graduate and exceptional undergraduate students, superintendents and other educational administrators, teachers, research scientists and other professional personnel in industry and government.

The intent of the seminar is to provide an orientation to a newly developed, simplified approach to establishing functional communication bridgeheads between the social, biological, physical sciences, and the humanities and fine arts. Techniques of traditional specialization are to be extended to the task of assembling the basic data of the traditional sciences into a master or meta-scientific model, where analogous concepts and processes in different fields are used as common denominators.

This unified conception of science is to be applied to the task of attacking systematically the major educational, social, political, and technical problems of our day. Such problems as deteriorating cities and ecosystems, crisis-ridden political systems, and obsolete educational curricula methods and institutions will be related to students' concerns.

SYMPOSIUM ON APPROACHES TO POLICY SCIENCES

Policy Sciences is an emerging interdiscipline that is concerned with the study of the development and improvement of policy-making. This new field of study focuses on public policy-making and is based on the behavioral sciences and analytical concepts from fields such as decision theory, general systems theory, management sciences, and related areas. The emphasis of policy sciences is upon improving policy-making and the combining of pure and applied research into a instrumental-normative ap-

proach for relating means with intermediate goals. Stress is placed on the development of metapolicies (or policies on policies), which includes the consideration of approaches to policy-making, analysis of policy, policy-making systems, and strategies utilized in policy-making.

The symposium on Approaches to Policy Sciences, organized by Professor Yehezkel Dror of the RAND Corporation (on leave from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem), will be held on Sunday, December 28, 1969, in the Sheraton-Boston Hotel, Hampton Room.

DAVID B. BORROW, Acting Director, Behavioral Sciences, Advanced Research Projects Agency: "Decision Information, Computers, and the Policy Sciences";

TIMOTHY COSTELLO, Director, Doctorate Program in Policy Sciences, State University of New York at Buffalo (final subject is not yet formulated);

YEHEZKEL DROR, Senior Staff Member, RAND Corporation (on leave from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem): "Prolegomenon to Policy Sciences: From Muddling Through to Meta-Policymaking";

WILLIAM GORHAM, President, Urban Institute: "Comments on Policy Sciences Applications";

ERICH JANTSCH, Consultant on Planning and Forecasting: "From Forecasting and Planning to Policy Sciences";

HERMAN KAHN, Director, Hudson Institute: "The Increasing Problem of Trained Incapacity";

HAROLD LASWELL, Professor, Yale University: "The Emerging Conception of Policy Sciences";

HARRY ROWEN, President, RAND Corporation: "Policy Analysis in Action: The Implications of Experience";

MELVIN WEBBER, Head, Social Policy Planning Program, University of California, Berkeley: "Some Problems of a General Theory of Planning."

JOINT MEETING OF GENERAL SYSTEMS WITH GENERAL SEMANTICS

A joint meeting of the Society and the Institute of General Semantics is being planned for April, 1970. Dr. A. Berkley Driessel, who is representing the Society, would like very much to receive expressions from members who have interests in language, behavior, general semantics and general systems. Dr. Driessel welcomes indications of general interest, research activities, and the desire to participate in the joint meeting planned for April. Please mail your communications to: Dr. A. Berkley Driessel, Office of the Vice President and Provost, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305.

Society for General Systems Research

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in the Society is open to all qualified persons. Privileges of membership include the right to:

1. Receive a copy of the YEARBOOK (published each December), the Quarterly GENERAL SYSTEMS BULLETIN, and other papers and monographs occasionally issued;
2. Join and participate in local and regional chapter activities, and the activities and programs of the "special interest" groups;
3. Attend and participate in general Society meetings; e.g., the Annual Meeting held in conjunction with A.A.A.S., International Meetings, and joint meetings with other organizations;
4. Vote as a current Regular Member of the Society (Student Membership does not carry the right to vote) at the Annual Meetings and otherwise as appropriate; and
5. Enjoy other benefits which presently or will accrue, such as the right to purchase copies of the Annual Meeting Proceedings at a substantial discount.

To facilitate the processing of your application, please send a copy of your recent vita, together with one of the following if possible:

1. Letters of recommendation from two current members of the Society; or
2. Indication of membership in an organization affiliated either with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (A.A.A.S.) or the American Council of Learned Societies (A.C.L.S.).

Membership dues are applied to the current year in which funds are received, and entitle the admitted applicant to all issuances of the Society having occurred that year. Since YEARBOOKS are issued each December, new members will be sent a copy of that volume to be issued in the coming December. New Regular Members are entitled to vote commencing at the next Annual Meeting of the Society held in late December each year in conjunction with A.A.A.S.

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Annual Dues are currently (1969) set at \$10.00 for Regular Membership or \$5.00 for Student Membership. Please send your check or money order (in U.S.A. funds, please), together with this application and other supporting documents to:

SOCIETY FOR GENERAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH
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