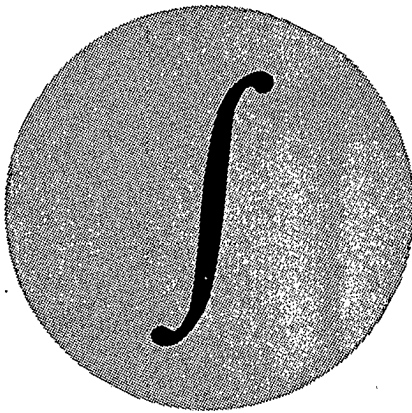


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Society for General Systems Research

An International Organization for
the Development of Theoretical Systems

*Affiliated with the American Assn. for the Advancement of Science
and with U.N.E.S.C.O. (Paris, France)*

GENERAL

SYSTEMS

YEARBOOK

VOLUME I
(1956)

through

VOLUME XVI
(1971)



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STATEMENT OF EDITORIAL POLICY
for the *General Systems Yearbook*
and the *General Systems Journal*

Historically, the principal aim of the Society for General Systems Research has been to encourage the development of theoretical systems which are applicable to more than one of the traditional departments of knowledge. All sciences develop theoretical systems of concepts, relationships, and models. Many of these systems are isomorphic, but their similarity is undetected because of differences in terminology and of other barriers to communication among specialists. Furthermore, systems which have been well worked out can be of assistance in the development of others.

The major purposes of general systems research have, therefore, been:

1. To investigate the isomorphy of concepts, laws, and models in various fields, and to help in useful transfers from one field to another;
2. To encourage the development of adequate theoretical models in the fields which lack them;
3. To minimize the duplication of theoretical effort in different fields; and
4. To promote the unity of science through improving communication among specialists.

The major publication of the Society has been the *General Systems Yearbook*, issued annually in December. The first *Yearbook* appeared in 1956 and contained both original contributions and reprints of articles deemed useful for an inter- and trans-disciplinary systems point of view. This pattern has been followed over the years. Commencing in the Spring of 1972, however, a new internaional *General Systems Journal* is planned for quarterly publication. Henceforth, therefore, the following editorial policies will be operative:

1. The *General Systems Journal* will consider for publication original research and educational contributions, while
2. The *General Systems Yearbook* will comprise material which, in the judgment of its editors and within the obvious constraints imposed by space, represents the best of the general systems article-length literature which appeared during the preceding year.

Thus, the *Journal* will have as its essential objective the provision of a primary vehicle for the communication of inderdisciplinary, transcontextual literature to a worldwide audience. The evolving structure of the editorial board of the *Journal* will increasingly reflect the multi- and international nature of the Society. Space in the *Journal* will be allocated so as reasonably to assure publication of work appropriately representative of the general systems contributions being generated by researchers and practitioners in a wide spectrum of academic and professional disciplines throughout the world.

The following general criteria will govern editorial selection:

1. Originality and general interest of the paper from scientific and/or educational points of view;
2. Orientation of the material to a general systems frame of reference;
3. General quality of presentation (use of language, clarity of expression, syntax of argument, etc.); and
4. Accessibility of the content to a wide range of readers possessing various levels and kinds of analytic skills. Thus, while some manuscripts will be acceptable despite their tendency toward substantial reliance upon literal and formal languages, the content emphasis will be upon thought which is expressed primarily in natural language.

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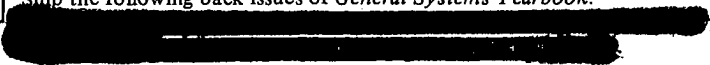
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