New Humanism, Technology and Civilizations in the Global University System (GUS)

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Alliance of Civilizations

- Dialogue, culture and civilization
- Is technocratic pragmatism of high-tech culture replacing religion, politics, and ideologies in creating utopias?
- Self-learning and Open Educational Resources (OER)
- Media and information literacy
- Peace

Contribution to a world civic culture

The objective is to create a peaceful, inter-dependent world which would be a good place for people to live. No one society can impose a universal order acceptable to all other societies. The creation of species identity that will encompass cultural diversity is a major challenge (Elise Boulding 1988)

Towards Global Civilization: The Great Minds: Aristotle, Sakyamuni, and Confucius. China Block Printing Museum at Yangzhou, Yangzhou Museum

DR. SARVEPALLI RADHAKRISHNAN (1888-1975)

- By interpreting Indian thought in western terms and showing that it was imbued with reason and logic he was able to give Indians a new sense of esteem, who were overcome by inferiority complex by imperial forces

- The philosophical systems of each tradition are comprehensible within the terms of the other. He wrote authoritative exegeses of India's religious and philosophical literature for the English speaking world

- Western philosophers, despite all claims to objectivity, were influenced by theological influences of their own culture

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
(Founded in 1946)

Archibald MacLeish

(American poet and librarian, Chairman of the Committee

which drafted the Preamble)

"Of course we can educate for world peace. I would be willing, for my own part, to say that there is no possible way of getting world peace except through education.Which means education of the peoples of the world. All you can do by arrangements between governments is to remove the causes of disagreement which may become, in time, causes of war. But peace, as we are all beginning to realize, is something a great deal more than the absence of war. Peace is positive and not negative. Peace is a way of living together which excludes war, rather than a period without war in which peoples try to live together." (The Unesco Courier, October 1985: 27)

FROM EVOLUTIONARY HUMANISM TO NEW HUMANISM

- Unesco constitution, "peace must be founded, if it is not to fail, upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind", Unesco Chair

- Huxley and "evolutionary humanism"

- Towards new humanism, Human Rights & Human Responsibilities, Individuality and responsibility: higher humanity (Sitaram)

UNITWIN / UNESCO Chairs Programme

I. Definition and Background

➢ UNITWIN is the abbreviation for the University Twinning and Networking.

➢ The UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme, established in 1992, is conceived as a way to advance research, training and programme development in higher education by building university networks and encouraging inter-university cooperation through transfer of knowledge across borders.

II. UNITWIN in figures (as of 21.04.2010)

659 UNESCO Chairs
 65 UNITWIN Networks
770 Higher Education institutions
127 Member States

New Strategic Orientations of the UNITWIN Programme (2007)

➢ Creation of a new generation of UNESCO Chairs / UNITWIN Networks, to be acting as "**think-tanks"** and as "**bridge-builders**", between research outcomes and decision-making, as well as between academia and local communities

➢ Realignment with UNESCO's priorities

➢ Creation of regional or sub-regional poles of excellence and innovation

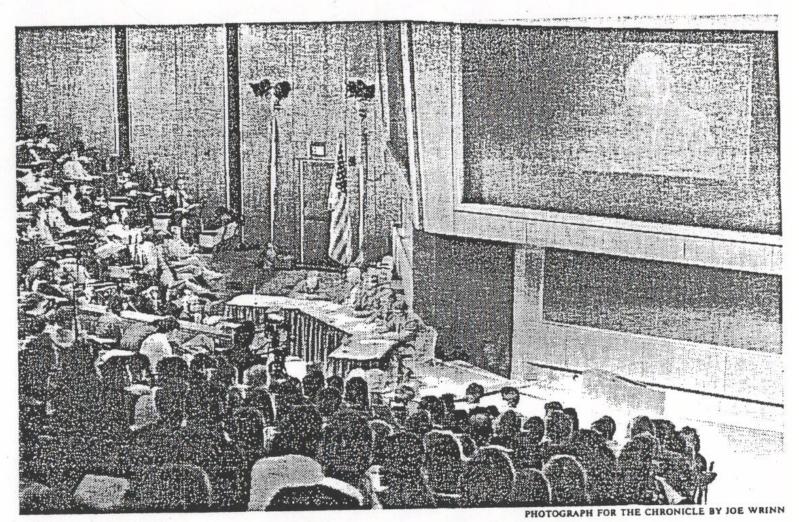➢ Stimulation of triangular North-South-South cooperation

Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue Week (UNESCO)

Media, the Internet, libraries and other information providers play an essential role in the way other peoples, cultures, religions and ethnic groups are perceived. Media and information providers also have the fundamental power to promote diversity, pluralism and intercultural dialogue.

http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/media-development/media-literacy/milid-week/

Students From Tufts, Moscow State To Discuss Arms Race

- AP , Associated Press AP News Archive **Feb. 19, 1988** 3:37 PM ET

- MEDFORD, MASS. MEDFORD, Mass. (AP) _ About 350 students from Tufts University will discuss the Cold War and nuclear arms race in a classroom session with undergraduate counterparts in the Soviet Union via television, the school said.

- The March 5 teleconference is the first of three scheduled sessions between students from Tufts and Moscow State University in a jointly run course on the superpowers' arms buildup.

PHOTOGRAPH FOR THE CHRONICLE BY JOE WRINN

Professors and students at Tufts University participate in a two-hour teleconference with their counterparts from Moscow State University.

14

Global Lecture Hall

- In the Global Lecture Hall (GLH) world-wide demonstration in July 1994, Dr. Takeshi Utsumi (Chairman of GLOSAS/USA and President of GU/USA) stated "This is one step closer to my long-standing dream of realizing Globally Collaborative Environmental Peace Gaming through Global Neural Computer Network of the Global Brain".

Global Brain

Oriental (or Eastern) Culture	Occidental (or Western) Culture
Polytheism with buddhism, Confucianism, and Shintoism, i.e,, comparison of Gods.	Monotheism with Judeo-Christianity, Islam, i.e., absolute.
Synthesis, literature and art with a subjective and emotional thinking	Analytical, scientific, objective, rational and critical thinking
Truth, Goodness and Beauty	Justice, Equality and Freedom
Both are to be connected with "Rainbow Bridge Across the Pacific" and with 信, 望, 愛 (belief, hope and love).	

Intercultural communication

- "While Christianity and Islam encourage active and sometimes aggressive ways of life, Oriental religions such as Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism all encourage passive, quiet and modest ways of life"

Youichi ITO, Keio University, Japan (1990)

Elise Boulding

Building a Global Civic Culture:Education for an Interdependent World.

Columbia University, Teachers College, New York 1988

Boulding: Diversity. social order and universalism

- Western approach
- Indian approach
- Chinese approach
- Islamic approach

- **Growing up in a High Technology Culture: Problems of Knowing**

Hi-Tech Culture & Learning

- By making learning a tool of politics and economics utilitarianism has robbed learning of its inherent dignity and independence (Toyenbee & Ikeda 1976)

- Technocratic rationality produces restricted, procedurally driven thinking (Gowin 1988)

- The world is fragmenting (Gilberto Gil)

A SHARED HERITAGE OF MANKIND
(Abdus Salam, 1926 - 1996)

- The Greek Commonwealth
- Chinese, Indian, Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Afghan period
- Western science & technology (after 1100)
- Central Africa, Maya, Aztecs etc
- ***Science and technology are cyclical***

Abdus Salam: Global vision of a consortium of universities (1966)

"… the building up of literacy, the building up of infrastructure for science teaching as well as for scientific research, the need for building up of libraries as well as of laboratories and, above all, of building up indigenous scientific communities,"
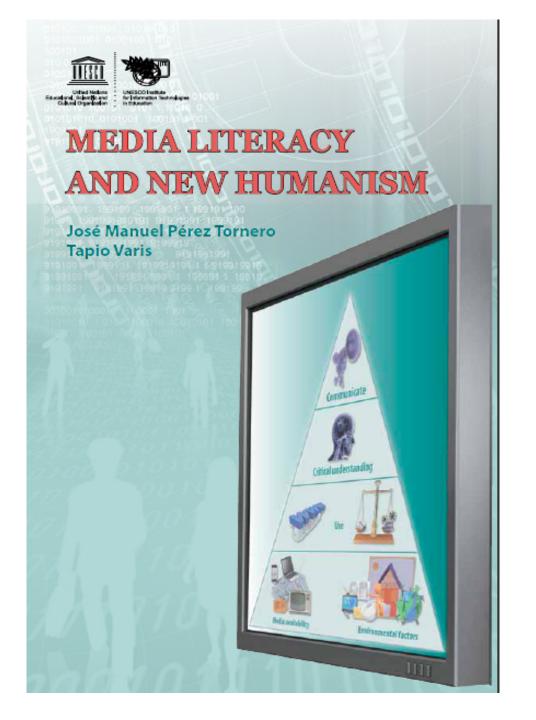
Julian Huxley, First DG of UNESCO 1946-48

- The main architect of the new evolutionary synthesis
- "Higher humanity"
- Huxley's humanism came from his appreciation that mankind was in charge of its own destiny, and this raised the need for a sense of direction and a system of ethics

Mr. Koichiro Matsuura
DG Unesco (1999-2009)

- "It is necessary to build up large movement to humanize globalization, based on solidarity, on the spirit of caring for and sharing with others"

- Open Educational Resources (OER) initiative as a cooperation mechanism for the open, non-commercial use of educational resources

Ms.Irina Bokova
DG Unesco (2009-)

- New Humanism is not only theoretical but also practical

- New humanism in the global society must prioritise a new sense of respect for multiplicity and cultural diversity and must support media development with the goal of consolidating the new culture of peace

New humanistic awareness

NEW HUMANISM

- Human being over technology

- Critical to technology

- Autonomy over global communication

- Diversity

- Universal rights and responsibilities

OLD HUMANISM

- Human being over theology

- Critical to classic texts

- Discovery of self

- New world

- Cosmopolitanism
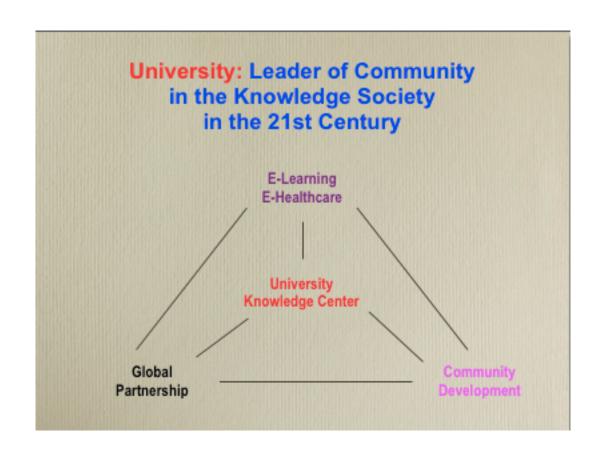
NEW CITIZENS, INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE AND MEDIA LITERACY:
AN EDUCATION FOR PEACE

- "Humanity should govern the development of technology instead of technology governing the development of humanity" (Perez Tornero & Varis)
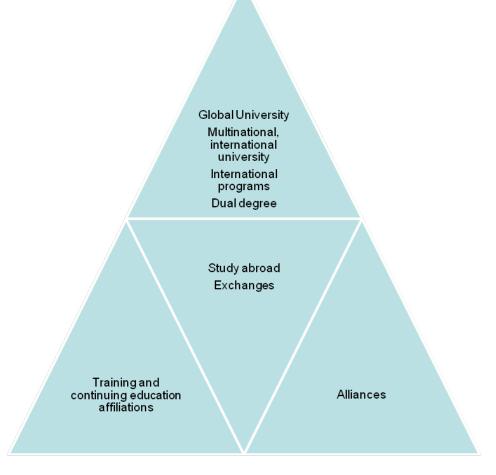
"Global Peace Through The Global University System"

Global University System (GUS)

From International to Global?
Danger of technocracy?

Inspiration of the best traditions of American thinking

- Extreme freedom of thought,

- An emphasis on independent thinking,

- A steady immigration of new minds,

- A risk-taking culture with no stigma attached to trying and failing,

- A non-corrupt bureaucracy, and

- Financial markets and a venture capital system that are unrivaled at taking new ideas and turning them into global products.

Mission Statement

- Identify, test, and facilitate the deployment of broadband Internet and related technologies that are affordable and accessible for underdeveloped areas of the world,

- Coordinate the delivery of content and rich educational experiences leading to a GUS degree,

- Provide a global infrastructure for collaboration among faculty, students, graduates, and policy makers in universities, healthcare institutions, corporations, and governments.

The Philosophies and Principles

- **Transcultural, Globalwide Initiative**
- **Education for Moral Leadership**
- **Priority on Academic Freedom**
- **Emphasis on Quality Education**
- **Responsiveness to Student Needs and Aspirations**
- **Transnational Collaboration on Research**
- **Commitment to Openness**
- **Cultural Sensitivity Without Fragmentation or Homogenization**

UNESCO WCHE 2009

- **Social responsibility of higher education**:

"Higher education institutions, through their core functions (research, teaching and service to the community) carried out in the context of institutional autonomy and academic freedom, should increase their interdisciplinary focus and promote critical thinking and active citizenship"

UNESCO WCHE 2009

- International cooperation in higher education should be based on solidarity and mutual respect and the promotion of humanistic values and intercultural dialogue.

Knowledge for What? Education for What?

- Are we endorsing the hegemony of the techno-scientific model in defining legitimate and productive knowledge?

- Should the term "Digital Age" be replaced by multicultural world?

- The spirit of knowledge sharing and caring

- New humanism

A culture of peace

- *The creation of a culture of peace and peaceful understanding between communities and people must be the ultimate value for media literacy:* this means accepting the elementary principle that no one is right without dialogue and there is no peace without freedom and justice.