

News Items

S³

The Circle of Human Systems Management is not the only 'circle' making waves today. There is also an S³ (S-cube) circle.

Social Systems Science Program (S³) of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania started distributing a newsletter, *S³ Notes*, reaching almost 300 people, members of the 'S³ circle', three times a year. The brainchild of Russell Ackoff, the S³ program is now being directed by Hasan Ozbekhan.

The S³ program at the Wharton School combines doctoral training with research performed mainly at the Busch Center and the Management and Behavioral Science Center. During its five-year existence it has accumulated over 80 graduates and students. Students and faculty use systems thinking and scientific method to help solve problems of clients in the public

and private sectors. The problems are often normative and strategic, rather than tactical and operational, and social and organizational issues are emphasized. A directory of the S³ network is going to be published soon.

Russell Ackoff built the S³ Program after some unsuccessful attempts to re-direct the Operations Research Department at the Wharton School. At the time of his retirement the S³ has surpassed OR in the visibility, quality and the number of students. With a sense of satisfaction, Ackoff could recently declare: "American Operations Research is dead even though it has yet to be buried."

To receive *S³ Notes* one should write to: The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, 400 Vance Hall, Philadelphia, PA 19104, U.S.A.

Circle of Human Systems Management

Perceptive readers have perhaps noticed that in some HSM promotional materials, editorial statements, etc., we often refer to HSM 'members' or 'membership'. Although *Human Systems Management* is published neither by nor for any particular group, there is a growing circle of highly motivated people who felt the need to identify themselves more closely and more explicitly with the ideas represented in *Human Systems Management*. Thus, there is the *Circle of Human Systems Management*, a core which shall gradually outgrow into a society or an invisible

college with ever widening sphere of interests and participation.

The Circle was conceived by Ian I. Mitroff and Milan Zeleny in 1974. Its membership has so far grown only through personal invitations and recommendations. The first issue of "Co-Enzyme", the internal communication medium of the Circle, appeared in June 1975. It has gone into thirteen issues to date. It was on the pages of "Co-Enzyme", where the principles of HSM Journal were hammered out.

In recognition of their support we have decided to publish the names of continuing members of the Circle and designate them as *Founding Members of Human Systems Management*:

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Attention HSM circle members!

We have been able to secure a rather attractive subscription price for volume 1 of HSM for all circle members in good standing. As you know the institutional price of HSM is about \$ 68 while the personal price is about \$ 40. *The HSM Circle members are entitled to a yearly subscription price of \$ 20, including postage and handling!*



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Make checks payable to HSM and send the payment and this form to: M. Zeleny, HSM Policy Coordinator, European Institute for Advanced Studies in Management, Place Stéphanie 20, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium

How to join HSM Circle and maintain good standing?

One can join the Circle upon the payment of \$ 15 yearly fee and upon filling out a special membership form obtainable from HSM Policy Coordinator. This fee entitles a member to receive the "Co-Enzyme", an internal communicator of the Circle, and to maintain the membership. Part of the fee is set aside for preparing the First Conference on Human Systems Management.

Important! Both the membership fee of \$ 15 and the subscription of \$ 20 must be forwarded directly to HSM Policy Coordinator, *not* to North-Holland Publishing Company. The address: Milan Zeleny, HSM Policy Coordinator, European Institute for Advanced Studies in Management, Place Stéphanie 20, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium.

Payments should be made in US \$ only. (One can also use the appropriate section of the tear-out subscription sheet (see below).

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