

The Program of ISI

B.H. Banathy

ISI is a non-profit public benefit research and educational community; operating as a network of Research Fellows, who are dedicated to developing and living by a systems and design culture, helping each other, and serving our communities and the larger society. We understand that ISI: (1) is a network of Conversation Communities, (2) assists in the development of Conversation Communities, and (3) provides guidance to ISI fellows who organize conversation events (CEs).

ISI's history and role began in the early '80s. ISI has since coordinated 25 conversations in 8 countries. [Austria, Crete, England, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Spain, US.] In the course of the years we have designated the Fuschl Conversation in Austria and the Asilomar Conversations in the US as "Core Conversations," as these have continuity in program and participation.

ISI fellows have an open invitation to establish Conversation Communities and organize Conversation Events. Conversation Communities (CC) are established as an on-going program, having a "home-base." (E.g., the Fuschl and the Asilomar CCs; the East Coast ISI research lab; and the Idaho Systems Institute, and affiliate of ISI.)

CCs may organize recurring one-week intensive programs or distributed monthly one/two day programs. Conversation Events (CE) are organized by ISI fellows at various locations as single events or repeated but discontinuous events. CEs can be transformed into CCs as continuity of participation and program are attained.