

ESEE NEWSLETTER N°1 - MARCH 1997

Dear Friends,

Here is the first issue of the European Society for Ecological Economics Newsletter. In this Newsletter, we will try to provide you with relevant information on ESEE and on ecological economics in general. Our goal is to diffuse information on Conferences, Workshops, Networks, Publications, and on European teachings in ecological economics. We also wish to include small texts (comments, thoughts, etc. - maximum 200 words !) from members of the Society. So should you have information that you would like to be published in this Newsletter, please send it to us by e-mail (esee@c3ed.uvsq.fr). Your comments and ideas to improve this Newsletter are a/s/o welcome.

In this issue, you will find an introductory word from Sylvie Faucheux, the President; some thoughts from two of the pioneers of ecological economics thinking in Europe -- René Passet (Paris) and Juan Martinez-Alier (Barcelona) -- on the potential of a European Society for Ecological Economics; and various items of information on ESEE and related activities. We are also pleased to announce the 2nd Conference of the ESEE, to be held at Geneva, Switzerland, on the 5-6 March 1998.

A Word from the President

by Sylvie Faucheux

Ecological Economics has theoretical and policy-oriented faces. In what ways can we contribute to policy formation and policy debates? In a context of strong uncertainty and conflict (hence of indeterminacy), it is possible to propose a "satisficing democratic decision-making model" for sustainable development. This means to depart from the orthodox economic rationality hypothesis, and to embrace a wider notion of rationality: so-called procedural rationality.

An adequate procedure can be characterised by the two following principles: the specification of "intermediate goals" choices and the notion of "satisfactory" (satisficing) choices. In this perspective, the sustainable development objective is approached in terms of three broad dimensions: ecological, economic and social. And each of these axes is divided in sub-objectives or sub-criteria. The new structured multicriteria analysis methods (as opposed to traditional decision-making support methods such as cost/benefit analysis) allow one to evaluate the sustainability conditions of a nation understood as an open system, to set a hierarchy between sub-goals that are not simultaneously attainable, and to design a "compromise" solution which is "more or less" satisfying for all, although not unique and optimal.

Integration of environmental concerns in democratic decision-making also raises the question of the pertinence of environmental evaluation methods (or more precisely internationalisation tools) and of the application of such methods to the European decision-making context. The quantification of harms is context-dependent, and views on what matters are very sensitive to exposure to environmental risks. Norms, economic instruments and negotiation procedures for conflict resolution depend on institutional contexts. Hence, there exists no unique evaluation procedure appropriate to all contexts. On the contrary, the European decision-maker could benefit from a whole range of methods, whose validity depend on the specific problem at hand.

In recent years, the social and intellectual context of scientific work has been transformed by the taking into account of the issues of risks and of environment, and also by the rising distrust of public opinion for scientific advice. Numerous versions of reductionist science have been elaborated and applied in economics, using ever more

sophisticated mathematical techniques, from game theory to Bayesian statistics or chaos and catastrophe theory. The recent rise in interest for complex systems indicates a change of attitude and a shift in direction. In this framework, mathematics should be used more as a means of representation and shared understanding than as the basis for some deterministic description of reality.

The taking into account, in real time, of scientific, economic, and social dimensions, together in a sort of interdisciplinary dialogue and social learning process, can provide a basis to help European democratic societies in the evaluation of environmental risks as well as in the definition of priorities and in the revision of actions relating to environmental issues.

There is no unique and universally valid method (such as optimisation in traditional cost-benefit analysis) to characterise acceptable and unacceptable environmental risks, to determine an equitable distribution of costs and exposure relating to environmental risks, or to determine the right strategies to be implemented. Norms, economic instruments and negotiation procedures that are implemented by decision-makers in our democratic societies, need not only be theoretically corroborated following the requirements of internal coherence and of empirical validation that are essential to the traditional scientific approach, they also need to be socially legitimate. In other words, actors involved in environmental issues will accept these instruments and procedures if they answer their own concerns, including their concern for future generations.

In particular we must remain critical towards economic instruments that our European societies (and more generally Western societies) are proposing to the developing world (debt/nature swaps, privatisation, generalised monetary valuation of the "global common goods", new green economic instruments, etc.). The lack of sensitivity to the ethical concerns and to the economic and cultural specificity of these countries could eventually lead to results contradictory to the initial aims of such instruments and create a social un-sustainability which might well be interpreted as "green colonialism".

About Ecological Economics

by *Juan Martinez-Alier*

Ecological Economics was defined by Bob Costanza in 1991 as "the science and management of sustainability". In a less assertive style, Ecological Economics could be defined as the study of the (un)sustainability of the economy. Ecological Economics does not resort to a unique measure of value expressed in a single "numeraire". On the contrary, Ecological Economics encompasses neo-classical Environmental and Resource Economics but it also goes beyond it, by also including the physical appraisal of the environmental impact of the economy. This means that Ecological Economics studies the trends in physical indices (which will often move in a contradictory direction), and it must also study (in a framework of "post-normal science") the new dangers and surprises arising from new technologies or from old technologies gone wrong.

Ecological Economics is another name for Human Ecology, as the study of the interplay between humans and the

physical environment. The ecology of humans is different from that of other animals in some respects. There is no risk of "naturalistic" reductionism, if we bear in mind that human demography and territoriality are very much influenced by social and political structures, and if we take into account inequality in the exosomatic use of energy and materials.

If you want to argue against any of these statements, if you feel they are worth discussing, then you are perhaps an actual or potential member of the European Society for Ecological Economics, itself an organic branch of the International Society for Ecological Economics (which has many European roots). Or, if you think all this is interdisciplinary nonsense or transdisciplinary bla-bla-bla, then we will leave you to relax in the congenial surroundings of your own self-sufficient university department or institute.

ESEE What for ?

by *Rent? Passet*

The very name of the Society indicates the double nature of the needs that it will have to answer to. First, and in opposition to the "conventional wisdom", ESEE must insist on the originality of an *ecological economic* science. The encounter of economics with the biosphere cannot be limited to the unveiling of new fields of application while economics remains unchanged in essence. Ecological economist must show that, far beyond a simple internalisation of externalities or contingent valuations, the task is to rethink the economic science itself, by means of a trans-disciplinary approach. This approach, as indicated by the "trans-" prefix ("across" and "beyond"), goes across disciplines, brings them together, and goes beyond them, in a conception of the human being that leads to the ethical question of the double human responsibility: the intragenerational and the intergenerational responsibilities.

Second, ESEE must highlight the *European specificity*. According to Edgar Morin, the distinctive attribute of the European spirit, is that there is no European spirit - for the better and for the worse - but that there is, as in Antic Greece, a continuing turbulence of theses and of events whose confrontations create the necessary conditions for a perpetual creativity. It is from this turbulence that the humanism of the Enlightenment was born and still survives in Europe, more necessary than ever before. It is from this

turbulence also that the "complex" thought is issued, on a continent where it flourishes more than anywhere else.

To answer this double need, ESEE should be a permanent tool for discussions, interpersonal relations, information exchange, both internal and oriented towards the outside. More precisely, such a structure could help European researchers - whose diversity is a source of both richness and division - to better know each other and to better be known outside. This could perhaps be done by offering in this newsletter a tribune to the different research teams; by publishing abstracts of their major contributions. It could also be improved by the creation of a database, accessible to all, of research, works and publications done. And by the creation of a library containing the most fundamental and most representative European books in ecological economics. Even better by obtaining the financial means for their translation and publication in English, as this is essential today. So many other things can be organised...

This, some will say, requires means that we do not have. But it is not the question. One does not need to do everything at once, but to start in the right directions. The resulting successes will spur new ideas and it is in the name of passed successes that one mobilises the necessary means for future advances.

NETWORKS

With the support of the French Ministry of Environment, the C3ED is creating a European network on Growth, Environment and Sustainable Development. The aims of

this French initiative are to co-ordinate and to improve exchanges of information on existing research on sustainable development in order to facilitate interactions between researchers of different schools of thought, and between researchers and policy-makers. If you are interested, contact Jessy Tsang at the C3ED.

... ESEE soon on the Web ...

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Soon, you will be able to contact our site on the Web. Available information at the site will include new activities, Newsletters, discussion forums and much more.

Environment and Development Economics (email: ede@york.ac.uk; editor Charles Perrings; published by Cambridge University Press) is available to ESEE members at 20% off normal price for individual subscriptions. Contact: Journals Marketing Dept., C.U.P., The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 1 BR, United Kingdom. Fax: +44 1223 315052. Or email at: journals_marketing@cup.cam.ac.uk.

DETAILS OF FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS FROM ESEE

ESEE Newsletter No. 1 -- Published by the European Society for Ecological Economics -- March 1997

(Note: These lists of book contents are provisional; they represent the publishers' planning at this stage)

Ecology Society Economy: Life Sciences Dimensions

Coeditors: Udo Ganslosser and Martin O'Connor, Filander Press (Germany)

Scheduled appearance: mid-1997.

Biodiversity and Natural Systems Management
Cristina SALVIONI, «Biodiversity loss and agriculture»

Carl-Erik SCHULZ, «The Interface Between Trade and Bioeconomics»

Olivier THEBAUD, «Searching for Common Ground : Conflict, Value and Institutions in the Management of Marine Biodiversity»

Martine ANTONA, Michel TROMMETTER, Franck-Dominique VIVIEN, «The question of instrumentalization : is cost-benefit analysis appropriate to the issue of biodiversity protection?>>

Jens B. AUNE, Solveig GLOMSROD, Vegard IVERSEN, Henrik WIIG, « Structural adjustment and land degradation : A CGE analysis for Tanzania »

Jitendra DAS, « Temporal Impact of Dynamic Forest Structure on a Wildlife Population : a Joint Production Function Approach for Integrated Forest Management »

Ecological Economics Concepts/Systems Analyses.

Werner HEDIGER, «Ecosystem management and sustainability : an ecological-economic model»

Peter EDER and Michael NARODOSLAWSKY, «Input-output based valuation of the compatibility of regional activities with the environmental assimilation capacities»

Bernd KLAUER, «Time Scale and the Operationalization of the Concept of Sustainable Development»

Martin DIETERICH, «An Ecological Perspective on

Sustainability»

M.A.J. MULDER and W. BIESIOT, «Physical Constraints on Sustainable Development Paths

Jacob J. KRABBE and Willem J.M. HEIJMAN, «Man's Alienation from Nature and its Reconciliation : an Ecological and Institutional Economic Approach»

Paul JEFFREY & Mark LEMON, «Understanding The Dynamics of Sustainable Communities : Stochastics, Cartesians and Social Networks»

Amédée MOLLARD, Christine LE ROCH, Anne LACROIX, Francois BEL and Corinne GRAPPEY, «The Choice of Economic Instruments Applied to Non-Point Water Pollution»

Industrial / Ecological Metabolism

Julia HAAKE and Fritz HINTERBERGER, «Economic and Ecological Aspects of Products Durability»

Jeroen VAN DEN BERGH and Patricia KANDELAARS, «Integrated Chain Analysis of Materials and Product Flows»

Mario GIAMPIETRO, «Energy Budget and Demographic Changes in Socioeconomic Systems»

Klaus Jan NOORMAN and A.J.M. SCHOOT HUIJTERKAMP, «Household Metabolism in the Context of Sustainable Development and Environmental Quality»

Jesper S. SCHOU and Henrik VETTER et alia, «Switching to Organic Farming - Assessing the Consequences using a statistic-historical approach»

Développement Soutenable et Politique Environnementale

Coeditors: Françoise de Bry and Jérôme Ballet, Editions Georg (Geneva, Switzerland)

Scheduled appearance: July 1997.

Part I : Analyse des Politiques Environnementales

BARDE Jean-Philippe, OCDE, direction de l'environnement, 'Stratégies de mise en oeuvre des écotaxes : expérience des pays de l'OCDE et perspectives'

GOUZEE Nadine, WILLEMS Stéphane, Bureau fédéral du Plan (Bruxelles), 'Le projet européen de taxe énergie/CO₂ : the rumors of my death'

CASTELLS Nuria, Commission Européen, MUND A Giuseppe, Université autonome de Barcelone, 'Des solutions aux problèmes d'environnement international : vers une nouvelle approche de l'évaluation intégrée'

CONNOR-LAJAMBE Hélène, 'Les impacts non monétisables pris en compte dans la stratégie de développement soutenable'

KASEMIR Bernd, JAEGER Carlo, EDENHOFER Ottmar, Institut fédéral suisse pour la science environnementale (Duebendorf), 'Structures de complémentarité, analyse coûts-bénéfices et le travail d'évaluation intégrée de l'environnement'

BERTRAND Alain; RAKOTAVAO Solohery, WEBER Jacques, CIRAD - GREEN, Paris, 'Quand l'économie affronte l'écologie humaine : le cas du second plan environnement de Madagascar'

PERIERA RAMOS Maria da Conceição, Université de Porto, 'Emploi, formation et politiques de travail pour l'environnement'

de BRY Françoise, C3ED, Université de Versailles-Saint Quentin, 'Politique d'environnement, politique d'emploi : une synergie patente'

Part II : Aspects Théoriques des Politiques Environnementales

HOURADE Jean-Charles, CIRED, Paris, 'Analyse de scénarios européens relatifs à la qualité environnementale et aux politiques de développement durable'

BARANZINI Andrea, Centre d'études de l'énergie, Université de Genève, 'Politique environnementale de second ordre et non convexité : l'asymétrie entre les taxes et le marché des droits à polluer'

ROMAGNY Bruno, C. LOBRY et CANALIS Durand, Université de Nice, 'Tragédie des Communaux et dilemme du Prisonnier'

GRIMAL Laurent, KEPHALLIASCOS, (LIRHE), Université de Toulouse 1, 'Un essai sur la dynamique entre croissance qualitative et emploi'

NICHOLAI Isabelle, C3ED, Université de Versailles-Saint-Quentin, 'Quelle rationalité pour le développement soutenable'

Part III : Quelle Ethique pour le Développement Soutenable

ZACCAI Edwin, Université Libre de Bruxelles, 'Caractérisation du rôle des acteurs dans la mise oeuvre du développement durable'

MERAL Philippe, C3ED, Université de Versailles-Saint-Quentin, 'Peut-on concevoir l'éthique du développement soutenable comme une simple relation parent-enfant'

HARIBEY Jean-Marie, Université Montesquieu, Bordeaux IV, 'Développement soutenable et justice sociale : l'outil de la réduction des inégalités de revenus'

BALLET Jerome, C3ED, Université de Versailles-Saint-Quentin, 'Développement soutenable et sacrifice'

RAVAIOLI Carla, Rome, 'Les relations entre l'emploi et l'environnement'

LE MENESTREL Marc, PLANES Fabienne, INSEAD (France), 'Rationalité et légitimité : la légitimité des besoins pour prendre une décision fondée sur la rationalité instrumentale'

de BRY Françoise, C3ED, Université de Versailles-Saint-Quentin, 'Analogie entre capital humain et capital naturel : vers un contrat éco-social'

Valuation and Environment

Coeditors: Martin O'Connor and Clive Spash, Edward Elgar (United Kingdom)

Scheduled appearance: late 1997.

PART I

Andrew GIBBONS, The Environment Agency, London (U.K.), "Sustainable development and appraisal methodology : reconciling legislation and principles for the Environment Agency in the UK"

Joan MARTINEZ-ALIER, Giuseppe MUNDA, John O'NEILL, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Bellaterra (Spain), "Incommensurability of values in ecological economics"

Beat BURGENMEIER (Plenary), Bryan G. NORTON and Michael TOMAN
Resources For the Future, Washington DC (USA), "Sustainability : Ecological and Economic Perspectives"

Peter SÖDERBAUM, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala (Sweden), "Outlines of a Microeconomics for Ecological Economics"

PART II

Erkki MÄNTYMAA, University of Oulu, Kajaani (Finland), "Willingness to pay and willingness to accept : an empirical test of differences with environmental commodities in a CVM field study"

Douglas C. MACMILLAN and David HARLEY, Environmental and Sociology Group, Aberdeen (U.K.)
"Cost Effectiveness Analysis of Conservation Programmes"

S. GOODMAN, W. SEABROOKE, Centre for Coastal Zone Management, Portsmouth (U.K.), "Assessing Public

Preferences for Conservation Characteristics of Coastal Resources "

Gaie MENDELSSOHN, Environment and Development Group, Oxford (U.K.), "Economic Analysis and Species Conservation : the Case of the African Elephant "

Eija MOISSEINEN, University of Joensuu, Karelian Institute (Finland), "On Behavioral Intentions in the Case of the Saimaa Seal. Comparing the contingent valuation approach and attitude-behavior research."

PART III

Helene CONNOR-LAJAMBE, Paris (France), "Taking Non-Monetisable Impacts (NMI) into Account in a Sustainable Development Strategy"

Tom CROWARDS, CSERGE, Norwich (U.K.), "Combining economics, ecology and philosophy : safe minimum standards of environmental protection"

Tim JENKINS and Peter MIDMORE, Institute of Rural Studies, University of Wales, Aberystwyth (U.K.), "Towards an Integrated Understanding of Environmental Quality"

Rüdiger WINK and Dorothee BECKER SOEST, Ruhr-Universität Bochum - Fakultät für Wirtschaft, Bochum (Germany), "Institutional Concepts for a Sustainable Management of Genetic Resources - A Constitutional Economics approach"

Nuria CASTELLS and Giuseppe MUNDA, EC JRC Ispra (Italy), "International Environmental Issues: Towards a New Integrated Assessment"

Sustainability and Firms: Technological Change and the Changing Regulatory Environment

Coeditors: Faye Duchin, Syvie Faucheux, John Gowdy, Isabelle Nicolai; Edward Elgar (United Kingdom)
Scheduled appearance: late 1997.

Contributions include:

Sylvie FAUCHEUX, Isabelle NICHOLAI and Martin O'CONNOR, C3ED, UVSQ, 'Globalisation, Competitiveness, Governance and Environment: What prospects for a Sustainable Development?'

Faye DUCHIN, Dean School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Rensselaer Polytechnic Technology, Lifestyle, and the Classification of Households'

Frank BECKENBACH, Fachbereich Sozialwissen-schaften, Department of Social Sciences, Universität Osnabrück, 'Socio-Technological Innovation and Sustainability'

Francesco FERRANTE, Università di Cassino, Dipartimento Economia e Territorio, 'Localised Technical Change, and the Efficient Control of Global Warming'

Malte FABER^a, John L. R. PROOPS^b, Stefan BAUMGARTNER^a, ^aAlfred Weber-Institut, Universität Heidelberg, ^bEnvironmental Policy Unit, Keele University, 'All Production is Joint Production - A Thermodynamic Analysis'

Patricia KANDELAARS and Jeroen VAN DEN BERGH, Department of Spatial Economics, Vrije Universiteit, 'Integrated Chain Analysis of Materials and Product Flows under Alternative Environmental Policy Packages'

Roberto MALAMAN, Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, 'After the Age of Abatement Technologies? Technological Change for Sustainable Development'

Isabelle NICOLAI, C3ED, UVSQ, 'Technological Innovation and Environment: What Hypothesis of Rationality for a Sustainable Development?'

Rui Ferreira SANTOS, Luis JORDAO, Paula ANTUNES, and Nuno VIDEIRA, Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, New University of Lisbon, 'Environmental Regulations, Firms Strategies and Markets Behavior: Modelling to Learn'

Martin DIEDRICH, Department of Economics, KEELE University, 'Environmental Privatisation, Technological Norms and the Dynamics of Resource Rents'

Valerie MARTIN and Françoise GARCIA, ADEME - Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Energie -, 'The Business Environmental Plan Scheme'

Michel TROMMETTER and Laurent VIGUIER, INRA/SERD Université Grenoble II, 'The Implementation of International Climate Regime: Analysing the Financing of Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Projects'

Antonio CASTRO GUERRA and Vitor SANTOS, Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestao, Technical University of Lisbon, 'Environmental Regulations and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Flows within European'

Matthieu GLACHANT, CERNA - Ecole des Mines de Paris, 'The Use of Regulatory Mechanism Design in Environmental Policy: A Theoretical Critique'

Environmental Policies and Societal Aims

Coeditors: Jan van der Straaten, Clive Spash, Denis Requier-Desjardins, Kluwer (The Netherlands)
Scheduled appearance: late 1997.

Bouwe DIJKSTRA and Andries NENTJES, Department of Economics, Faculty of Law, Groningen (Netherlands), 'The Political Choice of Instruments in Environmental Policy'

Nadine GOUZEE and Stéphane WILLEMS, Bureau Federal du Plan, Brussels (Belgium), 'Le projet européen de taxe Energie/CO₂: the rumors of my death ...'

Francesco FERRANTE, Università di Cassino, (Italy), 'Localised Technical Change, Missing Markets for the Environment and the Efficient Control of Pollution'

Signe KRARUP, AKF Institute of Local Government Studies, Copenhagen (Denmark), 'Do Local Authorities Have Part to Play in a Sustainable Development?'

Anders Chr. HANSEN, Roskilde University - Department of Social Science (Denmark), 'The Use of 'Sustainable Savings' in macroeconomic sustainability analysis'

Maurie J. COHEN, Oxford Centre for the Environment, Ethics and Society (U.K.), 'Ecological Modernisation vs. Reflexive Modernisation: What Can Ecological Economics Learn from the Debate?'

M-Angels ALIO, Xavier KENDELL, Susana LAREDO, Human Geography Department, University of Barcelona (Spain),

'Sustainability and civic participation in Environmental Local Auditing. An approach from the Catalan situation'

Jane CORBETT and Heather VOISEY, CSERGE University of East Anglia, Norwich (U.K.), 'Social Vulnerability, Locality and Sustainability'

Nicholas MACK, Centre for Rural Studies - Queen's University of Belfast (U.K.), 'Units of Belonging Locality and Identity in the Management of Common Pool Resources in Sustainable Rural Development'

Laurent GRIMAL and Charilaos KEPHALIACOS, LIRHE - Université de Toulouse I (France), 'An essay on the dynamics between qualitative growth and employment'

Sytze RIENSTRA and Peter NIJKAMP, Free University of Amsterdam (Netherlands), 'From the Expected to the Desired Future of Passenger Transport; a Stakeholder Approach'

Jean-Marie HARRIBEY, Université Montesquieu Bordeaux IV, Pessac (France), 'Sustainable Development and Social Justice: The Toll of the Reduction of Income Inequalities'

UNIVERSITE DE GENEVE

Faculté des sciences économiques et sociales (SES)

Centre universitaire d'étude des problèmes de l'énergie (CUEPE)

*Centre universitaire d'écologie humaine et des
sciences de l'environnement (ECOLU)*

INSTITUT UNIVERSITAIRE D'ETUDES DU DEVELOPPEMENT (IUED)

ACADEMIE INTERNATIONALE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT (AIE)

Announcement

of the 2nd Conference of the

EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS

to be held at Geneva, Switzerland
on 5 - 6 March 1998

on the theme

« Ecological Economics and Development »

Proposals are invited for scientific papers presenting original and as yet unpublished work,
in any of the following broad categories

CLIMATE AND SOCIETY

Cultural diversity and Global change

Emissions mitigation measures and burden sharing

Actions jointly implemented

BIODIVERSITY AND LAND USE

Valuation and Sustainable Management

Desertification and Deforestation

Genetic Resources : Regimes for Conservation and Exploitation

Urban Development

POLLUTION AND HEALTH

Local and Diffuse Cross-boundary Pollution : Sources and Impacts

Radioactivity

POPULATION DYNAMICS AND RESOURCE USE

Migration, Income distribution, Property rights

Evolutionary perspectives on development and social-ecological change

Energy, Water, Materials : Rational Uses and Recycling

Risk Management, Catastrophes

INSTITUTIONAL ANALYSES

Governance

Social actors and decisionmaking processes

New frontiers in socio-ecological economics

Deadline for Abstracts: 31 October 1997

All Abstracts should be addressed to: Dr. Roderick LAWRENCE
C.U.E.H., UNI MAIL, 102 boulevard Carl Vogt, 1211 Geneva 4, Switzerland
Fax: +4122 705 81 73 Email: lawrence@uni2a.unige.ch

ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS TEACHING IN EUROPE :

International Master and Doctoral Programme in Ecological Economics and Environmental Policy

The Universitat Autònoma (Barcelona) offers a Master's degree and a Doctoral degree in ecological economics and environmental policy. The Master's programme requires two years of courses and a Master's thesis. After the Master's degree, the students may write a Doctoral dissertation to obtain a Doctoral degree. The courses will be given by professors of UAB and invited professors. The basic principles and applications of ecological economics will be presented. The main topics are the relationship between economics and thermodynamics, the co-evolutive paradigm, the incommensurability principle, the inter- and intra-generational distributional issues, weak and strong sustainability, "natural capital" substitutability, environmental statistics, uncertainty, risk, post-normal science, and instruments of environmental policy (i.e. multicriteria evaluation, "contingent valuation", "green" accounting methods, integrated environmental assessment, environmental auditing, product life-cycle analysis, etc.).

Application requirements and procedures : This Master and Doctoral programme has been planned for students with a good mathematical background, and having a degree in Environmental Sciences, Natural Sciences or Engineering, Economics or Geography. All students are expected to understand English, and to be willing to learn Spanish. Applicants should send: Curriculum Vitae and official academic transcripts from institutions attended (undergraduate and graduate). English level certificate (if it applies). Two letters of recommendation. A statement of 300-500 words explaining your motivation to study Ecological Economics. Application deadline: May 30, 1997. The semester will begin in October 1997.

Contact : J. Martinez-Alier or Giuseppe Munda - Departament d'Economia i Història Econòmica - Edifici B - Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona - 08193 Bellaterra (Barcelona) - Spain - Fax: (343) 5812012 - E-mail: iehe6@cc.uab.es or: iehe7@cc.uab.es

Note: We hope *this* will be a regular column *that* will inform *students* and researchers of existing and planned teaching programmes in ecological economics or directly related disciplines. *Individuals* and institutions are encouraged *to* send us information *about* your programmes *and* future plans...

FORTHCOMING ESEE PUBLICATIONS

Several books and special journal issues will be published based on papers from the ESEE Inaugural Conference held in May 1996 at the Université de Versailles. These include:

Sustainability and Firms: Technological change and the changing regulatory environment, coedited by Faye Duchin, Sylvie Faucheux, John Gowdy and Isabelle Nicolai, Edward Elgar (UK), 1997.

Valuation and Environment, coeditors: Martin O'Connor and Clive Spash, Edward Elgar (UK), 1997.

Environmental Policies and Societal Aims, coordinated by Jan van der Straaten, Clive Spash and Denis Requier-Desjardins, Kluwer Academic (Netherlands), 1997.

Ecology Society Economy: Life Sciences Dimensions, coeditors: Udo Ganslosser and Martin O'Connor, Filander Press (Germany), 1997.

Développement Soutenable et Politique Environnementale, coedited by Françoise de Bry and Jérôme Ballet, Editions Georg (Switzerland), 1997.

All the above books are at the stage of final manuscript revisions by the contributing authors. Detailed lists of the (provisional) contents for each are found in the Annex pages of this Newsletter. Information on special purchase opportunities for ESEE members will be given in a later newsletter. Also in preparation from ESE May 1996 are:

Gestion des Ressources du Vivant, coedited by Martin O'Connor and Jacques Weber, Editions Georg (Switzerland), scheduled for 1998.

Special Issue of the *International Journal of Environment and Pollution* (published by Inderscience/UNESCO) on the theme "Models and Methodology for Decision Support", coedited by Jerome Ravetz and Martin O'Connor.

Special Issue of the *Ecological Economics* on the theme "Consumption and Sustainability", coedited by Inge Røpke and Michael Jacobs.

** Please send us titles of new/forthcoming ecological economics publications, in any European language*

CONFERENCES:

We are pleased to announce the next ESEE Conference, and also a large number of other conferences of ecological economics, sustainability and related themes. If you know of other events that we should advertise, please contact the ESEE Secretariat.

Managing Sustainability - The European Perspective and Experience

International Conference, July 15-17, 1997, Rostock, Germany. Jointly organized by the University of Rostock and the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy, University of Rostock, in co-operation with the European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE), the Society for the Advancement of Socioeconomics (SASE), Vereinigung für Ökologische

Ökonomie (VÖÖ) and Carl-Duisberg-Gesellschaft (CDG).

Call for papers, abstracts to be sent before March 31st, 1997

For further information contact: Dr. Jörg Köhn, Rostock University, Department of Social Sciences and Business Studies, Parks tr. 6, 18057 Rostock, Germany. Fax: +49 (0)381 498 2912 Tel: +49 (0)381 498 29 11. E-mail: mikroek@wiwi.uni-rostock.de

VII Congress of the International Association for Ecology (Intecol)

Florence, Italy, 19-25 July 1998

It is planned that ESEE members organise one or two sessions of papers. If interested contact Jan van der Straaten, Martin Dieterich or Mario Giampietro.

14th International Conference of WACRA (World Association for Case Method Research and Case Method Application) « Sustainable development: Towards measuring the performance of integrated socio-economic and environmental systems »

Madrid, Spain, 16-19 September 1997

Abstracts can still be considered (quick!) till end of March. For further information contact: Prof. Francisco Parra-Luna, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Facultad de CC. PP. y Sociología, 28023 Somosaguas, Madrid, Spain. Tel: +34 1 3942923; Fax: +34 1 3942901; Email: parralun@lix.intercom.es.

Meeting of the Vereinigung fuer Oekologische Oekonomie (VOO) on « Work in a Sustainable Society »

Heidelberg, 29-31 May 1997

For information on membership of the German-language society, or participation in the conference, contact Prof. Dr. Christiane Busch-Luethy, Poststrasse 15, D-82067 Ebenhausen, Germany. Or Dr. Fritz Hinterberger (email: fritz_hinterberger@wupperinst.org)

Integrating Environment and Economy: Accounting, Policy, Business

Third International Conference of the Russian Chapter of the International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE-RC)

June 30 - July 4, 1997 • Novgorod, Russia
Call for papers to be sent before April 1, 1997

For further information contact: Dr. Paul SAFONOV - ISEE Russian Chapter, c/o Institute of Control Sciences, 65 Profsoyuznaya, Moscow, 117806, Russia Tel: +7095 334-9159, 966-4969 - Fax: +7095 334-9331, 334-9340, 420-20 16 E-mail : Paul.Safonov@ipu.rssi.ru

Online Seminar with Professor Herman Daly to discuss his 1996 book, BEYOND GROWTH: The Economics of Sustainable Development (Beacon Press).

During March 17-28, 1997:

To participate or just listen to the discussion, please send an e-mail message of:

sub *isee-daly* yourfirstname your/a&name To: LISTPROC@csf.colorado.edu

Co-sponsored by: ISEE: International Society for Ecological Economics and CSF: Communications for a Sustainable Future

Contact: Don Roper (roper@csf.colorado.edu)

—THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS —

The European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE) was officially formed in May 1996 with the election of the officers of the Society held during the Ecology Society Economy Conference held at the University of Versailles, in France. It is a regional chapter (branch) of the International Society (ISEE). A person choosing to belong to ESEE automatically becomes a member of ISEE.

The aims of the new Society are to foster the combination of knowledge across the specialisms of ecology and economics, and to ensure that policy advice on environmental problems be formulated on this basis. The ESEE specifically encourage the social aspects of environmental policy and of human interaction with the environment. This implies an enriched methodological perspective allowing for a discourse on the development of a socio-economic and ecological discipline.

— Statement of Aims and Purposes: European Society for Ecological Economics —

The emergence of the discipline of Ecological Economics signals recognition of a need for natural and human social sciences to be brought together in new ways, to respond to environmental preoccupations world-wide. It does not constitute a new single unified theory for or of sustainability. It represents a new practice of economics responding to a specific problem domain designated by some basic questions which may legitimately be addressed in a variety of ways. The aims of the ESEE (as adopted by the Inaugural General Meeting of the ESEE on 24 May 1996) include :

- to foster transdisciplinary discourse and research among the social and natural sciences regarding problems of nature and the environment.
- to provide a European network for activities in ecological economics ;
- to produce and disseminate information on policies for sustainability globally, nationally, and locally through electronic, printed, oral and other publication means;
- to promote education, graduate research and research funding in ecological economics.

Officers and Committee Members: President : Sylvie Faucheux (F) - Vice-Presidents : Jan van der Straaten (NL) and Clive L. Spash (UK) - Treasurer : Françoise De Bry (F) - Management Committee : Christian Azar (S), Anne Mette De Visser (DK), Mario Giampietro (I), Fritz Hinterberger (G), Katalin Martinas (H) - **Secretariat:** Jessy Tsang, Martin O'Connor (C3ED) - **Newsletter editor:** Sybille van den Hove.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER:

The ESEE is open to all persons having an interest in ecological economics and furthering the aims of the Society. The ESEE is a branch of the *International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE)*, and so the ESEE subscription covers joint membership for both societies. Fees are set based on income range (low, medium, high), with the option also to subscribe to the ISEE journal *Ecological Economics*. Details are given on the *ESEE Membership Form*, copies of which are available on request from the ESEE Secretariat at:

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