

THE I.U.B.E., AN INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS CENTER

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Establishing a trans-national university institution with a global agenda encompassing the problems facing the world as its visual reaches begin to identify the outline of Armageddon in the 'grey distant horizon' is not only a monumental challenge. It is also an initiative of the most imperative seriousness which, if properly projected, shall commend itself to the immediate attention and universal support of governments and international agencies.

Thus, the appalling image within the grey distant horizon must be the focus upon which the institution of the International University for the Bio-Environment (I.U.B.E.) is targeted and the structure of its curriculum becomes not so much a question of how wide or deep it should be, but how effective it can be in promoting new orders of collaborative defensive mechanisms directed towards protecting man from man and the earth from the exploitation of man.

We are looking broadly at an institutional milieu no less than that of NASA and its Soviet counterpart, combined with the financial and organisational resources of NATO and the Warsaw Pact hitherto placed at the behest of conventional and nuclear defense and attack systems.

The I.U.B.E. would not in itself be the new order of defensive machine but as a global bio-focused post-graduate University acting initially as a fast track educator facility where the momentum and calibre of its programs would be paced and presented at a level which would over-reach the calamitous prospect which thinking people are universally resigned to accept.

Over-reaching the global problem intellectually is the first step we must take to be in a position to regain some level of control and regulation in order to re-establish the place, relationship and order of society within a biosphere within which there can be a sense of predictability and security.

The I.U.B.E. would initially (this year) form an international awareness centre for global environmental problems and solutions. From this, its curriculum evolution would begin to coagulate around key issues, including strategic options and programs on starvation, population growth and arrestment, achievement of sustainable economic and ecological systems, re-direction of military resources into global environment protection programs, etc. Thus, the programs of I.U.B.E. would be issue-based and not subject-based.

The faculty for the I.U.B.E. would be drawn on a visiting basis from top academic institutions, government, research organisations throughout the world, and would be under the coordination of a series of Consultative Councils within an acceptable University administrative structure. A cadre of internationally reputed senior professors would be appointed as Global Issue Professors (GIPs). In essence, they would form the intellectual core of I.U.B.E. They would be recruited through secondments, say, for three five-year terms, from their parent Universities or organisations such as CSIOR, NERC and CSR. Their discipline backgrounds would be diverse.

Students would include aspirant junior ministers of governments seeking a role as Global National Representatives (similar to MEPs), multinational corporate presidents destined for higher places or high fliers from academia, consultancy and institutes. All would be selected for their ideological commitment together with their potential leadership qualities and evidence of high academic or intellectual capability.

William J. Cairns is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of W.J. Cairns and Partners. Educated at the University of Durham and M.I.T., he is a fellow of the Landscape Institute and the International Society of City and Regional Planners, he holds a Master's degree in city planning, and a Diploma in landscape architecture. Mr. Cairns has directed major planning and environmental projects in the U.K. and overseas and is an adviser to government departments and private corporations. He is an internationally recognised expert on environmental assessment and was responsible for directing the first environmental impact assessment in the U.K. in 1973 and 1974 for Occidental's Flotta Oil handling terminal in the Orkney Islands. He also directed the first environmental impact assessment carried out by the British government at the Clyde Nuclear Submarine Base at Faslane and the Royal Naval Armament Depot at Coulport on Loch Long, Scotland for the Trident Missile Programme. He has recently been appointed President of the International Professional Association for Environmental Affairs, Brussels, and Rapporteur General of the XXVI World Congress on Planning, Warsaw. He is also a member of the international steering

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