



8th International Conference of Sociocybernetics
COMPLEX SOCIAL SYSTEMS, INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND WORLD FUTURES
Ciudad de México, MÉXICO 24-28 June 2008

CALL FOR PAPERS

Using interdisciplinary approaches to the study of social systems is a central concern in sociocybernetics. For present purposes, a *complex social system* can be defined as one in which the processes that determine its operation result from the convergence of multiple factors *interacting* in such a way that the system is not decomposable into constituent disciplinary perspectives. Therefore, no complex social system can be described by simply adding independent studies over each of its components. “The non decomposability of a complex system is due to what we have called the *interdefinibility* of its components. The research of that system is performed by a *multi-disciplinary* team, with a working methodology that must attain an *inter-disciplinary* integration”. (García, Rolando, *Sistemas complejos*). It follows that the difference between a multidisciplinary and an interdisciplinary research team lies in the integration of the latter on the basis of common conceptual and methodological frameworks..

Discipline-integrating conceptual/methodological frameworks are not available ready made. Particular solutions may require different approaches. The question arises as to how far it is possible to generalize over these different approaches. The conference will provide a dialogical space for knowledge construction and discussion addressing epistemological, theoretical and methodological aspects of interdisciplinarity in the course of the study of complex social systems.

The conference also aims to elicit interdisciplinary discussion and debate about possible world futures by bringing together the views of sociologists, economists, technologists, ecologists, historians, political scientists, psychologists, anthropologists and other natural and social science specialists to reflect on different societal development paths and their desirability.

Other papers with an explicit sociocybernetic orientation are also welcomed, especially those addressing topics specific to Latin America.

VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION:

The **International Conference of Sociocybernetics** will take place in Centro Histórico in Mexico City (Downtown). <http://www.ciudadmexico.com.mx/espectaculos.htm>

See map below.

Centro Histórico Map:



1. Templo Mayor
2. Cathedral
3. National Palace
4. Supreme Court of Justice
5. D.F. Government
6. Santo Domingo Church
7. S.E.P./La Encarnación
8. San Ildefonso Museum
9. San Carlos Academy
10. La Merced Cloister
11. City Museum
12. Sor Juana Cloister
13. San Agustín Church
14. San Francisco Church
15. Iturbide Palace
16. House of Tiles
17. Latin-American Tower
18. Postal Main Office

19. Palace of Mining
20. Nat. Museum of Art
21. Franz Mayer Museum

Benito Juárez International Airport is located at 30 minutes from Downtown.

Hotel facilities are still under negotiation.

Additional information will be sent on this respect.

CONFERENCE FEES:

Conference fees are for:

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|---|-------------------|
| - RC51 Non-members | 100 Euro/1500 MXN |
| - RC51 associate members (non-ISA): | 50 Euro/750 MXN |
| - RC51 regular members in good standing (ISA and RC51): | No fee |

In special cases (e.g., students) exemptions can be granted upon request.

SESSIONS AND LANGUAGES:

The official languages of the Conference will be English and Spanish. In this conference we want to increase the interest and participation of Latin American scholars. Specific sessions in Spanish language will be organized.

However, in order to facilitate the review process and communication, all abstracts must

be submitted in English. Final papers in Spanish should therefore include an English version of both title and abstract.

ABSTRACTS AND THE REVIEW PROCESS:

Please submit a 500 to 1000 word **detailed abstract** for the review process and for assignment to a particular session. In addition, 250 word **regular abstracts** are needed for the Conference Programme and Abstracts booklet and for publication on the RC51 website.

All abstracts should be sent to the Chair of the Abstracts Committee, Karl-Heinz Simon simon@usf.uni-kassel.de and to the Conference Coordinator, Margarita Maass maass@labcomplex.net.

DEADLINES:

February, 22, 2008:	500-1000 word <i>detailed abstracts</i>
April, 11, 2008:	Notification of acceptance.
May, 2, 2008:	250 word <i>regular abstracts</i> .
May, 16, 2008:	Registration
June, 13, 2008:	Full paper for presentation on the RC51 website.

CONTACTS AND INFORMATION:

For any further questions and information, please consult the RC51 website at <http://www.unizar.es/sociocybernetics/> . You may also directly contact any of the members of the International Organizing Committee or the Coordinator of the National Organizing Committee.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

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Please forward the Call for Papers to your friends and colleagues who may be interested in attending the conference.