

**Report on GEIG Conference
Donald Brown**

**Ecological Integrity: Globalization and Radical Social
Change, From the UN To The Earth Charter**

**San Jose Costa Rica, June 28, 2013 to July 1, 2013
University for Peace**

20th GEIG Conference

June 28

This year's conference, the 20th in the series, had some major themes that included excessive corporate power around the world, problems with the dominant economic theory, property theory and ecological integrity, lessons for achieving ecological integrity derived from the wisdom of indigenous people, the Earth Charter and social change, continuing degradation of our atmosphere and oceans, progress in ecologically responsible international law, strategy for triggering social movements on ecological integrity, and lessons learned from the struggle of the people of Gongjeong Village to stop an ecologically destructive naval base on Jeju island, South Korea.

The conference began with welcoming remarks from Laura Westra, Director of the Global Ecological Integrity Group (GEIG) and Mirian Vieala, for the Earth Charter Project.

Laura Westra explained that this year's conference was celebrating the 20th year of GEIG meetings.

Mirian Vieala explained that the Earth Charter Project was sharing part of the University For Peace facility in which the meeting took place.

Both speakers warmly welcomed conference participants.

Plenary 1, Corporations and International Law

The first speaker read a paper by Anna Grear (NZ) who was unable to attend. The paper was entitled: "***Unmasking the Giants: Corporate Juridical Form and the Macro Political.***" This paper explained why corporate personality under the law

was based upon dubious assumptions about legal subjectivity. The paper particularly examined dubious anthropocentric assumptions behind personhood under the law. Given questionable assumptions about personality, the paper argued that corporate personality under law was constructed on faulty claims. These faulty assumptions have led to giving corporations unwarranted legal power.

Laura Westra presented a paper *entitled: "The Supranational Corporation."* In this paper Dr. Westra argued that:

- Corporations were engaged in terrorism equivalent to state terrorism.
- The law fails to make appropriate distinctions between legal persons and natural persons.
- Natural persons with rights are entitled to priority over other kinds of persons under the law.
- Corporations are interfering with public health and basic rights.
- Most states have inappropriately adjusted domestic laws to make them more attractive to corporations.
- Given that 100 of the world's largest economic units, 44 are corporations, the current status of corporations under the law gives them inordinate and inappropriate power.
- It is appropriate speak of corporate/state crime.
- There is no legitimate philosophical, legal, and other basis for treating all legal entities natural persons.
- Natural persons are entitled to priority.
- We can speak of "corporate/state crime"
- Because democracy is based upon the principle of one man one vote, corporations undermine democracy and are inappropriately hold their present power in the world.

Don Brown's paper was entitled: ***"The Climate Change Disinformation and Anti-Agenda 21 Campaigns: What Kind of Crime Against Humanity, Human Rights Violation, Tort, Malfesance, Transgression, Villainy, Or Wrongdoing are They?"***

This paper began by explaining why the philosopher Hans Jonas claimed that issues raised by scientific uncertainty were at the very top of ethical issues in importance that humanity must face. If this is so, the climate change disinformation campaign and the anti-Agenda 21 campaign could be understood to be important case studies on how to legally and socially respond to deliberate disinformation legally or as the basis for creating new civil norms to deal with false claims based upon scientific uncertainty. Mr. Brown reviewed the elements over climate change disinformation campaign discussed at last year's conference and described the anti-agenda 21 campaign that has gathered steam in the United States recently. As a matter of law Mr. Brown argued that these disinformation campaigns are crimes against humanity; however, current law does not allow for this classification. These campaigns also were leading to violations human rights, yet current human rights law does not provide a legal remedy. Mr. Brown further argued that the

disinformation campaigns created harms of the same type for which civil remedies are usually available, yet civil litigation seeking damages caused by the this disinformation campaigns were being dismissed largely because of the inability of courts to find a way to apportion liability among all those who were contributing to climate change harms. Mr. Brown further argued that the disinformation campaign should be used to create new norms for scientists who study scientific causation of serious ecological harms about which there is some scientific uncertainty. In this regard,, when human activities may be creating very serious damages, new social norms need to be established about claims that assert there is no scientific basis for establishing a cause-and-effect relationship. These new norms would include the duty of skeptics to submit claims to peer review, to acknowledge the ethical appropriateness of the precautionary principle, the need to subject claims in institutions that have the breath of inter-disciplinary expertise capable of judging the claim, and the duty to not cherry pick the scientific evidence.

Plenary 2, Corporations and International Law, (2)

Julia Rohan's paper was entitled: "***Escaping Slavery to Capitalism Using The "Each one, teach one method."***" Ms Rohan explained her personal journey from despondency about the global environment to the positive energy she got from learning about the Earth Charter movement. She explained her program which is called the "Healer Movement." This program reaches out to one person at a time to help them understand the potential of the Earth Charter to become a positive guide for the world. Ms Rohan spoke extensively about empowering people through education about the Earth Charter and the positive benefits that follow from such empowerment.

Plenary 3, International Law for Improved Governance.

Jeff Brown and Abby Sandy's Paper was entitled "***Linking American and American Lobbying Organization, The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) To Adverse Environmental Climate Change Impacts on Oceans.***" This paper began with an extensive review of how climate change is threatening oceans around the world. The paper particularly focused on ocean acidification, a problem that will continue to get worse even if increases in atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases do not lead to the catastrophic warming predicted by most scientific organizations around the world. Ocean acidification is leading to destruction of biological species and coral reefs around the world. This degradation is already visible in some parts of the world. The 2nd part of the paper looked at the activities of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), an organization that is funded by corporations that is focusing at the State level in the United States. ALEC is a nonprofit corporation, yet this designation is extremely dubious given the fact that ALEC's major focus is lobbying at the State level on issues pushed by the radical right in the United States. ALEC brings state legislators to Washington to work on model legislation that then introduced in State capitals throughout the United States. Among other issues that ALEC has been pushing is legislation to

undermine US state programs in support of renewable energy. ALEC is funded by petroleum interests including the Koch brothers and has recently been responsible for proposed legislation to reduce US State commitments on renewable energy currently contained in renewable portfolio standards.. ALEC's arguments completely ignore adverse impacts of climate change in general and makes no mention of the undeniable adverse effects that increased levels of greenhouse gases are having on oceans including increased the ocean acidification now visible throughout the world. ALEC is an example US corporate control of environmental policy in the United States.

Helmut Burkardt's paper was entitled: "***How to Achieve Global Ecological Integrity***." Mr. Burkardt's paper reviewed the scientific, institutional, and economic reasons why world is failing to protect global ecological integrity. Among other reasons for this failure, this paper focused on the failure to achieve adequate global governance congruent with the scale of the ecological crisis. Mr. Burkardt stressed the need of citizens around the world to see themselves as global citizens and for the need to create global institutions with the power to regulate and govern global economic activities. Mr. Burkardt acknowledged that the only way that this global governance would come into being was incrementally building upon United Nations system. Without adequate global governance, Mr. Burkardt argued of the world when not adequately protect global ecological integrity.

Plenary 4, International law for improved governance (2)

Mahir Kanade's paper was entitled: "***United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Presenting the Problem as the Solution***." This paper examined recent attempts of the Human Rights Council and the United Nations to develop normative rules for corporations and businesses on human rights. The paper began with an explanation of why the current human rights regimes do not adequately create obligations for corporations and businesses on human rights. This problem is sometimes known as the failure of human rights regimes to create obligations for "non-state actors.." The paper examined several recent attempts to create a code to link corporate and business behavior to human rights violations. The paper explained the mostly failed effort in the United Nations that began in 1998 to create standards for corporations on human rights obligations . The paper explained that attempts of the United Nations to achieve this goal have, for the most part, failed to create clear obligations of corporations and businesses. On June 16, 2011 the United Nations Human Rights Council endorsed the guiding principles for business and human rights, yet these principles have been disappointingly weak. Furthermore the principles adopted by the Human Rights Council have been assigned to a working group for further consideration. It is expected this working group will continue to work on these principles before they are brought to the UN General Assembly for further consideration.

Shiela Collins presented a paper entitled: "***What a Difference a Disaster Makes or Doesn't: Political Responses to Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy***." This paper began

by showing maps of New Orleans including the very vulnerable neighborhoods where the city's poorest people lived. A poor New York City neighborhood also at great risk was also described. The paper argued the politicians were aware of these vulnerabilities but because those most at risk were poor, the political system took no steps to protect them. In New Orleans, the most vulnerable people lived in the lower 9th Ward were most at risk. Their vulnerability was particularly acute because of the canals that surrounded their neighborhood. Poor people's interests were simply ignored in flooding planning. When hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans the entire world got a glimpse of the lack of government concern for poor people in New Orleans. Although the poor neighborhoods in New York City fared somewhat better in terms of responses to hurricane Sandy, poor neighborhoods in particular were devastated by the hurricane. One of the political response to hurricane Sandy that arose was known as Occupy Sandy. This political movement was somewhat successful in achieving better responses compared to the fate of the poor people in New Orleans. Mayor Bloomberg in New York City appears to have learned some lessons from the failure of the political machinery in New Orleans to hurricane Katrina.

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Plenary 5, Indigenous Issues and Ecological Integrity ,

Catherine Irons Magallanes's paper was entitled: ***"Implementing An Indigenous Construction of Nature In A Western Legal System: Moving Toward A Global Eco-Integrity."*** This paper began with a discussion of differences between Western and Indigenous Peoples cosmologies on which any legal system is built. Indigenous cosmologies, unlike Western cosmologies, see humans as a part of everything that is beneath us, above us and around us, better understand that our past is our present, our present is our future, and we are responsible for seven generations, According to the cosmology of the Maori, the four legged is before the two legged. They are our older brothers, we came from them. We cannot say that we own the buffalo. because he owns us. The Maori people believe that they descended from Mother Earth. Rivers are her veins. Because of this cosmology, the indigenous laws contain a deep respect for the river, it is understood as an indivisible whole. Indigenous people see nature as being comprised of an indivisible and living whole. The health and the being of the river is indivisible. The river has standing in its own right. As a result River Guardians protect the river and act and speak on behalf of the river .

Kathleen Mahooney's paper was: ***"The Retaking of Aboriginal Power Through Deconstructing The Master's House."*** This paper described shifts in Canadian law relating to resource development that have resulted from court cases brought by indigenous people. The paper explained how indigenous people have used Section 35 (1) of the Canadian Constitution, which protects the indigenous rights, to challenge destructive land practices. In Canada indigenous land was stolen and

water was degraded. Under recent cases, the Canadian government must consult with indigenous people in land development matters. The paper also covered five recent cases that have transformed Canadian jurisprudence on natural resource development and issues relating to indigenous title to land before Europeans claimed ownership. A clip from the movie Avatar was shown for its potential to depict the understanding of indigenous peoples about their responsibility to nature.

Plenary 6, Indigenous Issues and Ecological Integrity (2)

Jack Manno's paper was: "*Sharing the River of Life: The Two Row Wampum Treaty and Environmental-Social Integrity.*" This paper explained how people should look to indigenous people for new ideas about protecting the environment in light of the fact that the indigenous people have been warning us about the environmental destruction we are now experiencing. The paper also pointed to various aspects of indigenous culture particularly the culture of the Onondaga Nation. This paper identified specific lessons that could be learned from the Onondaga Nation including recent warnings about global environmental destruction, their call to consciousness which urged a healing between themselves and others who live in this region, the Great Law of Peace which resulted in the Onondaga people burying their weapons near Onondaga Lake., the Two Row Wampum Treaty which called for former adversaries to call each other brothers and assure friendship safety and peace, and which also set goals of peace and friendship forever. The paper identified many lessons that could be learned from the Onongada Nation.

Clem Campbell's paper was: "*Ecological Integrity and Corporate Responsibility: Can the Earth Chart Connect?*" The paper began with a claim that **the world has** failed to address the fundamental truth that endless growth is impossible in a finite world. And so we are now faced with unsustainable consumption and depleting natural resources caused by continuous economic growth. Mr Campbell identified people who greatly influenced his and him thinking about global sustainability. They included Kamla Chowdhry who spoke at a recent Earth Charter conference and who said it took him 40 years to unlearn what he had learned at the Harvard Business School about economic models that among other things relied upon discounting future benefits. Mr. Campbell also said that he was greatly influenced by Mikhail Gorbachev who he saw spoke at a 2006 conference on Earth Dialogues. Gorbachev argued that all people must be prepared to walk the corridors of power to make a better world. As a result of this speech, Mr. Campbell helped inject the Earth Charter into the Queensland schools curriculum and played a role in establishing Green Cross in Australia. Mr. Campbell argued that the Earth Charter should be used to create change in the way neo-liberal economic policies are being implemented particularly in developed countries. Mr Campbell also identified some organizations that have influenced him including are engaged him the Pachamama Alliance, a movement in which two million organizations are working towards greater social and environmental justice. Mr. Campbell stressed

that people need to think globally, plan regionally, and act locally. Another influence was George Monbiot who has written about how neoliberalism has trashed the planet but made the rich richer. In 2012 the world's richest people became \$241 billion richer while the poor have gotten poorer. Academic institutions are part of the problem in that the goals of environmental and social responsibility are not being taught in business, marketing, or economics programs while they are promoting endless economic growth. The international community must learn that the economy and in the environment are interconnected and that well-being is about more than GDP growth.

Plenary 7, Water Governance and Eco-Integrity.

Joseph Dellapenna's paper was entitled: "*The International Law of Transboundary Aquifers.*" This paper described the development of groundwater law throughout history. Rules on groundwater go back to Hammurabi, yet subsequent groundwater law originated in an era of near complete lack of scientific knowledge of how groundwater existed in underground aquifers. Early on, some legal systems gave the owner of groundwater the right to keep it but did not acknowledge ownership until the water was captured. More modern groundwater law attempted erroneously to treat groundwater as if it were surface water by acting as if groundwater was comprised of "underground streams." Rights to water were often allocated under previous water law by location, priority, and by public authority. Five approaches to groundwater are law now found around the world. Allocations are made on the basis of capture, pro rata, location (reasonable use), time priorities, and by authorities. International law began to address groundwater issues only recently. There have, however, been gradual increases in bilateral treaties on groundwater. There was a UN Convention on water courses approved in 1997 that has not yet come into force. This convention adopts the principles of limited sovereignty, no harm, and peaceful resolution of disputes, with great emphasis on procedures that states should follow in conflicts about water. It recognizes the right of all riparian states to engage in discussions around a shared watercourse. The most recent effort to codify international groundwater law is the *Berlin Rules on Water Resources*, approved by the International Law Association in 2004. This is a non-binding document that integrates the customary law provisions by specifying rules that require public participation, the obligation to use best efforts to achieve both conjunctive and integrated management of waters, and the duties to achieve sustainability and the minimization of environmental harm. It identifies the rights and duties of states and persons and the need for environmental impact assessments. The *Berlin Rules* are grounded in existing customary law. Groundwater traditionally has been neglected by national and international water law. The *Berlin Rules* provides the first attempt at a comprehensive codification of the customary international law of groundwater. The UN Law Commission subsequently adopted draft articles on transboundary aquifers that were noted but not approved by the UN General Assembly. These draft articles require equitable sharing, avoiding of harm, some general rules on environmental protection, monitoring and exchange of information, retention of sovereignty, and grandfathering some pollution loads.

Betsan Martin's paper was: "***Considerations of Interdependence: An Ethics of Responsibility in Decision-Making For Governance of Water.***" This paper focused on an ethics of responsibility derived from the interdependence of all people to each other and the universe that sustains all people. The paper discussed indigenous knowledge of the woven universe and the ideas of the French philosopher Levinas. Levinas developed an ethics of responsibility to the other. According to Levinas, responsibility is rooted in our subjective experience with the other. That responsibility to other is more primal than pursuit of knowledge. The paper argued that quantum physics describes an inter-related universe in which all beings are entangled with each other. All of this entails an ethics of responsibility that requires individuals to acknowledge that they can never fulfill their responsibility. And so ethical responsibility always exceeds capability. This understanding requires deep collaboration over water issues.

Janice Gray's paper was entitled: "***Frack off! Law, Policy and Social Resistance as it Relates to Coal Gas Mining and the Earth Charter.***" The paper began with a detailed explanation of how coal gas fracturing works including the deep drilling that is required, the use of high-pressure water to fracture the coal seams that contain natural gas, the need to use sand to keep the coal seam fractures open, the use of cement to prevent natural gas from migrating into the atmosphere from the injection wells. The paper then explained legal and regulatory licensing processes necessary to obtain permission for coal fracking as well as a description of the use of land access agreements that allow gas companies to initiate the drilling and gas extraction. The paper further described how taxing of gas removal was inadequate and how corporations have the power to manipulate the government in a variety of ways including keeping taxes low and preventing government technical reviewers from having enough time to adequately review the license and permit applications. The paper included descriptions of legal and regulatory challenges entailed by coal seam natural gas fracking.

Plenary 8. Integrity and Governance

Nancy Tzu-Meichen and Lily Wen's paper was: "***Not Only Thinking like a Mountain, Seeing Afresh The Events of 1887 and 1987.***" This paper began with a discussion of a recent conference in Taiwan on Land Ethics that included discussion of the work of Holmes Rolston and J. Baird Callicott. The paper argued that any environmental ethics must include a feeling of identity with a local place. Those interested in environmental ethics in Taiwan are interested in reawakening the ancient and traditional knowledge wisdoms of indigenous people in Taiwan. The paper discussed ancient wisdom that can be deduced from four different tribes in Taiwan. This wisdom would acknowledge that forests and nature are the ultimate churches. The paper explained how the new environmental movement in Taiwan is interested in nature trails near mountain villages and learning environmental ethics from specific places in Taiwan. The paper argued that any environmental ethics requires a feeling of identity with a local place

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Plenary 9. The Earth Charter

Mirian Vilela made a presentation on the Earth Charter which began with a description of the goals of the Earth Charter project and a description of progress achieved thus far in reaching these goals. She explained that the first ten years of the project were primarily focused on drafting the document based upon extensive global consultation. The next phase of the project has been mostly engaged in getting endorsements of the Charter and educating people about the Charter. The Earth Charter Project has recently become interested in how social change in support of the goals of the Earth Charter can take place. The presentation next explained that the Earth Charter takes a different approach to the integration of environment, economics, and social justice than commonly followed by sustainability goals. Rather than understanding the need to simply integrate environmental, economic, and social goals in decision-making, the Earth Charter Project stresses the fact that the economy is subsystem of the of the environment. The presentation ended with a discussion of how the Earth Charter Project would seek to influence choices, decisions, and behavior in the future. The Earth Charter Project hopes to use the Earth Charter to educate people around the world and raise awareness about all aspects of sustainable development.

Ron Engel's paper was entitled; ***"A Critical Appraisal of the Earth Charter and Its Role."*** In his presentation Ron Engle reviewed the recent experience of the IUCN Ethics Working Group in regard to the protests of the people in Gongjeong Village in Jeju, South Korea in opposition to a naval base that had started construction a few miles from where IUCN was holding its World Conservation Congress. Ron, Katie Kintzel, and several others from the IUCN ethics working group found themselves in the middle of a conflict about the naval base that had been raging for five years. The naval base is being built near Gongjeong Village on the island of Jeju, South Korea. Jeju Island, an island that had been dedicated as a Peace Island in response to the killing of 30,000 of its citizens at the conclusion of WWII. The naval base is being built next to Gongjeong Village in an area which is had been designated an absolute conservation area. The area adjacent to the naval base is the home of several endangered species and valuable soft coral reefs and is also adjacent to an UNESCO biosphere of conservation reserve. The exceptionally beautiful village of Gongjeong is directly next to the Naval base and is therefore greatly threatened by the 8000 Korean soldiers that will be stationed there along with hundreds of thousands of tourists that are likely to inundate the island and the huge increase in naval traffic. Ron explained the struggle that the Gongjeong villagers have been engaged in for over five years against the base, a period in which most of the citizens of Gongjeong village have continued to be arrested and roughly treated despite their dedication to peaceful non-violent protests. Ron Engel also identified many well-known international social activists that have participated in the protests about the base, the importance of seeking solidarity about the moral truth of the Gongjeong

villagers, and the need to build a social movement based upon the sacred history of the island. Ron explained why the Jeju naval base challenged the IUCN to live up to its endorsement the Earth Charter. Turning to the question of how to build a social movement, Ron Engel reflected upon the statutes around the campus of the University of Peace, reflected upon how Liberalism often misses a theory of power, and identified some lessons could be learned from the people of Gongjeong Village including the power from peaceful non-violence, the community practices of shared meals, the power of art and music, and the power of positive, non-angry behavior that they have continued to display during their long struggle. Ron Engle showed pictures of the residents of Gongjeong village while playing some of their music that has been a constant display during the protests.

Linda Te Aho's Paper was: "***Embedding the Rights of Mother Earth Into New Zealand's Constitution.***" This paper began with a review of various lessons about nature that can be learned from the Maorii in New Zealand. Among other things are an ethics of living consciousness of all beings, a relational ethics, the sacredness of place, the value of future generations, a view of river as a legal entity entitled to respect. The paper described the lack of power of the Maori people to protect natural resources that they have an interest in. The paper also explained efforts to reform the New Zealand Constitution to incorporate some of the values of indigenous people to respect nature.

Klaus Bosseleemann's paper was: "***The Earth Charter and A New Vision of International Law.***" In this paper, Klaus Bosseleemann discussed the need to transform international law to incorporate the goals of the Earth Charter. The presentation began with a discussion of the relationship between morality and the rule of law, the need for a rule of law to include nature and, to create obligations for ecological citizenship, problems with current property rights regimes that fail to create responsibilities for nature. The paper argued that the human race stands at a critical movement of Earth's history, a time when humans greatly threaten ecological systems on which life depends. The paper argued that principles of sustainability continue to evolve under law, that five Scandinavian countries have made progress in incorporating principles of sustainability into the law, that principles of sustainability were already present in forestry rules in the 1700s and have evolved since then. The paper concluded with a discussion of how international law could be transformed to achieve the objectives of the Earth Charter.

Prue Taylor's paper was entitled: "***The Earth Charter and the World Heritage Principle.***" The paper began with a discussion linkages between the Earth Charter, commons conceptions under law, and human experience with interests in commons experience. The paper discussed the need to protect Earth as a sacred trust, the need for a recognition to respect all life, the sacred trust humans must acknowledge in our common relationship with life sustaining Earth. The paper identified a reemergence of interest in understanding natural resources as commons, the need to see global resources as the Common Heritage of Mankind, the legal significance of

seeing Earth's resources as commons resources that are part of the Common Heritage of Mankind. The paper described experience under the Law of the Sea that recognizes the oceans as commons resources. The paper also argued that there were links between the Earth Charter and movement to expand the legal recognition of the Earth's resources as part of the Common Heritage of Mankind. The paper also explained how legal recognition of commons resources would transform how natural resources are managed legally. Among other things, a recognition of global resources as commons would require the development of a trustee to manage the resources for the benefit of all.

Plenary 10, Discussion of a Project on Economics, Finance, and an Ethics for the Anthropocene. Peter Brown, Robert Nadeau, Jack Manno.

Peter Brown introduced the project and its goals which include implementing a new global economic system that is protective of the global environment and replaces the assumptions of neoclassical economics, the ideological basis of the current global economic system.

Bob Nadeau, explained that part of the project that critically examines the false assumptions of neoclassical economic theory. The project analyzes and criticizes the erroneous assumptions of mathematics and physics on which neoclassical economic theory is based. The paper argues that the assumptions of physics on which neoclassical economic theories have been built have all been undermined and replaced by modern physics. Yet neoclassical economists do not acknowledge that scientific assumptions on which their theories have been based are no longer valid. One such assumption is that the universe is comprised of isolated units and their behavior can be predicted deterministically. Quantum mechanics has demonstrated that all matter in the universe is linked and connected and that complete deterministic prediction is not possible.

Peter Brown introduced the ethical basis on which the new economic theories for Anthropocene are based. Peter Brown referenced the work of Hans Jonas whose work centered on ethical issues raised by technology. Jonas was known for his insistence that human survival depends upon our efforts to care for our planet and its future. He formulated a new supreme principle of morality: Act so the effects of your actions are compatible with the permanence of genuine human life. Brown argued that any ethics on which a new economics is built must include certain features including understanding problems scale, fair distribution, and global responsibility. This ethics must also celebrate virtues of courage, epistemological humility, atonement, and respect for the Earth

Bob Nadeau next explained ideas on which a new economic system must be grounded while further identifying erroneous assumptions of neoclassical economic theory. Among other things neoclassical theory assumes that economic growth is always good and that greed is good. Any new economic system must strive for no or low growth, stabilize population, reduce risk, support sustainable production and

consumption, achieve global governance., develop a global knowledge system based upon the needs of an interconnected world, build ecological resilience while preparing for unavoidable changes., achieve balanced trade, reduce net investment, reduce carbon emissions dramatically, and be based upon systems thinking.

Peter Brown introduced some features of a new macroeconomics for the Anthropocene. These features include: prosperity without growth, economic activity at the right bio-physical scales, and increase efficiency. This discussion also examined additional problems with the dominant economic paradigm including the idea that the individual and liberty is sovereign without regard to their obligation,

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Plenary 11, Civil Rights and Governance

Eva Cudlinova's paper was: ***"Is a Green New Deal Strategy a Sustainable Response to the Social and Ecological Challenges of the Present World?"*** This paper reviewed a call for a new global green deal called for by UNEP. This proposal would provide new and adequate funding for a significant amount of stimulus funding to deliver long-term environmental benefits.. The proposal calls for increasing energy efficiency of buildings, large investments in renewable energy including wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass, new investments in sustainable transport, funding for ecological infrastructure including freshwaters, forests, soils, and coral reefs, and sustainable agriculture. The paper also reviewed the potential challenges of implementing this new financing including lack of political will to provide the funding and the failure to provide an alternative to the neo-classical economic model on which the current economic model is built.

Joan Engle gave a presentation entitled: **"How Diminishing Billboards will Save the World."** This presentation demonstrated how billboards have destroyed the natural landscape, celebrated commercial values at the expense of natural values, and distracted humans from contemplating the natural wonder of the universe. The paper demonstrated that the blight of billboards is not a new phenomenon. It was well underway in the 19th Century. Billboards currently prevent us from seeing and contemplating nature. This is in the United States and other parts of the world.

Plenary 12, Public Health and Global Governance

Peter Burdon 's paper was entitled: ***"Realizing Earth Democracy from Below Realizing Earth Democracy : Governance from Below."*** This paper examines lessons learned from social movements in the past that could inform needed social movements today. The presentation began with a review of Marx's conceptual elements that structure society. They include :Technology, relationship nature, the processes of production, the production and the reproduction daily life, social relations. The paper also explained how prefigurative politics includes an anti-

organizational politics. The paper next explained that it would draw conclusions from the mistakes of the following social movements, Students for Democratic Society, the Weather Underground, the Movement for a New Society. These organizations were undermined by outside pressure and police repression and infiltration, emergence of an unofficial leadership, growing emphasis of lifestyle over strategic organizations, tensions between building organizations structures and movement participation. The mistakes that movements have made include: A fetish for consensus decision making, membership issues, refusal to delegate tasks, refusal to retain commitment to non-violence.

Pavel Cudlin's paper was entitled: "***Obstacles to Real Integration of Natural Capital.***" This paper looked at challenges of integrating natural capital into economic analysis of ecological systems. The presentation began with a review of the conceptual problems with identifying what natural capital is and then looked at obstacles to real integration of natural capital into economic analysis.. The paper also identified many contradictions in neoclassical economic theory that are not acknowledged by many economists.

Plenary 13, Global Governance

Lois Kotze's paper was: ***Sustainable Development and the Rule of Law for Nature, A Constitutional Reading.*** The paper began with a discussion of the importance of the rule of law in moving toward sustainability. **The** paper then reviewed recent developments on sustainability in South Africa under the South African Constitution. Although sustainable development is not expressly guaranteed in the South African Constitution, human dignity, freedom, and quality of life are covered. Under these provisions of law and a Constitutional provision that guarantees the right to an environment that is not harmful to health and well-being and to have an environment that is protected for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislation, progress has been made in case law construing these provisions.

Panel on IUCN World Conservation Congress, Ron Engle, Don Brown, Klaus Bosselmann, Joan Engel, Betsan Martin.

The panel began with Ron Engle continuing his description of the involvement of the IUCN Ethics Working Group in regard to the Gongjeong Village protests against the naval base on Jeju Island. Ron began with a discussion of the resolution proposed by IUCN ethics working group that was presented to the IUNCN Congress. This resolution called for the Korean Government to immediately cease construction of the Navel base and prepare a new environmental impact statement. Although this resolution did not pass, the effort of the IUCN ethics working group led to a large number of governments support the resolution and many more abstaining. Given that the non-government members of IUCN supported the resolution, the ethics working groups resolution managed to receive significant support. Ron Engel explained the amazing inspirational leadership of the citizens of Gongjeong village

and their commitment to non-violent civil disobedience, Don Brown, Klaus Bosselman, Joan Engel, and Betsan Martin gave impressions of the IUCN Congress experience. This was followed by a discussion of remedies that are available in IUCN if new controversies arise, how to use the Earth Charter to minimize the kind of environmental destruction that is occurring in Jeju, and the future role of the IUCN Ethics Working Group.