Integral Ecology, Earth Spirituality and Economics
Annual European SPES Conference
May 27-29, 2016, Bodo, Norway

The Center for Ecological Economics and Ethics of the Bodo Graduate School of Business, University of Nordland organizes the 2016 Annual European SPES Conference in May 27-29, 2016 in Bodo, Norway. The collaborative partners are the European SPES Institute and the Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest.

The Topic of the Conference

Pope Francis’ encyclical letter Laudato Si’ (Praised Be: On the Care of Our Common Home) is an excellent opportunity for building a conversation between science and spirituality on ecology and sustainable development.

Integral Ecology proposed by the encyclical integrates concerns for people and the planet. An integral transdisciplinary understanding of the world ties science to human values. It sees the world as systemically linked ecology, economy, equity and justice accessible through natural and social sciences, arts and humanities. Integral ecology
and transdisciplinarity show a path to sustainable development through frugal consumption, acknowledging the intrinsic value of nature, and seeking holistic actionable knowledge.

**Issues to be Addressed**

The material and spiritual aspects of the present economic and environmental crisis

The “Age of the Anthropocene”

Ethics of climate justice

Frugality and simplicity in consumption and production

Limiting the scale of the economy relative to the ecosystem and restraining uneconomic growth

Rethinking economic growth within earth spirituality

The role of business in society and nature for achieving sustainable Earth

The inner connection between ecology and social justice as framework and compass for the economy

The deep ecology perspective: implications for capitalism and business

Responsible business and earth spirituality

Intrinsic value of nature and the deep ecology perspective

Aesthetics and grace in our relationship with nature

Art and Literature as representing sane and healthy living alternatives

Developing ecological consciousness in organizations

Good practices of ecological consulting

Models of Earth citizenship

New epistemology for cooperation of science, art, and religion/spirituality

**Place and Date**

The “Integral Ecology and Earth Spirituality” Conference will be held at the venue of the Bodo Graduate School of Business, University of Nordland, in Bodo, Norway. The conference will start on May 27, 2016 and will end on May 29, 2016 (from Friday afternoon to Sunday noon).
Keynote speakers

Tor Berger Jørgensen,
The Bishop of Sør-Hålogaland, Norway

Paul Shrivastava, (to be confirmed)
Executive Director, Future Earth, Montreal, Canada

Annika Laurén, (to be confirmed)
Managing Director, Ekobanken, Järna, Sweden

Scientific Committee

Members of the Scientific Committee of the Conference include:

Ove Jakobsen, Professor and Director, Center for Ecological Economics and Ethics of the Bodo Graduate School of Business, University of Nordland

Luk Bouckaert, Professor Emeritus, Catholic University of Leuven

Øystein Nystad, Associate Professor, Center for Ecological Economics and Ethics of the Bodo Graduate School of Business, University of Nordland

Hendrik Opdebeeck, Professor, Center for Ethics, University of Antwerp

Laszlo Zsolnai, Professor and Director, Business Ethics Center, Corvinus University of Budapest and President, European SPES Institute, Leuven

Participation Fee of the European SPES Annual Conference

180 Euros for regular participants

150 Euros for European SPES members

100 Euros for students and accompanying persons

Submissions

Interested participants should send a detailed abstract of their planned presentation (about 500 words) accompanied by a short biographical note (100 words) electronically by February 28, 2016 to:

Laszlo Zsolnai,
President
European SPES Institute
Leuven
email: laszlo_zsolnai@interware.hu
Conference organizers are interested in receiving proposals for *academic papers* as well as *practice oriented* submissions.

*Full papers* should be submitted by April 30, 2016.

**Publication**

Selected papers presented in the conference are considered for a volume edited for Springer.