

SCUPAD NEWSLETTER

SCUPAD 2002 Congress

"The Multicultural City: Synergy Through Diversity"

Announcement to follow by Mail
Hold the Weekend of
May 23 -26, 2002
Schloss Leopoldskron, Salzburg

SCUPAD CONGRESS 2001

Congress Held in Venice Italy A Huge Success

The SCUPAD Congress 2001, "Shaping Urban Places: Interaction Between Power, Space and Pace" was held at the Venice International University in Venice, Italy between June 14 and June 17, 2001. The new Venice International University, located on the Island of San Servolo, a short boat ride from the center of Venice, provided a magnificent setting for the exciting Congress 2001, which had over 70 participants, including many new young planning professionals.

Venice Vice-Mayor Discusses Strategic Planning for the City

The opening session of the Congress included a welcome and introduction on the theme of urban places, using the city of Lucerne as an example, by SCUPAD President **Franz Oswald**. The main speaker for the afternoon was **Roberto D'Agostino**, Vice-Mayor and the head of strategic planning for the city of Venice, who described the planning approach in Venice through the 1970s as concerned primarily with changing demographics. Currently, there has been a focus on transportation, re-using wastelands and on public-private cooperation, as well as the inclusion of cultural and social elements in the city's strategic plan. This has been necessitated by the fact that Venice is essentially composed of two different towns – the touristic historic center of 60,000 (including students) which attracts 40,000,000 visitors annually and the industrial city with 40,000 workers on the mainland; these divergent interests have forced a change in the pace of development in Venice.

New plans call for tourist traffic only coming into the center by water, and a land link (new bridge) between the center and the mainland only for people living and working in the city. The new bridge, which will accommodate cars and light rail, will bypass the historic center of the city. The plan also calls for the University of Venice to grow and for industry to leave the center, and the redevelopment of the area of Giudecca, a former industrial area being converted to housing and office uses.

Henry Goverde Delivers Keynote on Interaction Between Power, Space and Identity

The keynote speech by **Henry Goverde**, Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of Nijmegen and Wageningen, The Netherlands, entitled "Governing Capacity and Shaping Public Policy –Interaction Between Power, Space and Identity" was made on the evening of June 14th.

The address began with an examination of the Royal Palace at Dam Square in Amsterdam as a "symbol of hegemonic power"; the Palace is not the residence of the royal family, but is rather the place used for state events. He went on to talk about power as a multi-layered concept encompassing capacity, relational and structural aspects, and the 20th century optical revolution that abolished the single viewpoint of perspective, noted recently in Gehry's museum at Bilbao.

The consequences of these concepts lead to three forms of identity building: legitimizing (dominant forces in society use it to extend their domination), resistance (by those in stigmatized positions in society) and projecting (social activists develop new identity using cultural materials, redefining their place in society). Further, he described mobility as synonymous with globality and the elite of society, whereby local or non-global groups are the deprived. He concluded by saying that different dimensions of power should promote diverse use of public space.

Collapse of State Control Leads to Changes in Planning Laws and Approaches in Slovenia

On Friday, June 15, 2001, the day was filled with the exciting presentations of various case studies. **Ivan Stanic** of Slovenia described the rapid changes in planning approaches and laws after the former state controlled system collapsed. Since 1992, there have been many local plans adopted on a sporadic, ad hoc basis, dealing with water or sewer issues. More recently, a national agency for regional development has been created, which is attempting to deal with planning issues such as restructuring industrial areas, developing the transport system, preserving open space, providing housing, preserving heritage, etc. on a regional basis. Also, many new players such as developers, ngos and individuals have become involved in the planning process.

Waterfront Development in Haifa

Yigal Tzamer presented the waterfront development in Haifa, Israel, as a process, not a plan. He described how public reaction was able to stop the development of 4 major projects planned for the waterfront and how the National Planning Council working with the community established guidelines for waterfront planning, including such objectives as free access to the waterfront and public waterfront uses, preservation of the natural landscape and integration of the waterfront with the urban fabric. He illustrated how the power of the scope and scale of plans can eliminate or resolve conflicts and how the waterfront can be the organizing element of a city.

Shared Vision between Protestants and Catholics Creates a Shared Place

Kyle Alexander of Belfast passionately and powerfully described how a public agency spearheaded the regeneration of the waterfront, based on an integrated approach (physical, economic, social) and a partnership between local government, community groups, owners and the private sector. The key to success was the shared vision of the river as the organizing element, access to the river and the development of key sites based on community plans resulted in linking city center development and neighborhoods. The redevelopment of the formerly neutral river area created new shared places between previously warring Protestant and Catholic factions – places which various communities in Belfast could use comfortably and peacefully.

The Role of Planners and Architects in Holocaust Described

In a moving presentation, **Peter Zlonicky** described the changes in Berlin from the German center of culture in the 1920s, to the beginning of the Holocaust as seen in 1939 plans by Hitler and Speer to create structures for a world capital by demolishing 7300 housing units occupied by Jews. His description of the complicity of our profession in advancing the racist policies of Hitler were a reminder to all of our obligation to speak out against injustice. He concluded his remarks by describing efforts to build the seat of democracy in

Bonn after World War II, the return to Berlin with the new government district and the recent building of the SONY complex at Potsdamer Platz which represents yet another stage for Berlin as it struggles to rebuild a unified city.

Preserving Rural Place in an Expanding Metropolis A Perspective from Japan

Andy Higashi of Kyushu University in Japan presented a case study on the town of Shima entitled “Preserving Rural Place in an Expanding Metropolis”. Shima, an agricultural town of 17,000 people, is the only green area in the Fukuoka metropolitan area, which is being eroded by sprawl. The agricultural land is being converted to inexpensive housing. In order to overcome the conflicts between the growing elderly agricultural community and the new developments, a local town planning workshop recommended strategies to preserve the natural environment, support agricultural activities and traditional country life, and promote cooperation between rural and urban areas. A further development was the establishment of an Urbanization Restriction Area for 97% of the town, excluding the town center, in order to preserve the local farmland. As a result of these efforts, market-driven sprawl was replaced by a locally controlled sustainable development process.

Empowered Communities Band Together to Revitalize the Bronx River Watershed

Efforts to reclaim the Bronx River in New York City were the subject of a case study presented by a group of non-profit organizations: **Majora Carter** from The Point, **Jenny Hoffer** from the Partnership for Parks, **Jomara Velez** from Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice, and **Joan Byron** from the Pratt Center for Community and Environmental Development. They described the physical and psychological barriers which prevented the communities near the Bronx River from using the River, and how specific projects such as youngsters canoeing on the River changed attitudes and led to more elaborate plans for the River. A plan for the development of “Starlight Park” and “River House” along the Bronx River arose from a visioning process where community groups were involved in determining what uses they wanted for the River area. Local opposition to abusive environmental burdens, such as garbage deposits, is now forcing more environmentally and economically sound development.

Making Peace With the Land Bringing Palestinians and Israelis Together

Shlomo Aronson from Jerusalem, in his presentation called “Making Peace With the Land”, described how land at the edge of the desert outside of the center of Jerusalem was transformed into a park used by all residents of the city. By using local materials such as Jerusalem limestone and olive trees, the park became an urban place in which all people -- Muslims, Jews and Christians -- could feel comfortable and share a place in peace.

City Dependent on the Power Exerted by Political Forces.

Finally, former SCUPAD President, **Leo Van Der Meer** proposed that the pace of development in a city depended on the power exerted by political forces. He described the changes in the business climate and related development plans in Arnhem, The Netherlands, when the political power shifted from one party to another.

PANEL SUMS UP MAJOR CONGRESS 2001 THEMES

On June 16, 2001, **Roberta Gratz** moderated a panel of provocative reactions to the case studies presented at the Congress 2001. Roberta began the session with a cogent summary of the themes heard in the different presentations and how they related to the Congress topic. The main themes were:

Slovenia: good work of local capital in the '1930s, global capitalism after the collapse of the Soviet system, the influence of the power structure, goal not supported by law, and then a shift from local authority to developers

Haifa: disconnected waterfront, 20 year process, defeat of 3 out of 4 projects, waterfront and natural assets are not real estate, planning process should start with the natural assets.

Belfast: re-orientation to the water, removal of environmental decay, access to the river, places for coming together, sharing of space.

Berlin: planner's role can be for good or evil, Bonn plan started with a park as a place for people to come together, democratic place.

Shima: rural place threatened by sprawl, need for preservation of open space and history, pace of development out of control.

Bronx: urban area threatened by abuses – economic and environmental, continuum of local efforts over two decades to reclaim the area, green infrastructure as a planning tool, renewal in incremental steps and involving all age groups, more cost effective solutions.

Jerusalem: creation of a seam line between hostile communities, peaceful sharing of space

Arnhem: transition to regional planning shaped by localities

Comments from the panel and Congress participants expanded on the summary and included these thoughts:

- Planners need to think more substantively about issues
- Shift of power to just a few needs to be reversed
- As cities lose population, it is harder to create “places”
- Parts of cities/towns change at a different pace; can't use the same tools everywhere
- Time in its broadest context needs to be considered
- Generators of power from the past need to be examined
- Places have a genetic code
- There are conflicts between the haves and have nots now and in the past
- The power of thinkers and idealists should shape the future
- Urban places have the power to shape communities
- Change is a constant
- Human needs are stable, how we satisfy them changes by place and time
- Different places need to change at different paces
- Some places need to be preserved
- Planners need to use/manage change positively

CONGRESS 2001 CLOSING SESSION

The closing session on Sunday morning brought an intense and satisfying end to the Congress, with a lively and thoughtful reiteration of the Congress themes.

The comments included the following observations:

- Who is the community and how do we define community
- Stakeholder analysis is needed
- Complexity of the community should be acknowledged
- Who is the planner
- Should government be the planner
- Knowledge and how it is used
- Accountability and values are key to the planning process
- There are no formulas
- Analysis of the environment is always needed
- Planning starts with values and morality
- Values are more easily shared in homogeneous societies
- The artist as well as the architect is important in the design of urban places
- Designers don't design the “place”; they design only the physical structures
- A “place” is more than the physical place – it is the sense of place or the soul of a place
- A good place is dependent on time and space
- Good public space has a diversity of uses
- The meaning of a space includes what one brings to it
- Community place vs. public space
- Public spaces in malls – one changes from a citizen to a customer
- Places are under constant transformation; others were there before, and others will be there in the future.



Preparing to Dance the Night Away at the Vienna Ball -
January, 2002

**The future is beyond the range of our sight, but not
beyond the range of possibility**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ADVISORY GROUP

In June 2001, President Franz Oswald appointed an Advisory Group to review, refine and re-affirm the procedures for governing SCUPAD. The members appointed were **Leo Van Der Meer, Adam Mazor, Gerhard Schimak, Frohmut Gerheuser, Peter Zlonicky** and **Joachim Siefert**. Their recommendations were discussed at the Committee meetings in Prague and Vienna, and were approved by the Committee at the January meeting in Vienna; they will be submitted for approval by the General Assembly 2002.

Within the statutory framework of SCUPAD as an independent, non-profit, cross-cultural, informal association of planners, architects and consultants dealing with urban planning and development, the Committee is responsible for managing SCUPAD efficiently and ensuring a broad scope of issues for discussion at its Congresses and broad participation from various countries and cultures. Further, the Committee membership should include planners, architects, researchers working at universities, in governments and as private consultants, and reflect various cultural and geographic backgrounds – west, east, and south. Specifically, the recommendations are as follows:

- The number of Committee members shall be a maximum of twelve, with five officers (President, Vice-President for Internal Affairs, Vice-President for External Affairs, Secretary and Treasurer), and seven members, including the Newsletter Editor.
- The maximum term for Committee membership is two two-year terms, with an exception for the Secretary and the Treasurer.
- Non-officers who become officers may stay in office for another sequence of two two-year terms
- Membership in SCUPAD for two years is required for election to the Committee; election as an officer requires prior Committee membership.
- An Advisory Group to the Committee should be established which will include all former Committee members.

The President may also invite special guests to attend Committee meetings as members of the Advisory Group to assist in preparing for the annual Congress. The Advisory Group will not be voting members of the Committee.

In Memory of all Those who Have Died Because of Violence and Intolerance



SALZBURG SEMINAR'S RESPONSE TO SCUPAD

As part of the ongoing dialogue between SCUPAD and the Salzburg Seminar on the issue of responding to the recent political situation in Austria, as well as iterating our mutual commitment to furthering democratic principles and processes, SCUPAD's former Treasurer and Vice Rector of the Vienna University of Technology, Gerhard Schimak, has been in communication with Olin Robison, the President of the Salzburg Seminar. In a letter to Mr. Robison on January 21, 2002, Mr. Schimak stated that, based on his long-term relationship with Schloss Leopoldskron and the Salzburg Seminar, he understood that the Salzburg Seminar, "established as an entity to build democratic institutions in a post-fascist Europe, is deeply committed to democratic processes and to the belief that democracy recognizes both the promise and the obligations of democratic institutions, which are not built merely on the will of a self-defined majority but on open and vigorous debate, and on principles of diversity, inclusion, equity, social and economic justice and on the recognition of a set of inalienable rights and obligations, including the rights of minorities." He went on to say that he was convinced that the Salzburg Seminar rejected "all forms of racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia" and was "a place based on these principles, where individuals from differing political, social, ethnic and religious backgrounds can meet for open, candid dialogue as the best way to overcome distrust, prejudice and racism."

SCUPAD is pleased with the response to the letter that Mr. Schimak received from Olin Robison on January 31, 2002. It is reprinted here in its entirety for the benefit of all SCUPAD members.

*Dr. Gerhard Schimak
Vice Rector
Vienna University of Technology
Karlsplatz 13
1040 Vienna*

Dear Dr. Schimak:

My colleague Dr. Jochen Fried was recently here in Salzburg for the annual program meeting of the Salzburg Seminar. Dr. Fried shared with me your conversations regarding the Seminar, the substance of which is also reflected in your thoughtful letter of January 21, 2002, in which you accurately and articulately describe the Seminar's value base and mission.

As you noted in your letter, the Seminar was founded in the late 1940s to help nurture democratic values, and it remains committed to this mission today, and into the future. We are proud of the work the Seminar does, and believe that it contributes in a serious way to promoting tolerance, diversity and the fundamental values that underlie a truly pluralistic, democratic society.

Thank you for your continued interest in the work of the Seminar, and your willingness to support the work of this fine institution.

Sincerely,

*Olin Robison
President*

GUIDELINES FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Committee has agreed on some basic guidelines for financial support for Congress participants who are not able to pay all Congress expenses themselves. The main purpose of financial support is to bring professionals from all over the world to SCUPAD, in particular participants from CEEC and developing countries. Secondly, the support is intended to attract young professionals from these countries who are important for SCUPAD and its long-term vitality. The guidelines for financial support are presented so that those who wish to request support for the Congress 2002 are clear as to the procedures.

The guidelines for financial support for participants are:

- Guidelines have to be clear but flexible as well; the Committee may deviate from the rules in particular situations.
- Every year there will be a budget for financial support to be decided in the Committee Meeting of January.
- The budget for the 2002 Congress is €2000.
- Every year a deadline for applications will be approximately one month before the date of the Congress. The deadline for the 2002 Congress is April 15th.
- The application should be sent to the SCUPAD Treasurer together with a brief C.V., a letter of motivation and/or a letter of recommendation.
- After the application deadline, the Treasurer, in consultation with the President and one of the other Committee officers (Secretary or one of the Vice-Presidents) will decide on the support for each applicant.
- The financial support will cover the Congress fee and accommodation expenses.
- In general, SCUPAD will not pay travel costs for Congress participants and will not support the same person more than two times in succession.

If more applications are received than the budget can accommodate, priorities for giving financial support shall be made on the following basis: applicants whose professional experience, institutional affiliation or country of residence is of special interest to the Congress topic, applicants who are young professionals and potential new members of SCUPAD, or applicants who are members of SCUPAD and asking support for the first time.

Payments for Committee Members from CEEC and Developing Countries

- A clear picture of the financial consequences should be considered when nominating a Committee Member from CEEC or Developing Country; the financial consequences should be determined in the Committee Meeting and reflected in the minutes.
- The funds should enable the Committee Member concerned to attend the Salzburg Committee Meeting as well as at least one additional Committee Meeting during the year.
- The budget mentioned above for participants from CEEC does not include the support for Committee Members.
- Financial support should be available for both accommodation and travel-costs, as needed.
- The compensation should be limited to the period of the two-year membership term on the Committee. For a new term on the Committee, a new decision about financial support will be needed.

General rules for other Committee Members

- Committee Members pay their own Congress and Committee

Meeting expenses, including the Committee Meetings outside of the Congress

- Committee Members who attend at least one additional Committee Meeting during the year do not pay the Congress fee.
- During the additional Committee Meeting weekends, SCUPAD will pay for one dinner.
- Meeting rooms, lunches and drinks during these weekends will be paid by SCUPAD, if necessary.

Payments for Congress Speakers.

- SCUPAD does not pay speakers for lectures or preparations time, however, speakers are not required to pay the Congress fee.
- No compensation is paid for travel and accommodation costs of speakers.
- For exceptions, a decision of the Committee is needed.

CONGRESS 2002:

"The Multicultural City: Synergy Through Diversity."

May 23- 26, 2002

Schloss Leopoldskron
Salzburg, Austria

People of different religions and races, and from a multitude of diverse places and cultures are creating heterogeneous and dynamic societies in most of the large urban centers of the world.

The opportunities and challenges that this growing diversity poses for urban areas will be discussed at the SCUPAD Congress 2002, entitled "The Multicultural City: Synergy Through Diversity." Congress 2002 will feature case studies from Vienna, Budapest, Prague, New York, Berlin, Amsterdam, Paris, and Jerusalem.

The power of diversity is perhaps the main characteristic of the multicultural city. It can on one hand be the source of productive synergy and on the other a source of unwanted and destructive conflict. It can foster sadness, segregation, fear and insecurity, violence and injustice but it also can engender joy, cooperation, solidarity, creativity, and enhance our understanding of one another ultimately leading to peace and justice.

Keynoting the Congress will be **William [Bill] S. Moody** of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund [RBF], a New York City based Foundation working throughout the world. Bill has been a Program Officer with the Rockefeller Brothers Fund since 1968. In addition to his responsibilities for the grant making relating to East Central Europe (Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary, Bill is responsible for the recently launched RBF Balkans Program. This program encompasses the entire Balkan region, however in its first year it will concentrate on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia--Serbia and Montenegro, in particular. The RBF grant making will address: building democratic capacity, grappling with challenges of national identity and ethnic relations, and developing sustainable com-

MINUTES OF THE SCUPAD GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2001

June 14th, Venice International University, Isola di S. Servolo, Venezia - Italy

Attending (41): Eric Allison (USA), Mary Ann Allison (USA), Shlomo Aronson (ISR), Elly Boomsma (NL), Marjorie Buchlotz (USA), Lolita Èaèe (LT), Tom de Wit (NL), Elena Dimitrova (RO), Frohmut Gerheuser (CH), Elena Gerheuser (CH), Peter Gauder (H), Henri Goverde (NL), Donald Gratz (USA), Roberta Gratz (USA), Han Joosten (NL), Maria Karaslateva (BU), Iveta Lâèauniece (LT), Monica Lotreanu (RO), Luciana Malavasi (I), Gisela Mattern (D), Adam Mazor (ISR), Uri Mazor (ISR), Maria Mihai (RO), Nobuo Mishima (J), Franz Oswald (CH), Maridea Petrova (MK), Jaqueline Ramon (B), Agim Shehu (AL), Yvette Shiffman (USA), Ron Shiffman (USA), Joachim Siefert (D), Saskia Siefert (D), Dan Stav, (ISR), Nili Stav (ISR), Yigal Tzamer (ISR), Dick van Alphen, (NL), Leo van der Meer (NL), Evert Verhagen (NL), Bruno Zanon (I), Elke Zlonicky, Peter Zlonicky

1. Opening by the President

President Franz Oswald opened the session at 20:30, welcoming all SCUPAD members present at the annual General Assembly. He expressed his feelings about being a President in transition, having the duty of facing the problem of the relationship with our Alma Mater, the Salzburg Seminar. He reminded the membership of the original basis of SCUPAD, defined by the Statutes as an association based in Salzburg, open to planners of all countries and different cultures and aimed at continuing the contacts with the Salzburg Seminar. He went back to the origins of the Salzburg Seminar, remembering the main commitment of this institution, founded after World War II, aimed at promoting the culture and supporting the growth of democracy in Europe. It is of the utmost importance for us to re-establish a good relationship with the Salzburg Seminar, asking its governing body to respect the original commitment and spirit.

2. Minutes of the General Assembly 2000

The minutes of the General Assembly 2000, drafted by the Secretary Bruno Zanon and published in the last Newsletter, are unanimously approved.

3. Reports

- Report of the President

President Franz Oswald reported on the state of the relationship with the Salzburg Seminar, reminding the group about the exchange of letters between the SCUPAD President and the President of the Salzburg Seminar, Olin Robison, and, in particular, the contents of the letter written after the General Assembly 2000. In relation to the responses received from the Seminar, the Committee, at its meetings held last year in New York and in Venice in January 2001, made the decision not to hold the Congress in Salzburg, but to organise it in Venice in order to respect the will of the General Assembly 2000 as expressed in the resolution unanimously approved. In the following discussion, Saskia Siefert affirmed that all members should be involved in the decision on where to hold the next Congress. The President then asked all members to express their positions and feelings. Dick van Alphen asked which criteria have to be used to assess the situation. Franz Oswald said that the Salzburg Seminar treated us in an inappropriate way and that the Schloss cannot be a "neutral" place regarding basic values, fundamental contents and principles. Ron Shiffman affirmed that the Salzburg Seminar doesn't belong to its President; it belongs to us. We must feel committed to create the conditions to go back to Salzburg. He said that he met with Leo van der Meer and Joachim Siefert, members of the Advisory group, in order to suggest actions to create the framework to go back to Salzburg.

In the following discussion (Dick, Saskia, Han, Ron, Evert, Peter Gauder, Roberta, Joachim), some relevant positions were expressed. In particular, we must not depend on the decisions of the President of the Salzburg Seminar (Saskia); we wish to play a more important role for the Salzburg Seminar (Roberta); we must ask all members, in particular our Israeli friends, if they can suggest actions in order to feel comfortable in Salzburg (Saskia). Adam affirmed that the decision not to come to last year's Congress was made on a personal basis and that we must continue to ask the Salzburg Seminar to change its "neutral" attitude. It used to be a place where people of different cultures could meet.

The focus of the discussion continued to regard the relationship with the Salzburg Seminar. For Peter Zlonicky, we must insist to "open the Schloss", in particular to young professionals. Frohmut expressed his feeling of discomfort, as an alumnus of the Seminar, in this situation, but he thought that it is important to go to the Schloss to fight for our values. Ron affirmed that we must keep our principles in mind and devise an effective tactic. He also said that we missed Gerhard this year, and we must do all that is possible to involve him again. The discussion closed with a statement by the President that we share a strong feeling to go back to Salzburg as soon as possible, however, keeping firm to our values.

- Report of the Vice President for Internal Affairs

The Vice President for Internal Affairs, Tom de Wit, reported on the activities of the Committee, including the meetings and the work done in the preparation of the Congress.

- Report of the Secretary

The Secretary, Bruno Zanon, reported on his activities, including his role as one of the nodes of the SCUPAD network and asked everybody to contact him in order to keep in touch with SCUPAD and to get in contact with other members.

- Report of the Treasurer

In the absence of the Treasurer, Thomas Dillinger, the V.P. for Internal Affairs, Tom de Wit, reported on some aspects of SCUPAD's financial matters. He proposed not to vote on the Financial Report, but to delegate the Committee to nominate an Auditor, as stated in the Statutes, and to give the Committee the task of approving the Financial Report on the basis of the Auditor's report.

- Report of the Editor of the Newsletter

Yvette Shiffman reported on her activities as Editor of the Newsletter. She invited everybody to contribute articles, materials and information for the Newsletter.

4. New Members

Secretary Bruno Zanon announced that a number of applications have been presented by participants who are not yet members. They are: Shlomo Aronson (Israel), Rachel Kallus (Israel), Lolita Èaèe (Latvia), Donald Gratz (USA), Agim Shehu (Albania), Jenny Hoffner (USA), Kyle M. Alexander (Northern Ireland), Fred Kent (USA), Iveta Lâèauniece (Latvia), Elena Dimitrova (Bulgaria), Lisa Evans (USA), Maria Karaslateva (Bulgaria). They were accepted unanimously as SCUPAD members.

3. Communications and conclusions

Due to the late hour, the President announced that the other items of the Agenda, on which no formal decisions had to be taken, would not be treated. As far as the proposals for topics for the next Congresses, he invited all the present participants to send suggestions to the Committee. The President again thanked the Committee, the Officers and, in particular, Tom de Wit, Marco Venturi and Bruno Zanon who did extraordinary job in the organisation of the successful Congress 2001. A very special thank-you goes to Hans de Wit for her help in handling the finances during the Congress. He closed the Congress at 22:30, wishing to meet all the participants again next year.

- Additional Communications

During the Congress, the President gave the following additional communications:

- Peter Zlonicky and Joachim Siefert, who agreed last year to serve on the Committee for an extra year, agreed to complete their terms until 2002. Next year there will be elections for Committee members. All members were asked to consider to serve on the Committee or to propose new names.

- The tasks for the next Committee meetings (in Prague and Vienna) include the assessment of the 2001 Congress and the relationships with the Salzburg Seminar.

- The President asked everyone to let the Committee know what is good, what is bad, and what changes have to be made in the organisation of the Congresses.

SCUPAD General Assembly,

Venice, June 2001

Bruno Zanon

Secretary of SCUPAD