



“Silent Transformations”

7 - 9 March 2016

Nanyang Executive Centre (NEC)
60 Nanyang View, Singapore 639673

Conference Program

Monday, 7 March

Venue: Auditorium, NEC Level 2

8.15am Registration

9.00am Welcome Remarks by Director Para Limes
Jan W. Vasbinder

9.10am Opening Address by NTU President
Bertil Andersson

Chair: Huang Zhilian, Interdisciplinary Graduate School, NTU

9.30am Douglas Robertson
Fellow Emeritus at the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences
and Department of Geological Sciences (retired), University of Colorado Boulder
Computation and the transformation of the sciences and civilization

11.00am Coffee Break

Chair: Bo An, School of Computer Engineering, NTU

11.30am Gideon Rosenblatt
Writer at The Vital Edge
Machine-based collective intelligence and the human experience

1.00pm Lunch

Chair: Neil Huynh, Institute of High Performance Computing (IHPC), A*STAR

2.00pm Gregory Chaitin
Professor at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and an Honorary Professor at the
University of Buenos Aires
Leibniz on Complexity

3.30pm Coffee Break

Chair: Zheng Jie, School of Computer Engineering, NTU

4.00pm Tom Kirkwood
Professor at the Newcastle University Institute for Ageing and Copenhagen University
Centre for Healthy Ageing
Dynamics of ageing: a silent transformation caused by “noise”

5.30pm Adjourn

6.30pm Conference Dinner
Venue: Function Hall 1, NEC Level 3

Conference Program

Tuesday, 8 March

Venue: Auditorium, NEC Level 2

- Chair: Vivek Sheraton M., Interdisciplinary Graduate School, NTU
9.00am Eörs Szathmáry
Director, Parmenides Center for the Conceptual Foundations of Science in Munich and
Professor in Biological Institute, Eötvös University Budapest
How can evolution learn?
- 10.30am Coffee Break
- Chair: Jonathan Sim, College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences, NTU
11.00am Georges Halpern
Honorary Professor, Department of Applied Biology & Chemical Technology, Hong Kong
Polytechnic University
Environment and brains, food for thoughts
- 12.30pm Lunch
- Chair: Bobby Cheon, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, NTU
1.30pm Helena Gao
Director of Bilingual Development Lab, Division of Chinese, School of Humanities
and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University
*Understanding the mind of bilinguals from their progression in linguistic behaviour
(selected)*
- 3.00pm Coffee Break
- Chair: Siran Zhan, Nanyang Business School, NTU
3.30pm William Laurance
Distinguished Research Professor at James Cook University in Cairns
Silent tsunami: Limiting the environmental impacts of tropical infrastructure expansion
- 5.00pm Adjourn
- 5.30pm Cocktail Reception
Venue: Atrium, NEC Level 2
- 7.00pm Concert – Piano Trios
Venue: Function Hall 1, NEC Level 3

Conference Program

Wednesday, 9 March

Venue: Auditorium, NEC Level 2

Chair: Goh Woon Peng, Interdisciplinary Graduate School, NTU

9.00am Geoffrey West

Distinguished Professor and Past President, Santa Fe Institute

The silent threat of exponential growth and collapse

10.30am Coffee Break

Chair: Yong Ee Hou, School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences, NTU

11.00am Krishna Savani

Assistant Professor, Division of Strategy, Management and Organisation, Nanyang Business School, Nanyang Technological University

Increased variability as a silent transformation: Consequences for behavior and policy

12.30pm Lunch

Chair: Quek Wei Liang, School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences, NTU

1.30pm Tone Bjordam

Artist

The nature of change

3.00pm Coffee Break

Chair: Darrell Tay, School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences, NTU

3.30pm J. Stephen Lansing

Co-Director of Complexity Institute and Professor in the Asian School of the Environment, Nanyang Technological University

Islands of order

5.00pm Closing Remarks by Jan W. Vasbinder