



Proposal

to the SDS Policy Council, for the meeting of July 20th, 2003

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Item 1: Environmental Dynamics Award

Main Idea

Significant contributions to Environmental Dynamics/ Sustainable Development could be awarded a distinction. To avoid competition with the existing two awards of the SDS, we could accept candidatures from the general output of the SD community, or even beyond that. For instance, one good article that satisfies the criteria of two awards, could receive both. Candidature of a work for two awards may strengthen the overall "pull" for contributions.

Name	Environmental Dynamics/ Sustainable Development award
Administered by	the SDS (to be discussed)
Funded by	various donors/ sponsors (to be defined; examples at the PC meeting)
Award	money plus honorable mentions to the best contributions (# to be defined)
Outcomes	publication of the best works at the SDR or at the Environmental Dynamics website system
Objective	promotion of Sustainable Development at any scale through System Dynamics/ System Thinking (i.e. development and application of the Environmental Dynamics paradigm)
Criterion	contribution index = {quality, outreach, innovation, work} – to be defined better
Committees	one for Nominations and one for Evaluation
Periodicity	once per year (maybe at the SDS conference)
Candidates	any system thinker/ practitioner
Medium of expression	scientific articles, essays, system models, artwork, books, etc.
Content	case studies, applications, methodology, philosophy, etc.

Conditions

This award would make sense only under two conditions:

1. That we observe a steady flow of quality work in Environmental Dynamics for three years
2. That this does not weaken the overall effect of the two existing SDS awards

Calendarization

We could mark the Environmental Dynamics Award for 2007-2008:

Candidatures	July – December 2007
Selection	January – June 2008
Award	July 2008

Search for Alternative Ideas

- ✓ Is it possible/ desirable to direct candidatures of ED works to the Dana Meadows award?
- ✓ Suggestions for other awards suitable to ED works?

¹ Based on the *ED Updates* directed via email to the ED SIG members on the 28th of May and 16th of June 2003, and on the feedback generated by them.



Item 2: Publishing Partnership

Situation

Seven international-caliber publishing houses have been approached by letter on behalf of the ED SIG, on the 27th of May 2003, requested to express their interest in establishing a non-profit division dedicated in Sustainable Development/ Environmental Dynamics. This option was sought in order to support the existing information database and works in Environmental Dynamics, currently available on the Internet by efforts of ED SIG members.

In response to that letter, a certain renowned publishing house (to be disclosed at the PC meeting) has expressed interest in a publishing partnership with the SDS on the subject in question, not on a "non-profit", but on a commercial basis (email message to be disclosed at the PC meeting).

Main Question

Is the SDS interested in establishing a publishing partnership, at present or in the future, in the field of Environmental Dynamics with a specific renowned publishing house?

Analysis Considerations

1. Under which conditions would such a partnership be desirable for the SDS?
2. How could we avoid entering in competition with the SDR?
3. Alternatives in which both the SDR and the new opportunity might co-exist or even mutually benefit? (e.g. define different scope/ objectives)
4. Would the SD community be able to secure an output on a sustained basis?

Alternative Idea

Environmental Dynamics/ Sustainable Development resources could continue existing freely available and widely accessible *via* a web-based and volunteer-powered publication system, as we have today in Environmental Dynamics.