



**PROPOSAL FOR SYSTEM DYNAMICS CONFERENCE 2006**  
**Island of Crete, Greece**

**Jim Lyneis**

Chair Conference Committee, SDS

Dear Jim,

As promised attached please find the final proposal for the 2006 conference in Greece to be hosted by the Hellenic Chapter.

**Considerations in Selecting this site:**

***1) Unique/attractive features of proposed conference venue.***

The local host, the Hellenic Chapter of SDS, consists of over 30 members, many of whom are professors in Greek Universities (i.e. University of Volos, University of Aegean, University of Thrace). Others are practitioners with strong ties to potential local sponsors. It is, therefore, a very strong local organization, capable of making the 2006 conference a success.

The preferred location is the island of Crete at the Five-star hotel Capsis Resort Beach Hotel and Convention Center. The hotel is the official site of Olympic Games 2004 and is situated on private peninsula with fantastic amenities. This award winning Convention Center has 110 meeting rooms along with a dedicated and experienced team of total support. It features: **3 Conference Centers - total capacity 4,800 delegates; 4 outdoor, 1 indoor swimming pool; Health & Beauty Center, high-tech gymnasium, sauna, steam room, whirlpool, massage and facial & body treatments; Shopping arcade; 4 Restaurants, one sea-front taverna and 5 Bars; all rooms have a balcony or terrace with magnificent garden, pool or sea views.** The hotel, on a superb and absolutely private peninsula, almost as big as the island surrounded by gardens and crystal-clear waters, offers 1) private hotel zoo; 2) sailing; 3) horse-back riding; 3) water park; 4) 18-hole Golf course; 5) botanical garden; 6) water sports; 7) excursions, tours & cruises; 8) open-air amphitheatre with sea view...

***2) Travel cost and accessibility (travel time and mode)***

There are three airports on Crete, two of which service international flights. The major airport is Nikos Kazantzakis at **Iraklion**, and there is a smaller airport in **Chania**. Sitia is another option, for domestic flights. From the various airports, you can fly to and from

Athens, Thessaloniki, Rhodes, Mykonos, Santorini, Karpathos, and Kassos. Both Chania and Iraklion have direct flights from Europe and the UK, though most are charter flights. The hotel/Convention center is located 25 km from the International Airport of Iraklion and 23 km from the city center, on the private peninsula of Aghia Pelaghia, a seaside setting incorporating pools surrounded by 3 beaches. You can arrive by ferry, and there are six ports to choose from: Iraklio, Chania, Agios Nikolaos, Sitia, Katelli-Kissamos, and Rethymnon. Crete connects with Piraeus, Santorini, Sikinos, Folegandros, Milos, Sifnos, Paros, Naxos, Thessaloniki, Rhodes, Karpathos, Kassos, Karpathos, Antikythira, Kythira and the Peloponnese. But keep in mind, Crete is the most southerly island and quite a distance from even the closest islands. Estimated travel expense from USA to Athens is \$900-\$1200. Travel time from Athens to Iraklion Airport is 20 minutes by air, approximately \$100. (More details will be provided at the PC meeting)

### ***3) Meal and accommodation costs for attendees.***

The cost per room/per day is \$168.00 including taxes, daily light buffet lunch consisted from: two kinds of salad, 1 pie, 1 vegetarian dish, Risotto or Pasta made in front of the client, mirror with cold cuts, fresh fruits of the season -2 coffee breaks (morning break: coffee/tea/orange juice/water and different kinds of cookies; afternoon break: coffee/tea/soda/water and cake). The cost for students is \$42 per room/per day including taxes and the above mentioned. For four nights the cost is \$672 and a 10% discount will be applied for those staying longer. **(See attached proposal for more details)**

### ***4) Direct Conference Costs***

Meeting facilities are **complimentary** and include: 1) A plenary conference room, (Total area 429 sq,m, Width: 15.2 m. Length: 28.2 m. Height: 4.40 m.) for 400-500 persons in theatre style with head table, podium, air condition and electrical supply; 2) 10 Breakout rooms for 25-100 persons.

The cost of audiovisual equipment (overhead projectors, Slide projector & screen) is not estimated yet. We will submit at Policy Council meeting. It will also include flipcharts, pens, pads, pencils, bulletin boards, easels....

### ***5) Program Features***

Possible program themes and special sessions might include Policy, Strategy and Operational Dynamics of Natural Resources Management in and around the Mediterranean Basin. This could entail specific industries, such as energy generation and consumption, mining, agriculture, tourism, information and knowledge technologies and space satellite technologies for communication. Such themes could attract sponsorships from public utilities and other government organizations.

### ***6) Facility Characteristics***

See above # (4) and attached proposal.

### ***7) Manageability of Risk***

Upon approval of the proposal by the Policy Council, this proposal can be turned into an enforceable agreement.

### ***8) Local Host***

The local host is the Hellenic Chapter of the SDS, comprised of over 30 members willing to participate in making the 2006 conference a success. We are committed to providing administrative support, organizing local activities for the attendees, including a pre-conference seminar (in collaboration with a Greek University) and local sponsors.

At the Policy Council meeting on the 25th of July I will present to you a full video with all the fantastic features of the proposed site. The management of Capsis gave us an ultra attractive proposal, one that cannot be ignored. Moreover, they are utterly professional and supportive.

Thanks to Roberta's invaluable assistance and guidance, the SDS has the absolute commitment of the Hellenic Chapter to make the SDS 2006 conference a success. I will be happy to answer any questions you might have at the PC meeting on the 25th of July at Oxford.

Thanking you,

Andry Argyrides, JD  
Member, SDS and Hellenic Chapter

CC: George Papaioannou, PhD; Nicholas Georgantzas, PhD; Roberta Spencer