ATLAS Transdisciplinary Conference on Responsible Leadership: A Transdisciplinary Agenda for Global Sustainability
“Social ecological systems currently face complex challenges such as the degradation of ecosystems, over-exploitation of natural resources, climate change, wealth inequalities, and human conflicts. These interconnected challenges are threatening the sustainable development of society and cannot be adequately tackled from the content of specific individual disciplines. This complexity and diversity in the world requires insight, knowledge, skills, and approaches from many fields that cross the boundaries of disciplines and institutions, cultures and realities of society. Transdisciplinarity is a growing field of education and research that holds great potential to make an important contribution to a sustainable development” (www.theatlas.org).

2020 ATLAS Event Is in Austin, Texas

2020 ATLAS International Transdisciplinary Conference on “Responsible Leadership: A Transdisciplinary Agenda for Global Sustainability” will be held at The University of Texas at Austin, June 7-10, 2020. Imagine a city bursting with an entrepreneurial spirit, a commitment to personal freedom and a passion for unearthing new discoveries. Austin is the Live Music Capital of the World!

The University of Texas at Austin is a public teaching and research university in Austin, Texas. It was founded in 1883 as the flagship institution of the University of Texas System. UT Austin was inducted into the Association of American Universities in 1929, becoming only the third university in the American South to be elected. UT Austin is a bold and ambitious academic leader ranking highly around the nation and world in many of its diverse programs across colleges. The McCombs School of Business is also home to many leading programs from accounting to risk management to marketing, and others. UT Austin is ranked #3 of the “Ten Best Colleges and Universities for Studying Renewable Energy”. The institution has over 51,000 students and over 3000 teaching faculty with an impressive campus.

FOCUS OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference program will consist of invited and selected talks, papers and poster presentations emphasizing the theme of the conference: Responsible Leadership: A Transdisciplinary Agenda for Global Sustainability. A workshop, plenary sessions and keynote panels will be presented by prominent speakers. The main theme of this conference is to understand the complex issues related to development of a global sustainable society in all possible opportunities, both physical and social, from clean or renewable energy use, vibrant local economies, and sustainable agriculture, to community involvement in decision-making, biodiversity, and mixed-use urban planning as well as where people enjoy living and working together, now and in the future. The details will be widely discussed during the conference, taking into account interconnectivity of consciousness, responsible leadership, innovation, and sustainability.
HONORING

Mr. Red McCombs

Red McCombs is a highly successful businessman in a number of industries including automotive, oil and gas, real estate, broadcasting, and professional sports—and a noted philanthropist. He is the founder of the Red McCombs Automotive Group in San Antonio, Texas, a co-founder of Clear Channel Communications, chairman of Constellis Group, a former owner of the San Antonio Spurs, San Antonio Force, Denver Nuggets, and the Minnesota Vikings. He is the namesake of the McCombs School of Business at The University of Texas at Austin. He is on the Forbes 400 list of richest Americans. He is also known for his philanthropy. Red McCombs has been involved in a number of activities, statewide, and national civic, charitable, and social organizations. Among other things, he has served as the chair of the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston and is an influential member of the Alamo Endowment Board, which focuses on the preservation and management of the Alamo mission in downtown San Antonio. Mr. McCombs serves as a General Manager, Partner and Owner of Red McCombs Ford. He serves as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Red McCombs Hyundai Ltd. Mr. McCombs is an honorary member and the recipient of the Gold Medal of Honor of The Academy of Transdisciplinary Learning & Advanced Studies (ATLAS).

Dr. George Kozmetsky

Dr. George Kozmetsky (1917-2003), a lifelong educator, was a co-founder and former Executive Vice President of Teledyne, Inc. Kozmetsky was awarded the National Medal of Technology in 1993 as an acknowledgment of his decades of exceptional contributions as a mentor and champion of high technology enterprises including Dell Computer Corporation and National Instruments. His contributions have resulted in employment for tens of thousands of Americans and billions of dollars of exports. He has been intimately involved in facilitating technology transfer from the public, federal, and university sector into private enterprise. Dr. Kozmetsky has counseled, nurtured, and developed more than a hundred companies. His dynamic efforts resulted in the establishment of the Austin Technology Incubator, and IC² Institute, which combines economic development and business education; and the Texas Capital Network, which promotes innovative financing for new ventures. His accomplishments have helped bolster the nation’s competitive position in world markets. Dr. Kozmetsky was an honorary member and the recipient of the Gold Medal of Honor of The Academy of Transdisciplinary Learning & Advanced Studies (ATLAS). As co-founder of ATLAS, he was instrumental in the process of building this unique organization.

Conference Organizing Committee

Dr. Patrick Brockett (Committee Member) is Gus S. Wortham Memorial Chair in Risk Management and Insurance, The University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Atiya Ertas (Conference Program Chair) is Professor and Director of Academy of Transdisciplinary Studies, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Texas Tech University.

Dr. Linda Golden (Conference Co-Chair) is Joseph H. Blades Centennial Memorial Professor in Insurance, The University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. David Gibson (Committee Member) was Senior Research Scientist and Nadya Kozmetsky Scott Centennial Fellow at the IC² Institute, The University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Nipun Mehta (Committee Member) is the founder of ServiceSpace, an incubator of projects that works at the intersection of volunteerism, technology and gift-economy.

Dr. Juan Sanchez (Committee Member) is Provost and Chief Academic Officer of the American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

Dr. Marilyn Schlitz (Committee Member) is the program chair of the doctoral program at ITP/Sofia University.

Dr. Syed Shariq (Committee Member) is the Kozmetsky Senior Research Scholar and Founding Co-Chair, Kozmetsky Global Collaboratory, Stanford University.

Dr. Alfred Tolle (Committee Member) is the Founder and Chairman of the non-profit association Wisdom Together, Germany.

Professor John Vu (Committee Member) is Distinguished Career Professor in the School of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University.

Dr. Raymond T. Yeh (Conference Co-Chair) is a co-founder of ATLAS.

Ms. Margo Dover (Promotional Manager) was the former director of Texas International Center.

Collaborating Organizations

- McCombs Business School at UT Austin, USA
- Texas Tech University, Department of Mechanical Engineering, USA
- Asia University, Taiwan
- Raytheon Company, Dallas, USA
- International Center for Transdisciplinary Research (CIRET), France
- Department of Business, Government and Society, McCombs School, USA
- Coleman Fung Institute for Engineering Leadership, the University of California, Berkeley
- IC² Institute, UT Austin, USA
- Center for Risk Management and Insurance at UT Austin, USA
- ServiceSpace, USA
- Wisdom Together, Munich, Germany
Dr. Jay Hartzell is an American economist, and currently the Dean of the McCombs School of Business, Centennial Chair in Business Education Leadership and Trammell Crow Regents Professor in Business at University of Texas at Austin.

Red McCombs is a highly successful businessman in a number of industries including automotive, oil and gas, real estate, broadcasting, and professional sports—and a noted philanthropist.

Dr. William Cunningham is the James L. Bayless Chair for Free Enterprise. He served as Dean of the College and Graduate School of Business (1983-85), President of The University of Texas at Austin (1985-1992), and Chancellor of The University of Texas System 1992-2000).

Sister Lucy is the founder of Maher ("mother's lap"), a network of 36 centers across India that are home to 800 severely neglected and orphaned kids, and serves tens of thousands of kids on a daily basis.

Rabbi David Baron, as the Founding Rabbi of Temple of the Arts in 1992, developed the unique approach of "Religion through music, drama, art, dance, and film." Rabbi David Baron is the rabbi of the largest arts and entertainment-industry synagogue in the United States, Temple of the Arts in Beverly Hills.

Mr. Nipun Mehta is the founder of ServiceSpace (formerly CharityFocus), an incubator of projects that works at the intersection of volunteerism, technology, and gift-economy.

Dr. Clair Brown is Professor of Economics and Director of the Center for Work, Technology, and Society at the University of California, Berkeley. Prof Brown is a past Director of the Institute of Industrial Relations (IRLE) at UCB.

Dr. Epstein is a noted Buddhist scholar and founding chancellor of The Dharma Realm Buddhist University (DRBU) and author of a well received book: “Responsible Living.”

Dr. Marilyn Schlitz is a life coach who draws on her extensive experience as a social anthropologist, researcher, writer, and charismatic public speaker. She is the Dean of the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology at Sofia University and serves as President Emeritus and Senior Fellow at the Institute of Noetic Sciences.

Mr. Coleman Fung is the founder and Chief Executive Chairman of OpenLink, a company that developed a unique cross-market risk architecture for a robust environment that seamlessly supports front- through back-office requirements for financial and energy and commodity markets.

Navin Amarasuriya is a managing director representing the 5th generation of the B.P. de Silva Group. He is an ardent supporter of market based solutions for social & environmental issues, and has a belief that people with decision making capabilities have the power to catalyse change.

Dr. Afread Tolle is the founder of Wisdom Together, a non-profit association. Prior to that he was CEO of Lycos Inc., one of the first large search companies based in Boston, Massachusetts, Vice President of Bertelsmann online, bol.com, in South East Asia, based in Tokyo/Japan and Executive Board Member of one of Korea’s largest Internet and Media Company Daum Communication in Seoul.

Bob Block is currently co-chair of the Advanced Policy Committee of the National Energy Marketers Association. He has been an serial entrepreneur and innovator with more than 150 US and International patents as well as founder of more than 50 companies.

Dr. William Cunningham is the James L. Bayless Chair for Free Enterprise. He served as Dean of the College and Graduate School of Business (1983-85), President of The University of Texas at Austin (1985-1992), and Chancellor of The University of Texas System 1992-2000).

Dr. Afread Tolle is the founder of Wisdom Together, a non-profit association. Prior to that he was CEO of Lycos Inc., one of the first large search companies based in Boston, Massachusetts, Vice President of Bertelsmann online, bol.com, in South East Asia, based in Tokyo/Japan and Executive Board Member of one of Korea’s largest Internet and Media Company Daum Communication in Seoul.

Bob Block is currently co-chair of the Advanced Policy Committee of the National Energy Marketers Association. He has been an serial entrepreneur and innovator with more than 150 US and International patents as well as founder of more than 50 companies.

Dr. Syed Shariq is a Kozmetsky Senior Research Scholar at Stanford University. He is a founding Co-Chair of Kozmetsky Global Collaboratory (KGC), and director of research program on Knowledge, Beliefs and Institutions.

Professor John Vu was the Chief engineer at Boeing responsible for pioneering the software directed design of the Boeing 777 (Retired) and is now distinguished Professor of Computer Science - Emeritus Director, in the MS program in Biotechnology Innovation and computation at Carnegie Mellon University. He is also co-director of the MS program in Artificial Intelligence Innovation, Carnegie Mellon University.
Topics of Interest
The conference invites the submission of papers that fall under the rubric of responsible and transparent leadership in the context of global sustainability and resilience thinking. Themes of those papers may include, and are not limited to help address some of today’s most urgent global challenges, such as climate change, poverty reduction, cyber security, diversity, immigration, impact of technological changes on future jobs and skills, social innovation in the era of career displacement, the role of disruption, planning for the 22nd century, and education for the convergent future. Innovative papers on artificial intelligence, machine learning, 3D printing, autonomous vehicles, biotechnology, and health care fueling fourth industrial revolution with a transdisciplinary perspective are strongly encouraged.

Abstract Submission and Deadlines
Authors are encouraged to submit extended abstract or full manuscript for review by August 19, 2019 via the conference website. Final revised manuscripts must be submitted by November 18, 2019. Presenting author must pre-register by December 16, 2019. To upload your abstract/paper please open the following URL in your web browser: https://atlas-conference.org/abstract/ and follow the on-screen instructions. The papers selected will be presented in concurrent sessions. A poster session option may be available.

Publications
All technical papers will be reviewed by the Program Technical Committee. Competitively selected papers will be published as a chapter in a book by ATLAS with an ISBN number. For more information see www.theatlas.org

Conference Registration Fees and Policies
Cancellations must be submitted in writing and received by ATLAS before May 7, 2020. After this date, there will be a $150 processing fee that will be charged. After May 7, no refunds can be made. Conference registration fee includes: ATLAS Welcome Reception on Sunday, June 7th; Conference Dinner on Monday, June 8th; ATLAS Kozmetsky Reception on Tuesday, June 9th; Lunch on Monday and Tuesday, June 8th and 9th; Coffee Breaks every day; Conference Proceedings/online book. If you currently are a student or have recently graduated, you are qualified for a reduced conference registration rate. To register for conference or workshop, please open the following URL in your web browser: https://atlas-conference.org/register/ and follow the on-screen instructions. Workshop registration fee includes: Lunch, class slides, and Textbook “Transdisciplinary Engineering Design Process.” Note that workshop is not included the conference registration and incurs an additional fee of $150.

Pre-Conference Workshop on Managing Complex Problems
Sunday June 7, 2020, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

ATLAS is pleased to offer a pre-conference workshop during the ATLAS 2020 International Transdisciplinary Conference on Sunday, June 7, 2020. This workshop will provide a brief intensive educational program for a relatively small group of people (maximum 20 seats) that focuses on transdisciplinary techniques and skills in managing complex problems. A new ABET Criterion 3 requirement, “an ability to identify, formulate, and solve complex engineering problems by applying principles of engineering, science, and mathematics,” will be discussed and practiced by using case studies. Due to the limited availability of seats, early registration is strongly recommended to ensure your participation.

Who Should Attend
This workshop is intended for educators who are teaching senior design courses, researchers, graduate students, and anyone with an interest in understanding, formulating and solving complex problems. Engineers from industry are also strongly encouraged to attend this workshop. Lunch will be provided.

Workshop Instructors
Dr. Atila Ertas is a professor of Mechanical Engineering at Texas Tech University. Dr. Ertas has earned both a national and international reputation in engineering design. He is the author of over 175 technical papers that cover many engineering technical fields. His textbooks include The Engineering Design Process (1996), Prevention through Design (PtD): Transdisciplinary Process (2010), Engineering Mechanics and Design Applications: Transdisciplinary Engineering Fundamentals (2011), and Transdisciplinary Engineering Design Process (2018).

Dr. Stephen Ekwaro-Osire has over 20 years of experience in teaching, conducting research, and publishing extensively in engineering design. Additionally, he has over five years of experience as a program evaluator of the accrediting agency ABET based in the US.

Dr. Bob Stroud has been with Raytheon Company and acquired company E-Systems more than 40 years. His areas of expertise include Complexity Frameworks in Enterprise Design, System Engineering Integration and Test (SEIT), and Integrated Product Team (IPT).
For More Information Contact:

Dr. Atila Ertas
Texas Tech University, Mechanical Engineering Department
Lubbock, Texas 79409-1021
Phone: +1(806) 834-5788; email: (aertas@coe.ttu.edu)

Dr. Linda Golden
The University of Texas at Austin, McCombs School of Business
Department of Marketing Administration
Phone: +1(512) 663-8506; email: (linda.golden@mccombs.utexas.edu)