Warmly welcomes you to an international conference

**Thinking and Making Connections:**

*Cybernetic Heritage in the Social and Human Sciences and Beyond*

10 – 11 November, 2008

The Nobel Museum

&

Södertörn University

Stockholm, Sweden
The conference programme

Monday, 10 November 2008

Location: The Nobel Museum, Stortorget, Stockholm

Time: 13.00-18.30

12.00 – 13.00 Registration

13.00 – 13.10
Welcome. Rebecka Lettevall, Södertörn University and the Nobel Museum, Sweden

13.10-14.30, Session 1

Chair: Egle Rindzeviciute, Linköping University, Sweden / De Montfort University, the UK

Andrew Pickering, the University of Exeter, the UK: Sketches of another Future: Cybernetics in Britain, 1940-2000

Slava Gerovitch, MIT, USA: Cybernetic Translations: The Allure and the Menace of Cyberspeak

14.30-15.00 Coffee break

15.00-17.00 Session 2

Chair: Teresa Kulawik, Södertörn University, Sweden

Joanna Zylinska, Goldsmiths, University of London: Is There Life in Cybernetics? Designing a Post-humanist Bioethics

Klaus Krippendorff, University of Pennsylvania: Cybernetics’s Reflexive Turn

Vessela Misheva, Uppsala University: Cybernetics and Systems Theory: Allies or Foes?

17.00-17.10 A break

17.10 – 18.30, Session 3

Chair: Jenny Sundén, Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Sweden

Celine Lafontaine, Université de Montréal, Canada
The Cybernetic Matrix of French Theory

Jasia Reichardt, London, the UK:
The Early Days of Intermedia

18:30 Buffet dinner for the registered participants at the Nobel Museum
Tuesday, 11 November 2008

Location: Rooms MB 505, MA 613
Södertörns högskola (Södertörn University)
Alfred Nobels allé 7, Flemingsberg
Time: 09.00-18.45

08.30-09.00 Registration (outside of MB 505)

09.00-10.30, MB 505

Session 1. Russian and American Conversations on Cybernetics, Philosophy and Social Change

Chair: Stuart A. Umpleby, The George Washington University

Vera Gushchina, Voronezh State University: What Type of Society Can Make Effective Use of Cybernetics in Management?

Tatyana Medvedeva, Siberian State University of Transport: Cybernetics and the Russian Intellectual Tradition


10.30-10.45 Coffee break

10.45-12.15, MB 505

Session 2. Cybernetics in the Media and Arts

Chair: Irina Sandomirskaja, Södertörn University

Sandra Gaudenzi, Goldsmiths: The Influence of Cybernetics on Documentary Making

Karolina Ugglia, Stockholm University: The Influence of Mathematical Logic: Towards an Aesthetic Interpretation of Cybernetic Analogies in the Exhibition COOL, Skånska konstmuseum, Lund 1968

Maria Prieto, University of Camilo Jose Cela: Towards a World Just City

12.15-13.15 Lunch break
13.15-15.15, MB 505

**Session 3. Historical and social dimensions of cybernetics**

Chair: Patrik Hernwall, Södertörn University

Benjamin Peters, Columbia University: *A World Already in Motion: On the Origins of Information, Organization, Feedback*

Andreas Gunnarsson, Göteborg University: *Cyborg Role Model: The First Swede in Space as a Public Demonstration of an Appropriate Relation to Technology*

Federica Frabetti, Goldsmiths: *Calculating the Unforeseeable: The Concept of ‘Software System’ in the Cold War Years*

Jason Jixuan Hu, George Washington University/ WINTOP Organizational Learning Laboratory: *Unfolding the Dynamic Structure Dimension of Cognition: Cybernetics as an Extraordinary Milestone of the Human Cognitive Capacity Development*

15.15-15.45 Coffee break

15.45-17.15, MB 505

**Session 4. Not just Norbert**

Chair: Chris Bissell, The Open University

Chris Bissell, The Open University: *Some Other, Cybernetically-Inclined, Control and Communication Engineering Contemporaries of Norbert Wiener*

Magnus Ramage, The Open University: *Norbert and Gregory: Two Strands of Cybernetics*

David Chapman, The Open University: *Information and Meaning: Complexity, Surprise and Context in Telecommunications and Art*

Parallel session

17.15-18.45, MB 505

**Session 5. Second order cybernetics, and the social sciences and humanities**

Chair: Ranulph Glanville, UK

Bernard Scott, Defence Academy, UK: *The Constructed World: Cybernetic Models of Learning and Psychological Individuation*

Karl Mueller, WISDOM / University of Ljubljana: *Second-Order Cybernetics as a Contemporary Research Program*

Ranulph Glanville, UK: *At the Heart of Designing - Second Order Cybernetics*
Parallel session
17.15-18.45, MA 613

**Session 6: Soviet cybernetics**

Chair: [Slava Gerovitch](mailto:slava.gerovitch@mit.edu), MIT

Margareta Tillberg, Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte / Royal Institute of Technology (KTH): *Cybernetics in Art and Design under Brezhnev*

Henriette Cederlöf, Södertörn University: *Cybernetics and the Science Fiction of the Strugatsky Brothers*

Egle Rindzевичюtė, Linköping University/ De Montfort University: *Cybernetics and Governance through Freedom in an Authoritarian State*

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19.00 Dinner for the registered participants, Södertörn University

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**The Scientific Committee**

Teresa Kulawik, Professor of Gender Studies, Södertörn University
Egle Rindzевичюtė, Postdoctoral Fellow, Linköping University / Lecturer in Arts and Cultural Industries Management, De Montfort University
Rebecka Lettevall, Assistant Professor of the History of Ideas, Södertörn University
Göran Bolin, Professor of Media and Communication Studies, Södertörn University

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