

Welcome to our
"Mapping the Noosphere" Workshop

A Project of Human Energy

January 10-12, 2020





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Seeing. We might say that the whole of life lies in that verb -- if not ultimately, at least essentially. Fuller being is closer union: such is the kernel and conclusion of this book. But let us emphasise the point: union increases only through an increase in consciousness, that is to say in vision. And that, doubtless, is why the history of the living world can be summarised as the elaboration of ever more perfect eyes within a cosmos in which there is always something more to be seen. After all, do we not judge the perfection of an animal, or the supremacy of a thinking being, by the penetration and synthetic power of their gaze? To try to see more and better is not a matter of whim or curiosity or self-indulgence. To see or to perish is the very condition laid upon everything that makes up the universe, by reason of the mysterious gift of existence. And this, in superior measure, is man's condition.



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Proposed Agenda Friday, January 10, 2020

08:30	Breakfast	
09:00	Introductions	All
09:30	KFF Intro and Human Energy Project Overview	Ben Kacyra
10:00	Mapping the Noosphere Project Concept & Objectives	Ben Kacyra
10:30	Coffee Break	
10:45	Q&A	All
12:15	Working Lunch	
01:00	VUB Chapter 10 Research Presentation	Clement Vidal
01:30	Session I Questions and Discussion: Conception of the Noosphere/Superorganism	All
03:00	Coffee Break	
03:15	Session I Continued: Conception of the Noosphere/Superorganism	All
05:00	Break	
0:5:30	Dinner	



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Proposed Agenda
Saturday, January 11, 2020

08:30	Breakfast	
09:00	Session II Questions and Discussion: Anatomy	
10:30	Coffee Break	
10:45	Session III Questions and Discussion: Anatomy	
12:15	Working Lunch	
01:00	Session IV Questions and Discussion: Physiology	
02:30	Coffee Break	
02:45	Session V Questions and Discussion: Future Development	
05:00	Break	
05:30	Dinner at the Lafayette Park Hotel Park Bistro	



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Proposed Agenda
Sunday, January 12, 2020

08:30	Breakfast
09:00	Development of Project Plan , Phasing and Scope and Deliverables of First Phase
10:30	Coffee Break
10:45	Getting the First Phase Launched: Team, schedule, etc.
12:15	Workshop End
	Lunch



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Overview:

KFF and Human Energy



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The Kacyra Family Foundation (KFF):

- Formed in 2000 as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.
- The organization's mission is to foster humanitarian, cultural, and scientific endeavors.



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The Kacyra Family Foundation (KFF):

Four Areas of Mission

- Digital World Heritage Preservation -- CyArk
- Medical Research
- Education
- Human Energy



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KFF Digital World Heritage Preservation Initiative:

- The objective was to use 3D laser scanning to digitally map world heritage and cultural sites
- The objective was also to train heritage preservation organizations and help them adopt the technology
- The aim was to help preserve our collective memory



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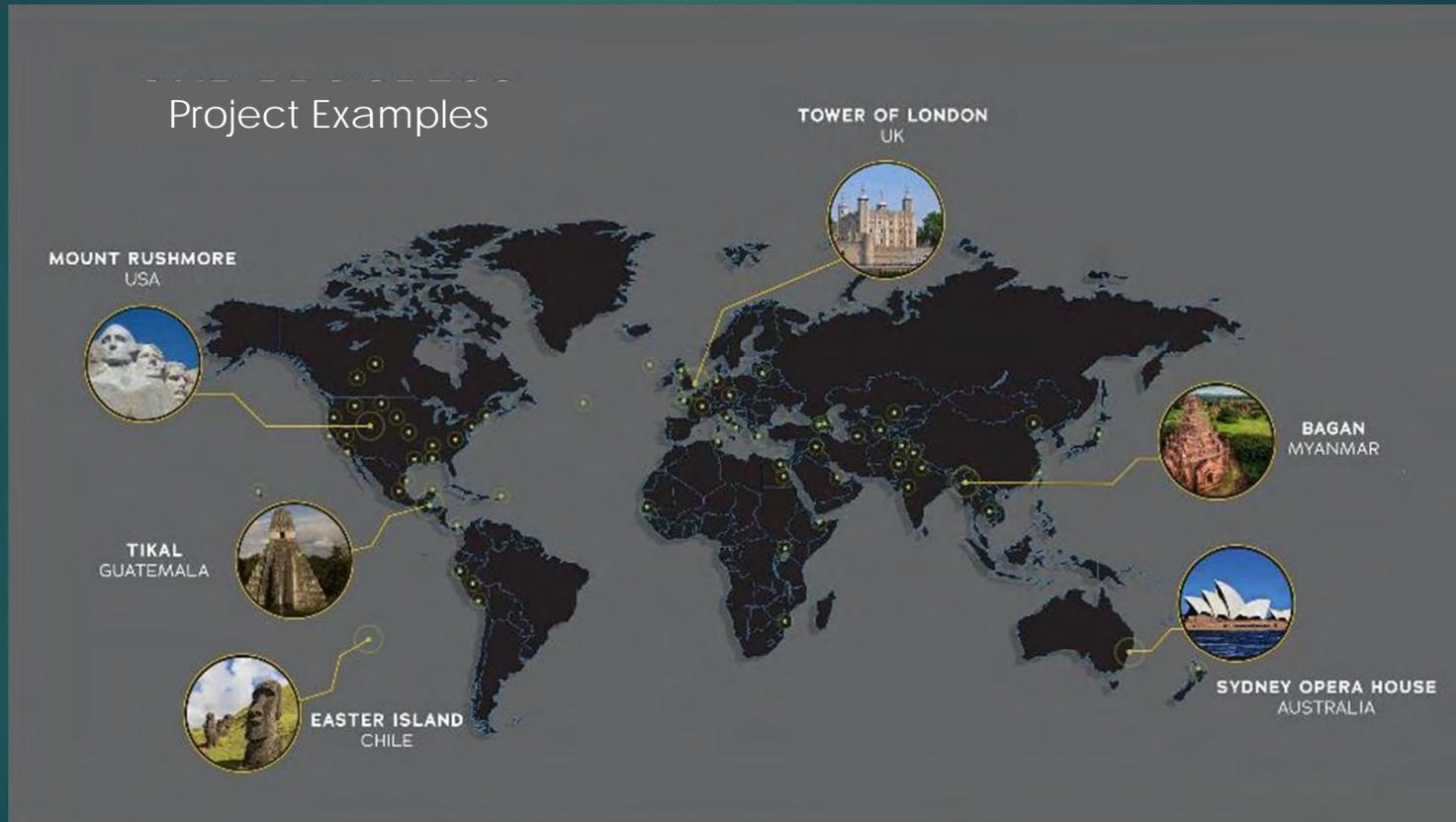
KFF Digital World Heritage Preservation Initiative:

- CyArk was formed in 2003 as a pilot project and, based on its success, was spun off as an independent non-profit organization (www.cyark.org).
- CyArk is recognized today as the global leader in 3D digital heritage preservation.
- In 2011, Ben spoke at TedGlobal about the invention of the Cyrax 3D laser scanning system and its application to digital heritage preservation.



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Project Examples





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THE HUMAN ENERGY PROJECT
A Pilot Project of the Kacyra Family Foundation



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A Short Story ...

*Where did I come from?
Why am I here?
Where am I going?*



The Challenge ...

- The First Story of the Universe, based on traditional beliefs, has been eroded by science
- And the Second Story of the Universe based on relativity and quantum mechanics has led to the belief in a random universe and purposeless evolution.



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The Challenge ...

- The social impact, especially on the young, is most pronounced and expresses in loss of meaning and direction.
- Most believers in science have embraced materialism, agnosticism, or atheism.
- Many of those who strongly favor tradition have taken shelter in fundamentalism.
- The remaining majority are disoriented



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The Challenge ...

Answers to the big questions --

Where did I come from?

Why am I here?

Where am I going?

... are no longer clear.



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Human Energy Vision:

To help people, especially young people...

answer the big questions in a positive way,

and understand the critical importance of
channeling human energy in a positive and
collective way...

towards the continuing positive development of
the Noosphere.



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Human Energy Mission:

Explore ways to help alleviate the motivational and ethical challenges facing people today, especially young people...

by recognizing and understanding the next step of human evolution.



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Objectives:

- Dissemination: Dissemination of the “Third Story of the Universe” based on Teilhard de Chardin’s scientific work and the work of other scientists with compatible theories such as Terrence Deacon, Francis Heylighen, and David Sloan Wilson.
- Science and Technology Research: Updated understanding of the concept of Global Brain and Global Consciousness (Noosphere) through research in collaboration with academic and institutional partners.
- Ethics: Research into the state of ethics in this science and technology driven age and investigation into ethics consistent with the Third Story of the Universe.



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Progress to date:

- Phase I work was research to validate the basic concepts and assumptions of the pilot project
- Phase II was initiated early in 2019



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Phase II Organization:

Phase II consists of three initiatives:

Track A: Dissemination

Track B: Science and technology research and development

Track C: Ethics



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MAPPING THE NOOSPHERE

PROJECT CONCEPT & OBJECTIVES

JANUARY 10-12, 2020



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Project Objectives

1. Characterize and map the current state of the Noosphere
2. Postulate potential scenarios for its future development based on 1 above
3. Evaluate the scenarios and develop values and ethics for future conduct

Using Chapter 10 of Teilhard's *The Future of Man* as a guide



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Initial Scope of Mapping the Noosphere

Phase 1: Mapping, Present Time

A. Anatomy:

- a. Identify and map the major organs, components, structures, etc. of the Noosphere
- b. Identify and map how organs, components, structures, etc. are interconnected as subsystems
- c. Identify and map how the subsystems are interrelated and how they work within the overall system



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Initial Scope of Mapping the Noosphere

Phase 1: Mapping, Present Time

B. Physiology: Identify and describe functionality of the different subsystems within the integrated system (see note below)



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Initial Scope of Mapping the Noosphere

Phase 1: Mapping, Present Time:

- C. Develop how the Noosphere is connected to and interacts with its environment and map such connectivity

Note: It is assumed that the organism is comprised of humans and their cultural and technological systems. It is also assumed that in addition to its internal sensory systems it would include the necessary sensory systems to enable it to sense and be conscious of its external environment such as sensing the geosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, atmosphere, and beyond.



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Initial Scope of Mapping the Noosphere

Phase 2: Mapping the Future:

A. Outline feasible scenarios of potential future development of the Noosphere

Note: Please keep in mind that the Human Energy Project is humanitarian, not theological, and concepts of Omega, singularity, etc. are beyond our scope.



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Initial Scope of Mapping the Noosphere

Phase 3: Ethics and Values:

- A. Develop methods to conceptualize the benefits and disadvantages for humanity in each scenario
- B. Develop concepts of values and ethics for future conduct



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Observations and Approach:

Mapping the Noosphere project is ambitious and can be very extensive and complex

It is ill defined at this point -- we'll struggle with it and improve our definition and focus as we go along

Our approach will be to divide the project into three phases corresponding to the three objectives: Mapping, Future Development, and Ethics
Each of the phases will depend on information developed in the phase before it.



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Observations and Approach:

Clearly our approach is to proceed rather than wait till we have better definition, so we'll start with low-res (low level of detail) mapping and with time build up to higher res (higher levels of detail). And as expected, our overall scope and approach will also evolve

It is hoped that this first workshop will give us sufficient clarity to allow us to start on a very low res mapping of Phase 1, part A, and we plan to have follow-up workshops to help expand and deepen the project as we gain more experience

Note: Mapping is used here in a very general sense. It includes 2D maps and diagrams, 3D models, logic diagrams, flow charts, circuit diagrams, etc., etc. with the emphasis being on visualization. And while seemingly the emphasis is on mapping and visualization, the need for deep scientific knowledge in biology, neurology, systems, and many other related scientific disciplines cannot be over emphasized.



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Workshop Objectives

- Discuss overall project objectives, scope, and phasing with emphasis on Phase 1
- Determine Feasibility of accomplishing Phase 1 with emphasis on part A, Anatomy Mapping
- Determine best approach to conducting Phase 1, again with emphasis on part A
- Gain knowledge and insights from discussion of questions posed



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Plans for Work Sessions

Five work sessions of 90 minutes each are proposed to investigate each of the main elements of the project with suggested questions for discussion:

1. Session I: General
2. Session II: Anatomy
3. Session III: Anatomy (cont.)
4. Session IV: Physiology
5. Session V: Future Scenarios and other considerations



Session I Discussion: General Questions

1. Can we assume the terms Noosphere, Superorganism, and Global Brain to be interchangeable? Is that valid or are there major differences among them?
2. If there are significant differences what are they?
3. Is the Noosphere in actual formation?
4. If so, what is the evidence to date?
5. Is the Noosphere some sort of combination of humans, culture, machines, etc.?



Session II: Anatomy – Organs/Components and Systems

1. Is the human body a reasonable analog for studying the Noosphere? What other analogies might be reasonable?
2. Can we make a list of the major organs, and components?
3. What are the major systems of the Noosphere? Using the human body, here is a trial list of major systems of the Noosphere to discuss:
Brain, nervous, circulatory, sensory, culture, heredity (inheritance), economic, energy, digestion and waste, immune, ...



Session II: Additional rough examples

1. Can humanity's cultural traditions, its languages, libraries, museums, scientific knowledge, all of which form the collective memory of the human race, can these be taken as the noospheric analog to a human body's DNA?
2. Can humanity's cultural taboos, its laws, militaries, its ethical systems be taken as the noospheric analog to the human immune system?
3. Can humanity's informational connections including internet, telephone, radio, and television be taken as a noospheric analog to the human brain?"



Session III: Anatomy (continued)

1. How are the organs/components connected?
2. How are the systems interconnected?
3. Brain (cerebral system):
 - Can analogies be drawn between the human brain and the noosphere cerebral system?
 - What are the similarities and deviations



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Session IV: Physiology

1. How do the different systems of the Noosphere function?
2. Is there a control system or mechanism?
3. Are any systems currently out of step with the others? Are there imbalances in the present formation of the Noosphere?
4. How do Noosphere systems relate to smaller forms of organization (governments, corporations, religions, etc.) as well as to individuals?



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Session V: Future Development

1. What are the different ways the Noosphere can develop in the future?
2. What are the drivers impelling/compelling development?
3. What are the obstacles?
4. Are there analogies with evolutionary paths and radiations of other organisms?



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