

Research: The Two Year Mandate

Research, for the Order Ecumenical, is an inclusive investigation into the ontology of life and the dynamics of society in order to serve effectively through profound and practical engagement. Movement research includes the archaic and the futuristic. It is designed to increase our understanding (knowing) and guide our acting (doing). On the one hand, it explores our corporate experience in the task of human development for insights and lessons, while, on the other hand, it listens carefully to the experience and learnings of others. It delves into the spirit deeps while maintaining a strategic concern for social justice. It is radically grounded in the mundanity of local life while held in the broad context of globality.

Research is study, engagement, dialogue, reflection and writing. Most important, research is interchange: the free flow of information from every person to every person for the sake of effective mission.

We find ourselves in a time in which research has become an urgent issue for us. The pluriformity of the world is now ours. We experience a dividedness within ourselves as we feel imaginably isolated from the edge of societal wisdom and the complex learnings of our own diverse regional task. As a result we tend to concentrate on the immediate effectivity of particular programs and lack reflective mechanisms adequate to discern the authentically new or long-range significance of what we do and are. We are impatient amidst the urgency of our task, yet we are naive about the process of and readiness for change in the world. Our research must now get us inside the deep values, trends and patterns of this world in order to move forward toward transforming society and creating profound humanness.

Therefore, the Order: Ecumenical, resolves to focus attention toward two years of intensive research. The edge of this research will occur through 1000 think tanks within 88 active regional research programs. These local research activities will prepare for and focus on 10 Great Global Research Gatherings across the globe. This two year research maneuver will be symbolized by high-lighting the Panchayat's ongoing research role while intensifying the role of Global Research Centrum. Key to this resolve is a common global screen for the research to be undertaken (see Appendix #1) and the recreation of our data flow/interchange systems. Research will focus in 8 great arenas. On the ontological pole of our concern we will struggle with the questions of profound humanness, the mutation of human consciousness, the myth factor and depth human motivation. On the sociological edge we will be concerned with future global patterns, societal transformation, the action factor and the edges of local development.

II. The Local Research Edge

IMAGE: 1000 LOCAL THINK TANKS

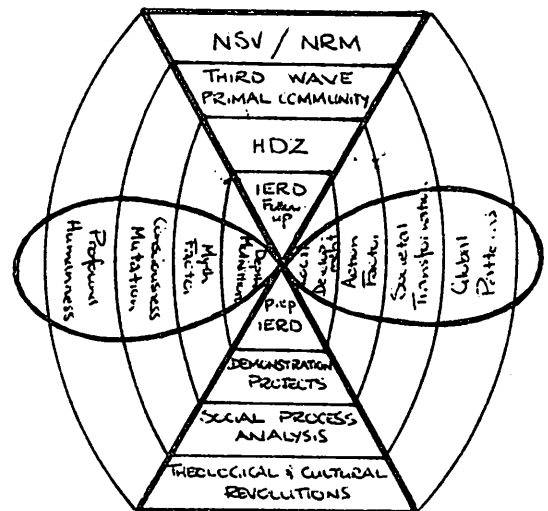
Local research will provide the foundation for our two years of research. 1000 local think tanks across the world will focus the wisdom of the globe and the implications of local action. These coordinated regional research programs will provide the grist for 10 great global gatherings and the creation of effective interchange systems. The think tank is a very flexible new program tool which will assist the region in its continuing task of impact and formation.

The 10 Local Think Tanks

Each region will schedule one full day or weekend per quarter over the next two years for local think tanks. These could be low-key events involving the house and regional team in pulling together research done by the team or more public occasions. Two of these think tanks will be globally common, covering the Rural Development Symposium and the HDZ Practicum. Four of them will be related to assigned Global Research Gathering topics. The others will reflect particular area and regional concerns. About 800 think tanks will be held through this local process. The remaining 200 think tanks not assigned to regions will be held in a variety of council, nexus and assembly configurations. (Appendix #2 - Global Topic Rationale)

The Regional Research Dynamic

Regional Calendar - In 1982 Quarter I Councils each local unit will create its research program for the coming two years. This will involve scheduling the research think tanks, the rural development symposium and the human development practicum. The region will choose topics for its think tanks and assign teams and time to carry out specific research activities in preparation for the think tanks. Extra regional and/or Nexus representation should be included to hold the global dynamic wherever possible. Questions to assist in selecting topics for the research think tanks might be:



Final Lab Report  
 COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH MECHANISMS

- 1) In what arenas have colleagues expressed interest?
  - 2) What have we done in our region or community that needs to be documented for the globe?
  - 3) What types of research events might we do that involve a broad segment of local society?
  - 4) What are the new arenas of program involvement needed, and what related research needs to be done in those arenas?
  - 5) What evaluational components are needed to measure success of a program?
  - 6) What types of research activities would people enjoy participating in? (field trips)
  - 7) What development agencies or movements do we need to find out about and interchange with?
  - 8) What research needs to be done to identify the kind of innocent suffering in the area?
  - 9) What wild edge research do we need to do on behalf of the globe?
  - 10) What do we need to research in preparation for the Great Global Gatherings in our continent?
  - 11) What do we need to research in preparation for the Great Global Gatherings outside of our continent?
- See Appendix #3 for think tank formats.

#### The Implementing Forms

Local Research Teams - We recommend that local research teams or guilds be formed to do the preliminary research activities and preparation for the think tanks. Teams would be assigned to each research topic selected in the planning workshop. The teams would use a variety of methods to gather data and push their thinking on the given topic, as well as arrange for resource people to participate in the Think Tanks, do the recruitment and coordinate the practical arrangements. Below is a list of possible types of research activities:

- |                                      |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| - interviews                         | - taking courses                   |
| - library research                   | - attending conferences/seminars   |
| - surveys                            | - think tanks                      |
| - labs                               | - art forms (e.g. seeing films)    |
| - reflections following programs     | - documentation                    |
| - trips/circuits                     | - compiling statistics             |
| - collegiums                         | - seeing/creating TV documentaries |
| - site visits                        | - writing papers                   |
| - individual reading                 | - publishing articles              |
| - corporate studies                  | - panels                           |
| - interchange symposium              | - subscribing to publications      |
| - corporate scan of resources        | - computer search                  |
| - discussions over a drink           | - third party evaluations          |
| - lectures                           | - tours                            |
| - corresponding with resource people | - creating screens                 |

Individual Research - As a way to structurally release the individual creativity of every person, we recommend that each house designate one week II per quarter as an individual research and brooding time. It would be up to each individual to determine the form of this time with the corporate requirement to produce a one-page report on work done. Some examples of possible uses of the time might be the charting of a book, the writing of a talking paper, creation of theoretical holding screens, writing a short story, attending a course or conference.

Reporting Mechanism - A globally common reporting format will be used to report the results of all local research (see Appendix #4). Back up data collected may be attached, but a globally common one-page summary will facilitate interchange of information. The report will be sent from each local to Global Research Centrum for distribution and use at the Global Research Gatherings. Back up materials will be catalogued and supplied upon request. The Global Materials Catalogue will be published quarterly.

#### Sample Scenarios

In preparation for an edge think tank on early childhood development, the local research team might do library research on early childhood development methods, visit signal preschools, subscribe to a periodical on the subject, chart current articles, interview early childhood educators, do an experimntal Wk II putting into practice new techniques and design a curriculum incorporating new thinking.

Final Lab Report  
 COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH MECHANISMS

The local research team might approach a think tank on organizational revitalization by collecting articles on business management techniques and charting them, reading current books on management, interviewing management consultants and university specialists, visiting and studying successful business prototypes, interviewing potential markets, framing visits, studying marketing materials, recruiting think tank participants and guests.

III. The 10 Great Global Gatherings

There will be 10 Global Research Gatherings during the next two years. These will include the International Exposition on Rural Development in February 1984, in New Delhi, the Global Research Council in Chicago in July 1983, and the 8 Global Research Assemblies.

Intent: The Global Research Assemblies are imaged as 5-day, focused assemblies which do research into the world's edge and into the wealth of our movement experience. This research will prepare us for the IERD and position us to launch the Human Development Zone.

Product: The product of each research assembly will include a document which lays out the learnings and implications. Talking papers, proposals, bibliographies might be some of the practical products.

Preparation: To prepare for these events, Global Research Centrum will create a common method and approach to each GRA. The local areas or continents will take on the practices, global recruitment, and initial regional research think tanks which precede the GRA. A task force of 8-10 full time troops will be on site two weeks prior to each event. These people will be assigned from the sponsoring continent and from Global Research Centrum.

Participation: It is intended that all symbolic order members will be assigned to one global event over the next two years. Most of these people will be assigned to events within their assigned continent. A minimum of eight areas outside the sponsoring continent will be assigned to send one person to each GRA. Where possible this assignment will be related to the research work already going on in a particular area.

This travel cost will need to be put into areal budgets. Movemental colleagues will be encouraged to attend these events. It is planned that these assemblies be the opportunity for interchange among emerging guilds and potential guild members. These could lead to a formalization of the guild dynamic across the globe in key arenas.

Relationship to Local Research: The GRA's will be taking the results of the appropriate think tanks across the globe and utilizing that data as important input. People will have the opportunity to present papers and briefs from their areal think tanks. After the assemblies, the products will be sent to all the areas. The global implications will be discerned in the Global Council.

The Intent of the Global Research Assemblies

These assemblies are intended to provide a mechanism for the whole movement to wrestle with the deep questions we are faced with as we move toward 1984. These questions are laid out in the chart on the Research Task.

DECEMBER 1982 - GRA on Participative Polity

This GRA will focus on the societal transformation going on through the seven revolutions as they have called forth new methods and forms of participation.

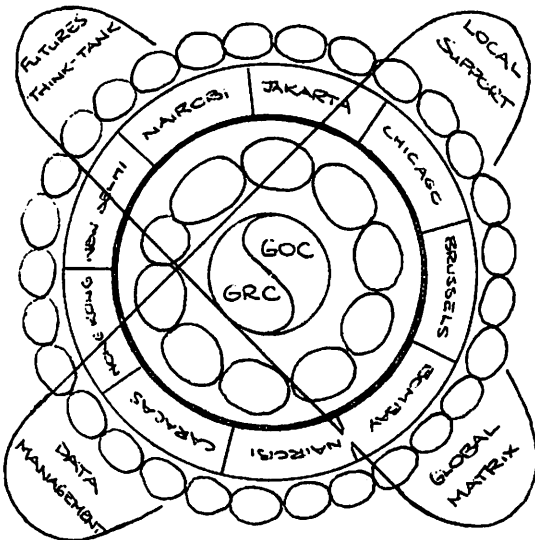
Reference: II New Paradigm Models: D. Societal Transformation

APRIL 1983 - GRA on Humanizing Technology

This GRA will focus on how new technology can be used to occasion positive social change.  
 Reference: III Social Change Methodologies: F. Action Factor

APRIL 1983 - GRA on Urban Futures

This GRA will focus on the emerging forms of vital urban community.  
 Reference: I Socio-Religious Trends: B. Global Patterns



EVENT	GRA on PARTICIPA- TIVE POLITY	GRA on HUMANIZI- ING TECHNOLO-	GRA on URBAN FUTURE	GRA on IMAGE FACTOR	GRA on VILLAGE DEVELOPM'T	GLOBAL RESEARCH COUNCIL	GRA on NEW MYTHOLOGY	GRA on RELIGIOUS EDGE	IERD (GRA on RURAL DEVELOP)	GRA on ZONAL DYNAMICS
LOCATION	SEAPAC Jakarta	N. Amer. Chicago	Europe Brussels	Sub Cont. Bombay	Bl Africa Nairobi	N. Amer Chicago	La America Caracas	SEAPAC Hong Kong	Sub Cont. New Delhi	Bl Africa Nairobi
TIME PRACTICAL ADVANTAGES	Dec. '82 Facility Available Piggyback Continentl Council	Apr. '83 Facility Available Piggybacks N. Amer Guard Mtg	Apr. '83 Facility Available Piggy bks Formation Fortnight	Jun. '83 Facility Available Piggybks TraDit. Docum Evt	Jun. '83 Facility Availabl Piggybks Contin. Assembly	Jul. '83 Facility Available	Sep. '83 Adequate Lead Time Could piggy Cont. Cncl	Dec. '83 Adequate Lead Time Piggybks Cont Cncl	Feb. '84 Facility Identified	Jun '84 Facility Available
A S S I G N E D  A R E A S	Areas of SEAPAC  Nairobi New York Chicago Calcutta Copenhag. Houston San Fran London	Areas of N. Amer. Hyderabad Havana Paris Tokyo Suva London Buenos A.	Areas of Europe Calcutta Cairo Budapest Montreal New York Abidjan Lagos Lima	Areas of Sub Cont. Hong Kong Sydney Kinshasha Rome San Fran. Budapest Chicago Houston	Areas of Bk Africa Singapore Madrid Caracas Bombay Edmonton Frankfort Hong Kong Copenh.		Areas of L. Amer. Sydney Paris Madrid Tokyo Bombay Edmonton Montreal Lagos	Areas of SEAPAC Chicago Nairobi Rome Hyderabad Mex City Frankfurt Houston Cairo	FIFTY NATIONS REPRE- SENTED	Areas of Bk Africa Singapore New York Houston Rio de Jan Delhi Edmonton Suva Los Angl

JUNE 1983 - GRA on Image Factor

This GRA will focus on the awakening and empowering of individuals and communities through the impact of images.

Reference: II New Paradigm Models: C. Consciousness Mutation

JUNE 1983 - GRA on Village Development

This GRA will focus on the catalytic approaches which release local people to change their own situation.

Reference: IV Human Development Strategies

SEPTEMBER 1983 - GRA on New Mythology

This GRA will focus on the emergin spirit tools which release commitment and a new story in a time of social change.

Reference: III Social Change Methodologies: E. Myth Factor

DECEMBER 1983 - GRA on Religious Edge

This GRA will focus on the edge movements within classical religions which are occasioning a profound ecumenism in our time.

Reference: I Socio-Religious Trends: A. Profound Humanness

JUNE 1984 - GRA on Zonal Dynamics

This GRA will focus on discerning the pillars of the Human Development Zone as it is emerging in rural and urban situations.

Reference: IV Human Development Strategies

IV. The Common Research WebImage: The Futures Think Tank

The third dimension of the two-year research maneuver is the one global Futures Think Tank. There are two dynamics within this think tank highlighting the symbolic role of the Panchayat and intensifying the role of Global Research Centrum.

The Panchayat Role

The Panchayat will symbolize this time of research by intensifying its own ongoing research function on behalf of the Order. It will do this by providing leadership in the selection and pursuit of certain research topics and by maintaining a close coordination with the Futures Think Tank function of Global Research Centrum.

The Global Research Centrum Functions

Significant shifts will occur in the screen of the Global Research Centrum functions. Four fundamental areas have emerged as the necessary undergirding for the Global Research Maneuver. First, the Futures Think Tank will be responsible for edge reading, the writing and dissemination of talking papers on edge research topics, dialogue with edge thinkers of our time and close coordination with the Panchayat. Second, the Local Support Function will be responsible for supporting and monitoring the Local Research Task. This may look like assisting in the creation of think tank subjects and formats, monitoring results, assisting in local IERD documentation projects, tracking HDZ learnings, catalyzing local talking paper creation and training regional teams for the research task. Third, the Global Research Centrum Global Matrix function will be concerned with the implementation of the 10 Great Global Gatherings, it will coordinate prep task forces, and publish Great Global Gatherings products. It will also be concerned with supporting and connecting emergin guilds across the globe. Finally, the Data Management function includes maintaining the Global Materials Catalogue, publishing of public communication pieces, developing computerized library/cataloging systems and systems usage and recommending key edge periodicals and edge reading resources to the Order.

Data Flow Systems

All research data from Local Think Tanks, Great Global Gatherings, the Futures Think Tank, individual and programmatic research needs to be reported, compiled and made accessible to the globe. As quickly as possible this data needs to be computerized. Systems designed in the interim will need to be readily translated to the computer. They will include:

- 1) A standard research reporting format (see Appendix #4)
- 2) Abstracts of each research project using the standard format to summarize content and application to be sent by each location to its Nexus.
- 3) A computer-applicable masterfile system sent to all houses. Each piece of research will be coded according to the master file.

## Final Lab Report

## COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH MECHANISMS

Chicago

Page 6

- 4) Global Materials Catalogue which will be updated quarterly and mailed to each house location.
- 5) Each Nexus location linked into a globally compatible computer system within the next year. Research data will be disseminated by means appropriate to timing and cost effectiveness including mail, telex, courier mail and telecommunications.
- 6) Two types of publications will be necessary to support the Research Maneuver.
  - a) We will continue the Image as the professional journal of the ICA.
  - b) There will be a quarterly report done by each Nexus location on the research learnings from its zone. This report will consist of sentinel stories and learnings from the zone. The report will be mailed from the Nexus to every house in the globe according to the following schedule:

Week	3	6	9	12
Nexus	NA/LA	EUR/NAME Africa	Sub-Asia	SEAPAC

#### V. Research Windows to the Future

Research as defined above, is the fountain of youth for any pioneering or revolutionary group. It opens the windows and allows the fresh air of new ideas and insights to flow in. It tunes the ears to hear the cries of the suffering world as it lurches towards an uncertain future. It trains the eye upon those points of mysterious vitality where the seeds of the future are being fertilized by the needs of the present.

The key to these two years of research is the region, especially the Team and the House. If, in the course of the next twenty-four months, we corporately and individually experience an infusion of curiosity which results in an eager questing for a new grasp on the demands of our time, these days will be a sentinel time of growth and change. The mission will be renewed and the spirit refreshed.

	ONTOLOGICAL	SOCIOLOGICAL
SOCIO-RELIGIOUS TRENDS	A. PROFOUND HUMANESS 1. CLASSICAL RELIGIONS 2. UR IMAGES 3. CIVILIZATIONAL FOUNDATIONS	B. GLOBAL PATTERNS 4. INTRA-GLOBAL RELATIONS 5. "FUTURIST" PROJECTIONS 6. HISTORICAL WAVES
NEW PARADIGM MODELS	C. CONSCIOUSNESS MUTATION 7. ETHICAL CONTEXT 8. GLOBALIZED INFORMATION 9. SIGNAL IMAGES	D. SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION 10. SEVEN REVOLUTIONS 11. SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS 12. PRIMAL COMMUNITY
SOCIAL CHANGE METHODOLOGIES	E. MYTH FACTOR 13. PUBLIC IMAGES 14. GRASSROOTS STORIES 15. SPIRIT EXERCISES	F. ACTION FACTOR 16. TECHNOLOGY IMPACT 17. PRESSURE POINTS 18. MOVEMENTAL FUNCTION
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES	G. DEPTH MOTIVATION 19. CATALYTIC APPROACH 20. SYMBOLIC POWER 21. PARTICIPATORY MODE	H. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT 22. SECTORAL COALITIONS 23. ZONE PILLARS 24. LOCAL INITIATIVE

ILLUMINATING QUESTIONS: (directly related to prebeding numbers)

1. What are the futuric edges within Buddhism, Hinduism, etc. in relation to profound ecumenics and social change?
2. How has our experience of the last decade illuminated the Ur Images and how do these illuminate mov't strategy?
3. Where are there intimations of the emergence of a new civilization foundation which will replace the foundation which began 2,500 years ago?
4. What are the indications of the socio-political nature of a post-nationalistic globe?
5. What can be learned from the data and interpretations compiled by the professional futurists?
6. What are the great waves of history which are re-shaping the basic foundations of global society?
7. What are the questions and issues which are giving form to a new ethical system?
8. How is the universal availability of global information changing life in local communities?
9. What are the new images of humanness with which the world of creative art is affecting individual consciousness?
10. What intimations of the new paradigm are visible in the dynamics of the 7 revolutions?
11. How will the arrival of the "3rd Wave Society" change key structures such as the family, workplace and media?
12. How will "basic human community" be defined in the future when seen through the screens of education, health, local economy, public administration, etc?
13. How can the multiple public sources of information, pictures, stories and songs be a positive force in re-creating the human story?
14. How can the new vision of local man become a direct cultural force in mythology creation?
15. How can the emergence of new rituals and practices be encouraged as a necessary humanizing dynamic?
16. How can new technology be used to occasion positive social change?
17. What are the most effective pressure points in the social process?
18. What are the dynamics by which a popular movement catalyzes massive social change?
19. What are we learning about the means for releasing people to change their own situation?
20. What has been our experience in using the power of the symbolic to re-create society?
21. What are we learning about the design, use and results of participatory systems in organizations and communities?
22. What are our projects revealing about the role of four-sector coalitions?
23. What are the definitudes of a zone in both the rural and urban context?
24. How can self-sustaining local development be achieved in any setting?

These questions are intended to illuminate each topic. They are not intended to be a restrictive definition of the topic; each topic has multiple dimensions which can become the focus of local thinktanks.

APPENDIX #2  
MANDATED THINKTANKS  
50 per GRA assigned by continent

RESEARCH EVENT	WEST			EAST		SOUTH			TOTALS
	NA	EUR	EUASIA	SEAPAC	SUBCONT	L AM	NAME	B/AFR	
1. Participatory Polity	11	4	1	11	6	3	0	14	50
2. Humanized Technology	11	4	1	11	6	3	0	14	50
3. Urban Future	11	4	1	10	6	4	0	14	50
4. Image Factor	11	4	0	11	6	3	1	14	50
5. Village Development	11	4	0	10	6	4	1	14	50
7. Myth Factor	11	4	1	10	6	4	0	14	50
8. Religious Edge	11	4	0	10	6	4	1	14	50
9. Zonal Dynamics	11	4	0	11	6	3	1	14	50
TOTALS	88	32	4	84	48	28	4	112	400

(Based on number of house locations multiplied by 4, with minor variations.)

THINK TANK FORMAT

After comparing the various think-tank formats, they seem to contain three basic components; 1) orientation 2) exploration and 3) reflection.

Following is a table listing some of the forms that these components took in specific think-tanks.

ORIENTATION	EXPLORATION	REFLECTION	Examples
Focus task Build timeline Name task	Research past and edge wisdom  Panel presentations; field trips	Create a design	Phase I learnings
Focus intuition and questions	Test intuition by visiting exhibits, bookstores Evaluate intuition with fresh perspectives	Write reflection statements  List arenas of research	World theoretical research
Introduce people Introduce topic	Conversation on conference document, a movie Report on movement activities with women	Write results  Launch survey	Women in development

This skeleton format allows for the inventiveness of the group in relation to the topic, thereby opening the corporate mind to its own capacity for curiosity and creativity.

ICA	RESEARCH REPORT FORM	1982-83
SUMMARY	Place: _____ Date: _____ Focus/Topic: _____ Learnings: _____ Products:	
BASIC OBJECTIVE		
KEY RESOURCES		
CRITICAL LEARNINGS		
FUTURE IMPLICATIONS		