

Editorial

Another Step: The Evolution of Integral Review

Welcome to the second issue of *Integral Review*. Since our inaugural issue one year ago, we have expanded our horizons and perspectives in many ways. It has been a pleasure to make new acquaintances with authors submitting to IR, work with a growing cadre of outside reviewers, and welcome a new member to our editorial committee. These activities have generated plenty of learning for all of us involved—authors, reviewers and editors—and have fueled our evolution as a journal.

We would like to take a moment to express our sadness at the sudden passing of our former Editor-in-chief, Reinhard Fuhr, this past December. As the one who had the initial conception for this journal, Reinhard articulated its vision, and guided the first issue to fruition. He mentored and initiated me into this world of editorial process and perspective, and many times in the past months I have reflected on how he would recommend handling situations. I regret not having had more time to benefit from his wisdom. Thomas Jordan, who knew Reinhard personally, has provided us with a memorial reflection that provides some insight into his character and accomplishments. The editorial committee of *Integral Review* gratefully dedicates this issue in memory of Reinhard.

We would also like to welcome Bonnitta Roy to our editorial committee. Bonnie had been an outside reviewer for IR and we are glad that she accepted the invitation to join us in this work. You can learn more about her on the Editors page.

Finally, we look forward to the launch of AQAL: Journal of Integral Theory and Practice. The publication of this new journal from the Integral Institute/Integral University will add another voice and venue for public discourse on all things integral. While conversations with AQAL's editor-in-chief have revealed differences in the specific missions of IR and AQAL, we share a common vision for furthering high quality public discourse on integral approaches to human endeavors. Starting with our next issue, IR will publish reviews of and/or responses to articles that appear in AQAL. This offers a peer reviewed venue for the exchange of ideas to extend and develop integral discourse.

The process of accompanying authors (including ourselves) through processes of reflection and revision has been full of learning for myself and the IR editorial committee. This work has facilitated new insights into how the concept of integral is understood and applied. In turn, these insights add to our repertoire of ways to support authors' efforts to communicate their thoughts, research and praxis. This iterative and ongoing process of action inquiry guides IR's work, and frames the ideas and experiences described in this issue, like a series of snapshots in the evolution of integral perception, understanding and application.

On the Contents of Issue #2

This issue of IR opens with a short mixed genre piece entitled *It is I Who both Breaks and Binds*. Andrew Campbell shares a combination of art, process, email exchange, and photography that offers glimpses into the creative process and invites revisiting and reflecting.

Next is a short piece by Mark Gerzon, *Integrity, Integral Vision and the Search for Peace*. Mark offers an integral vision for handling conflict. He points out how this integral approach is based in integrity and wholeness, and offers practical examples of how conflict can be transformed.

This is followed by a reflective piece from Nathan Harter, *The Springs of Leadership*. Nathan invites us to expand our notions of leadership activity to include contemplation. He introduces us to *ensimismamiento* as a core practice of leadership that sets it apart from the more mechanical tasks of such roles.

We then offer two pieces by Sayyed Mohsen Fatemi. In *Passionate Winking*, he offers us a creative mix of poetry and philosophy. This piece takes the reader back and forth between modes of discourse, opening up a window into his world. The companion piece, *Avenues of Mysticism*, well, it is poetry, so I'll keep any interpretations to myself!

From these shorter works, we turn to Russ Volckmann's interview with Ian Mitroff, titled *A Transdisciplinary Mind*. In this interview, Mitroff reveals the path he took through life, and how various influences helped open him to more integral perspectives. The transdisciplinarity of his mind is clearly evident throughout, as when he shows why the entire notion of disciplines is an increasingly incoherent and dysfunctional way to organize knowledge. This fascinating interview also covers his work as the father of crisis management, and his research into the spiritual side of corporate America.

For an integral approach to organizational learning, Wendelin Kupers offers *Integrales Lernen in und von Organisationen*, a German language article that invites us to take learning in and of organizations as a relational event and integrative process. He applies an integral framework to notions of learning and how they can be applied in organizations, and introduces useful distinctions that help us perceive the value in organizations actually learning.

Nathan Harter offers another look at the contemplative side of leadership with *Voegelin's Ladder*. Here he argues that leadership implies spirituality, and uses an early notion of development found in the work of Eric Voegelin to provide a framework for relating the two. He shows how spirituality manifests as purpose and aspiration, making it practical and relevant for understanding and practicing leadership.

More Perspectives, New Politics, New Life: How a Small Group Used The Integral Process For Working On Complex Issues is the title of Sara Ross's report on a small research project conducted with a group of citizens wishing to address issues of local concern. It outlines background to the process and the steps involved in it, and then how the group used those steps to generate new perspectives on their issues and for some, their lives. This article complements a longer research report included in this issue of IR.

Another application of integral thinking is presented in my (Jonathan Reams) interview with Karen Kho, *Plain and Integral*. Karen describes her work in the green building industry in California, where she and her colleagues have been able to adapt and apply integral thinking, perspectives and frameworks to their work. The success and growing interest in the work done there demonstrates the value of utilizing integral approaches for practical challenges.

Michel Bauwens' French language article *Le Peer to Peer: Vers un Nouveau Modèle de Civilization* introduces his hypothesis about the birth and emergence of a new social formation, called "peer to peer." He believes that this has profound implications for the transformation of our current form of market economy. His description covers peer to peer modes in both production and governance.

Sara Ross presents *Perspectives On Troubled Interactions: What Happened When A Small Group Began To Address Its Community's Adversarial Political Culture* as a more detailed companion to *New Perspectives*. This extended length research report includes a literature review, methodology, and significant detail on the impact this process had on individual participants. The insights gained from this research have wide ranging value and could be applied in many domains.

Finally, we close with Tom Murray's *Collaborative Knowledge Building and Integral Theory: On Perspectives, Uncertainty, and Mutual Regard*. This article applies Murray's understanding of how integral theory's approach of methodological pluralism positions it to deal with the "epistemological indeterminacy" that impacts all knowledge building communities. He provides detailed critiques from examples of current public discourse in the integral community, and then shows how issues of mutual understanding, agreement, and regard impact these exchanges. He provides useful distinctions for understanding theory building issues, and suggests practices to improve the quality of discourse in integral theory development.

The process of generating this second issue of *Integral Review* has been rich and rewarding. We hope that you will find value in the range of offerings presented here, and share your discoveries with friends and colleagues. We have authors who are already at work on submissions for issue 3, and look forward to speeding up our publishing schedule. We will also be happy to entertain publication of responses to the articles IR publishes, and hope to make this a robust forum for integral dialogue.

Jonathan Reams
(Editor-in-chief)