

**Culture, Consciousness and Nature –
 A Context for Climate Change**

October 16-18, 2008

Vancouver, BC

Hosted by Simon Fraser University

Conference Schedule

Thursday	16 October
6:30 – 9:30	Opening Reception
Friday	17 October
8:00	Buffet breakfast
9:00-9:15	Introductions
9:15-10:00	Opening Keynote – Roderick Nash (chair Michael Fellman) <i>Reflections on the importance of and ways to include ecological materials in the curricula of colleges and universities.</i> Drawing on experiences teaching Environmental Studies at the University of California Santa Barbara, Nash describes how the Santa Barbara Oil Spill of 1969 motivated faculty to make changes in the organization of higher education. He argues that the humanities are just as vital as the sciences in solving the bottom-line problem of how we can live sustainably on Earth, illustrated by his own work in wilderness preservation and environmental ethics.
10:00-10:30	Refreshment Break
10:30-12:00	Concurrent sessions
12:00-2:00	Lunch on own
2:00-3:00	Keynote address – Andrew Dobson <i>Environmental Citizenship: A Route to Sustainability</i> When it comes to changing environment-related attitudes and behaviour, fiscal incentives and disincentives are the tools most often used by governments. This paper will explore some of the drawbacks of this approach, and discuss an alternative possibility – environmental citizenship. This 'new' citizenship will be described and explained, and some recent empirical evidence that supports the citizenship approach to changing attitudes and behaviour will be discussed.
3:00-3:30	Refreshment Break
3:30-4:45–	Concurrent Sessions
4:30	Board Meeting
	Dinner on the town
Saturday	18 October
7:30	Buffet Breakfast
8:30-9:30	Opening Keynote – Carolyn Merchant (chair Janet Routledge) For the twenty-first century, I propose a new kind of environmental ethic—a partnership ethic, based on the idea that people and nature are equally important. If both people and nature are acknowledged as actors, we have the possibility of a mutually beneficial situation. <i>A partnership ethic holds that the greatest good for the human and nonhuman communities is in their mutual living interdependence.</i> A partnership ethic entails a viable, sustainable relationship between a human community and a nonhuman community in a particular place, a place in which connections to the larger world are recognized through economic and ecological exchanges. It is an ethic in which humans act to fulfill both humanity's vital needs and nature's needs by restraining human hubris. As humans, we need to cultivate a new ability to hear nature's voice. Although, as partner, Nature's language differs from our own, we nevertheless have the possibility of working cooperatively with it. The result is a healthier, more sustainable environment for our own and future generations.
9:30-10:00	Refreshment Break

10:00-11:30	AGLSP Annual Business Meeting
11:30-1:00	Lunch on own
1:00-2:30	Concurrent Sessions
2:30-3:00	Refreshment Break
3:00-4:30	Concurrent Sessions
6:00	Reception
7:00	Awards Banquet