



Collaboration with ESSA

Building bridges

<http://www.essa.eu.org/>



What is ESSA?

- The European Social Simulation Association (formed 2003)
- Mainly focused in Agent Based Social Simulation (ABSS)
- Massive interdisciplinary group (300+ fee paying members)
- Committed to algorithmic specification of theories and ideas
- Computational Social Science
- Not -ism social theory like postmodernism or other –isms
- It is about capturing complex dynamical systems using algorithms specified at the agent level but it is not necessary methodologically individualist
- No *a priori* commitment to any methodological stance
- Micro->Macro->Micro links
- It's not about “game theory” but we have game theorists
- JASSS: Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation:
<http://jasss.soc.surrey.ac.uk> (ten years back issues, early open access model)

History

- ESSA emerged out of the SimSoc workshops
- Formative people: Jim Doran, Nigel Gilbert, Rosaria Conte, Micheal Macy, Aderzej Nowak, Klaus Troitzsch, Rainer Hegselmann and many others...
- ESSA emerged out of a set of workshops called "simsoc".
 - 1992 first Simsoc workshop was in 1992 organised by Nigel Gilbert from Surrey
 - 1993 Siena symposium 1993, (Conte)
 - 1995 Baca Raton, Florida - simsoc 3 by (Macy)
 - 1995 Dagstuhl seminar (Klaus)
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 - 1997 1st international conference on social simulation - Rosaria Conte (simsoc 4)
 - 2000 SunSoc 5, Kazimierz Dolny, Poland, Jun 9-11 (Nowak)
 - 2003 ESSA 1, Groningen, Netherlands (simsoc 6), sept 18-21
 - 2004 ESSA 2, Valladolid, Spain, sept 16-19
 - 2005 ESSA 3, Koblenz, Germany, sept 5-9
 - 2006 First World Congress on Social Simulation (WCSS), Kyoto, Japan, August 21-25.
 - 2007 ESSA 4, Toulouse, France, Sept. 10-14.
 - 2008 Second world conferences on social simulation (WCSS), Fairfax, Va, USA, July 14-17.
 - 2008 ESSA 5, Bresecia, Italy, sept 1-5.
 - 2009 ESSA 6, Guildford, UK, sept 14-18.
 - 2010 Third world conference on social simulation (WCSS), Kassel, Germany. sept 9-10, 2010.
 - And the annual MABS workshops associated with AAMAS conference since 1998.

International Cooperation

- The WCSS conferences a result of cooperation with sister organisations: NACSOS and PAAA
- NACSOS = North American Association for Computational Social and Organization Sciences
- PAAA = Pacific-Asian Association for Agent-based Approach in Social Systems Sciences
- Good lines of communication / cooperation

ESSA and ASSYST

- Possible ideas for building trust and links:
 - sponsor a joint ESSA CSS prize for best paper related to social simulation
 - sponsor ESSA related summer schools for CSS and ESSA students and vice versa (we already did one of these in Budapest last year)
 - Coordinate and introduce MC members in similar areas from ESSA and CSS (pair up MC conference people, MC education people etc).
 - Move towards the idea of a planning a possible joint word conference event / co-location - WCSS + CSS = WCSSS (WCS^3), a mad idea? = 1000's of participants

What do you think?

- Ideas and opinions to dave@davidhales.com
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