



Metaphorum 2023

Day 1: Thursday 8th June

Main Hall

09.00 – 09.30	Conference registration
09.30 – 09.40	Conference welcoming address
09.40 – 10.30	Angela Espinosa: Viability through emancipation – learning from VSM practice.
10.30 – 11.10	Robin Asby: Designing Democracy: a systemic blueprint for governing.
11.10 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 12.10	John Hicks: Digital accessibility: a key to emancipation and viability for those who need it most, and everyone else too.
12.10 – 12.50	Trevor Hilder: Why VSM/MMF is the “organisational physics” of Sociocracy.
13.00 – 14.00	LUNCH
14.00 – 14.40	Peter Tuddenham: ChatGPT and cybernetics: implications for today’s world (workshop).
14.40 – 15.20	Stephen Davies: Accessing the zone of emergence.
15.20 – 15.40	Coffee break
15.40 – 16.20	Martin Pfiffner, Mark Lambertz & Stephen Davies: Current VSM application in the transformation of one of the world’s largest automotive suppliers into a new era of mobility (workshop).
16.20 – 16.50	Plenary panel

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10.30 – 11.10	Russell Clemens: Situating the Viable Systems Model within a Critical Futures Studies review of Indian elephant-human conflict.
11.30 – 12.00	Camilo Osejo: Cybernetics and the emergence of cultural politics: a study of the Colombian uprisings of 2021.
12.00 – 12.30	Luis Armando Vásquez-Ruiz, Juan Enrique Núñez Ríos & Pedro Pablo Cardoso Castro: Exploring the Viable System Model as an alternative to foster sustainable change.
12.30 – 13.00	J. O’Donnell, D. Desmond & M. MacLachlan: Getting giraffes and ostriches to meet in the middle: designing viable safe virtual disability spaces to satisfy future demand.
14.00 – 14.30	James Fox: Dis/agreement in participatory organisations: low theory and democratic governance in cybernetics.
14.40 – 15.20	David Cooper: Accelerated community learning (workshop).
15.40 – 16.20	Allenna Leonard & Ian Kendrick: Playing a VSM game (workshop).



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17.00 ... **Later in the bar ...** (The Fountain House, 14 Albert Square, Manchester, M2 5PF)

Day 2: Friday 9th June

Main Hall

09.00 – 09.50	Wolfgang Lassl: Landmark '50 years VSM' – invitation to an emancipation journey.
09.50 – 10.30	Ayham Fattoum: Configuring systems to be viable in a crisis: the role of intuitive decision-making.
10.30 – 10.50	Coffee break
10.50 – 11.30	Ivo Velitchkov: Viability of personal knowledge systems.
11.30 -12.10	Peter Kawalek: Designing data freedom: Stafford Beer's work applied to civil rights and criminal justice.
12.10 – 12.50	Jose Carlos Mariategui: Uncovering Stafford Beer's influence in Latin America: a focus on Peru.
12.50 – 13.30	LUNCH
13.50 – 14.30	Czeslaw Mesjasz: Complex systems management and the traps of sustainability and corporate sustainability as polysemic notions.
14.30 – 15.10	Benjamin Taylor: The Viable System Model and Human System Dynamics through the lens of Barry Oshry's Organic Systems Model.
15.10 – 15.20	Coffee break
15.20 – 16.00	E.B. Bassam & Jose Carlos Mariategui: Introduction and screening of 'Cybersyn 1973/2023'.
16.10 – 16.45	Plenary panel

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09.50 – 10.30	Kelsie Nabben: Aligning 'Decentralized Autonomous Organization' to Precedents in Cybernetics (workshop).
10.50 – 11.20	Alison Gurthrie-Wrenn: Leading to learn – learning from leading a systemic intervention in central government, a new practitioner's perspective.
11.30 – 12.00	Cintia Faria: Challenges with emancipation within integrated care systems.
12.10 – 12.40	Michael Ward: From reductionism to systems thinking: a complementary approach to emancipatory change.
13.50 – 14.20	Julie Mackie: Viability and sustainable approach in action: learning from a work-based project to kick-start the design of an anchor institution strategic framework for an NHS trust operating as part of a new anchor network.
14.30 – 15.10	Krishna Balthu: Emancipating the emancipator: refining agency in action research through a holonic modelling.



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Day 3: Saturday 10th June

Main Hall

09.00 – 09.45 Marc Pearson & Kerry Turner: **Campfires and cave drawings.**

09.45 – 10.30 Juliana Alves, Jon Walker, Peter Tuddehman, John Waters, Pedro Pablo Cardoso & Angela Espinosa: **Viability and sustainable water management.**

10.30 – 10.50 **Coffee break**

10.50 – 11.35 Martin Pffifner, Angus Jenkinson, Jose Perez Rios, Steve Brewis, Jon Walker & Angela Espinosa: **VSM application insights and questions from our VSM application research group** (Metaphorum and CybSoc members).

11.35 – 12.20 John Waters: **Applying some cybernetic concepts to planetary viability – a skeleton on which to build.**

12.20 – 13.00 Gary Alexander: **A new common sense or VSM for all.**

13.00 – 14.00 **LUNCH**

14.00 – 15.00 **Open space: Walk about and find your tribe – learning from the conference.**

15.00 – 16.00 **Metaphorum reinvented & conference closure.**

16.00 – 16.30 **Metaphorum Annual General Meeting.**