WOSC panel explanation

Several ideas are being used to describe a renewed emphasis in cybernetics on reflection and self-awareness. In addition to an early concern with controlling events in the world around us, cyberneticians have considered the role of the observer in creating descriptions and have conceived the scientist as an actor who participates in systems as well as observes them. There has been a strong concern with ethics. Recently there have been challenges to the assumptions underlying science and efforts to improve, even reconceptualize the application of scientific ideas. Goals and purposes are now increasingly linked to the conceptualization of context. This symposium will bring together the work of scientists from several countries who are working on these issues.