THE NINTH INTEGRATED EAST-WEST FORUM
The Science of Consciousness Conference

TSC 2020

APRIL 13, 2020, TUCSON, ARIZONA, USA

“Oh, East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet,
Till Earth and Sky stand presently at God’s great Judgment Seat;
But there is neither East nor West, Border, Nor Breed, nor Birth,
When two strong men stand face to face, though they come from the ends of the earth!”

-Rudyard Kipling (1889) : The Ballad of East and West

The Integrated East-West Forum has become a central feature at the TSC series of conferences, starting with TSC 2012 at Tucson (USA), TSC 2013 at DEI, Dayalbagh (India), TSC 2014 at Tucson, TSC 2015 at Helsinki (Finland), the landmark TSC 2016 at Tucson, when the “Toward a Science of Consciousness” series was rechristened ‘The Science of Consciousness’, TSC 2017 at San Diego (USA), TSC 2018 at Tucson, and TSC 2019 at Interlaken (Switzerland). The Ninth Integrated East-West Forum at TSC 2020 will be yet another landmark integration event as part of the TSC-series. The above quote rather prophetically captures these momentous occasions, when not just two strong men from East and West, but a host of outstanding women and men from East and West meet face to face and through video-conferencing at Tucson (USA) and Dayalbagh, Agra (India).

EMERITUS CHAIRS

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Revered Prof. Prem Saran Satsangi
Emeritus Chairman,
Advisory Committee on Education,
Dayalbagh Educational Institutions, India

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Prof. Stuart Hameroff
Director, Centre for Consciousness Studies,
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Sponsors:
Centre for Consciousness Studies, Dayalbagh Educational Institute (Deemed Univ.), Agra, India

Discounted Registration Fee for DEI, India group:
to be conveyed by Tucson organizers
(Special Discounted Fee for attending both Integrated East-West Forum and TSC event to be submitted to TSC 2020 organizers)
Receipt, Acceptance Letter and Visa Facilitation Letter will be provided by Tucson organizers
(http://consciousness.arizona.edu)

WEBSITE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS
FOR THE EAST-WEST FORUM
https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=tsc2020
Contact email: tsc2020ewforum@gmail.com
Last Date for Submission of Abstracts: November 30, 2019

Forum Coordinator - Video-conferencing: Mr. Prem Prashant, Member, Divinity Forum (Dayalbagh/@DEI-location)
Forum Organizers: Prof. D.S. Mishra, Prof. C. Panvardhan, Prof. Vishal Sahni, Dayalbagh Educational Institute (Deemed Univ.), India
It has become the tradition in the consciousness conferences since Tucson 1994 to hold meetings at Tucson in even years, and somewhere else in uneven years. The new conference title ‘The Science of Consciousness’ responds to the growing significance of consciousness studies among scientific communities all over the world. This international inter- and trans-disciplinarity of Consciousness Studies is particularly important to generate understanding of consciousness across cultural backgrounds as diverse as Western and Eastern approaches.

A meaningful East-West dialog has been initiated by the organizers of TSC 2012 together with the Dayalbagh Educational Institute at Agra (India), and it continued through all TSC conferences since then. To meet the challenges of an integration of different approaches to consciousness, the landmark Ninth Integrated East-West Forum at TSC 2020 is intended to be a place where key ideas from both sides are presented, and where these ideas can interact in the spirit of constructive criticism, evaluation and mutual enrichment.

One goal of the forum is to evolve a science of veridical inner experience by integrating Eastern and Western scientific, philosophical and spiritual approaches. The phenomenology of inner conscious states can be elucidated through the well-established stages of observation (awareness), report (description), and analysis (understanding), while also availing of modern imaging techniques and modelling approaches in order to capture physiological and physical parameters of neural correlates accompanying those inner experiences.

The Forum emphasizes aspects of consciousness viewed from a scientific perspective beyond any religious identity or tradition. However, this perspective is framed by various cultural horizons with different premises. Even among eastern meditationists, there are, at least, two schools of thought. One believes that there is ultimate unity, and the other believes there is duality, but duality with a difference, that is, duality at will. There is uncertainty associated with duality, yet one would imagine that when one reaches the Ultimate source of consciousness, there should not be any uncertainty, but that such a consciousness were omnipresent, omnipotent and omniscient.

The Integrated East-West Forum at TSC 2020 will explore the ultimate nature of reality from two ends, namely that of science and that of subjective inner experience, based on the conviction that such an approach is more adequate to the complexity of consciousness than relying on one of these ends alone. Conceptual insights stemming from combining awareness practice with experiential methods can lead to practical applications as well as a deeper understanding of the potentials of higher states of consciousness. In this spirit, we hope to contribute profound insights to the academic field of Consciousness Studies and to the growing potentials of human consciousness.