

# **Frederick Steier, Ph.D.**

**Doctoral Faculty - School of Leadership Studies at Fielding Graduate University**

Temple Terrace, FL, US

Cybernetics researcher

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## **Biography**

Frederick Steier, Ph.D, is Professor in the School of Leadership Studies at Fielding Graduate University, and Emeritus at the University of South Florida, where he had also served as Director of Interdisciplinary Studies Programs. His work focuses on systemic approaches to social/ecological systems, with attention to learning and whole systems design. He has directed participatory action research programs in a wide variety of settings, ranging from government institutions, including NASA, to science centers, such as the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), in Tampa, Florida, where he was also a Scientist-in-Residence. He is the editor of the volumes, Gregory Bateson: Essays for an ecology of ideas (2005), and Research and Reflexivity (1991), and is a Past-President of the American Society for Cybernetics. He has also been on the faculty of Old Dominion University (where he was also Director of the Center for Cybernetic Studies in Complex Systems), the University of Oslo (Norway) and the University of Pennsylvania. He has also had the honor of being King Olav V Fellow with the American-Scandinavian Foundation, and recently (2019) received the Norbert Wiener award for lifetime achievement from the American Society for Cybernetics. Dr. Steier received his doctorate from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, in Social Systems Sciences, in 1983.

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## **Industry Expertise**

Research, Education/Learning

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Constructionist Research Methodologies, Relationships Between Information Technologies, Organizational and Inter-Organizational Communication, Work Teams and Communication Processes, Cybernetics

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## **Affiliations**

American Society for Cybernetics (President, 1989-91), International Communication Association; International Society for Systems Sciences

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## **Sample Talks**

### **Living a Cybernetic Life**

(2019) Invited talk. Given as recipient of Norbert Wiener award for lifetime achievement, American Society for Cybernetics annual conference. Held at University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

### **A Binocular Vision for Design Process for Whole Systems Design Crossing Boundaries**

(2018) Presentation, with Flavio Mesquita da Silva and Travis Thompson. RSD-7 (Relating Systems Thinking to Design) Conference, Held at Politecnico di Torino, Torino, Italy.

### **Generating New Futures through Collaborative Support Networks**

(2019) Paper presentation, with Laurence Habib, Flavio Mesquita da Silva and Sergej van Middendorp. Anticipation 2019 conference, Oslo, Norway.

### **Collaborative Support Networks as Generative of New Futures: Use of the World Café and Dialogic Methods to foster inclusion, awareness and sustainability**

(2019) Curated /Dialogic session, with Laurence Habib, Flavio Mesquita da Silva and Sergej van Middendorp. Anticipation 2019 conference, Oslo, Norway. This session was a participatory session that built on the paper session listed above.

### **An Ecology of Health**

(2017) Invited panelist and participant. Meeting arranged by the Ecology of Health Program and International Bateson Institute. Bromley by Bow Centre, London, England.

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## **Education**

### **University of Pennsylvania**

Ph.D., Social Systems Sciences

### **University of Delaware**

M.S. Statistics

### **University of Delaware**

B.A. Mathematics

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## **Accomplishments**

### **Norbert Wiener Award, Society for Cybernetics**

2019

### **Carl Riggs Scientist in Residence, Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI).**

2005 - 2014

American Scandinavian Foundation, King Olav V Fellow, University of Oslo, Norway  
1985 - 1986

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