

RAYMOND L. ISON
CURRICULUM VITAE

Qualifications

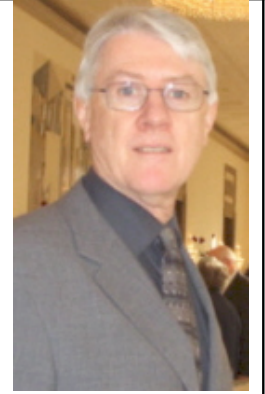
- BSc (Agric) (Hons), University of Sydney, Australia, 1975
- PhD, University of Queensland, Australia, 1982.

Academic Posts

- 1994 +: Professor of Systems, The Open University UK, Milton Keynes, U.K. (0.5 time – from September 1st 2008)
- 2008 – 15: Professor, Systems for Sustainability, Monash Sustainability Institute Melbourne, Australia and leader/founder of Systemic Governance Research Program (0.5 time)
- 1983 -93: Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Grassland Systems, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Sydney and Western Sydney University (Hawkesbury)

Awards

- ☒ Wesley College, University of Sydney, Foundation medal, 2016



Special Appointments - examples

- ☒ 2015 +: Vice President, International Federation for Systems Research
- ☒ 2008 +: Trustee, American Society of Cybernetics (ASC); 2016+ Chair of Trustees.
- ☒ 2014-15: President of the International Society for the Systems Sciences (ISSS)
- ☒ 2011 +: Director, World Organisation of Systems and Cybernetics (WOSC).
- ☒ 2011 (October): Member of Australian Water Culture Delegation to China through the project Linking Australia and China: a "Bridge of Water Culture" hosted by: Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IGSNRR); China Three Gorges Corporation (CTGPC); Shaanxi Normal University.
- ☒ 2000 – 2005 Board Member, The Natural Step (UK) Ltd
- ☒ 2004-8 External Examiner, MA Responsibility & Business Practice, University of Bath.

Research achievements

Internationally recognised in Systems scholarship that draws on second-order cybernetics and the biology of cognition and for developing and pioneering the use of Mode-2 modalities of research practice e.g. systemic inquiry. My research is relevant to how we act in a climate change world e.g. *'Systems Practice: How to Act in a Climate-Change World'* (Springer 2010). Through my research, teaching and consultancy I have made significant contributions in the areas of systemic governance, systems practice and social learning, systemic environmental decision making, 'knowledge transfer', design of learning/inquiring systems and agricultural/food systems. My research and scholarship has found practical application in diverse fields including water management, organisational change, staff induction, Higher Education reform and rural development. My recent work with colleagues elucidates through empirical, theoretical and systemic-design research how social learning could be employed as an alternative governance mechanism for managing in complex, or 'wicked' situations, particularly water catchments and other multiple stakeholder settings such as climate change adaptation. I pioneered metaphor research in the field on natural resources management beginning in the early 1990s. As Professor and sometimes Head of the Open University Systems Department 1995 -2005 I led action research processes of organisational change within the Department and University. I was foundation Director of the Postgraduate Programme in Environmental Decision Making as well as being actively involved in the production of new Systems Thinking in Practice and environmental courses.

I am the author, co-author or editor of six books, 9 journal special editions, 37 book chapters, 137 refereed papers (see <http://oro.open.ac.uk/view/person/rli2.html>) and have been invited as keynote speaker in international and national conferences in Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Ecuador, France, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Sweden, South Africa, Tanzania, USA & the Netherlands. I am regularly invited to run workshops in diverse countries.

Research Governance & Leadership - examples

- ☒ 2014-2019: External Scientific Advisory Committee member, The Australian Prevention Partnership Centre (TAPPC), A\$23 million NHMRC-funded - research on systems approaches to prevention of lifestyle-related chronic diseases.
- ☒ 2014 & 2016: Invited Participant/presenter in the International Federation of Systems Sciences (IFSS) Conversation, St. Magdalena, Linz, Austria.
- ☒ 2014-5: President of ISSS - organised three events in Germany (Hannover and Berlin) from 30th July – 7th August under the aegis of 'Governing the Anthropocene: cybersystemic possibilities': including a two-day systemic inquiry for 150 participants (with funding of Euro100,000+ from Volkswagen Foundation) a 5 ECRT PhD course for 30 and the ISSS annual conference.

Recent Research Projects

2012-15 Climate Change Adaptation and Water Governance: Reconciling Food security, Renewable Energy and the provision of multiple ecosystems services (CADWAGO) Europe and Global Challenges Call: (Compagnia di San Paolo, Turin/Italy, the Riksbanken Jubileumsfond, Stockholm/Sweden and the Volkswagen Stiftung, Hannover/Germany) € 1 Million.