

## ***Curriculum Vitae: Michael R. Lissack***

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Michael Lissack is the director of the Institute for the Study of Coherence and Emergence (ISCE) and an Internet entrepreneur. Most recently he lectured on business and public policy at the Central European University in Budapest. Dr. Lissack is also the founder and chairman of Knowledge Ventures Inc.

### ***Education***

DBA, Henley Management College (UK), 2000.  
MBA, Yale School of Management 1981.  
BA, Williams College (US) 1979.

### ***Organizational Skills***

Prior to 1995, Dr. Lissack was an investment banker where he assisted state and local governments in the United States with debt financings. His specialty was infrastructure project financings, from which he gained significant organizational acumen while running project teams of upwards of fifty professionals.

Beginning in 1995, Dr. Lissack organized an Internet mailing list of professionals and academics interested in the fields of complexity and management. The community formed around the list became the basis of first, the Organization Science Related Programs unit of the New England Complex Systems Institute (1997-1999) and then (1999 to date) the Institute for the Study of Coherence and Emergence.

Since 1997, Dr. Lissack has organized several international conferences on complexity and management (Managing the Complex – Toronto, Fall 1998, Boston, Spring 1999, Boston, Fall 1999, Boston, Spring 2000, Naples, Florida, Winter 2002, Washington DC, Summer 2004) and on such topics as “Entanglement at the Human Scale” (Utrecht, Fall 2000), health care and ethics (Boston, Fall 1999), and knowledge management (Boston, Spring 2001). These conferences have attracted a wide variety of academics, business professionals and consultants – who make up the affiliated membership in ISCE.

ISCE appointed its first academic fellows in 2000 – forty in number from around the globe, who gather twice a year for an academic confab and who work together on research projects, publications and speaking engagements. At ISCE Dr. Lissack developed an international consortium with members including the Imagination Lab (Lausanne), the University for Humanist Studies (Utrecht), the Cal Turner Program in Moral Leadership Across the Professions at Vanderbilt University (Nashville), and the University of Technology Sydney. One

outgrowth of this consortium is the PhD program in corporate anthropology offered by University for Humanist Studies in conjunction with ISCE and several European business schools.

From 1999 to 2004, Dr. Lissack served as the editor-in-chief of *Emergence: A Journal of Complexity Issues in Organizations and Management*. Dr. Lissack founded the journal and arranged for its publication by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. As editor-in-chief, he has been responsible for gathering the journal's editorial board, promulgating its editorial policies, soliciting manuscripts, reviewing and promoting the journal. In 2004, *Emergence* merged with efforts from the UK Complexity Society and the Cynnefin Center, moving back to print publication and was retitled as *Emergence: Complexity and Organization*. The journal can be found at <http://emergence.org>

Dr. Lissack is the founder of several Internet start-ups and has been an active angel investor in several more. His original involvement with the Internet came as an investor and advisor to Tripod, a site aimed at university students, which became part of Lycos (now Terra/Lycos) in 1998. Dr. Lissack was the acting CFO (1998-99) and a board member of WebMind, Inc., a start-up technology company whose aim was to utilize the Internet to duplicate the human reasoning processes. While WebMind's efforts were ultimately unsuccessful, the start-up organization and failure experience contributed greatly to Dr. Lissack's education. In 1999, Dr. Lissack founded Collectively Sharper, an artificial intelligence business intelligence firm. Collectively Sharper was sold to Topical Net, Inc. in 2000.

In 2000, Dr. Lissack founded Knowledge Ventures Inc. Knowledge Ventures, Inc. is an educational tools software company which published the Learners Library – a research tool for academics. The Learner's Library is at <http://www.learnerslibrary.com>

Dr. Lissack presently serves as an advisor to Due.com, Cram101.com and AllDorm Inc. He also operates a successful real estate practice at <http://buy-in-naples.com>

### ***Public Policy and Investment Banking***

*Worth* magazine recognized Dr. Lissack in 1999 as one of "Wall Street's 25 Smartest Players" and again in 2001 as one of the 100 Americans who have most influenced "how we think about money." He was Smith Barney's senior banker with overall responsibility for new product development, municipal derivatives, and the technical work produced by the firm's Public Finance Division. He trained more than 300 bankers who can be found at firms throughout the industry. He has served as a senior banker or financial advisor in more than thirty of the fifty American states, and has financed more than \$35 billion of infrastructure projects for these clients. As the senior banker for these governmental entities, Dr. Lissack directed more than \$25 billion of investments, supervised their financial reporting, assisted in the design of their risk management and investment operations, and coordinated public education programs. He spent more than 13 years with Smith Barney, including eight as a managing director.

In the US, Dr. Lissack has acquired a national reputation as a whistle blower following his role in exposing the arcane world of municipal finance. In April 1998, the US Department of Justice announced that it had joined in a whistleblower suit Dr. Lissack filed regarding the repayment of nearly \$1 billion to the US Treasury. Since then the US Government has recovered more than \$250 million as the result of Dr. Lissack's initiation of legal action. Since his first public accusations in March 1995, he has been responsible for shedding light on numerous illegal and

unethical practices of Wall Street firms. His allegations have been involved in more than one dozen civil and criminal investigations by the SEC, IRS and the US Department of Justice and in the promulgation of IRS Revenue Procedure 96-41. The investment practices of many state and local governments throughout the United States have been revised as a result of Dr. Lissack's initiative.

Dr. Lissack has written editorials on the subject of whistle blowing for the *New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times* and has been profiled in many international publications including *Fortune*, *Business Week*, the *Economist*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Financial Times*, and *USA Today*. In addition, he has spoken about whistle blowing on television, radio, and the lecture circuit. Dr. Lissack has devoted the bulk of monies derived from his lawsuits to charitable activities including ISCE and has endowed two professorships -- the Lissack chair in *Social Responsibility and Personal Ethics* at Williams College, and the ISCE Professorship for *Meaning in Organizations* at the University for Humanist Studies in the Netherlands.

Dr. Lissack was a candidate for county commissioner in Collier County, Florida in 2002 and in 2006. He is a frequent commentator on public affairs in Collier County.

### ***Teaching and Research***

Dr. Lissack most recently was a lecturer on business and public policy at the Central European University in Budapest. Since 1995, Dr. Lissack has taught economics as a lecturer at Williams, research techniques at Henley, business strategy at IMD, complexity at LSE, and business ethics at the Rotterdam School of Management, Vanderbilt, and Keele. He has run seven international conferences on the topics of complexity, management, health care, entanglement and ethics. Dr. Lissack frequently lectures on the topics of complexity, management, ethics, and knowledge management to both academic and business audiences in the US and Europe. Dr. Lissack's ongoing research focuses on the interactions of complexity theory ideas with the philosophical concepts of emergence, coherence, homology, models, and ethics. His most recent writings have focused on the concept of coherence, what it is and how it can be achieved and maintained in a dynamic networked setting. He and several colleagues are editing a management book series that stresses the situated nature of management, where the lessons presented involve multiple perspectives and multiple paradigms and where the coherence aimed for is not based on homogeneity of perspective, but on a recognition of 'appropriateness'.

Dr. Lissack obtained his DBA at Henley Management College. Henley is one of the oldest business schools in Europe and the first to be established in the UK. Henley enjoys 'triple' accreditation for quality from the leading professional bodies in the USA, Europe and the UK: AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA. Publications

*Coherence Emerges: A Complexity Theory of Organization* (with Hugo Letiche), MIT Press, Cambridge, MA (forthcoming, 2006).

"The Redefinition of Memes: Ascribing Meaning to an Empty Cliché", *Journal of Memetics - Evolutionary Models of Information Transmission*, 8. (2004)

"Models without Morals: Toward the Ethical Use of Business Models" (with Kurt Richardson) *Emergence*, Volume 5, Number 2, (2003).

"Complexity, Emergence, Resilience, and Coherence: Gaining Perspective on Organizations and their Study" (with Hugo Letiche) *Emergence*, Volume 4, Number 3, (2002).

*Management and Complexity: An Interacting Dialogue* (editor) Quorum Books, Westport, (2002).

"On the Status of Boundaries, both Natural and Organizational: A Complex Systems Perspective" (with Kurt Richardson) *Emergence*, Volume 3, Number 4, (2001)

"When Modeling Social Systems, Models ≠ the Modeled: Reacting to Wolfram's A New Kind of Science" (with Kurt Richardson) *Emergence*, Volume 3, Number 4, (2001)

"Be Coherent, Not Visionary," (with Johan Roos) *Long Range Planning* (34) 2001.

"Complexity Science: A 'Gray' Science for the 'Stuff in Between'" (with Kurt Richardson and Paul Cilliers) *Emergence*, Volume 3, Number 2, (2001).

*The Next Common Sense: The E-Manager's Guide to Mastering Complexity* (with Johan Roos), Nicholas Brealey Publishing, London, 2000.

"Knowledge Management Redux: Reframing a Consultancy Fad into a Practical Tool" *Emergence*, Volume 2, Number 3, (2000).

*The Next Common Sense* (with Johan Roos), Nicholas Brealey Publishers, London, 1999.

*Managing Complexity in Organizations: A View in Many Directions* (editor, with Hugh Gunz), Quorum Books, Westport, 1999.

"Complexity: the Science, its Vocabulary, and its Relation to Organizations" *Emergence*, Volume 1, Number 1, (1999).

"Concept Sampling: A New Twist for Content Analysis" *Organizational Research Methods*, Volume 1, Number 4, (1998).

"Of Chaos and Complexity: Managerial Insights From A New Science" *Management Decision*, Vol. 35, Number 3, (1997).

"Mind Your Metaphors: Lessons From Complexity Science" *Long Range Planning*, April, 1997.

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