

“The task is nothing less than to build a new society and new institutions for it.”

In *Systemic Innovation* —which is intended to be the *next* book in *holo-topia* series—we’ll meet Erich Jantsch in 1968 in Rome; at the point where he’s just given the opening keynote to The Club of Rome’s inaugural meeting, and instantly seen what had to be done—if *the huge problems now confronting us* were to *have* solutions.

Right away, in Bellagio, Italy, Jantsch convened a workshop of a hand-picked team of experts, to draft a *systemic innovation* methodology. And then—aware that the university was the only institution capable of developing *systemic innovation* as *praxis* (and that to be able to do that, the university would need to update its own *system*)—spent a semester at the MIT writing a plan for a *transdisciplinary* university (from which I quoted the above excerpt); and lobbying with academic colleagues and MIT administration to *implement* this update; to make the MIT the first *transdisciplinary* university.



In *Systemic Innovation* we’ll meet Doug Engelbart in December of 1950, as a twenty-five years old engineer; who has good education and a fine job; who’s just been engaged to be married; who looks at his life-and-career that was at that point just beginning, and sees it as a straight path to retirement.

Engelbart didn’t like what he saw.

He then and there decided to give his life a purpose—to configure his life-and-career *as it may best benefit the mankind*; and then—facing something that resembled an engineering problem—spent three months intensely figuring out a solution. Then he had an epiphany.

On December 9, 1968, Doug Engelbart and his Stanford Research Institute-based team demonstrated the knowledge media technology that is now common: the interactive network-interconnected digital media.

I could say “the rest is history”—but what Engelbart had in mind when he had his epiphany, and prototyped this technology, has not *yet* been written; or even *understood*!

I'll be using *collective mind* as *keyword* to point to the gist of Engelbart's vision.