

Integral Futures – One of Three ‘Most Important Futures Works of the Year’ 2008

A special issue of *Futures* (40(2), March 2008) on Integral Futures, edited by Richard Slaughter, has been selected as one of three “most important futures works of 2008” by a selection committee comprised of members of the Association of Professional Futurists. In a recent message announcing the award Andy Hines wrote that:

This special issue highlights the spread of ideas around Integral Philosophy popularised by Ken Wilber and introduced into foresight by Richard Slaughter during his tenure with the Australian Foresight Institute, which has carried on with this work. The special issue reflects how academics and practitioners are making increasing use of Integral ideas in a practical and applied manner.

In his response Richard wrote, in part:

It’s a rare honour indeed for the special issue of *Futures* on Integral Futures to be awarded one of the APF’s Most Important Futures Works awards for 2008. As senior editor of that issue I want to thank the selection committee as well as each of the contributing authors: Peter Hayward, Josh Floyd, Chris Riedy, Chris Stewart, Mark Edwards and Joseph Voros.

Since I first discovered it more than a decade ago, the integral perspective has developed into a multi-disciplinary enterprise involving many practitioners worldwide who are active in a range of fields. The conversation that is developing is one to which FS and Foresight work should and will contribute. While some continue to misconstrue the power and range of the perspective as some sort of misguided ideology, others know it is, as I’ve always maintained, merely one line of enquiry, one set of ‘filters’ among many. It is, however, one that offers rare gifts that include clarity, depth, inclusion and communicative power.

The other two works that shared the honours were the Institute for the Future’s ‘Superstruct’, a multiplayer online forecasting game and an article by Sohail Inayatullah called ‘Six Pillars: Futures Thinking for Transforming’ from *Foresight* 10 (1), pp. 3-21.