PAIDEIA: EDUCATION IN THE GLOBAL ERA, VOLUME II EDITED BY KONSTANTINE BOUDOURIS & KOSTAS KALIMTZIS IONIA PUBLICATIONS, ATHENS 2008

The papers of this volume were presented at the 19th Conference of the International Association of Greek Philosophy which was held on the island of Samos on the topic of *Paideia*. As in the past, participants had the opportunity to spend a week in leisure, or as the ancients would have said in schole, where they engaged as friends in dialogue between men and women, teachers and students, artists and professionals, from all corners of the world. In this way the presentations were but only a part of a larger intellectual and spiritual environment that had evolved through the common search for wisdom on this most significant topic of our era. Amongst the participants was a common sense that what passes for education in our rapidly changing world is grossly inadequate for preparing any part of the world's populations for solving the very problems that our consumer societies are generating in all facets of existence, from biological, political, to spiritual. There was a shared sense of crisis and a sense that the very activity of shaping a common logos might itself be a contribution to understanding how the concept of paideia may again gain a presence in this difficult time. What is unique in the present volumes is the open range of inquiry which is reflected in the diversity of fields, cultures and interests of the participants. This allowed participants to address a wide range of issues with differing emphases but through the unifying concept of paideia which takes the molding of the entirety of human nature—not simply that sliver that has utility—into account. Thus the present collection of articles is not held together by any dogma, bias, or special claim to rightness, be it of a national, religious, scientific or academic nature, but by the locus of the unifying concept of paideia and its correlate, the sanctity of human nature.

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