

# International Open Space Technology Training by the Aegean Sea

We invite you to join us for The Art and Craft of Opening Space "Standing in the Fire" in our Organizations, Communities & Individual Lives

Hosted at Axladitsa-Avatakia, Pelion, Greece  
7 - 10 November 2007 (Focus on Facilitation) €750  
5 - 8 June 2008 (Focus on Leadership) €750  
For participating in both November & June €1300  
9 November 2007 a 1-day Open Space event €60



Here in the land of Greece, recently ravaged by fires, we (Tova Averbuch, Avner Haramati, Thomas Herrmann, Chris Corrigan, Caitlin Frost, Sarah Whiteley and Maria Skordialou) are hosting a two-part training in Open Space Technology (OST). OST is a powerful approach that invites engagement and discovery of new perspectives, meaning, wise decisions and actions that last.

At this time we ask:

**'What burns us to want to make a difference ? and How do we as facilitators and leaders Open Space for the next stage In organisations and communities and in our individual lives?'**

We invite each and every one of you: leaders, trainers, teachers, consultants, politicians, entrepreneurs, social innovators, facilitators - people who want to experience a different perspective of facilitation and leadership and are working to support the conditions for emergence in achieving better cooperation and results.

Internationally renowned teachers of Open Space Technology are offering a series of trainings in this simple yet amazingly effective approach and social technology.

## **What is Open Space Technology (OST)?**

Open Space Technology (OST) is a powerful approach for tapping into collective wisdom by inviting people to follow what has heart and meaning for them. It can be from just 5 people meeting or as 5000 people (all at one time) invited to engage and discover new perspectives, meaning, wise decisions and actions that last. OST enables transformation to take place in organizations, communities and individuals by harnessing our inherent willingness and desire to make a difference - everyone who cares to is invited to initiate and participate.

The net result is creating substantial change in a short time, through becoming agile, responsive and effective. OST was created in 1985 by Harrison Owen and is created since then by many practitioners all over the world. Since 1985, OST has successfully made a difference to thousands of organizations, communities and individuals around the world.

For more information see: <http://www.openspaceworld.org>  
and <http://www.openspaceworld.com>



## What is on offer?

Two opportunities as stand-alone or in-series learning and inquiry experiences:

**7 – 10 November 2007**

**With Tova, Avner and Thomas as hosts**

Focus on Facilitation to learn and practice Open Space Technology as a facilitation social technology and approach to working with groups

### What is included in this Training?

Getting to know OST as a practice and tool for:

- Participative Leadership
- Business Development across boundaries
- Effective Decision Making

Preparing to Use OST for an event or gathering:

- Identifying the appropriate conditions
- preparatory process with client,
- Putting in place the necessary logistics

Preparing yourself as a facilitator:

- Creating personal health and balance

Leading into the future:

- Following up to capture learning and next steps, mobilizing and supporting action.

New :

- Designing and hosting a one-day Open Space conversation (9th November) for the local Greek and wider international community around the recent fires in Greece
- Training participants will therefore have the opportunity to experience facilitation and leadership in action as together we co-create and experience an Open Space hosting an important local and international conversation.

**5–8 June 2008**

**with Tova, Chris, Caitlin and Avner as hosts**

Focus on Leadership – Learn, practice and review Open Space Technology as a social technology and investigate its implications for leadership in a networked world.

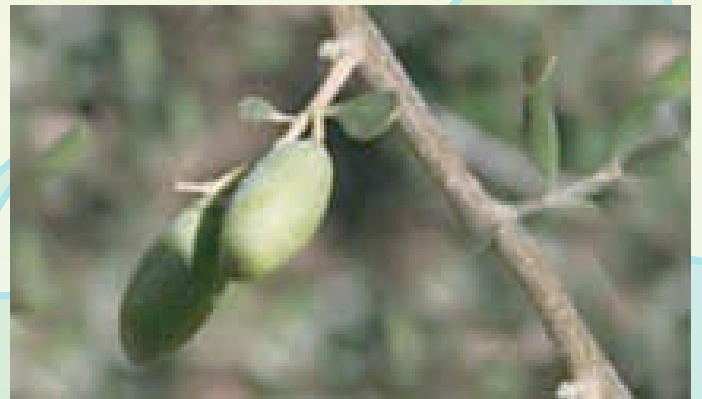
### What is included in this Training?

This session will review the OST form, and will use conversation as a core strategic competence, to explore the various contexts, innovations and challenges faced by the participants in their own spheres of influence and invite the next level of co-creation.

One-Day Open Space Conversation

7th June 2008:

We will be inviting and hosting the local Greek and the wider International community to join an Open Space conversation – to host ‘real-time’ conversations that matter, locally and globally, now.



**You are invited to come to both or just one part of the training, or choose to participate in the 1-day Open Space conversations.**

### The Land – Axladitsa-Avatakia, with guardians & hosts Maria Skordialou & Sarah Whiteley

Axladitsa-Avatakia, <http://www.axladitsa.org> which means ‘little pear and things that grow in difficult places’, is a place of learning in South Pelion, Greece – providing opportunities for people of all ages and from all parts of the world to learn, explore, create – from a living systems/wholeness perspective, that serves the common good of Life. Axladitsa-Avatakia is natural, rural and untamed and is one of the largest pieces of land still intact in this region, 1.5 hours south of the city of Volos – with Kastri and Platania being its closest village, 5 hours driving north of Athens and 2,5 hours driving south east of Thessaloniki. <http://www.pelion.org/geography/index.asp>.

From numerous vantage points, there are expansive views of the Aegean Sea. Since August 2006, Axladitsa has been co-guardianed and co-hosted by Maria Skordialou and Sarah Whiteley, <http://www.haraconnection.com> – and since May 2007 with 28 other guardians and friends from the Eastern Mediterranean region, Europe, India and North America.



### Thomas Herrmann

In 1999, a couple of years after Thomas bumped into Open Space Technology he started his own enterprise. Since then he has been opening space in many different organizations, mainly in Scandinavia. He graduated as a trainer of the Genuine Contact™ Program 2001 and is since then deeply engaged in the global movement of bringing health and balance to organizations. Thomas founded Open Space Consulting in 1999 and is a co-founder of the Open Space Institute of Sweden as well as Genuine Contact™ Group Scandinavia. In 2003 Thomas Co-hosted the 11th International OSonOS in "Svenmark"



### Caitlin Frost

Caitlin is co-founder and partner in Harvest Moon Consulting, a process design, facilitation and coaching company based in British Columbia, Canada. She has a strong practice in living in Open Space and creatively applying OS principles to life, learning, coaching individuals and working with groups.

Caitlin has many years experience developing and working with learning communities and has a particular interest in developing effective questions and in cultivating and holding space for the uncovering of personal and collective clarity, courage and wise action.

### Tova Averbuch

Tova is a practitioner, teacher and a writer in the field of large group facilitation, a senior OD consultant by education and has practiced in the field of organizational and personal development for 30 years. She pioneered with Opening Space in Israel since 1999 and serves as an Israeli member of Harrison Owen's Global Learning Expedition. Tova is using OST in transformative organizational development processes, in large-scale change and decision making in organisations and communities.

Co-Founder of "Oganim"(anchors) a center for spirit, profit and wellness in organizations.

Contributed a chapter describing her work to "The Handbook of Large Group Methods" edited by Barbara B. Bunker and Billie T. Alban, Jossey Bass, February 2006

### Avner Haramati

An organizational consultant and a social entrepreneur. Specializes in working with the 'all system in the room' methodologies to promote life giving and short term systemic changes in organizations and communities. Together with Tova Averbuch implemented the Open Space in Israel from the start and co founded 'Oganim' (anchors), a center for spirit, profit and wellness in organizations.

One of the founders and former chairman of 'Besod-Siach' (The Enigma of Dialogue), an NGO that promotes dialogue between groups in conflicts within the Israeli society. The initiator and chairperson of "The Inter Cultural Center of Jerusalem" an NGO that promotes co-living in Jerusalem between all the communities, including Palestinians and Ultra Orthodox Jews. Initiator and member of a group of Palestinian and Israeli business people in Jerusalem who develop joint businesses in Jerusalem.

### Chris Corrigan

Chris has been facilitating Open Space Technology meetings since 1994. As an internationally renowned practitioner and trainer, he has worked with governments seeking to improve their service delivery, communities developing concrete visions with empowered citizens and private sector companies aimed to engage their people to improve their business.

In 2001 Chris co-hosted the annual international gathering of OST facilitators in Vancouver, Canada. In 2002, together with Michael Herman, he co-edited "Open Space Technology: A User's NON-Guide," a companion book to Harrison Owen's OST User's Guide. In 2007 he published "The Tao of Holding Space", a guide to the deeper practices of facilitating Open Space meetings. He also maintains an extensive website of OST resources.

