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Candidate
Executive Council of the International Society for the Advancement of Emergy Research

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Term Length
4 years

Name
Tzu Chi University, Taiwan
Phone: Long distance!!
E-mail: tabel1005@gmail.com

Education and Expertise
Tom Abel is an anthropologist with interdisciplinary training in a number of fields including psychology, linguistics, ecosystems ecology, ecological economics, human behavioral ecology, cultural evolution, and artificial intelligence. He received an MA and PhD in anthropology from the University of Florida (2000) where in addition to anthropologists he trained with computer scientists and with the systems ecologist HT Odum and his protégé Mark Brown. He also has an MS in Computer Science from Florida Tech (1986) and worked for Lockheed International on the Space Shuttle. He is currently an assistant professor of anthropology in the Department of Human Development at Tzu Chi Buddhist University in Hualien, Taiwan. [lifted from a publication bio]

Research and Teaching
I have been conducting emergy research since my dissertation, which was finished in 2000 with HT and Mark Brown as outside committee members. I have a few emergy papers in Ecological Modeling. I am most proud of my recent papers on HT's 'information cycle'. My teaching experience has been very broad. As faculty at a teaching school, I have created 9 courses over 10 years. Currently, my teaching includes graduate cultural evolution, environmental anthropology, and the history and theory of anthropology. For undergraduates, I teach language development, ethnographies, environmental education (systems), human adaptation, and ecotourism. Last year I was one of our school's teachers-of-the-year!

Your Personal Vision Statement for the Emergy Society (ISAER)
If selected, there will be much on-the-job training. My plan is to work with those experienced members and do what I can. To be honest, I was never so much as a high school class Treasurer. I do not like politics or procedure. But, I think the society is a worthy cause so I will do my part if selected.