

Complexity Matters: A Re-Introduction to Complexity

"Scientific knowledge, originally seen to make possible the prediction and manipulation of nature, appears now to be pointing us toward a new relationship with the natural world based on sensitive observation and participation, rather than control."

Brian Goodwin

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"I have spent much of the last forty years endeavouring to understand world views other than those we in the West have inherited; and in the last several years I have been particularly concerned with the question of what is involved in the endeavour to understand, and to help others understand, an outlook different from the one that one already has.

One of the conclusions to which I have come is that in order to understand a different view – especially if it be radically different and/or profound, comprehensive, humane – *one must oneself become a different sort of person.*"

Wilfred Cantwell Smith

Written by Dr. Wilfred Cantwell Smith, Founding Director, Islamic Institute, McGill University and The Centre for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University in a letter to Ruben Nelson about 1988.

Italics added by Ruben Nelson