

ADVANCE PRAISE FOR
Integral City: Evolutionary Intelligences for the Human Hive

Integral City provides an important vision for how we can begin to inhabit our cities with an evolutionary intelligence that promises to allow both people and planet to flourish. With the meta-framework presented here, Marilyn Hamilton joins and extends the integrative tradition of Patrick Geddes, Lewis Mumford, and Jane Jacobs. In particular she helps us understand the myriad connections between behavioral and systemic dimensions of urban landscapes with the psychological and cultural aspects. Drawing on a variety of examples from municipal systems, city politics, public space, cartography, and regional values assessment, she enacts a bee-communication dance instructing us how we too can fly to the nourishing pollen of a new tomorrow.

— Sean Esbjörn-Hargens Ph.D., author of *Integral Ecology*;
Executive Editor *Journal of Integral Theory and Practice*; and
Chair of the Integral Theory Department at John. F. Kennedy University.

What will be the most dramatic technological breakthrough of the 21st Century? As Marilyn Hamilton demonstrates in her masterful book, it may very well be a truly integral city. *Integral City: Evolutionary Intelligences for the Human Hive* is a powerful application of the “meta-theory” of integral philosophy that is bound to change the way we understand our urban environments. And improving the life of our cities may turn out to be one of the most dramatic ways that an evolutionary perspective can advance the human condition. I highly recommend this exciting and insightful book.

— Steve McIntosh, author of *Integral Consciousness and the Future of Evolution*.

In this era where rapid urbanization is a key driving force behind global change, it is imperative that we find some means for re-creating our cities to be more ecologically sustainable and harmonious with the desires of the human spirit. Marilyn Hamilton has clearly pioneered a vision that does just that. *Integral City* is a comprehensive and accessible application of the ‘integral approach’ to city life. It is must read for not just city planners, but also for politicians, scientists, engineers, artisans, change agents and the city dweller.

— Brian Eddy, PhD, President, iGeo Information Consulting Inc.

Advance Praise

The challenges at the core and edges of urban clusters where waves of immigration collide, or racial identities clash have called forth a vibrant and practical solution by Dr. Marilyn Hamilton in her new book *Integral City: Evolutionary Intelligences for the Human Hive*.

Dr. Hamilton introduces a powerful, new model that uncover the fractals within human nature and probes into the very “DNA” that shapes human groupings. She demonstrates how to “read” the codes within diverse habitats and biological and social climes. She describes “the localized” — cities and communities — as critical to resolving: extreme diversity; sharp-edged boundaries with us vs them polarity; hard core beliefs causing many to “hive” off into enclaves and the conflict of cultures at the street level, around the city square and within suburban zones. She has brilliantly adopted the metaphor of a bee hive to clearly illustrate her approach, but also becomes very specific in terms of who should do what, when, why, and how, to obtain what. She uses the concept of “meshworks” to replace melting pots or mosaics as the organizing intelligence.

Dr. Hamilton has distinguished herself by being able to discard (her well regarded) academic trappings and working within her local context to deal with a wide range of problems. Not only does she walk the talk, but, as a conceptual map maker, she lays down the pathway for others to follow, and has provided the expert guidance for thousands of others to discover their own unique solutions. Whenever the history of cities is written in the early 21st Century, her life, work, and now this book, will be cited as the first major “Integral” and “holistic” package designed to deal with the unique problems that confront “the localized.” Lots of cities will want to erect a statue of her in tribute.

— Dr. Don Beck, The Spiral Dynamics Group and Global Center for Human Emergence
Co-author *Spiral Dynamics: Mastering Values, Leadership and Change*; co-author *The Crucible*

Integral City, in the author's words, is ‘for anyone who wants to see the city as a whole system, so they can gain insights that will optimize their whole life’. It offers an unprecedented view of the city, informing and enlightening on many levels, from self to cosmos — with the city as central.

Often breathtakingly — in a whole systems view of the city like no other — the book offers an overstanding of the city - possibly mind-boggling for some, tantalizing for others, and quite delicious for anyone already attracted by integral framings. The book is a veritable eco-city-region planning and design manifesto for anyone whose business touches on any aspect of city-making, city-managing and city-sustaining. It offers a goldmine of rich integral application nuggets, many from the author's own often pioneering work. Here is someone who has very much walked her talk, for which we owe a great debt of gratitude.

— Ian Wight PhD, Associate Professor of City Planning,
Faculty of Architecture, University of Manitoba

Advance Praise

Marilyn Hamilton offers us a brilliant and revolutionary new way to examine our cities through the lens of science, ecology and systems theory, to create a new vision of what a city could be — one that supports life on this planet as well as our own evolution as human beings. She helps us navigate chaos and absorb complexity, by turning theory into practical applications. *Integral City* provides success stories, resources, and a blue print for action based on sound principles.

— Linda Naiman, Founder, Creativity at Work.
Coauthor: *Orchestrating Collaboration at Work*

Hamilton weaves threads of research and practice into a vision for sustainable cities. She illuminates a path toward the future that cuts across cultural, language, disciplinary, political and linguistic lines. Her simple rules give us hope for creating and maintaining productive, livable cities for today and tomorrow.

— Glenda H. Eoyang, Ph.D., Executive Director, Human Systems Dynamics Institute;
Author: *Coping with Chaos: Seven Simple Tools*;
Coauthor: *Facilitating Organization Change: Lessons from Complexity Science*

This is an outstanding book that will create a whole new paradigm for understanding cities and the discipline of urban studies. It moves the discussion from fragmentation and disconnects to wholeness and integration, with the incorporation of several fresh frameworks for research and theoretical explanation, including Spiral Dynamics and Wilber's Four Quadrants Model. Urban studies from here on in will be defined by the rich contribution of this seminal work that will become the definitive textbook in the field. Congratulations.

— Caleb Rosado, Ph.D., Professor of Urban Studies
Director Urban Studies Program, Warner Pacific College

It is a rare occurrence these days to turn the pages of a book and find yourself opening up to a totally new way of thinking about cities – within a local, global, and cosmic context. Marilyn Hamilton amazes us with the depth and breadth of her vision, her mastery of the integral paradigm, and her pragmatic suggestions for creating cities of the future that work for the 60% of the human population now inhabiting them. The book is a seminal work of major importance, from a social entrepreneur whose work will be essential to future generations.

— Nancy Roof, Founding Editor, *Kosmos Journal*
In Consultative Status with United Nations Partner, Coalition for the Global Commons,
Media Ambassador for World Wisdom Council