Petter,

reading your PhD Status reports makes me both happy and very worried: You are on a road to becoming a wiser person, but on the road to achieving a PhD title, there are some seriously difficult aspects. You will need some serious focussing, in order to succeed. Below I outline my impressions after reading your report.

**Overall impressions**

Too many foci: Working across TQM, system dynamics, Marxism, quality management, design science, systems theory, statistical control, action research, Total Systems Interventions, multiple loop learning, ... - and more is just, in my opinion, just too much to grasp:

There will not be any journal that covers so many of your areas that they will accept a publication this diverse

There will not be reviewers who understand enough of enough areas to even grasp if there is anything smart in your papers.

You will not be able to take a reader in small enough steps through a reasoning within the size-frame of an article.

Your research questions is not a set of three answerable questions, within the time-frame of a PhD study: They are more formulations expressing a wish to comprehend what I expect will take a life-time to fully dwell into.

The questions must be single questions. They cannot be a set of questions, each of them. It is too much for a PhD study

The publications have all been published – so far – in low grade fora. The Systemist is an experience sharing journal.

This poses a serious risk to your possibilities to finalize your work at expected time. Not having published at sufficiently 'difficult' places is unfortunately a sign of not being able to argue your positions in a way that makes other 'buy in' into them.

What is your contribution? I have read some of your former articles, but not all. In the PhD report, there is little clarity to me in what your own contributions are: You have a tremendous understanding of a large variety of research, but contributions are made in small steps; you use the concept of own beliefs repeatedly, and as correct they may be, they are weekly founded.

**The main problem**

As far as I see it, the main problem is not really any of the overall impressions, but that the impressions – notably the focus challenge – has not changed since the beginning of our journey together.

**Summary**

Unless you cut down on the scope, I cannot see that this can lead to a PhD within the end of 2009. Furthermore, I am uncertain if three publications is enough for the standards of UiO.