

**Plus:**

**Editorial, President's Corner, ICP report, Division News,  
Christchurch Earthquakes Research, IAAP UN Reps' Reports.  
Commentary, and more!**



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## Editorial

We are just past the Cape Town ICP which, from all accounts, was wonderful. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to attend. I started out, got as far as Frankfurt, Germany, and realized that I was too weak to continue. I had undergone surgery seven weeks before, thought I was fine to travel, and I discovered about half way through the trip that I wasn't fine at all. It was a huge disappointment to me to not be able to attend the ICP, not only because I missed the Board meetings, the Scientific Program, and seeing many friends, but I was so looking forward to experiencing South Africa.

However, for me and the rest of you who weren't able to attend the ICP, we have, in this issue of the Bulletin, the next best thing which is a very wonderful report describing both the Congress and the experience of being in South Africa. Many thanks to Ann Watts and Mike Knowles.

Our Divisions are very important to IAAP members for many reasons, the chief among them the opportunity to meet and collaborate with psychologists who share your specialties and interests. In his President's Corner, José Maria Peiró provides us with all the information about the Divisions that we could ever want to know. This is a great article to read if you don't know much about the Divisions or you would just like to be reminded of the benefits of belonging to as many as four of them. Also, in the Division News section, you can read about what individual Divisions are doing. Many Divisions contributed news for this Bulletin issue. Thank you so much! The Division News is a terrific place to find out what are Divisions are doing that you might wish to participate in.

The Board of Directors including the Executive Committee met in Cape Town. All of the Presidents and Presidents-Elect of our Divisions are members of the Board as well as other IAAP members. Here is a good opportunity to put faces with names. (Thank you, Buxin Han.)



*From left to right-first row: Michael Frese (Germany), Eunice McCarthy (Ireland), Fanny Cheung (Hong Kong), Rubén Ardila (Columbia), Judy Kuriansky (USA), Silvia Koller (Brazil), M. Eduarda Duarte (Portugal) second row: Tuomo Tikkanen (Finland), M. Regina Maluf (Brazil), Linda Steg (Netherlands), John C. Munene (Uganda), Ma. Paz Garcia-Vera (Spain), Buxin Han (China), Kyoko Noguchi (Japan), Heliodoro Carpintero (Spain), Sandi Kartasmita, (Indonesia), Neville Blampied (New Zealand) third row: Janel Gauthier (Canada), Kit-Tai-Hau (Hong Kong), Michael Knowles (Australia), Elizabeth Nair (Singapore), José M. Prieto (Spain) fourth row: Alfred Allan (Australia), Paul Martin (Australia), Glyn Roberts (Norway), Marino Bonaiuto (Italy), John Berry (Canada), Terry Hartig (Sweden), Deanne Den Hartog (Netherlands), Christine Roland-Lévy (France), Thomas Oakland (USA), Joan Katter (Canada).*

Here is a picture of the Executive Committee in Cape Town.



*From left to right: Janel Gauthier, Secretary General and President-Elect, José M. Peiró, President, Michael Knowles, Past-President, Elizabeth Nair, Treasurer, and José Prieto, Communication Officer.*

We are fortunate to have in this issue personal accounts from two members. Jitendra Mohan and Neville Blampied. In the previous issue, Neville told us about the terrible earthquakes that struck New Zealand in 2010 and 2011. Here you will be able to read about the research that was carried out after the earthquakes.

I am skipping some articles that are included in this issue so you will have some surprises. However, as we all know, desert comes at the end of the meal. Or, does it? Read Bob Morgan's Commentary and decide for yourself.

—Valerie Hearn, Editor, IAAP Bulletin

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## ***The Divisions Of IAAP: Promoting The Development of Applied Psychology Disciplines Internationally.***



*José Maria Peiró,  
President, IAAP*

The 18 IAAP Divisions document the broad array of areas in which IAAP contributes to society and to applied psychology internationally. Within IAAP, divisions are important spaces for member participation, and externally they contribute to the development of applied psychological disciplines and their contributions to society in interaction with many other people.

At the last BOD meeting held in Cape Town last July, the 18 IAAP Divisions submitted their reports of the last two years. Altogether, they provide a rich, interesting and stimulating picture of their activities and initiatives. Divisions

are very important for IAAP to achieve its mission and to promote international cooperation among members in sharing the same disciplinary interests and work. So, it is important that we have a clear picture of what the Divisions are, what they do and what they can contribute to our Association.

**Nature and functions.** Divisions are the structural units of IAAP aiming to promote information exchange, communication, participation and cooperation among their membership and to provide services in their specific disciplinary fields. They also are intended to promote the contributions from their disciplines and their visibility internationally. The fulfillment of these aims implies relevant input for research, education, professional practice and humanitarian cooperation at an international level. Advocacy and cooperation with other relevant actors in Psychology are also important to influence policy making and to increase awareness about the relevance of psychological contributions.

**Membership in IAAP divisions** is really international. The richness of its diversity, not only by country but also by professional activities (research, practice, academia) and fields of interest is invaluable. Their members, coming from a large number of countries often play leading roles internationally or in their own countries. They constitute important nodes in the global network that are needed more and more in the disciplines of psychology. So, divisions of IAAP are excellent arenas to increase the density of interconnected networks in applied psychology and to build bonds and bridge social capital in Psychology and the different related sciences.

To further increase this asset, the number of Divisions which IAAP members can belong to was extended from two to four in 2011. This decision was welcomed by the members and about 70% joined that year at least one Division and most of them registered in three or four. The Divisions have since then enriched their human capital and the connection across disciplines. Moreover the members obtain a broader array of benefits from the services provided by the divisions.

**Students' Division and students in the other divisions.** For years IAAP has paid special attention to the students and Division 15 provides a space where pre- and postgraduate students participate and cooperate. Their activities are relevant for the improvement of the education of future psychologists and also for research, internship and humanitarian activities. Students are also members of other divisions, becoming actively involved in their activities. This is an opportunity for the Divisions to identify new active members and future leading scholars and professionals in their discipline. The Executive Committees of the Divisions are especially keen to involve these members in the divisional activities.

**Divisions develop their own activities to fulfil their goals and serve their members.** The Executive Committee (EC) of each Division, according to its plan, organizes activities to achieve its goals. Reading the reports submitted to the BOD at the last meeting at Cape Town (July, 24 and 26, 2012) we find an excellent catalogue of those activities. Some are generalised across many divisions, others are specific to a few, but all of them provide excellent ideas that can be considered by others.

**Communication and information dissemination** for members is currently accomplished through different means: **divisional web sites** and **distribution lists**. Several divisions publish **electronic newsletters** periodically and some of them promote reports on the state of their discipline in different countries and then disseminate them through various communication channels.

**Cooperation and participation in international or regional Congresses of the discipline** or of a general scope is another type of activity to which most of the divisions devote important efforts. Some **sponsor or cooperate in the organization** of the specialized congresses while others

**contribute to their scientific program** organising symposia and other scientific activities and facilitate the participation of their members. In a few cases, Divisions have established **awards for the best papers**.

*Specific divisional activities for scientific exchange and cooperation* have also been promoted. Some divisions have organised **summer or winter Schools**, and **international seminars or workshops** for young scholars and researchers. Others have devoted efforts to **edit books or monographs** with contributions from their members or promoted **special issues in scientific journals**. Still others have members active in **editorial teams** and support specific scientific journals in their specialty. It is interesting to notice that a number of Divisions **sponsor, support and promote international research projects** where participants from several countries contribute. Interestingly, one division has carried out a **survey among their membership** to analyse interests and identify relevant contributions to their field and to Society.

*IAAP Divisions are really keen to establish cooperation and alliances with other international, regional and national associations.* In this way, they look for synergies to promote the discipline and its influence in relevant endeavours. In some of those cases special joint membership is offered to their members. Sometimes a Division or some of its members have been asked to advise an official body or organization or have participated as experts in international or national events.

**Divisions also play an important role in the life and activities of IAAP.** Let me give you a picture of the crucial role Divisions play in the life of IAAP by pointing out the main areas of cooperation. The Divisions play an important role in the *governance of our Association*. They are well represented on the Board of Directors where both president and president-elect of each division are members with full voting rights. The divisions are also important actors in the *International Congresses of Applied Psychology*. They propose invited speakers, invited symposia, state of the art lectures, for the disciplinary program. Divisions' members make important contributions by submitting symposia, papers and posters and their ECs promote scientific and professional activities during the congresses: Presidential addresses, debates, round tables, cross-cultural research incubators, etc. During the ICAP congress the general assembly of the Division and its social hour are scheduled. You will benefit by all this work at the next ICAP to be held in Paris, the 8–13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2014.

*Regional Conferences of Psychology (RCP)* are organized biennially by IAAP, IUPsyS and IACCP in different regions of the world aiming to promote capacity building. The next one will be held in Kampala (Uganda) (<http://www.rcp2013uganda.org/>) and IAAP is the leading sponsor. All the Divisions are invited to submit proposals for the program and to promote the Conference by identifying scholars and practitioners in their discipline paying special attention to those members from the region either working there or in the diaspora.

*Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS)* are also capacity-building workshops that take place every two years in conjunction with major international congresses of psychology. They have been jointly organized until now by IAAP, IUPSyS and IACCP. The Divisions of IAAP promote participation of young researchers and scholars in their own discipline.

Divisions also play an active role in sending news, information and articles to the editor of the *IAAP Bulletin* sharing information about their activities and the disciplinary topics with IAAP membership in general. The process of nomination of candidates for **fellow membership and IAAP awards** are also gathered mainly through the Divisions. The new fellows and award recipients are presented every four years during the ICAP. Finally, Divisions are informed and invited to provide



inputs to the *task forces*. Especially, *IAAP representatives at the United Nations* send periodical information of their activities and advocacy functions in topics related to different disciplines and receive inputs and suggestions from the divisions.

**Thanks and an invitation.** Before I come to an end of this column, let me on behalf of IAAP thank all those who contribute to the life of their divisions, especially those who are engaged in the ECs and in other functions. I am also pleased to kindly invite all members of the divisions to participate and cooperate with these activities and to make suggestions to the EC's. Divisions are excellent breeding grounds to identify and develop talent, international leadership and social entrepreneurs in the disciplines of Psychology. They are also a cultural medium where social capital can become really productive at the international level through networking and fruitful cooperation. This has been an important asset of IAAP since its foundation in 1920. Now in the era of globalization it is a challenge to make this asset productive. We have the tools and opportunities are there. Let's contribute to make it a fruitful, productive and enjoyable reality.

**José M. Peiró, President of IAAP**

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## **30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology**

**Cape Town, 2012**

The 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology (ICP) was held in Cape Town from 22–27 July 2012 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC). Organised around the theme *Psychology Serving Humanity*, it is the first time that this flagship event of the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) has been held in Africa in its 123 year history, and only the second time that it has been held in the Southern hemisphere (it was held in Sydney in 1988). A total 6380 delegates registered on the website, with 5905 delegates from 103 countries actually attending ICP 2012.

ICP 2012 was hosted by the National Research Foundation of South Africa and the Psychological Society of South Africa (PsySSA) under the auspices of IUPsyS. In addition, most leading South African Universities were ICP 2012 Academic Partners. Regional partners were the Botswana Association of Psychologists, the Mozambique Psychological Association, the Psychological Association of Namibia and the Zimbabwe Psychological Association.

The following is a brief report of the Congress outlining its principal highlights. It is presented in two parts. The first covers the Congress' main features including the Opening Ceremony, the Scientific Program and the Social Program, and has been written by Ann Watts who is both the Secretary General of the Congress Organising Committee and the Secretary General of IUPsyS. The second part deals with the pre- and post-aspects of the Congress and has been written from the perspective of a visitor to South Africa (Mike Knowles).

### **Opening Ceremony**

The Congress began with a glittering Opening Ceremony on 22 July that was a unique cultural and intellectual extravaganza showcasing South African and other African performing arts. It was attended by at least two thirds of the Congress delegates, as well as senior officials of public entities such as the Academic Partner Universities, key Government Departments (e.g. education, health, science and technology), the Health Professions Council of South Africa, and the National Research

Foundation. Representatives of certain private entities, members of the diplomatic corps, the leadership of psychology internationally and ICP 2012 supporting organisations were also in attendance.

Swedish Psychological Association President, Lars Ahlin, read a poem written by the 2012 Nobel Laureate for Literature, psychologist Tomas Transtromer. IUPsyS President, Rainer Silbereisen, gave a welcome address and the SA Deputy Chief Justice, Dikgang Moseneke, introduced the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Dr Navi Pillay, who gave the Opening Address. The President of PsySSA, Siphwe Ngcobo, and the ICP 2012 Scientific Chair, Norman Duncan, conferred the Society's Fellowship on Noel Chabani Manganyi, the Council for Higher Education Chair, who is one of South Africa's most prolific psychologists.



*Saths Cooper, ICP President*

Nkosinathi Biko, son of the late Steve Biko, conferred the Steve Biko Award for Psychological Liberation on Nobel Laureate, His Grace Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Mpilo Tutu, on behalf of the Steve Biko Foundation and PsySSA. The Cape Town Declaration on the formation of the Pan-African Psychological Organisation, that the continental leadership in psychology had signed earlier that day, was read. The ICP President, Saths Cooper, gave the Vote of Thanks and declared ICP 2012

open. A final dance sequence followed while delegates were ushered to the cocktail reception in the CTICC ballrooms and foyer areas.



*Desmond Tutu*



*Dancers at the Opening Ceremony*

### **Scientific Programme**

The Scientific Programme was organised into 30 parallel sessions, seven of which comprised the invited component of the programme. The invited programme ran from 08:00–18:00, Monday to

Thursday, whilst the balance of the programme ran until 16:00 on Friday. The total number of abstracts accepted was 5536 (7100 were received) and the modes of presentation included state-of-the-science addresses, invited addresses and symposia, focal symposia, panel discussions, paper presentations, symposia, posters and Psi Chi virtual posters. The programme also contained four Controversial Debates, first organised at ICP 2008, on topical issues of interest to a broad range of psychologists. A Translational Policy Research Lecture on post and continuous traumatic stress was also organised at ICP 2012. Fourteen Pre-Congress Workshops were held on 22 July featuring 12 foreign and 6 South African experts.

#### Emerging Psychologists' Programme and Participation in ICP 2012

- 107 psychology students (from 3rd year to Masters) from the Universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch, Western Cape and Witwatersrand acted as ICP 2012 volunteers.
- Fifty-two emerging psychologists participated in the divisional committees of the Scientific Committee.
- ICP 2012 hosted a nested three-day intensive training colloquium aimed at facilitating the interaction of leading emerging psychologists from across the world. It was attended by 41 successful applicants.
- The IUPsyS/IAAP/IACCP ARTS Coordinating Committee operationalised the three Advanced Training Seminars (ARTS) held prior to the Congress at the University Stellenbosch.
- An innovation at the ICP 2012 were the Change Fellowship Awards, that have been made possible by a major grant from the Jacobs Foundation in Switzerland (4 Awards), with additional support from the National Research Foundation of South Africa (2 Awards) and IUPsyS (1 Award). The Awards aim to enable early career researchers that are permanent residents of a Sub-Saharan African country to design and implement their own research programmes that address the challenges and opportunities confronting children and youth developing in situations of social change and the particular cultural and economic situation in their country. Change Fellowships are intended to provide applicants with an opportunity to demonstrate their research capabilities in a manner that will advance their careers and attract future opportunities for support. The seven Change Fellows presented their preliminary research findings during a special track at the Congress.

#### Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS)

Another special aspect of the Congress was the Advanced Research Training Seminars program which is designed to provide training opportunities for scholars from low-income countries and promote attendance at the international congresses of its sponsoring organizations. Forty-four young psychologists from 25 countries attended three training seminars from 16–19 July. These seminars are organized jointly by the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP), the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP) and the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS).

The three Seminars in the 2012 ARTS Programme were:

Seminar 1: Coping with the Strains of Globalization: Culturally Appropriate Methods for Research on Health and Wellbeing (Convenors: Sonia Suchday and Oscar Barbarin).

Seminar 2: Analyses of Psychological Data with R (Convenor: Reinhold Kliegl).

Seminar 3: Research as Praxis: Action and Theory-Making and Application in Community Psychology Research (Convenors: Mohamed Seedat and Sandy Lazarus).



## **IUPsyS Awards**

IUPsyS made the following awards during ICP 2012:

- Mattei Dogan Prize: Annette Karmiloff-Smith, London, UK
- Lifetime Achievement Award: Albert Bandura, Stanford, USA
- Achievement Against the Odds Award: Saths Cooper, Johannesburg, SA
- Young Psychologist Award: Basic Science: Wil Cunningham, Toronto, Canada
- Young Psychologist Award: Applied Science: Naomi I. Eisenberger, Los Angeles, USA

## **IUPsyS elections to its Executive Committee**

The Congress was also the occasion when the elections of the Union's six Officers and ten members of its Executive Committee take place by members of the General Assembly. The results are that the new IUPsyS President is Saths Cooper (South Africa) and the new Vice-President is Tor Levin Hofgaard (Norway), with the previous President, Rainer Silbereisen, continuing to serve in the role of Past-President. The appointment of Ann Watts (South Africa) as the new Secretary-General of the Union was ratified, as were the continuing appointments of Michel Sabourin (Canada) as Treasurer until 2014 and Jean-Pierre Blondin (Canada) as Treasurer Designate.

The new Executive Committee comprises Oscar A. Barbarin, USA, Laura Hernández-Guzmán, Mexico, Pascal Hugué, France, Pam Maras, UK, Janak Pandey, India, Alicia Salvador, Spain, Gonca Soygüt, Turkey, Kazuo Shigemasu, Japan, Ava Thompson, Bahamas, and Jianxin Zhang, China. Nick Hammond, UK, continued as the Executive Officer, and Michèle Robert, Editor IJP (2009-) and Merry Bullock, Editor, Psychology Resources Around the World (2012-) were appointed as Ex Officio members.

The Assembly expressed its thanks to the departing Officers, Pierre Ritchie who has served as Secretary-General since 1996, Bruce Overmier who has served in a variety of roles including President since 1992, and Kan Zhang who has served as Vice-President from 2008–2012 and previously as a member of the EC.

## **Closing Ceremony**

The Closing Ceremony and Handover to the 31<sup>st</sup> ICP (Yokohama in 2016) took place at 16:15 on 27 July and was attended by at least a quarter of the delegates.

## **Pre and Post Congress Activities**

### Cape Town

Apart from helping to overcome jet-lag, an advantage in arriving at a Congress a little early is that it provides an opportunity to see the sights of the host city, in this case Cape Town. Located on Table Bay just on the western side of the Cape of Good Hope and at the confluence of the Atlantic and the Indian oceans, Cape Town is situated in a basin bounded on one side by the bay, on the opposite side by Table Mountain, and on a third side by two hills called Lion Head and Signal Hill. Thus the view from the top of the mountain is both spectacular and panoramic for it takes in not only the city and the bay but also the mountains and bluffs which stretch to the Cape of Good Hope itself and the string of beachside townships that extend from the city towards the Cape.

Although a modern city, Cape Town has a special charm deriving from several factors of which there are at least three main ones. The first is the 19<sup>th</sup> C Victorian architecture of its public buildings such as the Town Hall, the Courts and the library. The second is the Waterfront with its quays,

yachts, many other forms of boating and shipping, and even seals from time to time, all of which create an attractive precinct that has become a popular restaurant and shopping area. The third is the friendly and happy disposition of the African people and the infectious laughter which is so warming and welcoming.

### Robben Island

Notwithstanding the success of the Congress, the most moving of all experiences was a visit shortly after the Congress finished to Robben Island (Seal Island in Dutch) which was a short ferry ride of 45 minutes from the city. The visit was organised for a small group of family and friends of the President of the Congress, Saths Cooper, who as a student was a political activist in the apartheid era. As a result he spent the decade of his 20s in prison, the first half at Robben Island and the second half in another prison in Pretoria.

Robben Island was also where Nelson Mandela was incarcerated for over 25 years with their terms overlapping. Because it served as a prison for both political activists and criminals, as might be imagined and as this tour amply illustrated, life was grim in every aspect from the cold and draughty nature of their concrete living quarters to the harsh and sadistic treatment meted out by the prison guards. What shone through, though, was the close comradeship and camaraderie of the inmates and the indomitable spirit which the conditions bred, both of which were so essential for even basic survival yet alone planning how to contend with the circumstances in which the inmates found themselves.

### The South African countryside

The final opportunity that the ICP offered was to take time out after the Congress to have a short holiday by way of an African safari which was undertaken by hire-car with accommodation sought late each afternoon wherever the day happened to finish. The aim was to see something of the South African countryside, visit some game parks, and meet and get to know more of the country's people. The first stage of the safari entailed a drive of approximately 1,000 km along the south-east coast of South Africa and back again through a series of mountain valleys.

*The coastal route from Cape Town to Addo (just north of Port Elizabeth):* Some two hours outside Cape Town is the district of Stellenbosch, one of the premier wine regions of South Africa, and beyond the well tended vineyards and an endless choice of wine cellars the road traverses an upland plateau or veldt which extends for several hundred kilometres before descending to hug the coastline. This initially gives wide ever-changing vistas of broad green fields of wheat and barley, bright yellow fields of canola, and innumerable sheep, cattle, goat and ostrich farms, and is followed by commanding views of the bright blue Indian Ocean and a pleasant drive through a series of coastal towns on wide curving bays like Mossel, along placid lagoons like Knysna, or beside wide sandy beaches such as Port Elizabeth, all of which are popular holiday resorts.

Some 75 km inland from Port Elizabeth was the Elephant Park at Addo, now a safe home to herds of deer, kudu (a type of large antelope with long, spiralling curved horns), brown and white zebras, and elephants, and to see these under natural conditions was more of a thrill than ever expected. In addition there were beautifully marked black-backed jackals, aardwolves, ostriches, warthogs, meerkats, monkeys, baboons, rodents, and many birds including blue herons and the black and gold bokmaklerie. A local stipulation is that tourists are not permitted to take oranges into the park. Evidently when citrus farming was introduced into the district and tourists bought them to feed the elephants, the latter became addicted to them and so pestered the former that they became a danger.

*The Inland Route from Addo back to Cape Town:* On leaving the coastal bushveld the road rises, firstly to a higher veldt where the bush vegetation is lower and sparser, and then to an even higher veldt where the soil is poorest of all and there is no bush vegetation at all. As such there is a departure from the citrus and other farming areas of the lower veldts to the sheep, goat, deer and ostrich farms of the higher veldts. Here the valleys are flanked on both sides by mountains which reach to the sky so that for kilometre after kilometre and valley after valley the scene is continuously awe-inspiring.

Each valley is populated by a number of small towns and one major one, one of which was Oudtshoorn, the ostrich feather capital of the world. Evidently its heyday was in the 1860s when women's fashion for headdresses adorned with an ostrich feather was at its zenith. Evidence of its erstwhile glory lies today in the mansions build by the ostrich barons and the main administrative and commercial buildings of the township which were built in sandstone.

#### North-eastern South Africa

Time here was essentially spent in Kruger National Park in the far north-east of the country and was reached by a two hour flight from Cape Town to Johannesburg and a seven hour drive from Johannesburg to the Blyde River Canyon and Kruger National Park.

#### *The Blyde River Canyon*

Blyde River Canyon is located just outside the Park and is where the Blyde River has cut through the basalt mountains to create escarpments which rise vertically above the vegetation line. These are spectacular not only on account of their cliff faces but also because the rock has been turned various shades of red and lime green by lichens to create a visual smorgasbord. Also, just before a point before the Treuer River joins the Blyde River, deep whirlpools have dug large potholes in the layer of basalt over which the river flows and here the running water has kept the rock at its purest colour of the deepest ebony.

#### *Kruger National Park*

Kruger National Park is long and narrow, nearly 400 km from north to south and just under 70 km on average from east to west. Accommodation in typically local stone huts with thatched roofs was available in Rest Camps placed in the south, the middle and in the north of the Park, and the availability of restaurants for the evening meal was a huge convenience.

The change in the nature of the Park from south to north was appreciable with the flora and fauna varying widely in both type and distribution. For example, in the south in the proximity of the Sadie River where feed was ample were zebras, impala, giraffes, elephants, kudus, rhinoceroses, warthogs, black-backed jackals, baboons, monkeys, mongooses and rats. Bird life included blue cranes, bustards, geese, hawks and eagles, one of which was feasting on a guinea fowl on the side of the road.

One of the most thrilling experiences occurred at the Sabie River when its mirror-like surface was gently broken by a pair of eyes, followed by a nose, a head, a neck, and then the massive body of a hippopotamus. This scenario was repeated again, and again, and again, until a dozen hippopotamuses had emerged from beneath the surface of the water in single file, all with gleaming brown hides. Another was to find oneself inadvertently in the midst of a slow moving herd of elephants where, if the window was wound down, it would have been possible to reach out and touch an animal that was twice the height of the car.

Upon going from the far south to the far north of the Park there was a fundamental change from closed bush to open bush and then to grassland, albeit it with mixtures of all three in varying

proportions along the way. Essentially the north was dryer and the soils poorer as indicated by the two metre high anthills which became a hallmark of the landscape. As the vegetation became sparser the herds became fewer and the sightings more infrequent. Another major change was that in the north the dominant vegetation is the mopani bush which the elephants prefer to the courser acacia bushes of the south. Another point of interest is that the elephants in Kruger are larger and darker and thus are of a different type to their cousins in Addo.

The Olifants Rest Camp (Elephants in Afrikaans) is back towards the middle of the Park where the area is best watered and there is the greatest abundance of food. Hence the herds of all the grass-feeding animals tend to be larger and more numerous, and as a consequence this is the region of the park where the lions, leopards and cheetahs are most highly concentrated and most likely to be seen. This was heralded firstly by two magnificent eagles which had landed on dead bushes on either side of the road and did not move although the car slowly approached to within two metres of them. Next a hyena appeared which was sniffing the wind and moving cautiously in the general direction of the eagles. Then, on the opposite side of the road up-wind of the hyena was the cause of this special gathering, a lion feeding upon its recent early morning kill.

This episode illustrated the principal difference between Kruger and other smaller game parks in that in the latter the carnivorous animals are separated from the herbivores and are fed on previously slaughtered animals whereas in Kruger all animals co-exist in the wild under natural conditions just as they always have done. What this also brought home only too well was the constant vigil which must eternally persist between prey and predator that determines the life and survival of one and the salvation from hunger of the other.

Be this as it may, however, the overriding achievement of the game parks lies in the fact that they are just that, parks which have been preserved to offer protection for both habitat and animals alike. While there are many smaller parks that are privately owned and make a substantial contribution collectively, what is impressive is the size of both Addo and Kruger and the vision that underlies their creation.

### **In Summary**

In summary the South African experience was marvellous. Hosted in the attractive city of Cape Town, the Congress was a huge success with a Scientific Program which was stimulating in every direction and facilitated wide-spread collaboration on both a regional and international level; through its Emerging Psychologists' Programme and its Advanced Research Training Seminars program it introduced young scholars and scholars from low-income countries to the opportunities and benefits offered by attendance at international congresses; its colourful Opening Ceremony captured the flavour of Africa culture and illustrated the importance of the role that psychology has played in recent South African history; and touring around South Africa afterwards revealed a countryside characterised by vast sweeps of cultivated veldts, valleys flanked on either side by towering mountains, a rugged coastline dotted with numerous sandy beaches, the thrilling sensation in the game parks of being in and near of herds of animals in their natural state, and the wonderful feeling of being greeted by friendliness and helpfulness everywhere wherever one went.

**Mike Knowles,  
Past-President,  
International Association  
of Applied Psychology**

**Ann Watts,  
Secretary General,  
International Union  
of Psychological Science**

# ***Report on the International Conference of Applied Psychology 24<sup>th</sup> and 25th February 2012, Chandigarh, India***

In a major effort to enhance the awareness and participation in the field of applied psychology, an international conference was organised by Professor Jitendra Mohan, member of the governing council of the International Association of Applied Psychology and member: Indian Council of Social Science Research, under the patronage of Professor R.C.Sobti, Vice Chancellor, Panjab University, Chandigarh, Professor Lars-Eric Unestahl, Vice Chancellor Scandinavian International University. Sweden was the chief mentor of the mental training workshop on life skills.

Six hundred fifty delegates from seven different countries participated. More than 180 posters were presented by research scholars and students; about two hundred papers were presented by faculty members and other professionals in psychology, biotechnology, medicine, management, engineering, nursing and social science.

The inaugural address by Professor Sobti on genetics and mental illness set the standard of deliberations. Professor Unestahl traced the history of the movement of mental training in the world. Professor Mohan, while introducing the theme of the conference, discussed the dynamics of excellence. Professor Chadha, Professor Vipin Sobti, Professor Akbar Husain, Professor B.S. Ghuman, Professor A.S. Manhas, Professor Meena Sehgal, Professor Gopal Krishan, Professor B.S. Brar, Professor Rajesh Gill, Professor Sween, Dr. Seema Vinayak, Dr. Gurmeet Singh, Dr. Swaranjeet Kaur and others made major contributions in deliberations. A special presentation was made by Shri Dewan Manna, Chairman Lalit Kala Academy of Chandigarh. Six young participants were awarded prizes for their poster presentations. The conference themes included mental training, life skills, excellence, organisational behaviour, media, social psychology, yoga, sports psychology and positive psychology.

The event was supported by the enthusiasm of young students, generous funding by Panjab University and ICSSR. The souvenir and abstract book had 300 abstracts and inspirational messages by Professor José Pieró, President, International Association of Applied Psychology and Professor Saths Cooper, President of the International Congress of Psychology, 2012, Cape Town, South Africa.

In the history of psychology of India, this event has created another image of psychology – in the east.

**Professor Jitendra Mohan**  
**President, International Society of Training for Mental Excellence**  
**President, Asia Pacific Association of Psychology**  
**Professor Emeritus of Psychology**  
**Panjab University, Chandigarh 160014 India**

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## ***Division News***

### ***Division 1: Work and Organizational Psychology***

Division 1, Work and Organizational Psychology, contacted 100 or so psychologists whose membership has lapsed. More than 20 responded to the request stating that they have renewed their membership.



## ***Division 2: Psychological Assessment and Evaluation***

President Thomas Oakland [Oakland@ufl.edu](mailto:Oakland@ufl.edu) once again represented IAAP at the Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS). The ARTS offer capacity-building workshops every two years in conjunction with major international congresses of psychology. The ARTS are designed to promote excellence in research skills and facilitate exchange and dialogue among early career scientists, largely from emerging countries. The ARTS are organized jointly by the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP), the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) and the International Association of Cross Cultural Psychology (IACCP), with support from other sponsors.

The 2012 ARTS on Analyses of Psychological Data with R is likely to be of greatest interest to Division 2 members. Professor Reinhold Kliegl from the University of Potsdam, Germany, is the convener of this ARTS.

Division 2 members were informed of this and the other two ARTS and were encouraged either to apply personally or to encourage their current or former graduate students to apply.

President Oakland and President-Elect Gregoire actively solicit manuscripts on the status of test development and use in emerging countries. These manuscripts have been edited and then submitted to every issue of the IAAP newsletter. (See article below.)

Knowing the importance of scholarship among Division 2 members, they were informed of publishing opportunities in some of the leading scholarly journals.

Division 2 has been working closely with the International Test Commission (ITC) to achieve common goals. For example, President Oakland established a dedicated line through which proposals for the 2012 ICP were submitted, thus serving the needs of the conference organizers as well as Division 2 and ITC membership.

### **Planned Activities for 2012–2014**

The Division's main activities will include continued representation on the ARTS committee, submissions of articles to our newsletter, establishing a dedicated line through which proposals for the 2014 ICP can be submitted to serve Division 2 members, and informing members of this established line.

**–Thomas Oakland, President, Division 2**

### **Tests and Testing for Swedish I/O Psychologists**

Interest in test use among I/O psychologists in Sweden has grown steadily during the last two decades. The supply of psychological tests has increased in line with the increase in demand for and interest in them.

During the last ten years a fairly large number of tests have been developed for use in work psychology, especially measures of personality. These include both Swedish developed and American and British versions of tests. However, the quality of I/O tests has varied greatly and, despite their widespread use, many lack documentation on their development and application.

In the mid-1990s the Swedish Psychological Association recognized this shortcoming and, through the efforts of the Swedish Foundation for Applied Psychology, has been very successful in increasing the quality of available tests, the users' knowledge of tests, and psychological assessment in a broader sense. The standards for using I/O tests generally are lower than those for clinical

applications. For example, persons who complete a brief course on testing can access psychological tests from various providers.

The work of the Swedish Foundation for Applied Psychology has been inspired by similar initiatives by the British Psychological Society. Sweden has an established system for establishing the quality control of tests in accord with guidelines issued by the European Federation of Psychological Associations. The Swedish Foundation for Applied Psychology also has supported the implementation of International Test Commission guidelines for test use and has produced an examination procedure for test users.

Although the work of the Foundation has received criticism from both commercial and academic quarters, few dispute that the status of test development and use in the Swedish work psychology market has improved dramatically, in part through the Foundation's efforts. As the level of knowledge and demands have generally increased within this area, inadequate tests and test users are finding it more difficult to establish themselves in the marketplace.

Additional information on test development and use in Sweden can be found in a longer article written by Eva Tideman on the International Test Commission's web page ([www.intestcom.org/](http://www.intestcom.org/)).

–**Eva Tideman**

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#### ***Division 4: Environmental Psychology***

##### **Upcoming conference**

10th Biennial Conference on Environmental Psychology

The 10th Biennial Conference on Environmental Psychology will be held September 22 - 25 2013 in Magdeburg, Germany. This conference, on behalf of the Environmental Psychology Division of the German Association of Psychology, will bring together people from all over the world interested in the field of environmental psychology to meet, share experiences, present research, and discuss ideas with regard to the state of the art in environment and behaviour research.

Key themes of the conference are, but are not limited to, the built and natural environment, environment-relevant behaviour and sustainability, environmental perception and decision making, consumer behaviour, environmental risks and stress, methods and theories in environment-behaviour research, proxemics, restoration and health.

Particularly appreciated and encouraged are theoretical and empirical contributions addressing the conference's main theme: the role of the individual in the transformation of energy systems.

The conference will be organized by the Workgroup on Environmental Psychology of the Otto-von-Guericke-University and its chair, Ellen Matthies. Conference language will be English.

All relevant information concerning this conference will be presented on the conference's website in due time: [www.envpsycon.ovgu.de](http://www.envpsycon.ovgu.de) <<http://www.envpsycon.ovgu.de>>

The call for papers / contributions will be issued this autumn.

## **Environmental/sustainable psychology sessions during the International Congress of Psychology 2012, Cape Town, South Africa**

From July 22<sup>nd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, the 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology was held in Cape Town, South Africa. This year's congress theme was "Psychology Serving Humanity", so in addition to presenting new and innovative psychological research, there was a special focus on its application as a means for improving, developing and enriching society. This connection was visible in the sessions on environmental psychology as well.

During the week, several sessions and symposia on environmental psychology were organized. Among these were the two invited lectures and two invited symposia organized by IAAP division 4 (Environmental Psychology). A broad range of topics was discussed, including community-based approaches to addressing environmental problems, understanding everyday sustainable practices in organizations, restoration and restorative environments and the gap between values and behaviour. In addition, several topics within the environmental psychology field were represented during the poster sessions.

Not only was the conference a scientific success, it was also a good opportunity to meet and catch up with colleagues. Because the congress was open for psychologists of all fields, the congress party on Thursday was a nice occasion to gain interdisciplinary knowledge. And, for knowledge exchange and more informal talks within the field, environmental psychology delegates came together on Wednesday evening at the restaurant Harbour House at the Waterfront.

We are already looking forward to the next International Congress of Psychology and its environmental psychology sessions, which will be organized in 2016 in Yokohama, Japan.

## **Summer school STEEP 2012**

From 2–6 July 2012, the summer school on Theories in Environmental and Economic Psychology (STEEP) was held at Aarhus University in Denmark. Fifty PhD students in the field of environmental and economic psychology from all over the world (from Venezuela to New Zealand and from the U.S. to Romania) came to Denmark to meet and collaborate with each other and with prominent professors in this field.

On the first day of the Summer school, representatives of 5 organizations in Denmark presented real-life problems they are currently facing in their organizations. During the week we worked in groups on research proposals to address these real-life problems. Ten senior lecturers in the field of Environmental and Economic Psychology gave keynote presentations on their own research and offered their expertise to supervise the workshops: Linda Steg, Marino Bonaiuto, Ellen Matthies, John Thøgersen, Annika Nordlund, Geertje Schuitema, Bas Verplanken, Anders Biel, Henk Staats and Agnes van den Berg.

Intense discussions, productive collaborations and negotiations made it an interesting experience. Some groups even took the opportunity to do some field research. They executed small pilot studies to investigate their research models. The results of a week of working together in the workshops were presented in a final session to all the practitioners, participants and lecturers of the summer school.

The organizing committee of the STEEP summer school 2012 did an excellent job. The summer school was a big success scientifically as well as socially. All the participants got the chance to get to know each other, the Danish culture and the city of Aarhus.

It was a great opportunity to meet and collaborate with professors and other PhD students in the field of environmental and economic psychology. We can look back at a very good experience, which was scientifically as well as socially very successful.

If you are interested in organising the third STEPE, please contact Linda Steg, [e.m.steg@rug.nl](mailto:e.m.steg@rug.nl).

## ***Division 6: Clinical and Community Psychology***

### **Division 6 launched its website in July!!**

Division 6, Clinical and Community Psychology, launched its website in July, 2012. <http://www.iaapsy.org/division6/>

The main purpose of this website is to promote activities and services to our members. We would like to involve you as soon as possible.

To start with there is a section called *Connecting members across the world*. Because our division has more than four hundred members worldwide, the first aim of this website will be to connect us, to know where our colleagues are working on the main topics of Clinical and Applied Community Psychology, their diverse functions and different areas of expertise, and the world centres where we are performing psychological interventions and research. In this section you will find a questionnaire. Please, we ask you to complete this questionnaire which will permit us to build a database and to give you information about which members of the Division are close to you, their areas of expertise, and the psychological centres where they are working. We think this information will be useful to support you in many professional situations, for instance, when you are preparing a professional trip, when you need collaboration to develop some research programmes in any part of the world, and so on. Please, click the questionnaire, complete it and send it to [mpgvera@psi.ucm.es](mailto:mpgvera@psi.ucm.es).

Second, a Section *Experts Across the World* in which you can find articles, interviews and experiences with the aim of presenting experiences and professional challenges from diverse countries. Until now we have articles from experts in Indonesia, New Zealand, Pakistan and Spain. Dear colleagues Satiadarma, Neville and Najam, thank you for your collaboration. All of you are invited to participate in this section!

Third, we have built a section entitled *Sharing Resources* to help you in your professional development. The section aims to share clinical and community resources such as instruments, videos, links with information of interest, and so on. But you will also find lists of key references, clinical resources, handbooks, and international research groups. Please, take a look!

Also you will find a section of formulation and treatment of *Clinical Cases* in which we start with a case about the importance of the family in children's problems.

On our webpage <http://www.iaapsy.org/division6/> you also will find other sections with activities, conferences, seminars, meetings of interest, professional and research activities that may be of interest for the division members, and our First Newsletter, with a message from Neville Blampied, President of Division 6. Don't miss it!

We invite you to help us achieve these goals. Please, contact me to comment on any collaboration you can provide. Thank you very much! Keep in touch!

If you are interested in clinical and community psychology, please don't forget to join us!

**–Maria Paz Garcia-Vera**

President-Elect, Division 6

### **The Development of the Profession of General Health Psychologist and the Master's Degree in General Health Psychology: Challenges, Opportunities and Threats for Clinical and Health Psychology in Spain**

In the past 30 years, the basic structure of the profession of psychologist in Spain, insofar as professional practice within the sphere of clinical and health psychology is concerned, has advanced notably but is still incomplete.

On the one hand, the generic practice of the psychologist in all areas (clinical, social, work/organizational, educational, etc.) is possible with the sole requirements of having a title of Licentiate's/Bachelor's degree in Psychology and being registered in the Official Associations of Psychologists (in Spanish, *Colegios Oficiales de Psicólogos* or COP). In Spain, both degrees are undergraduate university degrees with curricula composed of courses exclusively in Psychology that provide access to the professional license, that is, to the practice of the profession of psychologist.

On the other hand, in 1998, the official title of Psychologist Specializing in Clinical Psychology was established by law. This involves a higher level of theoretical-practical training and specialization in diagnosis, assessment, treatment, and rehabilitation of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders. Psychologists can access this title only through specialized training in clinical psychology via the residency system in the National Health System (training program for the Intern-Resident Psychologist or PIR training<sup>1</sup>), although, when this law was passed, an extraordinary and temporary process began whereby the psychologists who had been practicing their profession in the clinical sphere before the law was passed could request and obtain the title without having to undergo the PIR training, if they met minimum criteria of theoretical-practical training and years of practice in professional activities within the specialty of clinical psychology. Subsequently, a law was passed in 2003 to regulate health professions, which included among the certified and regulated health professions that of the psychologist who had the title of Specializing in Clinical Psychology, but not the licentiate/bachelor in Psychology who did not have this title. Lastly, also in 2003, another law established that only health professionals could work in health centers and health services, either public or private, of any type and nature.

Leaving aside the debate about whether or not the profession of psychologist without a specialist title can be considered a health profession (Duro Martínez, 2004), these legal regulations have led to the consolidation of clinical psychology in Spain. Moreover, the demand of a high level of training and specialization to practice clinical psychology is no doubt a guarantee of quality for society.

Nevertheless, these laws have also caused a series of problems and conflicts that have affected a large number of psychologists who work in the clinical sphere, Psychology students who graduated after 1998, and the future of psychological care of the Spanish population, and they have also confronted the COP, representatives of the academic institutions, and the delegates of the Psychology students with the diverse Spanish governments.

<sup>1</sup>The PIR training is regulated by the Spanish Ministry of Health and the Spanish Ministry of Education, and to access it, students must have a licentiate's/bachelor's degree in Psychology and have passed the selective test held at the national level. The PIR training program lasts 4 years and is based on the occupational integration of the resident in hospitals and health centers of the National Health System through an occupational training contract to provide health care and simultaneously receive training.



Up to 2003, Psychology graduates without a specialist title could open a consulting office, clinic, or clinical psychology center and register it without any trouble in the health center registry. After passing these laws, these psychologists were put in a difficult situation regarding work and juridical insecurity, because these laws affected both the centers and services of the public health system, as well as the private consulting offices, clinics, and centers, where 80% of the Spanish psychologists who practice their profession in the clinical sphere are estimated to be working (Santolaya Ochando, Berdullas Temes, & Fernández Hermida, 2001).

Of course, a large number of these psychologists had undergone the extraordinary process to obtain the title of Specializing in Clinical Psychology (more than 14,500 requests were presented) and, therefore, their work situation was regulated insofar as they achieved the title (more than 7,000 up to this time) and, as health professionals, they could continue to work in health centers as they had before.

However, the Psychology students who had finished their studies after 1998 were even worse off because, although most of them were interested in working in the clinical sphere, the only possibility to do so was through access to the PIR training. That was the only pathway as of that year to obtain the title of Specializing in Clinical Psychology and, therefore, to be considered a health professional and be able to work legally in consulting offices, clinics, and health centers. Currently, there are more than 56,000 students enrolled in the Psychology faculties and, in those that provide specific curricular itineraries, 40–50% of the students choose the curricular itinerary of clinical and health psychology. However, from 1998 to 2012, only between 60 and 141 places to access the PIR training have been convoked yearly. This high student-to-place ratio could be interpreted in terms of a misfit between the high number of Psychology students and the actual possibilities of labor insertion in Spain. In fact, this misfit is quite real, but it is also obvious that such a low number of PIR places cannot ensure either the generational takeover of the clinical psychologists or the psychotherapeutic care of a population that already exceeds 47 million inhabitants.

Therefore, although in the short term the high number of psychologists who already have passed the extraordinary process to obtain the title of Psychologist Specializing in Clinical Psychology ensures that the psychotherapeutic care of the Spanish population is taken care of, in the medium and long terms, the scanty number of places for the PIR training, the only official pathway to practice in the clinical sphere as a health professional, places such care at serious risk. In this sense, it is important to point out that most of the psychologists who work in the clinical sphere do so in private consulting offices, clinics, and centers, and that there is a scarce number of psychologists who work in the Spanish public network of mental health care. Thus, although the employment of clinical psychologists in the public sector has not ceased to grow in the last 25 years, it is still far from the standards of other developed countries that, like Spain, have an important public health system. In 2003, the Spanish public network of mental health care had 4.3 clinical psychologists for every 100,000 inhabitants (Salvador, 2005), whereas the median for high income countries was 14 psychologists for every 100,000 inhabitants in 2005 (World Health Organization, 2005).

To solve those problems caused by the 2003 laws aimed to regulate health professions and centers, in 2006 and, later, in November 2011, the Spanish Government passed two laws which allowed psychologists to open or work in clinical psychology consulting offices, clinics, and centers even if they did not have the title of Specializing in Clinical Psychology (and were therefore not officially considered health professionals), inasmuch as they accredited having studied Psychology following a curricular itinerary qualified by its link with the teaching area of personality, assessment, and psychological treatment or clinical and health psychology, or they accredited having complementary

postgraduate training in these areas of not less than 400 hours, of which at least 100 should be practice supervised by psychologists specialized in clinical psychology, in centers, institutions, university psychology services, clinical psychology consulting offices or clinics accredited as health centers.

The November 2011 law is currently in force, but it is a temporary solution (until 2014) when a more appropriate solution can be implemented. This solution was also proposed by the November 2011 law and implies the development of a new health profession or health professional title named General Health Psychologist, that requires specialized training in clinical and health psychology via an official university Master's degree in General Health Psychology within the framework of the European Higher Education Area<sup>2</sup>. Thus, this Master's degree extends the possibility of being legally recognized as health professional and will ensure higher training in clinical and health psychology than does the Licentiate's/Bachelor's degree in Psychology.

This Master's degree, to which only the licentiate/bachelor in Psychology would have access, would last 1.5 years (90 ECTS credits; see footnote 2) and would have national guidelines about the minimum number of hours required of supervised clinical practice and theoretical-practical training in certain subjects such as, for example, psychopathology, psychological assessment, psychotherapy, and so on. In fact, to obtain the title of General Health Psychologist, students would have to take a minimum of 180 ECTS credits on health and clinical psychology taking into account both the credits of the Bachelor's degree in Psychology and the Master's degree in General Health Psychology. The Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and the professional and academic representatives of Spanish Psychology are collaborating and working on the outline of those guidelines and, in fact, the November 2011 law requires that those guidelines are set by April 2012. Later, based on those guidelines, Spanish universities will develop the curricula of their Master's degrees in General Health Psychology and submit them to an assessment process by a State agency that assesses the quality of Spanish higher education (the National Agency of Assessment of the Quality and Accreditation: ANECA). This agency is in charge of verifying and accrediting that the university curricula meet the pertinent training goals, for example, the acquisition of the basic competences in health and clinical psychology set by the national guidelines for the General Health Psychologist.

Therefore, the Master's degree in General Health Psychologist could begin to be implemented, at the earliest, in the 2012–2013 course, but in any event, its development and the development of the profession of General Health Psychologist pose some challenges that could become threats or opportunities to Spanish psychology depending on the actions, not only of the politicians in charge, but also of the academics and professionals.

—**María Paz García-Vera, President-Elect, Division 6**

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Spain

<sup>2</sup>The European Higher Education Area (EHEA) is a policy commitment endorsed by 47 European states to improve the quality, mobility, diversity, and competitiveness of university education. This is done by adopting a series of common instruments, for example, a comparable degree system with three cycles (Bachelor, Master, and Doctorate) and a learner-centered system for academic credit accumulation and transfer (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System or ECTS) based on student workload, that is, the time students typically need to complete all learning activities (such as lectures, seminars, projects, practical work, self-study and examinations) required to achieve the expected learning outcomes of the study program (one ECTS credit corresponds to 25–30 hours of work). Typically, the first cycle includes 180–240 ECTS credits, while the second cycle comprises 60–120 ECTS credits.

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## Division 8: Health Psychology

On June 14, 2012 Esther Greenglass organized and moderated a symposium entitled “The Economic Recession: Role of Psychological Resources in Alleviating Distress”, that was presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Psychological Association (June 14–16, 2012) in Halifax, Canada. The four symposium papers were based on cross national data from the Greenglass project on the psychological effects of the recession with particular emphasis on the role of stress and coping.

Aleksandra Luszczynska organized a national conference aimed at knowledge transfer among health psychologists, healthcare, public health and education professionals, as well as regional authorities responsible for obesity prevention in Poland. The meeting took place in Wroclaw, Poland (April 21, 2012). The conference also targeted dissemination of findings from the Tempest project (7th EU Framework Project; <http://www.tempestproject.eu/>), conducted in 9 European countries explaining the interplay between macro-environmental factors, at-home and out-of home environment, self-regulation and obesity-related behaviors among children and adolescents.

Rik Crutzen has been guest editor of a Policy & Internet special issue on eHealth, which is available at <http://www.psocommons.org/policyandinternet/vol4/iss2/> (open access).

Ralf Schwarzer, Berlin, Germany, has now an additional appointment as professor at the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Wroclaw, Poland.

A team of PhD students (Dipl.-Psych. Milena Koring, Dipl.-Psych. Daniela Lange und Dipl.-Psych. Linda Parschau) under the leadership of Sonia Lippke, Professor of Health Psychology, received approval by the “Wilhelm-Stiftung für Rehabilitationsforschung” for the research grant application “RENATA”. The international study, which will be undertaken by three young scholars, will focus on which strategies in after-care are most effective for older people who intend to resume healthy lifestyles and return to work after medical rehabilitation. The intervention study started in May 2012 and will take place until April 2015. The budget for the project is 150.000 Euro.

### Recent publications of our EC members:

Bowler, R. M., Harris, M., Li, J., Gocheva, V., Stellman, S. D., Wilson, K., Alper, H., Schwarzer, R., & Cone, J. E. (2012). Longitudinal mental health impact among police responders to the 9/11 terrorist attack. *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*, 55, 297–312. doi: 10.1002/ajim.22000

Cislak, A., Safron, M., Pratt, M., Gaspar, T., & Luszczynska, A. (2012). Family-related predictors of body weight and weight-related behaviors among children and adolescents: A systematic

umbrella review. *Child: Care, Health & Development*, 38, 321–333. Doi: 10.1111/j.1365–2214.2011.01285.x

Craciun, C., Schüz, N., Lippke, S., & Schwarzer, R. (2012). Facilitating sunscreen use in women by a theory-based online intervention: A randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 17(2), 207–216.

Crutzen, R., Cyr, D., & De Vries, N.K. (2012). The role of user control in adherence to and knowledge gained from a website: randomized comparison between a tunneled version and a freedom-of-choice version. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 14, e45.

Crutzen, R., Roosjen, J.L., & Poelman, J. (e-pub ahead of print). Using Google Analytics as a process evaluation method for Internet-delivered interventions: an example on sexual health. *Health Promotion International*.

Gellert, P., Ziegelmann, J.P., Lippke, S., & Schwarzer, R. (2012). Future time perspective and health behaviors: Temporal framing of self-regulatory processes in physical activity and dietary behaviors. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 43(2), 208–218.

Luszczynska, A., Durawa, A. B., Scholz, U., & Knoll, N. (2012). Empowerment beliefs and intention to uptake cervical cancer screening: Three psychosocial mediating mechanisms. *Women & Health*, 52, 162–181. Doi: 10.1080/03630242.2012.656187

Schwarzer, R. (2011). Health behavior change. In H. S. Friedman (Ed.), *Oxford handbook of health psychology* (pp. 591–611). New York: Oxford University Press.

Šolcová, I., A. Slezáčková, A., Franková, E., & Greenglass, E. (2012). Psychological circumstances of the economic recession. *Československá psychologie*, 61, 64–72.

### **Division 9: Economic Psychology**

Division 9, Economic Psychology, functions as a bridge between Psychology and Economics and investigates economic knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour from a psychological perspective. This is also the core topic of the annual colloquium organized by the International Association for the Research on Economic Behaviour (IAREP).

This year, the annual conference of the International Association for Research in Economic Psychology (IAREP) was held in Wroclaw, Poland, at the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities from September, 5–8, 2012. It was a great conference, organized by Tomasz Zale Kiewicz and his team, with excellent invited speakers, sessions, and social activities. More than 150 participants represented 27 countries from five continents. The scientific program consisted of 102 oral presentations and 30 posters in such areas as: consumer behavior, psychology of money, financial decision making, tax behavior, fairness, moral aspects of economic behavior etc. The traditional Daniel Kahneman lecture was given by Kathleen Vohs from the University of Minnesota, USA (“Money talk has a lot to say about personal goals and interpersonal behavior”). Other invited lectures were presented by Stephen Lea from the University of Exeter, UK (“Evolutionary thinking in economic psychology: Where have we come from and where are we going”), Fritz Strack from the University of Würzburg, Germany (“Reflective and impulsive determinants of economic behavior”), and Boguslaw Pawlowski from the University of Wroclaw, Poland (“Women’s sexual strategies across the menstrual cycle: An evolutionary perspective”). Sessions, symposia and invited talks were accompanied by two other events: Meeting of the Virtual Community on Sustainability and Consumption and the Elsevier workshop for doctoral students. As in the past years, doctoral students

were invited to participate in the Best Student Paper competition. Papers submitted for this competition were judged by the committee of senior members of IAREP: Christine Roland-Levy (committee chair), Erich Kirchler, and Christoph Kogler. The best paper prize was awarded to Livia Marian from Aarhus University, Denmark, for her paper “Direct and mediated impacts of product and process characteristics on consumers’ choice of organic vs. conventional chicken” co-authored by John Thøgersen (text based on a report by Tomasz Zaleskiewicz).

In 2013, the conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, from 25–29 July, 2013. Detailed information can found at <http://www.iarep.org/>.

When IAAP has its conference in Paris, France, 2014, IAREP will join and organize its annual colloquium at the same location and time. It will be a great opportunity to make economic psychology even more salient within the context of applied psychology. As Christine Roland-Lévy – organizer of ICAP – writes, “Division 9, Economic Psychology, will be visibly reinforced during the next ICAP in Paris, July 2014. In fact, a series of international associations will join the work of our Divisions. Among these, the International Association for Research in Economic Psychology, IAREP, has agreed to hold its annual congress as an integrated congress within ICAP for this year, during the 28<sup>th</sup> ICAP. This implies that, to the usual attendees of Division 9, many IAREP members will be added. As a consequence of this, a specific space will be devoted to themes connected to psychological consequences of the financial crisis, of unemployment, as well as other specific topics, such as tax evasion versus tax compliance, which will be presented during the main closing session, with an invited keynote lecture by an IAREP member.”

A particularly interesting group of interdisciplinary researchers interested in tax behavior assembled in the Tax Research Network (TRN; <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/wbs/research/trn/whoarewe/>). TRN is described on the homepage of the organization as an “independent organisation formed in the United Kingdom to promote interdisciplinary work in taxation. It started in about 1992/93, and comprised almost all academics with an interest in the area in the UK, including those who both researched and taught the subject. Members were drawn from a variety of academic disciplines, including accounting, law, economics and history, to name but a few. The Network has expanded in recent years, and now also includes a large number of academics from overseas, members of UK accounting, tax and law professional bodies and senior personnel in HM Revenue and Customs.” TRN provides an opportunity for collaboration in taxation research. This year’s conference was held at the University of Roehampton, England, 5–7 September 2012, where scholars of law, accounting, economics, business administration, anthropology, psychology etc. met.

Another stimulating conference on tax research was organized by the Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law, together with the Austrian Ministry of Finance, and the Faculty of Psychology, University of Vienna, on “Tax Governance – the future role of tax administrations in a networking society”– September 20–21, 2012 ([http://www.wu.ac.at/taxlaw/eventsn/hochladen/taxgov2012\\_inv\\_prog\\_final.pdf](http://www.wu.ac.at/taxlaw/eventsn/hochladen/taxgov2012_inv_prog_final.pdf)). Experts from the fields of economics, law and psychology joined forces to analyze the topic Good Public Governance and Tax Compliance. The fields of Tax Crime and Sanctions, Tax Evasion and Aggressive Tax Planning, Enhanced Relationship and Voluntary Compliance were discussed.

**Erich Kirchler, President, Division 9, University of Vienna, Austria**

### ***Division 10: Psychology and Law***

I (Alfred Allan) was recently appointed as the President by the IAAP Board of Directors after the Division had been without a President or Committee for a period of time. Obviously the Division



has been dormant during this time and whatever infrastructure existed has disappeared. This is sad, but it also provides a wonderful opportunity for us to start afresh and to develop a vibrant and stimulating Division that addresses the needs of its members in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We practise and do research in a globalized world where there is potential for increasing connectivity and interdependence between researchers and practising psychologists, and also between legal and justice systems. Globalization is not new, but the process has speeded up dramatically since the 1980s as technological advances make it easier for psychologists to travel, communicate, and work internationally. The two major forces currently driving globalization are the advances in the telecommunications infrastructure and the rise of the internet, but these are not the only advances. Technological developments also provide psychologists with the opportunity to develop sophisticated research methodology and tools that will allow them to revisit earlier research and engage in research that was previously impossible. It also makes it possible to develop psychological instruments of which the specificity and sensitivity exceed those that we currently use.

It appears to me that Division 10, as part of an international body, can play a major role in assisting psychologists from across the world who work in the psycho-legal and forensic areas to communicate, share ideas and data, and to exploit the opportunities that technological developments bring, such as opportunities to undertake joint research projects that go across national boundaries. My vision for Division 10 is that it should serve as an umbrella body that would allow psychologists who have psycho-legal and forensic interests to communicate and work together more effectively.

In order to do this, however, it is necessary to put into place a Committee for the Division that can make these things happen; a Committee of capable and enthusiastic Division members who are willing to help me not only to put the Division back on its feet but who will also turn the Division into a body that will enhance members' ability to practise and do research in the psychology and law area. I therefore invite those of you who feel they have the time, skills and enthusiasm to reinvigorate Division 10 to send me an expression of interest and a résumé. Any assistance will be welcome, but I am particularly looking for a person who would be interested in serving as the Newsletter editor and Webmaster of the Division. I hope that once the Committee has been formed we will commence to publish a regular Newsletter.

Another very pressing task of the Committee will be to make plans that will ensure that Division 10 has a strong presence at the 2014 International Congress of Applied Psychology (ICAP) in Paris. Here, as well, I need your assistance in helping the Committee by nominating keynote speakers and by volunteering to organise symposia or other activities. Some Division members have, for instance, suggested that there should be debates on important issues, such as whether the research of psychologists working in the psychology and law area has any value? I would like to see a symposium on how the Division can promote, enhance and facilitate international research and collaboration. Another area that is becoming increasingly important, especially but not only, for psychologists working with people who are in detention, is the ethics of what we are doing, and we may even consider whether the Division should not be renamed the Division of Psychology, Law and Ethics.

Once we have attended to these immediate needs I hope the Committee will be able to develop a plan of action that will ensure that the Division becomes optimally functioning and sustainable again. In order to do this the Committee will try to survey members and arrange a meeting in Paris to discuss the various proposals and consider how they can be implemented.

To summarise, there are wonderful opportunities for Division 10, but to make these opportunities reality we need an active Committee and active Division members. Please let me know if you can

assist as a Committee member or by organising an activity in Paris. I hope to see all of you in Paris.

–Alfred Allan, President, Division 10

### ***Division 12: Sport Psychology***

The pre-Olympic sport science convention ICSEMIS 2012 (International Convention of Science, Education and Medicine in Sport) took place in Glasgow 19–24 July 2012 under the title: Sport . . . Inspiring a Learning Legacy. The chair of the organizing committee was Celia Brackenridge (UK) and delegates represented every professional sector and academic discipline associated with sport, physical education, exercise, physical activity and sports medicine. Peter Terry (Australia) was the keynote speaker for the sport psychology discipline “Citius, Altius, Fortius: If only it were that easy”. Robert Sallis (USA) was the keynote speaker for the exercise and health section and his topic was “Exercise is medicine: Realizing the health benefits of physical activity”. Delegates represented over 70 countries, 71 UK Universities and colleges and from some of the world’s most prestigious universities including Yale, Harvard and MIT. The conference programme offered more than 200 sessions about every discipline linked to sport.

The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP) was held in Atlanta, October 3–6, 2012. The theme of the conference was “Interdisciplinary Relationships within the Scientist-Practitioner Model”. Division 12 president-elect, Joan Duda (UK), presented the Coleman Griffith lecture “Theory, Research and Practice in Sport and Exercise Psychology: Tales of a Comfortable and Conducive Synergy”. Other speakers included: Ken Fox (UK), Exercise Psychology keynote: “Taking Exercise Psychology into Public Health Research and Practice”, Colleen Hacker (USA) and Tony DiCicco (USA) Performance Psychology keynote: “Gold Medal Partnership: Collaboration and Integration for Sustained Excellence”, and Reed Larson (USA), Social Psychology keynote: “Positive Development in Sports: The Active Minds of Youth”. Keith Harrison (USA) presented the Diversity Lecture, “The Tanning of the Global Sportsworld: Assessing, Measuring and Analyzing the Cultural Performance of Diverse Human Beings”. An Invited International Symposium “Sport and Exercise Psychology Practitioners Working Internationally: Challenges and Benefits” was presented by Stephanie Hanrahan (Australia), Nicolas Lemyre (Norway), Roland Seller (Switzerland), Margaret Ottley (USA) and Montse Ruiz (Finland). The next conference will be held in New Orleans, LA (abstract deadline: February 15<sup>th</sup>).

An International Symposium of Sport Psychology was organized at the University of Palermo, Argentina, September, 7, 2012 to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Argentinian Association of Sport Psychology (APDA; website: [www.psicodeportes.com](http://www.psicodeportes.com)). Dan Gould (USA) presented a seminar “Sport Talent Development, Psychology of Olympic Excellence”, and a workshop on mental skills teaching. The event gathered more than 100 Sport Psychology professionals from countries in Latin America.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Uruguayan Congress of Sport and Exercise Psychology was held at the University of the Republic, Uruguay, October 4–6. The congress was organized by the Uruguayan Society of Sport Psychology.

The College of Sport and Exercise Psychologists (CoSEP) 2012 AGM was held at the Sports Medicine Australia conference in Sydney on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. A range of CoSEP themed presentations were scheduled, including the inaugural presentation of the APS College of Sport and Exercise Psychologists Student Awards – established in honor of Professor Tony Morris. Website: <http://sma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/Preliminary-Conference-Program.pdf>.

The CoSEP LinkedIn Trial has been going well and will now be open to all APS members going forward. Additionally, all CoSEP members now have access to a CoSEP specific Discussion Forum hosted on the APS website.

### **Upcoming Conferences**

March 26–27, 2013. Student conference of the British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES), Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK. Website: [www.bases.org.uk/Student-Conference](http://www.bases.org.uk/Student-Conference)

April, 9–11, 2013. Harrogate, UK. Annual Conference of the British Psychological Society (BPS). Website: [www.bps.org.uk/ac2013](http://www.bps.org.uk/ac2013)

June, 13–15, 2013. Québec, Canada. Annual convention of the Canadian Psychological Association Convention (CPA). Website: [www.cpa.ca/convention](http://www.cpa.ca/convention)

June 13–15, 2013. New Orleans, USA. Annual conference of the North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSA). Website: [www.naspsa.org/about-the-conference](http://www.naspsa.org/about-the-conference)

June 26 - 29, 2013. Barcelona, Spain. Annual Congress of the European College of Sport Science (ECSS). Website: [www.ecss-congress.eu/2013/](http://www.ecss-congress.eu/2013/)

July, 21–26, 2013. Beijing, China. World Congress of the International Society of Sport Psychology (ISSP). Website: [www.issp2013.com/en/index.asp](http://www.issp2013.com/en/index.asp)

September, 3–5, 2013. Annual conference of the British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES), University of Central Lancashire, UK. Website: [www.uclan.ac.uk/bases](http://www.uclan.ac.uk/bases)

### **New Publications**

“Expert Approaches to Sport Psychology” edited by Mark Aoyagi & Artur Poczwadowski (2012). The book, published by Fitness Information Technology, provides biographical and autobiographical perspectives of fifteen of the most distinguished practitioners in the field of sport psychology. Read excerpt: [www.fitinfotech.com/BookContentsFolder/Excerpt\\_EASP.pdf](http://www.fitinfotech.com/BookContentsFolder/Excerpt_EASP.pdf).

“Sport for Development, Peace, and Social Justice” edited by Robert Schinke and Stephanie Hanrahan. The book is published by Fitness Information Technology. Read excerpt: [www.fitinfotech.com/BookContentsFolder/SportDevelopmentPeaceSocialJusticeCh1-2.pdf](http://www.fitinfotech.com/BookContentsFolder/SportDevelopmentPeaceSocialJusticeCh1-2.pdf)

The Journal “Sport, Exercise, and Performance Psychology”, edited by Jeffrey J. Martin, and published quarterly, is a publication of APA Division 47 (Exercise and Sport Psychology).

The video “Introduction to Sport Psychology: Working with Coaches and Teams” by Mike Voight is now available from Virtual Brands ([www.vbvideo.com](http://www.vbvideo.com)).

For more information and updated news visit Division 12 website (<http://home.no/sportpsy/>).

### **–Montse Ruiz, Newsletter Editor, Division 12**

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### ***Division 13: Traffic and Transportation Psychology***

News from Division 13 concerns our most recent business meeting, forthcoming conferences and two new volumes published in the Ashgate book series on Human Factors in Road and Rail Transport. Please refer to the updated Division 13 website (<http://www.iaapsy.org/division13/>) to keep in touch with Divisional news and events. Contact me at [matthegl@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:matthegl@ucmail.uc.edu) with any items for the next IAAP newsletter.

**Gerald Matthews, President, Division 13**

#### **Division 13 Business Meeting**

The Meeting was held on August 30, during the Fifth International Conference on Traffic and Transport Psychology, Groningen, the Netherlands. Highlights of the meeting included the following:

- The venue for the Sixth International Conference on Traffic and Transport Psychology in 2016 (ITTP6) has been decided. Division 13 is pleased to announce that ITTP6 will be held in Brisbane, Australia in 2016. It will be co-hosted by Queensland University of Technology and Griffith University.
- It was agreed that future ICTTPs would officially become the responsibility of Division 13, in respect of calling for bids, assessing bids received, and determining the hosting organisation/s.
- Strategies for promoting Divisional and IAAP membership were discussed. Forthcoming conferences at which traffic psychology should be promoted include those listed below, as well ICAP 2014 and the 2016 International Congress of Psychology.
- Thanks are due to Linda Steg for representing Division 13 at the BoD meeting held at the recent International Congress of Psychology (ICP) in Cape Town, South Africa.

### **Forthcoming conferences on traffic and transportation psychology**

1. The Annual Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) will take place in Boston, October 22–26, 2012. HFES has 22 Technical Groups (TGs); most presentations on traffic and transportation issues contribute to the programs of the Surface Transportation, Safety and Aerospace Systems TGs. See <https://www.hfes.org/Web/HFESMeetings/2012annualmeeting.html> for more details.
2. The Sixth International Conference on Driver Behaviour and Training (ICDBT – 2013) will take place in Helsinki, Finland, August 19–20, 2013. The ICDBT aims to debate new initiatives in the scientific inquiry of road user behaviour, education and training. The Programme Committee is now pleased to invite proposals for symposia, presentations and posters. The deadline for abstract or symposia submission is December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Conference organisers – Lisa Dorn, Heikki Summala and Mark Sullman. For further details see: <http://www.icdbt.com/index.php>.
3. The 20<sup>th</sup> International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety Conference (T2013) will be held in Brisbane, Australia, from 23–25 August 2013. T2013 will provide an exciting global forum for researchers, academics and professionals involved in road safety and injury prevention research and policy, particularly from the fields of drugs and alcohol, to discuss and present on the latest innovative research and programs being undertaken. The deadline for abstract submission is November 12<sup>th</sup>. To submit an abstract for the scientific program, or register your interest in receiving regular T2013 updates, please visit [www.t2013.com](http://www.t2013.com).

### **New books on traffic psychology**

Two books have been published in August by Ashgate as part of the series in Human Factors in Road and Rail Safety, based on a selection of papers from two international conferences supported by Division 13.

*Advances in Traffic Psychology* is based on a selection of papers from the proceedings of IAAP's International Conference of Applied Psychology held in Melbourne in 2010. The IAAP Division 13 European representative Mark Sullman and President-Elect Lisa Dorn edited over 20 chapters for inclusion in the publication with a major focus on how the field contributes to the understanding of at-risk road-user behaviour.

*Driver Behaviour and Training (Volume 5)* is the fifth in the series edited by Lisa Dorn and contains over 35 leading edge papers presented in Paris in November 2011 at the International Conference in Driver Behaviour and Training. The conference was co-sponsored by IAAP. The book defines new approaches to driver training methodology and contributing road safety researchers and professionals consider the kinds of methods that are effective in teaching drivers the higher-level skills needed to be a safe, competent driver.

The Ashgate series provides an excellent opportunity for traffic psychologists to publish in their key areas of interest. If you have a potential book that could become part of this series, then contact one of the series editors: Gerry Matthews ([matthegl@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:matthegl@ucmail.uc.edu)), Lisa Dorn ([l.dorn@cranfield.ac.uk](mailto:l.dorn@cranfield.ac.uk)), or Ian Glendon ([i.glendon@griffith.edu.au](mailto:i.glendon@griffith.edu.au)).

–Gerald Matthews, President, Division 13

## ***Division 14: Applied Cognitive Psychology***

Towards a more interdisciplinary “Applied Cognitive Psychology”

The establishment of Division 14 (under the name “Applied Cognitive Research”) within IAAP was proposed at the IAAP Congress in San Francisco, in 1998. It was only at the International Congress of Psychology in Stockholm, in 2000, that the Division was formally established (under the current name “Applied Cognitive Psychology”) with Boris Velichkovsky appointed founding divisional president (until the next IAAP congress in Singapore, in 2002) with a small circle of colleagues supporting the idea. In the times from Singapore to Melbourne, the visibility and the membership of the Division strongly fluctuated. At the Melbourne congress there was one keynote address and two symposiums sponsored by the Division. The delegates to the Melbourne congress also elected officers and a scientific secretary of the Division. With some additional changes since then, the governing body of the Division is now complete and is as follows:

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<http://homepage.mac.com/blinkcentral>

The problems to be solved by this Division are mostly related to improving its visibility within the established units of the IAAP network and also to become present in the interdisciplinary fields of work such as human-computer interaction and emerging neurocognitive technologies. José Cañas and Boris Velichkovsky have written an extended chapter on cognitive neuroergonomics and human factor engineering covering these modern trends for the fundamental IAAP Handbook of Applied Psychology (Taylor & Francis, 2011). The Division currently is among the five top IAAP divisions in terms of membership which reached almost 300 colleagues with one third of them for whom our Division was the first choice. After several successful events at the last International Congress of Psychology in Cape Town, South Africa, the new leadership of the Division plans a number of scientific and educational activities in the coming months.



One of these planned activities is the forthcoming interdisciplinary Spring School on Applied Cognitive Research. The announcement of this event is below.

**The First IAAP Spring School on Applied Cognitive Research**  
Paris, France (Cité des sciences et de l'industrie), 8–11 of April 2013

The international scientific School – also appropriate for interdisciplinary doctoral, postdoctoral and advance undergraduate participants – will be held 8–11 of April 2013 at the Cité des sciences et de l'industrie and University of Paris VIII, Paris, France.

**Organizing Committee**

Thierry Baccino (France), José J. Cañas (Spain) and Boris M. Velichkovsky (Germany)

**SCOPE**

In recent years, interdisciplinary cognitive research has gained tremendous importance not only for solving enduring scientific problems but also for progress in a number of applied domains such as human-computer interface technology, medicine, and education. The School will cover the main tendencies of this new development. Leading experts from around the world will give state-of-the-

art lectures on topics as diverse as cognitive interface technology, optimization of financial decisions, applied stress research, cognitive neuropsychology and neuropsychiatry. Theoretical presentations will be accompanied by an in-depth analysis of practical applications, including measurement and data analysis procedures. The renowned speakers will be available for extensive discussion of individual projects of all participants to the School.

### **Preliminary Program of the School**

#### **Day 1: The Scope of Cognitive Research and Applications**

1. AM Boris M. Velichkovsky (Dresden, Germany): “Studying cognitive systems and developing cognitive technologies”
2. AM Joachim Paul Hasebrook (Berlin, Germany): “Cognitive science impact on design and decision research”
3. PM Thierry Baccino (Paris, France): “Integrated technologies for supporting cognition and modeling natural behavior”

*Plus 3–4 Oral presentations (20+5min) and 10–20 posters linked to the Day’s theme.*

#### **Day 2: Neurocognitive Methods, Modeling and Praxes**

4. AM Raja Parasumaran (Fairfax/ Washington, USA): “Neuroergonomics and applied cognitive research”

5. AM Michel Denis (Paris, France): t.b.a

6. PM Elkhonon Goldberg (New York, USA): “Clinical cognitive neuroscience today”

*Plus 3–4 Oral presentations (20+5 min) and 10–20 posters linked to the Day’s theme.*

#### **Day 3: Complex Task Analysis and Users’ Problems**

7. AM Pertti Saariluoma (Tampere, Finland): “Cognitive science and user psychology”

8. AM José J. Cañas (Granada, Spain): “Cognitive analysis of complex tasks”

9. PM Anna B. Leonova (Moscow, Russia): “Cognitive fatigue and human stress resistance”

*Plus 3–4 Oral presentations (20+5 min) and 10–20 posters linked to the Day’s theme.*

#### **Day 4: Workshops and Special Social Events**

AM Workshops / Round-table discussion: Proposals are invited

PM Museums and Exhibitions

### **The list of main Speakers**

Professor Thierry Baccino (Cognitive Psychology), University of Paris VIII, France

Professor José J. Cañas (Cognitive Ergonomics), University of Granada, Spain

Professor Michel Denis (Cognitive Neuropsychology and Multimedia Psychology), CNRS, Paris, France

Clinical Professor of Psychology Elkhonon Goldberg (Neuropsychology and Neuropsychiatry), New York University, USA

Professor Dr. Joachim Paul Hasebrook (Management und Decision Science), Steinbeins Hochschule, Berlin, Deutschland

Professor Anna B. Leonova (Work and Organizational Psychology), Moscow Lomonosov-University, Russian Federation

Professor Raja Parasumaran (Neuroergonomics and Applied Cognition), George Mason University, Fairfax/ Washington, USA

Professor Pertti Saariluoma (Cognitive Science and User Psychology), University of Jyväskylä, Finland

Professor Dr. Boris M. Velichkovsky (Applied Cognitive Research) Technische Universität Dresden, Deutschland

### **APPLICATION**

For participation in the course please send an email containing your name, academic (professional) status, address/institution and a short (a half of a page) statement about

- (i) Interests with respect to cognitive research
- (ii) Experience in applied cognitive research (if there is any)
- (iii) Readiness to present a short report on its results – In this later case, we would ask for a more formal summary of the possible presentation, including the title, one half page of text as well as a notice on intended form of presentation: oral or as a poster
- (iv) Expectations from the School

Mail to: [springschool\\_paris2013@applied-cognition.org](mailto:springschool_paris2013@applied-cognition.org)

### **REGISTRATION**

Final deadline for registration is 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2013. Due to limited resources (especially for the practical sessions) the number of participants is limited as well. Therefore it is recommended to send the application as early as possible. A notification about the participation in the School and invitations (they might be needed for receiving a French/EU visa) will be sent by the 15th of February 2013, at the latest. To cover costs of the course, a fee of 200 EUR will be charged at the beginning of the School.

### **ACCOMODATION**

A list of hotels in different price classes and other types of accommodation can be found below:

- [http://www.citadines.com/fr/france/paris/les\\_halles.html](http://www.citadines.com/fr/france/paris/les_halles.html)
- <http://www.ibishotel.com/fr/booking/hotels-list.shtml>
- <http://www.campanile.fr/Hotel/fr/france/ile-de-france/paris/paris-xix.htm>
- <http://www.adagio-city.com/fr/hotel-8368-adagio-access-paris-la-villette-ex-citea/index.shtml>

### **SPONSORED BY**

International Association of Applied Psychology, [www.iaapsy.org](http://www.iaapsy.org)

EU Project CogITo, <http://mg.inf.tu-dresden.de/tags/tags/cogito>

University of Paris VIII, <http://www.univ-paris8.fr/>

University of Granada, [www.granada.es](http://www.granada.es)

Technische Universitaet Dresden, [www.tu-dresden.de](http://www.tu-dresden.de)

–**Boris M. Velichkovsky and Peter G. Burton**

### ***Division 17: Professional Practice***

It is important to form a viable working committee for this Division, including a President-Elect, who can work with the current President, Adjunct Associate Professor Amanda Gordon, to create a great programme for the Division and to be able to present work at the ICAP in Paris. There is much work being done around the world to support the Professional Practice of Psychologists, in whichever workplace they find themselves. Members of the Division work for themselves, in the Public Sector, for NGOs and in voluntary positions. They support the mental health of individuals, families, groups and communities, and many are involved in humanitarian efforts. The professional

practice of those working for refugees and traumatised populations is of particular interest for many of our members. To date, though, the Division has not itself been involved in any of these programmes – perhaps it could be a focus for members.

An initiative of many national Psychology organisations is to provide opportunities for International networking through study tours, often focused on enhancing professional practice. This is an area to which I believe this Division could contribute, by supporting programmes that promote international and cross-cultural understanding of Professional Practice Psychologists. I would be interested in hearing from those around the world who may be engaged in this sort of activity and who want to enhance the quality of offerings made.

Please make contact if you are interested in being involved at committee level – to join those who are already signed up.

–Amanda Gordon, President, Division 17.

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## ***Psychology And The Canterbury (Nz) Earthquakes***

### **PART 2**

Early in the morning of 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2010, the city of Christchurch and its surrounding Canterbury region (population ~400,000) experienced a 7.1 magnitude quake on a previously unknown fault with the epicentre about 30kms west of the city. Over the next 16 months the region experienced more than 10,000 aftershocks, with three further major events of magnitude > 6, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 13<sup>th</sup> June, and 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2011 all with epicentres closer to the city. The 22 February earthquake was especially damaging, killing nearly 200 people, injuring more than 6000 thousand, and devastating the city. In Part 1 of this report (Blampied, 2012) I described the professional response of local and national psychologists to this disaster. In Part 2 I want to review the research that has been accomplished since the initial earthquake.

In the aftermath of the earthquakes, especially in February, circumstances were not favourable for research. The city and its infrastructure were devastated, the university was closed for varying periods after each event (the Psychology Department was inaccessible except for brief retrieval visits for three months from 22<sup>nd</sup> February and was closed for shorter periods following other events), parts of the city were inaccessible behind a military cordon, and during the official State of Emergency no social science research was permitted by the authorities. In addition, researchers and potential participants were coping with personal difficulties arising from having to cope with damaged and destroyed houses, family and business relocation and dislocation, and all the personal difficulties of coping with a catastrophic natural disaster. Research did, however, get under way immediately after the first earthquake in September 2010, continued throughout 2011 and 2012, and will continue for years to come. In this report I will focus on research done during the acute phase of the disaster, up to the end of 2011, reporting mostly that done by or in association with academic staff and students of the University of Canterbury, which has the largest regional concentration of psychology researchers.

*Cognitive and Educational Research:* Associate-Professor William (Deak) Helton and his team have published a number of papers investigating “earthquake brain” – a term familiar to everybody

who had experienced the seismic events and describing persisting difficulties with memory, impaired concentration, and fatigue. Helton and colleagues have used the Sustained Attention to Response Task to document reductions in cognitive performance in individuals tested before and after the first (September 2010) earthquake (Helton & Head, 2012), and in further studies related the severity of disruption to scores on a self-reported measure of Earthquake-induced cognitive disruption (Helton, Head, & Kemp, 2011), while controlling for concurrent levels of anxiety, stress, and depression.

Deak Helton and his team have now turned attention to the wider issue of the human factors and cognitive engineering issues raised for emergency response personnel – urban search and rescue, fire fighters, police, paramedic and ambulance services – in disaster situations, and are developing simulations through which this can be explored (Wilson, Helton, & Wiggins, in press).

Another series of studies led by Professor Simon Kemp looked at the impact of the earthquakes on academic performance in 2010 of over 9000 University of Canterbury undergraduate students and found no performance decrement for either men or women (Kemp, Helton, Richardson, Blampied, & Grimshaw, 2011). This general finding was confirmed in a second study (Kemp, et al., 2012) undertaken after the February and June earthquakes that disrupted semester 1 in 2011, although the data did show that many students reported increases in anxiety, stress, depression, sleep disruption, and cognitive impairment, and academic performance was worse for those with higher scores on these measures. Overall, however, the results showed a high degree of resilience in academic performance despite the severe disruption experienced.

Although there has been a great deal of media speculation about the effects of the earthquakes on children's education and the school sector, there does not appear to have been any formal research on this topic. Some research is now underway looking at coping among teachers.

*Clinical Research:* A number of research teams have examined levels of psychological distress in the community following the disaster. Kemp et al (2011), in the studies already mentioned, used a face-to face and on-line survey to measure of anxiety, depression, stress [from the 21-item short form of the Depression, Anxiety, Stress Scale (DASS-21)], and self-reported sleep disruption in approximately 300 respondents, of whom 240 were Christchurch residents who experienced the September earthquake. Relative to those who did not experience the earthquake, heightened psychological distress and sleep disruption was reported post-quake, especially by women. Notably, many also reported positive experiences, such as finding support from neighbours and their community. The finding of increased psychological distress and sleep disruption, especially for women, was replicated with a large sample of University students following the earthquakes in 2011 (Kemp, et al., 2012).

In another community study, Dorahy and Kannis (2011) reported on the results of a door-to-door survey of residents in two demographically matched Christchurch suburbs 8–10 weeks after the September earthquake. One suburb had sustained much more severe damage to houses and infrastructure than the other had. The focus of the study was on potential development of post-traumatic stress, and so the Acute Stress Disorder Scale was administered, along with other measures of psychological health/distress, cognitions about the predictability and controllability of aftershocks and their effects, and other demographic measures. Residents of the two suburbs did not differ overall on levels of acute stress, but those in the worst affected suburb had higher levels of depression and anxiety, and higher levels of these forms of psychological distress predicted higher levels of acute stress. Perceptions of uncontrollability of the response to aftershocks in turn predicted depression and anxiety. This study suggests that psychological responses to

aftershocks, especially the perception of uncontrollability of the response, sustained psychological distress in the aftermath of the earthquake. In a related but as yet unpublished study, levels of distress and vulnerability to PTSD have been measured longitudinally in several Christchurch suburbs.

As described in Part 1 (Blampied, 2012) the Canterbury Charity Hospital, a fully volunteer hospital providing day-surgery and other medical services, rapidly established a counselling service after the February earthquake, and in the ensuing year treated about 1200 clients. Several research projects have been set up in collaboration with the Charity Hospital. Duncan, Dorahy, Hanna, and Blampied (under review) studied 100 of these clients, examining peritraumatic dissociation, anxiety and depression and levels of social support experienced post-quake. Path analysis showed that peritraumatic dissociation predicted posttraumatic stress symptoms, and these in turn predicted depression and anxiety. Contrary to expectations, social support did not mediate any of these relationships. Further research by Dorahy and colleagues is being done at the Charity Hospital, focussing on how the counsellors responded to the crisis, and what was learned that facilitated effective responses to client needs.

*Nutrition and resilience:* Two studies have exploited the natural experiment arising from the September 2010 earthquake, given that researchers had pre-earthquake measures of various variables, and were able to obtain post-earthquake measures from the same individuals. Kuijer and Boyce (2012) examined emotional eating occurring in the context of the earthquake. The participants were 100 adult women residents in Christchurch who had been recruited in 2007 into a longitudinal study of health and wellbeing and had been classified 20 months prior to the earthquake as showing patterns of emotional eating or otherwise. Their reactions to the earthquake were assessed 1 month after the quake, using the Impact of Event Scale. Those who were classified as emotional eaters prior to the quake and who reported high levels of hyperarousal post-quake reported higher levels of over-eating after the earthquake, while those who were not emotional eaters initially and those who were but did not experience hyperarousal did not report post-quake overeating.

At the time of the September earthquake, Associate-Professor Julia Rucklidge and her research group were in the middle of a randomised-controlled trial (RCT) of the effect of an experimental micronutrient dietary supplement on the symptoms of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in adults. Some of these participants were taking the nutritional supplement at the time of the quake, while some were not, but all had completed a battery of diagnostic and assessment tests prior to the earthquake. After the earthquake 33 of the participants in this research project were contacted twice by telephone, and administered the DASS (the full 42 item version) and asked additional questions about their earthquake experience. The first phone contact was 7-10 and the second 14-18 days post-event. The results clearly showed that those taking the nutrition supplement were more resilient than those not taking the supplement and had better psychological health in the immediate post-earthquake period than those not taking it (Rucklidge & Blampied, 2011; Rucklidge, Johnstone, Harrison, & Boggis, 2011).

Given the positive effects of the nutritional supplement demonstrated for those with a pre-existing psychological diagnosis, the question arose if nutrition might assist the community in general with post-earthquake stress. This question was examined after the February 2011 earthquake via another RCT comparing a commercially available vitamin supplement, a low dose, and a high dose of the experimental micronutrient supplement. Ninety-one adults recruited by various social media and screened via an online questionnaire were randomly assigned to the three nutrition groups and required to take their assigned supplement for 28 days. They completed online questionnaires



weekly and were followed up at one month. A non-random control group completed questionnaires at baseline and at four weeks. All those taking a nutrition supplement reported significant declines in psychological distress, with those on the high dose of the experimental supplement reporting the greatest improvements in mood, anxiety and energy levels (Rucklidge, Andridge, Gorman, Blampied, Gordon, & Boggis, 2012). The conclusion from this series of studies is that nutritional supplementation is an inexpensive and relatively practical way to enhance resilience and support recovery from psychological distress after a major disaster.

*Other research:* Other research, especially organizational research is being planned and undertaken, but little is as yet published (Associate-Professor Chris Burt, Director of the University's Industrial-Organizational Psychology programme, and Dr Sana Malinen, Management Department would be useful contacts for more information). Professor Nigel Healey, at the time the member of the University of Canterbury Senior Management Team responsible for the Faculty of Commerce, provides an example of an early, and essentially descriptive, account of one management response to the events (Healey, 2011). Ardagh et al (2012) provide an account of how the Canterbury health system coped in the aftermath of the February destruction. Other research is certain to follow. I remind readers that there is a Special Issue of the *New Zealand Journal of Psychology*, vol 40 (4), *Psychology and Disasters*, available on the Society's website [www.psychology.org.nz](http://www.psychology.org.nz) that discusses professional and organizational issues across a wide spectrum.

*Conclusion:* Despite the difficulties faced, local researchers were able to initiate and in some cases, complete significant research projects during the acute phase of the disaster. In some cases, these have provided a starting point for on-going investigations. Other researchers have begun investigations better matched to the recovery phase that has now begun for the city and its people. There are numerous opportunities to explore psychological aspects of recovery from a natural disaster – more, in truth, than the relatively small cohort of local researchers can tackle. Collaboration is welcome. I do stress, however, that collaboration should be the watchword. There were some unfortunate instances in the early months post-disaster when outside researchers flew into the city and demanded that their research needs be given priority, heedless of the needs of local researchers (and, indeed, often heedless of the realities of the local situation for everyone). Needless-to-say, these were unhappy experiences for all concerned. Avoiding such outcomes is easy – the local research community is ready and willing to engage with others in pursuing worthwhile research that has the potential to benefit our community as well as others across the world who will, inevitably, be affected by disaster. Useful contact details are given below.

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Some of the faculty and staff of the Department of Psychology ready to enter their building to retrieve teaching and research materials. The photo was taken on 12 March, 2011 in the aftermath of the Feb 22 earthquake.

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## **Jitendra Mohan**

Professor Jitendra Mohan, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, Panjab University of Chandigarh, India has been invited to deliver a Plenary Lecture on Positive Psychology: Across Cultures and as a resource person to conduct a workshop on Stress Management during the International Conference Of Applied Psychology, to be held from 16th to 18th December, 2012 in the Department of Applied Psychology, University of Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan.

The conference is a part of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Department of Psychology, established in 1962. The main theme of the conference will be Psychology and Challenges of Modern Life.

Professor Jitendra Mohan, a renowned applied psychologist is the President of the International Society of Mental Training for Excellence and President of the Asia Pacific Association of Psychology. He has participated in congresses in the USA, U.K., U.S.S.R., China, Australia and many European countries. His research in the field of Sports Psychology, Health Psychology and Positive Psychology has been quite distinguished.

Professor Dr. Rukhsana Kauser, Chairperson of the conference and the Department of Applied Psychology, as a traditional host, has invited Professor Mohan and assured accommodation, free hospitality and local travel. This first ever contact between the Departments of Psychology of Panjab University and University of Punjab has possibilities of academic collaboration in research, training and the development of exchanges of scholars between the two countries.

### **Professor Jitendra Mohan**

President, International Society of Training for Mental Excellence  
President, Asia Pacific Association of Psychology  
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## ***Excellence: Paths, Problems and Promise***

Pursuing excellence is a journey, a path of self-discovery. It is a journey of commitment, the practice and the experience. Being a highly tangible construct having a highly personalized meaning, it is the first step towards the discovery of one's intrinsic ability to manifest the life which one deserves. Excellence involves discovering the ability one already possesses, making a contextual shift so that more excellence naturally occurs and committing to winning in life. An achiever of excellence would surround himself with people who genuinely want him to win and figure out what he wants, how to get it or get more of it!!

The Shorter Oxford Dictionary (2002) defines excellence as "the possession of good qualities or abilities to an eminent or unusual degree." Making of an excellent human endeavor depends on certain crucial ingredients. Apart from enhanced skills and strong connections to various centers of excellence, one is required to gather knowledge and experience in particular domains valued by society. Technically, procedures and systems that encourage excellence and discourage bad practices, along with exemplary standards of materials, resources and environments providing a fertile context for high quality performance are indispensable for pursuit of excellence. Though these are evident for the materialistic world which is limited to the relative truth of life and living, the discovery of the potentially infinite and eternal inner space would be of ultimate significance for the attainment of excellence by comprehending the riddles of human life!! The pursuit of excellence begins with a flame of enquiry to learn and find out the inhibitions of motives, eliminating all inhibitions, creating pliability of humility and tenderness and ending in ultimate fearlessness. The latter results in release of latent energies—muscular, nervous, glandular, cerebral and non-cerebral. Also, a state of genuine enquiry characterized by chemical poise and nervous relaxation from one's physical and biological mechanism is conducive to excellence. Though, to be in state of enquiry is to be in state of bliss but an emotional or intellectual attraction or fascination for it should be avoided. Gradually, this enquiry would itself explode into a REALIZATION!! And that shall take us on the journey of excellence.

### **Excellence: Implications for Healthy Thinking and Stress Management**

The way we think about situations or events determines how we react to them. Healthy thinking means thinking in a balanced fashion, it does not necessarily means looking at situations realistically, without letting the feelings take over. Such a pattern could result in a big chunk of self-inflicted stress. Undue personal stress is a big obstacle in pursuing excellence. But, unfortunately there is no single way to succeed in personal stress management. Nevertheless, meditative techniques are all in vogue for their seasoned role in pursuit of the inner journey and excellence in human life. Meditation and chanting provide mental peace and develop a very special kind of patience that creates the awareness of the magic in each moment of life. When all mental activities fade away, when there is no desire to force the mind, to suppress or repress it or even to drug it; then meditation pervades the vast field of consciousness – where it is related to every movement in personal and collective life. Equally important is the role of introspection into oneself!!! Recognizing what one values along with one's strengths and weakness and subsequently setting goals is crucial for paving the path to stress management. Getting over the stressors and allowing oneself to receive love unconditionally from others and give it in return leads one to the highest states of consciousness. Thus, excellence is not an end rather it is a means to experiment, realize, live, move and act in Love, Energy, Awareness, Delight, Freedom and Creativity.

"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do." ~Helen Keller

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## Book Review

Nemeth, D. G., Hamilton, R. B., & Kuriansky, J. (2012). *Living in an environmentally traumatized world: Helping ourselves and our planet*. (Vol. 1). Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger. ISBN: 978-0-313-39731-8

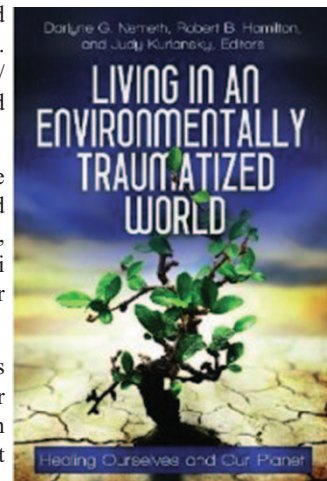
Having survived Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Gustav, and more recently Isaac, I am delighted to be able to review the newly released book, “Living in an Environmentally Traumatized World: Healing Ourselves and Our Planet,” by Drs. Darlyne Nemeth, Robert Hamilton, and Judy Kuriansky, editors and also chapter authors. They have done a masterful job of gathering natural scientists, psychosocial scientists and visionary interventionists together to address environmental trauma from their unique perspectives. The editors begin by introducing the importance of a holistic view in Chapter One, which focuses on basic principles of environmental change and the basic issues that are needed to address the resulting changes. As Drs. Nemeth, Hamilton, and Kuriansky point out, change is inevitable, but how we prepare for and address change must be a matter of integrated decision making. Therefore, Part 1 focuses on gaining a meaningful understanding of our finite natural resources.

The editors noted that the various types of change are addressed – temporal, spatial, human and/or living and traumatic changes. Natural scientists give their views of changes that occur by and/or to our water systems, our atmosphere, our planet earth, and our biosphere.

Chapter Two, which focuses on our living waters, refers to the work of Dr. Yasuo Onishi, an internationally recognized hydrologist. He participated in the clean-up of Chernobyl, Fukushima, the Charles River, and the BP Oil Spill. Dr. Onishi points out that our life-supporting waters are often just taken for granted, but they need care.

Dr. Robert Muller, a well-known climatologist, addresses atmospheric issues in Chapter Three. Again, another part of our world that we just take for granted. Yet, it is connected with everything. As climate change has taken its toll, we now must be aware of polluting our atmosphere.

In Chapter Three, Dr. Donald Nemeth, a geologist with experience in both industry and research, addresses issues of change, most easily apparent in the Arctic, and sustainability. He notes that



humans have not been kind to the planet. Somehow, the earth has been perceived as static, but it is not. Anyone who has ever experienced a volcano or earthquake knows this, but we easily forget. We build in places that are unstable, yet we expect stability. Having lived through severe hurricanes, like Camille, Katrina, and Rita, this reviewer knows better, yet I cling to my beautiful home on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Sometimes culture and tradition do override environmental dangers. We must be aware of this and prepare for the inevitable.

A meaningful understanding of the status of our Flora and Fauna was provided by Dr. Robert Hamilton, a visionary ecologist, in Chapter Five. Dr. Hamilton offers a useful understanding of past events to help us prepare for the present and the future. According to Dr. Hamilton, we must understand our relationship with nature and with all living things in order to prepare for and preserve the future. The need for wildlife habitats was outlined. Sometimes it is easy to forget that we share this planet with so many different animals and living things. Human beings sometimes believe that the world is here for us and that we are the masters of our universe. Having survived many hurricanes, I can tell you that this is not so. Dr. Hamilton's perspective is most helpful.

I was interested in learning about the Mata Atlantica Biosphere Reserve Project in Brazil discussed in Chapter 6. Joao L.R. de Albuquerque, the Biosphere's Director of this amazing UNESCO (United Nations Economic, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) project, outlines the importance of having such reserves. There are currently over 500 such UNESCO reserves in the world. These worldwide networked projects purpose is to promote research, cultural and natural heritage, and sustainable development. I was amazed at how much is already being done – yet, I can see that there is more to do. But, Part One of this Book gave me a perspective that I was lacking.

As a psychologist and having been trained to participate as a Red Cross first responder through the Mississippi Psychological Association's Disaster Response Network, I was much more familiar with the theme of Part II – Our Human Resources: Coping with Environmental Changes.

The authors of Chapter 7, Darlyne Nemeth and L. Taighlor Whittington, cite environmental experts who have pointed out that one of the greatest impacts of environmental trauma is psychological. They then outline five important strategies that are employed by robust people. Six personality adaptations that are frequently apparent in post-environmental trauma are highlighted. A six-stage recovery process, involving shock, survival mode, assessment of basic needs, awareness of loss, susceptibility to spin and fraud, and resolution, is discussed. Having survived Hurricane Katrina, with 8 feet of water in my home in New Orleans, Louisiana and my Pass Christian, Mississippi office/second home having disappeared from the earth, as I knew it, I personally experienced these 6 stages. I also took part in Dr. Nemeth's Anniversary Wellness Workshops as a counselor, and it was very helpful to me as a victim as well as a counselor.

In Chapter 8, Dr. Judy Kuriansky points out what communities can do to heal from environmental trauma. Her recovery work in Haiti is most inspiring. Resilient communities can empower people to survive and rebuild. Social support is crucial to this process. People must seek out and care for the most vulnerable (e.g. children and seniors) if the entire diaspora is to be reclaimed. This can be done through counseling, anniversary memories, music, art, and many types of community events and gatherings; there are so many paths to emotional and social restoration. All must be included. Dr. Kuriansky offers an excellent example of healing and support through her Global Kids Connect Project.

Coping via Spirituality is the theme of Chapter Nine. The author, Susan Zelenski, also highlights the role of ecopsychology in connecting human mental health and environmental health. The



concept of post traumatic growth that often interconnects spirituality and mental health is introduced. At times of environmental trauma spiritual and religious traditions that are deeply rooted in the culture take on great importance. They must not be over-looked in the recovery progress. Religious leaders and church congregations, for example, played a crucial role in the post Hurricane Katrina New Orleans where a renewed source of spiritual meaning emerged.

Perhaps the best example of spiritual survival can be found in Chapter Ten, where Dr. Gloria Albarnaz Mulcahy outlines the importance of Our Indigenous People. Being of Cherokee ancestry, Dr. Mulcahy well understands the role of stories, culture, and traditions in the healing process. Indigenous People have survived by understanding their oneness with “Mother Earth.” They have always lived in concert with the environment. We have not. They care for the earth and all living things, taking only what they need to survive. Oftentimes we think of the Earth as our “property,” and we have used up resources just because! For example, the buffalo killings in the American West in the late 1800s were often just for sport. We are very spoiled. We use, rather than preserve. We must change our ways if we and our planet are to survive. But, will we? That is the question. Dr. Mulcahy outlines the importance of Respect, Responsibility, and Reverence for Mother Earth and all living things. Very wise words from a very wise woman who just happens to be a psychologist.

Taking us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century are Anna Onishi and Alexander Steger in “Our Information: Availability, Communication, and Perception” in Chapter 11. They focus on all the ways we can connect via new technology. They also caution us that such connections are not always meaningful or helpful. As the authors state, technology is neutral; how we use it is not. We must find creative ways to use technology to prepare for environmental trauma, to promote healing, and to restore what is appropriate.

Part III focuses on the need for vision in order to respect our environment, to achieve resilience and to find resolution. The need for a holistic approach to managing our lives and our environment has never been more apparent.

Drs. Hamilton, Nemeth, and Kuriansky point out the toll that living in an environmentally traumatized world is taking on all of us. Although change is inevitable, we can do so much better than we are doing. We can physically and emotionally prepare for Hurricanes. We can rebuild in safer areas. We can help our neighbors. We can holistically plan to address environmental impacts. For example, after Hurricane Katrina, the levees were rebuilt around New Orleans; but no thought was given to where the water would flow in the next Hurricane. On the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, along came Hurricane Isaac and we found out. Laplace, Slidell, and the Northshore of Lake Pontchartrain, were the recipients of Isaac’s water surges, flooding homes and, even, stranding alligators. Although this displacement was predictable, it was not addressed. I am happy that my home in New Orleans was safe this time, but what about all the homes that were not. When are we going to start thinking and planning for the good of all, not just for the good of some?

Proper holistic planning will lead to fewer tragedies. As a clinical psychologist, I can truly say that this book has opened my eyes to the work ahead. It is worth reading. It will challenge you to think much more broadly about ways to heal ourselves and our planet and to participate in this journey.

**Joseph Tramontana, Ph.D.**

Joseph Tramontana, Ph.D., has been a licensed clinical psychologist for 41 years and is a long-standing member of the American, Mississippi, and Louisiana Psychological Associations. After several years in mental health administration, he has been in private practice for 34 years; the last

7 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, since evacuating his New Orleans and Mississippi homes in Hurricane Katrina. He received certification in clinical hypnosis from the American Society for Clinical Hypnosis (ASCH), is a faculty member for ASCH, and has authored two books on clinical applications of hypnosis. He has also authored a book chapter and numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals. He is vice-president of the New Orleans Society of Clinical Hypnosis and a member of the board of directors of the Louisiana Psychological Association. He is also a certified counselor through the National Institute for Sports Professionals.

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## **Announcement: Author Opportunity**

**Do you have an important message about psychology that you want to share with a broad audience of fellow professionals and the public? You can be the author or editor of a book on an aspect of psychology. Submit your book proposal to the series:**

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**Contact information:** Email your idea or proposal to [DrJudyK@aol.com](mailto:DrJudyK@aol.com)

**The Series Editor is Judy Kuriansky, Ph.D.** a respected clinical psychologist who teaches at Columbia University Teachers College and is a visiting professor at Peking Health Science Center. A representative for IAAP to the United Nations, she is also a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and liaison to the Committee on International Relations; she is on the Global Advisory Board of the Human Dignity Studies network and HUMNEWS. She has done disaster relief and given lectures around the world, from India to Iran and Argentina to Africa. In the media, she has been a TV feature news reporter and has hosted advice radio shows, written advice columns, and is quoted widely. Her many books about personal and international relations include *“The Complete Idiot’s Guide to A Healthy Relationship”* and *“Beyond Bullets and Bombs: Grassroots Peace Building between Israelis and Palestinians.”* and the newly released *“Living in an Environmentally Traumatized World: Healing Ourselves and Our Planet”* (Praeger, 2012).

# ***SPECIAL SECTION: IAAP Advancing Psychology in Global Issues at the United Nations: Reports from the IAAP UN Representatives***

Edited by IAAP UN Representative Judy Kuriansky



This section of the IAAP Bulletin includes reports from the IAAP United Nations team of representatives in New York. IAAP continues to make impressive steps towards advancing the organization's mission at the UN. The UN team of representatives continues to be exceptionally active as chairs and board members of committees and speakers on panels, participants at briefings and advocates at high level commissions concerning the

role of psychology in global issues and achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals. The field projects have been presented at professional conferences and in meetings with high level executives and international stakeholders, and the projects gain media attention. Videos about the projects generate understanding and interest. The team continues to welcome participation, contributions and cooperation from IAAP members, divisions, and other professionals.

The following articles report on diverse activities of the team, including meetings, presentations, workshops and advocacy.

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## ***Psychology Day at the United Nations 2012***

The 5<sup>th</sup> Psychology Day at the United Nations was held on 19 April 2012, at the UN Church Center. The theme, with three panels, was "Human Rights for Vulnerable People: Psychological Contributions and the United Nations Perspective." The topic is always chosen to coincide with the United Nations agenda and to demonstrate the contribution of psychology to those issues.

This year, IAAP representative to the United Nations, Martin Butler, Ph.D., co-chaired the conference, with Janet Sigal, Ph.D., UN representative for the American Psychological Association (APA). IAAP UN representatives have been involved annually in Psychology Day as speakers, moderators and chairs. Last year, Mary O'Neill Berry served as co-chair, and Florence Denmark has served as co-founder and chair at the inception of Psychology Day. Judy Kuriansky, Walter Reichman and Wismick Jean-Charles have all been speakers and/or moderators, and Walter Reichman serves as co-chair for Psychology Day 2013.



*Psychology Day at the UN co-chairs, front of room, left to right, Janet Sigal and Martin Butler.*



*Psychology Day committee members and international guests.*



*Attendees at Psychology Day.*



*Panelists at Psychology Day at the UN on "Mental Health and Sustainable Development": left to right, Richard Dougherty, Priscilla Dass-Brailsford, and Vijay Ganju.*

Panel 1, “Mental Health and Sustainable Development” was moderated by Peter Walker, Ph.D., UN representative for the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues. The first speaker, Vijay Ganju, Secretary General and CEO of the World Federation of Mental Health, spoke on “Mental Health as a Global Priority: Prospects for a Brighter Future.” Gaps persist in psychiatric care and we still struggle to make mental health a priority, but progress is reflected in the UN General Assembly and World Health Organization efforts (e.g. the QualityRights campaign). Changes anticipated for the future include shifting the focus of mental health from Persons with Serious Mental Illness to Persons with Depression and Anxiety, as unipolar depression has been, and will continue to be, in the top three leading causes of Years Lived with Disability; evolving treatment and services for special populations (children, adolescents, and women); and mental health becoming mainstream. Interventions in disasters will guide research given difficulties conducting scientific research in emergencies. Emphasis on outcomes and metrics, and accountability will increase.

In her presentation on “Overcoming Trauma and Living with HIV/AIDS: The Role of Empowerment in Sustainability.” Priscilla Dass-Brailsford, Associate Professor at Georgetown University Department of Psychiatry, defined psychological trauma, and discussed research from 10 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Lessons include: task-shifting and peer education as major components in HIV prevention programs; training to address community needs; and addressing disempowering social factors and structural problems that limit changing health-related behavior. Lessons from the Sonagachi Project model in India (recognized by UNAIDS as a “best practices” model that achieved lower HIV rates among sex workers) prove the necessity for active community involvement and strategies and resources for community empowerment. A lengthy time frame should be anticipated. Caveats are that one size does not fit all (each situation/community is different), oppressed and marginalized communities and cultural adaptation must be considered, and programs need to be sustainable beyond UN presence and funding.

Richard Dougherty, Ph.D., President of Basic Needs US, addressed changes in development model concepts and practices in his presentation on “Building Personal, Family and Community Capacities: The Basic Needs Mental Health and Development Model.” His model, operating in the U.S., Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia, enables people with epilepsy or mental illness to live and work successfully in their communities by addressing capacity building at all levels, livelihoods, management, community mental health, research issues, and support for caregivers. Facilitation, education, training, and coaching are the means to achieve empowerment.

Susan Nolan, Ph.D., APA UN Representative, introduced Panel 2: “Refugees and Psychosocial Well-being.” Grainne O’Hara, L.L.B., B.L., MA., Senior Policy Advisor, United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) presented on “Protection and the Significance of Effective Psychosocial Support.” UNHCR is concerned with 43.7 million persons, including refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons, and stateless persons. Developing countries host 4/5 of the



Panel 2 on Refugees and Psychosocial Wellbeing: seated panelists Kate Porterfield and Adeyinka Akinsulure-Smith and moderator Susan Nolan with Grainne O’Hara at podium.



world's refugees with Pakistan, Iran, and Syria holding large numbers. One third of all refugees reside in camps. The main countries of origin of asylum seekers are Afghanistan, China, Serbia, Iraq, and Iran. UNHCR is non-political and humanitarian. Challenges and issues of concern include immigration policies, demonization of asylum seekers, restrictions of refugee rights, and protracted refugee situations. International and regional humanitarian and criminal laws deal with these issues. Refugee status ends through voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement. Key actors in displacement settings include States, UNHCR, other UN agencies, and non-governmental organizations.

Two speakers from the Bellevue Hospital New York University Program for Survivors of Torture (PSOT) presented next. Adeyinka Akinsulure-Smith, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology at City University of New York, presented about "Clinical Work with Forced Migrant Populations: Observations and Insights from the Field." Since 1995, PSOT has served approximately 3,000 clients from almost 90 countries with multi-disciplinary services: medical, psychiatric, psychological, and social services. The philosophy involves rebuilding survivors' lives by using resources and strengths utilized in surviving the trauma; reintegration of individuals into healthy society without fear of further maltreatment; and psychotherapy to address severe symptoms and problems. Considerations for treatment include: expectations, safety and trust, psycho-education, practical needs and basic necessities, racial and cultural factors, and types of interventions. Clinicians should have knowledge of the populations they are working with, understand the biopsychosocial approach to care, learn principles of trauma therapy, and work collaboratively with interpreters. They should also be flexible, collaborate, wear multiple hats, and care for themselves.

In her presentation on "Helping Refugee Youth after the Trauma of War and Dislocation: The Importance of Cultural Competence, Focus on Resilience, and Community-based Services," Kate Porterfield, Ph.D., also of PSOT, passionately described a case study of a refugee family who suffered trauma starting in 1989, when the father was intimidated by authorities in his home country, through 1999 when the family spent five months in a camp until arriving in New Jersey, U.S.A. Referral issues included nuisance behavior in their apartment complex, the mother being depressed, and the 10-year-old son being aggressive on the bus and in school. Lessons from this case include building predictors about how well a child will do after war and other trauma into assessment, and knowing principles of care for traumatized refugee families (thorough assessment, strength and resilience-focused services, community-based services, school-based interventions, family sessions at the refugee agency, and educating the resettlement team, culturally competent care and appropriate referrals). Reinforcing resilience and strength-based care should focus on the family's survival and coping strategies.



Panel on poverty eradication, seated left to right, Winifred Doherty, Stuart Carr and Telma Viale, with moderator Walter Reichman at the podium.

The final panel, on the topic of "Poverty Eradication in the Lives of Women and Children," was moderated by IAAP UN Representative Walter Reichman. The first speaker was Telma Viale, M.A. Special Representative to the United Nations and Director of the International Labour Organization Office (ILO) for the UN in New York, who also holds a master's degree in psychology. IAAP UN representatives have had several

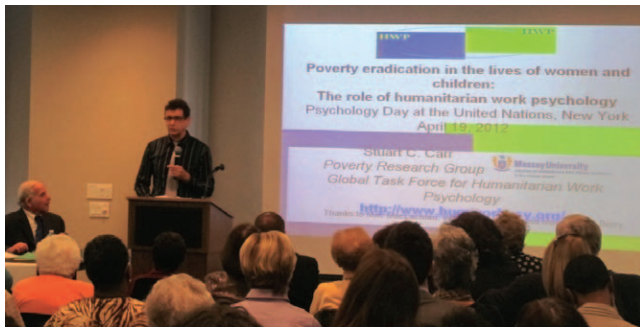


previous valuable conversations with Ms. Viale. In her presentation, entitled “From the Shadows to the Fore: ILO Convention No. 189 on Domestic Workers,” she described a landmark treaty to insure decent work, adopted by the ILO (Convention 189), that offers protections against abuse and exploitation, and sets minimum labour standards for domestic workers, especially children, live-ins and migrants. Regarded as members of the formal work force, rights include reasonable working hours, weekly rest, clear conditions of employment, recognition for their contributions to socio-economic development and the right to collective bargaining. In developing countries, 83 percent of women are domestic workers (people engaged in work performed in or for a household) with almost 54 percent of those having suffered some form of abuse.



*Panelist Telma Viale, Director of the ILO UN office in NY.*

Stuart Carr, Ph.D. Professor of Psychology in the Industrial and Organizational Psychology Program and the Poverty Research Group at Massey University in New Zealand, and member of the Global Task Force for Humanitarian Work Psychology, presented on “Poverty Eradication in the Lives of Women and Children: The Role of Humanitarian Work Psychology.” He described the relation between



*Panelist Stuart Carr speaking on the role of humanitarian work psychology in poverty eradication.*

the UN Millennium Development Goals #2 and #5 and poverty reduction (#1) and outlined key domains for humanitarian work psychology: educational services, health services, and business services for women and by women.

Winifred Doherty, B.A., Social Worker and Past Chair of the UN NGO Committee on Social Development, spoke on “Poverty Reduction in the Lives of Women and Children: Call for Structural Change and Pragmatic Action,” which related to the topic of the 50<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission for Social Development held this past February on poverty eradication. A report on this Commission by IAAP UN representatives and the statement co-sponsored by IAAP about the contributions of psychology to the eradication of poverty is published in the July 2012 IAAP Bulletin. Key issues resulting from this Commission include gender equality, empowerment of women, and a human rights approach. Poverty reduction efforts have failed because of lack of attention to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the social impact of economic policies. The Social Protection Floor Initiative addresses these concerns by providing a comprehensive national protection system to realize human rights for all through universal access to essential services and

social transfers in kind or cash. NGOs must continue to be pragmatic, she said, and address poverty issues on the ground, considering human rights, water, sanitation, health care, education, food, nutrition, and shelter. She added that, unfortunately, the 56<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), which also addressed poverty eradication (in the context of rural women and girls), closed without adopting agreed-upon conclusions. A report about CSW, the side event



at which IAAP UN representatives Judy Kuriansky and Mary O'Neill Berry presented and the statement co-sponsored by IAAP, is also published in the July 2012 issue of the IAAP Bulletin

Florence Denmark provided closing comments. A reception was held at a nearby restaurant.

– submitted by **Martin Butler, Ph.D.**,  
IAAP UN representative

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## ***“Advocacy for Peace at the United Nations at Peace Events 2012: Introduction to Activities”***

As one of the first advocacy campaigns of the newly formalized Psychology Coalition, IAAP joined colleagues in advocating about “Psychological Contributions to Building Cultures of Sustainable Peace” at various high level meetings and events at the United Nations.

Following the new advocacy procedures, a statement was prepared for this occasion, about the psychological contributions to cultures of peace. Given the topic, the President of the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence (Division 48) of the APA, Gil Reyes, was invited to prepare the first draft, which was then amended by the Coalition Chair, SPSSI UN representative Corann Okorodudu, and the Coalition Chair-Elect, IAAP UN representative Judy Kuriansky. The resulting statement is printed below. Copies of this statement were then handed out to attendees at two major meetings about peace at UN headquarters in New York: The General Assembly High Level Forum on the Culture of Peace, held 14 September 2012, and the High-Level Debate at the United Nations on the Occasion of the International Day of Peace: “Sustainable Peace for a Sustainable Future.” Details about both of these meetings are reported in more detail in accompanying articles in this Bulletin. In addition, in conjunction with Coalition Advocacy, Judy Kuriansky discussed the issue and gave the statement to panelists, including the newly elected President of the General Assembly, the Deputy Secretary-General, UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador and actor Forest Whitaker, and former President of Mexico Leonel Fernández. The statement was also emailed by Psychology Coalition members to colleagues and others, with an invitation to mark the day by actions for peace, to circulate the statement and to join advocacy activities.

– submitted by **Judy Kuriansky, IAAP UN representative**

# ***Psychological Contributions to Building Cultures of Sustainable Peace***

## **Statement by the Psychology Coalition at the United Nations, New York**

*Submitted on the occasion of the General Assembly High Level Forum on the Culture of Peace 14 September 2012, North Lawn Building, Conference Room 2, United Nations, NY*

Co-sponsored by the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence of the American Psychological Association, the International Association of Applied Psychology, the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, the American Psychological Association, the World Council of Psychotherapy, World Federation for Mental Health, the Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention, and other members of the Psychology Coalition at the United Nations.

The Psychology Coalition at the United Nations, composed of scientists, scholars, practitioners and advocates for mental health, human rights and social justice, offers enthusiastic support for the commemoration of the United Nations Culture of Peace Day, 14 September 2012, and the International Day of Peace, 21 September 2012. The Psychology Coalition supports UN efforts towards the development of sustainable societies through the prevention of destructive conflict and violence, empowerment of individuals, and building of cultures of peace and global community. Extensive psychological research and intervention programmes demonstrate that psychologists can play a decisive role in achieving peaceful human development and that peaceful cooperation and conflict resolution among individuals, groups and nations is achievable. This research also illustrates how the social psychology of relatedness fosters empathy, support, respect for differences, and nonviolent resolution of conflicting goals. In contrast, divisive disconnection can lead to antipathy, rejection, disrespect, dominance, and hostile competition for resources.

The purpose of this statement is to advocate with governments, UN agencies, civil society organizations, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector and all stakeholders to recognize and utilize the contributions of psychology to the building and preservation of peace, conflict resolution and the reduction and elimination of violence. In the interest of promoting peace through policy, educational, social, political, economic, health and humanitarian uses of psychology, the Psychology Coalition at the UN offers the following recommendations.

### **1. Promote Social Cohesion and Connectedness within and between Social Groups.**

Human beings acquire social identities that create bias in favor of groups to which they belong and devaluation of groups they perceive as different – a process that fosters the formation of stereotypes and prejudice which may lead to conflict and potential violence. Research in the field of psychological science and practice shows that social experiences can be structured in ways that influence people to feel either closer to others or more distant and suspicious. This effect is usually most evident among groups with a strong traditional bond related to a shared religious, ethnic, gender, social or cultural identity, but can develop when heterogeneous groups of mixed ethnicity, religion, genders or cultures come together under conditions of equality to pursue a commonly held ideological or pragmatic purpose. In “real world” situations, these psychological dynamics have been applied toward achieving political and social goals, often for personal or specific group advantage, and to foment war, conquest, and subjugation; but can also be used for beneficent purposes of promoting social cohesion, collaborative achievements, mutual respect for human dignity, peace, and sustainable development.

Therefore, the Psychology Coalition calls upon all stakeholders to promote peace by integrating proven psychological principles and practices, such as cooperative problem-solving, dialogue, crisis management, peace building and participatory strategies into their programs to foster a greater sense of social connection and cohesion among individuals and groups who might otherwise view each other as opponents, or even enemies. These are promising and underutilized means for defusing intergroup tensions and for building social inclusion and the common ground necessary for fostering social justice and a culture of peace. Psychologists can be engaged to facilitate training and program design to meet these objectives.

## **2. Promote Social Equality, Human Rights, and Social Justice for All**

The Psychology Coalition applauds and supports the current initiative of the UN Human Rights Council and the work of its Advisory Committee, including extensive consultations with various constituencies, especially civil society, to develop a comprehensive draft declaration on the human right to peace. Conditions of poverty, deprivation, persecution, humiliation, social inequality, displacement, and forced migration, have drastic negative psychological effects on the social identities, psychosocial wellbeing and mental health, and sense of empowerment, of individuals and groups. These effects are known to endure for long periods of time, thereby undermining the development and maintenance of a culture of peace. A key function of any culture is to encode the memories and meanings of its people as a dynamic system that defines societies, their shared values, and the collective meaning of their experiences. Discrimination is among the violations of human rights and human dignity, which are deeply encoded in cultures in such a way that violations committed even against a few can have a multiplicative impact in the transmission of wounds and scars in many individuals within and across generations. Psychological principles can be used to effectively raise awareness, educate about, and institutionalize human rights, and also to counter impulses and arguments used to justify acts of subjugation, domination, and persecution.

Therefore, the Psychology Coalition urges all stakeholders to use principles resulting from psychological science and practice in their programs to move institutions, groups and societies toward greater equality through social, political and economic inclusion of everyone within a shared culture of peace.

## **3. Ensure that Psychosocial Wellbeing and Mental Health are treated as Human Rights**

Human rights standards and outcome documents of UN world conferences are increasingly recognizing psychosocial wellbeing and mental health as basic human rights. Psychological literature confirms that maltreatment ranging from childhood abuse and deprivation to rape, torture, war, and poverty inflicts deep and persistent psychological and mental health wounds that cause suffering throughout the lifespan and across generations, thereby detracting from peace within individuals, families, and societies. Psychological research further affirms the WHO inclusion of mental health as a crucial factor in overall health, defined as a “state of well-being in which every individual realizes his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community.” Yet, in much of the world, mental health problems are stigmatized as signs of personal, familial and group weakness and thus are often inaccessible to efforts to prevent further social injury and deprivation. In addition, mental health services are scant in comparison to needs and are not as highly valued and supported as physical health services.

Therefore, the Psychology Coalition supports the recently launched WHO Quality Rights Campaign and recommends that all stakeholders, including the humanitarian community, ensure that mental

healthcare is held to a high standard, equivalent to physical healthcare, in terms of social and financial support, and that mental healthcare is made accessible to all sectors of society, including children, women and those who are marginalized, disadvantaged and disenfranchised as a requirement of human rights and social justice.

#### **4. Support Conflict Resolution Approaches and Programs.**

Considerable psychological research in the field of conflict resolution has shown that it is possible to create more peaceful co-existence among groups of diverse backgrounds and cultures. Various principles include understanding the ethos of conflict, collective memories, the nature of identity, and the “contact hypothesis” which maintains that hate dissipates when people come together to work on a common project or goal. Many programs and strategies have been developed to apply conflict resolution principles, with positive results in a number of contexts in replacing prejudice with tolerance and acceptance, and promoting mutual understanding and constructive cooperation. Conflict resolution programs include, but are not limited to, educational programs, dialogues, encounter models, compassionate listening, nonviolent communication, cooperative problem solving, reconciliation and forgiveness, and open space technology.

Therefore, the Psychology Coalition encourages all stakeholders to become aware of these principles of conflict resolution and of the programs that can achieve this goal if effectively applied at all levels of organizations or groups, in cases of conflict and also, proactively, to prevent conflict from arising.

#### **5. Protect Children and Vulnerable Groups from Exposure to Violence and other Adverse Events**

Psychological science shows that children exposed to violence, war, natural disasters and other traumas are at elevated risk for enduring social, educational, physical, and psychological impairments to their wellbeing and social and emotional development. Additionally, they are vulnerable to repeating patterns of violence and are likely to live shorter lives. These risks apply to all marginalized and vulnerable groups. While resilience by some individuals can mitigate such outcomes, psychological and public health studies of large population samples warn of negative and long-term impacts across the lifespan.

With regard to children, the Psychology Coalition applauds the UN study on Violence Against Children and its worldwide report (2006). We further applaud the extensive work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children with governments, UN agencies, and civil society organizations to institute policies and programs for the prevention of all forms of violence against children. Violence maintains a culture of violence instead of a culture of peace. Therefore, the Psychology Coalition urges all stakeholders to continue to raise this issue regarding the pernicious and pervasive effects of violence against children to the highest priority level, and with urgency comparable to that afforded the prevention of diseases of childhood.

The Psychology Coalition further urges all stakeholders to support policies and programs that help children and marginalized and vulnerable groups recover from violence, war, natural disasters and other traumas, as well as provide protection from and prevention of such outcomes. Emphasis should be placed on “primary” prevention (i.e., prevention of initial inflictions of injury) and “secondary” prevention (i.e. prevention of subsequent exposures or other events that could exacerbate injury). Such efforts should be extended to those directly affected and those in the general population who may be overlooked.

**FINALLY**, the Psychology Coalition at the UN supports continuation of the Programme of Action for a Culture of Peace, as described in UN General Assembly resolution 53/243. We further applaud the General Assembly for declaring the period 2001–2010 as the “International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World” (53/25) and for holding this first-ever General Assembly High Level Forum to promote the Culture of Peace (66/116). We urge consideration of continuation of this initiative in the drafting of the UN Sustainable Development Goals as follow-up to the UN Millennium Development Goals.

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## ***The Culture of Peace: United Nations High-Level Forum***

“It is the spirit of mutual respect and cooperation that will afford us firm building blocks for the establishment of the culture of peace at all levels.”

This is the core message of the UN President of the 66th session of the General Assembly (PGA), H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, who convened the United Nations High-Level Forum on the Culture of Peace, held at UN headquarters in New York City on 14 September 2012. The day-long forum brought together UN Ambassadors, representatives of UN system entities and civil society, including NGOs, media, the private sector and other interested stakeholders, to exchange ideas and suggest ways to build and promote an ongoing culture of peace.

The forum builds on UN reports and annual resolutions, dating back to resolution 53/243 on the Declaration of Action on a Culture of Peace adopted by consensus of the member states in 1999.



Given the end of the period 2001 to 2012, which was declared as “The International decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (53/25), this first-ever General Assembly High Level Forum was intended to continue the efforts towards global peace.

At the morning session in the impressive UN General Assembly Hall, the PGA renewed his commitment to a culture of peace, defined as a set of values based on tolerance and respect for diversity as well as on trust, nonviolence, dialogue and understanding to settle differences, in stark contrast to “An eye for an eye.”



*Morning session of the United Nations High-Level Forum on the Culture of Peace in the UN General Assembly Hall.*

He outlined themes, reiterated throughout the day, that (1) All sectors of society must be engaged, with civil society taking a primary role, including parents, teachers, interfaith religious leaders and artists; (2) youth and women must be at the forefront and in full participation; (3) education is the focus, with peace education essential; (4) everyone should do one action of peace; and that (5) peace and development go hand in hand.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon reiterated his call for disarmament and emphasized peace education that does not glorify war as key in his new global initiative, “Education First.” The campaign gives every child the opportunity to attend school, to strengthen core values.

The President of the Foundation for Peace and the UBUNTU Forum, H.E. Mr. Frederico Mayer, predicted change from the impossibilities of today to the possibilities of tomorrow.

Advocate for peace, civil rights and women’s rights, President of the Hague Appeal for Peace Cora Weiss implored that it is “time to abolish war” and thanked the organizers for opening the space for civil society to participate. Stressing the importance of upholding UN resolution 1325 about women’s rights, she argued that poverty is violence, that women are subject to poverty, and that the larger the gap between men and women, the more likely a nation will be mired in conflict. The UN commitment to a culture of peace offers hope.

Following a musical interlude by a flutist Eileen Ain, psychotherapist and NGO representative to the UN, Ambassadors from eight countries took the podium to affirm their country’s commitment to a culture of peace.

Ambassador Abdul Momen of Bangladesh noted his country’s lead in UN peacekeeping and commitment to gender equality and fundamental principles of ethnic diversity and harmony to bring about a world where harmony overcomes hatred, and where love and tolerance overcomes intolerance.

Ambassador Jean-Francois Zinsou of Benin emphasized the essential need for spirituality and democracy within an ongoing standing objective of peace. He described that using dialogue moved Benin from a monolithic to a democratic society and spared the country from war. Mankind can only grow in peace, he said, and that the cornerstones of peace include gender equality and freedom of speech.

Ambassador Eduardo Ulibarri of Costa Rica celebrated the culture of peace in the context of education and civil society. Ambassador Gert Rosenthal of Guatemala emphasized a multi-lingual,

multi-cultural society as essential to peace, while Acting Ambassador Akan Rakhmetullin of Kazakhstan said his country will seek solutions through education, empowerment of youth, harnessing media, and the support of civil society to encourage resilience and make peace a part of daily life.

Ambassador Joaquin Maza Martelli of El Salvador noted his country's progress towards peace. The nation's commitment to mental health was evident at the launch of the World Health Organization Quality Rights campaign with a toolkit available on the internet.

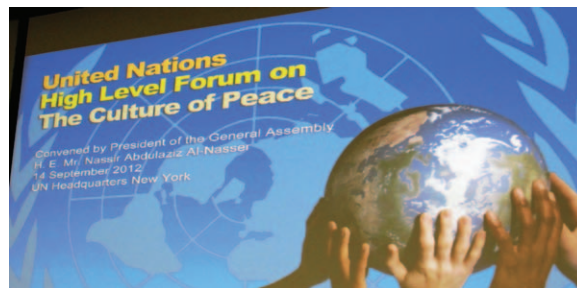
Ambassador Libran Cabactulan of the Philippines condemned the "cowardly attack on the US embassy in Libya, and defamation of prophet Mohammed." In this light, he expressed support of UNESCO's Resolution to proclaim 2013–2023 as the Decade of International Rapprochement of Cultures, especially given the formal end of the MDGs in 2015. He further recognized the role of technology and Internet in achieving peace.

Ambassador Baso Sangqu of South Africa quoted the UN Secretary General that "the world is over-armed and peace is underfunded." Noting that his nation has produced four Nobel Peace Laureates, he committed that his country "will not relent in effort to build a better world for all."



*The Ambassador of South Africa to the UN with IAAP UN representative Dr. Judy Kuriansky in the UN General Assembly Hall.*

A morning panel was held on "The Culture of Peace in the core of humanity's agenda: New partnerships, new developments," in the North Lawn Building Conference Room 2. Moderated by the Ambassador of the Commonwealth of Bahamas to the United Nations, Paulette Bethel, the first speaker was Ms. Judy Cheng-Hopkins, Assistant Secretary-General for the UN office of Peacebuilding Support.



UN Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director of UN Women Lakshmi Puri emphasized that gender equality is critical to achieving a culture of peace, given the numbers of women in the world (3.5 billion) and women's role in caring, sharing and nurturing a future generation. "We can be accused of reverse gender stereotyping, but its true," she admitted with humor. Puri enumerated the need to consider women in the context of conflict and post- conflict situations; support for women in legislature positions; setting new standards for gender parity; economic empowerment of women especial in addressing poverty; and zero tolerance for gender-based violence. She

acknowledged the power of the Internet to develop advocacy platforms and help programs like Girl Guides reach out. “Gender justice is at the core of a culture of peace,” she concluded.



Director of the UNESCO office in New York, Philippe Kridelka, reviewed scientific findings and historical events, like slave trade, that confirm the importance of a culture of peace. UNESCO’s commitment to peace is evident throughout its sectors, including education, science, culture and communication, and the Organization will host an afternoon high-level meeting on the culture of peace on 21 September (reported in detail in an article in this issue of the IAAP Bulletin).



*UNESCO Director of NY Office Philippe Kridelka with IAAP UN representative Judy Kuriansky.*

Mario Lubetkin, Director General of the Inter press Service, noted that all ideas need better participation and communication, and emphasized the importance of media to shine light on efforts towards peace.

Ms. Christine Mangale, youth peace activist and Programme Coordinator for Africa of the Lutheran Office for World Community, noted that sustainability of peace can only be ensured by building the capacity of youth, to help them to “not be vulnerable.” She recommended training young people in peace negotiation skills, ensuring allocation of resources to involve youth, and involving youth-based organizations, as well as promoting peace through arts and music. “I realized we had energy to create nonviolence especially in Africa,” she said.



*Afternoon panel on the Culture of Peace moderated by Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury (third from left).*

An afternoon panel on “Strengthening the global movement, advancing the implementation of the UN Programme of Action on Culture of Peace: the way forward” was moderated by Senior Special Advisor to the President of the UN General Assembly and former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, H.E. Anwarul K. Chowdhury, a long-time distinguished advocate for the Culture of Peace. A report about his speech at a DPI/NGO briefing is in a prior IAAP Bulletin (<http://www.new.iaapsy.org/uploads/newsletters/April2011.pdf>).

“We have to realize we are one humanity . . . Let’s commit ourselves to remember we do make a difference,” said panelist Ms. Avon Mattison, President of the UN-accredited NGO, Pathways to Peace.

Jeff Abramson, Director of the Control Arms Campaign Secretariat, reported positive support on arms control for peace from the UN Secretary-General and humanitarian agencies but challenges in achieving consensus. Continuing this theme, Ms. Maria Butler, Project Director of the International League for Peace and Freedom pointed out two issues central to peace are demilitarization and gender equity. She recounted a powerful experience meeting a woman who was stripped and beaten but whose message was not hate but justice.

As spokesperson for the Global Movement for the Culture of Peace, Ms. Sharon Deep congratulated the GPA for “keeping an open door to civil society.” Heralding a message of one world for peace, she had pre-organized the audience to hold up flags of the nations and invited everyone to join in “one voice to spread all good will.” The audience joined her in chanting, “There ain’t no power, but the power of the people.”







Cherine Badawi, Curriculum and Training Coordinator for Generation Waking Up that ignites youth for a sustainable world, drew applause with her message of hope from young people that a culture of peace can be reached. She related how she knows about tolerance from personal experience, growing up “with one foot in Egypt and another in the U.S. in Greensboro North Carolina as the only Arab kid in her class,” when her kindergarten peers called her names for her hairdo and made fun of the smell of her lunch (from her cultures’ traditional use of garlic).

Philip Hellmich from the California-based Shift Network described the Summer of Peace that served to “inspire, inform and involve people around the world” in actions of peace and telesummits interviewing young peacemakers with inspiring stories, “Yes you can and we will.” He credited his own inspiration for peace and appreciation for the important role of civil society when (1) working for the “Search for Common Ground” NGO whose Global Kids Network radio shows give kids a voice to report news and enact soap dramas about reconciliation, and (2) working for the Peace Corps in Sierra Leone in peaceful times but then exposed to the 10-year violence and civil war in that country, a journey documented in his new book, “God in Conflict: A search for peace in a time of crisis.”



Panelists quoted iconic messages of peace from Bob Marley, Einstein and the Gandhi Ashram, “My Life is My Message,” signifying that words of peace mean nothing if they are not backed by action. Audience members mentioned the value of co-creating a culture of peace; meditating together; organizations like BethePeace.org; and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with steps to apologize, take responsibility, and ask for reconciliation.

IAAP UN representative Judy Kuriansky, IAAP member Corann Okorodudu and IAAP professional affiliate Janice Bloch had an opportunity to discuss the IAAP-co-sponsored statement of the Psychology Coalition at the UN, on “Psychological Contributions to Building Cultures of Sustainable Peace,” reported in another article in this Bulletin.



*IAAP UN professional affiliate Janice Bloch and IAAP UN representative Judy Kuriansky discussing the Psychology Coalition statement on A Culture of Peace with youth representative.*

In the concluding session, UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson condemned the violence in Libya and recalled that former UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, who tragically died in plane crash, favored evening gatherings, listening to music, as pathways to intimate understanding of peace. On a serious note, he said, “Without peace there is no development” and that “Nobody can do everything but everybody can do something.”



*Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson speaking.*



*Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson with IAAP UN representative Judy Kuriansky.*

The President of the foundation of a Culture of Peace, H.E. Federico Mayor, summarized the goals of security and peace, and education for all; rights in the preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and constitution of UNESCO, making citizens free and responsible; use of new technologies to create a global community; persuading rulers and powers to keep peace; and partnerships including with civil society, to promote capacity. He concluded, "Peace is reachable- no change is beyond human capacity."

The President of the General Assembly expressed appreciation to all participants, reinforced the importance of putting youth and women at the center and involving NGOs; and affirmed his commitment to encourage the next PGA, who assumes his position shortly at the General Assembly, to make this forum an annual event.

In the question and answer period, a statement was presented by Ambassador Hussein Haniff of Malaysia, acknowledging the Programme of Action as "the most profound blueprint for peace ever adopted by the UN" and inviting participation in a Global Movement of the Moderates to "rally the moderates, the majority of peace-loving people from all over the world . . . to counter and drown the voices of the extremists." Audience members pointed out the role of youth to promote



*From left to right, Ambassador Chowdhury, IAAP UN rep Judy Kuriansky and Ambassador Al-Nasser.*



peace and tolerance, through organizations like Peacemaker Corps, as well as the value of training first responders to bring about the culture of peace.

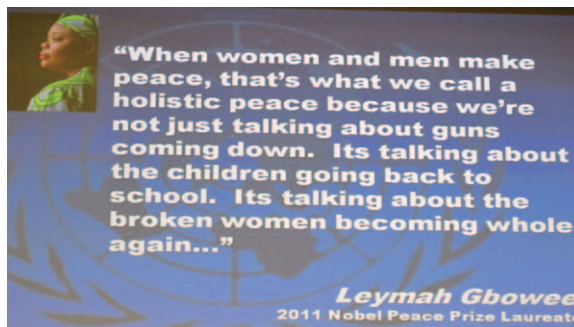
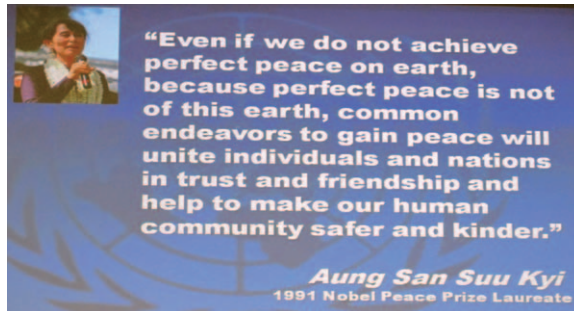
In an interview, Ambassador Chowdhury, a Trustee of the New York City Peace Museum, said “We are



looking into the psychology of teaching children about peace. Children must grow up with peace. Instead of giving toy guns to children, give them peace toys. Also, teach them how to spell peace, since children use the word ‘hate’ too often, saying things like ‘I hate broccoli.’

Pleased with the forum and the progress of the campaign for a culture of peace at the UN, the Ambassador said, “I have proposed observance every year of the day on which the program of Action on Culture for Peace was adopted by the General Assembly.”

IAAP UN representative Judy Kuriansky reporting about the UN High-Level Forum on the Culture of Peace.



– submitted by Judy Kuriansky, IAAP UN representative

## **“Sustainable Peace for a Sustainable Future”: High-Level Debate at the United Nations on the Occasion of the International Day of Peace**

In commemoration of the International Day of Peace, 21 September 2012, celebrated around the world, UNESCO hosted a High-Level Debate on “Sustainable Peace for a Sustainable Future.” The afternoon program consisting of two panels in a large conference room in the North Lawn Building of United Nations headquarters in New York.



*Pictured from left to right: former President of the Dominican Republic Leonel Fernández; UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon; Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO; UN General Assembly President Vuk Jeremić.*

The Director-General of UNESCO and moderator of the panels, Irina Bokova, graciously welcomed the attendees and introduced the panel and theme of “Sustainable Peace for a Sustainable Future,” consistent with UNESCO’s mission. Referring to reprehensible recent acts of intolerance that incite hatred, she called for renewed commitment by all to respect, tolerance and mutual understanding. She emphasized the importance of building bridges of dialogue to achieve these goals and highlighted the importance of education for human rights and peace, especially for young people.

### **THE FIRST PANEL:**

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon denounced current incidences of bloodshed and unrest as deplorable and unjustifiable, reaffirming freedom of speech and peaceful assembly guaranteed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. He told the full-capacity room, “We cannot let the voices of extremists dominate the debate and inflame tensions. We need voices of moderation and solidarity, reason and respect – especially from religious and political leaders.” Throughout the day, he called for a culture of peace, when ringing the Peace Bell, meeting with Global Messengers of Peace and Goodwill Ambassadors, and addressing a student youth conference. At the latter, he invited youth to “de-friend” – as in Facebook – intolerance, and instead to use the hashtag “Represent Yourself” to tweet a message of peace and global understanding. Emphasizing that “we have to multiply our efforts,” he cited the importance of dialogue and better communication, including use of social media. “We must be relentless in standing for our values – peace, human rights and respect for all people,” he said.

Newly elected President of the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly, H.E. Vuk Jeremić, eloquently described his personal distress over the destruction by the Taliban of the Buddha statues, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and symbol of peace. Condemning such violence and citing “ignorance at the root of intolerance,” he called for the settlement of international disputes by

peaceful means and a “new type of humanism,” emphasizing the vital importance of education and culture as building blocks for peace as “the fabric of daily life.”

Former President of the Dominican Republic Leonel Fernández focused on the role of the media to either become a “Brightnet.com” or “Darknet.com.” This choice for the media is to either be an instrument that serves hatred and insult to human dignity and cherished religious beliefs – as reflected in the recent circulation of the video about the Prophet Mohammed – or to become “the ideal catalyst for peace, knowledge, understanding, solidarity and pluralism in a new world order characterized for being borderless, wireless and interconnected,” consistent with UNESCO’s



*IAAP UN representative Judy Kuriansky with former President of the Dominican Republic Leonel Fernández.*

new Program of Action for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence. To accomplish this, he recommended a new international legal approach to the use of cyberspace and global digital media, involving “drafting an international legal framework, legally binding to member states of the UN that can prohibit and punish blasphemy as the act of insulting or showing contempt or lack of reverence toward something considered sacred.” Youth around the world can participate, he said, in filmmaking, theatre, performing arts, sports, radio and television programs, oriented towards peace, non-violence and cultural diversity.

Darkhan Mynbay, Minister of Culture and Information of the Republic of Kazakhstan, acknowledged UNESCO’s call for an International Decade of the Rapprochement of Cultures for 2013–2023, as well as treaties that promote harmony and peace, and urged using all means to achieve peace. He noted his country’s commitment to these goals.

## THE SECOND PANEL



*Panelists pictured left to right: Nasser David Khalili; Arjun Apparaduri; Forest Whitaker; Irina Bokova; Jeffrey Sachs; Wole Soyinka; and Lakshmi Puri.*

The first speaker of the second panel, Nasser David Khalili, Founder of the Khalili Collections and Chairman of the Maimonides Foundation, identified two bridge builders as education and culture, since “sharing joy through the language of art is universal.” In pointing out the importance of youth education, he pondered the question of how to capture the mind of a 10-year old. To do this, he has used intriguing exercises, for example, asking groups to examine lemons and to notice specific characteristics on the outside. He then puts the lemons back in a basket, mixes them up, and invites

the group to pick out their own. When they find this difficult, he presents the moral, that the core of lemons, like human beings, is the same.

Wole Soyinka, Nobel Laureate for Literature in 1986 and member of the UNESCO High Panel on Peace and Dialogue among Cultures, noted dramatically that “religion has been used as an enemy of humanity – in fact as a crime.” However, he implored that we need to refuse to use religion being used as a crime against humanity, as has been happened in various conflicts even in contemporary times. Using a poetic reference to “pebbles thrown on a Rock of Gibraltar,” he criticized “infantile efforts” to sabotage rational discourse.

Arjun Apparaduri, Goddard Professor of Media, Culture and Communication at New York University, addressed the mismatch between messages of dialogue and those of hate. He expounded on the stark contrast between violence that spreads rapidly and virally, and peace that spreads slowly and gradually. In offering a partial strategy of intervention, he proposed that the primary challenge is of communication rather than of information, because the latter is subject to misinformation.

Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, presented his view of the causes of conflicts in the world and offered potential solutions. Examining “a differential diagnosis of conflicts in the world,” he enumerated major causes as (1) poverty and hunger that make men fight; (2) dictatorships; (3) resources, paradoxically, whether they are available or not; and (4) “rivalry of great powers.” Solutions include elimination of poverty and hunger, investing in development rather than the military, and term limits of leaders. Reflecting on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cuban missile crisis, when a world war was averted, he quoted U.S. President John F. Kennedy’s remarks about peace appropriate for all time. “So let us not be blind to our differences, but let us also direct attention to our common interests and the means by which those differences can be resolved. And if we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity. For in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children’s futures. And we are all mortal.”

Lakshmi Puri, Deputy Executive Director of UN Women, made an impassioned appeal to recognize the role of women and girls as agents of sustainable peace in the context of the three pillars of the UN: (1) social development; (2) peace and security; and (3) human rights. Pointing out women’s capacity for love and talent for consensus-building, her many recommendations included that (1) women and girls be involved in peace negotiations; (2) the needs of women and girls be taken into account in all policies and actions; and (3) that such policies and actions afford economic empowerment to women and girls. She blamed poverty, gender inequity and lack of political participation as causes of the disempowerment of women. Condemning all violence against women and girls, she pointed out that peace is not an absence of violence but zero tolerance of violence, and that “gender justice is a means and an end to sustainable peace.”

Academy-award winning actor Forest Whitaker, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Peace and Reconciliation, expressed feeling honored to be amongst such erudite intellectuals on the panel and described his moving experience as an African American first visiting Africa, the land of his ancestors. “Being in Africa gave me a deep understanding of all humanity,” he said. “The connection amongst us all as crucial . . . We must always see the face of ourselves in others.” Healing comes from feeling peace within ourselves, he said, apologizing for using the word “try” since action matters. Slides projected the website of his newly launched Peace Earth Foundation that focuses on “peace-building and community empowerment in areas of conflict,” with projects in South Sudan and Uganda. It is interesting that Whitaker won an Academy Award for his 2006 portrayal of Ugandan dictator Idi Amin in the film, *The Last King of Scotland*. Also acclaimed for his roles

in the war-themed films *Platoon* and *Good Morning Vietnam*, the peace activist actor described the International Institute for Peace (IIP) at Rutgers University in Newark, New Jersey, which he co-founded, to develop programs and partnerships for issues such as poverty reduction, community-building, climate change, and the important role of women and spiritual and religious leaders in peace-building.

In closing the panel with highlighting a recurring theme of a “light of peace,” Ms. Bokova praised all the speakers and the intellectual dialogue. She emphasized the major role of education, including specifically sustainable development, to “bring up citizenship,” coincident with the cultural literacy mission of UNESCO.

In the Q and A session, a native Hong-Kong woman in banking queried the role of economics to support peace initiatives; a young man from Nigeria shared his personal frustrations securing funding for continuing high school; another young man described the importance of arts education; and a 12-year boy from Lexington Massachusetts, attending the session with his mother, asked “What can I do to change the world?” Ms. Bokova’s answer punctuated the day’s events, as she advised, “Believe it and you can do it.”



– submitted by IAAP UN representative Judy Kuriansky

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## ***Summary of IAAP Representative Activities at the Annual Conference of the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP): San Diego, April 2012***

IAAP UN Representatives Walter Reichman and Mary O’Neill Berry attended the 2012 SIOP Conference and presented at multiple sessions.

On the first day of the Conference, Reichman and Berry were part of a panel on “How Organizational Psychology Improves the Lives of the Vulnerable.” Reichman served as Moderator for a panel of six speakers: They included Lori Foster Thompson from North Carolina State University, speaking on “Using Technology and I-O Psychology to Improve Volunteerism,” Ishbel McWha from Cornell University, on “The Role of Worker Relationships in the Success of Aid Organizations”; Jeffrey Godbout from Massey University, talking about “Attitudes, Perceptions and Beliefs about International Aid in Haiti”; Mary O’Neill Berry addressing, “Global Task Force for Humanitarian Work Psychology: Organizational Psychology Aids Vulnerable Girls in Africa through A Model Program of Entrepreneurship and Life Skills Training – Lesotho Girls Empowerment Programme”; Alexander E. Gloss, from North Carolina State University, presenting about “Organizational Psychology Improves



Education in South Africa”; and Sarah Stawiski and Jennifer W. Martineau from the Center for Creative Leadership, speaking about “Leadership Training Prevents Violence among Young People.”

On the last day of the Conference, Walter and Mary spoke at the Executive Board session, on “SIOP and the United Nations: Setting the Agenda.” There were four presenters: John C. Scott from *APTmetrics*, speaking about “SIOP and the UN: Setting the Agenda”; Walter Reichman from *OrgVitality* speaking about “Bringing Organizational Psychology to the UN II”; Mary O’Neill Berry addressing “IAAP and the United Nations: Past and Future”; and Stuart C. Carr from Massey University presenting about “Fostering Decent Work.” The discussant, José M. Peiro, IAAP President, complimented the speakers on the extent to which they had publicized what different groups do at the United Nations. He also commented on the importance of aligning UN activities with the goals of the associations represented there, and stated that strong associations must demonstrate that they have the necessary capacity to deliver inputs at the international level.

In addition, Walter and Mary participated in a meeting of members of the Global Task Force for Humanitarian Work Psychology (HWP) who were attending the SIOP Conference, joined by several other members by conference call. The meeting reviewed a number of decisions regarding such matters as membership definition and procedures, HWP goals and objectives, and plans for the next meeting, held in conjunction with the ICP 2012 meeting in Cape Town. The group also celebrated the publication of the first book by the Global Task Force: “Humanitarian Work Psychology” (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012).

In remarks during the SIOP Opening Plenary 2012, outgoing SIOP President Adrienne Colella focused on impact which I/O as a field has had on the workplace and society. This is particularly useful since the field of I/O is not well known nor understood in the world at large. Her examples were taken from a survey which she sent to SIOP members earlier in 2012, as well as from various conversations she has had on the subject.

In defining the field, she said, “We create useful theory and develop our science, we increase productivity and organizational effectiveness, we develop and train people, we make people safe and healthy, we make the workplace humane, we enhance individual welfare, we make workplaces and society more just, we work to increase the visibility of our profession, and we teach and inspire each other.”

Specific examples she cited of the impact of I/O included:

\*Increasing productivity and organizational effectiveness. We have done a great deal of work, she said, on customer service engagement behaviors and reputation, and we have revealed the connection between employee engagement and customer satisfaction, and the linkages between both and the bottom line.

\*Developing and training people has included such forward-looking projects as the team dimensional training currently under way for future trips to the planet of Mars.

\*Making people safe and healthy has ranged from safety training for dangerous clean-ups (such as post Cold War nuclear clean-up), to creating over 55,000 TSA workers – one of the largest, fastest original workforce developments.

\*Creating more humane workplaces include “moving the needle” toward better workplace cultures, with a keen vigilance for instances of discrimination, harassment, and bullying. A major initiative in the arena of Humanitarian Work Psychology is Project ADD-UP (**A**re **D**evelopment **D**iscrepancies **U**ndermining **P**erformance?), which tackles the dual salary system in the developing world, and its effect on poverty reduction efforts.

\*Enhancing individual welfare runs the gamut from President Colella’s own experiences as a part of KARE, a SIOP group which helped organizations in New Orleans recover after Hurricane Katrina and the failure of the levees, to helping those who help others, to creating entrepreneurs in Africa, exemplified by the work of former IAAP President Michael Frese.



- \*Making workplaces and society more just has entailed such successes as enabling female firefighters to attain higher acceptance rates in applications, and the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” in the military.
- \*Teaching and inspiring each other involves instilling passion and excitement among our own colleagues and reinforcing the impact of I/O on ourselves.
- \*Increasing the visibility of our profession has come about in part as a result of practice and expert testimony.

SIOP President Colella commented on the range of expertise displayed by these examples, and urged the conference attendees to continue to work on such an array of topics, as well as to publicize what they are doing, now and in the future.

– Submitted by Walter Reichman, IAAP UN representative

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## **Commentary: L’escargot Sauvage**

*“Is that all there is?”* (Peggy Lee, 1969)

*“I owe much; I have nothing; the rest I leave to the poor.”* (Francois Rabelais, 1533)

Michael Acree was a San Francisco Chef before he saw the light and became a psychologist. Still, he brought all his skills with him. Each day he would fast until dinner, looking forward all day to that special meal he would prepare to meet all his needs. That, and walking the full length of Golden Gate Park to work and back each day, kept him trim and healthy. Eduardo Duran and I, Mike’s faculty colleagues, were one day invited to his special home-created dinner. We rightly anticipated an outstanding meal. But. There on my plate as a first appetizer was l’escargot- snails in white sauce. I politely declined.

Now it is hard to merely say no to many psychologists. They want to know the why. Further, Mike was at that moment a Chef, standing by the prelude to his art, clearly a sensitive socio-cultural moment, although Mike was of an exceptionally friendly disposition. Still . . .

Some years earlier I had been at an international psychology conference in Amsterdam with my 14 year old daughter. An acclaimed Netherlands psychologist asked me to his home through an interpreter (a former Belgian Ambassador) for dinner to discuss the founding of what became the Benelux University, particularly as to how American psychology might play a role. He spoke no English and I spoke no Dutch. That evening my daughter and I sat in his living room next to a very busy interpreter. Our host proudly brought out a large tray of cigars, cigarettes, and other smoking possibilities. I respectfully declined as I didn’t smoke and my daughter had no choice in the matter. This was lengthily interpreted. Most likely with apologies and explanations. Then followed another tray, even larger, full of alcohol options as a before-dinner drink. But I don’t drink alcohol nor again did my daughter have a choice in the matter. So again I declined and again the diplomatic interpreter took a fairly large amount of conversation to explain my unexpected recalcitrance. Finally, our host wheeled out a wide table full of pastries and other sugary temptations. I was on a longevity diet at the time that precluded sucrose (my daughter referred to it as “our long vacation from sugar”) but both my daughter and the Ambassador shook their heads negatively- a third and final refusal could be truly insulting. I took the diplomatic route and we ate dessert first. (This is a great gift from the Dutch; a possible weight loss technique if we agree with our mothers that it will spoil our appetite.)

Now, in Mike Acree’s home, I tried to avoid another diplomatic blunder. So I searched my memory for some honest traumatic episodes with snails. I remembered growing up near a creek that had

snails and brought some home to inhabit our front porch. Since I was only three I forgot they were there and noticed their trampled remains far too late. Hmmm. And the time I bought three huge snails and put them in a bowl of water. I thought they might be lonely so I went out to the creek to find them a companion. This particular creek emptied off Lake Erie, so polluted with arsenic and other poisons from the steel mills that all the fish in the Great Lake had died. Yet there in the creek was a tadpole which I fished out and put in the water bowl with the snails along with some fish food. The tadpole may have mutated from the pollution-although it was small you could see tiny teeth, unusual for a tadpole. I hoped the giant snails would not eat the little creature but, after all, it was faster. Two days later I noticed that the three snails all had empty shells- the tadpole had eaten every one. (I still wish I had kept it to see what the frog would have looked like.) So I shared these sad stories as traumatic explanation for my denial of an escargot treat. To no avail- Eduardo and Mike were amused but not satisfied.

Reaching deeper into candor, I just shrugged and said I guess I'm just squeamish about eating snails. Eduardo is a brilliant therapist (Duran, 2006) and Mike a natural one- they both asked what I was going to do about this gustatory barrier. I remembered that Jack Kerouac had given William Burroughs the name for his novel "The Naked Lunch" as that moment when we realize what it truly is that we are eating. I also recalled being in a San Francisco Health Food store and asking if they had any fish or chicken- only to be told by an indignant clerk: "*WE DON'T SELL FLESH!*". So I came up with an empathy exercise so we could all understand my rejection of snails for dinner. I suggested we all try dining on "L'escargot Sauvage" which, in my invented recipe, would be live snails on a leaf of lettuce. The subject was dropped and we went on to an otherwise outstanding meal.

Moving small creatures or large from life to death, even as food, reminds us of the limited lifespan we all have. Most of us would rather not be reminded of this. But denial or repression can be existentially deadly. In graduate school, Milton Rokeach lectured that the best way to learn what people feared the most was "*Just ASK them and they will tell you about their fear of ladders, snakes or spiders*". In the next class, Bertram Karon followed this with "*People will never tell you their greatest fears if you just ask them; put a gun to their head and they will climb the ladder holding the snake to feed the spider.*" Bert was revealing that our worst fears are often hidden from ourselves, particularly the existential truth of personal but universal mortality. Seeing life as it is, with an expiration date, allows us to shine a light on our future and better live it.

This is also an international approach to suicide prevention- yes: *None* is the loneliest number (Morgan, 2008).

I have even seen the therapeutic confrontation of death to improve the cognitive functions of withdrawn elderly inpatients (Morgan, 2012a) although dealing with anticipatory grief to get to that point takes substantial clinical technique (Neimeyer, 2012). Social psychologist Carl Word found that adult high-risk needle sharers also significantly often shared an early childhood experience of seeing somebody close to them murdered, suggesting early or late intervention on understanding mortality can be essential to survival, and a full life (Morgan, 2012b)

So: Avoid regrets at the end of life and eat dessert first. Feel free to say no to L'escargot Sauvage.

**Robert F. Morgan, University of Arkansas at Little Rock**

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