

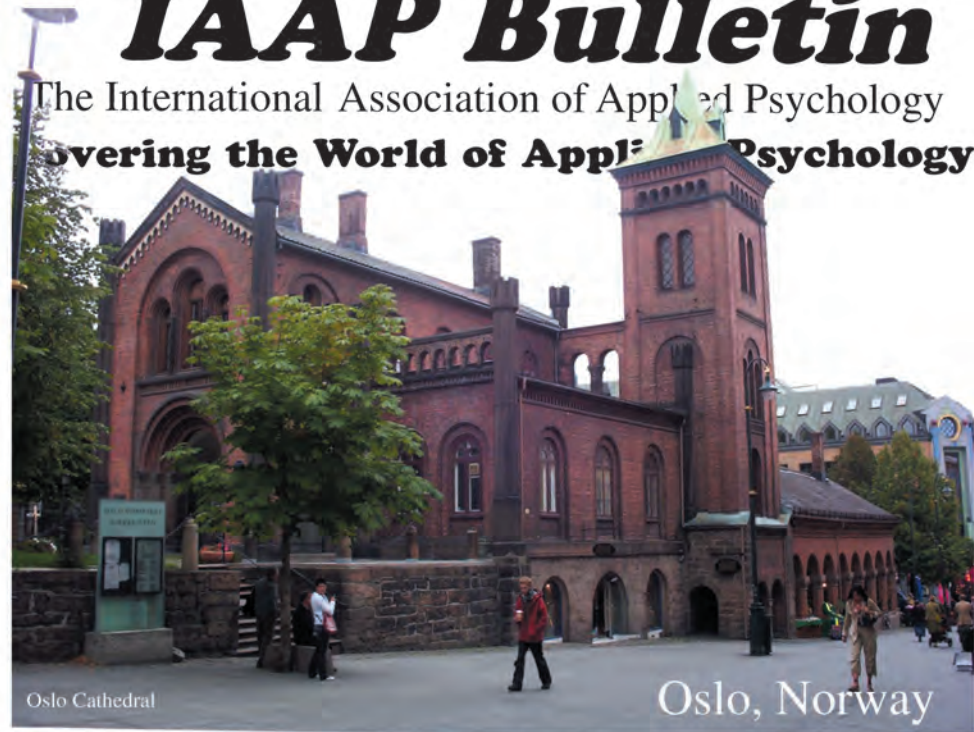
Issue 21-1 January, 2009

The

# IAAP Bulletin

The International Association of Applied Psychology

Covering the World of Applied Psychology



Oslo Cathedral

Oslo, Norway

Site of the 11th European Congress of Psychology, July 7 - 10, 2009

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## **The President's Corner**

In my previous President's Corners appearing in the *Newsletter* over the past two years I hope that I have provided you with a progressive summary of the broad and far-reaching range of activities encompassed by IAAP, and especially in my last column for the inaugural Issue of the *Bulletin*, a fulsome account of our Association's major achievements over this period of time. As mentioned, this was a summary of the Reports presented to our Board of Directors' biennial meeting which was held in Berlin on the occasion of the hugely successful International Congress of Psychology organized by the International Union of Psychological Science.

The purpose of this present article is to change the direction of our thinking and to look ahead to our own Congress, the 27<sup>th</sup> in the history of our Association, which will be held in Melbourne in July 2010. So this, at the start of 2009, is an exciting time for IAAP because we are now entering a phase of major preparations that will determine the structure, content and nature of the Melbourne International Congress of Applied Psychology (ICAP), and the degree to which it will truly be the crowning event in our four-yearly cycle of activity.

As we know, time flies, so I hope everyone's planning is already underway either in thinking about the attraction of visiting Australia or in starting to organize the very nature of one's actual participation in the Congress. In order to help both of these things it may be useful to provide some preliminary details under the headings of background information, the importance of ICAPs, the Organization of the Congress, family implications for attending the Congress, and further information.

### **Background Information**

The historic significance of the 2010 ICAP is that up until now all of our Congresses have been held in Europe, North America, the Middle East, or Asia, so this will be the first to be held in the southern hemisphere. Thus, in addition to its primary role of being the principal forum for the science and practice of applied psychology internationally, it will also provide the first opportunity for many to visit such a geographically attractive place as Australia with its distinctive animals, birds and plants, and a friendly welcome for every international visitor.

Melbourne in particular is an especially inviting cosmopolitan city with its mixture of classically designed public buildings and contemporary architecture; its numerous parks, gardens and leafy suburbs; and the fact that it is one of the leading cultural, fashion, shopping and sporting centres of the nation. It has first-rate museums and galleries, and its inner city lanes and alleys hum with the joyous and jovial sounds that emanate from its restaurants and pubs.

The Congress will be held in the new Centre which opens early this year and is located adjacent to the city centre on the banks of the Yarra River that is straddled by the city. The Congress Centre is fitted with the latest state-of-the-art technology to provide both convenience and comfort. Its tall glass walls fronting the river provide an expansive outlook externally over the nearby downtown area and its internal walls feature wooden panels made from Spotted Gum, one of Australia's many local eucalypts.

### **The Importance of ICAPs**

Apart from the publication of our two premier journals, *Applied Psychology: An International Review* and *Applied Psychology: Health and Wellbeing*, there is no other single activity that ranks in significance with the Association's ICAPs. Indeed the world of international psychology revolves around the International Congress of Psychology organised by IUPsyS and the International Congress of Applied Psychology organised by IAAP. So important are these two congresses for the



advancement of psychology globally that our respective congress calendars have been coordinated and interlocked ever since 1972 so that a major international congress of psychology is held regularly every two years.

The role that such events play for the dissemination of knowledge, the extension of intellectual horizons, the broadening of outlook, the opportunity to network and develop professional relationships and personal friendships, and the potential to initiate team-based collaboration, is inestimable. In addition, through involvement of our students, such congresses lay the foundations for the future of applied psychology as a vocation and a profession.

## Organization of the Congress

The organization of the Melbourne Congress is in the capable hands of the Australian Psychological Society (APS) and the Congress Organizing Committee which is chaired by Paul Martin, the Congress President. The APS is a robust Society with over 15,000 Members and an establishment of over 50 full-time and part-time staff. It thus has huge resources at its disposal and extensive experience in organizing conferences, which were two of the key factors influencing the decision to award the hosting of the Congress to the APS.

The chair of the Scientific Program Committee is Mike Kyrios and work is well advanced in selecting Keynote Speakers and Invited Symposia Organizers. A feature of the Congress will be the publication of the *Handbook of Applied Psychology* which will contain chapters providing state-of-the-art reviews by Keynote Speakers, and a copy of the *Handbook* will be included in the satchel issued to every delegate upon registration.

Most importantly of all, however, the strength of the Scientific Program will also be determined by the fullest participation possible of all IAAP Members either to organize symposia, or deliver oral or poster presentations. Please note that the Call for Abstracts opens in this very month of January.

## Family Implications for attending the Congress

In addition to the scholarly and professional merits in general of attending congresses, the other way to look at the 2010 ICAP in particular is as a once in a lifetime opportunity to make the Congress part of a longer holiday by bringing the family to see a country which under other circumstances would be far more difficult to arrange.

Melbourne in July will be mid-winter, which means that it will be like mid-summer in places such as Edinburgh. So from this focal point there are many options either before or after the Congress. For those liking colder weather, the State of Victoria has local snowfields for skiing and Tasmania to the south offers natural charm and pristine forests. On the other hand, this time of year is best to visit the inland deserts or the tropical north which are too hot or wet respectively to explore in the summer months. Some may prefer a tour of the other States' capital cities such as Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth, as well as their surrounding districts. Other possibilities include Outback Australia with its 'bush' way of life and sense of humour, Aboriginal Australia with the oldest rock art in the world, and natural wonders such as the Great Barrier Reef.

## Further Information

As may be gathered, the purpose of this column is to initiate serious thinking about the Melbourne Congress and much more information will be provided in subsequent Issues of the *Bulletin*.

Meanwhile, current details, especially about the Call for Papers and other information, can be accessed through the ICAP website at: [www.icap2010.com](http://www.icap2010.com)

Kind regards,

Mike Knowles

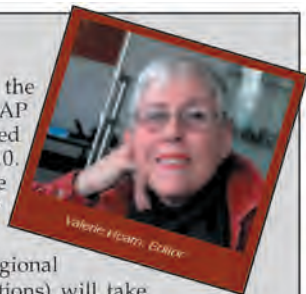
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## From the Editor

Welcome to the first IAAP Bulletin of the New Year, and also to the Official Start, with the Call for Symposia, of the invitation to all IAAP members to get involved in our 2010 International Congress of Applied Psychology which will take place in Melbourne from July 11 to 16, 2010. To download the Call for Papers, go to the conference website (<http://www.icap2010.com/>), and click on the bouncing Call for Papers brochure on the left. You can't miss it. (It's bouncing.)



Not content to wait until 2010? The 2009 South-East European Regional Conference of Psychology (supported by IAAP and other associations) will take place from 30 October to 1 November in Sofia, Bulgaria. It will be a great opportunity to get to know Balkan Region psychologists and their work. (<http://rcp2009.wordpress.com/>). Also, don't miss the 11<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Psychology will be held in Oslo, Norway from 7 - 10 July, 2009. All of the necessary information about the congress can be found at: <http://www.ecp2009.no/index.cfm>.

Membership in IAAP allows you many opportunities to help advance Applied Psychology. Did you know that you can join two IAAP Divisions? The various divisions were created to cater to specialized sub-disciplines of applied psychology and to support cross-fertilization among these sub-disciplines. Belonging to two divisions of your choice gives you opportunities to keep in touch with colleagues and to learn about new events in these respective sub-disciplines in other parts of the world. Some of our Divisions are quite large and active, and some desperately need members.

Please take advantage of the opportunity to meet and work with psychologists who are interested in the same specialties that you are by joining two divisions. Divisions 10, Psychology and Law, Division 11, Political Psychology, and our very new Division 17, Professional Psychology Practice especially need new, energetic members. To join divisions, contact Blackwell at [memberships@blackwellpublishing.com](mailto:memberships@blackwellpublishing.com), or telephone +44 (0)1865 778171. You can also contact the Presidents of the Divisions that you are interested in. Their names and contact information can be found in each edition of the *Bulletin*.

IAAP supplies abundant opportunities to make our world better through psychology. Our members' work with the United Nations is especially exciting. In previous newsletters, our Secretary-General, Janel Gauthier, has treated us to the history of the Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists (UDEPP) which culminated in its acceptance by the IAAP Board of Directors and IUPsyS at the ICP meeting in Berlin in July of this year. In this newsletter Judy Kuriansky and Janel Gauthier provide us with a report on the recent United Nations conference entitled "Reaffirming Human Rights" during which Janel gave a presentation on the UDEPP.

Also, in this edition, you can get some ideas about how to get involved in Making People's Lives Better Through Psychology in your own country. Help Fanny Cheung in Asia. Get involved with EuroPsy in Europe. And, we can all take inspiration from the Australians via Amanda Gordon who tells us about "Psychology Week" in Australia. It's a terrific idea which could be taken up by psychology associations around the world.

Sadly, our colleague, Prof. Jing Qicheng, passed away on September 28. His life is inspirational in that he gave so much to the field of psychology. He played a major role in establishing a relationship between IAAP and the Chinese Psychological Society. You can read about Prof. Jing in this edition.

Looking forward, in the next edition of the IAAP *Bulletin* we are introducing an exciting new feature and a new series which will prove to be wonderfully informative. Stay tuned.

Lastly, what can be inferred from untouched cookies at a meeting of psychologists? You will find the answer in this edition of the *Bulletin*.

### READ THE BULLETIN ON THE IAAP WEBSITE

To read the IAAP Bulletin (and past Newsletters) on line, go to: <http://www.iaapsy.org/>. On the right you will see a blue rectangle that says Latest Newsletter. Underneath, click on "View all newsletters."



## OBITUARY NOTICE

With deepest sorrow, the Institute of Psychology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Chinese Psychological Society announce the passing away of Prof. Jing Qicheng, an internationally well-known psychologist, academician of the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and remarkable leader of psychological science in China, at 12:45, 28 September 2008 at the age of 82. He passed away due to a sudden heart attack.

Prof. Jing Qicheng was a senior professor of the Institute of Psychology, CAS. He served as the vice-director of the Institute of Psychology, CAS, and the president of the Chinese Psychological Society and the vice-president of the International Union of Psychological Science. Professor Jing started his career as a psychologist in 1942. For 66 years, he devoted himself to the development of psychology and made great efforts to promote psychology. Even to the very last second of his life he was promoting the prosperity of the Chinese psychology cause. (See pictures of Prof. Jing's last day at [http://www.cpsbeijing.org/jing\\_enphotoes.htm](http://www.cpsbeijing.org/jing_enphotoes.htm).)

His study "Research on Visual Perception of Color" not only has world-wide influence but also plays an important role for the industrial development of China. Some of his students have become the backbones of the Chinese psychological community. His work to introduce Chinese psychological study to the world has made China an important member in international psychological field. He has won numerous international prizes and acknowledgements and is the first psychologist among TWAS academicians. And, his work has greatly improved the influence of psychology in world sciences. Professor Jing also worked as a chairperson of the committee of CAS Democratic League. He was also a member of the National Committee of the 7th and 8th Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). He loved China and Chinese people and showed his selfless devotion to the cause of the development of the country.

The unexpected passing of Professor Jing Qicheng is a great loss to Chinese psychology.

### ***Obituary for Professor Jing Qicheng***

It is with a heavy heart that IAAP extends to the family and friends of Professor Jing Qicheng our deepest condolences at the grievous passing away of this great man and true gentleman.

IAAP's first connection with Professor Jing and the Chinese Psychological Society (CPS) dates back to 1981, when, on the occasion of the second convention of the CPS after the Cultural Revolution, six 'foreign friends' were invited to this historic meeting on account of it being the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the CPS.

One of the six was Ed Fleishman, the President of IAAP at this time, and his meeting with both Jing Qicheng and Xu Liang Cang laid the foundation for the development of the close relationship between IAAP and CPS with Xu being elected onto the IAAP Board of Directors. Both Jing and Xu have been staunch supporters of IAAP ever since.

In particular, Professor Jing was mainly responsible for the CPS being given the privilege of organizing the first Regional Conference of Psychology which was held in Guangzhou in 1995. Its outstanding success played a major role in the CPS subsequently winning the honour of hosting the 2004 IUPsyS Congress in Beijing which also was such a triumph.

Thus, in a word, the Chinese Psychological Society rose from the ashes of the Cultural Revolution to host the largest congress of psychology up to that time, and in all of its re-creation Professor Jing was a central figure.

So, for all in our Association who knew Professor Jing, I am sure that you will join me on this sad occasion not only in expressing sympathy to his family, friends and colleagues within the CPS for his passing away but also in remembering and celebrating his truly wonderful life and career.

*Mike Knowles*

# Division News

## Division 1-- Work and Organizational Psychology

### *New Benefits For Members of Division 1*

At the last Board of Directors meeting in Berlin, as the president of Division 1, I presented a motion referring to the signature of an agreement to strengthen the cooperation of IAAP's Division 1 with SIOP (Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology, USA) and EAWOP (European Association of Work and Organizational Psychology). The motion was approved by the BOD and afterwards by the Board of Officers.



As a first result of this agreement we are proud to announce that if you are, or if you become a member of Division 1, you can get a number of advantages from SIOP ([www.siop.org](http://www.siop.org)). The members of Division 1 have an opportunity to get an International Associate Membership to SIOP at a discounted rate of \$50US (a savings of \$10US). This membership includes the following benefits:

1. Subscriptions to *Industrial and Organizational Psychology* (journal) and The Industrial-Organizational Psychologist (TIP; Newsletter). The personal subscription price for this quarterly journal is 71 for Europe. Moreover, the subscription price for TIP is \$20US. SIOP members will receive these publications as a part of membership. A copy of each issue will be mailed to members. Additionally, members can access the journal electronically via the SIOP Web site. The journal takes a focal article–peer commentary–response format.
2. The discounted registration fee (the same as for members) for the annual conference, conference workshops, and the Placement Center. Registration for 2009 is \$190 for members and \$360 for non-members. Registration for pre-conference workshops is \$400 for members and \$650 for non-members.
3. Discounted publications (same as for members) offered through the SIOP online store.
4. Inclusion in the SIOP online directory. This online directory lists contact information for more than 6,800 members of SIOP in North America and around the world.
5. Eligibility to submit proposals for SIOP Annual Conference presentations. The SIOP Annual Conference is a premier event in industrial-organizational psychology. The 3-day conference features more than 300 sessions, an exhibit hall, social activities, two theme tracks of programming, and a job placement center. The conference will be held in New Orleans April 2-4, 2009, and in Atlanta April 8-10, 2010.
6. A subscription to SIOP's "Newsbriefs" electronic newsletter. "Newsbriefs" is sent monthly to SIOP members.

### **INVITATION TO JOIN DIVISION 1**

As you can see, being a member of Division 1 provides you with new advantages and benefits. In the next newsletter, we will inform you about the agreement with EAWOP that will provide members of Division 1 with similar benefits.

If you still are not a member of Division 1—Work and Organizational Psychology, and you are interested in this field, we kindly **invite you to join our Division**. By doing this you can contribute to strengthening the services IAAP provides to the international network of practitioners, researchers and academics in Work and Organizational Psychology aiming to contribute to the development of workers, companies and society in a more and more global world.

*José M. Peiró, President, Division 1*



### **Report on Division 1's activities at the ICP in Berlin**

"Publishing Internationally" - a workshop given by Professor Michael Frese, past president of the IAAP, sponsored by Divisions 1 and 15

The workshop was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July within the pre-congress workshop programs and lasted for three hours. The workshop dealt with some typical problems of European work and organizational psychologists when publishing internationally. Some aspects that were covered were: basic issues of publishing in international journals, correct editing and double publication, producing a good story and theory, writing style and transitions, how to choose the right journal, common mistakes of non-English speaking authors, response to rejection and rewrites, etc.

The workshop was attended by 18 participants. This workshop was a wonderful opportunity to get some insights about how to publish their research in the future. Division 1 is already planning to organize similar workshops at future congresses, for instance at the 14<sup>th</sup> European congress of work and organizational psychology which will take place in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of May, 2009.

"Psychosocial risk analysis and prevention at work" - an invited symposium chaired by Professor José Maria Peiró, president of Division 1.

The chair of the symposium, Prof. José Maria Peiró, opened the lecture and emphasized that psychosocial risk analysis and its prevention at work constitutes a WOP contribution for society and its world of work. Peiró said that work should not be a danger for workers' health and *psyches*. On the contrary, it should promote their well-being and self-fulfillment.

Christian Korunka in his presentation "Emergent psychosocial risk conditions in current work places: Evaluation and prevention strategies" suggested, on the basis of his research findings, that current workplaces can be characterized by emergent psychosocial risks and our task is to capture the "new" risks before it's too late.

Kari Linstrom's presentation "Psychosocial risks at work and their prevention in Finland" concerned risk analysis in Finnish organizations as well as different prevention strategies based on the healthy work organization approach.

Norbert K. Semmert talked about "Stress prevention and management in the workplace: Concepts, findings and desiderata". He offered an interesting review of the intervention projects pointing out that successful projects share a number of features such as a thorough analysis, a participative approach, and management support. He also mentioned that even well-implemented interventions are not likely to lead to improvements in all parameters for all participants, and trade-offs have to be considered more than they typically are.

Remi Kouabenan in his presentation "Beliefs, accident analysis, risk perception and prevention" underlined that in the process of coping with accident risk we should concentrate on prevention rather than on responsibility and on the role of illusion and its positive and negative effects.

Lois Tetrick and Gloria González-Morales' presentation concerned the "Cross-cultural perspectives on coping with work-family conflict." It concentrated on coping with work-family conflict and gave evidence that work-family conflict can be a major source of distress.

José Maria Peiró and Isabel Rodriguez in their presentation entitled "Psychosocial risk prevention: An approach from positive psychology" claimed that an emotional team climate of fear plays a mediating role between leadership quality and well-being. The positive psychology approach to risk prevention was emphasized for promoting well-being at work.

A vivid discussion took place after the symposium that lasted for more than half an hour. The interest, questions and engagement of the discussants were proof that risk analysis and its

prevention is one of the most important problems present in contemporary organizations and deserves more contributions from psychology.

### **Division 1 Social hour**

Division 1 also organized a Social Hour at the last ICP. It was open for members of the division as well as for any guests from other divisions and organizations. The event was held after the invited symposium. As we expected, the Social Hour was an occasion to share information and opinions about the most important issues of Work and Organizational Psychology in an informal and friendly atmosphere. It was attended by over 60 persons. The discussions concerned mostly the problem of WOP information sharing and common research tasks. This was a good occasion to introduce young WOP researchers and practitioners to their more experienced colleagues and to confront opinions on different topics. The participants of the Social Hour were talking so vividly that our modest cookies stayed almost untouched. We are sure that there is a great need for such informal meetings, and that is why we are planning similar events in the nearest future.

*Barbara Kórusztik, Secretary Division 1*

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

### ***Addressing Challenges of Standardizing Test Use in Israeli Schools***

In Israel, questions about psychological testing are widely associated with requirements associated with assessing children with special needs to determine their possible eligibility for special services. By law, the work of educational (school) psychologists is central to this process. Although the Ministry of Education establishes uniform national standards for this assessment, practices vary widely. Conditions that constitute a valid assessment and the extent to which such assessments require the use of formal psychological testing are not understood clearly. As a result, the chief psychologist of the Educational Psychology Division, Israel Ministry of Education, appointed a task force (TF) to review and recommend national standards for psychological assessment and testing.

The TF considered many issues, including the following: a definition of psychological assessment and its relation to testing, trends that recommend wider use of curriculum-based assessments and evaluations based on a student's response to interventions, applications of test data to evidence-based and treatment-utility standards, ways to balance professional integrity and valid clinical decision-making with heavy work loads, and that students found eligible for special education services often receive meager special help.

The TF also considered the following questions: who is the client, how often does a child need to be retested to continue to be eligible for services, when is either a full or partial assessment needed, how can the need for multiple sources of information while promoting efficiency be balanced, and how can confidentiality and privacy be best insured?

The TF's report, *Psychological Standards for Assessment*, drew upon guidelines and definitions from the International Test Commission, American and Canadian national psychological associations, national and international associations of school psychologists, and professional literature. A broad definition of psychological assessment was adopted, one that reflects the process of systematically collecting information about a child's functioning in different domains and integrating the information in order to provide a valid response to the referral questions along with recommendations for interventions.

The TF concluded that use of psychological testing is indeed an important source of information, along with observations, knowledge of a child's response to interventions, along with parent and teacher reports. Referrals that may lead to more restrictive educational settings (e.g. transfer to special education classes and schools) require a full assessment, including the use of standardized tests. However, referrals that are likely to lead to the provision of help within regular classrooms do not require a full evaluation.



Nevertheless, all assessments should be conducted by certified educational psychologists, and their reports should integrate information obtained from multiple sources. School psychologists are to consider students and their families as their primary clients and are obligated to protect their privacy and confidentiality of information in keeping with legal rights and ethical standards.

These standards help to establish national standards for practice, address long-standing questions, address both legal and ethical issues, and generally have been positively received by school psychologists.

*Sharon L. Maital, Ph.D., Deputy Chief Regional Psychologist, Northern Region Counseling & Educational Psychology Services, Israel Ministry of Education*

### **Division 3-- Psychology and Social Development**

Zeynep Aycan [zaycan@ku.edu.tr](mailto:zaycan@ku.edu.tr) and Hiroaki Morio [morio@humanscience.jp](mailto:morio@humanscience.jp) were appointed to the positions of general secretary and the treasurer of Division 3 and IAAP 2010, respectively.



We are organizing a symposium on "psychology and social development," which is our new division name, at ICAP 2010 in Australia. If you have any suggestions, please contact Cigdem Kagitcibasi [ckagit@ku.edu.tr](mailto:ckagit@ku.edu.tr) or Susumu Yamaguchi [susumu@L.u-tokyo.ac.jp](mailto:susumu@L.u-tokyo.ac.jp).

*Susumu Yamaguchi, President, Division 3*

### **Division 4 – Environmental Psychology**

In July, quite a number of environmental psychologists gathered in Berlin for the ICP conference, although they were greatly outnumbered by other sorts of psychologists. In contrast, the International Association of People-Environmental Studies (IAPS) conference in Rome was a wonderful gathering of like-minded researchers.

#### **Updated Website**

We are updating our website and the new address is [www.iaapsy.org/division4](http://www.iaapsy.org/division4).

#### **Summer School on Theories in Environmental Psychology 2009**

We are proud to announce the First STEP: the First Summer school on Theories in Environmental Psychology 2009, which will be held at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. The aim of the summer school is to provide PhD students in environmental psychology the opportunity to learn from leading scholars in the field and to meet and discuss their work with peers.

Students will actively participate in one of five theme sessions:

Values, norms and environmental behavior; Changing behavior via community approaches; Strategies to reduce household energy use; Transport pricing; Stress and the city - restorative environments.

The summer school will be held from July 13-17, 2009.

Please forward this information to colleagues and/or students who might be interested in participating in the summer school. For more information about lecturers, workshop themes, the organizing committee, expenses and accommodations, as well as registration for the summer school, please visit our website: <http://www.rug.nl/psy/onderwijs/firststep/>.

If you have any further questions, please mail us at [step2009@rug.nl](mailto:step2009@rug.nl).

Best wishes, on behalf of the organizing committee at the University of Groningen,

*Linda Steg, University of Groningen, Department of Psychology*

## Division 7—Applied Gerontology

There have been a number of interesting developments which affect Applied Gerontology. The American Psychological Association, in conjunction with the American Bar Association, has now published a handbook on the assessment of older adults with diminished capacity. The purpose of

this work is to promote assessments of older adults which lead to relevant interventions which balance the promotion of autonomy and facilitation of protection from harm. This, in my opinion, is a very helpful collaborative effort and should be useful to health service providers as well as attorneys.



Another recent development concerns the recent passage of legislation in the United States which will require private insurers to provide the same level of benefits for mental illness as they do for physical disorders. This legislation was incorporated into the 700 billion dollar effort to help stabilize economic factors in US banks. One of the co-sponsors of this legislation pointed out that this legislation will help reduce the stigma often associated with mental illness.

A report on the 2006 Pike's Peak Model for Training in Professional Psychology is underway. Many of us expect the demand for services to older adults to increase in the United States and elsewhere. The report will be a competency based approach and should be very helpful to those professionals involved in the training of workers in applied gerontology. More details next time.

Guidelines on the assessment of dementia and cognitive decline will be revised in 2009. They were originally passed in 2008 during the time Norman Abeles was President of the American Psychological Association. In 2008, President Alan Kazdin of the American Psychological Association presented Norman Abeles with an APA Presidential Citation for service to the profession of psychology including the establishment of the Committee on Aging within the American Psychological Association.

Recently one of our members pointed out an article in the *Journal of Gerontology* (Vol 63A, No 10, October 2008). The authors discuss frailty among community dwelling elders in three cities in France. They concluded that frailty is not specific to subgroups or

regions of the world and suggests the construct of frailty does have predictive validity for adverse health outcomes. It appears to be a useful concept in population screening and the prediction of service needs. Frailty was defined as meeting at least three of the following five criteria: weight loss, weakness, exhaustion, slowness, and low activity. Principal outcomes were incident hospitalizations, disability and death.

Finally, you might be interested in knowing that APA Division 52 has an ongoing project to develop a DVD on International Psychology. This is a 45-minute documentary and aims to acquaint students with the nature of international psychology, to raise their interest, and explain how to get involved. International psychologists are featured in the video and represent all continents. It is produced by Division 52's Uwe Gielen and Judy Kuriansky. The editor is Jeremy Wedding, the son of Danny Wedding, who many of you know..

*Norman Abeles, PhD, President, Division 7*

## Division 10--Psychology and Law

It must be said that our division is struggling. We have very few members and even fewer still who participate in Division business or activities. How can we change this? First, I am seeking those of you with interests in Psychology and Law to ensure that you are members of the Division. Second, we need those of you with energy and commitment to contact me to help develop a viable Division



committee to help develop and oversee activities of our group. Please email me on [James.Ogloff@med.monash.edu.au](mailto:James.Ogloff@med.monash.edu.au) to begin a dialogue to help out with our struggling section.

On a brighter note, we look with considerable excitement to the 27<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Applied Psychology, which will be held in Melbourne, Australia between 11-16 July 2010. Dr. Michael Daffern is the member of the Scientific Committee representing psychology and law and assisting with development of the program and activities. With Michael's input, the Scientific Committee has come up with a list of themes for the conference. The themes are particularly broad to be inclusive of those in our diverse field. They include: prevention of antisocial behaviour, offender assessment and treatment, neuroscience, genetics and the law, juvenile delinquency, sexual offending, violence and violent offenders, personality disorders and psychopathy, risk assessment and management, policing, indefinite and preventative detention, terrorism, mental illness and the law, intellectual disability and the law, psychiatric / psychological injury, children, families and the law, eyewitness evidence, expert evidence, malingering and deception, ethics and human rights, and policy and service systems (there is a limit of 20 themes). I encourage you to attend the conference and to consider submitting an abstract to share your work with our international colleagues.

Beyond the general conference, the College of Forensic Psychologists of the Australian Psychological Society will hold a mini-conference and workshops either immediately preceding or following the conference. This will provide a further opportunity to display our work and to interact with colleagues in psychology and law from abroad. There will also be visits to local research and clinical facilities for members.

Returning to my original point, though, please do make a point of contacting me if you are interested in psychology and law and would like to help ensure the viability of our field.

Finally, the College of Forensic Psychologists is hosting the Annual Conference for Forensic Psychology in Melbourne from February 25-28, 2009. For more information, please visit [www.conorg.com.au](http://www.conorg.com.au).

*John Ogloff, President, Division of Psychology and Law*



## **Division 11--Political Psychology**

The present report covers the time between the July, 2008 International Congress of Psychology of our partner organization, the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) and mid-November 2008. The degree of activities of the division has once again been low, while individual members have shown a lot of engagement in fields closely related to political psychology.

A number of members, among them former division president Di Bretherton, president-elect Takehiko Ito, and the author are playing a facilitating role in the organization of the 11<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Contributions of Psychology to Peace. This symposium will be hosted by Ed Cairns from the University of Ulster in Colrairie and Angela Veale from the University College Cork in June 2009 in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The Symposium on Contributions of Psychology to Peace is a series of biennial workshop-like meetings typically in conflict-laden areas of the world that bring together peace psychologists and peace activists from the region in which the symposium takes place. The symposia are organized under the auspices of the Committee for the Psychological Study of Peace (CPSP), originally—founded in 1988—an ad-hoc committee of IUPsyS, meanwhile an independent organization indebted to an action-oriented understanding of political and peace psychology, as IUPsyS recently suspended its committee status.

The author of the report co-organized the 19<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Cross-Cultural Psychology of IACCP, the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology, another sister organization

of IAAP under the motto "Crossing Borders: (Cross-)Cultural Psychology as an Interdisciplinary Multi-Method Endeavor," which encompassed a fair number of political-psychological contributions, among them a keynote address by Susan Pick from Mexico on the "Psychology of Social Development," and a state-of-the-art lecture by political scientist Chris Welzel on "Change in Political Culture."

Another initiative continuously supported by members of the division is the establishment of the International Network of Psychologists for Social Responsibility (INPsySR—[www.inpsysr.org](http://www.inpsysr.org)), which aims "to unite the efforts of psychological organizations around the world in which psychologists currently are involved in peace, conflict resolution, and social justice activities; to promote communication and cooperation between psychologists and their organizations in the area of social responsibility, to support Member Organizations in developing their work in their own countries, to facilitate contacts with international bodies of psychology and related disciplines and to be an important source of advice to international institutions, government departments and to political and social organizations as well as to promote social responsibility in the practice of psychology.

Networking within the division is still in limbo, primarily due to limitations in the personal and professional resources of the officers and the scarcity of members who volunteer to do work for the division. In view of the present author, this situation should give rise to considerations as to whether an autonomous continuation of the division is a good solution from the position of wanting to spark synergy effects for the development of political psychology as a prominent field of applied psychology within IAAP. One might rather consider a merger with the recently renamed Division 3, "Psychology and Social Development:" Members of Division 3 and Division 11, what do you think?

With this—in a certain sense—cry for help I remain yours truly,

*Klaus Boehmke, President, Division 11*

*(currently Visiting Professor at the Department of Psychology of the National University of Singapore—[psykglb@nus.edu.sg](mailto:psykglb@nus.edu.sg))*

## **Division 12 – Sport Psychology**

The Nordic Conference "Health, Participation and Effects of Sport and Exercise" had 145 participants representing 15 countries. The three-day conference, organized by Halmstad University included four keynote lectures, as well as symposia, workshops, several poster presentations with a high participation of students and Young Investigators Awards. Anne-Marte Pensgaard (Norway) presented the Sport Psychology keynote lecture "Coping in sport and exercise: A strategy or an expectancy?"

As Glyn Roberts reports, the Annual Conference of the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP) was held in St Louis, Missouri and had 662 attendees representing 49 countries. Glyn Roberts gave the Coleman Griffith Lecture discussing parsimony, elegance, conceptual coherence and practical utility of sport psychology research. Laura Carstensen who gave the Social Psychology address on the shifting time horizons of human aging! The 20<sup>th</sup> Century gave us 30 extra years of life, on average, and these shifting dynamics are going to impact the 21<sup>st</sup> Century dramatically.

Nannette Mutrie gave the Health and Exercise psychology lecture and addressed the issue of promoting physical activity for public health. Last, the performance psychology keynote speaker was Terry Orlick, who gave a philosophy of application talk (and a philosophy of life talk) wherein he discussed the importance of focus. The Distinguished International Scholar address was given by Celia Brackenridge, who discussed her research into sexual discrimination, sexual abuse and plain bullying in sport. There were many very good presentations this year, with many well attended applied sport psychology sessions. The poster sessions were very interesting and the posters numerous!



The Asian South Pacific Association of Sport Psychology (ASPASP) has just launched its own website. Visit [www.aspasp.org](http://www.aspasp.org) for details of activities in the region.

The Sport Psychology Centre of the National Sports Institute of Malaysia has recruited five new full-time staff to meet the demand of sport psychologists in assisting athletes.

### **Meetings, Conferences, Congresses**

December 11-14, 2008. Athens, Greece. 10<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Congress of Sport Psychology entitled "Youth Sport and Exercise: Adjusting goals, priorities and programmes". The European Federation of Sport Psychology's (FEPSAC) MC official meeting will be hosted by the Hellenic Federation of Sport Psychology.

31 March - 1 April 2009. British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) Student Conference "An insight into the future of sport and exercise sciences" held at University of Hull. Visit [www.bases.org.uk](http://www.bases.org.uk)

April 1-3, 2009, Brighton, UK. Annual Conference 2009 of the British Psychological Society (BPS). Visit [www.bps.org.uk/ac2009](http://www.bps.org.uk/ac2009)

May 7-10, 2009, Munich, Germany. FEPSAC's MC official meeting hosted by the German Organization for Sport Psychology at the Technical University connected to a symposium on applied sport psychology in top-level sports. Email: Dr. Ehrlenspiel ([ehrlenspiel@sp.tum.de](mailto:ehrlenspiel@sp.tum.de)).

June 17-20, 2009, Lisbon, Portugal. Conference of the International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity. Visit [www.isbnpa2009.fmh.utl.pt/](http://www.isbnpa2009.fmh.utl.pt/)

June 21-23, 2009, Sintra, Portugal. Satellite meeting: "Understanding and Changing Health Behavior with Self-Determination Theory and Motivational Interviewing"

July 1-3 2009, Paris, France. "International Congress of the French Society of Sport Psychology", organized by the National Institute of Sport and Physical Education (INSEP). Invited speakers include: D. Araujo (Portugal), F.L. Gardner (USA), N. Stambulova (Sweden), R.R. Vallacher (USA), and P. Vermersch (France). E-mail: [congresinsep2009@insep.fr](mailto:congresinsep2009@insep.fr). Visit: [www.psychodusport.com](http://www.psychodusport.com)

July 2, 2009, Paris, France. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FEPSAC Celebration. Embedded in the International Congress of the French Society of Sport Psychology (July 1-3, 2009). Invited speakers include: C. Jannes (Belgium), J.R. Nitsch (Germany), and R. Seiler (Switzerland). Visit: [www.fepsac.eu](http://www.fepsac.eu)

July 16-18, 2009, Budapest, Hungary. 30<sup>th</sup> Stress and Anxiety Research Society (STAR) Conference. Keynote speakers will be Erica Frydenberg (Australia), Yuri Hanin (Finland), Attila Oláh (Hungary), Sonja Rohrmann (Germany). Visit [www.hupe.hu/star2009](http://www.hupe.hu/star2009).

July 17-21, 2009, Marrakesh, Morocco. 12<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International Society of Sport Psychology (ISSP). Howard Hall (UK) will be a Keynote Speaker presenting "Perfectionism in Sport: A hallmark quality of elite performance or a psychological impediment?" Other speakers include: Craig A. Wrisberg, (USA), Edward L. Deci (USA), Gershon Tenenbaum (USA) and Packianathan Chelladurai (USA). Visit: [www.issp2009.com](http://www.issp2009.com)

September 16-19, Salt Lake City, Utah. 2009 AASP (Association for Applied Sport Psychology) Conference. Visit: <http://appliedsportpsych.org/>

### **New Publications**

Biddle, S.J.H. & Mutrie, N. (2008). *Psychology of physical activity: Determinants, well-being and interventions* (2nd edition). London: Routledge. Visit: [www.routledge.com](http://www.routledge.com)

Smith, A.L. & Biddle, S.J.H. (Eds.) (2008). *Youth physical activity and sedentary behavior: Challenges and solutions*. Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics. Visit: [www.humankinetics.com/products/showproduct.cfm?isbn=9780736065092](http://www.humankinetics.com/products/showproduct.cfm?isbn=9780736065092)

The first volume of the new Elsevier journal, *Mental Health and Physical Activity*, has now been published. The 6 papers in the first issue are all available for free download at: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/17552966>. For information and on-line manuscript submissions visit: <http://ees.elsevier.com/menpa/> or contact the Co-Editors, Prof Adrian Taylor ([a.h.taylor@ex.ac.uk](mailto:a.h.taylor@ex.ac.uk)) or Guy Faulkner ([guy.faulkner@utoronto.ca](mailto:guy.faulkner@utoronto.ca)).

Montse Ruiz, Newsletter Editor, Division 12

## Division 13—Traffic and Transportation Psychology

### Another highly successful international conference



The Fourth International Conference of Traffic and Transport Psychology (ICTTP4), held in Washington, DC from 30 August to 4 September, like all previous ICTTP conferences, was a great success. We are particularly indebted to Bryan Porter who chaired the Conference Organizing and Scientific Committees. Around 340 delegates participated and the conference will at least break-even. Our thanks also go to Elsevier for their sponsorship of the conference. Elsevier have expressed an interest in sponsoring ICTTP5. Student papers delivered at ICTTP4 had so far generated nine submissions for the journal *Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour*. Selected papers, including some based upon conference presentations, would be

commissioned as contributions for a book (edited by Bryan Porter) of around 40 chapters describing 'cutting edge' research in traffic psychology.

Our attention is already turning to the Fifth International Conference of Traffic and Transport Psychology (ICTTP5) to be held in 2012. Our experience to date indicates that selection criteria for a suitable venue should include:

- An active local organising group that could form the core of an effective conference organising committee.
- Good global transport links to the conference venue.
- High likelihood of attracting a minimum of 350 participants.

Other factors to consider include that this not be held in a country that has previously hosted an ICTTP, nor recently hosted an ICAP, whether the 2012 conference should be held in a different continent from any previous ICTTP, the possibility of ICTTP5 going 'back-to-back' with a related conference and whether ICTTP5 should have a particular theme. A possible theme could be international collaboration on traffic and transport psychology. Two countries have already expressed an interest in hosting ICTTP5 and a decision will be made early in 2009 on the venue.

The final session of the Washington conference included a warm expression of thanks to immediate Past President Denis Huguenin for his considerable work for the Division over many years.

### News from Japan

Earlier this year the Japanese Association of Traffic Psychology selected a new executive committee to serve from 2008 to 2010. The new committee members are: President: Prof Toshiro Ishida (Waseda University); Vice-president: Prof Hiro Ota (Tohoku Institute of Technology); Vice-president: Prof Kazumi Renge (Tezukayama University); General Manager: Prof Tsuneo Matsuura (Jissen Women's University).



Kazumi Renge also chairs of the International Exchange Committee of Japanese Associations of Applied Psychology. The Association is planning a symposium based on academic and practical activities in Japan.

### **News from Spain**

Prof Jean-François Pace informs us that Prof Jaime Sanmartin ([www.uv.es/sanmarta](http://www.uv.es/sanmarta)) has been selected by Institute members as the new Director of the Research Institute on Traffic and Road Safety at the University of Valencia (INTRAS-UVEG) and appointed to that position for a 3-year term by the highest authority of the University of Valencia. Jean-François Pace ([jean.pace@uv.es](mailto:jean.pace@uv.es)) advises that INTRAS-UVEG would be delighted to collaborate with IAAP Division 13 members in future European projects. INTRAS-UVEG ([www.uv.es/intras](http://www.uv.es/intras)) is now based at the Tarongers Campus, Calle Serpis 29 – 46022 Valencia, Spain.

*Ian Glendon, President, Division 13*

## **Division 15—Students**

### **Student Task Force, Interamerican Society of Psychology**

Since its establishment until now, the Student Task Force of the Interamerican Society of Psychology (SIP) ([www.sipsych.org](http://www.sipsych.org)) has served as a platform for initiative and active participation among its students. The Task Force was created in 2005 at the XXX Interamerican Congress of Psychology that took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and was enhanced by Dr. José Toro-Alfonso from Puerto Rico, a Secretary General of the SIP at that time. The first coordinators of the Task Force were Marcelo Urrea from Chile and Edna Acosta from Puerto Rico.

Currently, the Task Force is carrying out various activities, such as developing a proposal on the conceptualization of a psychology student for the SIP, the implementation of the Interamerican Journal of Psychology Students, the implementation of its own website, and integration with other psychology student divisions and/or associations. We would like to emphasize the link our Task Force has established with the boards of the IAAP Student Division, the APAGS and EFPSA. We are particularly interested in establishing a strategic alliance with these students' sections which hopefully will be realized at the XXXII Interamerican Congress of Psychology that takes place in Guatemala from June 28 to July 2, 2009.

Nevertheless, as it is quite common in any organization, the Student Task Force of the SIP is facing some challenges. While forming itself, its structure, and its activities, the Task Force is still in the process of identifying the tools and strategies to facilitate the optimum conditions for participation among its members. Yet, the future of this Task Force is quite encouraging and therefore we would like to take the opportunity to invite you to participate in this student initiative of the SIP. The Task Force is currently coordinated by Migne Rivera from Puerto Rico and Marco Peña from Peru.

Sincerely,

*Marco Peña*

*[marco.pj@psicologico.cl](mailto:marco.pj@psicologico.cl) / [marco.pj@grupopsych.org](mailto:marco.pj@grupopsych.org)*

*Coordinator of the Student Task Force*

*Sociedad Interamericana de Psicología/Interamerican Society of Psychology*

## **Division 16--Counselling Psychology**

Division 16 publishes three divisional newsletters annually under the editorship of Prof. Maria Malikioti-Loizos of the University of Athens. The most recent issue (Volume 4, Issue 7, Fall 2008) contains a number of interesting features, notices, and pictures about counseling psychology in its international context, including informative articles on psychological counseling in Germany by Dr Gerhart Rott of the University of Wuppertal, and spirituality and counseling psychology by Kelly Harrison of the University of Southern Mississippi.

Division 16 would be pleased to forward an e-copy of this newsletter and subsequent editions to any IAAP member who wishes to receive them. Please let the editor, Prof. Maria Malikiosi-Loizos, know that you wish to be added to our mailing list [<mmalik@ecd.uoa.gr>](mailto:mmalik@ecd.uoa.gr).



I, along with other Division 16 members including Profs. Zhi-jin Hou, Puncy Heppner, and Fred Leong, had the opportunity to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Psychotherapy that was held recently in Beijing, China. I am pleased to report that counseling psychology was well represented at this Congress not only in the international participants but in the topics addressed in the invited presentations, symposia, and posters. Of particular note, from a counseling psychology perspective, were contributions on person-centered counseling, career counseling, multicultural counseling, school counseling, supervision, and globalization, among many other topics.

IAAP and Division 16 offer its members a vehicle to reflect on and discuss the place of culture in applied psychology generally and counseling psychology specifically. However, that represents only part of the discussion of the relationship between culture and applied and counseling psychology. These are professional disciplines and practices that can contribute to and create the possibilities for people within cultures. Our task is to help people discover the potential for their lives in the cultures in which they are living, recognizing that we all live lives in multiple and interwoven cultures.

*Richard A. Young, President, Division 16*

## **Report of the Task Force (TF) on Regional Development in Asia**

*Convenor: Fanny M. Cheung*

*November 4, 2008*

I was asked by Prof. Mike Knowles, President of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP), to chair the Task Force (TF) on Regional Development in Asia to develop contact between IAAP and applied psychologists in the Asian region and to increase their participation in IAAP and its many activities. The main roles of the Task Force are to coordinate IAAP's membership activities throughout Asia, to facilitate the expansion of IAAP's involvement in Asia, to help to affirm indigenous cultures throughout Asia, to organize symposia and other meetings in the region, and to be able to advise when asked by decision makers and policy makers about how applied psychology can contribute to national and societal development in Asia.

In my report to the Board of Directors in Berlin in July 2008, I recommended that we prioritize the roles of the TF as follows:

1. Coordinating IAAP's membership activities throughout Asia
  - a. compilation of a central database on these activities
  - b. providing an information hub on these activities
2. Facilitating the expansion of IAAP's involvement in Asia by
  - a. increasing membership from Asia
  - b. increasing participation of Asian psychologists in IAAP conferences
  - c. organizing symposia and other meetings in the region that affirm indigenous cultures and approaches
  - d. establishing stronger links with local psychological associations
3. Advising members who are asked by decision makers and policy makers about how applied psychology can contribute to national and societal development in Asia
  - a. keeping a roster of regional and local experts as consultants
  - b. facilitating communication among members on these policy issues



To build stronger mutual links with regional psychological associations, we intend to approach the following organizations:

**Asian Association of Educational and Developmental Psychology**  
**Asian Association of Health Psychology**  
**Asian Association of Social Psychology**  
**Asian Psychological Association**

In addition to myself, Prof. Dr. Sarlito W. Sarwono from Indonesia, is also a member of this TF. We welcome other IAAP members to join the TF and look forward to your participation. Please contact me if you are interested:

*Prof. Fanny M. Cheung*  
*Department of Psychology*  
*The Chinese University of Hong Kong*  
*Shatin, N.T.*  
*Hong Kong*  
*Email: fmcheung@cuhk.edu.hk*  
*Tel. (852) 2609-6481*  
*Fax: (852) 2603-5019*

## **National Psychology Week in Australia: A Great Success for the Sixth Successive Year**



In the second week of November each year, the Australian Psychological Society holds National Psychology Week. We take the opportunity to inform the Australian community about the way Psychology and Psychologists can assist them in their daily lives. This is done most effectively by providing stories to the media to run over this period, as well as releasing the results of research carried out by the Australian Psychological Society's Project Team over the preceding months. This year, our own research was about what irritates Australians, and with a sample size of over 4400 valid Australian responses we had something to say.

Australians are most distressed by telemarketing calls, hoon drivers (reckless or dangerous driving), and poor customer service. They respond to irritating events in the main in a passive way, rather than showing aggression. 36% of respondents noted that using humour was a good strategy. Other strategies included talking to someone about it or talking themselves through the situation. In response to these data, the APS prepared a tipsheet to assist Australians to respond more assertively when they are in irritating situations. The full research report is available online at [www.psychologyweek.com.au](http://www.psychologyweek.com.au).

In addition to our own research, we were able to assist members in promulgating their own research in a manner that the general public could understand. We had members writing articles in advance for long lead publications, and those of us in the electronic media were briefed to greet their audiences with "Happy National Psychology Week".

We held the first Annual National Psychology Week Oration in Sydney, and Dr Hugh Mackay, a Fellow of the APS and prominent social researcher, provided an entertaining and thought-provoking address, which will also soon be online through the above website.

Throughout the country, members held morning teas and information briefings in their workplaces and in public places, including a "Psychology Expo" in the centre of Melbourne city. Units of the APS held local events for members, including both Professional Development opportunities and social events such as movie nights – "to celebrate being part of the discipline that is Psychology".

National Psychology Week is part of an overall strategy of the APS to put Psychology and the work of psychologists on the agenda – and its effectiveness is growing each year.

*Amanda Gordon, President, Division 17, Professional Practice*



*a photo made after the discussion on RCP2009 program at the National Congress of Psychology - these are the members of local organizing group and some of the colleagues from the region.*

The South-East European Regional Conference of Psychology - 2009 (SEERCP2009) "Southeastern Europe Looking Ahead: Paradigms, Schools, Needs and Achievements of Psychology in the Region" will allow us to demonstrate the achievements and enhance the capacity-building collaboration of the psychologists in the region and the world. SEERCP2009 will help psychologists representing the countries in the region to share and increase their professional knowledge of what is going on in their countries, to learn about the paradigms, schools, needs and achievements of psychologists across the region and other parts of the world.

**Join us at SEERCP2009, from 30 October to 1 November in Sofia!**

**Let's work and grow together!**

For submissions and contacts: office@psychology-bg.org ICQ: 323 546 406

For more information go to: <http://RCP2009.wordpress.com>.

Host-organization: **The Bulgarian Psychological Society (BPS)**

with the support of

**The International Association of Applied Psychology**

**The International Association of Cross-Cultural Psychology**

**The International Union of Psychological Science**

**The European Federation of Psychologists' Associations**

**The European Health Psychology Society**

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# *IAAP and the United Nations Meeting on Human Rights*

*By Judy Kuriansky, Janel Gauthier and Janice Wetzel*

Human rights is an important issue for IAAP, as is IAAP's participation at the United Nations (UN), which is why it was particularly important that IAAP was represented at the recent United Nations conference entitled "Reaffirming Human Rights." The conference took place at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) headquarters in Paris on September 3-5, 2008. This was the first time the annual meeting of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) associated with the Department of Public Information (DPI) at the United Nations was held



outside of the UN headquarters in New York, and it was held in Paris specifically because the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* had been signed in that city sixty years ago.

IAAP was involved in several ways at this meeting. Projects which evolved out of the conference offer further opportunities for IAAP to participate in promoting human rights.

## **The Midday Workshop**

IAAP was a co-sponsor of a midday interactive workshop held on the first day of the conference. The title of the workshop was "International Community Mental Health Education: Human Rights Based Grassroots and Professional Models." The workshop, organized by the Committee on Mental Health of the NGO (Drs. Kuriansky and Wetzel are on the BOD) related to one of the themes of the conference, "Education and learning about human rights as a way of life." The workshop was unique at the conference, in that the panel presented models from community-based service and professional organizations aimed at promoting human rights through a focus on mental health, education, and psychosocial care, especially in cross-cultural and multi-cultural situations. IAAP's main UN representative, Judy Kuriansky, and IAAP Secretary-General, Janel Gauthier, were both on the panel.

The panel of the midday workshop included five expert presenters. Each of them shared a common interest in human rights-based community mental health with a focus on educating indigenous populations to meet the needs of their communities.

The first speaker, Dr René Stockman, Superior General of the Caraes Brothers of Charity, spoke about "Experiences in the Development of Mental Health Care Programs," explaining the mental health services and support that the Brothers of Charity provide to people regardless of religious beliefs, gender, sexual orientation or race. With home offices in Rome and Belgium, the organization has developed schools of psychiatric nursing and social work in underdeveloped countries, and works with marginalized and disadvantaged people in North and South America, Africa, Asia, Europe and Oceania.

The second presenter, Tara Pir, is CEO and executive director of a non-profit organization called Multicultural Counseling & Educational Services in California, a unique agency servicing varied needs of the culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Los Angeles. Her presentation described the "Transformation of Multicultural Service Delivery in the USA That Can Be Replicated Globally." Her organization offers prevention and early intervention programs which eliminate the stigma and disparity in mental health

service delivery within diverse communities. The staff is fluent in many languages and cultures from around the world.

The third speaker, Dr. Akbar Waseem Alladin, a clinical psychologist and British National Health Service consultant, presented an "Ethno-Bio-Psychosocial-Spiritual Human Rights Model for Educating Community Counselors Globally." This is an original 9-dimensional model which he developed for working with children, adults and families from diverse ethnic groups. The model is based on an ethno-medical model empirically validated in community settings and reflecting an ethic of human rights. Alladin is the Editor-in-Chief of the British journal, "Counselling Psychology Quarterly: An International Journal of Theory Research and Practice."

Dr. Gauthier was the fourth participant to speak. He spoke on "Contributing to Global Human Rights Through a Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles: A Model Which Can Be Applied by Various Stakeholders Around the World." His presentation discussed the *Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists* (UDEPP), which was unanimously adopted by IAAP and the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) at the recent International Congress of Psychology in Berlin. In his discussion, Dr. Gauthier described/explained that the ethical principles contained in the UDEPP, namely, (Respect for the Dignity of Persons and Peoples; Competent Caring for Persons and Peoples; Integrity; and Professional Scientific Responsibilities to Society. He further explained how these) are based on shared human values across cultures and that mental health professionals can make a significant contribution to global human rights and building a better world by adhering to ethical principles in their work within the world's many different countries and cultures and by participating in the promotion of ethical principles such as those in the UDEPP. *Examples were given to show how the UDEPP reaffirms human rights values and emphasizes ethics education which that promotes respect, competency, fairness and appropriateness in the provision of mental health services.* He also explained how the UDEPP and the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* complement and strengthen each other.

The fifth speaker was human rights activist Judith Heistein who filled in for Jennifer Kloes, the executive director of an organization called Global Youth Connect, an organization run by youth. This was a significant addition on the panel, as the United Nations DPI/NGO conference encourages inclusion of youth efforts. The presentation on "Empowering the Next Generation of Human Rights Activists: Healing Models from Experiences of Global Youth Connect Around the World," described examples of the work Global Youth Connect is doing around the world.

The panel was moderated by Janice Wetzal, Ph.D., chair of the executive committee of the Committee for Mental Health and main UN representative and Human Rights Chair for the USA branch of the International Association of Schools and Social Work (IASSW) which sponsored the workshop. IAAP's Dr. Kuriansky was the discussant and provided closing remarks on the panel, highlighting the valuable contributions made by the presenters in promoting human rights through mental health efforts. She has served for several years on the planning committee and the media committee for the DPI/NGO annual conferences. She was very much involved in the planning of the Paris conference.

Other IAAP board members attended the panel. IAAP board member and Division 1 President, José M. Peiro, was coincidentally in Paris for business and came to the midday workshop to offer his support, even delaying his other appointments to stay until the end. IAAP board member Eunice McCarthy also attended the DPI/NGO conference.

## Subsequent Publishing On the Issue

The Paris UN DPI/NGO conference panel led to other important opportunities to convey the message about human rights and psychology and especially about the *Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists*. For example, Dr. Gauthier subsequently wrote an article about the *Universal Declaration* for the publication of the American Psychological Association which reports on international affairs, *Psychology International*. It was published in the October 2008 issue (see <http://www.apa.org/international/pi/1008gauthier.html>).



Another valuable opportunity upcoming is that the panel presentations will be printed in a special issue of "Counselling Psychology Quarterly: An International Interdisciplinary Journal of Theory, Reporting on Practice, Research and Practice" theory, which will come out in 2009. The editor, Dr. Alladin, has invited Dr. Kuriansky to be a co-editor of this special issue. Dr. Gauthier will submit a paper concerning the *Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists* based on his presentation. Dr. Wetzel will write an introduction, and Dr. Kuriansky's paper will be on youth participation.

## The Student Journalism Program

At the UN Human Rights conference in Paris, Dr. Kuriansky also led the "Student Journalism Program." Twenty students came from different countries around the world to participate in the program and to report on the conference for their school publications and other media outlets. For example, a team of students came from the European Youth Press to do written and electronic coverage. Dr. Kuriansky supervised them and also co-executive produced a video for the European Youth Press about youth participation in the conference and in human rights. (See

<http://www.dailymotion.com/unfrenchyauxusa/video/x6rrvr-annual-ngo-conference-at-unesco-news>

## Other Conference Highlights

The conference was inspiring as it promoted human rights through workshops, panels, special presentations and artworks. Several artworks of note included an oversize display in the main hallway of the UNESCO headquarters depicting messages from workshops attended by a veteran graphic artist to which attendees added commentary throughout the conference. Another art display consisted of posters created by students from the Art Center College of Design, interpreting articles of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Examples of posters included a drawing of two human hands – male or female, young or old, black or white – with the message "the right to bare arms" to indicate that there can be no justice where there is discrimination; a drawing of a child holding a gun, with the message "A child is not a soldier;" a rendering of a heart and the word "everybody," to show we are all the same; and an unlabelled t-shirt intended to raise awareness of sweat shop labor.

Moving events at the conference included a tribute to Eleanor Roosevelt – pictured on one of the posters on the stage – who helped draft the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Also, the 90-year old Honorable Stephan Hessel, who was among the original drafters when he was only 30 years old, spoke about the need to continue upholding and expanding the principles. Workshops which seemed to move many attendees – including the student journalists – were on the topic of child brides (7-year-olds handed over to 30-year-old men by their parents); a panel about a youth organization working for understanding between strife-ridden neighbors Haiti and the Dominican Republic; and a presentation by a Rwandan young man who survived the genocide and is working for legal rights for survivors. At the closing ceremony, a powerful presentation was made via video-cast from the UN headquarters in New York by Ingrid Betancourt. The former Colombian Presidential candidate, who had recently been released from a six-and-a-half year captivity by a rebel group, the FARC, made an appeal about described the many other hostages still who are in need of being freed.

## Important Connections

Various important UN staff and representatives of allied organizations were at the conference, including Mr. Kiyo Akasaka, UN Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information; Jeffery Huffines, Chair of the Executive Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information. Others mentioned a willingness to promote IAAP's 2009 Regional Conference on Psychology (RCP) in

Bulgaria, including . One is Dr. Thalys Mylonas, a lawyer and International Law specialist and President of the Institute of Inter-Balkan Relations with special consultative status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, who is interested in human rights, democracy and ethics. Briefings were offered about aspects of the conflicts affecting the Balkans, which are relevant to the 2009 RCP in Bulgaria.

## Subsequent Presentations

On September 25, 2008, the Committee on Mental Health held its monthly meeting which focused on reviewing the DPI/NGO meeting in Paris. The panel presenters, all of whom had attended the meeting, discussed different aspects of the conference. Information Officer for NGO Relations, representing the UN Department of Public Information (DPI), Gail Bindley-Taylor Sainte, reported on the successes and challenges of the meeting from the DPI's point of view, especially regarding holding the meeting outside of New York headquarters for the first time. Dr. Janice Wetzel presented an overview and highlights of the conference, and . Dr. **Judith Bograd Gordon**, co-convenor of the Working Group on Racism, Related Intolerances and Mental Health for the Committee on Mental Health and also a UN Representative for the International Council of Women, focused on issues related to women. at the conference. Dr. Kuriansky focused her report on the Paris meeting on youth participation. She also described and reported more fully on Dr. Gauthier's presentation and. She also distributed copies of his handout on the *Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists* which he had prepared for the Paris meeting. Copies of Dr. Gauthier's handout was also distributed widely by Dr. Kuriansky at a meeting at Fordham University during which the DPI/NGO meeting was reviewed, and also at the conference of the World Council of Psychotherapy which was held in Beijing, China on October 12-15, 2008, at which she presented several workshops. The attendees at all these meetings were very interested in this report and handout.

## Outcome

Overall, the NGO/DPI conference and subsequent opportunities resulting from IAAP's participation in the UN conference, "Reaffirming Human Rights for All: the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* at 60," has proven to be valuable in advancing the mission of advocating and affirming human rights in the field of mental health and in IAAP's mission.

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*Dr. Kuriansky has served for several years on the planning committee and the media committee for the DPI/NGO annual conferences. She was very much involved in the planning of the Paris conference.*

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## Action 100

IAAP has a program called Action 100 which provides membership to individuals who represent an institution, department, or non-governmental organization (NGO), and are entrusted with the responsibility of sharing IAAP Newsletters and Journals with other psychologists and students in their group or organization. This is an offer which is extended to groups of psychologists from lower income countries who would find it challenging to make the payments for individual membership in IAAP.

The Action 100 program is administered by IAAP Secretary-General, Professor Janel Gauthier ([janel.gauthier@psy.ulaval.ca](mailto:janel.gauthier@psy.ulaval.ca)), who receives applications directly and decides on approval or otherwise, and then informs our publishers accordingly.



# COMMENTARY: Virtual Head Start for International Applied Psychologists

Robert F. Morgan, Argosy University, Phoenix

The best *Head Start* pre-school program I ever reviewed was a non-linear Canadian one where the teacher, a former mental health professional with no educational training, used Mondays to help the class identify the weekly question (e.g., 'How do airplanes fly?'), Tuesdays to research the question, Wednesdays for a Field Trip to experience the topic (e.g., to an airport), Thursdays for drawings and reports, Fridays for review and fun. The worst *Head Start* pre-school program I ever visited was one where the mothers spent all the money on their own field trips, leaving their clergyman Director to baby-sit their children. Or, maybe it was the one that diverted the money earmarked for medical/dental screening and two children died from preventable easily diagnosed illnesses. This latter was in an urban public school system (*Head Start* was renamed *Follow Through* when it entered the K-3 public school grades). This system was repaired when I organized the class's Teacher's Aides, (mothers of some of the children) and they moved quickly to get the health component restored. Success always has its twists and turns. The leadership of the public school complained to national administrators, and I was no longer a *Head Start/Follow Through* evaluator. It was still well worth it.



For international applied psychologists, I am hopeful that distance learning, now connecting the human family across the globe by sporadic internet threads, can be transformed by the real time addition of virtual reality conferencing. This will allow outreach to many geographically isolated communities while still creating the experience of being in the same room. (Of course, students can then appear as their own icons, affecting their shapes in a way only limited by their creativity: sitting amid unicorns and dragons would be interesting, even in the statistics class.) A new generation has grown up with technology unknown to those who came before. Videogames, used wisely, have the potential to be a powerfully positive teaching tool for the educational community. On the other hand: A recent controlled brain scan study, not yet published, of the impact on teenagers of slaying video game people showed short term suspension of inhibition and concentration not found in a car chase video game control. University of Michigan psychologist Brad Bushman concluded "In general, violent media increases aggressive thoughts and there's good reason to believe participatory violent video games have a stronger effect than violent TV programs or films." In rebuttal, the president of the Entertainment software association referred to studies linking videogames with business success (Springer, 2006). Sounds consistent to me.

Two related technologies, cheap portable video recording and broadband Internet, "have increasingly affected our public life- even for people who aren't in public life to begin with" (Levy, 2006). Transgressions by police or politicians appear on YouTube or Blogs and suddenly alert the entire wired world community to the presence of any crisis. It's an interesting democracy by default through 'radical transparency.' Previously inaccessible information comes instantly available and searchable, from Google to public records to *MySpace*. The potential for transformative application is immense. For example, a truly global information network of medical outcomes for each patient, iatrogenic to breakthrough, could be the impetus for dropping medieval methods like ECT in favor of effective solutions. While 'radical transparency' offers much to the community, there are serious issues for privacy and public spontaneity. Yet, the tools have arrived for us all to be better informed, alerted quickly to danger or opportunity, and to have truly informed consent.

Nor is this limited to the human community. Signing chimps are no longer a novelty. The signing gorilla Koko did an internet interview answering questions from around the world. I tried to convince one of the world psychology congress' Scientific Boards to give Koko a keynote lecture opportunity, but I was unpersuasive. All in its own time.

