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Sri Lanka: Psychology Moves Forward

by Merry Bullock, PhD, Senior Director,
APA Office of International Affairs



Kandy, Sri Lanka

The University of Perendiya sits near Kandy, Sri Lanka, a mountain city ringed by high hills, seat of a well-known Buddhist temple, the "Temple of the Tooth". This November, the university was the setting for a conference organized by Sri Lankan psychologists that brought together psychologists, students, university officials, members of the community (including several Buddhist clergy), and a broad range of social scientists for a day of discussion centered on the theme Towards Understanding Psychology: A Multi-Perspective Exploration of Psychology in the Sri Lankan Context. The one-day meeting, opened by the University Vice Chancellor and attended by about 200 Sri Lankans and several international speakers and guests, explored different approaches and views of psychology, the challenges and opportunities for expanding the discipline of psychology in the national system of higher education and the urgent demand for trained psychologists in settings such as mental health facilities, humanitarian agencies, the military, and the corporate sector.

The following day, psychologists who had attended the conference met in a hilltop hotel to discuss the needs of the discipline in the country and agreed to form a psychology

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...Sri Lanka, continued from cover page



Group picture of psychologists at the founding of the interim Sri Lankan Psychology Association

association, the first in the country. The new interim organization will work over the next months to draft a constitution, draw up membership criteria, and develop a set of goals and aims. Its first interim President Piyanjali De Soyza, is joined by an Executive Committee whose members include Udeni Appuhamilage, Marsha Cassiere-Daniel, Shamala Kumar and Suveendran Thirupathy.



(From left to right) Danesh Karunanayake, Shamala Kumar, Jeanne Marecek, Manjula Vithanapathirana, and Merry Bullock

Psychology in Sri Lanka

Although psychology in Sri Lanka is a popular topic both in the university and in the media, it is yet not recognized as an independent discipline in the national university system. Thus, there are no psychology departments in the national university system and postgraduate education in psychology is limited to a Masters' of Philosophy program in clinical psychology. This program, which enrolled its first cohort of six students less than six months ago, is taught by foreign staff, who fly in for brief lecture stints.

Psychology is offered as a subject or program at a number of universities. For example, it is taught as a program within the Department of Philosophy at some universities, and as a subject within departments of Philosophy, Sociology or Education at other universities. Pragmatically, this means that, by and large, students cannot receive a specialized degree in psychology (undergraduate or graduate) unless they study outside the country, and psychology faculty members do not have a substantive academic home. This, added to a general lack of academic resources (books, textbooks, internet resources, laboratories, IT facilities) means that there is much room for psychology to develop.



Professor Abeygunawardena, Vice Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya and Merry Bullock

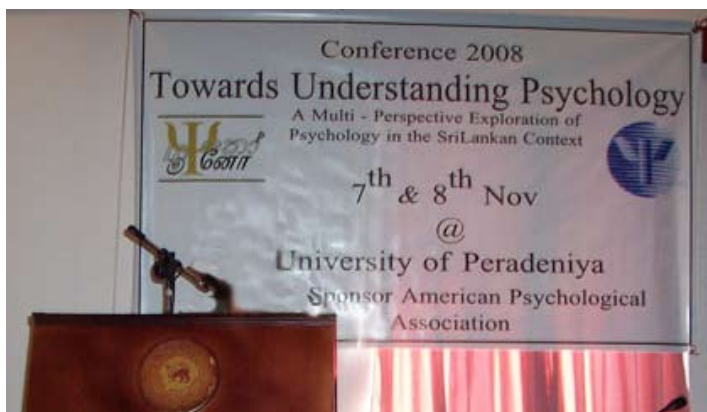
At the same time that there is little infrastructure for psychology as a discipline, there is an acute awareness by university officials that such an infrastructure and program are needed. Professor Abeygunawardena, Vice Chancellor at Peradeniya University, stated that he is committed to growing psychology as a discipline and independent department. He noted that such a development is important to the country's national interest, as psychology and psychologists are needed to address many of the country's current challenges. Similarly, Professor Kshanika Himburegama, Vice Chancellor at Colombo University, in the country's capital city, underscored the importance of developing psychology as a specialty.

Psychologists in Sri Lanka have important roles to play in helping the country face many acute challenges. Sri Lanka has been wracked by civil war for more than 25 years, and there is a strong need for psychologists – as researchers, practitioners, and policy makers – to assist in addressing the sequelae of war, both for combatants and for civilians who have been caught up in the conflict. Among the war's victims are children who have been forcibly conscripted to serve as combatants, families who have suffered multiple displacements, and communities living under chronic extreme stress and fear. Moreover, Sri Lanka was hard hit by the 2004 Asian tsunami, which caused a loss of some 39,000 lives; many thousand more lost their homes or livelihoods.



(From left to right) Merry Bullock, Vice Chancellor Himburegama, Dean Jayawardena, Gameela Samarasinghe, and Jeanne Marecek

The conference in Sri Lanka was supported by APA, the British Psychological Society, and other organizations in the United Kingdom and Sri Lanka. APA supported this conference as part of its commitment to medium and long term capacity building efforts after the 2004 tsunami. Funds were used to support national psychology associations in the affected countries to sponsor workshops and training of psychologists in psychosocial responses to disaster and to support the development of organized psychology.



APA's Senior Director of International Affairs, Merry Bullock, PhD, and incoming CIRP Chair Jeanne Marecek, PhD, were among the participants in the conference. Bullock spoke in the opening ceremony, with words of welcome on behalf of APA and the international psychology community, and presented an overview of the advantages, contributions and roles of a psychology association in fostering the development of the discipline and in applying psychology to serve society and people's welfare. Marecek, who has lived part time and later worked in Sri Lanka over the last two decades, currently studying the high suicide rate among Sri Lankans, spoke on the checkered history of fostering psychology as a science based discipline in Sri Lanka and the crucial importance and value of developing empirically-based, context-sensitive psychological knowledge as basis for policy initiatives and practice. Ψ

United Nations International Day of Older Persons

by **Deborah DiGilio, MPH**
Director, APA Office on Aging

The 18th Annual Celebration of the United Nations International Day of Older Persons-- A Call for a Convention on the Rights of Older Persons was held on October 2nd, 2008. APA Committee on Aging chair-elect, Dr. Merla



Arnold, PhD, RN, and the Director of the Office on Aging, Deborah DiGilio, MPH, were invited to the event as guests of Florence Denmark, PhD, APA's Main NGO Representative to the United Nations, and Chair of the NGO Committee on Ageing. This Committee works to raise world awareness of the opportunities and challenges of global aging and advocates within the UN community to further integrate aging in UN policies and programs.

The annual celebration is presented by the NGO Committee on Ageing in collaboration with the UN Department of Public Information, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and the UN Population Fund. As noted in the conference materials, the aim of this year's event was to begin a process that will lead to the development and acceptance of an international Convention (a treaty) to ensure the Human Rights of Older Persons. The keynote speakers were Sergei Zelenev, Chief Director of UN Social Policy and Development Division at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and H.E. Minister Paulo de Tarso Vannuchi, Special Secretary for Human Rights in Brazil. A panel of five speakers from Ghana, Argentina, Lebanon, the Czech Republic and Nepal gave reports on the progress of aging issues in their countries. The afternoon was spent in breakout sessions to develop strategies for moving towards a Convention on the Rights of Older Persons. Ψ

Additional Links

http://www.ifa-fiv.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=141:report-on-the-celebrations-of-the-international-day-of-older-persons-from-the-united-nations&catid=39:news&Itemid=37

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/documents/Intlday/pgme08.pdf>

Expert Panelists Gather at the Second Annual Psychology Day at the United Nations: Psychology and Social Justice

by **Amena Hassan,**
APA Office of International Affairs

An interdisciplinary and varied audience of psychologists, behavioral and social scientists, United Nations officials, NGO colleagues, students, and media representatives assembled on the afternoon of November 19, 2008 to discuss how psychology promotes social justice, the theme of the second annual Psychology Day at the United Nations. The conference was held in the Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium in the UN headquarters in New York. It featured a keynote address on conflict and peace, followed by three expert panels addressing the psychological effects of climate change, the psychological effects of poverty reduction, and psychological perspectives on the abuse of power.

The theme of Psychology Day was particularly fitting in the context of the 60th anniversary, on December 10, 2008 of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human

Rights. Florence Denmark, PhD, the APA/NGO Main Representative at the UN, and co-chair of Psychology Day, opened the meeting by recognizing representatives from the broad array of psychological associations and organizations at the UN. Merry Bullock, PhD, senior director of the APA International Affairs Office, welcomed the audience on behalf of APA CEO Norman Anderson, PhD and 2008 APA President Alan Kazdin, PhD, who congratulated the organizers for the second Psychology Day and stressed the importance of ensuring a psychosocial perspective on the UN agenda.

A keynote address, delivered by Herbert Kelman, PhD, professor emeritus of social ethics at Harvard University, initiated the conference. Kelman discussed the challenges and obstacles within the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and proposed a one-country/two-state strategy for resolving what has often seemed to be an intractable and difficult path on both sides. Pete Walker, PhD, Main Representative for the Society of Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) to the United Nations, and co-chair of Psychology Day, introduced the first panel on human behavior and climate change. David Uzzell, PhD, from the University of Surrey in the United Kingdom, spoke on the direct and indirect effects of climate change, including psychological impacts such as stress, anxiety, interpersonal conflict, and PTSD. "We have a serious problem, he stated. "I think we are living on and looking over the precipice and don't have much time. We need policies to slow down and reverse the current trajectory, and yet collectively we behave as if we believe the opposite."



Group picture of panelists. First row (from left to right): Susan Opatow, Herbert Kelman, Florence Denmark, Pete Walker. Second Row (from left to right): Stacey Sinclair, Janet Sigal, Deanna Chitayat, Anie Kalajian, Mary O'Neill Berry, Rita Chi-Ying Chung, Judy Kuriansky, and Ricki Kantrowitz. Third row (from left to right): Neil Rubin, Norma Simon, Richard Velayo, David Uzzell, Anthony Lemieux, Inka Weissbecker, Yael Danieli, Anthony Marsella, Eva Sandis and Rachel Ravich.

Inka Weissbecker, PhD, NGO representative from the International Union of Psychological Science to the UN and an MPH candidate at the Harvard University School of Public Health, continued to discuss mental health aspects of human behavior and climate change. She noted how present day behavior could negatively impact the world decades later and expanded on her research on the mental health implications of the loss of infrastructure, access to health care, and the breakdown of social systems and support that accompany the results of negative climate change. Weissbecker also noted the unequal balance between those countries producing negative climate change, mostly in the northern hemisphere, and those who suffer from these changes, mostly in developing countries. "In the 1990's, ninety-five percent of the deaths that occurred because of disasters occurred in developing countries," Weissbecker affirmed. "And that is because there are fewer resources to deal with disasters and climate change. This is also true of mental health resources."

Discussant Ani Kalayjian, professor of psychology at Fordham University, president of the Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention, and UN representative from AIWA (Armenian International Women's Association), talked on the emotional impact of the "existential vacuum" that occurs when those responsible for climate change ignore the relationship between science and nature.

The second panel addressed poverty reduction and social justice, moderated by Mary O'Neil Berry, PhD, UN/NGO representative from the International Association of Applied Psychology. Anthony Lemieux, PhD, of Purchase College, State University of New York spoke on how the biases of people in power impact on the economy and people living in poverty. Lemieux applied the Social Dominance Theory to explain how membership in a socially recognized group determines power or status. "When one party is more powerful than the other, it prevents resource exchanges and prevents truly egalitarian relationships", stated Lemieux. "I argue that poverty is both created and sustained by inequalities in power and this makes it much more difficult for people to gain an equal footing...victims of prejudice and poverty, people who are without power tend to suffer more from economic fallout."

Anthony Marsella, PhD, professor emeritus of psychology from the University of Hawaii in Honolulu and past president of Psychologists for Social Responsibility, presented his research on the subject of global poverty, human rights and psychology. He stressed how human rights and psychology have an inseparable relationship and urged psychologists to assume more responsibility addressing issues of poverty. He closed with several recommendations. "Unless we adopt a uniformed, united front we are not going to be able to make [the] changes," he said. "We as psychologists tend to distance ourselves from the poor. We do this for a number of reasons. Even if we start off poor we soon become middle class (or if you're a successful practitioner, upper class) and all of a sudden poverty is not part of the problem."

Deanna Chitayat, PhD, APA NGO representative at the UN, introduced the third panel on psychological perspectives on the abuse of power. Susan Opatow, PhD, professor of sociology at John Jay College and President of SPSSI, covered the subject of abusing power with a discussion that covered the post-war period, peace accords, and the study of war and its impact on history. In addition to this she covered the cross-racial contact before and after the civil rights movement and during the efforts to end Jim Crow laws within the United States. Stacey Sinclair, PhD, of Princeton University contrasted explicit or more evident, reportable prejudice, and implicit prejudice, a bias of which people are often not aware and which is more indirect in its effects. Sinclair also went on to describe her in-depth studies on implicit bias and prejudice.

The final presentation of the third panel and the concluding speech of the day was by Rita Chi-Ying Chung, PhD, psychology professor at George Mason University. She discussed the abuse of power, cultural values and beliefs and their connection to poverty and environmental issues with examples from trafficking and commercial sex within Asia. Chung discussed cultural and economic factors that enable trafficking and gave examples from interviews with women involved in prostitution and the "web of abuse". "I really want to reiterate that although I've used the Asian culture and human trafficking as an example, [problems related to] the abuse of power can be applied to any culture," stated Chung. She stressed harsher consequences for traffickers of commercial sex in the international arena. Reminding the audience of Marsella's earlier suggestions, she recapped the need for psychologists to become more involved in preventing such unfolding scenarios amongst populations such as women and children.

The 2008 Psychology Day ended with a lively audience discussion that was continued at a reception in a nearby restaurant. For more information on this year's events and for panel pictures and information from both the 2008 and 2007 Psychology Days, please visit: <http://www.apa.org/international/un/psychology-days.html>. Ψ

Further Links

Climate Caucus Project

<http://www.climatecaucus.net>

Social Dominance Theory

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_Dominance_Theory

Psychologists for Social Responsibility

<http://psysr.org>

SENIOR DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Reflections

by **Merry Bullock, PhD, Senior Director,**
APA Office of International Affairs



2008 has been an active international year for APA. Here are just a few of the highlights:

* APA began the year with news of its election to the Executive Board of CONGO, the Council of NGOs at the United Nations. This achievement placed APA in a position to bring a psychology perspective to the body that helps chart the agenda for civil society events at the United

Nations; Other notable UN activities during the year included the second annual Psychology Day at the UN, and APA input on psychosocial issues for a number of statements, briefs and UN documents.

* APA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the British Psychological Society, pledging to join together to promote psychology in service to society.

* APA's Office on AIDS joined the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) to mobilize psychologists in an international effort to address the multiple interactions between mental health and AIDS

* Over 100 Fulbrighters attended APA's convention to report on their work, collectively in about 40 countries, and to encourage colleagues to seek international exchanges and collaborations.

* A number of publications – including APAGS's resource book *Studying Psychology in the United States: Expert Guidance for International Students* (www.apa.org/apags), and *International Collaborations in the Behavioral and Social Sciences*, a volume published by the National Academies Press (see http://www7.nationalacademies.org/usnciupsys/Report_Brief_International_Collaborations.pdf), supported the development and maintenance of international collaborations.

* March 2008 International Counseling Psychology Conference (see <http://www.internationalcounselingpsychologyconference.org>).

* APA sponsored outreach efforts by supporting a workshop on the use of large scale data bases for scientists at the International Congress of Psychology in Germany, by supporting the organization of a psychology conference and the foundation of a new psychology organization in Sri Lanka, and by funding travel awards to international congresses.

* APA developed a statement on appropriate responses by psychologists to international emergencies that has been promulgated internationally and used as a model for statements developed in other countries. See <http://www.apa.org/international/resources/emergency.html>.

The Present

As 2008 draws to a close, few can escape discussions of the current economic crisis – from downsizing in major corporations, to immediate and longer term effects on small businesses, services, health care, individuals and families. In this context, it is no surprise that psychologists are beginning to think about how psychology, as a discipline, needs to work proactively to be of service during this crisis. This service is to its members, to provide strategies for weathering the current crisis, and to society, to use existing research for guidance on coping with changes in material circumstances and expectations, and with the individual, family and societal challenges they bring; and to carry out new research that will ultimately build positive behaviors and support resilience.

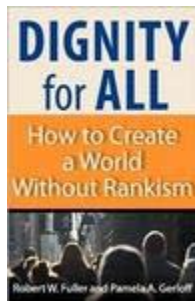
Psychology, of course, is no stranger to the issues raised by the current economic concerns – there is a long tradition of research on the social and individual consequences of societal stress, such as family violence, substance abuse, child and family well-being, and more. But the newspaper also tells us that the extent of this crisis and the likely speed of recovery are unprecedented since the great Depression of the 1930's. Applying our expertise to the current crisis may require new translational work, and may require applying interventions at a broader community level than is typical. Do we have that expertise? And if not, where might we look to gain it?

Although a society-wide economic crisis might be unprecedented from a North American perspective, it is not unprecedented in many other parts of the world. We might look for guidance and expertise on psychological issues involved in coping with economic challenges from colleagues and psychology literatures from those places that have already experienced serious economic downturns (for example in the aftermath of the Asian financial crisis several years ago) or countries where coping under economic stress has been a constant context in which research and application have occurred.

What Next?

Forecasts for the coming year caution against expecting a rapid economic recovery. In this climate, the mandate to rein in expenses will challenge maintaining recent increases in attendance at international meetings and increases in international collaboration and exchange. Yet, this challenge itself may provide inspiration for just those activities that will support increased outreach and exchange in the long run. For example, we may begin to explore virtual contacts, video and voice meetings at a distance, and exploration of joint projects to explore common issues across national boundaries. It may also be an incentive to explore those journals from countries around the world that are indexed by PsychInfo (a significant proportion of journals in PsychInfo are from outside the US and Canada!). We invite you to contribute to these strategies – tell us how you have collaborated internationally without straining economic resources, and tell us how you have managed to develop international collaborations and professional friendships to keep a world-wide perspective strong. Ψ

International Book Reviews: Selected Reviews from PsycCRITIQUES



This month's review is by Thomas Scheff on *Dignity for All: How to Create a World Without Rankism* by Robert W. Fuller and Pamela A. Gerloff. Scheff separately assesses the individual contributions from both authors, in a work that is being considered a new voice in social and behavioral science. To read the review, please visit: http://psqtest.typepad.com/blogPostPDFs/200810039_psq_53-42-A-New-Voice-In-Social-And-Behavioral-Science.pdf.

These book reviews are courtesy of PsycCRITIQUES editor, Danny Wedding. PsycCRITIQUES is an online journal that has replaced *Contemporary Psychology* and that provides reviews of books, monographs, films and other productions in psychology, and includes a data base with PsycCRITIQUES and *Contemporary Psychology* reviews stretching back to 1956. Readers can also access selected reviews and discuss books important to the science and profession of psychology by visiting the PsycCRITIQUES blog at <http://psycritiquesblog.apa.org>.

For more information see <http://www.apa.org/psycritiques>. If you are interested in reviewing please contact editor Danny Wedding at Danny.Wedding@mimh.edu. Ψ

Research in a Developing Country

by Yetilú de Baessa, PhD, Universidad Francisco Marroquin, Guatemala City, Guatemala



Psychology can have an enormous impact in countries where there are few research projects and a lack of expertise to evaluate projects funded by international agencies. What is required to successfully conduct research or to evaluate a project in a developing country? My guess is that colleagues from Canada, the United States or Europe would have a quick answer to that question: a good research design and a good researcher. But beyond that, and perhaps even more importantly, doing research in areas such as Central America or Africa requires an enormous amount of patience, creativity, cultural sensitivity and resourcefulness. I will offer a few examples taken from my experience over the course of a long career, both as a researcher and an evaluator.

I worked in one country where psychologists, educators and other professionals were hired to collect data. My role was to explain the design of the evaluation and to help them develop instruments to collect the data. When I arrived to begin the training, I did not anticipate that an organization funded by an international agency would lack a photocopier with either paper or toner. The overhead projector did not work, so I had to make do with a simple blackboard and a piece of chalk. The behavior of the staff was also not what I had anticipated. Training sessions were scheduled to start each day at 8:00 am but people began arriving around 8:30 or 9:00 am. Lunch breaks were scheduled for 30 minutes but people didn't return for two hours.

As I discovered later, everyone had several jobs, either teaching in more than one university and/or working in a

private clinic. What at first appeared to be a lack of interest on the part of the staff was really a need to continue with their usual work. When the research project concluded, they would still need those jobs to survive. I realized that to finish the project on time, I would have to help them analyze the data and write the report.

Another example comes from an experience in an African country where the staff seemed very motivated. They clearly wanted to learn how to develop questionnaires and conduct interviews and to collect and analyze the data. However, because they were more relationship oriented than task oriented, it was necessary to advance the training at their pace, not mine. In that culture, it is impolite to rush people. Even in an emergency, it is important to ask how the family is doing, how they are doing, and maintain a courteous conversation. In spite of the time pressure to finish the job, it was necessary to comply with the cultural rules to get the work done.

These two examples illustrate some of the things that a psychologist wishing to undertake a research project in a different culture must take into account. How is this best accomplished? First, try to join efforts with a psychologist from that culture, even if he or she does not have the same level of expertise, and really listen to their perspectives. Second, be creative in working with instruments and ways to approach subjects, geography, and cultural practices. When writing a proposal from the distant "ivory tower", it may be hard to understand that it can take four hours to cover 30 kilometers during rainy season in a tropical country or that the school will be closed for the whole week when there is a "fiesta" in town. Third, be patient with the people with whom you are working. Usually local professionals are eager to learn, but sometimes they have other obligations or a lack of prior knowledge about the subject. Keep in mind that fears of losing face in front of a foreigner may inhibit asking questions. In addition, academics from developing countries are seldom aware of the importance of doing research or even the need to read new research published in their area of interest. Why is this so?

* There are limited resources to support research projects because sources of funding are so scarce.

* Time to devote to research is difficult to find because people who teach at the university level in developing countries are rarely full time professors and usually have several jobs. A clinical psychologist might teach in the morning and rush to the clinic to see patients in the afternoon. An industrial psychologist might work full time and teach in the evening.

* If research methodology is part of the curriculum, the information is only theoretical, so students become professionals without the practical knowledge of how to do research.

* Access to journals, either by internet or in print, is limited. The cost of subscriptions to journals makes them beyond the reach of the budgets of both individual professionals and university libraries.

* Universities in many developing countries lack the structure of ethical review committees. Even if a researcher wants to verify ethical treatment of human subjects there is no mechanism in place to do so.

How could the lack of research and the need for professionals to stay on top of recent developments in their field be addressed in developing countries?

* Retired colleagues or professors on sabbatical from developed countries could travel to offer two or three month intensive training courses for interested professionals in areas such as methodology or statistics.

* Colleagues from other countries could engage interested students in cross-cultural research that could show them how to put their theoretical knowledge into practice.

* Colleagues from universities in developing and developed countries could collaborate in writing proposals for funding from agencies, such as the Ford Foundation, World Bank or even grants from the Psychology Department of their own universities. This kind of collaboration could also allow researchers from developing countries to make use of the existing ethical review processes at universities in developed countries.

* Journals could be donated to libraries in third world countries. Even if the articles are three or four years old, the information is still more up to date than the information available in translated books purchased from the United States or Europe.

Collaborations between psychologists from developed and developing countries can be rich and rewarding. These joint efforts are more likely to be successful if there is an awareness of some of the inevitable challenges described above.

Psychology can play a very important role in all the aspects involved in project evaluation. For example: in the adaptation of tests from a different culture, in the development of appropriate research tools, in training fieldworkers to be sensitive to the needs and culture of the people involved in the projects. It is important for policy makers to remember that there is no intervention without collateral changes in the environment. Sometimes projects are theoretically sound and useful for solving a problem; however, they can also be impractical or not even of real benefit in a different culture. Seeking advice from psychologists with a solid knowledge of the local cultural milieu could save a lot of money and effort to donors. Ψ

Division 52 Holds its Mid-Winter Meeting in April in Portland, Oregon

by Lynn H. Collins, PhD, La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA, Incoming 2009 Division 52 President

Division 52 will be holding its Mid-winter Meeting in conjunction with the Western Psychological Association (WPA) Convention on the West Coast for the first time. The convention will be held April 23-26, 2009. More information is available on <http://www.westernpsych.org> and <http://www.chestnuthillwebdesign.com/div52>. We encourage psychologists and psychology students to attend WPA's international sessions, many of which will be held on Friday and Saturday. We also invite you to attend our Board Meeting on Sunday, April 26th if you would like to become more involved in the Division.

According to its mission statement, the Division of International Psychology (Division 52) "represents the interest of all psychologists who foster international connections among psychologists, engage in multicultural research or practice, apply psychological principles to the development of public policy, or are otherwise concerned with individual and group consequences of global events" (<http://internationalpsychology.net/about>). Some of the things that the Division does to encourage the development of a more international perspective in psychology include sponsoring programming at the annual meetings of the American Psychological Association, Eastern Psychological Association, and most recently, the Western Psychological Association, to stimulate interest in and share information about international psychology. The upcoming WPA meeting will provide additional networking opportunities for psychologists from around the world and will promote the awareness and development of international consulting, training, and research opportunities and challenges for psychologists.

More specifically, Division 52's programming at WPA will include sessions on a wide variety of topics conducive to becoming more internationally aware. It will include sessions on how to become more involved in international psychology as a student, clinician, faculty member, or consultant. One venue to facilitating international awareness is to internationalize the undergraduate and graduate psychology curricula through educational innovations and available resources. This may include enhancing the traditional course work, developing travel study programs, creating immersion programs, and establishing international study programs. Emerging technologies can be very useful tools in this endeavor. This multifaceted process of internationalizing curricula not only involves teaching US students, but in addition, helping international students adapt to their

new context, as well as understanding unique aspects of teaching and mentoring international students into their professional roles as psychologists. Sessions will address many of these critical aspects of internationalizing the curriculum.



It is also important to base the internationalization of the curriculum on contemporary literature. However, there is a need for more research as well as better international dissemination of research results pertaining to international psychology. Faculty and students need to learn how to conduct psychological research in an international context in order to build upon existing knowledge. Some Division 52 convention sessions will address international adaptations of ethics codes, the significance of the APA Resolution on Cultural and Gender Awareness in International Psychology and APA's perspective on conducting international research. Psychologists with experience in the field will talk about their work in this area.

There will also be a session on psychology's role and recent developments at the United Nations. Psychological perspectives on social issues such as terror, human trafficking, emigration, asylum evaluation, managing inter-ethnic conflict, and dealing with the HIV/AIDS epidemic will be explored. These topics span social, human factors, clinical, counseling, and health psychology.

Finally, many psychologists are interested in working clinically as a psychologist across borders. There will be sessions on such topics as counseling in different regions, helping people deal with trauma, and processing issues related to international adoption (issues of identity and "passing"). There will also be a session about the many educational and credentialing systems used for regulating the practice of psychology around the world. Of course, there are many areas that lack education facilities and/or may not require credentialing at all.

In short, we hope to offer a broad range of sessions of particular interest to clinicians, academics, researchers, and consultants from all areas of psychology who are interested in international psychology. We hope that you will join us at WPA, EPA, and APA conventions during the year to partner with us in enhancing awareness and comprehension of the international opportunities and challenges facing us. Ψ

COLLABORATE!

The Rich Bounty of International Collaboration

by **Jefferson A. Singer, PhD, Department of Psychology, Connecticut College**

I am sitting in a pub in the historic city of Durham in the Northeast of England, having a pint with Martin Conway, one of the world's experts in autobiographical memory research, as he tells me about one of his most important memories. He describes an evening at a similar pub in London when he was a young man. That day he had taken a class on Freud at the Open University, and while telling his friend about the class, he had come to the realization that he wanted to be a psychologist. It is, he explains to me, one of his "self-defining memories." Self-defining memories are personal memories that are particularly vivid and emotionally powerful; they are linked to enduring themes or conflicts in an individual's life. Having coined this term and initiated the study of these memories in the early 1990s (Singer & Salovey, 1993), I took great pleasure to hear it adopted in causal conversation by an influential and esteemed memory researcher. As a personality and clinical psychologist, I have studied self-defining memories through both laboratory and clinical case studies (e.g., Blagov & Singer, 2004; Singer & Blagov, 2004), but the opportunity to engage in direct collaboration with a cognitive psychologist from another country has been particularly gratifying. This moment of connection that we shared in the pub is just one small example of the way that international travel can provide surprises and rewards that you cannot achieve in any other fashion.

Of course, Martin Conway and I did more than chat in pubs during my semester at Durham University in the fall of 2003. With the support of my Fulbright Distinguished Scholar Award and a sabbatical from Connecticut College, I was able to free my time to work with Martin on a theoretical synthesis of our complementary work on the relationship of autobiographical memory to the self (Conway, Singer, & Tagini, 2004). In addition, we planned future research collaborations and writing projects. By being physically located in his department, I got to know and work with his doctoral students, including Angela Tagini, who served as a

co-author on our Social Cognition article. (I will return to Angela a little later on.) I was also able to visit the University of Bristol to observe and plan research on EEG studies of self-defining memories, as well as present my research to clinical psychologists at a Cognitive-Behavioural Treatment Centre in Newcastle. Since one section of our joint article looked at how our model of memory and self could explicate the poet William Wordsworth's writing on memory and imagination, I made sure to make a pilgrimage to Wordsworth's Grasmere home in the Lake District of England.

On top of all of these professional and intellectual benefits, the opportunity to bring an international element to my work also had significant rewards for my family. My wife and two daughters accompanied me to Durham and both daughters



Jefferson Singer outside of the Institute of Psychological Sciences, University of Leeds, March 2008

were enrolled in English schools (with true "Harry Potter" uniforms). My older daughter, who was in 8th grade at the time, was so entranced by her sojourn overseas that she came back determined to find a career that would allow for international exchange and living abroad. She is currently a first-year student at Brown University with a concentration in international relations. My wife, Anne, whose field is occupational health, used her time in Durham to work with a local oral history project focused on capturing the stories of the retired coal miners. We spent our weekends travelling to castles, cathedrals, sections of Hadrian's Wall, London, and Edinburgh.

Throughout all these experiences, the Fulbright organization provided invaluable support and cultural exchange experiences

Continued on next page...



Martin Conway, Head of the Institute of Psychological Sciences, University of Leeds, March 2008.

that allowed us to talk with government representatives, members of the media, and educational administrators about similarities and differences between the United Kingdom and the United States. During this period, so close to 9/11, it was particularly meaningful to see our country from outside our own comfortable field of vision.

One of the most important lessons this international collaboration reinforced for me is that good exchanges are beginnings, not simply one-time visits. Since 2003, Martin Conway and I have been in close contact and continued to collaborate. We have shared presentations at conferences, participated in a joint survey that collected nearly 10,000 memories from BBC Radio4 listeners from all around the world, and co-authored another article (Singer & Conway, 2008). In March of 2008, I received an ESCR/SSRC Collaborative Visiting Fellowship that allowed me to return to England and continue working with Martin, now at the University of Leeds. Perhaps most fittingly, this visit enabled us to return to Martin's interest in psychoanalysis, and we wrote a joint paper linking our work on memory and the self to the theoretical writings on memory of the influential psychoanalyst, Hans Loewald. During this second stay in England, I gave talks at Oxford and Leeds and conducted meetings at Cambridge and the University of Hull. I also initiated a collaboration with Alex Schaefer of the University of Leeds, who has expertise in psychophysiological responses to memories; he is currently providing consultation to one of my honors students who is conducting a thesis on heart rate and skin conductance responses to self-defining memories.

Finally, I promised that I would return to Angela Tagini. Angela, who is Italian, went home to Italy to continue her work in psychology, ending up at the University of Milan. While working there she supervised a doctoral student, Laura Bonalume and introduced her to Martin's and my work. Laura subsequently developed a doctoral dissertation that included research on self-defining memories. As part of her

research, she received a fellowship to travel to the United States and work with me for two months. She recently finished her visit, but our collaboration will continue. This fruitful new friendship highlights my take-home message. International collaboration opens doors and creates possibilities that you cannot anticipate. By getting out of your laboratory or clinic and exposing yourself to new cultures and colleagues, you are likely to follow new directions and make new relationships that you could not have predicted. It is well worth the journey. Ψ

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Psychopharmacology for Psychologists: An International Agenda

by Elaine S. LeVine, PhD, ABMP, New Mexico State University and the Center Through the Looking Glass

With the support of the Netherlands Psychological Association (NIP), a cadre of Dutch psychologists is seeking prescriptive authority for properly trained psychologists. The initiative is driven, in part, by the lack of sufficient psychiatric care in the more rural areas in the northeastern and southern parts of the country. In the Netherlands, the mental health system, as well as the medical system, is under governmental control. A sufficient number of psychiatrists at some mental health facilities are sometimes lacking. In order to meet these requirements, it has been necessary to hire psychiatrists from the bordering countries of Belgium and Germany, some of whose skills in the Dutch language are often limited.

Advocacy for prescriptive authority by the Dutch psychologists is also driven by quality of care issues. The psychologists in the Netherlands are quite progressive in having developed a specialization of primary care psychologists who work hand-in-hand in clinics with physicians (Derksen, 2008). The interdisciplinary medical, psychological and social work teams triage patients for appropriate inpatient, outpatient and home patient care. Prescriptive authority is a logical extension of the skills for these primary care psychologists. Their careful monitoring of psychotropic medications combined with psychotherapeutic intervention can optimize care. Furthermore, some populations are underserved in the areas of psychiatric care, childcare, elderly care, rehabilitation, forensics, facilities for the mentally and physically handicapped, addiction settings, and migrant minorities.

As the primary step in their RxP political agenda, interested psychologists in the Netherlands are seeking training in psychopharmacology. They have selected the psychopharmacology training program offered by New Mexico State University (Southwestern Institute for the Advancement of Psychotherapy/New Mexico State University postdoctoral Masters Degree in

psychopharmacology--acronym, SIAP/NMSU) to complete their studies. By participating in the SIAP/NMSU curriculum practicum, these psychologists will fulfill all of the requirements of the New Mexico Prescribing Authority Act, which allows properly trained psychologists to prescribe psychotropic medications for their patients.

Leaders in mental health in the Netherlands are collaborating to develop a program that best meets the needs of the



2008 Psychopharmacology class, the Netherlands. Left side Dr. Douglas Hoffman, Instructor.

psychologists in the Netherlands. These include Hans Schutz, PhD, (Chairman of the RxP Task Force of the NIP Netherlands); Jan Derksen, PhD, (primary care psychologist Radboud University in Nijmegen); Huib van Dis, PhD, (Chairman of the Division of Psychology in Health Care of the NIP); and faculty and administrators at New Mexico State University, Elaine S. LeVine, PhD (Training Director of the SIAP/NMSU program, prescribing psychologist); Douglas Hoffman, PhD (psychopharmacologist); Michael Morehead (Acting Dean of Education); and Juanita Mendoza-Hannan, PhD (Dean of Distance Education).

The coursework is divided into four primary units: foundations in psychopharmacology, clinical psychopharmacology, evidenced-based medicine and special topics in psychopharmacology. Each of these units will be introduced with live instruction in the Netherlands by New Mexico State University faculty. The live instruction will be followed by home study and internet material. Students will be provided DVDs for some classes. Other classes are stored in a library through Centra, which is an online voice-over PowerPoint system. In addition, there will be monthly live lectures through the Centra system with direct communication between the faculty in the United States and the psychopharmacologist students in the Netherlands. In the last semester of the two year program, the Dutch

psychologists will travel to New Mexico for an executive-tract practicum experience.

In addition to training the psychologists in the Netherlands in psychopharmacology, this joint project between psychologists in the Netherlands and the United States is providing excellent opportunities for professional and cultural exchange. First, designing the coursework by the psychologists in the Netherlands and the United States has illuminated some interesting similarities and differences in the needs of citizens and methods of practice within the two countries. For example, while a lack of sufficient psychiatric care is prompting the RxP movement in both countries, some of the reasons for the insufficient care differ. In the Netherlands, many psychiatrists in the larger cities would prefer to practice only psychotherapy. In the United States, most psychiatrists have adopted a strictly medical model in which they view themselves primarily as managers of the medication regime.

In developing the American psychopharmacology program for another country, a number of unique variables must be taken into consideration. For example, formularies differ across the countries; methods of governmental monitoring of medication (the equivalent of our Food and Drug Administration) also differ. While principles of ethnopsychiatry regarding metabolism of drugs remain the same, the particular ethnic groups to which these principles must be applied vary. The relative differences and emphasis in strengths in training to become a psychologist must also be taken into consideration.

Another aspect of the professional and cultural exchange centers on the practicum experience. It is planned that when the Dutch psychologists come to New Mexico for their practica, they will have an opportunity to meet with the prescribing psychologists and psychologists in prescriptive authority training in New Mexico to further their understanding of the cultural exigencies related to the biopsychosocial model of intervention. In addition, psychology faculty at New Mexico State University are very much looking forward to offering guest lecturers by their colleagues from the Netherlands in their classes.

Twenty two Dutch psychologists are scheduled to begin the Masters Degree program in psychopharmacology through New Mexico State University in September 2008 and will complete their program in the Fall of 2010. We will keep you apprised of the interesting developments in this program and welcome you to contact Dr. Levine for further information. Ψ

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IAPS: International Association for People Environment Studies

by Dr. Ombretta Romice, IAPS President



Formed officially 27 years ago, but with intellectual roots dating back to the '60s in the architectural psychology movement, IAPS is a multidisciplinary and active association gathering researchers and practitioners from around the world, with a shared interest in people's interaction with their environment.

Psychology, sociology, geography, design, and planning are only a few of the disciplines represented and, for these and their representatives, IAPS serves both as a platform for disciplinary discussion and as a platform for collaboration. Detailed areas of work include: spatial cognition and wayfinding; ecological aspects of human actions in places; evaluation of buildings and natural landscapes; design of, and experiences in, workplaces, schools, residences, public buildings and public spaces; social use of space: crowding, privacy, territoriality, personal space; leisure and tourism behaviour in relation to their physical settings; meaning of built environments; theories of place, place attachment, and place identity; resource crises and environmental research; risks and hazards: their perception and management; urban design and urban regeneration, landscape design and their impact on quality of life.

IAPS members are engaged in both theoretical and applied research, as well as practice, and have links to policy making. The primary goal is to improve quality of life and to achieve this, IAPS is committed to support the coexistence, reciprocal understanding and, ultimately, collaboration of theoretical, practical work and lobbying activities.

Through its voluntary Board and the engagement of its members, IAPS undertakes a number of activities to support, initiate, disseminate and enable such exchange. These include:

* A Biennial IAPS Congress: the highlight of the Association is an exceptional moment for advanced international debate and scholarship but also, and importantly, a fantastic social opportunity for the around 450 participants.

* Bulletins: an excellent source of information, promotion and dissemination for IAPS' work to the world. As well as a regular bulletin there is also one special issue produced each year.

* Thematic Networks: theme-specific groups undertaking research, organising events of International standing and publishing work in a true collaborative spirit.

* Opportunities and activities for young researchers: a number of initiatives such as competitions and summer workshops with experienced mentors to enhance young members' experience and benefits.

* Website, mailing list, job opportunities and events: to keep a finger on the pulse of what happens in the environment-behaviour field.

IAPS continues to develop and flourish and is currently in the process of establishing affiliations with other International organisations as a means to further extend interdisciplinary collaboration and offer even more benefits to its members (i.e. Journal discounts, online Digital Library).

More details on IAPS Membership and activities can be found on the website: <http://www.iaps-association.org>. Ψ

XXXII Interamerican Congress of Psychology in Guatemala

June 28-July 2, 2009. Psychology: A Road Toward Peace and Democracy

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to participate in the upcoming XXXII Interamerican Congress of Psychology (www.sip2009.org) of the Interamerican Society of Psychology (www.sipsych.org) known by its acronym in Spanish, SIP (for Sociedad Interamericana de Psicología). SIP, a nonprofit, scientific, academic, and professional organization with members throughout North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean has chosen Guatemala to be the host country for this event that will take place in Guatemala City from June 28 to July 2, 2009.

We are confident that with your contribution, the Congress will be an excellent opportunity to strengthen academic and professional international collaborations, to enhance professional networking and to meet colleagues from the Americas and around the world. Learning from each other, we will disseminate and exchange scientific knowledge. The Congress will provide an opportunity to develop meaningful strategies for fostering interventions and developing



XXXII CIP
GUATEMALA 2009

preventive efforts and education that can enhance well being, mental health, social responsibility and equity in a respectful and culturally sensitive manner. The Congress theme, **PSYCHOLOGY: A ROAD TOWARD PEACE AND DEMOCRACY**, will guide us in our academic, social, and cultural programming.

The scientific committee welcomes your proposals and calls special attention to the Congress thematic axes: Health and quality of life, Social violence and human rights, Gender, Political-legal constructions, Effects and consequences of poverty, Impact of natural disasters, Education, training and assessment, and Organizational and labor challenges. You can present in any of the following modalities: Symposia, Paper presentations, Interactive posters, Round tables, Workshops, Book presentations, Interdisciplinary discussion forums, and Conversation hours. The official languages for the congress are Spanish, English and Portuguese, with some presentations in French.

More detailed information about the Congress can be found in the following link: <http://www.sip2009.org>. Should you have any further questions please let us know since we will be more than glad to assist you. The organizing committee can be reached at comisionejecutiva@sip2009.org and the advisory committee at casesora@sip2009.org.

Let us join together and make plans to attend. See you in Guatemala! Ψ

A The 11th European Congress of Psychology- Oslo, Norway

July 7-10, 2009: A Rapidly Changing World-Challenges for Psychology

It is a pleasure to invite our international colleagues to the upcoming 11th European Congress of Psychology (ECP 2009) in Oslo, Norway on July 7 – 10, 2009. If you haven't been to Norway and Oslo before, this is a great opportunity to do so now.

At the congress you will meet interesting colleagues, speakers, and participants from around the world, experience a scientific program representing a wide spectre of psychological fields, and enjoy the opportunity to join workshops and social events.

The congress will be hosted by The Norwegian Psychological Association under the auspices of EFPA (The European Federation of Psychologists Associations). There will be keynote lectures, symposia, and paper and poster presentations on a wide variety of themes. In addition to the general range of themes, we are organizing special subtopics on "Peace, Human Rights and Psychology", "Contemporary Changes and Diversity in Everyday Lives", "Teaching psychology", and "Test psychology". Please note that there also will be a number of pre-congressional workshops on July 6th and 7th.

The ECP2009 will take place at a number of venues in downtown Oslo, namely the Oslo Congress Centre, Radisson SAS Plaza Hotel, Clarion Hotel Royal Christiania and Youngstorget Arena. It takes a maximum of five minutes to walk between these venues, and some events will also take place at the Norwegian Nobel Institute. The opening ceremony will be held at the brand-new Norwegian Opera House, right on the Oslo fjord, and close to the city centre.

For updates on the congress preparations, please see www.ecp2009.no. At this website, you can register your name and email address to receive all available information and new developments regarding the program. The deadline for early registration (for the lowest fee) is March 15, 2009.

Please contact us if you have any suggestions or questions about the congress, at ecp2009@psykologforeningen.no.

See you in Oslo, July 2009!

An-Magritt Aanonsen
Tor Levin Hofgaard
Co-presidents. Ψ

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Results of Council Elections: Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP) New Members

Each year three members of the Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP) end their term and three new members join the committee, elected by APA's Council of Representatives. For 2009, Maureen Black, PhD, University of Maryland, Deanna Chitayat, PhD., Emeritus Hofstra University, and Florence Kaslow, PhD, Florida Couples



Maureen Black, Deanna Chitayat, and Florence Kaslow

and Family Institute will join CIRP's ongoing 6 members. Please look for more detailed interviews with the new CIRP members and with incoming CIRP chair Jeanne Marecek, PhD., Swarthmore College, in the 2009 issues of *Psychology International*.

APA UN Representative Gives Testimony to Congress

Harold Cook, PhD, APA NGO representative to the United Nations, gave testimony to a House hearing on confirmation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Cook spoke of the important developmental, family and societal issues that a focus on rights of the child would address. For more details see <http://www.apa.org/releases/crc-1108.html>.

Continued on next page...

Abstracts Being Accepted Now for 2009 World Federation of Mental Health World Congress. Deadline for Abstract Submission: February 2, 2009

All levels, all professions, all people are welcome and encouraged to attend. To submit a proposed abstract as soon as possible go online at www.wmhc2009.com to see all the information necessary to submit abstracts, registration and hotel requirements.

Grants for Non-European Students to Earn the Work, Organizational and Personnel Psychology (WOP-P) Master are Available – Call for 2009-2010 Applications

Scholarships from the European Commission are available to non-European students to earn the two-year Master of Work, Organizational and Personal Psychology (WOP-P). It is the first Master in Psychology selected for the Erasmus Mundus program. Erasmus Mundus (<http://www.erasmuswop.org>), a collaborative mobility program of excellence in higher education, is promoted by the European Union with a worldwide scope. This program has been conceived to support high quality European Masters and to promote the visibility and attractiveness of the European Higher Education in the rest of the world.

The Master is based on national laws regulating the psychologist profession and qualifies students for the professional practice of Work, Organizational, and Personnel Psychology. The Master facilitates access to doctoral studies in this and related disciplines.

A Consortium of five European Universities offers the Master on Work, Organizational, and Personnel Psychology (WOP-P) within the Erasmus Mundus program: Universitat de València (Spain) as the coordinating institution, Universitat de Barcelona (Spain), Université Paris Descartes (France), Alma Mater Studiorum-Università di Bologna (Italy), and Universidade de Coimbra (Portugal). Teaching staff consists of well-recognized researchers and professionals from the member Universities and from other European and third country universities.

Admission criteria are:

University Degree in Psychology;
Commitment to full-time dedication to the study of the Master Program;

Command of English, using the common European Framework of reference for languages;
Fluency in at least one of the European languages of the Consortium (Spanish, French, Italian, or Portuguese).
The application deadline is January 1, 2009.

For more information and application instructions, visit <http://www.uv.es/erasmuswop/programme.htm>. The application form and information for Non-European students: http://www.uv.es/erasmuswop/application_non_eu_students.htm.

Call for Manuscripts: American Journal of Media Psychology (AJMP)

The American Journal of Media Psychology is a peer-reviewed scientific journal that publishes theoretical and empirical papers that advance an understanding of media effects and processes on individuals in society. AJMP seeks submissions that have a psychological focus, which means the level of analysis should focus on individuals and their interaction with or relationship to mass media content and institutions. All theoretical and methodological perspectives are welcomed. For instructions on submitting a manuscript, please visit: <http://www.marquettejournals.org/submissionguidelines.html>

Questions can be directed to Dr. Michael Elasmr, Editor, American Journal of Media Psychology at elasmr@bu.edu.

APF Visionary and Weiss Grants – Call for Proposals

The American Psychological Foundation (APF) visionary and Weiss grants seek to seed innovation through supporting research, education, and intervention projects and programs that use psychology to solve social problems in the following priority areas:

Understanding and fostering the connection between mental and physical health to ensure well-being;
Reducing stigma and prejudice to promote unity and harmony;
Understanding and preventing violence to create a safer, more humane world; and
Supporting programs that address the long-term psychological needs of individuals and communities in the aftermath of disaster.

Amount (New in 2009):

One-year grants are available in amounts ranging from

\$5,000 to \$20,000. Multi-year grants are no longer available. Additionally, a \$10,000 Raymond A. and Rosalee G. Weiss Innovative Research and Programs Grant is also available for any program that falls within APF's priority areas.

Deadline: March 15, 2009

Eligibility:

Applicants must be affiliated with 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. APF will NOT consider the following requests for grants to support:

- political or lobbying purposes
 - entertainment or fundraising expenses
 - anyone the Internal Revenue Service would regard as a disqualified group or individual
 - localized direct service
 - conference/workshop expenses
- APF encourages proposals from individuals who represent diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, age, and sexual orientation.

For more information and to access the grant application form, please visit <http://www.apa.org/apf/grantguide.html>.

Volunteer Opportunities in International Humanitarian Work

NGOabroad (<http://www.ngoabroad.com/>) is a unique service that provides frugal, customized international volunteer options and helps people enter international humanitarian work. NGOabroad specializes in harnessing your skills to humanitarian need. These are volunteer positions. Applications accepted for rolling basis and there is no end date.

NGOabroad has three services:

- 1) International volunteer programs working with at-risk youth who have been trafficked or abandoned; domestic violence; AIDS; community organizing; empowerment of women; teaching refugees and women and girls; vocational training, capacity building, nursing and medical; small business development.
- 2) A guide to the resources to fulfill your goals. Ideal for people entering humanitarian work: NGOabroad provides expertise in international development, access to current job openings, the organizations to watch for openings, and entry to advanced opportunities.
- 3) Career consults that help people enter into or advance in international humanitarian work. Your skills and experience determine if you qualify. NGOabroad can help articulate your strengths; clarify your goals; design strategies; write cover letters & resumes that "get-your-foot-in-the-door."

Interested? Please read the entire NGOabroad Website (<http://www.ngoabroad.com/>); e-mail information as requested on the home page (an embedded resume); and answer the Questionnaire.

2009 WFMH World Mental Health Congress

2009 WFMH World Mental Health Congress is scheduled for Athens, Greece, September 2-6, 2009. The Congress website can be found at www.wmhc2009.com -- The deadline for receipt of presentation ABSTRACTS is February 2, 2009. If you would like a printed copy of the Preliminary Program, please email: bjones@wfmh.com.

Scholar Rescue Fund

Fellowships for Threatened Academics: Professors, Researchers and Lecturers

Application Deadline: **January 31, 2009**

The Institute of International Education's (IIE) Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF) provides fellowships for established scholars whose lives and work are threatened in their home countries. These fellowships permit professors, researchers and other senior academics to find temporary refuge at universities and colleges anywhere in the world, enabling them to pursue their academic work. During the fellowship, conditions in a scholar's home country may improve, permitting safe return after the fellowship; if safe return is not possible, the scholar may use the fellowship period to identify a longer-term opportunity.

How The Scholar Rescue Fund Works:

Professors, established researchers and other senior academics from **any country, field or discipline** may qualify. Preference is given to scholars with a Ph.D. or other highest degree in their field; who have extensive teaching or research experience at a university, college or other institution of higher learning; who demonstrate superior academic accomplishment or promise; who are facing or have recently fled from direct and immediate threats; and whose selection is likely to benefit the academic community in the home and/or host country or region. Applications from female scholars and under-represented groups are strongly encouraged.

Fellowships are awarded for visiting academic positions ranging from 3 months to 1 calendar year. Awards are issued for **up to** US \$25,000, plus individual health coverage.

Continued on next page...

Fellowships are disbursed through host academic institutions for direct support of scholar-grantees. In most cases, host campuses are asked to match the SRF fellowship award through partial salary/stipend support, and/or housing, research materials, and other in-kind assistance.

Applications are accepted at any time. Non-emergency applications will be considered according to the following schedule:

Winter 2009: Application received by January 31st; decision by March 15th.

Summer 2009: Applications received by June 15th; decision by July 31st.

Fall 2009: Applications received by September 15th; decision by October 31st.

To apply, please download the information and application materials from:

Scholar Rescue Fund - For Scholars:
<http://www.scholarrescuefund.org/pages/for-scholars.php>.

For universities and colleges interested in hosting an SRF scholar: Scholar Rescue Fund - For Hosts:
<http://www.scholarrescuefund.org/pages/for-hosts.php>.

To learn more about the application process, please visit:
Applying to SRF: <http://www.scholarrescuefund.org/pages/for-scholars/instructions-and-application.php>. Ψ

CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

For a full listing of psychological conferences and meetings around the world, please visit: <http://www.apa.org/international/calendar.html>

January 28-30, 2009

10th Congress of Environmental Psychology
Lisbon, PORTUGAL
URL: www.xcongressopsiamb.com

February 11-14, 2009

International Neuropsychological Society (INS)
Annual Conference
Atlanta, Georgia, USA
URL: www.the-ins.org/meetings

March 4-7, 2009

World Family Therapy Congress
Portorož, SLOVENIA
URL: www.paragon-conventions.com/ifta2009

May 4-7, 2009

2009 International Meeting of the International Psychogeriatric Association
Rio de Janeiro, BRAZIL
URL: <http://www.ipa-online.org/pdfs/rio.pdf>

May 13-16, 2009

14th European Congress of Work and Organizational Psychology
Santiago de Compostela, SPAIN
URL: www.eawop2009.org

May 14-16, 2009

International Conference on the use of the Internet in Mental Health
Montreal, CANADA
URL: www.douglas.qc.ca/internet-mental-health

May 20-22, 2009

National Scientific Conference 2009
Nottingham, UK
URL: www.mhrn.info/index/about/annual-conference

June 4-6, 2009

39th Annual Meeting of the Jean Piaget Society
Park City, Utah
URL: <http://www.piaget.org>

June 9-14, 2009

International Behavioral Neuroscience Society
Manzanillo, MEXICO
URL: www.ibnshomepage.org/annualmtg09.htm

June 21-25, 2009

11th World Congress of Psycho-Oncology
Vienna, AUSTRIA
URL: www.ipos-society.org

June 24-27, 2009

40th International Meeting of the Society for Psychotherapy Research
Santiago, CHILE
URL: www.psychotherapyresearch.org

June 25-28, 2009

8th Industrial & Organisational Psychology Conference (IOP)
Sydney, AUSTRALIA
URL: www.iopconference.com.au

June 28-July 2, 2009

XXXII Interamerican Congress of Psychology
Guatemala, GUATEMALA
URL: www.sip2009.org

July 4-8, 2009

International Council of Psychologists
Mexico City, MEXICO
URL: www.icpweb.org

July 7-10, 2009

11th European Congress of Psychology
Oslo, NORWAY
URL: www.ecp2009.no

July 7-11, 2009

31st International School Psychology Association
Conference
Qawra, MALTA
URL: www.muppmalta.org/ispa2009/home.asp

July 7-11, 2009

2009 Conference of the International Association for
Research in
Economic Psychology
Nova Scotia, CANADA
URL: www.iarep.org/conferences.htm

July 27-31, 2009

15th South African Psychology Congress
Cape Town, SOUTH AFRICA
URL: www.psyssa.com

August 6-9, 2009

117th Annual Convention of the American
Psychological Association
Toronto, CANADA
URL: www.apa.org/international/convention.html

August 18-22, 2009

14th European Conference on Developmental
Psychology
Vilnius, LITHUANIA
URL: www.ecdp2009.com/index.php?id=28

August 19-24, 2009

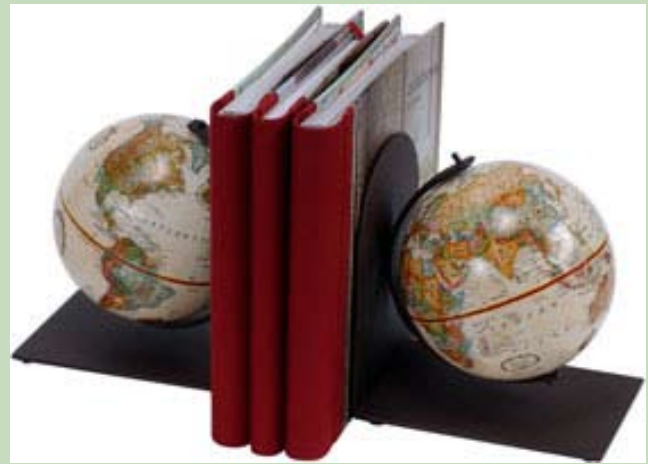
31st International Ethological Conference
Rennes, FRANCE
URL: www.zoology.ufl.edu/ice

September 1-5, 2009

14th International Congress of the International
Psychogeriatric Association
Montréal, CANADA
URL: www.ipa-online.org

September 2-6, 2009

2009 World Congress of the World Federation for
Mental Health
Athens, GREECE
URL: www.wmhc2009.com Ψ



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Please visit our **website** at:
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