

The Indian Psychological Association, by awarding this special honour to Professor Jitendra Mohan, has started a tradition of recognizing the best and thereby motivating the coming generations of psychologists of India!

–Professor Tarnijee, President, Indian Psychological Association

---

## ***IAAP at the United Nations: Reports of the IAAP UN Team Representatives***

– submitted by IAAP UN main representative Judy Kuriansky

The IAAP UN team representatives continue to be exceptionally active at the three UN headquarters – New York, Geneva and Vienna – focusing on issues related to the final year of achieving the Millennium Development Goals and setting the new post-2015 agenda on the Sustainable Development Goals. The team is also very active in the newly formed Psychology Coalition at the UN, serving on the executive board, chaired by Judy Kuriansky with Corann Okorodudu as past Chair, Mary O’Neill Berry as Advocacy chair, Florence Denmark as Programming co-chair and Martin Butler as liaison to the Department of Public Information.

The IAAP UN team has taken the lead in highly successful models for the Psychology Coalition at the United Nations (PCUN) advocacy campaign. For example, meetings were held with the Nigerian UN Mission resulting in a new partnership with a Nigerian NGO focused on disabilities under the leadership of IAAP professional affiliate Grace Charrier. See: <http://www.ngrguardiannews.com/index.php/life-magazine/spotlight/152568-eke-charrie-a-passion-for-people-living-with-disabilities>.

Further, meetings were held with various UN missions (Brazil, Spain, Portugal, Chile and Mexico) in collaboration with the **Federacion Iberoamericana de Asociaciones de Psicologia (FIAP)** and the Portugal Psychological Society, represented by President Telmo Baptista and Vice President Samuel Antunes. Multiple psychological issues and projects were discussed for partnerships.

The IAAP UN team contributed significantly to advocacy statements written and distributed at important UN Commissions on Social Development and the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as at the International Day of the Cultures of Peace and to the UN General Assembly High-level Meeting on “Disability and Development.”

CoNGO (the Committee on NGOS at the UN) of which IAAP is an elected member, held its annual meetings in New York April 2–3, attended by Judy Kuriansky, Walter Reichman and Wolfgang Beigleboeck, the VP in Vienna.

Wolfgang Beigleboeck participated in the High Level Segment of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for the Commission on Narcotics and Drugs held at the Vienna UN headquarters from 13 to 21 March, to which he contributed psychological issues to the written statement. He also met with the ambassador of Oman about the treatment of addicts using illegal drugs, especially in Austria.

IAAP is among the sponsors of the first-ever Pan African Health Summit organized by U.S. Doctors for Africa, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 21–23 May 2014. IAAP was also a co-sponsor of the

second International Day of Happiness, held at UN headquarters 20 March 2014. IAAP UN rep Judy Kuriansky served on the planning committee (her speech on last year's panel is on a video at: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DD\\_2wWZvy8c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DD_2wWZvy8c)). IAAP is also a co-sponsor of Psychology Day at the UN, 24 April 2014 (see video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrfoWq7OfE>).

The Department of Public Information NGO section will hold its annual meeting in New York this September, focused on the new post 2015 agenda on Sustainable Development Goals. All IAAP members are invited to attend.

The IAAP UN team has set up a new twitter account (@IAAPUN) and a Facebook account. ([www.facebook.com/iaap.un](http://www.facebook.com/iaap.un)). Please "Friend us" at iaap UN to build a communication network.

### ***At ICAP 2014, Make a Difference in the New Global Agenda at the United Nations***

Your voice in setting the new global agenda at the United Nations is welcome! At ICAP 2014, the IAAP representatives to the United Nations will present a Symposium (on July 13, 11:30am–1pm) and a Round Table Discussion (on July 11, 4:15pm–5:45pm) to report on UN activities and invite your participation. The symposium, "Doing Global Good: Psychologists at the United Nations Impact on International Issues and Invitation to all for Involvement," will describe activities at the UN by IAAP team representatives: Judy Kuriansky, Walter Reichman and Florence Denmark from the New York team, Raymond Saner and Lichia Saner-Yui from Geneva and Wolfgang Beigleboeck from Vienna. Activities include bringing psychological science and practice to policy and deliberations at the UN, advocating for the inclusion of psychological principles in UN conventions and assisting committees and commissions of the UN in fulfilling their mandates. Involvement of all IAAP members in these efforts is extremely important.

The Roundtable will show how IAAP membership plays an important role in the development and fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals, which will be the UN global agenda after 2015. Panelists include IAAP UN team members, as well as former IAAP President Michael Frese and IAAP Division Presidents: Henden Kepir Sinangal (Div 1, Organizational Psychology); Cigdem Kagiticibasi (Div 3, Psychology and Societal Development); Linda Steg (Div 4, Environmental Psychology); Erich Kircher (Div 9, Economic Psychology) and Irena Todorova (Div 8, Health Psychology). Everyone is invited to come and participate in bringing theories, practices, research and experiences of psychology that bear on developing and implementing the three pillars of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental.

IAAP interns will present their poster at ICAP2014 on "Entrepreneurial Training for Girls in Africa: Outline and Outcome of a Model Programme" as the important example of the multi-stakeholder partnerships encouraged by UN officials. The project exemplifies a collaboration of the IAAP UN team with the First Lady's Office, other NGOs and local organizations.

A new book debuts at ICAP2014: *Industrial and Organizational Psychology Help the Vulnerable: Serving the Underserved*, edited by Walter Reichman, with contributions by several IAAP members. It will be featured at the Macmillan publisher's booth. Chapters are all by psychologists who applied I-O procedures, techniques and theories to help vulnerable people around the world, from those surviving a devastating hurricane in the United States to those committing and surviving tribal murders in the Rift Valley in Kenya and the IAAP UN team's partnership in the Girls Empowerment Programme in Africa. The authors share their experiences, frustrations, success and failures, leading to important overall messages: I-O psychology and I-O psychologists can valuably help

populations around the world most in need; I-O psychologists have a choice of venues in which to practice their profession; and the boundaries of I-O psychology have been broadened.

### ***IAAP at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women: First Ladies of Africa Progress towards the MDGs***

The Commission on the Status of Women, a major annual two-week conference at United Nations New York headquarters was held 10–21 March 2014 on the topic, “Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls,” bringing together thousands of female and some male delegates representing Member States, UN entities, ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other stakeholders from around the world.

On 11 March, IAAP sponsored a parallel event addressing the major theme, entitled, “Accomplishments of NGOs of the First Ladies of Africa towards the Advancement and Achievement of the MDGs: Psychosocial and Human Rights Projects and Perspectives,” building on collaborations, partnerships and projects involving IAAP team members. Co-sponsors were the Psychology Coalition at the UN, SPSSI (Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues) and WCP (World Council for Psychotherapy). The event elucidated the many projects of First Ladies of Africa related to the MDGs, including eradicating poverty, improving access to education, empowerment of women and girls, and maternal and child health.

The venue of the Chapel of the UN Church center provided an elegant and sacred space for this important and engaging event which consisted of addresses enhanced by a choir and a video showing.

The UN Chapel’s Reverend Dionne Boissiere welcomed the full capacity crowd and invited everyone to write a message about peace on a sheet posted on the side wall. A choir then performed the original song “Every Woman Every Child” – written by Judy Kuriansky and IAAP professional affiliate and music director Russell Daisey – especially to commemorate the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon’s initiative of the same name. Soloist, 15-year old Sheimyrah Mighty, was backed up by a choir of children (the Hunter College Elementary School Chorale) and adults (IAAP NGO colleague Dr. Nyjeri Norman and her Singers).

Moderator Dr. Judy Kuriansky then presented an original video of First Ladies of Africa describing their efforts to achieve the MDGs through their NGOs, foundations and national campaigns launched in their countries about education, HIV prevention and maternal and child health. The First Ladies had been honored by two IAAP NGO partners, i.e., at a health summit in February 2013 by U.S. Doctors for Africa, which IAAP co-sponsored, and at a gala in May 2013 organized by Voices of African Mothers, which Dr. Judy hosted and/or gave awards. (See the video at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s2k7BvxtnbI&feature=em-upload\\_owner](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s2k7BvxtnbI&feature=em-upload_owner) and press coverage at: [http://blacktiemagazine.com/society\\_march\\_2014/commission\\_on%20\\_the\\_status\\_of\\_women.htm](http://blacktiemagazine.com/society_march_2014/commission_on%20_the_status_of_women.htm).)

The importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships for project success was emphasized, in the example of the Girls Empowerment Programme (as an IAAP collaboration with Lesotho’s Office of the First Lady, Global Camps Africa and other organizations on the ground), and in another example, the First Ladies Community Initiative, founded by its Executive Director Nicole Field Brzeski, that is building birthing shelters in Namibia.

Given that (1) the date 3/11 was the third anniversary of the tragic tsunami/earthquake in Japan; (2) many First Ladies are involved in peace campaigns, and (3) disaster relief is a major issue



*IAAP UN rep Judy Kuriansky at podium moderating CSW2014 event*

addressed at the UN (see <http://www.unisdr.org> and <http://www.iaapsy.org/uploads/file/newsletters/July2012.pdf> Part 22), Japanese opera star Tomoko Shibata performed “Towers of Light” (written by Kuriansky and Daisey) in Japanese, sung at 9/11 and 3/11 memorials.

After resounding applause, Nana Fosu-Randall, Founder of Voices of African Mothers, spoke about the new collaboration between her NGO and CANIGE, an NGO of the First Lady of Equatorial Guinea. Representatives of the latter, who had traveled from the nation, expressed their appreciation.

Dr. Ada Okika, Executive Director of the UNESCO Club for Global Education, in headquartered in New York and Nigeria, discussed the conference she recently organized, “First Ladies of Africa Forum: Building Bridges for Peace and Health Disparity,” at which Kuriansky had presented.

A reprise of “Every Woman Every Child,” with participation by audience members, closed the event, considered a major success.



*CSW 2014 event with soloist Sheimyrah and choir*

*(The following two photos can be next to each other with the caption©  
Caption: CSW 2014 event participants, including speakers, musical performers, and representatives from First Lady of Africa offices*





# Projects of First Ladies of Africa: Advancing the MDGs

Panel at the 58<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 58)



TUESDAY 11 MARCH 2014

12:15 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Church Center for the United Nations  
(Corner: 44th Street & First Avenue)

## Program:

*Moderator:* **Judy Kuriansky**, International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) & the Psychology Coalition at the UN

*Welcome:* **Reverend Dionne Boissiere**

*Opening Address:* **Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury**, former Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the United Nations

*Music Performances:*

- ❖ "Every Woman Every Child" **Sheimyrah** (soloist), Hunter College Elementary School Chorale (**Ayana Lowe**, H.C.E.S. Music Director), **The Dr. Nyjeri Norman Singers & Russell Daisey** (Music Director)
- ❖ "Towers of Light" **Tomoko Shibata** (Soloist), **Russell Daisey** (Piano)

*Panelists:*

**Ted Alemayhu**, Founder, U.S. Doctors for Africa  
**Nana Fosu-Randall**, Founder, Voices of African Mothers with **CANIGE** NGO Representative of the **First Lady of Equatorial Guinea**  
**Ada Okika**, US Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations New York State  
**Nicole Field Brzeski**, The First Ladies Community Initiative

Co-Sponsors:



IAAPUN



@IAAPUN



CSW 2014 IAAP sponsored event flyer



*Dr. Judy giving Voices of African Mothers Award to the First Lady of Equatorial Africa*

### **Briefing on “Partnering with the United Nations: The role of civil society in scaling up efforts to meet UN goals”**

The briefing by the Department of Public Information on 14 November 2013 at UN headquarters focused on the role of civil society in achieving the goals of the UN agenda. A concept note by the Executive Office of the Secretary General was distributed. Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Planning Robert Orr spoke about difficulties posed by increasing mandates on the UN and the limited available budget. MDG initiatives need to be scaled up, with insurance of coherence across stakeholders. Further partnership is essential, particularly multi-stakeholder partnerships which include civil society, the private sector, philanthropists and knowledge institutions. The UN must find a modality to bring all partners together. Good partnership is about mobilizing the networks of organizations as well as including small and large scale advocacy efforts. The role of civil society must be recognized due to the vast information and support they provide the UN.

Three highly successful multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives during the UN Secretary-General’s tenure are (1) The “*Every Women Every Child*” global health movement, with 290 partners, aimed at improving maternal and child health; (2) “*Sustainable Energy for All*,” that acknowledges energy access as key to development for all people on the planet by 2030; however, there are not many energy-related NGOs at the UN; and (3) the “*Zero Hunger Challenge*” where government, civil society, businesses, consumer groups and the scientific community aim to increase food security around the world and prevent stunting in children.

Orr proposed a new UN Partnership Facility to strengthen the UN’s ability to engage with civil society, the private sector and philanthropists while being accountable, efficient and transparent. This model with independent governance would create a network system of partners that shares common services and encourages coordination and increased accountability and transparency.

Attendees showed appreciation and support for the UN’s efforts to engage with civil society and for the execution of this partnership facility.

–Submitted by IAAP UN interns: Meaghan LeMay & Nora Aldhuwaihi, MA students in clinical psychology, Teachers College, Columbia University.

## ***DPI/INGO Youth Led Briefing: Educating and Employing Youth: The Influence of the Public-Private Partnerships in a Technological Era***

Youth and adults from different universities and organizations turned out in impressive numbers for the Department of Public Information (DPI) NGO Youth-Led Briefing held on 7 November 2013 on “Educating and Employing Youth: The Influence of Public-Private Partnerships in a Technological Era”.

Olga Mun, UN Youth Representative for Lehigh University, moderated the discussion with panelists Alex Wirth, Harvard University junior and Chair of the Youth Working Group (a U.S. National Commission for UNESCO) and Chair of the Campaign for a Presidential Youth Council; Jamira Burley, Executive Director of the City of Philadelphia Youth Commission and a member of the UN Global Education First initiative, Youth Advocacy Group (and the first of 16 siblings to graduate from high school and go to college); and Gretel Truong who manages multi-media projects and digital partnerships for the Global Business Coalition for Education. Panelists recognized UN efforts to engage youth in the discussion of education and emphasized access to education as a human right and its important relationship to employment, given statistics.

With 7,000 youth dropping out of high school a day, classroom education should be more relevant through project-based and vocational learning. Also, with 57 million children out of school in the world today due to cultural, institutional or economic reasons, education must solve vulnerabilities and health and economic issues. Inter-generational dialogue can create change. Corporations should be engaged, given that support for global health is 16 times higher than for global education.

Panelists encouraged dialogue, as well as online presence and an interactive community incorporating technology and web-based education. Successful examples are Khan Academy and Tech4Ed. In smaller groups, attendees discussed: access to education for youth, Information Communications Technology, ways youth can educate one another, the definition of being “educated,” and how attendees and their respective NGOs can further the ideas discussed, including further advocacy on universal education as well as incorporating technology in already existing frameworks.

Ahmad Alhendawi, the first-ever UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth, stressed the importance of informal educational systems (e.g., vocational training and volunteer opportunities), and making education more relevant for students today. Reforms should introduce innovation and teach youth how – not what- to think, e.g., producing “job inventors” (entrepreneurs) and not only “job seekers,” with legal frameworks and coaching resources that provide financial services and help start-ups scale up.

The briefing can be watched at: <http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/watch/youth-led-briefing-2013-dpingo/2816478030001>

– Submitted by IAAP Interns: Meaghan LeMay and Nora Aldhuwaihi, MA Clinical Psychology, Columbia University Teachers College

---

## ***COMMENTARY: Unopened Gifts***

–Robert F. Morgan

At the end of a long life, many express regrets. Less for things they wish they had not done, they regret more things they wish they *had* done. “Sins” of omission rather than commission. As their