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The

# *IAAP Bulletin*

The International Association of Applied Psychology

Covering the World of Applied Psychology



***View from Table Mountain,  
Cape Town, South Africa  
Home of the 30th ICP,  
July 22–27, 2012***

Photo credit: slack12

## ***Plus:***

**Announcement of our New President, News from President José Maria Peiró, News from our Divisions, Award for Harry Triandis, Tom Oakland's Working Abroad, International Society of Mental Training and Excellence, and Bob Morgan's Commentary**



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## **Editorial**



We have a new President! Please join me in expressing heartfelt congratulations to President José Maria Peiró. As you all know, President Ray Fowler suffered a severe stroke last December which, unfortunately, made it impossible for him to fulfill his duties as President. In the last issue of the *Bulletin*, you were informed of Ray's resignation. In the meantime, Janel Gauthier, our Secretary-General, apprised the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of the correct procedure for electing a new President, and now that has been accomplished. (See Janel's letter which follows.) In the same breath, we send Ray our greatest appreciation for the many years of service that he has given to IAAP, and we wish him continued good progress in his recovery.

The gorgeous cover photo is the last reminder to register for the upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology which will be held July 22–27, 2012 in Cape Town, South Africa. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to learn of cutting edge developments in Psychology and also to explore beautiful South Africa. The website for the Congress – <http://www.icp2012.com/index.php?bodyhtml=home.html> – is terrific. It sports the extra added attraction of counting down by the second (!) to the opening of the Congress.

Thank you to the Divisions who have shared their news and accomplishments in this Bulletin. I feel so fortunate to be able to read all the contributions in advance. Our colleagues are doing fascinating work, all of which contributes to the well-being of people around the world. Also, take a look at what students are doing! Very impressive.

I was privileged to see Ray and Sandy Fowler several times last fall. Most notable were the three days I stayed with Ray while Sandy was away on business. We all know that Ray is a remarkable man, but I saw a whole different side of his remarkableness. He is so determined and dedicated to his recovery. He insists on exercising every day. When you think the walk that he is taking you on is surely long enough, he turns around and does the same thing again. In addition to walking outdoors, he also uses the treadmill. Since I am the original Nervous Nellie, I wanted to stand next to him while he was on the thing, and he kicked me out of the room. Ray's Recovery Marathon is going well. Sandy has just as much grit and dedication as Ray does. He sometimes rolls his eyes when she insists that he practice yet another thing.

Thanks to Tom Oakland who has followed the lead of Bob Morgan and Mike Knowles in sharing a personal/professional experience. I'm sure that many of you have had experiences that our colleagues would like to read about. Please send them to me.

Last but not least, as usual, you will find Bob Morgan's Commentary gracing the end of the Bulletin. They are all pretty funny. This one is really edifying as well.

Happy New Year!

**Valerie Hearn, Editor, IAAP Bulletin—[vchearn@comcast.net](mailto:vchearn@comcast.net)**

## ***José Maria Peiró becomes IAAP's President***

Dear IAAP Members,

RE: IAAP Presidency

I hope this letter will find you well.

I am writing to you to let you know that the Board of Directors of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) has unanimously accepted President Raymond Fowler's resignation from office and that, as a result, President-Elect José Maria Peiró has become the new President of the Association.

President José Maria Peiró will assume the presidency of IAAP until the end of the next International Congress of Applied Psychology, which will be held in Paris in July 2014. Then, as he will have served for more than half a term as President, he will become Past-President of IAAP.

I know that you will join me in wishing our new President, José Maria Peiró, a highly successful presidency, and wishing again our former President Raymond Fowler maximum recovery of all the abilities that were lost or impaired as a result of his stroke.

Yours sincerely,

**Prof. Janel Gauthier, Ph.D.**

Secretary-General

International Association of Applied Psychology

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### ***President's Corner***



*José Maria Peiró*

When you receive the present issue of our IAAP Bulletin and read this column, 2012 will have already arrived. So let me, first of all, wish you a happy and fruitful year. Together we can look forward to the new opportunities and future developments of Psychology around the world in 2012. As in my previous column, I want to update you about some recent developments and achievements of our Association and also draw your attention to some challenges and opportunities.

***IAAP presence in International Congresses.*** The last year has been highly productive in strengthening relationships between our Association and other international and regional associations and in promoting the visibility of IAAP at important International Congresses in different regions of the world. IAAP participated in the XXXIII Interamerican Congress of Psychology (Medellin, Columbia, 26–30, June) organized by the Interamerican Society of Psychology (SIP) where more than 1200

contributions were presented by participants from more than 30 countries showing the vitality and developments of Psychology in the Americas. Also the European Federation of Psychologists' Associations held the XII European Congress of Psychology in Istanbul (3–8 July) where more than 2300 delegates participated from most European countries and other regions of the world. At the 119th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association (APA), the Society for General Psychology (APA Division 1) honored the *IAAP Handbook of Applied Psychology* with a Presidential Citation for Excellence. Finally, IAAP also participated in the VIII Iberoamerican Congress of Psychological Assessment, organized in Lisbon in July 2011.

**2011 Regional Congress of Psychology.** The Caribbean Regional Conference of Psychology on “Psychological Science and Well-being” was held at Nassau, (15–18 November) and was organized by the Bahamas Psychological Association (BPA). The goals were to promote the growth of psychology in the Caribbean, to strengthen regional bonds and national organizations, and to support Caribbean psychology's increased engagement with the global psychological community.

This Congress was promoted thanks to the cooperation agreement between IAAP, the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) and the International Association for Cross Cultural Psychology (IACCP), which support Regional Congresses of Psychology every two years.

**IAAP's eighteen Divisions** are the structural units that contribute to stimulating participation, exchange of information and cooperation among their membership within a specific discipline or field of science and practice. They are also important in helping to make IAAP visible in society, especially in those areas and issues related to their disciplinary fields. In addition, they promote cooperation between IAAP and other national or international scientific and professional associations in their respective disciplines. IAAP Divisions cover most of the fields of applied psychology and reflect the diversity of areas where applied psychology as a science and a profession make significant contributions to society. Their international membership and the opportunities of cooperation provide them with excellent opportunities to deal with issues that require an international approach, mobility and joint efforts for research and intervention and academic exchange. During 2011 the membership of many of the Divisions increased, and the Divisional committees have been working to promote the exchange of information (newsletters, electronic lists . . .) and to develop activities in specialized congresses, summer schools, etc. Support has been provided by the IAAP Executive Committee to the Divisions that have submitted proposals requesting it, and in the coming years this support will be continued. Moreover, the Divisions' active role in the preparation of the ICAP program (Paris, 2014) is being sought and promoted.

**The sixtieth anniversary of Applied Psychology: An International Review (AP:IR).** *AP:IR* was first published in 1952, so in the current year the Journal celebrates its 60th anniversary. If you have a look at the back issues, which are available online, you will realize the immense contribution IAAP has made all these years to scientific communication in the different disciplines of Applied Psychology. Currently, *AP:IR* is one of the leading journals in the field and this reputation has been the result of years of dedicated work of many members of our Association serving as editors, managing editors, editorial teams, editorial consultants and authors. Dr. Vivien K. G. Lim, current editor of the Journal, in cooperation with Wiley-Blackwell, has launched an excellent Virtual Issue where a selection of the most interesting articles that have appeared in the six decades of existence is highlighted. (<http://bit.ly/APIR60>)

Let me thank all those who contributed to the journal's success and congratulate Dr. Lim, the editor, the chair of the publication committee, Prof. Michael Frese, and Wiley-Blackwell, our publisher, for this excellent initiative.

***The Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS) 2012.*** Some time ago, information about the ARTS program for 2012 was disseminated among the IAAP membership. This program is another successful result of cooperation among IAAP, IUPsyS and IACCP. ARTS are capacity-building workshops that take place every two years in conjunction with major international congresses of psychology. ARTS promote excellence in research skills and facilitate exchange and dialogue among early career scientists. Three very interesting seminars will be held in Cape Town, South Africa prior to the 2012 International Congress of Psychology: 1) Coping with the Strains of Globalization: Culturally Appropriate Methods for Research on Health and Well-being; 2) Analyses of Psychological Data with R; and 3) Research as Praxis: Action and Theory-Making and Application in Community Psychology Research. I hope a good number of IAAP eligible members have applied to the program, and I look forward to the successful and fruitful delivery of these seminars.

***Membership renewal.*** Before coming to an end, I want to draw your attention to an important issue for the future of our Association. 2011 has been an excellent year from the point of view of IAAP membership. At the end of the year the number of members has reached close to 3000. When you are reading this column, you already have received a letter of invitation to renew your membership and I hope you have done so. ***If not, please, do it now!*** In the invitation letter, I pointed out a number of reasons to renew your membership, mentioning the services provided to the members. Here, I want to draw your attention to another important function of your membership. It is related to the need of preserving and promoting the social and institutional capital that IAAP represents nowadays. In a world where trends towards globalization are growing as well as the internationalization of many of the relevant human issues (health, well-being, education, work, etc.), more cooperation and exchange among psychologists from different parts of the world are required. It is also important that Psychology views and contributions be made present in the international organizations and institutions where policy decisions are made or influenced (e.g.: UN, UNESCO, etc.). In order to accomplish this, we need International Associations of Psychology to be present in these contexts. Today, more than ever, it is important to support IAAP which has promoted the exchange of knowledge, ideas, and experience and has created international spaces and opportunities for psychologists from all over the world to meet and cooperate for almost a century. IAAP has also contributed to enhance the positive reputation of Psychology in many countries and in the international scene. So, it is important to continue to develop this instrumental organization. To be successful we need your support and cooperation. Thank you!

**José M. Peiró, President, IAAP**

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## ***Division News***

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

#### **The Application of Psychological Tests in the field of business in China: Situation and Challenges**

Psychological tests were originally used in the education field mainly for scientific research by either scholars or well-trained teachers in pedagogy or psychology in China. With the development of the economy, how to find and select qualified talent became one of the top challenges for executives and human resource professionals in the business field. This, in turn facilitated the wide recognition and acceptance of the usefulness of psychological tests. The research-based publications



on test development were also an impetus for the application of tests in the practical world. Since the late 1980's, some of the scholars realized the huge market demand and began to use their expertise in psychological test to provide services for business organizations.

It is estimated that there are more than 1,500 test service providers in China. These can be divided into four types: 1) Government-sponsored agencies including different types of Human Resource Service Agencies on provincial and municipal level throughout the country (such as China Talent Mobility Center and China Talent Exchange Association which are both affiliated with the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, National Occupational Qualification Certification Administration); 2) Academic institutions affiliated to consulting companies, including Beijing Normal University, Peking University and others; 3) Domestic business consulting companies including NormStar, China Select, and Beisen; and 4) International consulting companies (such as SHL Group, A&DC Group, Psytech International, Pearson Assessment, and PDI).

Some of the government agencies and professional associations (such as China Talent Mobility Center, National Occupational Qualification Certification Administration, and the Committee of Psychometrics of the Chinese Psychology Society) began to provide certification for test users in 2003. But no certification system has been recognized widely and none is legally enforceable.

The issues we are facing include:

1. Abuse of tests, including online tests, published tests, consulting companies, even psychologists without validation studies. Most of the tests are adopted from western cultures without rigorous validation studies or cross-cultural validation. The self-developed tests are produced by different types of consulting companies often with little professional expertise.
2. No standards for test users, as well as no generally accepted training and certification system, and no regulation policies on either the professional or the national levels.
3. No professional conduct ethics. There are already Vocational Conduct Ethics of Psychologists and Administration Rules for Psychological Tests issued by the Chinese Psychology Society in 2008 but they have not been accepted and practiced widely.
4. The lack of authority in implementing professional ethics and certification standards in the whole country.
5. Lack of procedures and methods in adaptation and cross-cultural validation of Western tests.
6. The pressure created by the huge demand for tests from the business field on the one hand and the limited qualified and authoritative test providers on the other.
7. How domestic psychologists and professional associations could play a more important role in the test service industry.

As a way forward we need to include coordination among international and domestic psychologists and professional associations and to explore the adoption of certification or standards for test users from international associations, such as the International Test Commission (ITC) and the European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA).

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

### **Upcoming conferences:**

#### *International Congress of Psychology*

The 30th ICP (International Congress of Psychology) will be held in Cape Town, in July 22–27 2012, see <http://www.icp2012.com/index.php?bodyhtml=home.html>. The deadline for abstract submissions was December 1<sup>st</sup>, the deadline for rapid communication posters is March 1 2012. We encourage all IAAP division 4 members to attend this conference. We think the conference provides an excellent opportunity to discuss recent developments in the field.

#### *22<sup>nd</sup> International Association People-Environment Studies (IAPS) Conference*

The 22nd IAPS Conference entitled, Human Experience in the Natural and Built Environment: Implications for Research Policy and Practice, will take place at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow from the 24<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The Conference will explore human behavior and experience in both the built and natural environments and will focus on the relationship between research, practice and policy and how this can significantly impact on socially and environmentally sustainable development. For more information see <http://www.iaps2012.org.uk/IAPS2012Home.aspx>.

#### *Environmental psychology conference Eindhoven*

From September 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> 2011, the 9<sup>th</sup> biennial conference on Environmental Psychology was held in Eindhoven, the Netherlands. This year's conference theme was Environment 2.0, with a special focus on technological innovations. The symposia and posters also included topics such as the built and natural environment, conservation behavior and sustainability, environmental perception and decision making, environmental risks and stress, methods and theories in the environment-behavior research, proxemics, restoration and health.

New at the conference was the poster spotlight. This offered presenters of a poster a 'minute of fame' – the authors could briefly introduce their work to the audience and highlight the most interesting aspects of their poster. At the same time the audience got the opportunity to select the posters they were most interested in and have a better look at them during the poster session.

On Tuesday evening many delegates came together and continued their talks in the 'Tijdelijk Restaurant' at the former Philips factory. It is located in the dressing room of the former factory, with most of the interior intact. Since it promotes self-service and, thus, face-to-face interactions among the delegates, the restaurant provided the perfect setting for such an event.

During the closing session on Wednesday afternoon prizes were awarded for the best poster and the best paper. The poster 'The restorative potential of sub-aquatic biodiversity' by Cracknell, White, Corcoran, Pahl, Claydon, Cox and Depledge won the best poster award. Markowitz, Slovic, Västfäll and Hodges won the award for best paper. The title of their paper is: 'Are pandas like people? Compassion collapse in the environmental domain'.

The conference was a big success, both scientifically and socially, and we are already looking forward to the next Environmental Psychology conference in Magdeburg, Germany.

### *IAREP symposia on Sustainable Consumption*

After a very successful series of symposia at the IAREP conference in Köln in 2010, organized by Folke Ölander, this year's conference was overwhelmed by abstracts on sustainability and morality. Birgitta Gatersleben and John Thøgersen organized the abstracts in to several symposia on Ethics and Sustainability.

Besides being a scientific success the organizing committee made sure the conferences was a success in the social sense as well. During the evenings PhD's, professors and other researchers met for dinner and drinks. On Tuesday the committee organized a wonderful boat trip on the River Exe. There were many opportunities to exchange new results, catch up with former colleagues and meet new ones. Many thanks to the organizing committee for making a big success of the conference.

### *Virtual community on "Sustainability and Consumption – Near-term and long-term strategies and interventions"*

At the IAREP Conference 2011 in Exeter, 12<sup>th</sup>–16<sup>th</sup> July, a new "virtual community" on "Sustainability and Consumption – Near-Term and Long-Term Strategies and Interventions" was formally initiated. The founding group and the board of the virtual community consist of a range of researchers that are internationally recognized for their significant contributions to this area of research:

John Thøgersen, Aarhus University, Chairman of the Board

Anders Biel, Göteborg University,

Mario Teisl, University of Maine,

Linda Steg, University of Groningen,

Lucia Reisch, Copenhagen Business School,

Ulf Schrader, Technical University of Berlin,

Paul Stern, NAS, Washington DC,

Tim Jackson, University of Surrey,

Bas Verplanken, University of Bath,

Ellen Matthies, NTNU,

Satoshi Fujii, Kyoto University

The virtual community is open for anyone with an interest in this area. A website is currently under development at the Aarhus University domain (preliminary site: <http://www.asb.dk/omos/institutter/departmentofbusinessadministration/research/sustainability-and-consumption/affiliates/>). It is possible to sign up for the virtual community on the web page and by emailing John Thøgersen, ([jbtt@asb.dk](mailto:jbtt@asb.dk)).

It is possible to participate in the community's first virtual seminar Tuesday, 25 October from 14:30 to 16:00, which will be streamed at the community's web page. Professor John Thøgersen, Aarhus



University, Business and Social Sciences, will talk about “Understanding and influencing consumer-citizen’s acceptance of necessary policy interventions”.

## **STEP 2: STEEP – The second Summer school on Theories in Environmental and Economic Psychology, 2–6 July 2012 in Aarhus, Denmark**

After the successful first STEP summer school in Groningen in 2009 (see <http://www.rug.nl/psy/onderwijs/firststep>), a second STEP: STEEP, will be organised in Aarhus, Denmark, on 2–6 July 2012. The aim of the summer school is to provide PhD students in environmental and economic psychology the opportunity to collaborate with senior scholars in this field, and to meet with other PhD students that work in the same area. We are proud that we can announce 10 well known scholars who have agreed to lead the workshops

- Wesley Schultz (University of California, USA)
- Linda Steg (University of Groningen, Netherlands)
- Henk Staats (Leiden University, Netherlands)
- Ellen Matthies (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway)
- Geertje Schuitema (Aarhus University, Denmark)
- Annika Nordlund (University of Umea, Sweden)
- Bas Verplanken (University of Bath, UK)
- Anders Biel (Gothenburg University, Sweden)
- Agnes van den Berg (Wageningen University, Netherlands)
- Jannick Joye (Leuven University, Belgium)

For more information go to our website [www.asb.dk/steep](http://www.asb.dk/steep) or email Geertje Schuitema at [g.schuitema@asb.dk](mailto:g.schuitema@asb.dk).

### *Workshop on lighting*

June 2012 will bring an innovative workshop for PhD students whose research topics relate to light and lighting (whether their home discipline be psychology, engineering, architecture, design, physics, etc.). LumeNet, at the University of Sheffield, will bring together PhD students to present their work at the concept stage to their fellow students and to receive critiques from senior researchers (not their own supervisors!). For more information visit <http://www.lumenet2012.group.shef.ac.uk/index.html> or contact the organizer, Prof. Steve Fotios, at [lumenet2012@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:lumenet2012@sheffield.ac.uk).

### *Robert Sommer Award*

The Section on Environmental Psychology of the Canadian Psychological Association has created a new award for student research, the Robert Sommer Award for Best Student Paper in Environmental Psychology. The award commemorates the role of psychologist Robert Sommer in the creation of the field with his research at the Saskatchewan Hospital in Weyburn in the 1950s, which was described in the landmark book *Personal Space: The Behavioral Basis of Design*. Robert Sommer’s amazingly prolific body of work covers many topics, but the common theme has always involved staying close to the real world and trying to make a difference in what he sees around him.

The award is judged by an independent panel of three reviewers based on extended abstracts of original research in environmental psychology for which the first author is an undergraduate or graduate student in Canada. The inaugural award was given in 2011, judged by a review panel including Robert Sommer, Mark Sandilands, and Peter Suedfeld. Recipients receive a certificate and a cheque for C\$300.

The inaugural Robert Sommer Award was presented to PhD student Reuven Sussman of the University of Victoria for a paper co-authored by his advisor Prof. Robert Gifford, titled “Public Pro-Environmental Behaviour: Models not Signs Promote Food Composting?” Here is a short summary of the paper:

Composting biodegradable material is an effective means of reducing landfill waste and improving the state of the environment. In order to encourage the use of public compost bins, two interventions were introduced in community shopping center food courts and a local, independently owned fast food restaurant: table-top signs outlining the benefits of composting, and models who demonstrated the behaviour. When diners (N = 540) viewed confederate models composting ahead of them, they were more likely to compost as well ( $p < .001$ ). However, the signs did not significantly influence composting rates, either alone ( $p > .05$ ) or in combination with the models ( $p > .05$ ). Results support the idea that pro-environmental actions can influence similar behaviour in others, and may be more effective than signage in doing so.

**Jennifer Veitch**

**Chair of the CPA Section on Environmental Psychology**

*Waldram Gold Pin award*

Jennifer Veitch, an environmental psychologist and researcher at the National Research Council of Canada, was awarded the Waldram Gold Pin Award by the International Commission on Illumination (CIE) at its 27th Session this July in Sun City, South Africa. CIE is an international organization devoted to information exchange, scientific consensus, and standards documents in all matters related to the science and art of light and lighting. It bestows the Waldram award once every four years for exceptional contributions to applied illuminating engineering research and practice. Dr. Veitch was recognized for her scientific contributions to understanding lighting quality, health, and well-being and the application of this information in lighting and architectural design. At the same meeting, she also began a four-year term as the Director of CIE Division 3 (Interior Environment and Lighting Design).

–Submitted by Ellen van der Werff on behalf of the members of Division 4

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

This is a quick note to bring you up to date with the appointment of the new President and the new President-Elect of Division 6: Clinical and Community Psychology.

The background is that presidents progress to the presidency of their respective Divisions from the office of President-Elect. In the case of Division 6, however, there were personal and work circumstances that made this impossible, and no election took place before the Melbourne Congress nor during the Congress.

In light of this, our Officer group has been consulting over this matter for the past two months or more, and as a result of considering several possible candidates we have chosen Neville Morris Blampied to take up the post of President from now until 2014 and Mari Paz Garcia Vera as President-Elect for the same period.

We hope that with these appointments the conditions are created to re-launch the activities of the Division and we look forward to its development. I hope you will join with me in welcoming Professors Blampied and Garcia-Vera to the BOD once I have formally invited them to take on the distinguished respective positions.

Best wishes,

**José M. Peiró, President, IAAP**

### ***Division 8 – Health Psychology***

Last summer IAAP members actively participated in such meetings as the 25th European Health Psychology Conference (September 2011, Hersonissos, Greece), the 32nd Stress and Anxiety Research Society Conference (July 2011, Muenster, Germany; keynote by Ralf Schwarzer), the German Health Psychology Conference (August-September 2011, Berlin, Germany), the 3rd Central European Congress on Obesity (August, 2011, Olsztyn, Poland); the 7th Polish Health Psychology Congress (May 2011, Łódz, Poland; keynote by Aleksandra Luszczynska) and the XVth European Congress of Work and Organizational Psychology (May, 2011, Maastricht, The Netherlands). In July 2011, Ralf Schwarzer gave a keynote address on health behavior change at the World Congress of Positive Psychology in Philadelphia.

Esther Greenglass organized and co-chaired (with Petra Buchwald, Bergische University, Germany), a joint Canada- Germany symposium at STAR on economic stress and psychological outcomes. Two papers from each country were presented which dealt with a variety of topics related to the psychological effects of the economic downturn and the resources that are used to deal with them. The papers all placed economic decline in a stress and coping theoretical framework. Nina Knoll (Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany) was the Discussant.

In October 2011, Ralf Schwarzer organized a Chinese-German workshop on Coping with Stress and Adversity at the Sino-German Centre in Beijing, China. More details on that workshop will follow.

Other activities of the division members included a contribution to a special issue of Psychology & Health, devoted to health promotion interventions (see new publications).

*Report on the European Summer School by Pawel Slecza (postgraduate student at Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, health psychology)*

The European Summer School is an annual event organized by the European Federation of Psychology Students Associations (EFPSA). This year was the 5th edition. It took place at Lake Balaton in Hungary, July 24th to 31st.

The topic was health psychology. During the one week meeting 36 students from all over Europe were developing research projects under the supervision of PhD candidates. Each of 6 independent groups had a different general topic, which was given in advance by the supervisor:

- \* A cross-cultural exploration of experiences of trust for the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine: A qualitative and literature review study.
- \* Sensitivity to the situation: a preemptive approach to fighting temptation.
- \* Attachment security and children's internalizing and externalizing psychopathology.
- \* Popular tough boys and girls: cool, athletic and antisocial. Similarities throughout Europe, and how "being cool" is related to health risks.

\* The sense of belonging and psychological well-being in university students: a European study.

\* Help-seeking behavior in stigmatized patient groups.

Students had to decide how to specify the topic, what research methodology to use, and what and exactly how to measure it. After literature research, deciding and preparing all of the measurements in English, the tools were translated into different languages. All of the projects will be held in different countries to investigate cross-cultural differences. Now the studies are being conducted. All of the groups are planning on publishing their results within the next 1–2 years.

Besides the research development, students participated in several lectures held by top Hungarian scientists and also many cultural and integrating activities. Like all of the EFPSA activities this one also encouraged the most active and engaged students from Europe to develop their professional skills. It also gave them the possibility to gain new professional contacts with other young people interested in research.

EFPSA is one of the best organized and most active psychological students associations in the world. It now consists of 28 national organizations of 28 European countries. Their 25th annual meeting in Poland gathered over 350 people. The organization has its own peer-reviewed, scientific journal – Journal of European Psychology Students (JEPS). It organizes many events (like ESS or Train-the-Trainer camps) and helps increase students' mobility through its Study Abroad and Cough-Surfing programs.

For further information on research groups, ESS or EFPSA – please visit: [www.efpsa.org](http://www.efpsa.org)

Recent publications of our EC members:

Burkert, S., Scholz, U., Gralla, O., Roigas, J., & Knoll, N. (2011). Dyadic planning of health-behavior change after prostatectomy: A randomized-controlled planning intervention. *Social Science and Medicine*, 73, 783–792. doi:10.1016/j.socscimed.2011.06.016

Fleig, L., Lippke, S., Pomp, S., & Schwarzer, R. (2011). Intervention effects of exercise self-regulation on physical exercise and eating fruits and vegetables: a longitudinal study in orthopedic and cardiac rehabilitation. *Preventive Medicine*, 53, 182–187.

Kroll, C., Keller, R., Scholz, U., & Perren, S. (2011). Evaluating the Decisional Balance construct of the Transtheoretical Model: are two dimensions of pros and cons really enough? *International Journal of Public Health*, 56, 97–105. DOI 10.1007/s00038-010-0175-y

Luszczynska, A., Goc, G., Scholz, U., Kowalska, M., & Knoll, N. (2011). Enhancing Intentions to Attend Cervical Cancer Screening With a Stage-Matched Intervention. *British Journal of Health Psychology*, 16, 33–46. DOI:10.1348/135910710X499416

Luszczynska, A., Schwarzer, R., Lippke, S., & Mazurkiewicz, M. (2011). Self-efficacy as a moderator of the planning-behaviour relationship in interventions designer to promote physical activity. *Psychology & Health*, 26, 151–166. Doi 10.1080/08870446.2011.531571

Mata, J., Lippke, S., Dieckmann, A., & Todd, P. M. (2011). Meat label information: effects of separate versus conjoint presentation on product evaluation. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 41(8), 1947–1957.

Radtke, T., Scholz, U., Keller, R., Knäuper, B., & Hornung, R. (2011).

Smoking-specific Compensatory Health Beliefs and the readiness to stop smoking in adolescents. *British Journal of Health Psychology*, 16, 610–625.

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

Schwarzer, R., Lippke, S. & Luszczynska, A. (2011). Mechanisms of Health Behavior Change in Persons With Chronic Illness or Disability: The Health Action Process Approach (HAPA). *Rehabilitation Psychology*, 56(3), 161–170.

Wiedemann, A. U., Lippke, S., Reuter, T., Ziegelmann, J. P., & Schwarzer, R. (2011). How planning facilitates behaviour change: Additive and interactive effects of a randomized controlled trial. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 41, 42–51. DOI: 10.1002/ejsp.724

–Submitted by **Sonia Lippke, Secretary, Division 8**

### ***Division 9 – Economic Psychology***

In early Summer there were some highly successful conferences in Economic Psychology, Behavioral Economics and specifically in Shadow Economy, Tax Evasion and Money Laundering. This is a short update about the conferences and information about the Journal of Economic Psychology.

The International Association for Economic Psychology (IAREP) holds a conference each year and every second year a joint conference with the Society for the Advancement of Behavioral Economics (SABE). July, 2011, the IAREP/SABE conference was held in Exeter, UK. Next year IAREP will meet in Wrocław, Poland from September, 05 to September, 08. At the next IAAP conference in 2014 in Paris, France, IAREP will organize its annual meeting as a joint event. For the conference in Poland 2012 please contact the respective web-page for information about the upcoming activities: [www.iarep2012.org](http://www.iarep2012.org)

At this year's IAREP/SABE conference, besides inspiring presentations on various topics in economic psychology, there were five star plenary speakers: Russ Belk, an inspiring consumer psychologist held the IAREP's Daniel Kahneman lecture, on the "Digital Consumer", Pete Richerson – a co-founder of gene-culture co-evolutionary theory – held the Herbert Simon lecture on "The tribal social instincts hypothesis and modern economic behavior", Alex Haslam, leading theorist of social identity theory, related social identity theory to economic behavior in: "I am therefore I shop: Identity as the psychological basis for needs and satisfaction", Benedikt Herrmann, a young influential behavioral economist, spoke about "Some experimental findings on the dark side of human behavior" and Molly Crockett, expert in neuro-scientific approaches to economic behavior, held a keynote lecture on "Social neuroeconomics: brain mechanisms of social preferences".

Research presentations dealt with important topics such as: Banking, Financial Markets and Risk, Consumer Behavior, Culture, Employment and Individual Difference Decision Making, Household Economics, Young People and Time Ethics and Sustainability Experimental Games and Economic Theory Honesty, Health and Happiness Neuroscience of Economic Behaviour Sustainability and Consumption.

Although many members of Division 9 are also members of IAREP, I am sure that IAREP activities are of high interest to all Division 9 members.

At the end of July, 28 to 31, there was the conference on The Shadow Economy, Tax Evasion and Money Laundering in Münster, Germany. At this meeting economists and social science colleagues met to present their studies on a specific topic of economic psychology. Information about the conference can be found at: <http://www.wiwi.uni-muenster.de/shadow2011/program/index.html>.

The next conference will be held in 2013 and it would be most important to have more research presented by economic psychologists.

I would also like to draw your attention to the Journal of Economic Psychology which is published six times per year by Elsevier. The journal is probably the core outlet in our field of research, earning increasing visibility and success: the five-year impact factor is at an all time high!

Actually there are three calls for papers for special issues:

Self-Regulation and Strategic Motivational Orientations in Economic Contexts Guest Editors: Arnd Florack and Johannes Keller Submission Deadline: 31 October 2011.

Behavioral Dynamics of Tax Evasion Guest Editors: Stephan Muehlbacher, Michael Pickhardt and Aloys Prinz Submission Deadline: 31 December 2011.

From Dual Processes to Multiple Selves: Implications for Economic Behavior Guest Editors: Fritz Strack, Universität Würzburg and Carlos Alós-Ferrer, University of Konstanz Submission Deadline: 31 April 2012.

If you are working in these fields, please consider whether to submit a related manuscript. In any case you might be interested in seeing the new publications in the journal and upcoming publications:

[http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws\\_home/505589/description](http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/505589/description).

–Submitted by Erich Kirchler, President, Division 9

### ***Division 12 – Sport Psychology***

The first year of the European Masters in Sport and Exercise Psychology (EMSEP) Erasmus Mundus program was successfully completed. EMSEP visiting scholars for 2011 included: Hülya Asçi, Albert Carron, Nikos Chatzisarantis, Dan Gould, Harold Riemer, Judy Van Raalte, Tony Morris, Vanessa Shannon, and Robert Weinberg. Visiting scholars for the Leipzig period 2012 include: Brenda Bredemeier, Nikos Chatzisarantis, Steven Danish, Mark Eys, Debbie Feltz, Martin Hagger, Harold Riemer, Vanessa Shannon, David Shields, and Robert Weinberg.

The European Federation of Sport Psychology (FEPSAC) held its congress in Madeira, Portugal (July 12–17, 2011). Keynote speakers included: Sheldon Hanton (UK) “Another decade of research and still the question remains: What is this thing called Mental Toughness?”, Margarida Matos (Portugal), “Health Assets for the promotion of personal and social health and wellbeing in children and adolescents”, Anne Marte Pensgaard (Norway) “Applied Sport Psychology”, Elisabeth Rosnet (France) “Sport, Exercise, Polar and Space Psychology: links and challenges”, and Andrew Sparkes (UK) “Qualitative research in sport and exercise psychology: Future challenges and points of contestation”. The Managing Council, elected during the congress, includes: Paul Wylleman (President), Anne-Marie Elbe (Vice President), Xavier Sanchez (Secretary General), and Alberto Cei (Treasurer). The next congress will be held in 2015 in July 14–19 in Bern, Switzerland. Visit: [www.fepsac2015.ch/Fepsac%202015%201st%20Flyer.pdf](http://www.fepsac2015.ch/Fepsac%202015%201st%20Flyer.pdf).

The Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP) held its 26<sup>th</sup> conference in Honolulu, Hawaii (September 21–24, 2011). The conference gathered participants from 48 different countries. Former Division 12 president, Gloria Balagué (University of Illinois, Chicago) presented the Coleman Griffith Address “Taking a look at the ‘applied’ in applied sport psychology”. The Social Psychology Keynote Address was presented by Dorothy Espelage (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) “Bullying from classrooms, gyms, to the playing fields: using social psychology research to guide prevention &



intervention efforts". Darren Treasure (Oregon Nike Project) gave the Performance Psychology Keynote Address, "From graduate school to life inside the Nike berm: the more things change the more they stay the same", and Jay Maddock, (University of Hawaii) presented the Health & Exercise Psychology Keynote Address "Comprehensive approaches to community-wide physical activity promotion". Award recipients were: Sandy Gordon (Distinguished International Scholar), Peter Haberl (Distinguished Professional Practitioner), Shawn Zeplin (Distinguished Student Practice Award), Ross Wadey (Doctoral Dissertation Award), Cindra Kamphoff (Dorothy V. Harris Award), Mustafa Sarkar (Master Thesis Award), and Moé Machida and Alyssa Norris (Student Diversity Award). The members of the Executive Board include: Jack J. Lesyk (President), Jack Watson (President Elect), Bonnie Berger (Past President), and Heather Peters (Secretary-Treasurer). The next conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia (October 3–6, 2012). Visit: [www.appliedsportpsych.org/conference](http://www.appliedsportpsych.org/conference)

### **Conference report submitted by Jolly Roy**

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Sports Medicine and Sports Science Conference entitled "Medicine, sports and technology: powering high performance", was organized by the National Sports Institute of Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur from 27–30 September, 2011. Professor Dieter Hackfort (Germany) delivered the Psychology Keynote. He focused on Mental Performance Management, founded on action analysis. Professor Andy Lane (UK) presented an invited lecture highlighting the importance of beliefs in the effectiveness of intervention to explain changes in emotions. In addition, both professors shared many creative ideas to move forward to become high performance competitors.

### **News from Australia submitted by Daniel Gucciardi**

The Australian Psychological Society's (APS) College of Sport and Exercise Psychologists (CoSEP) AGM was held Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October at the APS Annual Conference in Canberra (National Convention Centre). This meeting included the confirmation of National Executive Office Bearers for 11/12; the presentation of the APS Award of Distinction to one of our members; and the launch of the inaugural APS College of Sport and Exercise Psychologists Student Award.

The CoSEP has worked closely with the National APS office to contribute to a range of submissions to Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and the Psychology Board of Australia regarding professional issues, in addition to the updating of APS Ethical Guidelines and project taskforces on critical topics. The next edition of the CoSEP newsletter, *The Sporting Mind*, is available on the CoSEP website: <http://www.groups.psychology.org.au/csep/newsletters/>

(See also local conferences below).

### **Forthcoming Meetings, Conferences, Congresses, and Workshops**

**October, 11–13, 2011**, Jyväskylä, Finland. The third Science for Success congress organized by the Research Institute for Olympic Sports to be organized in conjunction with the 7<sup>th</sup> European Network of Young Specialists in Sport Psychology (ENYSSP) Workshop. Visit: <http://www.kihu.fi/sfs3/index.php/welcome>

**October, 19–22, 2011**, Fremantle, Australia. Australian Conference of Science and Medicine in Sport (ACSM). Visit: <http://www.bases.org.uk/BASES-Annual-Conference>

**November, 11–14, 2011**. Taipei, Taiwan. International Congress of the Asian South Pacific Association of Sport Psychology Congress (ASPASP).

Visit: [http://www.aspasp2011.com/latest\\_en.php](http://www.aspasp2011.com/latest_en.php)

**March 21–24, 2012**, Murcia, Spain. XIII National Congress & I Mediterranean Forum of Sport and Exercise Psychology organized by the Spanish Federation of Sport Psychology (FEPD). Prior to the congress, on March 20, the Spanish Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology (RPD) Editorial Board will celebrate a satellite symposium.

Visit: [http://symposium.com/event\\_detail/519/detail/xiii-congreso-nacional-y-i-foro-del-mediterraneo-de-psicologia-de-la-actividad-fisica-y-deporte.html](http://symposium.com/event_detail/519/detail/xiii-congreso-nacional-y-i-foro-del-mediterraneo-de-psicologia-de-la-actividad-fisica-y-deporte.html)

**July 4–7, 2012**, Bruges, Belgium. Annual Congress of the European College of Sport Science (ECSS). Visit: [www.ecss-congress.eu/2012/](http://www.ecss-congress.eu/2012/)

**June 7–9, 2012**, Honolulu, Hawaii. Annual conference of the North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSA). Visit: [www.naspsa.org/about-the-conference](http://www.naspsa.org/about-the-conference)

**July, 19–24, 2012**, Glasgow, Scotland. Annual Conference of the British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) and 2012 International Convention on Science, Education and Medicine in Sport (ICSEMIS) conference. Visit: [www.bases.org.uk/bases-Annual-Conference](http://www.bases.org.uk/bases-Annual-Conference) and [www.icsemis2012.com](http://www.icsemis2012.com)

**August, 13–17, 2012**. Glasgow, Scotland. The 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Active Ageing. Visit: [www.wcaa2012.com/](http://www.wcaa2012.com/)

**September/October, 2012**. Perth, Australia. The Australian Psychological Society Annual Conference.

**October 31–November 3, 2012**. Sydney, Australia. Be Active Conference (Sports Medicine Australia). <http://sma.org.au/asics-conference/future-conferences/be-active-2012/>

**7th ASPASP International Congress 2014**. Expressions of Interest in Hosting the Congress are welcome. For further information contact: Prof. Michael Bar-Eli, ASPASP Vice-President (Programs) at: [mbareli@som.bgu.ac.il](mailto:mbareli@som.bgu.ac.il)

### **New Publications**

Gilbourne, D. & Andersen, M. (2011). Critical Essays in Applied Sport Psychology. Human Kinetics.

Gucciardi, D.F., & Gordon, S. (Eds.) (2011). Mental toughness in sport: Developments in theory and research. Routledge.

Morris, T. & Terry, P. (2011). New Sport and Exercise Psychology Companion. Fitness Information Technology.

Tenenbaum, G., Eklund, R. & Kamata, A. (Eds.) (2011). Measurement in Sport and Exercise Psychology. Human Kinetics.

–Submitted by **Montse Ruiz, Bulletin Editor, Division 12**

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

News from Division 13 focuses on forthcoming conferences. These are listed below along with a longer piece on the Fifth International Conference in Driver Behaviour and Training (ICDBT5) contributed by the Division 13 President-Elect, Lisa Dorn. As always you can keep up with Division news at the updated website

(<http://www.iaapsy.org/division13/>), and please contact me (Gerald Matthews) at [matthegl@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:matthegl@ucmail.uc.edu) if you have any items for the next IAAP newsletter.

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

1. The Fifth International Conference in Driver Behaviour and Training (DBT5), held under the auspices of IAAP Division 13 – Traffic and Transportation Psychology, will be held in Paris 29–30 November 2011. A Division 13 business meeting will be held after the conference. Conference Organiser – Lisa Dorn. For further details see: [www.icdbt.com](http://www.icdbt.com)
2. The Fifth International Conference on Traffic and Transport Psychology (ICTTP5 – 2012) will take place in Groningen, The Netherlands, August 29–31, 2012. The conference theme is “Traffic and transport behaviour: Interaction between theory and practice”. Abstracts may be submitted up until December 1. Conference organisers – Dick de Waard, Linda Steg and Karel Brookhuis. For further details see: <http://www.icctp2012.com>.
3. The First International Conference on Human Factors in Transportation will be held at the Hilton Hotel in San Francisco, 21–25 July 2012. The conference will be held jointly with the Fourth International Conference on Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics (AHFE). Paper submissions may be made via the AHFE website until November 15. Conference organisers – Neville Stanton (road & rail) and S. Landry (air). For further details see: <http://www.ahfe2012.org/HFT.html>.
4. The First International Conference on Aging, Mobility and Quality of Life will focus on requirements of elderly people for transport and mobility and will take place at the University of Michigan 24–25 June 2012. Conference organiser is Dr David Eby ([eby@umich.edu](mailto:eby@umich.edu)). More information is at: <http://www.agingmobilityconference.com/index.html>.

–Submitted by Gerald Matthews, President, Division 13

### **Year on Year Growth of a Major Conference in Driver Behaviour**

Conference organizing activity is hotting up as the date of the Fifth International Conference in Driver Behaviour and Training (ICDBT5) is fast approaching. The ICDBT aims to debate new initiatives in the scientific enquiry of road user behaviour, education and training. The ICDBT has been hailed a success after feedback from over 600 delegates who have attended the event since it began in 2003. The conference, hosted by Cranfield University, has been praised by delegates for its academic content and practitioner-oriented approach. A glance at the provisional programme suggests that the ICDBT5 held at the Tapis Rouge in Paris from 29<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011 promises to be the most successful conference yet. The ICDBT organizing committee have received an unprecedented number of good quality abstracts. The IAAP are supporting the event by funding a keynote speaker

There are three keynote speakers including Past-President of Division 13, Professor Ian Glendon from the School of Psychology, Griffith University, Gold Coast, Australia. His research interests include transportation psychology, driver stress/behaviour, safety/risk management, and safety culture/climate. His over 100 publications include five books. He will talk about “Addressing potential risks facing younger drivers”. Professor Michael Regan, Research Director with the French Institute of Science and Technology for Transport, Development and Networks (IFSTTAR) in Lyon, France and Adjunct Professor for Vehicle Safety with the Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden will also deliver a keynote address. Michael’s research interests focus on driver distraction and inattention, human interaction with intelligent transport systems

(ITS), driving simulation, driver training and human error. He sits on the Editorial Boards of five peer-reviewed journals, including *Human Factors*, and is the author of more than 200 publications. He also sits on two Australian and one international Standards Committees. In November 2009, Michael received the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Australia's Cumming Memorial Medal for highly esteemed human factors and ergonomics research and application in the field of transportation safety.

We are also delighted that Dr. Martin Langham will be giving his keynote speech on the application of driver behaviour research to answer forensic questions. Martin is Managing Director of User Perspective – a human factors research company based in the science park at the University of Sussex and has led over 200 research projects and over 30 forensic investigations on behalf of HM Government, police forces and the military working in the domains of counter terrorism, road, air, rail and marine transportation. Martin led the Human Factors investigation both on behalf of Lord Stevens's Operation Paget and on the later inquests into the deaths of Diana, Princess of Wales and Emad El-Din Mohamed Abdel Moneim Fayed (Mr Dodi Al Fayed).

As Conference Chair, I am grateful to the IAAP for their support of the ICDBT5. The ICDBT have seen some of the world's leading experts taking part, and this year's event is no different. The provisional programme is now available on the conference website at [www.icdbt.com](http://www.icdbt.com) – but book early to avoid disappointment!

–Submitted by Lisa Dorn, President-Elect, Division 13

### ***Division 16 – Counseling Psychology***

Jean Guichard, Professor of Psychology at the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers (CNAM) in Paris, received an Honorary Doctorate from the Universidad da Lisboa (Portugal) in recognition for his distinguished contributions to vocational psychology.

Members of Division 16 joined together in Padua, Italy during the month of September to found the European Society for Vocational Designing and Career Counselling. The Society aims to stimulate and promote European collaboration in research and development in the fields of life designing, vocational guidance, and career counseling. Professor Raoul Van Esbroeck, Professor Emeritus at Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium), led the meeting and was named the initial Past-President of the Society in recognition of his work on forming the Society. The forty participants at the organizing meeting elected the first President of the Society – Jean-Pierre Dauwalder, Professor Emeritus at the University of Lausanne (Switzerland). They also elected to the Executive Committee Jean-Luc Bernaud, Professor at Rouen University (France); Laura Nota, Professor at the University of Padua (Italy); and Christiane Schiersmann, Professor at Universität Heidelberg (Germany). The organizing meeting was hosted at the University of Padua and supported by Professor Salvatore Soresi who originally proposed the idea of the Society. For information about joining the Society contact the Treasurer, Professor Bernaud, at [<bernaud.jl@gmail.com>](mailto:bernaud.jl@gmail.com)

Several members of the Division attended the Second Erasmus NICE Conference at the University of Heidelberg in May. Led by Christiane Schiersmann from the University of Heidelberg, the Erasmus NICE Network supports the European effort to foster lifelong learning and lifelong guidance, as well as to develop quality and professionalism in career guidance and counselling. The Heidelberg University and 39 other higher education institutions from almost all European countries have initiated a European network of universities that offer study programs in vocational and career guidance and counselling (Bachelor and Master degrees and other post-graduate degrees). They will sustain and strengthen the cooperative efforts in research and education that

have developed over the past decade. For information about the Network visit its website at [www.nice-network.eu](http://www.nice-network.eu).

Members of Division 16 from 13 countries have collaborated in constructing a psychometric scale to measure career adaptability. Based on four pilot tests, a research version of the proposed scale consisting of 55 items was field tested in 18 countries. The resulting Career Adapt-Abilities Scale (CAAS) consists of four scales, each with six items. The CAAS demonstrated metric invariance across all the countries. The four CAAS scales measure concern, control, curiosity, and confidence as psychosocial resources for managing occupational transitions, developmental tasks, and work traumas. For information about the study and inventory contact Professor Maria Eduarda Duarte ([mecduarte@netcabo.pt](mailto:mecduarte@netcabo.pt)) at the University of Lisbon. Professor Duarte is President-Elect of Division 16.

–Submitted by Mark Savickas, President, Division 16

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## ***Award for Harry Triandis***

Dear Harry,

I write with some very good news.

Recently, the Society for Personality and Social Psychology created a new award, the Career Contribution Award. This award is designed to honor a scholar who has made major theoretical and/or empirical contributions to social psychology and/or personality psychology or to bridging these areas. Recipients of this award are recognized for distinguished scholarly contributions across long and productive careers.

I am so pleased to tell you that you are to receive the SPSP Career Contribution. The Award Nomination Panel (on which I served, along with Hazel Markus, Ed Diener, and Shelley Taylor) discussed many candidates for this award, and we were unanimous and enthusiastic in our recommendation that you be honored with this award, a recommendation supported unanimously and enthusiastically by the SPSP Executive Committee. So, let me be the first to congratulate you on this great honor, which is a fitting testimonial to your long and distinguished record of accomplishments that have had great and enduring impact on personality and social psychology (and the social and behavioral sciences more generally).

The SPSP Executive Officer has asked me to let you know that the award comes with a \$1000 honorarium, a plaque, and some travel coverage. Recognition for your award will come at the upcoming 2012 SPSP meetings, with details of when and how the recognition will occur (e.g., whether at the opening session or at another time during the conference) forthcoming as plans for the convention take shape.

I should also tell you that, this year, SPSP is making two Career Contribution Awards – in addition to honoring you with a Career Contribution Award, we will be celebrating the career contributions of Tom Pettigrew.

Again, and on behalf of the Award Nomination Panel and SPSP, congratulations!

Best wishes,

**Mark Snyder**

*McKnight Presidential Chair in Psychology*

*Director, Center for the Study of the Individual and Society*

*University of Minnesota*

*75 East River Road*

*Minneapolis, MN 55455*

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## **Consider Work Abroad: One Person's Experiences in Macao**

I left the States for Hong Kong and then Macau on December 28, 2010. I recently had retired from teaching after 43 years—first at The University of Texas at Austin and more recently at the University of Florida as well as having worked in more than 40 countries. I was having a very rich and rewarding life. Thus, I did not expect the next four months would be the highlight of my academic life. However, in many ways they were.

After arriving in Hong Kong on New Year's Eve day, I boarded a ferry for the hour ride south to Macao, a pleasant trip I often took during the next four months.

A good friend and chair of the newly formed Department of Psychology at the University of Macau, Dr. Rik D'Amato, invited me to join its faculty as a visiting professor during the 2011 spring semester. Rik had been editor of *School Psychology Quarterly* and served as professor and director of the school psychology program at the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, prior to going to Macao a few years ago.

I expected to be housed in a student dormitory. Instead I was delighted to find Dr. D'Amato had arranged a 9<sup>th</sup> floor private on-campus apartment with bedrooms, bathrooms, a kitchen, and living room located one minute from the cafeteria from which I obtained inexpensive noon and evening meals, two minutes to the newly constructed building that housed our department, four minutes into a large commercial area of the city, including various casinos, and five minutes to the University's free fitness center. My office, the largest in my career, looked toward the sea. Our classrooms were located in this and an adjoining building.

The Department had recently initiated a two-year master's program in clinical psychology in which I taught three sections of the course on cognitive assessment. I had taught this course more than 40 times and thus felt prepared for this assignment. However, I was not prepared for the enjoyment and ease of life while remaining there through the end of the spring semester.

The Department has 15 full time faculty members, many of whom obtained their doctoral degrees in the States. All undergraduate and graduate courses are taught in English. Although quality graduate programs in Southeast Asia typically require students to be fluent in English, an all-English speaking university is not common in this region other than in Hong Kong.

The graduate clinical program has 17 students, among whom four are males. I was with them the second semester of their first year. Prior to entering this program, some lived in Macao and others in Hong Kong or the Mainland. Their undergraduate degrees generally were in the social or biological sciences. The students enjoyed one another, socialized frequently both in and outside



the University, and displayed a filial commitment seen more commonly among caring brothers and sisters. They took pride when their peers did well and assisted them when academic or personal problems loomed.

I taught all students for two hours one morning and then met with them again in three groups of five to six for two hours at other times during the week. These smaller class settings utilized more personalized instructional strategies to apply the content discussed earlier in the week.

I relied mainly on Sattler's *Assessment of Children: Cognitive Foundations, Fifth Edition*. The following texts, intended as supplements, went unread: Flanagan and Kaufman's *Essentials of WISC-IV Assessment*; Prifitera, Saklofske, and Weiss's *WISC-IV: Clinical use and interpretations*; Sattler and Hoge's *Assessment of children: Behavioral, social, and clinical foundations—Fifth edition*; Sattler and Ryan's *Assessment with the WAIS-IV*; and Weiss, Saklofske, Prifitera, and Holdnack's *WISC-IV: Advanced clinical interpretation*.

All students could read English. However, their English proficiency varied. Their reading and writing skills were more proficient in Chinese. Their oral language was stronger in either Cantonese (which is spoken somewhat commonly in this region of China) or Mandarin (which is used more commonly throughout the People's Republic of China).

The students were eager to learn and excited to become psychologists. They sought practical professional experiences to extend their professional skills and to increase their professional confidence. Although initially they questioned their abilities to deliver needed services, practice sessions during our smaller classes enabled students to rehearse their presentations. These dress rehearsals added to their confidence prior to working directly with children and their parents.

Their average level of achievement, assessed by multiple choice tests, was the highest in my 43-year experience. The University-imposed grading standard required an A to reflect an item passing rate between 100% and 88%, a B between 87% and 73%, a C between 72% and 58%, a D between 57% and 50%, and an F below 50%. Yes, grades of Cs and below are given to graduate students.

The superior memory abilities of students from Southeast Asia are well known and contribute to their doing well on multiple-choice tests. Their display of higher level cognitive abilities (e.g. application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation) is less strong. Thus, students appreciated observing my clinical skills and discussing my applied practices. Their dress rehearsals were designed to develop their applied skills.

A number of students lacked foundation knowledge of measurement principles as well as standards for individual assessment. Thus, progress was slower than expected. For example, students were required to administer four WISC-IVs rather than ten or more typically required of my US students.

Three graduate assistants were assigned to me, each of whom was to work approximately two to three hours weekly. They were members of the class and thus did not have the advanced knowledge and skills needed to assist me by supervising and grading other students' work. Nevertheless, they served as an important link between the students and me and were helpful in various other ways—including introducing me to the community.

The students graciously welcomed me and helped ensure I was settled. For example, one of my graduate assistants took me to desired locations in the city, including a tailor who made six pair of slacks, and wrote the names of desired destinations in Chinese characters on cards to facilitate my taxi travel.

I took a personal interest in many of the students. I believe they felt I was concerned about them personally, academically, and professionally. Before leaving, I was informed the students assigned the enduring nickname *Papa* to me. I remain in contact with many of them and am engaged in research with some. A crystal picture of the students and me rests on my desk as a reminder of the importance of our relationships.

Given my background in school psychology, I recognize the value of school-based practices that enable graduate students to work directly with children in applied settings and to have contact with their teachers and parents. Thus, I arranged for my students to work in two nearby private schools that use English as the language of instruction. This affiliation also facilitated the formation of what may become permanent links between these schools and the Department, thus assisting the faculty in using them for practicum sites and for conducting their research.

Persons who have taught abroad are likely to agree that living abroad can provide a more relaxed and less encumbered life. Living there, I had fewer domestic responsibilities, no car to attend to yet easy access to the city by inexpensive taxis and excellent public transit, few phone calls, little mail, and few committee assignments. The BBC provided my only information link to the world and thus I thankfully was spared American TV drama. I was invited to restaurants often and to faculty parties on occasion. The ex-pats in communities often arranged enjoyable social events.

Of course, when bored, I always could observe activities at the city's 30 or more casinos. Some are exceptionally elegant. For example, the Venetian Casino reportedly is the largest in the world. The city's many excellent restaurants have ties to the casinos or reflect Macao's 400-year colonial ties with Portugal.

Macao's location provides easy travel to other Southeast Asia destinations. Zhuhai (pronounced Jue High) is the closest as it is contiguous with Macao and thus a quick 15-minute taxi ride away from the University. Although Zhuhai has grown quickly from a fishing village to an important metropolis of approximately 4 million, its government carefully avoided industries that contribute to air pollution commonly found in other eastern Chinese cities. Zhuhai staked its future, in part, to tertiary education. It helped establish five technical institutes or universities, including the Beijing Normal University-Zhuhai Campus, an institution that appointed me a visiting professor. I taught at this campus and went to Zhuhai some Saturdays.

As noted above, Hong Kong is a pleasant one hour ferry ride to the north. I am a visiting professor at The University of Hong Kong and had the pleasure of giving a workshop to a large number of practicing school (educational) psychologists during one visit. I visited the city on other occasions.

I used Hong Kong's international airport when traveling within the region and to the States. A ferry goes directly between Macao and the airport, thus easing travel transitions. I gave invited talks at the school psychology programs at the National Taiwan Normal University as well as the Hanoi National University of Education. These visits allowed me to reconnect with friends and, in Vietnam, to travel with my younger son.

The graduates of this program are excited to become psychologists yet realize they are entering an emerging profession, not one that is well established. For example, in Macao and Mainland China, psychology is not a recognized profession. Thus, the title *psychologist* is not protected. Anyone can claim to be a psychologist. Additionally, psychology lacks a strong professional association. Furthermore, the scholarly infrastructure in this region is comparatively weak. For example, the amount of scholarship on psychology by Chinese, though growing, is meager. Some

tests commonly used in the States are available yet generally have not been adapted for local use. Thus, these students, the first prepared at the graduate level from a respected university, will be expected to provide the leadership to elevate the discipline and profession of psychology in Macau—a very tall order.

I felt proud to have been a small part of the emergence of the profession of psychology in Macao and to reconnect with colleagues in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Vietnam, and Mainland China. These experiences, collectively, may have been the highlight of my academic life.

Readers are encouraged to seek similar opportunities abroad. Don't wait for the perfect time to go. There rarely is one. You too may find work abroad to be the highlight of your academic life.

**–Submitted by Thomas Oakland, Emeritus Professor, University of Florida  
President, Division 2–Psychological Assessment and Evaluation**

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# ***International Society of Mental Training and Excellence***

## ***Panjab University, Chandigarh, to hold the 7<sup>TH</sup> World Congress on Mental Training for Excellence***

Professor Lars-Eric Unestahl, President of the Scandinavian International University in Orebro, Sweden, founded the International Society of Mental Training and Excellence in Malaysia in 1989. This society was formed immediately after the meeting of the International Society of Sport Psychology (ISSP) in Singapore during the same month. This new society was formed to bring together a group of scientists and practitioners to present the latest evidence-based research and applied treatments based upon work in real world settings.

The International Society of Mental Training and Excellence met for the first time in Orebro, Sweden in 1991 hosted by President Lars-Eric Unestahl. Further meetings occurred in Ottawa (1995) hosted by Professor Terry Orlick, Salt Lake City, Utah (1999) hosted by Professor Keith Henschen, and in St. Petersburg, Russia (2003) hosted by Professor Pavel Bundzen. The next conference was held in Beijing (2008) in conjunction with the Olympic Games and most recently in Prishtina, Kosovo in August 2011. Initially, Mental Training was a part of the International Society of Sport Psychology (ISSP), until 1989, when the International Society for Mental Training and Excellence (ISMTE) was founded. The reason for this was that sports psychology was becoming more theoretical instead of being practical. In 1985, Professor Lars-Eric Unestahl suggested that Mental Training should have a society of its own. Therefore, in 1989 in Malaysia, the International Society of Mental Training and Excellence was formed.

The current Board of the International Society on Excellence in Sport and Life consists of the following members: Michel Gagne, Ph.D.,( Malaysia), Richard Gordin, Ph.D., (USA), Jitendra Mohan, Ph.D., (India), Nicole Ruysschaert, M.D.,( Belgium), Bernhard Trenkle, Ph.D., (Germany), Lars-Eric Unestahl, Ph.D., (Sweden, Chairman of the International Society on Excellence in Sport and Life), and David Wark, Ph.D.,(USA).

The most recent World Congress on Excellence in Sport and Life, held in Prishtina, Kosovo (22–26 August, 2011) had about 100 delegates from 21 countries who participated in it. The most noted names who attended were as follows: Jorgen Svenstrup (Denmark), David Wark (USA), Michel Gagne (Malaysia), Richard Gordin (USA), and Vladimir Kasatkin (Russia).

The conference also saw a substantial contribution from the Indian contingent from Panjab University consisting of the following:

Vice Chancellor R.C. Sobti – Balancing Creativity and constraints in University research.

Professor Emeritus Jitendra Mohan – Spirituality and Positive Emotions in Excellence.

Along with the above mentioned, the following persons from Panjab University also attended the Congress: Professor Meena Sehgal, Dr. Vipin Sobti, Diljot Soin, Aastha Sobti, Anupreet Kaur Arora, Azmat Sidhu, Diljot Soin, Lakhveer Kaur Dullat, Sweena Khanna, and Tanvi Pal.

The next Congress, titled “7<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Mental Training for Excellence”, will take place in Chandigarh, India at Panjab University hosted by Professor Jitendra Mohan (President of the Congress) in late October 2015. This congress is likely to include the areas of Sports, Business

Management, Education, Health, Creativity, and Yoga. The patron of this Congress will be Vice Chancellor R.C. Sobti and the mentor will be Professor Lars-Eric Unestahl.

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## Commentary:

### ***Psychological Assessment, Evaluation, and the Naked Latvian***

*“Results! Why I have gotten a lot of results. I know several thousand things that won’t work.”*

–Thomas Edison, 1930.

*“You can tell a poacher by how he orders his eggs.”*–Uncas Slattery, 2000.

Division 2 of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) is devoted to this subject, one all applied psychologists learned for their degree and many actually practice. We ask assessment tools to guide us in the three aspects of description, prediction, and communication. We ask of evaluation much more. The longer we have been in the field, the more experiences come to mind, a regular buffet of associations. Here are a few.

#### **Personnel Selection**

While a visiting professor in Canada, I was asked by a local bank president to assist him in a personnel transition situation. I agreed to develop a battery of computer scored tests that might add a dimension of understanding to the administrators being evaluated, but with the caveat that an actually hiring or promotion decision should include a personal interview and actual performance data. He asked me, as a consultant, to just do a pilot try for him with only the test results. So he submitted the responses of three administrators to me and the computer digested them, regurgitating impressive charts and graphs. I then met with the bank president and his key staff to go over the findings. I decided to go with the most uncomfortable one first. “This person’s results suggest a person who is highly likely to depart from accepted ethical practice and would be a hiring risk” was my kindest interpretation of the sociopathic pattern on the charts. The president grinned widely and everybody looked relieved. “Yes” he said “we had him take this test just before we fired him and had him arrested for embezzlement. I told you this testing was the way to go. Why, look at how much trouble we would have saved if we had known this early on!” So this was a test of the test. Hmmm. I moved on to the second set of results. “This person is a highly creative and intelligent individual that should be highly successful at whatever he undertakes” I said, hoping it was not another felon. “Right again!” said the president and all grinned, especially the highly successful vice president who had taken the test and was sitting right there in the group. At that point I had a feeling I should quit while I was ahead (or “Quit while you are behind” as my youngest daughter liked to say). The probability of a third and final success seemed remote, particularly now that it was clear that all three sets of results were already well known employees. But, following many caveats again, I was ready to move to the last of the three protocols, an apparently straightforward one. “This person is normal in all respects, stable and reliable. His only low scores are in creativity



and independent thinking. As long as ideas come from others and the situation is well structured, he would do well, possibly in accounting or maintenance.” Following a long silence, the president said “Well, I suppose that is about right. Thank you, Professor.” Of course, the third set of results was from the president. My departure was cordial enough, all things considered, but I was not invited back.

### **Preconceptions**

While still there in Canada, my colleague Don Marum and I were called in to consult with the regional hospital’s psychiatric staff. The affable chief psychiatrist (it happens) took us to the only locked ward. There were a variety of developmentally disabled adults engaged in various desultory activities. The Chief took us to the far corner where an immense naked man sat, his arms folded and his lips in a pout. He probably held the weight of two men and reminded us of how close we humans are to primates as he sat there in pink skinned obesity and hairy belligerence. We were told that he was from Latvia and spoke very little English but was assumed to be of very low intelligence. Because of his size, staff was reluctant to force him to keep his clothes on and had turned to us. Dr. Marum immediately noted that the patient must have a huge appetite and suggested he be put on a behavioral reinforcement regime where he would be fed a treat for every article of clothing he put on. While the Chief was mulling this over, I asked him “Why do you think he doesn’t want to put his clothes on?” Marum and the Chief seemed to think this question was not helpful and ignored it, so I asked a more specific one: “When does he put on his clothes?” That was easier to answer: whenever he is allowed out of the locked ward to go on a walk. Once it was determined that he was no danger to anybody I requested that he be moved to an unlocked ward. Once this was done, the naked Latvian posed no further problems. The Chief psychiatrist was so pleased with this outcome that he invited me back to see if we might do some evaluation research together. I chose to evaluate their use of electroshock treatment and, to my pleasant surprise, he agreed. (This was before we knew definitively that ECT was a high risk procedure that should never be used.) (Morgan, 1999, 2004a). As to measures, he wanted ward behavior compliance and I wanted measures of cognitive function and brain damage. But, despite our different expectations and interests, we did agree in the end to use all the measures we each wanted. And then came the research design. I wanted him to randomly choose half those who were going to get ECT and withhold it from them so we might have a control group. He vetoed that approach, saying withholding treatment would not be ethical, and wanted to assign ECT to a random group of patients who would not ordinarily get it. This I vetoed. Clearly our expectations of what this invasive treatment would or would not do, prohibited any research. It would take modern MRIs and CAT scans to prove the issue of damage, although it still remains a psychiatric tool despite the proof. Our ECT research was never done at that hospital but we did make a naked Latvian happier.

### **Face Validity**

First, I have learned to agree on the purpose of assessment, the question to be answered or the mission to be achieved. Then use the measure most likely to yield clear data that can be usefully interpreted. All else is inductive from there. Student feedback on the effectiveness of their instruction and instructor is often littered with 10 point scales and hard to interpret questions. One might think this was a deliberate way to obfuscate the results, particularly from administrators trying to quantify impact on ordinal scales.

A simple % satisfaction score is probably the most interpretable (Morgan, 2005). I also very much lean toward dichotomous choices if it is a dichotomous question and, in general, brief and concise measures. The 12 point scale may *look* more valid but if it is truly a yes or no question, what in

the world will three decimal points add? Nor does the number of pages in a psychological test add to any genuine validity. A side study for my dissertation used the multipage Taylor Test of Manifest Anxiety as a way to determine if there was enough stress involved in sensory deprivation hallucination studies to create the “situational psychosis” that psychologist Jack Vernon predicted (there was not; Vernon was wrong). (Morgan & Bakan, 1965). To test the Taylor test, I used finger electrode GSRs and also a 5 point self-rating scale for “Are you nervous?” (1 was “not at all”, 3 “no more than usual,” 5 was “as much as I have ever been”). My 5 point scale correlated significantly higher with the GSR than the Taylor multipage test did, although all 3 were viable stress measures.

### **Exceptional Assessment Measures**

Some test items seem somewhat strange but I suppose if the numbers show reliability and validity, being counter-intuitive is fine. I am waiting though for items like: “*Sometimes I feel like none of the questions on this test have anything to do with me.*” or “*When sweets are served do you feel lonely and deserted?*”

We also know that time is an important variable in testing (Morgan, 2004b). It used to be assumed, for example, that the older adults get, the lower their tested intelligence scores. Even before the contemporary differentiation of fluid and crystallized intelligence, Nancy Woodruff demonstrated that removing the stopwatch from the intelligence testing procedure allowed IQ scores to increase with age rather than decrease. As we get older we get smarter but slower (Morgan & Wilson 2005).

Albert Ellis (1984) told me once that he would like every journal article that is published to be followed immediately by a rebuttal. He felt this would lead to a better evaluation of everything. Or, at the very least, a good argument.

I am tempted to include here some of the more interesting applications seen along the path, such as a brief non-invasive standardized test of human aging (Morgan 1968a, Morgan & Wilson 2004), efficiency percentages as ways to clarify assessment impact beyond statistical significance (Morgan 1968b), the most powerful genetic assessment technique to get at the roots of gender differences (Morgan 1968c), and an overlooked central tendency method for test item analysis (Morgan 1968c). Evaluation remains the bedrock for organizational and administrative change and has brought about the empowerment and enhanced effectiveness of many an institution. Now, the most powerful *assessment* study I can recall was that of the more than 3000 children deprived of public education in Virginia and the finding, above and beyond critical periods of learning, that tested intelligence depends on education and is variable with learning environment (Green & Morgan, 1969). The implications of this study impacted many countries even to this day- Bermuda comes to mind (Morgan & Fevens, 1981; Morgan 2004a). But Bermuda, John Exner and the Molokai Peace Corps project, the invisible MMPI scale, and other such digressions are better left for other articles on other days, so I can wind this one up.

My favorite offbeat assessment measure for psychologists was done by California psychologist S. Don Schultz when he held responsibility for the California state psychology license exams. It was before the current national exam used in that country, and California elected to score an essay exam. A major question on the exam, Don’s favorite, asked us test takers to discuss Public Law 379 as it applied to child custody determination. There was no Public Law 379 on child custody determination. The correct answer was “There is no such law.” An acceptable answer was “I don’t know” or “I am not familiar with this law but in other states..” A failing answer was to discuss it knowledgeable as though it really existed, to fake it. This item reliably failed the few psychologists

taking this test that should never practice. I got the right answer and Don later told me he knew which paper was mine when he corrected them even though our names had morphed into numbers for the correctors. "How did you know?" I asked. "When you answered the question on how to deal with an invasive government form threatening your client's well-being and privacy by writing 'Answer abusive bureaucratic forms with forms of your own: send them an extensive form to fill out to justify their request', I knew it was you." Informal days, those.

### **Observation versus Perception**

Lightner Witmer, considered the founder of applied clinical and professional psychology, ran afoul of William James, considered a co-founder of all psychology with Wilhem Wundt. The issue was assessment (McReynolds 1997). James considered assessment as a form of research and therefore norms are meaningless unless procedure is held constant. Witmer preferred to follow Galton's path (Galton 1907) and vary his techniques assessing children based on individual differences, a dichotomy still at times separating researchers from practitioners. I advocate following James when collecting data and Witmer when the data are collected. Since most intelligence tests end on cumulative failure, I usually continue with children on easier items long after those data are in so as to make the whole testing procedure less aversive.

Also in that era, we have Joseph Bell mentoring Arthur Conan Doyle when Doyle was a medical student and Bell was the Royal Surgeon. Bell's highly perceptive attention to detail and mannerisms have been considered the model for Doyle's eventual Sherlock Holmes novels (Booth, 1997). One medical demonstration attributed to Bell and passed down through medical school classes for generations was as follows: *Bell marched into the lab followed by a flock of medical residents. He turned to them and said "Diagnosis uses all your senses. Ignore any at your peril. And do not shy away from what must be done for full perception. Here is a beaker of the urine of a patient with a very specific ailment. Let us test your perception and your courage." With that, Dr. Bell dipped his finger into the urine saying "I will now taste my finger for clues. Then it is your turn." One at a time each intern dipped their finger into the urine and tasted it. When all were done, Bell said: "If any of you had watched carefully, you would have noted that the finger I put in the urine was not the finger I put in my mouth. Do not just observe: perceive." (Farber, 1956).*

As a tribute to IAAP Division 2, here is a more modern Sherlock Holmes story:

*"Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson went on a camping trip. After a good meal and a bottle of wine, they fell into a deep sleep. Some hours into the night Holmes awoke and nudged his faithful friend. 'Watson, look up and tell me what you see.' Watson replied 'I see millions and millions of stars.' 'What does that tell you?' inquired Holmes. Watson pondered a moment. 'Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Horologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Theologically, I can see that God is all-powerful while we are but small and insignificant. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you?' Holmes held his silence for a moment, then spoke: 'Watson you idiot! Someone has stolen our tent!'" (Slattery 2000, Morgan, 2008).*

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