

APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

Centennial Issue
Celebrating 100 Years of IAAP
January 2020

IAAP Bulletin
Volume 2, Issue 1

ISSN: 2639-6521

APAW: Centennial Issue | January 2020

Table of Contents

Editorial	3
The First Hundred Years of IAAP Towards the Future.....	9
More on 2020 Elections	13
Promoting IAAP Change and Development	15
Membership in the International Association of Applied Psychology.....	19
International Congress of Applied Psychology.....	22
Evolution of the IAAP Divisions	23
The International Association of Applied Psychology at the United Nations.....	31
Psychology Day at the United Nations.....	49
The Role of Ethics in Addressing Current and Emerging Global Challenges	57
Future Challenges for Applied Psychology	66
Centennial Anniversary Flyer.....	69
Centennial Congress of Applied Psychology Brochure.....	70
APAW Mission Statement	72
IAAP Board of Directors	73

Editorial

Pr. Dr. Christine Roland-Lévy, IAAP President (2018-2022)



IAAP Wishes You a Wonderful Centennial Year!

This first issue of Volume 2 of Applied Psychology Around the World is our **Centennial issue**. It focuses on IAAP's role and achievements during the first hundred years and its influence and projects for the coming hundred years... For this Centennial Anniversary, we have prepared a series of products and many events throughout the world, during the year!

- The first production is a **Book** entitled *International Association of Applied Psychology: A Centennial History 1920-2020* (published by Wiley, 2020). This book has three co-editors: Helio Carpintero, Rubben Ardila and Ana M. Jaco-Vilella, all three members of Division 18, our division dealing with the History of Applied Psychology. In your name, I thank them very much for providing this book which offers a fascinating story about many pieces of the history of Applied Psychology during the first hundred years of the International Association of Applied Psychology, IAAP, celebrating its Centennial Anniversary in 2020. Important information is provided to help us understand how applied psychology emerged as a discipline of its own. An exciting overview of the congresses of Applied Psychology over time shows how moving around the globe significantly contributes to the evolution of the discipline, as well as to the development of Psychology as a science and as a practice. Various chapters present the key role of IAAP in terms of the teaching of psychology; the leading position IAAP took in the development of the Universal Declaration of *Ethical Principles for Psychologists* and the *International Declaration of Core Competencies in Professional Psychology*; and its very stimulating actions at the United Nations, as an NGO, contributing towards reaching the SDGs. An interesting chapter presents how the 18 thematic Divisions of IAAP emerged throughout time. This book is going from the past to the future showing how
- IAAP could help to build a better future for all thanks to the relevant use of applied psychological science.
- The second product prepared for our Centennial Anniversary is a **Booklet with some of the key events of IAAP as well as some of the Challenges Applied Psychology will be facing in the future**. In this Booklet, one will find pictures of our Presidents, a timeline of our first hundred years, some key achievements and of course some of our projects for the future we want!
- We also have a **special pin** with our **Centennial logo**; a **Centennial leaflet** that can be found later in this issue; along with some **goodies** (Notebook, pens, etc.).
- We have a series of **special events** during the Centennial Year, with various events in different parts of the world, including in connection to the United Nations, in New-York, Geneva and Vienna where we have active teams working with the UN. IAAP will also celebrate throughout the year at various occasions with a special focus during the International Congress of Psychology in Prague (ICP), where we will have our first part of our Board of Directors (BoD) and what we hope will be a wonderful invited **centennial reception**. The year will be concluded by our **Centennial Congress of Applied Psychology, CCAP**, scheduled for **December 13-17, 2020 in Cancun, Mexico**. The second part of our BoD, with our elections, will take place during the CCAP. This congress is closing the first hundred years in a part of the world where we have not been yet, even though we have members from many of the countries in Latin America... The CCAP will also open towards the future... Make sure you attend this CCAP which will be a wonderful way of celebrating! Abstract submissions and registration are now open: <https://www.ccapcancun2020.com>.

Editorial cont.

As previously mentioned, we believe that the UN International Psychology Day needed to become **World Psychology Week to be celebrated each year in our institutions, all over the world!** This year, **World Psychology Week** is to take place from **April 20th to April 25th, 2020**. Quite a few national Associations from many parts of the world have already committed. Make sure YOU are a part of it!

As it is the first time it happens, the date of this year's **World Psychology Week** will be somewhat flexible as it has been announced quite late...

For our Centennial Anniversary, during the whole new year, we will organize as many celebration events, including, as mentioned, during the ICP in Prague next July and also next December in Cancun Mexico. Other events will take place. For example, in Paris on April 24th and April 25th, we will celebrate the **World Psychology Week** as well as **IAAP's Centennial**, along with the **centennial of the first Institute of Psychology** in France, jointly with the annual congress of the **French Psychology Society (SFP)**, with the **French National Committee of Scientific Psychology**, under the auspices of the **Academy of Moral and Political Sciences**. More to come on this event and the many others to happen during our Centennial Anniversary.

In this Centennial issue, following a brief historical Introduction many papers are presenting various aspects of our first hundred years and showing how they can influence our future.



Head Committee of IAAP at the 11th International Congress (Paris, 1953)

IAAP in 2020

Today, IAAP is the oldest and largest international association of psychology, based on individual membership from about one hundred different countries from all over the world. Its mission is succinctly stated in Article 1 of its Constitution: [...] *“to promote the science and practice of applied psychology and to facilitate interaction and communication among applied psychologists around the world.”*

IAAP's Organization and Finances

In a paper presented by IAAP Treasurer, Lourdes Munduate, one can find an interesting analysis of how to promote IAAP change and development, in relation to the role of finance transparency and reputation in IAAP effectiveness.

Members in IAAP

As our Secretary-General, Christina Sue-Chan, presents in a paper in this issue, IAAP members initially came from Europe. Following a period of steady growth in Europe, the IAAP began its expansion into North America. This growth has continued to other regions of the world as IAAP has followed the legitimization path of psychology in those regions.

IAAP Divisions

The International Association of Applied Psychology is organized around 18 divisions focusing on specific social concerns. These divisions are examples of the various field within which one can apply psychology and provide responses, help, and prevention for many persons and groups within society today: (1) Work and Organizational Psychology, (2) Psychological Assessment and Evaluation, (3) Psychology and Societal Development, (4) Environmental Psychology, (5) Educational, Instructional and School Psychology, (6) Clinical and Community Psychology, (7) Applied Gerontology, (8) Health Psychology, (9) Economic Psychology, (10) Psychology and Law, (11) Political Psychology, (12) Sport Psychology, and (13) Traffic and Transportation Psychology, without forgetting Counseling Psychology (Division 16).

Editorial cont.

The Divisions were introduced under the presidency of Claude Lévy-Leboyer. The Divisions are numbered in order of their creation. To know more about the Division, there is a paper in this issue by Lyn Littlefield. The paper presents how IAAP Divisions were developed in tandem with the development of applied psychology, mirroring the discipline and the profession. As psychological knowledge grew and expanded into different areas, members of IAAP began to relate to specialist fields of interest. Keen to promote and enhance their knowledge and form networks, like-minded members formed groups around these interests which gradually developed into Divisions being supported by the Board of Officers of IAAP. Members share their knowledge, skills, and experience through the activities of the Divisions and so shape their identities. The paper presents descriptions of the areas of interest of the 18 Divisions, the development of their infrastructure and support, as well as terms of operation. The membership of Divisions is discussed along with the various means of communication with members and the expansion of Divisions' activities to the wide range provided by the Divisions today. The benefit of the work of the Divisions and challenges to be faced in the future is discussed along with the potential contributions of the Divisions to IAAP, psychology and societal issues in the next 100 years.



Executive Officers of IAAP meeting, 2012 (L-R: Janel Gauthier, Jose Maria Peiro, Michael Knowles, Elizabeth Nair, Jose Maria Prieto)

Ethics in Addressing Global Issues

Janel Gauthier, Past-President of IAAP, questions the Role of Ethics in addressing global challenges emerging from technological innovations and globalization and highlights some of the progress made

in incorporating ethical considerations in addressing global issues. This approach guided the development of the **Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists** (2008).



IAAP President Christine Roland-Lévy signs the proclamation at the International Summit on Psychology and Global Health, Lisbon (2019).

Climate Change

Since 2018, IAAP has a special project on Climate Change. This project is chaired by Terry Hartig, the President of Division 4 on Environmental Psychology. Terry has also presented one of our new Webinars (Nature, Psychological Restoration, and Health).

Climate change is one of the key challenges for applied psychologists to provide solutions to encourage environmentally-friendly behaviors, but also to adapt to climate change... In this context, we have actively participated in the International Summit on Psychology and Global Health, which took place in Lisbon in November 2019. During this meeting with 42 Psychology associations, we prepared and signed a proclamation. The proclamation affirms Summit attendees' pledge to engage in serious dialogue, meaningful agreement, and intentional planning. This proclamation serves to formally acknowledge the willingness of national and international

Editorial cont.

psychological associations to work together in support of advancing psychology's role in global issues, notably Sustainable Development Goal #13: Climate Action. The proclamation which was signed by IAAP is as follows:

We, representatives of national and international psychological organizations in attendance at the Inaugural International Summit on Psychology's Contributions to Global Health in Lisbon, are committed to ongoing collaboration in the application of psychological science to jointly advance progress on critical global issues, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Our investments of professional, scientific, educational, and applied resources will be directed to advancing those issues and Goals for which psychology offers the greatest contribution. Accordingly, our initial efforts will be focused on Sustainable Development Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. Our mutual work on climate change will also provide a framework and model for future collaboration focused on proposals to address critical global issues.

Moreover, we have agreed on a joint resolution:

"WHEREAS there is overwhelming agreement among climate scientists that climate crisis poses a serious global threat, is occurring faster than previously anticipated, and is caused in part by human behavior;

WHEREAS the resistance of some individuals worldwide to accept evidence of climate crisis reflects a variety of psychological, social, economic, and political factors, including misunderstanding the relevant science; psychological threats of departing from the consensus view of one's peer-group; deliberate exposure to misinformation; and concerns about financial losses stemming from addressing climate crisis;

WHEREAS current research and public communication on the impact of climate crisis have often emphasized the major physical damage caused by extreme weather, such as floods, droughts, hurricanes, and

wildfires, and insufficiently addressed the increased displacement, migration, and conflict affecting those populations involved;

WHEREAS climate crisis has a disproportionate impact on already vulnerable groups with fewer resources, including low-income individuals or those who live in rural areas, people of color, women, children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities;

WHEREAS research shows that climate change-related events can result in major acute and chronic adverse mental health outcomes, including stress, trauma, and shock; post-traumatic stress disorder and other forms of anxiety; depression; and substance use disorder, which have been a secondary consideration in climate change communication and action;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that our psychology organizations will advocate for and support international and cross-disciplinary collaboration to mitigate and facilitate adaptation to climate crisis.

We will inform our respective members and the public about climate crisis, emphasizing scientific research and consensus on its causes and short- and long-term harms, and the need for immediate personal and societal action;

We will encourage our members and other mental health leaders to be vocal advocates concerning the necessary preparatory and responsive adaptations to climate crisis and to invest more in research and practice in this area;

We will advocate for Universities and other entities could include formation on societal challenges and, particularly, climate crisis for psychologists and other mental health professionals;

We will increase the availability of services and supportive interventions to help minimize harm to mental health and well-being, especially among vulnerable populations, and increase community resilience;

Editorial cont.

We will advocate for the rights of those most susceptible to the negative health, and mainly, mental health impacts of climate crisis, for example, by encouraging policymakers to fully fund programs to aid those who suffer harm from severe climate crisis-related events;

We will support the development of a public awareness campaign to encourage individuals and communities to adopt behaviors to help prepare for and

recover from gradual climate change and acute climate crisis events;

We will encourage governmental, educational, health, and corporate leaders to use more psychological science in police designs as well as to adopt norms, values, and policy to promote sustainable preventive and corrective behaviors in individuals, groups and communities'.



American Psychological Association, Order of Portuguese Psychologists, Australian Psychological Society, Bahamas Psychological Association, Brazilian Society of Psychology, British Psychological Society, Canadian Psychological Association, Caribbean Alliance of National Psychological Associations, Chinese Psychological Society, Asian Psychological Association, College of Psychologists of Peru, Colombian College of Psychologists, Cuban Society of Health Psychology, Cuban Society of Psychology, European Federation of Psychologists' Associations, Flemish Association for Clinical Psychologists, German Psychological Society, Guatemala College of Psychologists, International Association of Applied Psychology, International Council of Psychologists, International Union of Psychological Science, Jamaican Psychological Society, Japanese Psychological Association, Jordanian Clinical Psychologists Association, Lebanese Psychological Association, Mexican Psychological Society, National Psychological Association of Ukraine, New Zealand Psychological Society, Nicaraguan Association for the Development of Psychology, Nigerian Psychological Association, Norwegian Psychological Association, Order of Psychologists of Albania, Pan-African Psychology Union, Psychological Association of Namibia, Psychological Society of Kenya, Seoul National University, Spanish Psychological Association, Sri Lanka Psychological Association, Swedish Psychological Association, Uganda Council of Psychologists, Uruguayan Psychological Association and Zanzibar Professional Counselors Association.

Editorial cont.

IAAP After 2020

As IAAP is now one hundred years old, our ambition is to look at the past to improve the future. Pedro Neves has collected one hundred **Challenges for IAAP** in the near future and for the coming century.

Thank you to all those who contributed to these challenges for the next Centennial and all those who contributed to the achievements of IAAP during the first hundred years!

Applied Psychology for the Future We Want

The International Association of Applied Psychology can be even more useful to society today, and it should be more efficient in helping to solve societal practical concerns, which are often linked to the world of politics and policymaking. Thanks to the data resulting from fundamental research, we are convinced that psychology can contribute to serving society and trying to better address in particular the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

For this purpose, IAAP and all its members need to make serious recommendations to governments and policymakers. If we want our recommendations to be taken seriously, we need to make sure that, even though we have ambitious goals, we also have some realistic proposals based on scientific data, some of

which we still need to collect and organize in a credible way, to relevantly solve some of the problems of humanity.

Not only does IAAP need to be effective in improving the future by contributing to changing the world, but we also need to be better at communicating and showing the world what we have done, what we are doing, and what we can do.

In closing this Editorial, I wish you all my warmest wishes for this starting new very special year!

We look forward to celebrating the Past together and to contributing towards a better Future!

Please note that the themes of the upcoming issues and articles deadlines are as follows:

Vol. 2, Issue 2: Terrorism and Peacebuilding, papers due by April (May issue)

Vol. 2, Issue 3: Climate Change, papers due by August (September issue)

Vol. 3, Issue 1: Work and Organizational Psychology: Challenges around the World (January issue).



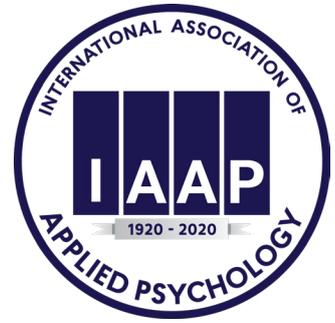
Berlin, 2008 (L-R: Michael Frese, Raymond Fowlers, Michael Knowles, Janel Gauthier)



Executive Committee of IAAP, 2016 (L-R: Lyn Littlefield, Christine Roland-Lévy, Janel Gauthier, Buxin Han, Jose Maria Peiro)

The First Hundred Years of IAAP Towards the Future

Pr. Dr. Christine Roland-Lévy, IAAP President (2018-2022)



The Origins of Applied Psychology

The International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) was officially founded in 1920, in Geneva, as the first international academic society within the field of psychology. It was initially called *Association Internationale de Psychotechnique* in French.

Some years later, during its congress, which took place in Paris, in 1953, *Applied Psychology* was added to the Association's original name. And the name officially became in English the **International Association of Applied Psychology** in London in 1955.

The First Sixteen Presidents of IAAP

1. Edouard Claparède, Switzerland, 1920 – 1940
2. Henri Piéron, France, 1947 – 1953
3. Clifford B. Frisby, England, 1953 – 1958
4. Morris S. Viteles, Russia/USA, 1958 – 1968
5. Gunnar Westerlund, Sweden, 1968 – 1974
6. Edwin A. Fleishman, USA, 1974 – 1982
7. Claude Lévy-Leboyer, France, 1982 – 1990
8. Harry C. Triandis, USA, 1990 – 1994
9. Bernhard Wilpert, Germany, 1994 – 1998
10. Charles Spielberger, USA, 1998 – 2002
11. Michael Frese, Germany, 2002 – 2006
12. Michael Knowles, Australia, 2006 – 2010
13. Raymond Fowler, USA, 2010 – 2011
14. José María Peiró, Spain, 2011 – 2014
15. Janel Gauthier, Canada, 2014 – 2018
16. Christine Roland-Lévy, France, 2018 - 2022

Among the 16 first Presidents of IAAP, let us note that the first one, Edouard Claparède, was the President of IAAP for 20 years, from 1920 to 1940 when he passed away.

Among the 16 first Presidents of IAAP, let us note that Henri Piéron, who was the second President of IAAP, from 1947 to 1953, was also the President of IUPsyS from its beginning (IUPsyS was created in 1951), from 1951 to 1954; in other words, Henri Piéron was the President of both IAAP and IUPsyS during two years...

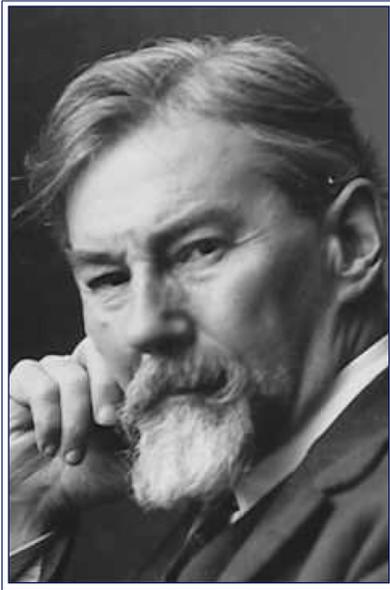
Among the 16 first Presidents of IAAP, let us note that Clifford B. Frisby, the third President of IAAP, was the first English speaking President and is the one who introduced the name of the **International Association of Applied Psychology** in English.

Among the 16 first Presidents of IAAP, let us note that Edwin A. Fleishman, 6th President (1974-1982), became President of IAAP after being the President of the *Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology*, SIOP (1973-1974).

Among the 16 first Presidents of IAAP, let us note that nine of them are European, five come from the USA and Canada, and one comes from Australia. It is now time to have a President from somewhere else...

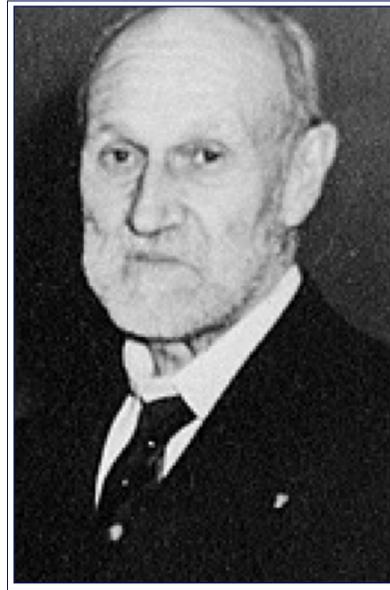
Among the 16 first Presidents of IAAP, let us note that only two were women, both from France. Claude Lévy-Leboyer became President in 1982, after 62 years of men leadership. Christine Roland-Lévy became President of IAAP, as the second woman President, some 28 years later.

1



Edouard Claparède
1920-1940
Switzerland

2



Henri Piéron
1947-1953
France

3



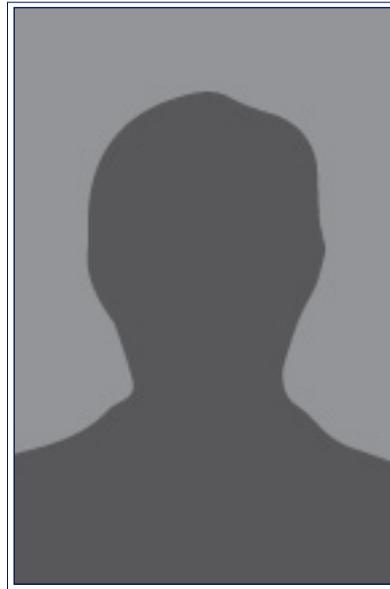
Clifford B. Frisby
1953-1958
England

4



Morros S. Viteles
1958-1968
Russia / USA

5



Gunnar Westerlund
1968-1974
Sweden

6



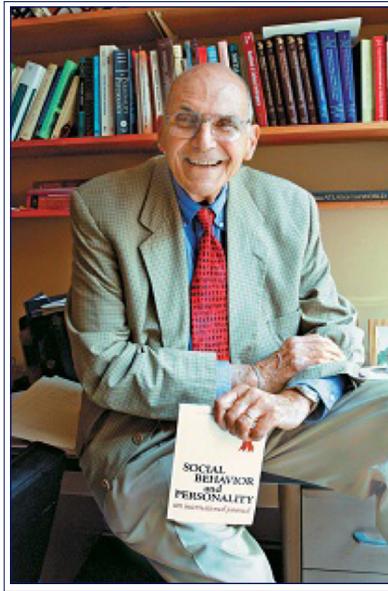
Edwin A. Fleishman
1974-1982
United States of America

7



Claude Lévy-Leboyer
1982-1990
France

8



Harry C. Triandis
1990-1994
United States of America

9



Bernhard Wilpert
1994-1998
Germany

10



Charles Spielberger
1998-2002
United States of America

11



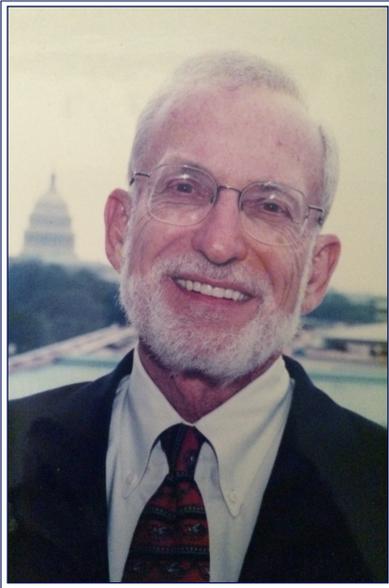
Michael Frese
2002-2006
Germany / Singapore

12



Michael Knowles
2006-2010
Australia

13



Raymond D. Fowler
2010-2011
United States of America

14



Jose Maria Peiró
2011-2014
Spain

15



Janel Gauthier
2014-2018
Canada

16



Christine Roland-Lévy
2018-2022
France

Since the close of ICAP in Montreal 2018 Janel Gauthier has served as Past-President. Soon we will have a President-Elect; I started as President with no President-Elect and I will conclude my term with no Past-President and this is not ideal... Nominations are now open for President-Elect; the adopted member will take office in Beijing in July 2022.

The IAAP Constitution states that the President-Elect cannot be from the same continent as the President, therefore nominees for the position of President-Elect cannot be from Europe. A member needs to be in good standing with the Association for two years to be a candidate for the position of President-Elect. Each nominee shall be asked by the Past-President whether he or she is willing to stand for election as President-Elect. Furthermore, he or she shall be asked to submit a one- page description of him- or herself and a short (maximum of one page) description of what he or she wants to achieve as a President-Elect and President of the Association.

The election shall be conducted by internet potentially by all members in good standing with the Association.

I really look forward to knowing the person who will be elected by the members of IAAP for this position!



More on 2020 Elections

Members-At-Large of Board of Directors (BoD)

The election of the Members-at-Large of the IAAP Board of Directors will be conducted according to the IAAP's *Rules Of Procedure* as ratified by the Board of Directors in Cape Town on July 24, 2012.

Any full member of the IAAP, seconded by two other full members, can **nominate a candidate** for membership of the Board of Directors by filling out and sending into the Elections Committee a one-page nomination form. The nominations shall be sent to the Chair of the Elections Committee of the Association no later than three months before the next congress. This provides the nominator's name, address, and signature. It describes the nominee's qualifications, contributions to applied psychology, experience in international organizations, and other relevant information. The form includes a statement indicating the nominee's consent, to be signed by the nominee.

The balloting is to be secret and the candidates are elected in accordance with the number of votes obtained and the number of vacancies. The voting body is the Board of Directors which votes on the ballot paper provided by the Elections Committee.

Division Presidents-Elect

The election of the IAAP Division Presidents-Elect will be conducted according to IAAP's *Rules of Procedure for the Elections of IAAP Division Presidents- Elect and Other Officers* as adopted by the Board of Directors in

Yokohama on July 26, 2016. The rules are as follows:

Voting Process

Elections will be held during the year 2020 in accordance with the calendar below:

First call for nominations:

January 5 - March 15: Call for nominations for President-Elect.

March 15 - March 30: Verification of eligibility of nominees and nominators by the Division Secretary.

If the Division Elections Committee receives more than one eligible nomination, there will be a vote.

If the Division Elections Committee receives only one eligible nomination, there will be a vote on the nomination to allow Division members to exercise their right to choose who will lead the Division. A new call for nominations for President-Elect shall be launched if the candidate fails to obtain less than half of the total votes cast.

The voting period will begin on April 1st and end on April 30th.

Second call for nominations: If a division receives no nomination by the end of the nominating period (i.e., March 15th), the call for nominations will be extended until May 1st.



IAAP Board of Directors, 2018

Other Elections in 2020 cont.

May 1st - May 15th: Verification of eligibility of nominees and nominators by the Division Secretary. If the Division Elections Committee receives more than one eligible nomination during the extended call for nominations, there will be a vote. If the Division Elections Committee receives only one eligible nomination during the extended call for nominations, there will be a vote on the nomination to allow Division members to exercise their right to choose who will lead the Division. A new call for nominations for President-Elect shall be launched if the candidate fails to obtain less than half of the total votes cast.

The voting period will begin on May 15th and end on June 15th.

The elections will be conducted electronically.

When there are more than two nominations for the position of President-Elect, the Hare Voting System will be used as the method of voting. Under this system, more commonly referred to as Instant-Runoff Voting or the Plurality with Elimination Method, each voter ranks the candidates in order of preference on a ballot; each ballot counts as exactly one vote for



the highest-ranking candidate on that ballot that has not yet been eliminated from the race. If at the end of a count, no candidate has a majority, then the candidate with the fewest number of votes is eliminated, and the vote is recounted. This process continues until some candidate receives a majority. The candidate who receives a majority is declared "elected".

If no eligible nominee has been nominated by May 1st, President-Elect for each division will be appointed by the IAAP Executive Committee following a recommendation from the Elections Committee of IAAP as soon as a suitable candidate for the position of President-Elect will have been identified. The period of time required to find a suitable candidate may extend beyond the closing of the impending CCAP.



IAAP Board of Directors, 2012

Promoting IAAP Change and Development The Role of Finances Transparency and Reputation in IAAP Effectiveness

Lourdes Munduate, IAAP Treasurer (2014-2022)

Extending the Legacy of IAAP

2020 is the Centennial anniversary of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP), and IAAP is celebrating this centennial with the motto '100 years of Applying Psychological Science to "glocal" realities'. Since its creation, IAAP has made significant contributions to applied psychology and has developed a strong reputation. A relevant goal for IAAP during the last decade has been to extend this legacy for the benefit of society and psychology. Important changes are taking place in the environment of applied psychology such as the recognition of women and minorities' rights, changes in demographics, the aging population, the entry of refugees in the labor market, poverty, the elimination of spatial barriers, climate change, and changes in intercultural relationships. Consequently, the heterogeneity of society is increasing, and several dynamics are shaping a new landscape, which includes a call to promote human dignity, quality education, gender equality, decent work opportunities, health and well-being, quality of life, and social innovation. Applied psychology is entitled to address these issues because it has a long tradition of doing so, and IAAP can play a key role in promoting international cooperation among applied psychologists and making their contributions visible (Peiró, 2011; Roland-Lévy, 2019). This perspective pushes the IAAP involvement in a process of organizational change and development. In fact, the challenge for many modern organizations is a continuous adaptation to their constantly changing environment. However, if changes are not managed well, they can be perceived as chaotic. As required by good planning and genuine implementation of organizational change, the Association designed a strategic plan in 2016. With this type of



challenge in mind, crafting a vision statement was easy. The strategic plan points that IAAP aspires to excel as an effective and influential organization to advance the science and practice of psychology by 1) convening and uniting psychologists globally to promote the science and practice of psychology, and 2) being the international leader for promoting psychological knowledge and its applications (Strategic Planning Task Force, 2016). This vision of IAAP sends a clear message to membership, officers, and applied psychologists around the world about what the Association wants to accomplish over time and how the Association is able to make things different through its purpose and activities. The Association wants to be a global leader who puts the focus on applied psychology and operates to extend its legacy, increasing the visibility, image, and reputation of IAAP. At the same time, the aspiration to be an effective and influential organization announces that the Association is oriented towards a cost-effective manner and that the main stakeholders want to achieve high performance to promote the value and impact of applied psychology.

Promoting IAAP Change and Development cont.

The main strategic goals to achieve these aspirations were established as 1) enhance organizational effectiveness; 2) maximize the influence of IAAP on policy development in international organizations and 3) increase, retain, and engage members of IAAP. The purpose of this short article is focused on the development of the first strategic goal of promoting organizational effectiveness during the last years of the Association. What process has been followed for enhancing IAAP resources to achieve the desired aspirations? We explore how IAAP is transforming so as to promote transparency and reputation in organizational effectiveness. In doing so, we analyze the role that finances can play in encouraging this organizational change.

Following the Continuous Change Model

Although organizational change can be promoted by different Association officers and stakeholders and can have different rhythms, shaping transparent and reputed associations requires a sustainable change and constant adjustment. This organizational change is connected with the concept of continuous change (Weick & Quinn 1999), which is characterized by the role played by main stakeholders as sense-makers who redirect change. In the path towards a transparent, visible and reputable Association, presidents, officers and board members in general play this important role as change agents.

The theoretical framework of continuous change (Weick & Quinn, 1999) distinguishes two different models of organizational change, one that is continuous, evolving and incremental, the other that is episodic, discontinuous, and intermittent. The basic metaphor of continuous change is that of organizations as emergent and self-organizing, where change is constant, evolving, and cumulative. The idea here is those small continuous adjustments, created simultaneously across units, can cumulate and create substantial change. In contrast, the metaphor of episodic change is of organizations that are inertial and where change is infrequent and discontinuous. The underlying presumption is that episodic change attempts

to reach a new equilibrium condition that resolves the grown misalignment between an inertial deep structure and environmental demands (Munduate & Gravenhorst, 2003). One basic element that clustered the change process into these opposing forms is the kind of innovation pursued—in terms of their radicalism and the level of risk and novelty-, and its implementation process (King & Anderson, 1995). Thus, radical innovation is distinguished from incremental innovations by a greater level of uncertainty and complexity during its implementation (Arenas et al., 2017). Following this perspective, the promotion of a transparent, visible and reputed Association seems to fit better with the aim of an incremental social innovation process, occurring with the involvement of different officers and stakeholders across units, divisions, task forces and working groups and seeking a rather low level of uncertainty in adaptable periods of continuous change. The job of the Association's presidents, officers, and main stakeholders, as change agents that lead this process, is the thread of the role played by IAAP resources and finances in the Association's effectiveness. The implementation of IAAP's strategic goal of enhancing organizational effectiveness is inspired by the model of continuous change.

The Role of Finances in IAAP's Effectiveness

To shape a transparent, visible, reputed and influential Association, following this theoretical perspective of change, means considering the following elements in the implementation process: engage all stakeholders across units, divisions, and task forces, expose them to the holistic view of the strategy to be used, show them how to induce constant adjustment (logic of attraction), and encourage members accountability for a sustainable change (Weick & Quinn, 1999). The implementation of IAAP's strategic goal of enhancing the Association's effectiveness considered different areas of intervention and involved the main stakeholders of the Association. The role of the change agents becomes one of managing communication, language, dialogue, and

Promoting IAAP Change and Development cont.

identity because the most powerful interventions occur at the level of everyday conversations (Barret et al., 1995). The promotion of dialogue, consultation or simply the exchange of information between or among IAAP's presidents, officers, other stakeholders, and IAAP members to achieve consensus and democratic involvement is, therefore, an important intervention tool. This process of adaptation and permanent adjustment with some small but frequent actions are being widespread all over IAAP activities during the last decade, and this ongoing adjustment is generating platforms for transformational change. We are going to point out some of these platforms as an example of support to the Association's effectiveness. These platforms are mainly related to the development of an effective administrative organization, with the improvement of the financial status, and the development of transparent and comprehensible accounting and bookkeeping of the Association.

The platform for the development of an effective administrative organization was the creation of the IAAP Operations Center (OC). As directed by the presidents and officers of the Association, this Center attempts to bring about IAAP's stakeholders and members involvement and identification, showing them that change is for their own good, or by deliberately modifying communicated requests in such a way that change serves their group or their professional self-interest. Therefore, the scope of activities and services of this platform encompasses all stakeholders of the Association. Some examples of these activities are a) provide administrative support for divisions and interest groups, standing committees, task forces, working groups, and special projects. Provide support for IAAP activities related to representations to the United Nations and the organization of activities such as the Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS) and the Regional Conferences of Psychology. Assist with elections, awards and fellows' committees in calling for nominations, notifying selected nominees, and ordering awards. b) Membership management including membership records and database, and the development

and implementation of membership retention and strategies. c) IAAP website and social media management, proving analytics so that assessment of effectiveness can be determined. d) Webinar and virtual conference management, determining with main officers the speakers and topics for quarterly webinars and programs for virtual conferences.

The generation of a platform that allows strong financial management is essential to identify new and more efficient ways to serve IAAP members, support its divisions, promote the science and practice of applied psychology, and facilitate interactions and networking among applied psychologists around the world. The development of accurate, comprehensible, and transparent financial records through proper bookkeeping and accounting provides the information needed to make financial decisions with clarity and perspective, prepare the Association for unexpected expenses, and support the involvement of the Association in new projects and activities (Gauthier, 2016). The implementation by IAAP of the online QuickBooks system is facilitating all these purposes and supporting the effective financial management of the Association.

The IAAP partnership with Wiley is evolving as a flexible and ongoing adjustment to the disruptive market of open access publishing. Both partners are working together to analyze the recent developments in the open-access world, outline the IAPP's position in an increasing open access environment and prepare strategies to enable *Applied Psychology: An International Review* and *Applied Psychology: Health and Well-Being* to grow in output, impact, and revenues. The journals bring substantial revenue for the IAAP, funding some of the Association's activities and financially supporting the OC platform. Therefore, while recognizing that increased open access brings benefits to the science and practice of applied psychology around the world, it also presents some financial challenges for IAAP. The Association is trying to comprehend the impact of the transition and preparing financial modeling to adjust and navigate the upcoming disruptive market.

Promoting IAAP Change and Development cont.

In conclusion, we can underline that IAAP is on its way to becoming an effective and influential organization to further realize its mission and better serve the promotion of science and practice of applied psychology all around the world. The Association has initiated the process of sustainable and continuous change, with a concerted effort from all stakeholders involved to move forward, extend its legacy and increase the visibility, image, and reputation of IAAP. The Association was headed towards activities that a) create value with the delivery of services to its members and other applied psychologists through journals, bulletins, web sites, webinars and virtual conferences, congresses, divisions, and task-forces; b) stimulate joint international research and cooperation among practitioners; c) enhance the international identity of applied psychologists and its visibility; d) provide a voice in international organizations to influence their policies and programs in the humanitarian work domain; and e) build alliance networks and relationships with other psychology associations, to exchange information and stimulate cooperation in international, local and regional activities.

There is still a long way to go... transforming the International United Nations Psychology Day into World Psychology Week to be celebrated each year all over the world; contributing with key innovative psychosocial approaches to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals; promoting trust and constructive conflict management in the socio-economic and political landscape; adjusting to the upcoming disruptive market of the open-access publishing; building a two-year budget to provide financial information in the Association's strategic decision making process... Taking initial steps – however modest - towards a more transparent, inclusive, participative

and socially innovative approach can slowly encourage different divisions, interest groups, standing committees, task forces, and special working groups to come together and push for further successful and continuous changes.

References

- Arenas, A., Di Marco, D., Munduate, L. & Euwema (2017). Dialogue for Inclusion: When managing Diversity is not Enough. In A. Arenas, D. Di Marco, L. Munduate & M. Euwema (Eds.). *Shaping Inclusive Workplaces Through Social Dialogue* (pp. 3-22). Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.
- Gauthier, J. (2016). The President's Corner. *The International Association of Applied Psychology Bulletin*, 28(1), 2-9.
- King, N., & Anderson, N. (1995). *Innovation and change in organizations*. New York: Routledge.
- Munduate, L., & Gravenhorst, K. B. (2003). Power Dynamics and Organisational Change. *Applied Psychology: An International Review*, 52(1), 1-13.
- Peiro, J.M. (2011). What I want to achieve as President-Elect and President of IAAP. *IAAP Bulletin*, 23, 6-7
- Roland-Lévy, C. (2019). Editorial. *Applied Psychology Around the World*, 1(3), 2-3.
- IAAP Strategic Planning Task Force (2016). *Report to the Board of Directors*. (Task Force composition: Gary Latham (Chair), James Bray, Lyn Littlefield, John Munene, Glyn Roberts), June, 2016 (mimeo)
- Weick, K.E., & Quinn, R.E. (1999). Organizational change and development. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 50, 361-386.

Membership in the International Association of Applied Psychology: the First Hundred Years

Christina Sue-Chan, IAAP Secretary-General (2018-2020)

As we celebrate the centennial of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP), it is fruitful to look back to see how membership of the IAAP has evolved with the institutionalization of applied psychology as an important science around the world. This evolution began in Europe, where psychology was born as a science out of its parent discipline, philosophy in the 19th century. Following a period of steady growth in Europe, the IAAP began its expansion into North America. This growth has continued to other regions of the world as the IAAP has followed the legitimization path of psychology in those regions.

On the 100th anniversary of the founding of the IAAP, the association is poised to continue its strategic expansion and consolidate its presence in its traditional areas of strong representation. In the following sections, a brief overview of the IAAP's evolution is provided by examining the geographic homes of key executives in the IAAP, its President and Secretary-General/Treasurer, and the location of the IAAP's quadrennial and co-sponsored regional conferences. These senior executive positions and congress locations are clear signals of the IAAP's strategy in growing its membership in the targeted regions. This article is concluded with suggestions for growing the IAAP's members that are de-linked from the geographic location of its key executives and congresses.

Membership from 1920 to 1950s

The IAAP was founded in Geneva, Switzerland in 1920 as the *Association Internationale de Psychotechnique* (AIP; International Society of Psychotechnology). Its founding President, the eminent Swiss functional psychologist, Edouard Claparède, had a vision which he stated by saying that the association should be



Student members, 2009

“originally rooted in Europe but open to the whole world” (Carpentiero & Piero, 2016). Participants in the first conference were from 8 countries in Europe, including Italy, Spain, France, the Netherlands, and the Soviet Union. The founder's vision of an association strongly anchored in Europe was beginning to take shape. Further entrenchment in Europe occurred with a congress in Paris in 1927 and 8 more congresses in European cities, such as Moscow and Prague, between the two World Wars. While historical membership data from that time is unavailable, contemporary data tells us that congresses are associated with increases in members, particularly from the host country. Considering the speed and cost of transportation and communication in the first half of the 20th century, it is plausible, therefore, that from its founding to the first conference after WWII in 1949 in Bern, Switzerland, the IAAP membership was overwhelmingly European, and specifically, continental European. Not one of the Presidents or Secretary-Generals/Treasurers of the association came from outside continental Europe during this time period.

Membership from 1950s to 1990s

The year 1955 was a significant one for the association. In this year, the association adopted its current name, the International Association of Applied Psychology. The election of Clifford B. Frisby (1953-1958), the first from outside continental Europe, reinforced the IAAP's incremental strategy for achieving the latter part of its founder's vision of the IAAP being "open to the whole world". This strategy was further sharpened when Morris S. Viteles, the influential American industrial-organizational psychologist, was elected to serve as President for consecutive terms from 1958 to 1968. The terms of the next two Presidents, Gunnar Westerlund of Sweden (1968-1974) and Edwin A. Fleishman (1974-1982) of the United States was clear evidence of the association's continued movement out of continental Europe into the rest of the world, for it was during this time period, 1974, that the first congress of the association was hosted in a country outside of Europe, in Montreal, Canada.

The IAAP's strategy to expand from its "roots in Europe" by electing its senior executives from and locating conferences in target regions has clearly been effective. Current membership data indicates that Europe and North America are the regions where the largest number of members are located. The success of the executive/conference strategy provided the impetus for the next significant development in regional representation of IAAP members.

Membership from 1990s to 2000s

The year 1990 saw the first Secretary General/Treasurer from outside Europe, Michael Knowles from Australia (1990-1998). The year 1990 also saw the first congress of the IAAP outside Europe or North America, when for the first time in its history, the IAAP hosted its conference in Japan. During this time period, San Francisco (1998), Singapore (2002), Melbourne (2010) and Montreal again (2018) hosted the IAAP's quadrennial conferences.

Presidents were elected from traditional countries of the IAAP, France (e.g., Christine Roland-Lévy, 2018-2022), Germany, and Spain, and also, for the

first time, Canada (Janel Gauthier, 2014-2018). The first Treasurer from Asia, from Singapore, served in 2006-2014. Of great significance to the IAAP, the first Secretary-General (Buxin Han, 2014-2018) from the People's Republic of China was elected in 2014-2018. Expansion of the IAAP into China was reinforced with the awarding of the 2022 quadriennial conference to Beijing, China. Current IAAP membership in countries that have hosted IAAP quadrennial conferences or from which Presidents or Secretary-Generals / Treasurers have been elected represent the strongest representation in the IAAP.

Given the long time span between quadriennial conferences, the IAAP has sought to further capitalize on its strategy of growing membership in the world beyond its European origins with quadrennial conferences outside Europe by co-sponsoring regional conferences of psychology in cities that have never hosted a quadrennial conference: Mexico City (1997), Mumbai (2001), Kampala (2012), Bangkok and Brasilia (2003), Hanoi (2017). IAAP members now come from the countries in which these cities are located.

Membership Challenges in the Future

One hundred years after its founding in Geneva, Switzerland, the IAAP is now "the oldest and largest international association of individual members and affiliate international associations" in the world. It has individual members from 80 to 100 countries in the world. Edouard Claparède, who envisioned the association he founded to be "originally rooted in Europe but open to the whole world", would be pleased. Yet, much needs to be done to ensure that the IAAP is represented by members in every country so that the association can achieve its mission, "...to promote the science and practice of applied psychology and to facilitate interaction and communication among applied psychologists around the world" is carried out throughout the world.

Currently, though it is an association rooted in Europe, there are no IAAP members from the Baltic states or the countries that constituted the former Yugoslavia or Slovakia. Many of the former Islamic

Membership in IAAP cont.

republics in the former Soviet Union also have no representation in the IAAP. Only half of the countries in South America is represented by members in the IAAP and significantly less than that number in Africa. With the exception of Australia and North America, there are countries in every continent where the IAAP has no members.

More encouraging, there are now IAAP members in the majority of countries in Asia and South East Asia. Representation in this region is likely attributable to the IAAP's focus, since 1990 on Asia and South East Asia, with conferences hosted in and executive officers hailing from those regions. Electing executive officers or awarding quadrennial congress to host cities in regions where IAAP members are absent or low in number, however, is an unsustainable strategy due to costs, time, and resources.

Instead, starting with the presidency of Janel Gauthier of Canada and continuing at an accelerated pace under the current President, Christine Roland-Lévy of France, the IAAP has implemented internet-based strategies to reach potential and current members globally. These have included webinars, social media posts, and monthly dissemination of E-news electronically. Continued membership growth, however, needs strategies that break the barriers that have prevented psychologists from engaging with the IAAP. More importantly, growth strategies must be respectful of the necessity to reduce our carbon footprint on this planet.

Virtual conferences that require no vehicular travel are one possible means to bring psychologists together "...to promote the science and practice of applied psychology and to facilitate interaction and communication among applied psychologists around the world". These have been implemented, with great success, by an IAAP affiliate association, the Australian Psychological Society. The current series of webinars produced by the IAAP are a preview of virtual conferences that can be reached by any IAAP member in the world with access to the internet.

Dissemination of knowledge produced by the IAAP that leaves no carbon footprint through video-sharing platforms, such as Youtube and TikTok, are also options to consider. This strategy would be particularly effective in attracting potential members who simply do not have the financial support to travel out of their home cities and countries.

Carpintero and Peiro (2016) reported that the IAAP was truly founded when it joined with another psychological association in 1927. A third strategy to expand membership globally is to use existing resources by collaborating with other psychological associations, such as the International Council of Psychologists (ICP). The IAAP currently has a memorandum of understanding with the ICP to publicize the news and events of each association. Joint membership at a discounted rate and joint work on webinars and task forces could be considered enhance to value of membership to potential IAAP members. Joining with local associations of psychology in regions with few resources, including members in the IAAP, could be a particularly effective means to accelerate the growth of professional psychology in regions, such as Latin America and Africa.

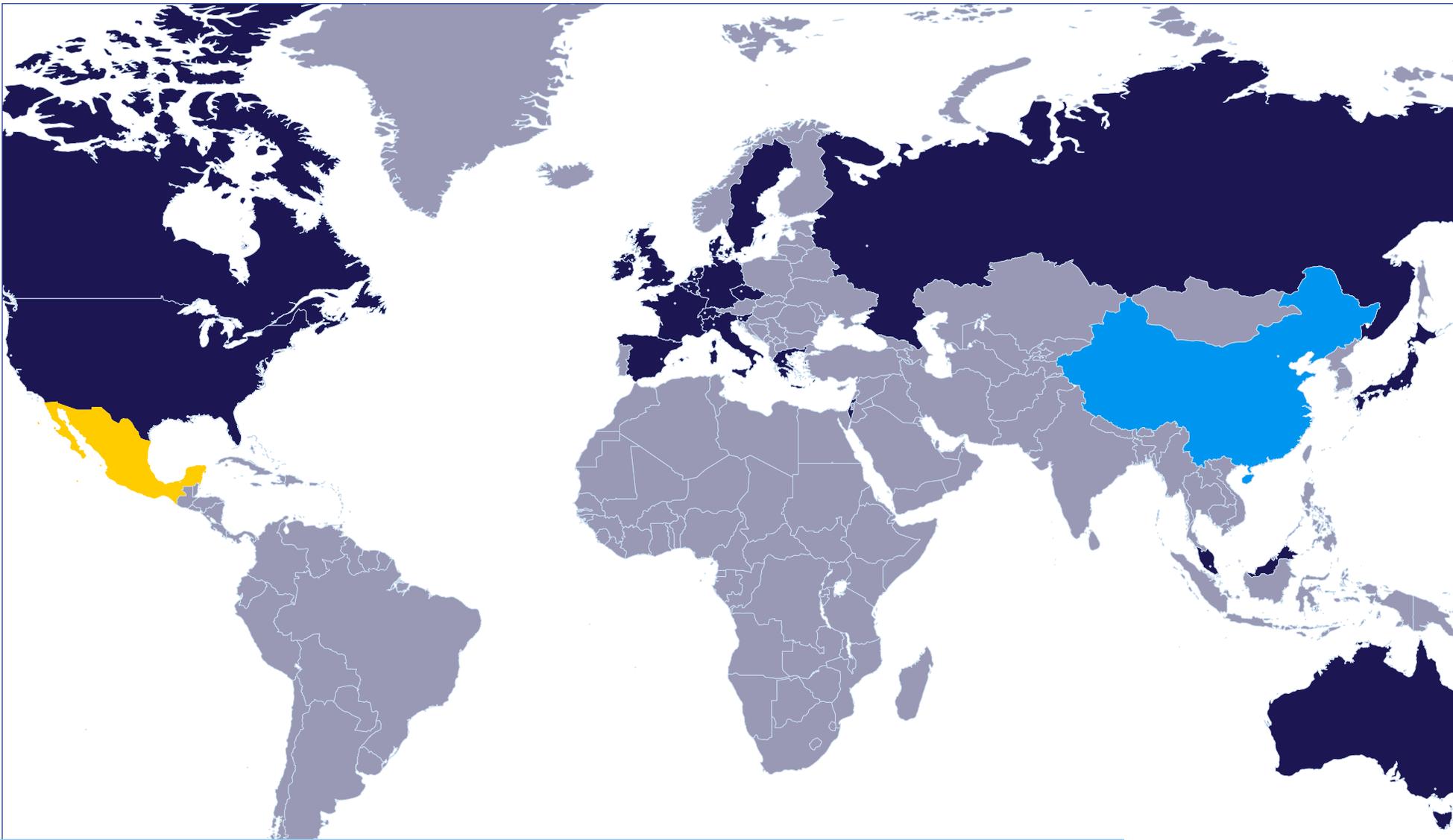
Conclusion

As the IAAP enters its second century, the vision of the association's founder, "originally rooted in Europe but open to the whole world" energize the association – its members – to expand the reach of the IAAP in regions of the world likely unimagined by Edouard Claparède. To energize the IAAP for the next 100 years, perhaps, the vision should evolve to, "Rooted on Earth but open to the Universe". The opportunities for growth are boundless.

References

Carpintero, H., & Peiro, J. M. G. (2016). "International Association of Applied Psychology". In S. J. Rogelsberg (Ed.), *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Industrial and Organizational Psychology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

The website of the International Association of Applied Psychology: <https://iaapsy.org/>



International Congress of Applied Psychology: 100 Years and 22 Countries

I Geneva, Switzerland	1920	VIII Prague, Czech.	1934	XV Ljubljana, Yugoslavia	1964	XXII Kyoto, Japan	1990	XXIX Montreal, Canada	2018
II Barcelona, Spain	1921	IX Bern, Switzerland	1949	XVI Amsterdam, Netherlands	1968	XXIII Madrid, Spain	1994	<i>Centennial Anniversary Congress Cancun, Mexico December 13-17, 2020</i>	
III Milan, Italy	1922	X Göteborg, Sweden	1927	XVII Liège, Belgium	1971	XXIV San Francisco, USA	1998		
IV Paris, France	1927	XI Paris, France	1953	XVIII Montreal, Canada	1974	XXV Singapore	2002		
V Utrecht, Holland	1928	XII London, UK	1955	XIX Munich, Germany	1978	XXVI Athens, Greece	2006	XXX Beijing, China	2022
VI Barcelona, Spain	1930	XIII Rome, Italy	1958	XX Edinburgh, UK	1982	XXVII Melbourne, Australia	2010		
VII Moscow, USSR	1931	XIV Copenhagen, Denmark	1961	XXI Jerusalem, Israel	1986	XXVIII Paris, France	2014		

Evolution of the IAAP Divisions: What They Offer as IAAP Turns 100

Lyn Littlefield¹, IAAP Divisions Coordinator (2018-2020)

The mission of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) is to promote the science and practice of applied psychology and to facilitate interaction and communication among applied psychologists around the world.

The Divisions play a very important part in IAAP in achieving the delivery of this Mission. Much of the work of the IAAP is achieved through its Divisions. They represent major scientific and professional interests of IAAP members working in various sub-fields of applied psychology across the globe.

The evolution of the Divisions mirrors the emergence of specializations in psychology and has enhanced the development and dissemination of knowledge in many different areas of applied psychology. All Divisions evolved along similar lines but with considerable variation in speed, formality, and level of activity.

In the second half of the 20th Century, applied psychology grew substantially and diversified into a range of specialist areas. The Divisions' development followed the expansion of the body of knowledge in applied psychology which became more detailed and specialized, and theories, approaches, and methodologies started to differentiate and be tailored to applications in various contexts. The Divisions reflected these areas of psychology as they developed based on expanding research and evidence-based ideas and information

The concept of Divisions started in 1974 to further the special interests of IAAP members in several fields of applied psychology. The creation of the Divisions was the result of many dedicated psychologists from a range of countries coalescing to form a Division in



Workshop for Division 1 project "This Works in My Place - Latin America" (2019, Turin, Italy)

their chosen areas of endeavor. This also resulted in the recruitment of some highly respected psychologists into IAAP (Knowles, 2020).

The ability to establish Divisions was formalized at the Board meeting in Paris in 1976 and the first one to be formed was the Division of Organizational Psychology in 1978. Following this, six further Divisions were established at the 1982 meeting in Edinburgh: the Divisions of Psychological Assessment and Evaluation, Psychology and Societal Development, Environmental Psychology, Educational and School Psychology, Clinical and Community Psychology, and Applied Gerontology.

The momentum for forming Divisions continued throughout the decade with the creation of four more: the Divisions of Health Psychology and Economic Psychology in 1986, the Division of Psychology and Law in 1988, and the Division of Political Psychology in 1990. Developing additional Divisions after this tended to be more spaced out, and included the Division of Sport Psychology in 1992, the Division of Traffic and Transportation Psychology in 1994,

¹ School of Psychology and Public Health, College of Science, Health and Engineering, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia

Evolution of IAAP Divisions cont.

the Division of Applied Cognitive Psychology in 1998, the Division of Students and the Division of Counseling Psychology in 2002, the Division of Professional Psychology in 2008, and the Division of the History of Applied Psychology in 2010 (Knowles, 2020).

However, little was known in the public arena about the achievements of applied psychology. So the IAAP Board of Officers set up a *Taskforce on the Visibility and Impact of Applied Psychology* to foster ways and means of increasing the knowledge and understanding of the public and policymakers about the breadth and relevance of applied psychology and its capacity to improve national development and address critical issues in contemporary society (Knowles, 2020).

The Division Presidents provided the Taskforce with a description of the main contributions of their areas in psychology, and the essence of each Division's purpose as outlined in the statements below was originally distilled by the Taskforce and updated in 2018 by the then Presidents.

Division 1 – Work and Organizational Psychology: focuses on understanding, explaining and shaping attitudes and behavior in organizational settings and identifying conditions that promote motivation, creativity, competency, teamwork, leadership, health and wellbeing, as well as the central role of human resources in strategic organizational planning.

Division 2 – Psychological Assessment and Evaluation: deals with the development of educational and psychological tests and their administration, the expansion of state and national educational testing programs, and the use of tests in work and clinical contexts. It also involves issues of test construction, administration, and scoring, as well as adaptation from one language and culture to others.

Division 3 – Psychology and Societal Development: is concerned in part with the ways psychology can contribute to human well-being at a societal level involving issues such as health, education, gender equality, ethnic tolerance, intergroup relations, and

even political disputes. Primary emphasis, however, is placed upon understanding how these are affected by different histories, cultures, ethnicities, and epistemologies, and thus the call for applications of psychology to be cognizant of these differences.

Division 4 – Environmental Psychology: examines the relations between people and their social and physical settings, considering how people both affect and are affected by characteristics of the environment. Emphasis is upon identifying ways to preserve and improve environmental quality at all scales, from the microscale of the design of individual rooms to the global scale, as with measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change or to protect biodiversity.

Division 5 – Educational, Instructional and School Psychology: aims to help every student achieve the highest possible degree of maturity, including intellectually, emotionally, physically and socially, and how this is influenced by factors ranging from family, school, community, society and culture to diverse teaching methods, curriculum and a school environment that promotes curiosity and encourages creativity.

Division 6 – Clinical and Community Psychology: Clinical Psychology focuses on understanding, preventing, diagnosing, and treating psychological, cognitive, emotional, developmental, behavioral, and family problems in children, adolescents, and adults. Community Psychology is concerned with building competencies, behavioral changes and agency in individuals, communities, and societies, thereby enhancing the quality of life at all three levels.

Division 7 – Applied Gerontology: is typified by three areas of interest: age (concerned with the difference between people of different ages), aging (deals with changes in functioning across the life span), and the aged (focused upon the elderly). Essentially the aim is to help people adjust to age and aging to add life to years rather than years to life, especially through having a positive self-perception on aging and keeping active both physically and mentally.

Evolution of IAAP Divisions cont.

Division 8 – Health Psychology: focuses upon explaining and changing health-related behavior and on the role of psychological processes in health, illness, and health promotion and prevention delivery including information technology (mHealth/eHealth, apps, etc.). Topics include symptoms and their investigation; cognitive, emotional and behavioral responses to illness; cognitive behavioral interventions; and treatment behavior.

Division 9 – Economic Psychology: promotes and discusses research, as well as policymaking, on the interface of psychology and economics including topics such as money management, spending, saving and credit use and debts as well as financial and psychological preparation for retirement, money, and inflation felt inflation and consumer spending, and contra-productivity such as tax non-compliance, shadow economy, and fraud.

Division 10 – Psychology and Law: Although starting as a combination of the two separate disciplines of psychology and law, the field has emerged as one in its own right with its epistemology, experimental techniques, and expertise. Within the field, however, there are two areas of specialization. One is based upon experimental psychology, epitomized in research into eyewitness testimony. The other is clinically oriented of which an example is the assessment of recidivism.

Division 11 – Political Psychology: examines human behavior in a wide spectrum of settings, mainly national and international, in which psychology and political matters converge. Topics, for example, range at one level from voting behavior and political extremism through to nuclear threat and terrorism, and at another from their associated motives and attitudes (such as changing attitudes, especially among adolescents, to war and peace) through to conflict resolution and negotiation.

Division 12 – Sport Psychology: is concerned with the study and application of psychological and mental factors that influence and are influenced by

participation in physical activity in general, and in sport, exercise and physical education. Sport psychology may be divided into three main areas: the psychology of motor learning, exercise psychology, and applied sport psychology. Each of these areas has contributed substantially to the understanding of humans in movement.

Division 13 – Traffic and Transportation Psychology: is substantially concerned with the what, the how, and the why of road safety. As well it is heavily involved in the field of evaluation of countermeasures, including work in simulators where research is often multi-disciplinary in nature involving engineers and statisticians. Specific areas in which Traffic Psychology is particularly visible include seat belts, behavioral measures relating to enforcement, the development of road signage, speed limits, driver distraction, and the older driver licensing question (when should people quit?).

Division 14 – Applied Cognitive Psychology: concerns applications of cognitive studies arising out of interactions with allied fields such as cognitive ergonomics, psychophysics, cognitive neuropsychology, engineering psychology, human factors engineering, cognitive engineering, new information technologies, computer-supported cooperative work, cyberspaces and virtual life research, neuro-ergonomics, psychology of learning and instruction, natural language processing (speech competence, reading, writing), the legal process (eye-witnesses, face and voice identification), decision making, conflict resolution as well as creativity research and training.

Division 15 – Psychology Students: aims to promote and support a network of students who share a common interest in international development, teaching, trends, applications, and research in applied psychology. Activities include exchanging scientific knowledge; sharing useful information for students such as mobility programs, scholarships, research grants, study and work abroad; and promoting international and cross-cultural research.

Evolution of IAAP Divisions cont.

Division 16 – Counseling Psychology: aims to help individuals, couples, families, groups, and organizations with their educational, developmental, career, adjustment, and emotional and health-related concerns. In so doing, it employs a wide range of assessment, counseling, and other therapeutic intervention strategies. Generally, clients experience moderate adjustment and psychological challenges as opposed to severe psychopathology, interventions are short-term, service is out-patient rather than in-patient, and emphasis is placed on preventive, culturally inclusive, and strengths-based approaches.

Division 17 – Professional Psychology: places a strong emphasis upon evidence-based practice and covers a wide range of matters of central interest to practicing psychologists. These include accreditation, registration, quality and standards, supervision and mentoring, ethics, service delivery, workplace conditions, advertising standards, technological orientation, and political orientation and advocacy.

Division 18 – History of Applied Psychology: fosters a historical approach to understanding, developing and reinforcing the institutional identity of our discipline. It encourages the preservation of technical reports in congresses and journals, qualitative and quantitative data collection procedures, and archival techniques to keep safe documents that may well serve to maintain the identity of a tradition, a school or a national development.

Note: *These descriptions are reviewed every four years to ensure the descriptions accurately reflect the focus of each Division (see the IAAP Division and Interest Group Committee Guide on the IAAP website).*

Development, Infrastructure, and Support for Divisions

Divisions usually started with one person or a small group driving their establishment and they then formed an executive committee to administer them. They developed goals and guidelines or general principles of operation, as well as bylaws or rules of

procedure, and they can continue to do so today as long as their operations are consistent with the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure of the Association.

The Divisions had strong support from the Board of Officers from the beginning who funded their establishment and development. Divisions formed Committees which required officers to manage their operations, including a President, Secretary and Bulletin editor. In the 1990s, Taskforces were set up to construct guidelines for operating and role descriptions for office-bearers and they encouraged communication of the development of the Divisions through the Bulletin (Knowles, 2020).

The Division Presidents were given places on the IAAP Board, initially for a four-year term, then later the Presidents-Elect were added to the Board with a four-year term in this office followed by a four-year term as President. This provided stability to the Board and to Divisions and gave them considerable representation and input into decision-making. In 2014, a position of Divisions Coordinator was created on the Board Executive to show the importance of assisting the Divisions and their activities.

Further, IAAP now has an Operations Center which administers IAAP's affairs. The staff in this Centre are responsible for managing member records, both new and renewals, and operating the website. In addition, they support the IAAP Officers, all committees and task forces, the 18 Divisions, and business meetings, as well as assisting in the administration of congresses and conferences.

Currently, each Division is administered by a Division Board. The Division Officers are the President, the President-Elect, the Past-President and the Secretary who constitute the Division Board. Large Divisions may have a bigger Board that consists of the Division Officers plus a Newsletter Editor and the chairs of Division committees (e.g., the committee for the next ICAP Program, for membership and recruitment, for online communication).

Evolution of IAAP Divisions cont.

In accordance with the revised Constitution of IAAP, currently, the terms of office for the Division Presidential Officers are as follows: Division Presidents serve for 4 years; Division Presidents-Elect and Division Past-Presidents serve for 2 years. Elections are held to fill the office of President-Elect. In addition to face-to-face meetings held at ICAP, the Division Board and Division committee members can meet via web conference.

Formation and Dissolution of a Division

The creation of an IAAP Interest Group is now a prerequisite for establishing a Division. An Interest Group may be established whenever 50 or more members of the Association petition for it and the Board of Directors approves the proposal for its creation. An Interest Group may submit an application to the Board of Directors to become a Division four years after its creation if it has a membership of 100 or more members. If ever required, a Division may be dissolved by the Board of Directors when the number of members in the Division falls below 50 or when the Division votes to recommend dissolution.

Membership of Divisions

IAAP membership is a prerequisite to join a Division or Interest Group. Initially, members of IAAP were offered membership of two Divisions free of charge. This was based entirely on their interests; no qualifications applied. In 2011, this offer was extended to four free Division memberships. IAAP members can join up to four divisions of their choice when they become members or renew their membership, and students can join up to three divisions in addition to joining the student Division.

When membership of Divisions became freely available, 60% of members held membership of more than one Division and most of these were in three or four Divisions. However, 40% of IAAP members chose to remain outside of the Divisions, preferring to remain as members of the overall Association (Knowles, 2020). It seems that their identity was with

the psychology discipline as a whole, not in a field of specialization at this stage.

Today, only one percent of IAAP members are not in a Division, with nine percent in one Division, 20% in two or three Divisions, and 70% in four Divisions. This shows their great interest in a range of areas of psychology and in the work of the Divisions and enables considerable cross-fertilization across the 18 Divisions, reflecting the complex and interwoven nature of applied psychology.

Communication/Connections with Members

Initially, the Divisions communicated with members via the **IAAP Bulletin**. Notices of recent publications, theses, books, and important articles by Division members were placed in the Bulletin. Selected articles were summarized, and reviews of congresses and conferences were published along with notices of future events. Later, reviews of literature, current issues, hot topics and discussions of similarities and differences in theory, methodologies, results, and practices were included (Knowles, 2020).

In more recent times, Division Newsletters and individual webpages have become the major vehicle for Divisions to communicate with their members.

Websites: Each Division is provided with a section within the IAAP website to communicate important information about the Division to the public and members of the Division, such as the aims of the Division, a description of its area of interest in applied psychology, the names and contact information of the Division Officers, and countries represented by Division members. Reports of conferences and meetings are provided, along with international psychology conference alerts, and information about associations with links to Divisions. Latest member research and publications can be listed as well as recent journal articles and discussion papers. Regional and international concerns may be highlighted. Evidence-based practice and online resources may be

Evolution of IAAP Divisions cont.

provided as well as employment opportunities in the Division's area.

Division Newsletters: A Division can appoint a newsletter editor and Newsletters can include profiles of Division members, current information, and updates on Division activities to enhance a sense of connectedness of members with the Division.

Social networks: In addition, each Division may choose to communicate with its members via online social networks such as LinkedIn, Twitter or Facebook, which have proven to be an effective way to disseminate brief updates and provide an opportunity for Division members to interact. Online discussion forums can also provide a means for Division members to discuss topical issues, share information and ideas, and for the purpose of networking. A bulk email system has also been built into the IAAP website and is available for use by the Division committee.

IAAP publishes two Journals, *Applied Psychology: An International Review*, and *Applied Psychology: Health and Well Being*, as well as the *IAAP Bulletin* to which the Divisions may contribute: The IAAP Bulletin, now known as ***Applied Psychology Around the World***, provides a round-up of news and events in the Association, and information about international reports and public databases, such as relevant UN reports, initiatives, and taskforces. Contributions are also made by Divisions to the more regular IAAP eNews which is designed to disseminate news about the current activities of IAAP including the Divisions.

Development of Divisions' Activities

Initially, Divisions concentrated on developing networks of like-minded colleagues interested in their areas of focus. This frequently occurred through exchanges of information and ideas which was facilitated via presenting papers and forums at conferences. IAAP's Congress, the International Congress of Applied Psychology (ICAP), was the major vehicle for the expansion of these activities with Divisions gradually delivering specific streams containing keynote

addresses, invited speakers, symposia, papers and posters, all chosen by the Divisions (Knowles, 2020). Over time, ICAP has been structured largely around the Divisions with their Office-bearers sitting on Congress Committees and making decisions about the scientific program, as well as Division members vetting abstracts. The ICAP program has markedly increased the visibility and profile of the Divisions,

Today, in addition to Division streams as part of the ICAP scientific program, they may present workshops, conduct mentoring sessions, peer consultation sessions, Division-specific or joint-Division social events to facilitate networks, and hold Governance meetings.

Outside of ICAP, the following activities can be facilitated by a Division: regional meetings and conferences to encourage the involvement and participation of psychologists from developing countries, and Division-based strategically located workshops. Divisions also participate in related international or regional conferences of psychology and organize online presentations by keynote speakers throughout the year (as webinars and podcasts). They may also provide online mentor systems for Division members; peer consultation opportunities through online discussion forums or Zoom. Divisions can engage in fund-generating activities to develop resources and to provide awards to honor colleagues who have made important contributions to their fields of applied psychology, or conference support for early career psychologists. All of these activities assist with member communication, promotion, recruitment and retention for the Divisions,

Expansion of Divisions' Activities

The activities Divisions undertook in the early stages included: specialized conferences, summer and winter schools, newsletters, seminars, workshops, research monographs and books, special issues of journals, etc. (Knowles, 2020). From 2008, Divisions could apply for funding for project expenses and so they could extend their activities.

Evolution of IAAP Divisions cont.

Each Division in good standing is entitled to receive, from the IAAP general dues, funds allocated by the IAAP Executive Committee. Each Division can receive funds on the basis of a proposed and planned activity, such as a special project, by preparing a business case for consideration by the IAAP Executive Committee.

From the early days, Divisions' goals included the expansion of their activities which broadened over time. Activities showed both commonality and considerable variation across the Divisions, but essentially illustrated the scholarly development of applied psychology and assisted IAAP to expand its scope of operation.

IAAP activities aim to further the theory and practice of applied psychology based on both general and specific areas of psychological knowledge. This leads to clarification of universal principles and also recognition of the variance in constructs and methodologies (Knowles, 2020), which is often seen in the work of Divisions.

The current range of activities of Divisions (as reported in 2019) includes:

- **Newsletters** - which have gained momentum with one Division producing 11 and two other Divisions producing 6 each this past year. These offer great means of communication of information to members;
- **Website development** - a strong focus, with many Divisions providing key information, developing material and resources, and updating their websites with sections such as News, Committee Members, Links to Newsletters, Members' research, International reports, Guidelines, Journals, and a Student section on opportunities.
- **Social media presence** through the platforms: Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.
- A new series of **IAAP webinars** launched, so far involving three Divisions.
- **Strong participation in international or regional congresses** (e.g. ICAP / RCP / ICP / EFPA)

which Divisions regard as one of the most important (and time-consuming) of their activities, with most of the Divisions producing very substantial programs of keynotes, invited addresses, symposia, papers, posters, and workshops, particularly at ICAP

- **Involvement in regional meetings** (some with workshops) and provision of peer consultation opportunities through online discussion forums or skype sessions
- **Collaborations and formation of partnerships with other organizations** and peak bodies and involvement in conferences run by other related organizations in the Divisions' areas of interest and in several different countries.
- **Contributions of papers** to journals by members of Divisions and to the IAAP Bulletin or e-News, as well as to textbooks and monographs
- **Working Groups** constructed to undertake very interesting and informative projects
- **Awards** to honor colleagues who have made important contributions to applied psychology and provision of conference support for early career psychologists
- **Support for students**, and involvement of them in projects.
- **Fostering research and engaging in policy development** (e.g. one Division developed a policy statement for consideration of the UN)
- The important **book** entitled *International Association of Applied Psychology: A Centennial History 1920-2020* was completed – to be released at the Centennial Congress.
- **Promotion of Divisions, recruiting members and networking**

Members of Divisions come from a large number of countries across the globe (e.g. the current Division Presidents come from Australia(1), Brazil (1), Canada (2), Colombia (1), France (2), Germany (1), Greece (1), Japan (1), Mexico (1), Poland (2), Spain (1), Sweden (1), and USA (3). This enables the importance and impact of culture to be brought to the work of the Divisions and the differences in culture and their

Evolution of IAAP Divisions cont.

impact on applied psychology to be promoted and compared.

This is particularly demonstrated at IAAP Congresses which are deliberately held in different cities and regions across the world. ICAP has also facilitated the development of relationships between the Divisions and with other national and international associations.

Relations with International Associations

Many members of Divisions publish in journals of international associations and relationships have formed between Divisions and these entities in their fields of interest. Currently across the 18 Divisions, there are networks of more than 50 international associations and societies that have developed involving the Divisions as a result of members' personal relationships or formal relationships through Memoranda of Understanding (Knowles, 2020). These networks have provided valuable contact and partnerships for IAAP.

With the globalization of technology and communication, and the sharing of information and projects, plus the increase in disasters – natural and man-made - Divisions have become more externally focused and strategic in their links to external associations and in their views on society. Divisions have also become more involved in policy making and advocacy with deeper connections to governments, agencies, NGOs, industry, media, and the public (Knowles, 2020). In this way, they have increased their visibility and influence.

The variability in the individual Division's closeness to IAAP versus other organizations needs to be appreciated and respected, but also managed, as part of IAAP's culture in order for IAAP to flourish (Knowles, 2020). This diversity of interests offers exciting possibilities of developing positions, policies and resources which are a mix of Divisions' views and perhaps more informed and comprehensive than either one on its own.

Future of the Divisions

The Divisions have provided a huge benefit as part of IAAP in its first 100 years as they undertake a large amount of its work, but they also pose a challenge to IAAP and psychology itself. As the Divisions expand their work, if they became too autonomous and moved too far away from each other, IAAP could fragment, and so could applied psychology. This would be of great detriment to the development of the field as well as to the potential that combinations of knowledge and approaches across the Divisions potentially have to offer, and indeed are needed, to address major problems in the world, such as outlined in the Sustainable Goals of the United Nations. Current issues facing humanity require the bringing together of different sub-specialties in psychology with their various theories, methodologies, and practices, as well as cross-cultural approaches, to attempt to provide solutions, and IAAP is uniquely placed to do this by calling on and linking the Divisions so they can jointly contribute their evidence-based knowledge to solving the major societal issues of today. This is the challenge for IAAP in the next hundred years.

Note: My thanks go to Michael Knowles for his permission to use material on the history of the development of the Divisions from his chapter in the book: *International Association of Applied Psychology: A Centennial History 1920-2020*.

References

- Knowles, M.C. (2020) IAAP's Divisions: The Course of their Development, in H. Carpintero, R. Ardila & A. M. Jaco-Vilela (Eds.) *International Association of Applied Psychology: A Centennial History 1920-2020*. Wiley.
- Littlefield, L. (2018) IAAP Divisions and Interest Groups Committee Guide, IAAP website
- Littlefield, L. (2019) IAAP Divisions Annual Activity Reports. IAAP website

The International Association of Applied Psychology at the United Nations: Past, Present and Future

Judy Kuriansky and Walter Reichman, Main Representatives at the UN in NY²

The Beginnings of IAAP at the UN

Involving IAAP in the behemoth organization of the United Nations was the brainchild – and passion-- of IAAP Past-president Michael Frese. As a teen activist who was always immersed in the world affairs, Frese eventually branched out from his native Germany to conduct entrepreneurship trainings in Uganda, and more recently to move to Singapore. To Frese, “it was obvious that an international association like IAAP would be useful for an international institution like the UN.”

Since he sadly could not live near the New York UN headquarters, Frese recruited local representatives, that led him to Industrial/Organizational colleagues like Walter Reichman, Professor Emeritus at Baruch College, who invited his colleague at Sirota Consulting firm, Mary O’Neill Berry (Frese, 2018). Reichman was thrilled, since as he explains, “When other kids wanted to be a policeman when they grew up, I wanted to be Secretary-General of the UN.” Earlier, IAAP’s then-Treasurer Ray Fowler had invited Judy Kuriansky to be a rep, a clinical psychologist who was also a Professor of Psychology and Education at Columbia University Teachers College and a famous radio and TV journalist. She agreed, for similar reasons to Reichman, that while her eighth-grade girl peers wanted to be teachers, she wanted “to be the first woman President and to change the world.” Reichman and Kuriansky fit Frese’s image of the “perfect team,” mixing I/O and clinical disciplines, to cover poverty and mental health.

Other IAAP leadership supported Frese’s vision, including Mike Knowles, who had participated in the first NGO Consultations with the UN in Asia and the Pacific to identify cooperation; Ray Fowler, who notably approved the team’s many activities at the UN DPI/NGO conferences and field projects; and José Maria Piero, who became the first Executive Board liaison to the UN team, a position passed on to succeeding IAAP president Janel Gauthier and now to Gary Latham, as head of the Advisory Committee as Board liaison from the UN team.

Frese’s vision grew over time. Board members increasingly attended UN events at the team’s invitations. Immediate past-President Janel Gauthier agreed to be a panelist at Kuriansky’s workshop at the UN department of Public Information/NGO conference in Paris on Human Rights; attended a Psychology Day conference and a meeting with his native Canada mission to discuss support for mental health; and consistently moderated symposia about the UN team’s work, including at ICAP2014 in Paris and at the European Congress of Psychology in Italy in 2017. Gary Latham came to a Psychology Day conference; met the Ambassador of Angola to the UN and moderated the symposium about IAAP activities at the ECP meeting in Moscow in 2019. Current IAAP President Christine Roland-Lévy came to the 2019 Psychology Day and the 2019 Commission on the Status of Women, to understand the scope of the UN team activities and link UN processes to the

2 **Acknowledgement:** The team expresses great appreciation to IAAP youth representative Joel C. Zinsou, who was exceptionally involved and integral to the success of the Agenda negotiations, and who, even after his formal internship ended and ongoing for five years, continues to be essentially helpful in so many ways to the team’s work.

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

IAAP special projects on women. Former IAAP student division president Luminita Patras also attended. Roland-Lévy's support dates back to ICAP2014, when the declaration about the global goals drafted by Kuriansky was read at the closing meeting and resoundingly approved by attendees, presaging a commitment to international engagement at the UN in her Presidential address at ICAP2018 in Montreal.

A 2018 membership survey revealed the value of IAAP involvement in the UN; thus, the strategic plan aimed to "be more active in developing policy orientation of applied psychology" and committed to link IAAP divisions with the UN team's efforts. Several IAAP members have responded to the invitation to contribute. Andrew Martin sent a white paper on Education. Division 17 (Professional Practice) President Robyn Vines and Vice President James Bray contributed to the statement on the importance of including mental health in primary health care, prepared and presented by Kuriansky and a delegate from the UN Major Group for Children and Youth, for the 2018 Astana Declaration on Primary Health Care. See: <https://bit.ly/2P41wkb>.

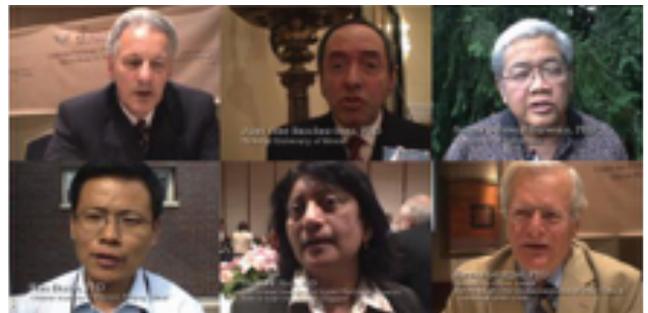
One of the earliest interactions with the UN by the IAAP team represented a big coup. IAAP then-President Jim Georgas asked Judy Kuriansky to bring a high-level UN official to the 2006 ICAP meeting in Athens, Greece. Kuriansky engaged Shashi Tharoor, then-Under Secretary General for Communications and Public information under SG Ban Ki-moon, who agreed and made a stirring speech about the importance of psychology in UN affairs.

IAAP board members have promoted the value of international psychology and activities at the UN, when in 2012 many were interviewed by Kuriansky for a documentary on *International Psychology: What Students Need to Know*. These included IAAP then-Secretary General Janel Gauthier, then-Treasurer Elizabeth Nair, Sarlito Wirawam Sarwono, Juan José Sanchez-Sosa, Han Buxin and Jim Georgas.



ICAP (2004, Athens, Greece): (1) IAAP's Milt Hakel with Honored Plenary Speaker, Shashi Tharoor, Indian politician, writer and Diplomat, then under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information under SG Ban Ki-moon. (2) Mike Frese, then IAAP President

Over the past fifteen years, IAAP's involvement, contributions, achievements, and activities at the UN have increased steadily and dramatically. These are summarized in this article, and are extensively reported in past IAAP bulletins, as well as in reports to the UN Economic and Social Council and the Department of Global Communications, that are all available on the internet at the IAAP website (www.IAAPsy.org) and specifically under the section of UN reports (<https://iaapsy.org/iaap-and-the-united-nations/>).



IAAP Board Members speak about International Psychology, 2012: IAAP co-sponsored DVD entitled "International Psychology: What Students Need to Know" informing students about the international nature of psychology and offering advice about a career in the field.

The current times can be considered the best of times at the UN, since many important advances have been made to highlight mental health (<https://youtu.be/zBj1KROh3Vc>). Also, in the last few years, many important game-changing agreements have been negotiated by the government Member States at the UN. IAAP has played a major part in those processes through the mechanisms allowed for civil society.

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

These include the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the Astana Declaration on Primary Health Care, and the Universal Health Coverage Political Declaration.

How We Interact with the UN

NGOs and professional membership[organizations are allowed to apply to be accredited at the UN to advocate about our issues, through the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (ECOSOC)—which IAAP achieved in 2005 – and to be affiliated with the Department of Global Communications (DGC, formerly the Department of Public Information, DPI), which was achieved in 2003. The former requires activities relevant to social and economic issues. The latter requires reciprocal communications between UN, the NGO's members and the public, including media campaigns, appearances and reports related to UN issues (<https://bit.ly/2MwdO2Q>). Reports must be filed regularly to both bodies to maintain status. All these efforts require diverse skills, hard work and time.

Who We Are

Representatives are appointed to the main UN headquarters in New York City and regional offices in Geneva, Vienna, and Nairobi. In New York, Judy Kuriansky has served the longest, followed by Walter Reichman and Mary O'Neill Berry, as well as social psychologist Florence Denmark, with others serving only short terms, due to work or personal responsibilities. Long-serving representatives in Geneva are Drs. Raymond Saner and Lichia Saner-Yiu, and Dr. Wolfgang Beiglboeck in Vienna.

What We Do

Since the UN system and topics are so vast, UN NGO representatives have to use initiative to find out about where and how to get involved. Matching one's interests and skills in best. The tenets upon which the UN was founded are human rights, peace, and security (given its formation in 1945 in response



IAAP UN Team, 2010: (L-R) Florence Denmark, Wismick Jean-Charles, Martin Butler, Judy Kuranski, Pete Walker, Youth Representatives Megan Lytle and Adrian Chu, Walter Reichman, Mary O'Neil Berry

to World War II), but topics have expanded since the 2015 adoption of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (and 169 targets) and with the extensive system of governments, UN agencies and civil society advocates.

In the early years of IAAP's accreditation at the UN, the UN was following the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), comprised of 8 goals that the 193 member states of the UN agreed to achieve within the years 2000-2105. These included: to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, promote gender equality, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases, ensure environmental sustainability and develop a global partnership for development. Coincident with the MDGs, the IAAP team wrote statements related to those goals, and organized and participated in panels on those topics.

A major shift happened towards the end of that period when the governments began to negotiate a new agenda, that would apply to the next 15 years. This UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development expanded from 8 goals in the MDGs to 17 goals and 169 targets, known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). See: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org>. The IAAP team undertook major advocacy on topics related to decent work, racism, women's issues, youth issues, and measuring development other than by GDP. A major focus, that led to historic success, was advocacy to include mental health and

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

well-being in the agenda, led on behalf of psychologists by IAAP's Judy Kuriansky. Being a governmental agreement, Kuriansky sought out, and found, the perfect UN Ambassador to partner with, who would promote this campaign. The Ambassador of the Republic of Palau to the UN, Caleb Otto, was a medical doctor and a public health physician, who was passionate about mental health, and open about some family members suffering from schizophrenia. Otto and Kuriansky launched an intensive campaign, with assistance of IAAP interns led by student Joel Zinsou, son of the Ambassador of Benin to the UN who was also head of the African Group at the time and very supportive of the campaign. Meetings were held with over 80 countries, and Otto and Kuriansky formed a "Group of Friends of Mental Health and Well-being" of supportive UN Member States, that continues to this day. Due in large part to their efforts, the word "Well-being" was included in the title of SDG 3, to read "Health and Well-being for all" and 5 words, "promote mental health and well-being" were included in target 3.4 (Forman, 2014). To support the message, a video was produced about youth and mental health with UN Ambassadors and young people speaking out (<https://bit.ly/2LYfxwG>). Many subsequent side events were held, including at many UN Commissions to continue the theme that "Mental health is at the Heart of the SDGs."

Significant activities of the IAAP team are organizing, speaking at, or moderating events (called "side events" to distinguish from government meetings), that have greatly expanded in number and become more elaborate over the years. These events happen coincident with UN conferences and important dates, including at annual UN Commissions (for Social Development and on the Status of Women), Forums (on Science, Technology and Innovation), and other important conferences (e.g., the Conference of the State Parties on the Convention for the Rights of Disabled Persons). These are increasingly organized with a larger number of sponsorships by UN member states, and other partners, like WHO and other UN-accredited NGOs.

All activities at the UN have escalated over recent years, to the point where IAAP is a very well-known and respected NGO by UN diplomats and by the extended UN community. Many events have increasingly included interesting elements, like mini dramas (e.g., about teen suicide); dramatic performances (by Indian dancers) original music videos produced by IAAP reps Russell Daisey and Kuriansky (e.g., "Hope is Alive" at: <http://bit.ly/2Yax1gz>), and video compilations on an important topic (<https://bit.ly/2lckQxg>). As the Ambassador of Hungary to the UN, HE Katalin Bogyay said, "I would never miss an event produced by Judy Kuriansky." This reputation has heightened the profile of all psychologists and of the field of psychology in the global agenda.

Over the years, IAAP reps have formed relationships with an increasing number of member state delegates. They also attend an increasing number of events at the UN, draft, and co-sponsor an increasing number of statements and policy recommendations; and represent IAAP on an increasing number of UN NGO Committees (Mental Health, Migration, the Family).



IAAP Officers and Reps at UN-related meetings: (1) Past-President Mike Knowles at UN DPI/NGO 2010 conference on Global Health in Melbourne in IAAP booth about Psychology for Global Health. (2) Symposium about the UN at 2017 European Congress of Psychology chaired by then-President Janel Gauthier. (3) IAAP's Gary Latham and Judy Kuranski with UN Representative for Angola Ismael Martins. (4) IAAP President Christine Roland-Lévy IAAP UN representatives at UN General Assembly 2019.

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

IAAP UN reps have also partnered on several multi-stakeholder field projects related to IAAP's mission and critical to issues faced by member states of the UN. For example, IAAP's Berry and Kuriansky co-developed a girls' empowerment camp to teach self-esteem and entrepreneurship (Berry, Kuriansky, Lytle & Vistman, 2013). See: <https://bit.ly/2t2Wk5N>. Other projects have addressed psychosocial support after natural disasters and epidemics like SARS and Ebola (Cohen, 2015; Jean-Charles, 2011; Kuriansky, 2016; Kuriansky, Margevich et al., 2017).

Collaboration with Other NGOs

IAAP increasingly collaborates with other Psychology NGOs at the UN, to pool resources and to escalate the reach of activities and accomplishments. To accomplish this, IAAP was instrumental in forming The Psychology Coalition of Accredited NGOs at the UN (PCUN) in 2011, with IAAP member Dr. Corann Okorodudu and UN rep Kuriansky serving as its first two Presidents. Membership has grown to over a dozen organizational professional groups. See: www.psychcoalition.org.

IAAP was also instrumental in the formation of Psychology Day at the UN, reported extensively in another article in this journal issue. In 2007, IAAP's Florence Denmark led a committee of psychology NGO UN representatives to plan the first *Psychology Day at the UN* conference to highlight the contributions of psychology science and practice to the UN, essentially fulfilling Michael Frese's dream. This conference has grown every year in visibility and importance in the UN community. IAAP representatives regularly serve in all positions.

Coincident with the UN's emphasis on youth, IAAP also partners very often with the UN Major Group for Children and Youth. Also, IAAP has also twice been elected to the NY board of CoNGO, the Committee of NGOs, a non-profit association to encourage working together and to facilitate participation in UN processes. Florence Denmark and Judy Kuriansky have represented IAAP in NY and Wolfgang Beiglboeck served two terms as Vice President in Vienna.

The UN New York Team Activities

The New York team of IAAP reps have been involved in every topic on the global agenda. These activities have been extensively reported in Volume 1, Issue 3 of this journal. They are summarized below as examples of accomplishments over years in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of IAAP.

Human rights is a guiding principle upon which the UN was founded, as promoted by Eleanor Roosevelt. The IAAP team has contributed to the promotion of human rights in many ways (Okorodudu, Walker, Kuriansky & Denmark, in press). In 2008, at the UN DPI/NGO conference held in UNESCO headquarters in Paris, Kuriansky co-organized a panel entitled "International Community Mental Health Education: Human Rights-based Grassroots and Professional Models," presentations from which contributed to a special edition co-edited for the *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, including ground-breaking worldwide models, of education, multicultural services to overcome disparities, and human rights skills-building.

Activities regarding **human rights of disabled persons** are reflected in the 2018 statement drafted by IAAP's Reichman, Kuriansky, Okorodudu and Denmark for the UN Commission for Social Development on "Reducing Poverty by Employing Individuals with Disabilities: Contributions of Psychological Research and Practice," posted on the official ECOSOC website (United Nations Economic and Social Council, 2018). Also in 2018, IAAP co-sponsored a powerful event at the UN, screening the film, *Jean Varnier: The Sacrament of Tenderness* about a humanitarian who set up homes for disabled persons, addresses by UN Ambassadors of France and Canada, and a panel moderated by Kuriansky that included the Executive Director of the World Health Organization (WHO) UN office in NY. IAAP's Kuriansky teamed with WHO the next year in 2019, for a side event coincident with the Conference of the State Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Disabled Persons, co-sponsored also by the Missions of Norway and Sierra Leone to the UN, and the United African Congress, with discussions

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

about innovative policy of community mental health services by the Mission of Georgia to the UN and poignant accounts of lived experiences from a young man about his depression and a WHO employee about this blindness (Kuriansky, 2019).

Poverty eradication was MDG #1 when IAAP was first accredited at the UN, and was maintained as SGD#1, indicating its priority at the UN. IAAP advocacy has always considered poverty integrally related to SDG 8, about decent work, a major focus of contributions by IAAP's rep Walter Reichman. At meetings, Reichman has highlighted the emerging field of Humanitarian Work Psychology in many UN presentations and in his edited book, *Industrial and Organizational Psychology Help the Vulnerable: Serving the Underserved*. Eradicating poverty is epitomized in the phrase used often at the UN, to "leave no one behind." Reports in the IAAP Bulletin in 2012 highlight psychology's contributions to poverty eradication (Cho, Lawson & Reichman, 2012). Also, in that year, IAAP co-sponsored a side event during a high-level meeting entitled "Leveraging Psychology to Eradicate Poverty by Promoting Decent Work," including results of a twitter survey by IAAP representative Janice Bloch that lack of decent work for persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder correlates with depression. At a 2017 side event, on "Decent Work as the Most Important Strategy for Poverty Eradication," panelists presented models of decent work worldwide, e.g., a leadership development program in South Africa and Project GLOW that fosters living wages.

In 2018, an IAAP-co-sponsored side event was organized by Kuriansky with the Mission of Sierra Leone to the UN, on "Achieving Poverty Eradication by Sustainable Health, Well-being and Education: The Case of Ebola in West Africa and other Epidemics and Infectious Diseases Worldwide," addressed the inter-linkage between poverty, health and education (SDGs 1, 3 and 4). Speakers included an impressive number of Missions as well as UN agencies (WHO, UNICEF), civil society (the United African Congress)

and testimonials from survivors "from the field." See the UN WebTV webcast, and report at <https://bit.ly/324KI1A>.

Health has gained increasing attention at the UN, from the focus on the MDGs on child and maternal health and HIV/AIDS and other diseases, to the extended targets in SDG3 on health and the adoption in 2019 of the Political Declaration on Universal Health Coverage (UAC). Consistent with the 1950s WHO tenet that "there is no health without mental health," the IAAP UN team currently collaborates with UN Missions and WHO to promote UHC. Kuriansky was a panelist about UHC at a 2019 CSW side event and was invited to join the Global Council on Health as part of the "SDGs in Action" initiative of the United Arab Emirates, now co-developing an innovative project ("Health in Your Hands") making health care accessible to those left furthest behind including using technology tools, that is another UN priority.

Mental Health and Well-being was a commitment of IAAP from 2004, when Michael Frese interacted with Marty Seligman, Ed Diener and Daniel Kahneman, convincing the United Nations Development Program to include a measure of life satisfaction in their 2011 development report. Since then, Kuriansky has taken up the mantle and plays a major role on behalf of IAAP and psychology NGOs, in all issues related to promoting mental health and well-being at the UN (Kuriansky, 2012a, 2012b). This advocacy has been very successful as the governments at the UN become increasingly aware of the importance of mental health. Prioritization of mental health now comes from the top echelons of the UN, with the Secretary-General's mandate for mental health to be included in staff health services, and with support by the Deputy Secretary-general and many other diplomats. Also, the "Friends of Mental Health and Well-being" founded by Ambassador Otto and Kuriansky is now co-chaired by the Missions of Canada, Belgium, Bahrain, and Ecuador, impressively representing regions of the world. In 2018, the group

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

formed a cooperation with Lady Gaga's Born This Way Foundation, given the singer/actress' longtime struggle with depression and anxiety.

Presentations about prioritizing mental health and well-being have been made by Kuriansky at many meetings, including in 2016 at the groundbreaking WHO/World Bank meeting, "Out of the Shadows: Making Mental Health a Global Development Priority" and at conferences worldwide, from Portugal to Moscow and Tehran. Also, missions have requested the counsel of the IAAP UN team, including about high rates of farmer suicide.

Many IAAP co-sponsored events continue Ambassador Otto's theme of "Mental health at the heart of the SDGs," co-organized and moderated by Kuriansky. These include three side events: (1) in 2016, a 3-hour event sponsored by the Missions of Palau and Canada in 2016, with presentations by ambassadors, WHO, NGOs, youth and IAAP's Reichman and Kuriansky, with performance of an original anthem "Happy People Happy Planet" (co-written by Kuriansky and IAAP rep Russell Daisey); (2) in 2017, on "Promoting Mental Health and Wellbeing for Youth as a Strategy for Social Integration and Eradication" during the 2017 UN Commission for Social Development, co-sponsored by the UN Missions of Belgium and Afghanistan, featuring NGO programs in Africa, Afghanistan and America, and an original play about youth depression; and (3) also in 2017, on "Artificial Intelligence and Technology Tools for Mental Health, Well-being and Resilience: Bridging the treatment gap in the cases of Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Hispanic workers in the USA and youth in humanitarian crises," sponsored by the UN Mission of Iraq with IAAP and the UN Major Group on Children and Youth, held in May during the Science Technology and Innovation (STI) Forum. See <http://bit.ly/2FnebZW>, <http://bit.ly/2CYJZXF>, <http://bit.ly/2mghjOH>, and also UN webcasts of all these events.

Awareness of stigma plaguing those with mental challenges is increasingly discussed at the UN. A UN

Forum on 17 December 2014, co-sponsored by IAAP with the Missions of Liberia, Guinea, Uganda, the United States and the Netherlands, addressed eradicating stigma and promoting psychosocial well-being and resilience in the face of the Ebola epidemic. Also, at the WHO's World Health Day on April 7, 2018 on the topic of "Depression, Let's Talk" panelist Kuriansky addressed 3 S's: stigma, silence, and shame (Billings, 2017). Bullying is also a concern. In 2017, IAAP co-sponsored a side event organized by the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-New York, moderated by IAAP's Kuriansky with a keynote address by the Deputy Ambassador of Mexico to the UN.

Happiness and well-being. The first annual celebration of the International Day of Happiness, mandated by a UN resolution to be held on 20 March, was in 2013, with a panel of Ambassadors and academicians. As an invited speaker, Kuriansky presented research on the topic. In 2016, IAAP co-sponsored a major impressive day-long event, including speeches by ambassador and experts, and many cultural performances, executive produced by Kuriansky (Luce, 2016). In 2017, she again presented at the March 20 event sponsored by the Mission of Iraq, and subsequently was invited to the Global Dialogue on Happiness and Well-being at the World Government Summit in Dubai, given the UAE's current leadership in this issue. In 2018, at the UAE celebration of the launch of the latest issue of the World Happiness Report, she was asked to organize tables of varied stakeholders, including ambassadors to students, to address the topics related to mental health.

Empowerment of Women and Girls. IAAP reps at the UN have always been involved in co-sponsoring side events and co-drafting statements related to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, now elaborated in SDG 5 -- and relevant to a new IAAP special project on women. Back in 2011, to support the efforts of UNWomen, the UN agency dedicated to women's issues, the IAAP representatives addressed the value of the transformational

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

management style of women for organizational success (Reichman, O'Neill Berry, Kuriansky & Denmark, 2011). Each year, IAAP reps organize events and write statements about varied aspects of gender equality for the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), an annual conference in March when thousands of women and some men gather at UN New York headquarters to discuss women's issues. These include in 2012, on "Transforming Communities through Psychosocial Empowerment of Poor Rural Women and Girls"; in 2014, celebrating projects of First Ladies of Africa (with performance of an original song "Every Woman Every Child" written by Kuriansky and Daisey coincident with the UN campaign of the same name (Billings, 2014); and in 2015 on "Women's Mental Health and Well-being in the Post 2015 Agenda" (Billings 2015). At CSW 2019, Kuriansky provided psychological perspectives at side events sponsored by the Mission of Trinidad and Tobago on "Challenges Women Face in Leadership Roles" and on "Exploring the linkages between SDGs 5, 11 and 16: Women's Access to Justice, Social Protection and Inheritance are key to achieving the SDGs".

IAAP reps have been awarded for their work regarding women's issues. In 2019, Florence Denmark received an award from the Association for Women in Psychology in March 2019, and Kuriansky received the Global Stakeholder Gender World award during CSW63 at a ceremony held at the Mission of Nigeria in 2019, as well as the 2010 Humanitarian Award from Voices of African Mothers.

Combatting Climate Change is SDG 13. The contributions of the IAAP representatives to this important issue centers on promoting psychosocial resilience in disaster risk reduction and recovery, consistent with the Sendai Framework call "To enhance recovery schemes to provide psychosocial support and mental health services for all people in need." This advocacy dates back to 2007, when Kuriansky went with a colleague to the UN conference about disaster risk reduction in Geneva. Since then, advocacy has continued with presentations and written and oral statements at UN World Conferences on Disaster

Risk Reduction in Sendai in 2015, Cancun in 2017, and Geneva in 2019, as well as through post-disaster trainings and workshops to foster psychosocial resilience, especially for children, e.g., in Haiti, Japan, Sint Maarten and Iran (Kuriansky, 2015, 2019b; Kuriansky, Margevich, Jean-Charles & Daisey, 2017; Masangkay, 2015). Presentations at these conferences have included videos. See: <https://bit.ly/2MALyw2> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=54Ucloy0x8o> and https://youtu.be/pVV1x7l_Ru8. Also, in response to the 2017 hurricane's mass destruction in the Caribbean islands, IAAP co-sponsored a panel of UN Ambassadors and survivors, where Kuriansky moderated and gave psychological perspectives.

Promoting Peace, SDG 16, is another pillar upon which the UN was founded in 1945. IAAP's UN team advocacy about peace is now in alignment with the IAAP Task Force on Terrorism and Peacebuilding. Advocacy efforts began as early as 2005 (in the early years of accreditation), at the UN DPI/NGO annual conference, on *Achieving collective security: Partnerships to prevent fear, violence, genocide and terrorism through targeting the MDG goals*. On the panel with the UN Ambassador of Rwanda, Kuriansky served as moderator and Walter Reichman was the discussant (Kuriansky, 2006). Another event in 2009, at the UN DPI/NGO conference in Mexico City, was on "Abolishing Tools of War and Creating Projects for Peace: Models of Citizen Activism for Psycho-social Health of Communities." In 2011, the IAAP panel at that year's DPI/NGO conference was on "Model Partnerships for Youth: Education, Business and Technology Projects to Further Peace, Well-being, Community Action and Resilience."

Advocacy statements also date back to the 2012 UN celebration of the Culture of Peace, about "Psychological Contributions to Building Cultures of Sustainable Peace."

In 2017, a public forum at Fordham University was co-sponsored by IAAP, entitled "How can the USA best deter world terrorism by better understanding and reducing 'radicalization' of 'homegrown'

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

terrorists?" The featured speaker was the former UN Ambassador of Iraq, HE Hamid Al-Bayati, who had led the opposition to Saddam Hussein and was tortured until he escaped. Kuriansky, also a speaker, had just edited his book on his experiences.

One way to achieve peace is through Interfaith Harmony. IAAP has co-sponsored events about interfaith harmony for peace, including in 2016 and 2019, at "World Interfaith Harmony Week" at the UN, co-sponsored by the United African Congress, other NGOs, and the UN Missions of Jamaica and Ethiopia, featuring panels of interfaith leaders and cultural performances. Another event on this theme was held in 2018 to celebrate the "World Day of Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development" (Billings, 2016; also see: <https://youtu.be/7lwJzAWGWok>).

The Environment. Given the focus on the Planet in the UN 2030 Agenda (as part of the 5 P's: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, Partnership), as well as the focus in IAAP's division 4 on Environmental Psychology, IAAP has participated in events at the UN relevant to SDG 14 "Life Below Water" and SDG 15 "Life on Land." Chapters in "Ecopsychology: The Intersection between Psychology and Environmental Protection" describe paradigm shifts in UN policy about nature and well-being, research presented at ICAP 2014 on pro-social behavior (PEB), and UN policies about the environment and climate change (Kuriansky, LeMay & Kumar, 2015; Nemeth, Kuriansky & Hamilton, 2015). Of particular concern lately in UN meetings is the suffocation of marine life by plastic disposal, at which IAAP reps bring up the psychological research about PEB.

Multi-stakeholder Partnerships are called for in SDG17. The IAAP UN team engages in many diverse partnerships, involving government, civil society, academia, and other stakeholders, as described throughout this article.

Migration and Refugees. With issues about these populations of grave concern for countries around the world and therefore on the UN agenda, IAAP reps

have participated on this topic. Advocacy on this issue dates back to 2010, to a report by UN representative Martin Butler at a United Nations University Programme about "high value" migrants (entrepreneurs, scholars, and cultural talent), and to side events in 2012 and in 2013 including about vulnerabilities of children, for the UN Commission on Population and Development. On a panel at the European Congress of Psychology in 2017, Kuriansky presented about "Psychosocial Intervention during a Medical Mission for Syrian Refugee Children in Jordan: Lessons Learned."

During negotiations for the UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, Kuriansky participated actively with the NGO Committee on Migration (NGO CoM), promoting mental health and wellbeing and respecting culture and traditions, and was on the committee advocating with UN missions, including the Russian Federation, the UK, Lebanon, India and Pakistan. In 2018, she and IAAP youth rep Khawla Nasser alDeen were invited to attend the Global Forum on Migration and Development 2-day Civil Society meetings and Government Day, in Marrakesh, Morocco, leading up to the governments' adoption of the Compact. Subsequent to this adoption, in 2019, the Group of Friends of Migration, consisting of UN member states, invited Kuriansky and two other psychologists to present to the group about the psychological issues of migration; with the members expressing great interest and understanding for the first time of the important emotional issues in migration. Further, IAAP was a signatory of the final "Joint Civil Society Statement" submitted to the co-facilitators.

Generational Issues. IAAP's Denmark, a President of IAAP Division of Applied Gerontology, holds leadership positions in the NGO Committee on Aging and organizes the International Day of Older Persons. With youth increasingly emphasized at the UN, Kuriansky has collaborated with the UN Major Group of Children and Youth, doing workshops at the World Conferences on Disaster Risk Reduction, co-organizing UN panels and co-writing statements, e.g., on

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

“Integrating Mental Health Care into Primary Health Care” presented at the 2018 Global Conference on Primary Health Care in Kazakhstan. Also, a video about “Youth and UN Ambassadors speak out” about mental health was produced by Kuriansky and IAAP youth rep Zinsou. Workshops have also been held annually at the DPI/NGO conferences, e.g., in 2014 on “Promoting Mental Health and Wellbeing for Youth in the New Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda: Psychological Principles, Science and Practices” and in 2018 on “Youth using technology and the arts to tackle global problems and insure resilience of cities and citizens through civil society and government partnership.”

Further, IAAP youth interns actively participate on the team, affording them much international experience. They have participated in UN meetings and IAAP projects, presented at ICAPs and UN conferences, co-authored book chapters (e.g., on nature and well-being; and written reports for the IAAP UN website. For the 2017 DPI/NGO conference in Korea, youth reps Joel Zinsou, Paul Harrington, Monica Kim and Quyen Nguyen described their lessons learned, e.g., how to approach high-level officials. Zinsou has edited many videos about IAAP (posted on YouTube). Starting in 2007 and continuing for many years, building on her veteran television news and broadcasting career, Kuriansky ran a newsroom, directing the UN International Student Journalism Program, where students from around the world were selected to be part of a team doing reports in all media about the UN DPI/NGO conferences, e.g., in Paris, Mexico, and Melbourne (Kuriansky, 2011).

Courses on “Psychology and the United Nations” are offered by Denmark at Pace University and by Kuriansky at Columbia University Teachers College. Students join IAAP’s student division, and report on UN events. At a UN meeting with the highest-level UN officials, students who attended were publicly acknowledged and invited to meet the President of the General Assembly in her office. See: <https://www.tc.columbia.edu/articles/2019/september/>

[united-nations-welcomes-tc-students/](#)

Financing the agenda. Financing for development (FfD) is a major issue at the UN, with a current focus on innovative financing, highlighting how psychology needs to become more involved in this area. In 2018, Kuriansky moderated a panel in Georgia about civil society at the “Tbilisi International Solidarity and Innovative Financing Forum.”

2019: A Big Year of Activities for IAAP at the UN

The United Nations General Assembly

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) is an annual unique forum held in September in the UN New York headquarters when the governments and NGOs of the world come together for plenaries and many meetings. An extensive guide of events is at: <https://ungaguide.com/>. In 2019, IAAP was well represented by UN rep Kuriansky and her students attending events, speaking on panels, and organizing a major side event on health described below. There were more meetings at this year’s UNGA related to mental health than previously, reflecting the increasing attention to this topic and successful efforts of all the mental health advocates in raising this profile.

UN Summit on Universal Health Coverage

On a long-awaited day, 23 September 2019, during the UN General Assembly week, world leaders from over 165 countries gathered at the UN headquarters in New York to express commitment to the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Political Declaration. The Declaration outlines agreements to provide citizens with access to affordable health coverage, in alignment with health-related goals and targets of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The document reaffirms the need for a comprehensive and people-centered approach with integration in primary health care, and the importance of strong political will, all adapted for each country’s own situation. Important for IAAP is that the first paragraph refers to

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

mental health, reaffirming “the right of every human being, without distinction of any kind, to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.” IAAP’s Kuriansky had strongly advocated for this inclusion and was told these efforts were influential in the negotiations.

At the meeting, UN SG Guterres said, “Health is at the center of the agenda.” WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros asked all countries to invest at least 1% of their GDP, saying, “UHC is a moral as well as an economic imperative,” that “Health is not a cost but an imperative.” In their statements, Finland mentioned mental health, and the Netherlands noted that mental health and psychosocial support (consistent with their hosting of an upcoming meeting on this topic, mentioned below in this article). Some country statements referred to sexual and reproductive health, eliciting applause from the attendees, including Finland, Ecuador, the EU, Netherlands (on behalf of 54 countries, including Nepal, Tunisia, El Salvador, Uruguay, Colombia, Denmark, New Zealand/Australia. Other relevant mentions were by Palau about obesity, Samoa about gender-based violence (GBV), and about happiness by Bhutan (who promoted this this measurement to replace GDP since 1973) and India, whose representative said, “May all be happy.” Considering IAAP’s participation in the Ebola Coalition, with planned intervention in Democratic Republic of the Congo, consistent with IAAP’s co-sponsorship of many UN events about the 2014-2015 outbreak, it was important to note that Zambia’s representative said “Ebola threatens us all,” echoing WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros’ comment that, “Ebola is a symbol of a larger crisis...lack of access to health care... [need for] strengthening health systems.

UN Summit on Climate Change

The UN Summit on Climate Change occurred on the same day, September 23, as the UHC Summit described above, coupled with two pre-summit conference days. At the Climate Summit, countries made commitments to climate action, consistent with SDG 13. Over a prior day-long meeting, on 22 September,

countries described their projects. Also, “on 21 September 2019, the First Youth Climate Summit took place, with youth action leaders from over 140 countries sharing ideas, initiatives and pledges for action.

Time to Act on Mental Health Event

The Blue Print Group, initiated by United for Mental Health, has been a loosely knit organization bringing together mental health advocates since 2018. The side event they organized in 2018 during the UN General Assembly stressed urgently that now is the “Time to Act” on mental health. Kuriansky was invited to make a closing statement at that event. Their 2019 UNGA evening event focused on Mental Health for All demonstrated the growing global demand for attention to mental health and spotlighted governments and individuals leading the way, especially those with lived experience. The impressive group of speakers included the Queen Mathilde of Belgium (who advocates strongly about mental health and for whom IAAP’s Kuriansky has helped organize some briefings); the Deputy Secretary-General Amine Mohammed, who for the first time shared mental health issues in her family that increase her commitment to the issue; the newly appointed President of the General Assembly, and WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros. Actor Robin Williams’ son, Jake Williams, shared his personal struggles with anxiety and depression, similar to his father’s, showing courage to speak out for the first time on this evening. The health ministers of Norway and of the Netherlands committed to mental health. And the cast of the Broadway play *Dear Evan Hansen* performed, given that story centers around a main character on the autism spectrum. The event inspired a global call to action through the [Speak Your Mind](#) campaign, that has brought together young change-makers from 15 countries around the world to highlight global mental health challenges and drive solutions in their own countries.

Side Event Including the SDG3 Global Council on Health

At a side event sponsored by the United Arab Emirates, members of the Global Councils (a group of

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

experts) focused on various SDGs, as part of the UAE initiative “SDGs in Action” launched at the World Government Summit in Dubai in 2017, presented progress on their projects. This included chairs of the global councils on SDG16 (peace), SDG11 (sustainable cities), and SDG1 (poverty). Kuriansky and her co-founder of the project adopted by the Global Council on SDG3 on Health, called “Health in Your Hands” described progress in identifying innovations that reach those at the last mile, and “left furthest behind”, consistent with the popular UN phrase. The UAE announced the EXPO 2020 project in Dubai with exhibits from around the world that profile solving the world’s problems.

First Lady of Sierra Leone Luncheon

An exclusive luncheon at the St Regis Hotel featured First Lady of Sierra Leone, Mme. Fatima Maada Bio, joined by her husband, the President, and attended by other First Ladies of African countries and the First Lady of Turkey and invited guests. WHO’s Dr Tedros made an opening address, noting the laudable value of the First Lady’s project. The First Lady discussed her project #HandsOffOurGirls, against child marriage and rape, and touched the hearts of all the attendee’s when sharing her personal story about being pledged as a child bride, but escaping to the UK.

IAAP Co-Sponsored Side Event on SDG 3 and UHC

This high-level meeting addressed “Achieving SDG 3 And Universal Health Coverage: Innovative Projects, Policies And Financing Models To Reach Those Left Furthest Behind” with an extremely impressive program of high-level ambassadorial statements and panels from three perspectives: policy, programs and financing. The event was sponsored by the Mission of Sierra Leone to the UN with the Office of the First Lady, and co-sponsored by an impressive group of Missions, including the United Arab Emirates, Canada, China, and Cuba, as well as WHO, the UAE Global Councils, the NGO, the United African Congress, PCUN, Mission & Co from the private sector, and of

course IAAP. IAAP’s Kuriansky took the lead in the organization, and served as moderator. Comments were also offered from the Deputy Permanent Representative of the Mission of Japan to the UN and the Ambassador of Trinidad and Tobago to the UN, HE Penelope Beckles. Deputy Executive Director of the WHO Office at the United Nations Werner Obermeyer set the stage about the importance of health in the agenda. The First Lady of Sierra Leone gave a heartfelt description of the health needs in her country, and the proposed Maada Bio Medical Center and the Medical Centre Project for the Mano River Union, further elaborated by the co-chairs from Istanbul Okan University in Turkey and from Howard University School of Medicine.

High level statements were given by the Ambassador of Canada HE Marc-André Blanchard, HE Ambassador Mr. Wu Haitao, Deputy Permanent Representative of the People’s Republic of China to the UN, Her Excellency Hessa Bint Essa Buhumaid, Minister of Community Development, Mission of the United Arab Emirates to UN, Mission of Cuba to the United Nations, Ambassador Anayansi Rodríguez Camejo, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba; and Mr. Jorge CastelBranco Soares, Counselor, Mission of Portugal to the United Nations. The Director of the Office of Innovations from UNAIDS, Pradeep Kakkattil, interviewed the Minister of Health and Sanitation of The Republic of Sierra Leone, Dr. Alpha Tejan-Wurrie.

Innovation is a very popular topic at the UN. In the innovative financing segment, impressive partnerships were presented. Dr. Jemilah Mahmood, Under Secretary General for Partnerships at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and Amine Hillal, Lead Alternative Development Finance, Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group described the WASH Fund) to combat cholera and other diarrheal diseases. Irene Koek, from the Bureau for Global Health described their partnership with the Utkrisht Development Impact Bond for maternal and child health. Dr. Mariam Jashi, Chair of the

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

Education, Science and Culture Committee of Parliament of Georgia, described financing, relevant to her country's former role as President of the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development.

Innovative programs presented at the event included The Ethio-American Doctors Group building an EADG Healthcare City Centre in Ethiopia described by: Dr. Mohammed Nurhusein; the "SDGs in Action" and Global Councils initiative described by Dr. Radheya AlHashmi, Director of the Policy Impact Department in the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs and the Future, Prime Minister's Office of the United Arab Emirates; and the "Health In Your Hands" initiative, of which IAAP is a partner, with Dr. Shariha Khalid Erichsen, Managing Partner of Mission & Co, introducing Innovations For The Last Mile, an example of which was described by Dr. Ruth Ngechu, Deputy Country Director of Living Goods, in Kenya. Also, the team of the Ebola Coalition for Health Education and Psychosocial Support project to help those suffering from the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone was described by the United Africa Congress (Gordon Tapper), Friends of the Congo (Bibi Ndala) and HaltEbola (Pastor Kaser-eka Kasomo).

The UN has a complicated relationship with the **private sector**, needing its partnership for development but also being wary of motives. In the spirit of multi-stakeholder partnerships exemplified in this event, a representative of the private sector was invited. Chris Gray, Senior Director, Global Health & Patient Access for Pfizer, delivered the Joint Private Sector Statement on UHC. Also, a representative of the SDGs in Action Finance Cluster, Dr. Claire Bro-lan, from the Centre for Policy Futures, University of Queensland, Australia spoke about research. Commentary was also given by the Global Focal Point for SDG3 in the UN Major Group for Children and Youth, who works on health policy, Lucy Fagan, as well as the Disability Coordinator at the Embassy of the Republic of Sierra Leone in Washington D.C., Mr. Joseph Y. Fofanah and Sierra Leone Youth Delegate Isaac Bayoh. The event started with a music video of

an original song, called "Honor Our Girls" written by IAAP reps Kuriansky and Russell Daisey.

Noting the impressive group assembled and the inspiring projects described, HE Ambassador Sidique Wai, Ambassador of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the United States, called for ongoing discussions and partnerships.

Other UNGA events

Innumerable events are held during the UNGA period, that IAAP's Kuriansky attended. Of particular interest were the events sponsored by the Mission of Bahrain to the UN that centered on inter-religious tolerance and harmony, under the umbrella theme of "This is Bahrain," which Kuriansky attended, especially given two important connections as important foundations for IAAP's partnership with Bahrain. First, Bahrain is one of the four countries that are co-Presidents of the Group of Friends of Mental Health and Well-being, which Kuriansky is a founder and advisor. Also, the topic is consistent with IAAP's commitment at the UN to the topic of interfaith harmony, in annual co-sponsorship of a major event during World Interfaith Harmony Week at the UN. See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lwJzAWGWOk>. At a gala reception in the delegates dining room at UN headquarters, HE Ambassador Jamal Al Rowaiei further outlined the country's dedication to world peace and harmony. And at a gala evening at Cipriani's, their innovative project was described to engage youth.

Mental Health in the Workplace: Advances and Webinar for the UN

The UN is a complex organization that employs 44,000 people around the world. In 2015, the United Nations became concerned about the mental health of their employees and conducted a survey of employees' concerns. Shockingly, 49% of employees responded that they had mental health issues, including extreme stress, major depression, PTSD, and abusive drinking. In addition, the longer they worked at the UN, the more severe were their mental health

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

concerns. UN Secretary-General António Guterres responded by commissioning a group of experts to design a 5-year plan to reduce mental health issues at the UN and help those with problems. This plan is in the early stages of implementation. IAAP's Reichman made excellent connections with the UN team and specifically with the Global Lead for Mental Health at the United Nations, Therese Fitzpatrick. As a result, Reichman was subsequently invited to attend a planning meeting with members of a committee of UN employees representing various divisions of the Secretariat and related organizations, such as UNICEF. Reichman presented himself as an organizational psychologist and a member of IAAP with interests and concerns for the mental health of UN employees. At their request, he organized a change management committee to help the UN bring about organizational change that they believe is implicated in the mental health issues of employees. This holds great promise to perform an immense service to the UN by bringing Reichman's knowledge, with the knowledge of all UN-affiliated psychologists, to improve the mental health of UN employees. See the UN website at: <https://www.un.org/en/healthy-workforce/>

In another positive outcome, Reichman was invited to put together a team to conduct a live webinar, which took place on World Mental Health Day, October 10. IAAP's Walter Reichman and Judy Kuriansky, along with ICP's UN rep Leslie Popoff, shared the hour-long presentation time, with power points delivered for United Nations staff worldwide twice, to accommodate employees in different time zones. Their respective presentations covered common stresses in the workplace, ways to cope with common stress, and what to do when stress gets more extreme.

Conference on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Crisis Situations

The recent International Conference on Mental

Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) in Crisis Situations, "Mind the Mind" held in Amsterdam October 7-8, 2019, brought together MHPSS experts, policymakers, ministers, donors and people with lived experience, to commit to make mental health and PSS an integral part of the humanitarian response in crisis and emergency situations. This conference was a follow-up to the First Ministerial Conference on Mental Health held in London last October. Countries making commitments to psychosocial support included Uganda, Denmark, Sweden, Italy, and the EU, as well as representatives from USAID, the IFRC and other civil society groups. Princess Mabel van Oranje described her program about prevention of violence against women, specifically child marriage and rape (similar to the First Lady of Sierra Leone, who sponsored the UNGA side event IAAP co-sponsored, mentioned above. Countries representative described their experiences, in Syria, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Uganda. NGOs described their projects for PSS, including WarChild, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The WHO Mental Health Forum

The WHO Mental Health Forum is an annual event for Member States, UN Agencies, NGOs, development agencies, philanthropic foundations, research institutes, universities and WHO Collaborating Centres, to come together in coordinated action to implement the mhGAP-WHO's Programme to scale up care for mental, neurological and substance use disorders. It is also intended to learn updates on WHO's General Programme of Work and the latest initiatives about mental health from governments, civil society and WHO. The 2-day meeting at WHO headquarters in Geneva, 14-15 October 2019, attended by Kuriansky, was themed, "Enhancing Country Action on Mental Health." The conference included High-Level Segments, with Member States making commitments to mental health and countries (e.g., Lebanon and

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

Peru) presenting how they are implementing the WHO tools. Also, resources were announced for suicide prevention and a new the mhGAP Community Toolkit was launched, aimed at increasing and facilitating country action and implementation of mental health. Breakout sessions (called “consultations” discussed WHO’s development of a minimum standards package for mental health (led by Inka Weissbecker, a psychologist who has been on many of our IAAP panels at the UN); guidance for countries in suicide prevention (“LIVE LIFE”); description of a planned project, EQUIP (Ensuring Quality in Psychosocial Support); implantation guidance on ICD11, and an integrated approach to Brain Health.

Ebola Forum

Given IAAP’s participation in the Ebola Coalition, focused on the double trauma of the Ebola outbreak and the escalated violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, IAAP’s Judy Kuriansky was a speaker at the panel on Ebola on October 19 held at the “Congo in Harlem” week-long film and event series at Maysles Cinema in Harlem, New York. The panel of impressive experts presented updates of the ongoing response to the epidemic, ways the Congolese Diaspora is helping, and plans for a psychosocial intervention. Moderated by Gordon Tapper, President of the United African Congress (a frequent partner of IAAP in planning UN events), speakers included WHO’s Fatima Khan, Ms. Mary Choi from the CDC, and Ms. Lys Alcayna Stevens, Research Fellow at Harvard Anthropology Department with commentary by Bib Ndala from the Friends of Congo and Dr. Tamar Tchelidze who co-drafted the Universal Health Coverage Political Declaration. The event can be viewed on youtube at: <https://vimeo.com/373416580>.

Policy on Mental Health and Climate Change

In a historical step forward, a policy about “Addressing the impact of climate change on mental health” was voted on and adopted on November 4, 2019, by the American Public Health Association in Philadelphia

at its annual meeting. It was co-authored by three members of the Mental Health Section of APHA, Jennifer Magnabosco, Dr. Judy Otto (Ambassador Otto’s wife with whom we have collaborated on many UN events) and Kuriansky. It includes an intensive review of evidence-based research supporting the issue, and recommendations. The first of its kind policy serves as a foundation for APHA’s new center on climate change, as well as for our IAAP advocacy about the interface of climate change and mental health.

The Geneva Team

IAAP representation to the UN offices in Geneva started in 2006, with the appointment of the current representatives Drs. Lichia Yiu and Raymond Saner. Geneva is the headquarters of 40 UN agencies and 400 think tanks and international NGOs, including the World Health Organization (WHO), UNAIDS, the UN High Commission for Human Rights and Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC); and others addressing peace, security and disarmament, labor, trade, science and telecommunication, and environment and sustainable development.

The Geneva team has organized events for the World Trade Organization on trade and tourism development, arranged a conference on living wage during the International Labour Conference, helped developing countries understand eligibility for technical assistance with the International Telecommunication Union; advocated for disaggregated data; and promoted corporate citizenship and the protection of migrants. Saner serves as co-chair of the Academic Friends of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and now is passionately involved in collaboration with the Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People in advocating for a Convention on the Rights of Older Persons.

Going forward, the Geneva team aims to submit more position papers at key conferences to promote defining human development beyond wealth to include other values, and to place humans at the

IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

center of development, thus increasing policy space for the engagement of applied psychologists.

The Vienna Team

IAAP representation started in Vienna in 2006, with only one representative, Dr. Wolfgang Beiglböeck, but expanded in 2017 to more reps and an intern. While a smaller UN headquarters, Vienna is nevertheless the seat of important UN offices, including the UN Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Success was made in 2016, working with the UNODC, when the team's suggestions to include terms "scientific evidence, primary prevention, treatment, care, and rehabilitation" were included in the Political Plan adopted by the special session of the UN General Assembly on narcotic drugs. Also, significantly, the team was invited by UNIDO (that promotes industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization, and the environment) to present an awareness session for its staff, and IAAP rep Eva Hoffman presented on "How Applied Psychology Can Support UNIDO's Goals." Further, Beiglböeck organized three major events at UNOV promoting the contribution of NGOs to the SDGs and exploring the contribution of NGOs to overcome challenges of current migration flows.

The Vienna team intends to expand cooperation with other UN offices in Vienna, by increasing work on the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development. Also, plans have been drawn up to establish an NGO Committee on Youth Issues in Vienna.

The Way Forward

The IAAP UN team has increasingly been encouraging Divisions and members to be involved in the UN work, by holding sessions at major international conferences and sending out messages to division Presidents. Members can contribute to the UN team's work by becoming familiar with the UN system through websites of the UN, ECOSOC and DGC/NGO section, and UN agencies and Commissions; thinking about how their work as applied psychologists applies to UN issues; participating in local events on major UN International Days (e.g., the International Day of Happiness on 20 March, and the International Day of Universal Health Coverage on 12 December); honing skills in advocacy, policy and innovative financing; and offering expertise and experiences to the IAAP UN team about work that intersects with the UN, by contacting: WalterReichman@gmail.com.

Significant advances have been made regarding mental health at the UN and prioritizing mental health in the agenda. Given this context, and the accomplishments by the IAAP UN teams outlined in this article and extensively described in Volume 1 Issue 3 of this APAW journal, the team intends to keep making contributions on all these topics and in all these ways. More psychologists need to get involved. More young professionals need to learn advocacy skills to join international efforts to achieve the global goals and to further promote mental health and well-being. The future looks bright for applied psychology having a substantial impact for the good of peoples worldwide.

References

- Berry, M.O., Kuriansky, J. Lytle, M. and Vistman, B. (2013). Entrepreneurial training for girls' empowerment in Lesotho: A process evaluation of a model programme. *South African Journal of Psychology*. 43:4, pp. 446 - 458.
- Billings, R. (2014). Commission On the Status of Women: Projects of the First Ladies of Africa: Advancing the MDGs, 11 March 2014. *BlackTie Magazine*. Accessed March 1, 2019 at: http://blacktiemagazine.com/society_march_2014/commission_on%20the_status_of_women.htm
- Billings, R. (2015). Women's Mental Health and Wellbeing in the Post 2015 Agenda" at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. *Blacktie Magazine*. Accessed August 21, 2018 at: http://blacktiemagazine.com/society_2015_march/Women_Mental_Health_and_Wellbeing_in_the_post_2015_agenda.htm
- Billings, R. (2016). The World Interfaith Harmony Week, Annual Observance Week February 1-7, 2016. *Blacktie Magazine*. Retrieved January 1, 2018 from: http://blacktiemagazine.com/rose-billings/World_Interfaith_Harmony_Week_2016.htm#sthash.TkkS9hXQ.dpuf
- Billings, R. (2017). World Health Day. *Blacktie Magazine*. Accessed August 21, 2018 at: http://blacktiemagazine.com/rose-billings/World_Health_Day.htm
- Cho, A., Lawson, E. and Reichman, W. (2012). Caucus and advocacy of the Psychology NGOs accredited at the UN on "Psychological Contributions to Empowerment for the Eradication of Poverty." *The IAAP Bulletin of the International Association of Applied Psychology* 24: 2-3. Part 9. p.60-64.
- Forman, A. (2014, October 9). Five words that can change the world. *Jewish Journal*. Accessed August 24, 2018 at: <http://boston.forward.com/articles/185615/five-words-that-can-change-the-world/>
- Cohen, B. (2015, February 9). How a New York Psychologist and an Israeli Humanitarian Organization Are Helping Sierra Leone Stand Up to Ebola. *Algemeiner*. Accessed August 24, 2018 at: <http://www.algemeiner.com/2015/02/09/how-a-new-york-psychologist-and-an-israeli-humanitarian-organization-are-helping-sierra-leone-stand-up-to-ebola-interview/>
- Frese, M. (2018, June). Personal communication at the International Conference of Applied Psychology, Montreal, Canada, June 26-30, 2018.
- Jean-Charles, W. (2011). Rebat: After the earthquake, the IAAP UN team continues to remember Haiti. *The IAAP Bulletin of the International Association of Applied Psychology*, 23, January 1–2/March, 2011.
- Kuriansky, J. (2006, January). Workshop on "Achieving collective security: Partnerships to prevent fear, violence, genocide and terrorism through targeting the MDG goals." In: Report on UN Midday Workshop presented at the 58th United Nations DPI/NGO Conference, Our Challenge: Voices for Partnerships and Renewal. *The International Association of Applied Psychology Newsletter*. 18: 1, p 5-6.
- Kuriansky, J. (2011). The International Student Journalism Program at the annual UN Conference: Overview and Outcomes. *The IAAP Bulletin of the International Association of Applied Psychology*. Issue 23: 1-2 January/March, 2011. <http://www.new.iaapsy.org/uploads/newsletters/April2011.pdf> pp.51-53
- Kuriansky, J. (2012a). Advocacy About Psychological Contributions to the Global Agenda at the United Nations: Preliminary Experiences, Case Studies and Lessons Learned About Principles, Procedures and Process. *International Psychology Bulletin*. 16: 3. pp. 46-60.
- Kuriansky, J. (2012b). Well being: An Important Issue at the United Nations and for the International Association of Applied Psychology. *Bulletin of the International Association of Applied Psychology*, 24: 2-3 July/October, Part 10, 64-70.
- Kuriansky, J. (2015a). DrJudy Kuriansky: Statement at World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Sendai Japan 2015 [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://bit.ly/2JS6Ao2>
- Kuriansky, J. (2016). The United Nations and Psychology Non-government Organizations Respond to Ebola. In J. Kuriansky (Ed.) (2016). *The Psychosocial Aspects of a Deadly Epidemic: What Ebola Has Taught Us about Holistic Healing*. Santa Barbara, California: ABC-CLIO/Praeger.

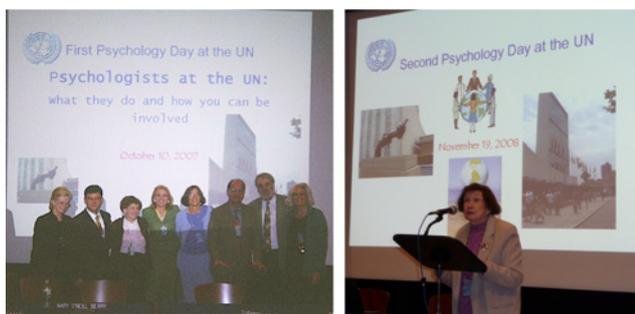
IAAP at the UN: Past, Present, and Future cont.

- Kuriansky, J. (2019a). Disability Rights Promoted at the United Nations. Black Star News. Retrieved from <http://www.blackstarnews.com/global-politics/others/disability-rights-promoted-at-the-united-nations.html>
- Kuriansky, J. (2019b, May 10). Sint Maarten Dr. Judy's Trauma Training for children coping - Global Connections TV 2019 [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://youtu.be/pV-V1x7l-Ru8>
- Kuriansky, J., LeMay, M. & Kumar, A. (2015). Paradigm Shifts in Nature and Well-being: Principles, Programs, and Policies about the Environment and Climate Change with Actions by the United Nations for a Sustainable Future." In Nemeth, D.G., and Kuriansky, J. (Eds., Volume 11: Interventions and Policy). *Ecopsychology: Advances in the Intersection of Psychology and Environmental Protection*, Santa Barbara, California: ABC-CLIO/Praeger.
- Kuriansky, J., Margevich, A., Jean-Charles, W., & Daisey, R. (2017). Resilience and Recovery in Natural Disasters and Epidemics: Comparisons, Challenges, and Lessons Learned from Train-the-Trainer Projects. In: G. Rich & S. Sirikantraporn (Eds.) *Human Strengths and Resilience: Developmental, Cross-Cultural, and International Perspectives*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- Luce, J. (2016, March 29). Jumping for Joy. Huffington Post. Jumping for Joy: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jim-luce/jumping-for-joy-happiness_b_9566064.html
- Masangkay, M. (2015). Psychologist Connects Disaster-affected Children Around the World. Japan Times. Retrieved August 24, 2015 from <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2015/03/23/national/psychologist-connects-disaster-affected-children-around-the-world/#.WIKcemEbMyk>
- Nemeth, D.G., Kuriansky, J. & Hamilton, R. (2015) (Eds., Volume 11: Interventions and Policy). *Ecopsychology: Advances in the Intersection of Psychology and Environmental Protection*, Santa Barbara, California: ABC-CLIO/Praeger.
- Okorodudu, C., Kuriansky, J., Walker, P. & Denmark, F. (in press). A Historical Narrative of Psychology Engaging Human Rights within the Framework of the United Nations. In N. Ruben, R. Flores and T. Ober, *Cambridge Handbook of Psychology and Human Rights*, London: Cambridge University Press.
- Reichman, W., O'Neill Berry, M. Kuriansky, J. & Denmark, F. (2011) A Contribution of Psychology to UN Women: Women and Organizational Leadership. *International Psychology Bulletin*. Vol. 15, No. 2, Spring. Pp.61-63. https://internationalpsychology.files.wordpress.com/2013/01/ipb_spring_2011-04-16-1-forrv-9-28-2011.pdf
- United Nations Economic and Social Council (2018). Reducing Poverty by Employment of Persons with Disabilities: Contributions of Psychological Research and Practice. E/CN.5/2018/NGO/30. Statement submitted to the Commission for Social Development. Accessed August 24, 2018 at: <http://mental-health-russia.ru/uploads/documents/Statement.pdf>

Psychology Day at the United Nations: Highlighting the Role of Psychology in Global Affairs

Walter Reichman and Judy Kuriansky, Main Representatives at the UN in NY

All the global problems addressed at the United Nations – from poverty eradication to achieving gender equality, disaster recovery, and peace -- relate to psychology in some way, and the theory, science and practice of psychology can make valuable contributions to the solutions to these problems. For this reason, psychologists representing non-governmental organizations (NGOs) accredited at the United Nations sponsor a major day-long conference annually at the United Nations in New York City, entitled “Psychology Day at the UN.” The International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) has played a major role in the organization and production of this Psychology Day every year since its inception in 2007.



First and Second Psychology Days at the UN, 2007 and 2008

“Psychology Day at the United Nations,” as the conference is called, is one of the most important contributions of psychologists to the interactions of our field with delegates and other stakeholders at the



United Nations (UN). Each year the NGO psychological associations accredited to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the UN and/or affiliated with the Department of Global Communications (DGC)³ collaborate to produce this Day.

The purpose of the event is to offer UN staff, ambassadors and diplomats, NGOs, members of the private and public sectors, students, invited experts, guests, media and other stakeholders, the opportunity to learn how psychological theory, science, and practice contributes to the UN agenda, and to exchange ideas and establish partnerships on global issues.

3 The Non- Governmental Organizations involved with Psychology Day include: the International Association of Applied Psychology; American Psychological Association; International Council of Psychology; Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues; Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology; Association for Trauma, Outreach and Prevention; European Health Psychology Society; Institute for Multicultural Counseling and Educational Services; Norwegian Psychological Association; World Council for Psychotherapy.

Psychology Day at the UN cont.

The NGOs who organize the Day come from varied specialties in the field, similar to the division membership of IAAP, e.g., clinical, educational, industrial/organizational, social, developmental, community and counseling. Students who are interns to the NGOs are also included. The psychologists have experience working with the UN, having participated in committees, and working groups on the various topics addressed at the UN, such as human rights, migration, women's empowerment, poverty reduction and decent work, education, the family, aging, climate change, and disaster recovery. They have also developed, sponsored, and participated in "side events" (conferences) presented at the UN throughout the year and during UN Commission meetings (e.g., the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on the Status of Women, and Forums on Indigenous Rights and Disability Rights). The psychologists are familiar with experts in the field of psychology and related disciplines, as well as high-level representatives and in the UN system, to be able to propose them as speakers to participate in Psychology Day.

The organizing team meets monthly throughout the year, supported by Sub-Committees on Administration, Finance, Logistics and Mission Outreach, Program, and Publicity. The event is financed by contributions from the NGO, at various levels they voluntarily contribute, with those with larger memberships usually donating more.

Each year the topic for the event is selected to be relevant to an issue being addressed by the 193 UN Member Nations (governments). The issues always relate now to the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development with its 17 goals. The planning team then reviews potential topics/themes; with the being selection by consensus; the date is set, to not conflict with other large events happening at the UN; prospective speakers are reviewed, agreed upon, and invited with back-up speakers approached as needed; and locations are selected for meeting and the reception.

The team representing IAAP at the UN has played a major role in this entire process over all the years since the Day's beginning. IAAP team members have served on all of the planning committees, and have also been panelists or moderators. For example, Walter Reichman was co-chair of Psychology Day in 2014 about "Psychology and Global Violence: Antecedents, Consequences, and Prevention" and moderated the panel in 2018 on "Climate Change: Psychological Interventions Promoting Mitigation and Adaptation." He is also involved with a host of administrative tasks. Judy Kuriansky has been a speaker in the Psychology Day about disaster recovery, serves on committees, annually writes the press release, and invites UN Ambassadors and high-level delegates she knows well to participate. Mary O'Neil Berry has co-chaired the event and taken responsibility for preparing the programs for distribution. Judy Kuriansky's students in her class on "Psychology and the United Nations" at Columba University Teachers College always attend and assist in the logistics during the day. IAAP has also been a significant financial contributor to the event.

IAAP Presidents have also attended during their term. Janel Gauthier came from Canada into the meeting on disaster recovery, and Christine Roland-Lévy came in 2019 for the 12th Annual Psychology Day at the UN that focused on the contributions of psychology towards global gender equality, aptly titled, "The Time is Now: Psychological Contributions to Global Gender Equ{al}ity".

The Day has usually occurred during the Spring. The 13th Psychology Day is being planned to take place during the **World Psychology Week** in Spring, 2020.

Member States have always served as the official "sponsor" of the Day, giving their support by attending the event and making a statement, as well as lending their official logo to the announcements and invitations. The Mission of the Republic of Palau has been a long-standing supporter in this role, especially given the commitment to mental health of

Psychology Day at the UN cont.

then-Ambassador of the UN Mission of Palau, Dr. Caleb Otto, especially with his career as a public health physician, and due to his partnership with IAAP's Judy Kuriansky in successfully advocating for the inclusion of mental health and well-being in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Other UN Missions who have co-sponsored the event include El Salvador and the Dominican Republic. The Member States always provide an important function in reserving a large room in the UN building (for about 350 people) that is needed to accommodate the meeting. The mission of the Dominican Republic has also helped reserve a room for a reception held at the end of the session.

Additionally, UN officials and Ambassadors have spoken at the event. For example, at the recent Day about Gender Equ(al)ity, the Ambassador of the Mission of Hungary to the UN, HE Katalin Bogyay, recommended that there be an International Day of Psychology celebrated at the UN. This was said in reference to her description of the importance of Psychology to dealing with world events that are considered by the United Nations. She said that "Psychology is neglected at the UN but is important because it is the fundamental part of human behavior and psychology can open new levels of understanding human experience and assist in times of stress, crisis and international conflict, all core to our work at the United Nations." Another friend of Kuriansky's, the Deputy Permanent Representative of the Canada Mission to the UN, HE Richard Arbeiter, moderated the panel discussion at that same session, and spoke passionately about gender equality, especially given his participation in projects on this topic in his home country. The Under-Secretary General in charge of gender equality at the UN also spoke.

A statement at the 2013 Psychology Day by the then-UN Deputy Secretary-General, HE Jan Eliasson, the second highest-ranking member of the UN, was a major endorsement of Psychology Day. His message, sent to the meeting, said, "The growing involvement of your profession in the work of the international

community is matched by the UN's rising appreciation for the role that psychology can play in responding to global challenges... We at the UN look forward to learning more about your work and finding scope for your expertise to be utilized."

Psychology Day conferences are preceded by a luncheon for all the speakers and organizers and followed by a reception for all attendees. This reception allows the attendees to network and further discuss the topic.

Reports of many of the meetings are in issues of the IAAP Bulletin, and available for viewing on the UN Webcast website. See: <https://www.un.org.webcasts.schedule>. Also, a video about many Psychology Days, produced by IAAP's Judy Kuriansky, and more information about the events, are posted on the website for Psychology Day. See: <https://www.un.psychologyday.com>.

The goal has always been to present a mix on the panel of experts from psychology and other fields, with representatives from the UN staff and/or agencies, to present various perspectives and to foster future networking, partnerships and interaction.

The format of the Day has evolved over time. Originally, there were morning plenaries and afternoon workshops where attendees discussed various elements of the topic, followed by a wrap-up session where workshop discussions were summarized for the re-assembled attendees. More recently, the Days have been 3-hour sessions (usually 3-6 pm). Presentations are followed by a (fee-paid) networking reception. Also, attendees are asked to complete an Evaluation Form. Locations have also moved. Originally, the event was held in auxiliary rooms to the UN, e.g., the Church Center or the Salvation Army, but as the Day grew in attendance and profile, with support of UN Missions who are able to reserve rooms in the UN, the Day was held in a conference room inside the UN main conference building. This easier access has allowed convenience for more Missions as well as UN staff to attend.

Psychology Day at the UN cont.

Mission co-sponsors have included Palau (a loyal sponsor for many years), as well as El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, and the Maldives. Mission Representatives deliver opening and closing remarks. Such sponsorship has allowed better visibility/publicity throughout the United Nations community. This factor, with increased publicity, has led to registration growth from under 100 in the early days to over 350 in recent years. Also, while attendees have been mainly in the New York tri-state area, an increasing number of psychologists come from afar and bring large groups of their students.

The following is a summary of the content of each of the 12 Psychology Days that have taken place to date.

Psychology Day at the United Nations 2007 -2019

2007 – This first Psychology Day was a dialogue and exchange of ideas among psychologists and UN officials on several topics in two panels.

The event was introduced by IAAP member and UN representative Florence Denmark. The first panel discussed “Peace and Conflict Resolution”. The main speaker was eminent peace and social psychologist Professor Morton Deutsch, a pioneer on researching technique of conflict resolution and founder of the International Center for Cooperation and Conflict Resolution (since renamed after him) at Columbia University Teachers College. Also, UN Assistant Secretary-General Rachel Mayanja, Special Advisor on Gender, and the Advancement of Women spoke about the UN’s commitment to women’s issues. The second panel addressed “Human Rights and the World of Work,” moderated by IAAP representatives, organizational psychologists Drs. Walter Reichman and Mary O’Neil Berry. The panelists included Mr. Djankou Ndjonkou, the Director of the International Labor Organization, an affiliate agency of the UN, as well as Ursula Wynhoven, Head of Policy and Legal Affairs at the UN Global Compact, both of whom addressed concerns for human rights of people working in business organizations and the need for “decent



Third Psychology Day at the UN: Psychology and Diplomacy: Negotiating for Peace and Human Rights (2010): (1) Speaker and IAAP UN team; (2) Speaker J. Kuriansky, “Accessing Humanitarian Aide”; (3) Speaker Harvey Langholz, Ph.D.; (4) Attendees; (5) Chair Florence Denmark

work” opportunities that will benefit employees and employers. Panelist Professor Martin Greller, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the New School for Management and Urban Affairs, spoke about the negative effects of ageism on older people and especially those who want to continue working productively as they get older.

2008 – The second Psychology Day at the UN was entitled, “Psychology and Social Justice Related to the UN Global Agenda.” The speaker was Professor Harold Kelman, Professor of Psychology and Research Psychologist in the Center for Research on Conflict Resolution of the University of Michigan who spoke on social justice as it relates to climate change, poverty, and abuse of power.

There was no event in the year 2009.

2010 - The title of the Third Annual Psychology Day was, “Psychology and Diplomacy: Negotiating for Peace and Human Rights.” There were two panels, each with a keynote address. The keynote speaker for the first panel on “The Psychology of Peacekeeping” was Harvey Langholz, Ph.D., Psychology Professor at the College of William and Mary and Executive Director of the Peace Operation Training Institute. Other speakers on the panel were Riet Kroeze, Head of Marketing and Communications at Meedair Netherlands; Karen Sealy Ph.D., Special Advisor for Pan American Health at the World Health Organization, an affiliate of the United Nations; and IAAP’s UN representative

Psychology Day at the UN cont.

Judy Kuriansky who was also Psychosocial Director for the US Doctors for Africa, who talked about the recent intervention she had just returned from, to provide psychosocial support after the devastating earthquake in Haiti.

The keynote address for the second panel on “Human Dimensions of Diplomacy” was Daniel Shapiro, Founder and Director of the Harvard International Negotiation Program. His address was entitled, “When Diplomatic Negotiations Become Undiplomatic: A Framework to Address the Emotional Dimensions of Negotiations.” Another speaker at the session was Johnston Barkat, Ph.D. United Nations Ombudsman. All the speakers elucidated the relevance of psychology to the UN and global community and highlighted the future potential of their contributions.

2011 – This Psychology Day was entitled, “Reach Them, Teach Them: The Role of Psychology in Achieving Universal Access to Education.”

The keynote address, “The Pivotal Role of the Family in a Child’s Learning,” was delivered by noted family psychologist Florence Kaslow. The panelists included Maria Regina Maluf, Ph.D., from Brazil who spoke on methods for teaching children endangered by poverty; Pamela Ebert Flatteau, Ph.D., from the Science and Technology Institute in Washington D.C., who explained the promises of instructional technology; Professor Henry Levin of Columbia University who described the education of rural migrants in urban China; and Liberian refugee Foday Sacker who shared personal experiences about education in war-torn Liberia. An afternoon session addressed education in challenging settings, including Honduras, Madagascar, Uganda, Haiti, and Africa.

2012 - The theme for this year’s conference was, “Human Rights for Vulnerable People: Psychological Contributions and the United Nations Perspective.”

Three panels were held on this Day, which was co-chaired by educational psychologist Martin Butler, Ph.D., an IAAP UN team member at the time. The first panel was on “Psycho-Social Well-Being of

Refugees.” It featured Grainne O’Hara, Senior Policy Advisor for the High Commissioner for Refugees of the UN; and two psychologists with the Bellevue / NYU Program for Survivors of Torture, namely, Adeyinka Akinsulure-Smith Ph.D., originally from Sierra Leone, with her colleague Katherine Porterfield Ph.D., former chair of the APA Task Force for Effects of War on Refugee Children and Families Residing in the USA. The second panel, on “Poverty Eradication in the Lives of Women and Children” featured Telma Viale who was then Director of the New York office of the International Labor Organization; Stuart C. Carr, Psychology Professor at Massey University in New Zealand who heads the Poverty Research Organization at the University; and Winifred Doherty of the congregation of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd at the UN who spent 16 years in Ethiopia empowering girls and women through education. The third panel discussed “Mental Health and Sustainable Development,” with panelists Vijay Ganju, the CEO of the World Federation of Mental Health; Priscella Dass-Brailsford of Georgetown University; and Richard Dougherty, President of Basic Needs, a non-profit organization that focuses on poverty and human rights with programs in Africa, India, Sri Lanka Laos, Vietnam, and Nepal.

2013 - The theme this year was “Psychology and Global Violence: Antecedents, Consequences and Prevention.”

The keynote address was by Theresa Betancourt, Ph.D., from the Harvard School of Public Health where she is the Director of the Research Program on Children and Adversity, describing her longitudinal study of former child soldiers in Sierra Leone and about mental health needs among HIV/AIDS-affected youth. In addition to the keynote address, there were two-panel discussions. The first was entitled, “Antecedents, Consequences, and Prevention of Violence Through the Lifespan: Children and Youth,” with panelists Julia M. DeSilva, Director of Violence Prevention Office of APA, whose presentation addressed “The Importance of Early Violence Prevention Stories and Results of a Successful Intervention”; psychologist Ava Thompson from the College of the

Psychology Day at the UN cont.

Bahamas who spoke about “Violence in the Majority World: Impact on Youth Development”; and Dr. Joost Kooijmans, Special Assistant to the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children. The title of his presentation was “Strengthening Responses to Violence Against Children- A Global Perspective.” The third panel was entitled, “Antecedents, Consequences and Prevention of Violence through the Lifespan: Adults and Ageing.” The speakers and the titles of their presentations were: Dr. Mary Crawford of the University of Connecticut speaking on “Sex Trafficking in South Asia: Ending the Torture”; Dr. Shamita Das Dasgupta, professor at NYU Law School talking on “Understanding Woman- Abuse: The Special Case of Battering in the South Asian Immigrant Community”; and Rosemary Lane, Senior Local Affairs Officer, Focal Point on Ageing at the UN, speaking on “Violence Against Old Persons: A UN Human Rights Perspective.” Walter Reichman from the IAAP team at the UN was co-Chair of this event.

2014 - The theme of this Day was, “Psychological Contributions to Sustainable Development – Challenges and Solutions for the Global Agenda.”

The theme was as a result of the sessions of the UN missions and UN agencies to propose the new UN Agenda for 2015-2030, outlining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by the year 2030. The session was directed to be an interchange among academicians, practitioners, and advocates with the UN staff to exchange psychological principles and UN perspectives on this future UN agenda. The keynote address was delivered by Maya Shankar, Ph.D., USA Senior Policy Advisor at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. She talked about her application of research findings in cognitive science and behavioral economics into improvements in federal programs, performance, and efficiency. A panel focused on psychological contributions to social, economic, and environmental sustainability. The panelists consisted of Saths Cooper, Ph.D., from South Africa, who was President of the

International Union of Psychological Sciences (also ECOSOC-accredited at the UN); Dr. Elke Weber, Director of the Center for Research on Environmental Decisions from the Earth Institute of Columbia University; and Dr. John Lawrence, the former Deputy Director of Social Development of the United Nations Development Program.

2015 – The title of this Psychology Day was, “Reducing Health Inequalities Within and Among Countries: Psychological Contributions to the United Nations Post-2015 Global Agenda.”

This program examined global health inequities with special attention to psychosocial well-being, which is all-too-often overlooked but that is crucial for resilience and recovery from disasters. The keynote address was delivered by Brian Smedley, Ph.D., Executive Director of the National Collaborative on Health Equity which connects research, policy, and communication with on-the-ground activists to advance health equity. Dr. Smedley described the consequences of racism on marginalized people and especially people of color. He pointed out the power of racism by showing evidence that even when the economic levels of different racial groups are equal disparities on access to health differ by race. It indicates the structural, institutional, interpersonal and internalization of racism. The panelists included Barbara C. Wallace, Professor of Health Education at Teachers College, Columbia University; Tehereh Ziaian, Professor of Health Education at the University of South Australia; George Alaya, Executive Director of the Global Forum on HIV and MSM; and Bonnie Nastasi, Professor of Psychology at Tulane University. Alaya talked about the structural violence against men who have sex with men and the greater degree of success when people from the LGBTQ community take action to promote treatment and prevention than when it comes from others. The discussant was Ambassador Dr. Caleb Otto, mentioned above in this article. Dr. Otto described his own involvement in community health and engaged the presenters in a discussion about their presentations.

2016 – The title of the 2016 Psychology Day was “From Vulnerability to Resilience”. The topic was in response to the migration crisis faced by the world because of war, poverty, and climate change. The topic was chosen to coincide with major negotiations happening at the UN towards the adoption of the “Global Compact on Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration” to take place in Marrakesh, Morocco in two years-time from then, in 2018. The program consisted of two panels. The first panel addressed the topic of “Cultural Integration in the Process of Resettlement.” Speakers included Brigette Khoury, Ph.D. from the American University of Beirut; Monica Indart, Psy.D., who is an Associate Teaching Professor at Rutgers University and in private practice working with traumatized children; and Ambreen Qureshi, Deputy Executive Director of the Arab- American Family Support Center.

The second panel was on “Children, Youth, and the Migration Crisis.” The speakers were Michael Wessells, Professor, Program on Forced Migration and Health, Columbia University; Eskinder Negash, Senior Vice President of Global Engagement at the US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants; Dina Birman, Director of the Ph.D. program on Community Well-Being at the University of Miami; and Naqibullah Safi, Senior Emergency Coordinator, Emergency Program Division of the United Nations Children’s Fund. Opening remarks at the conference were given by H.E. Ambassador Ruben Ignacio Zamora, Permanent Representative from the Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations, who spoke of the UN’s desire to learn about the many contributions psychology can make to addressing this crisis.

2017- “Promoting Well-Being in the 21st Century: Psychological Contributions for Social Economic and Environmental Challenges” was the title of this Psychology Day. The opening message by Ambassador Otto was one of the outstanding features of this event, as he stated, “The role of psychologists to successfully advocate about mental health and well-being is a major step forward for all those who

are always at the margins, often left behind, as well as for everyone in the world.” The speakers focused on the three pillars of the UN agenda 2030. Minu Hemmati, Ph.D., addressed the environmental pillar; Ann Masters, Professor of Child Development at the University of Minnesota, addressed the economic pillar; and addressing the social pillar were Doug Oman, Ph.D. from Berkley University whose work focuses on occupational health and spirituality and Gustavo Gonzalez-Canali, MD, a Senior Advisor at UN Women, the UN agency that concerns itself with issues related to women and girls. Closing remarks were given by H.E. Ambassador Ruben Ignacio Zamora, from the Mission of El Salvador, that co-sponsored the event.

2018 – “Climate Change: Psychological Interventions Promoting Mitigation and Adaptation” was the theme and title for the year 2018. All speakers, experts on climate change, included: psychologist Susan Clayton, Ph.D., from the College of Wooster, speaking about the “The Role of Psychology in Responding to Climate Change”; Irina Feygina, Ph.D. from the Climate Central LLC, who spoke about “Psychological Contributions to Overcoming Disengagement and Fostering Compelling Solutions to Climate Change”; Daniel Dodgen, Ph.D., from the US Department of Health and Human Services who addressed, “Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events: The Impact on Mental Health and Well-Being”; and Paul C. Stern from the Social and Environmental Research Institute, who explained, “Changing the Behavior that Drives Climate Change: What People Need to Understand and How to Promote Change.” Walter Reichman, IAAP NGO representative to the UN, was the moderator. He concluded the session by stating that “these experts highlighted the strategies needed to respond to the challenges confronting individuals and communities by the climate change crisis.”

2019 – “The Time is Now: Psychological Contributions to Global Gender Equality” was the title and theme of the 2019 Psychology Day at the UN. This session was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Caleb Otto, the former Ambassador of the Republic Palau

Psychology Day at the UN cont.

to the UN, who had been a major loyal supporter of psychology at the UN and a co-sponsor of the Day for many years and who recently passed away. The honoring was highlighted by a PowerPoint presentation organized by Ambassador Otto's wife, Dr. Judy Otto, who is also a public health expert, and who had worked at the mission alongside her husband and on the topic of mental health and well-being, organizing many events with IAAP's Judy Kuriansky. In her dedication, Kuriansky gave a moving testimonial to Ambassador Otto's extensive work on all topics at the UN, noting that he was beloved by all, and adding some humorous stories, e.g., about everyone acknowledging his blessings to delegates for "good mental health" during the arduous negotiations for the UN Agenda for Sustainable Development. The session was also highlighted by moving remarks from H.E. Ambassador Katalin Bogyay, the Permanent Representative of the Mission of Hungary to the UN, who expressed great appreciation for the field of psychology and its importance, and (as mentioned above) who called for an International Day of Psychology to be held at the UN. The moderator of the session was H.E. Ambassador Richard Arbeiter of the Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN. Closing remarks were given by Ms. Nahla Valji, Senior Gender Advisor, Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General, who described her efforts to bring "Gender Parity in the UN" given the pledge of the UN Secretary-General for "50-50 parity" meaning equal staff appointments at the UN for women as for men. She noted that she has achieved this parity at the upper levels of the UN hierarchy but not at the mid-level, where women begin their careers while at the same time beginning a family. This Psychology Day was significant in that it had more participation from UN officials than any previous Psychology Day. Besides these speakers, the Panel consisted of four psychologists. These included: Olivia Espin, Professor Emerita, Department of Women's Studies, San Diego State University, who spoke on "Gendered Journeys: Migration, Psychology, and Inequality"; Lillian Comas-Diaz, Clinical Professor at George Washington

University in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Transcultural Mental Health Institute who addressed "Empowering Girls and Women"; Shelly Grabe, professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz, who presented on "Transforming Structural Inequities that Allow to Continuation of Violations Against Women"; and Virginia Schein, Professor Emerita of Management and Psychology at Gettysburg College, speaking about "Women at the Top: From Gender Bias to Gender Balance," who emphasized ongoing stereotypes about women in executive positions, yet their ability to bring about transformation in their business contexts.

2020 – This day is in preparation in connection to World Psychology Week.

Summary and Way Forward

An important planned organizational change is that the Psychology Coalition of NGOs at the UN (PCUN) will assume leadership of Psychology Day to replace the American Psychological Association, supplanting the need for a separate Planning Committee. This change will also streamline the process.

In summary, these Psychology Days have been increasingly successful, filling conference rooms at the UN, and involving an increasing number of UN Missions, high-level UN staff and agency chiefs, psychologists and psychology students, and other interested stakeholders. This success has gone a long way towards heightening the profile and contributions of psychologists to the United Nations and the world. The ongoing challenges are always to highlight more psychologists doing important global work; to encourage more interaction between psychological work with global goals, to demonstrate how psychology can improve the working lives of the United Nations community and the implementation of the United Nations agenda, and to attract more members of the United Nations community to attend and recognize the relevance of psychology's contributions to their work. All this can be achieved.

The Role of Ethics in Addressing Current and Emerging Global Challenges

Janel Gauthier, Past President of IAAP

Human societies over the centuries have been in a constant process of becoming more interdependent, interconnected, and integrated. This process, called “globalization,” has shown a rather steady and rapid growth in recent times. Globalization has become an international dynamic which, due to technological advancements, has increased in speed and scale, with all countries around the world have been affected and engaged.

Since World War II, capital, goods, and services have moved ever more freely and swiftly across national borders. So have people, information, ideas, and cultures. We now live in a world where isolation is impossible, traditional national borders are fading rapidly, and many countries are becoming increasingly multicultural. As a result, societies are confronted with challenging cross-cultural issues, particularly with respect to cultural diversity. The close proximity of people with diverse views of the world can lead to understanding, tolerance, and co-operation, but often leads to fear, distrust, discrimination, injustice, and even violence and terrorism, not to mention right out war. Political instability, conflict, and the effects of climate change have resulted in large-scale migrations (both forced and voluntary) that add to the challenge of adapting to the social and cultural impact of globalization. If current trends in population growth, resource depletion, climate change, income inequality, and disease continue and converge over the next 50–100 years, it is easy to imagine a continually unstable world with a series of catastrophic results. At the same time, if current trends in self-organization via future internets, transnational cooperation, alternative energy, cognitive science, inter-religious dialogues, synthetic biology, and nanotechnology continue and converge over the coming 50–100 years, it is not difficult to imagine a world that works for all.



The purpose of the present article is to consider the role of ethics in addressing global challenges emerging from technological innovations and globalization and to highlight some of the progress made in incorporating ethical considerations in addressing global issues.

Global Challenges Facing Humanity

The rate of economic, political, social, and technological developments has significantly accelerated in the 21st century, bringing global challenges for humanity. Research has been conducted to gather and analyze information that could provide signals of potentially disruptive change across a variety of platforms and issue domains. Some of the most important such research initiatives aiming to identify emerging global challenges include those conducted by the Millennium Project (<http://www.millennium-project.org/>), the Association of Professional Futurists (<https://www.apf.org/>), the World Futures Studies Federation (<https://wfsf.org/>), and Horizons (<https://horizons.gc.ca/>).

Overall, research aiming to identify emerging global challenges has yielded results reflecting great consensus. According to the studies conducted so far, it appears that the biggest challenges facing humanity

Role of Ethics cont.

include: (i) how to achieve sustainable development while addressing global climate change; (ii) guarantee access to clean drinking water to all without conflict; (iii) deliver health and wellness in an effective and equitable way as new technologies emerge; (iv) bring population growth and resources into balance; (v) transform authoritarian regimes to democracies; (vi) design new governance systems that work better than the existing ones; (vii) foster ethical market economies to help reduce the gap between rich and poor; (viii) fight new as well as re-emerging diseases; (ix) make policy making more sensitive to global long-term perspectives; (x) stop transnational organized crime networks from becoming more powerful and sophisticated global enterprises; (xi) meet growing energy demands safely and efficiently; (xii) balance risks and benefits in the emerging surveillance society; (xiii) accelerate scientific and technological breakthroughs to improve the human condition; and (xiv) incorporate ethical considerations into global decisions.

Global challenges are interdependent: an improvement in one makes it easier to address others; deterioration in one makes it harder to address others. Arguing whether one is more important than another is like arguing that the human nervous system is more important than the respiratory system. They all deserve careful and full attention.

Global Ethical Issues Facing Humanity

The most extensive research aiming to identify current and emerging global ethical issues facing humanity was conducted by the Millennium Project, an independent non-profit think tank composed of futurists, scholars, decision-makers, and business planners, which focuses on the future and publishes an annual State of the Future report. In 1996-1997, the Millennium Project asked an international panel of eminent futurists, scholars, and decision-makers to identify which are the most important issues facing humanity. The panel's process consisted of a thorough literature review, several rounds of Delphi, and interviews. The results revealed that global ethics was one of the most important global issues facing

humanity.

Subsequently, from 2004 to 2005, the Millennium Project conducted a study to identify important, novel ethical issues of global scale that might emerge and have a deep impact or be of broad interest within the next 50 years. The final report, which contains 322 pages, and which is available online (<http://www.millennium-project.org/special-studies/special-studies-future-global-ethical-issues/>) shows that the number of current and emerging ethical global issues is large and covers a broad range of domains. Here is a listing of some the most significant global ethical questions facing humanity, according to the Millennium Project:

- Is it ethically acceptable for corporations to price the supply of life-saving products beyond the means of the poor?
- Should certain products be banned from production and sale on the grounds that they are trivial and wasteful of resources?
- To what degree should the rights and interests of future generations prevail in decisions of this generation?
- What is the ethical manner to intervene in an educational system that behaves and teaches religious preconception as a factor of ethnical/social/ cultural superiority?
- Is it ethical to introduce microchips-cells into humans to replace learning?
- Is it ethical to dump toxic waste in space?
- Is it ethical to allow people to pollute if they pay a fee or engage in pollution trading?
- When does information pollution become unethical?
- Is it ethical to impose democracy on all people, without taking into account their development, their culture, and their habits and customs?
- What is the ethical way to intervene in the affairs of a country that is significantly endangering its own or other people?
- Should the right to collective security be above the right to individual liberty?

Role of Ethics cont.

- Is it ethical to physically enhance ourselves through genetic manipulation?
- Is it ethical to clone ourselves?
- Is it ethically correct to create new species?
- Is it ethical to recreate extinct species?
- Is it ethical for society to create future elites who augmented with artificial intelligence and genetic engineering?
- Is it ethical for humans to merge with technology as one way to prevent technological hegemony over humanity?
- Is it ethical to pursue research that will result in the creation of intelligent technological “beings” that will have the capacity to compete with humans or other biological life forms for an ecological niche?
- Should pharmaceutical patents apply in situations in which the patented drugs could benefit poor people or nations?
- Is it ethical to allow the copyrighting of genetic material and life forms?
- Is the patenting of genes for commercial purposes ethical?
- Is it ethical to replace human body members by bionic elements in order to increase physical and cognitive performance?
- Is it ethical to seek immortality?
- What ethical obligations do we have toward future “unseen” generations?
- Is it ethical for governments to accept immigration to the extent that the number of migrants alters the self-determination of their indigenous population?
- Is it ethical for a society to allow the diffusion of pseudoscientific knowledge?
- Under what conditions, if any, can it be considered ethical for one state to intervene in another’s affairs when that country has natural resources (e.g., water) needed by others, but does not want to sell them or share them with others?
- What ethical imperatives should guide conflicts between religious and scientific views?
- Is it ethical to artificially induce the mind, during sleep, to assimilate behaviors and attitudes that would not be assimilated in an awakened state?
- If technology develops a mind of its own, what ethical obligations should its creator(s) have?
- Should migrants be required to accept the norms of their host society?
- Is it ethical to suppress findings of studies (on intelligence, or cultural and anthropological patterns) if the studies show differences among groups that could be the basis for discrimination?
- Would it be ethical to create human beings for specific purposes?
- Would it be ethical for parents to create genetically altered “designer babies”?
- Should individuals have the right to prolong their lives by any means available?
- Is it ethical to extend lifespan, no matter what the cost?
- Is it ethical to dump garbage in outer space?
- Is it ethical to colonize other planets and use their resources?
- What are the ethical principles that will help guide encounters with alien intelligent life?
- What are the ethical ways to develop applications of artificial intelligence?
- As the brain-machine interface becomes more sophisticated and global, should the demands of collective intelligence outweigh those associated with individual identity?
- Is it morally right to pursue research that will result in the creation of intelligent technological “beings” that will have the capacity to compete with humans or other biological life forms for an ecological niche?
- Is it morally right to create self-evolving machines?
- Should intelligent machines that are able to have or show emotions (e.g., sentient robots) have “human rights”?

Role of Ethics cont.

- Is it morally right to genetically interfere with newborns or embryos because their genetic code shows a high probability for future violent behavior?
- Is it ethical to put a person in prison for having the propensity (genetic, cognitive, or otherwise) to commit a crime, even if he or she has yet to commit it?
- Would it be ethical to quarantine a continent or nation to prevent the expansion of a disease?

The Search for Common Values: The Development of Global Ethics

Globalization is with us and will continue to grow. Will it be “unilateral” or “enlightened” (Kim & Park, 2007)? To be enlightened, globalization must be respectful, fair, and beneficial across nations and cultures. How can we bring people from different cultures together to create a better world? How can psychological ethics and the human rights movement be seen as universally respectful rather than unilaterally imposed? Authors addressing those questions (e.g., Pettifor & Ferrero, 2012) recommend prolonged dialogue; open discussion of virtue, ethics, and human rights issues; building trust and understanding of cultural and political issues; and generally avoiding confrontations, coercion, and hostile encounters. This approach guided the development of the **Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists** (2008). Could it also guide humanity in the development of global ethics based on shared human values?

The idea of a global ethic is not new. It dates back to the 1980s and the Swiss theologian Hans Küng, who has since then been deeply engaged with the world’s religions and questions of how the people of the world can successfully live together. In his book *Global Responsibility: In Search of a New World Ethic* (1991), Hans Küng first formulated the global ethic idea as we know it today: all world religions and philosophical teachings share fundamental values and moral concepts. For example, the “Golden Rule” and the need for the humane treatment of each other can be found in many traditions, as well as values such as

non-violence, justice, truthfulness, and partnership. Küng’s message: this increasingly globalized world needs a global ethic. In the following decades, Küng and others further developed research projects and publications about world religions and global ethics issues and demonstrated their relevance to living together in our society.

The adoption of the Declaration Toward a Global Ethic at the 2nd Parliament of the World’s Religions in 1993 was a milestone in the development of global ethics. Inspired by Hans Küng’s search of a new world ethic, officials organizing the parliament approached Küng with the request that he put together a document presenting the idea of a global ethic. After consultation with several scholars and representatives from diverse religions, Küng’s draft of the Declaration Toward a Global Ethic was presented to the Parliament of the World’s Religions in Chicago on the 4th of September 1993. Approximately 6,000 people from diverse religions discussed the document and the global ethic idea presented in it. By adopting the Declaration Toward a Global Ethic (Parliament of the World’s Religions, 1993), leaders from different world religions agreed for the first time upon core elements of a common ethic: humane treatment of all human beings and the “Golden Rule”, non-violence, peace and justice, integrity, and partnership. The Declaration is available in 16 languages that can be downloaded from <https://www.global-ethic.org/declaration-toward-a-global-ethic/>.

The development of the Declaration Toward a Global Ethic was followed by other attempts to articulate ethical principles and values that would be acceptable across cultures and societies, and that could serve as the basis for peaceful and productive interaction among nations and societies, prevention of conflicts and crises, and collective efforts toward peace and prosperity. For example, the report of the Commission on Global Governance presented at the General Assembly of the United Nations (UN) in 1995 came out strongly for a global ethics based on a set of core values that can unite people of all cultural,

Role of Ethics cont.

political, religious, or philosophical backgrounds, as the foundation for cooperation among different societies and cultures facing common challenges. Titled *Our Global Neighborhood* (Commission on Global Governance, 1995), the report explicitly called for a common commitment to (i) respect for life; (ii) liberty; (iii) justice and equity; (iv) mutual respect; (v) caring; and (vi) integrity. The Commission on Global Governance was established in 1992 with the support of the UN to suggest ways in which the world community could improve cooperation in the post-Cold War environment, but it was not an official body of the UN.

In 1995, the World Commission on Culture and Development, created by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the UN to strengthen the links between culture and development, also published its report *Our Creative Diversity* (World Commission on Culture and Development, 1995). The report made a plea for a “global ethics” (i.e., a core of shared ethical principles and values) that would provide the moral guidance the world needs in its efforts to deal with global issues. The Commission maintained that global ethics can help identify the minimum requirements any government and people should meet while leaving scope for political creativity, social imagination, and cultural pluralism. It argued that such an ethics could be composed of: (i) human rights and responsibilities; (ii) democracy and the elements of civil society, such as free, fair and regular elections, freedom of the press and of information; and finally (iv) a commitment to a culture of equal rights and partnership between men and women.

Another important international initiative in the development of global ethics was the UNESCO’s (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) study of world religions to find a “Common Framework for the Ethics of the 21st Century” (Kim, 1999). Formulated in response to the global problems, the document opens with a preamble that is followed by four sections representing those clusters

of ethical principles and values which together would be adequate to meet the challenge. The four sections are (i) sustainability for the earth; (ii) human fulfillment in the free exercise of both rights and responsibilities; (iii) complementarity between the individual and the community, and (iv) peace through justice. The aim of the document was to provide a common ethical framework within which all cultures, societies, and individuals could deliberate on the commonality of the problems facing humanity and develop a common ethical vision to address them.

These many initiatives have paved the way for the development of global ethics. However, the goal has yet to be achieved. Progress is slow because conceptualizing ethics in a global context is difficult and demanding.

The Challenge of Conceptualizing Ethics in a Global Context

Conceptualizing ethics in a global context is challenging because ethics are closely linked to the cultural and social environments. Such conceptualizations also can be challenging for a host of other reasons. Here are some examples:

- The adoption of universal frameworks in conceptualizing global ethics is often resisted because of polarizations between local and global. Western imperialism is sometimes criticized for using international principles to rationalize the use of universal frameworks to impose its own culture on others. Within this context, advocating for the global is sometimes considered just another attempt to reproduce the imperialistic normative framework as a model for enhancing global and moral acceptance for Western imperialism. In contrast, those who reject universalism hold that what is ethical varies from culture to culture or society to society and fully depends on what each culture or society judges to be morally right or wrong. They advocate for cultural relativism. However, this approach also is sometimes criticized for not addressing the problem that the interconnectedness of people and thus, the

Role of Ethics cont.

interconnectedness of problems, requires ethics to be applied transnationally.

- The conceptualization of ethics in a global context involves developing a moral framework based on shared human values across cultures. The framework needs to be culturally sensitive, and able to accommodate culture-specific differences around the globe. Building a moral framework based on shared human values across cultures. The framework needs to be culturally sensitive, and able to accommodate culture-specific differences around the globe. Building a moral framework based on shared human values around the world requires consensus, and building consensus across cultures requires prolonged dialogue, open discussion, and building trust. Building trust is a process. It takes time to build trust.
- The influence of social, religious, political and cultural factors on the development of ethics documents is well known (Gauthier & Pettifor, 2011). Because the development of global ethics also is largely driven by the political, social and economic trends of globalization, one must acknowledge that powerful forces could come into play when conceptualizing ethics in a global context.
- The focus of conceptualizing ethics in a global context centers on seeking reasonable and responsible agreement on what should be included and excluded. It is not just about adopting universal values applicable to all but acknowledging globally connected moral obligations and responsibilities.
- The adoption of a global ethical framework requires that equal consideration be given to all persons and peoples concerned. Global inclusivity (i.e., considering everyone's values and moral thinking) and global solidarity (i.e., showing equal concern for everyone's well-being) need to be considered when approaching ethics in a global context.
- The approach to global ethics needs to respond to both nations' self-interests and universal moral

values. Universal values are often used to justify worldwide responsibility for individual and institutional actions. However, it is a challenge to create a shared set of values accepted by actors around the world when the risk of their actions is not equally shared. Connecting political decisions with morality and connecting rights with responsibilities can be quite demanding.

There are fundamental concerns associated with the definitions of global ethics (e.g., can a consensus ever be reached?) as well as the principles of global ethics (e.g., what are the most important values?). It is agreed that a rational basis for a universal standard of global ethics that attends to cultural differences should be developed based on dialogue; however, how to go about doing this remains a holy grail. In a global world, decisions at any level could result in globally impactful outcomes, but the globalization of ethics requires incorporating how people understand their relations to the world and the shared norms supported by individuals and groups from diverse backgrounds.

The Growth of Collective Responsibility for Global Ethics

Collective responsibility for global ethics is growing. Corporate social responsibility programs, ethical marketing, and social investing are increasing. Love for humanity and global consciousness are also evident in the norms expressed in the many United Nations (UN) treaties, UN organizations, international philanthropy, the Olympic spirit, inter-religious dialogues, refugee relief, development programs for poorer nations, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) like Doctors Without Borders. Heads of State and governments meet more often than ever before to improve the human condition.

Global ethics also are emerging around the world through the evolution of ISO standards and international treaties that are defining the norms of civilization. For example, the UN Convention against Corruption (UN, 2003), adopted by the UN General

Role of Ethics cont.

Assembly in 2003 has been ratified by 175 countries and the European Union. This Convention established definitions and rules of behavior and is the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument. Similarly, the UN Global Compact was officially launched in 2000 to reinforce ethics in business decision-making. With 9,998 business participants and 3,435 non-business participants based in over 160 countries, and local networks on the ground in 69 countries, it is the largest corporate sustainability initiative in the world (UN Global Compact, 2019). During 2018, 1,528 new business participants joined the UN Global Compact, and 1,277 business participants were delisted from the Global Compact, with 75% of them being expelled due to a failure to communicate on progress – the primary requirement for continued participation in the initiative. Of the remaining 25% of de-listings, 220 were voluntary withdrawals and 77 were de-listings primarily for integrity reasons. The Global Compact has improved business-NGO collaboration, raised the profile of corporate responsibility programs, increased businesses' non-financial reporting mandates in many countries, and helped to further businesses' ethical roles in peace and development.

Named as the biggest challenge of the 21st century by world leaders, climate change is popularly conceived of in logistical, scientific and economic terms, rather than ethical terms. Recently, however, following the 23rd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ("COP23"), the 195 UNESCO Member States formally adopted on 15 November 2017 the Declaration on Ethical Principles in Relation to Climate Change (UNESCO, 2017). This Declaration speaks to the responsibility to address the challenge and reinforces ethics at the center of the discussion. The Declaration sets out six ethical principles: (i) prevention of harm; (ii) precautionary approach; (iii) equity and justice; (iv) sustainable development; (v) solidarity; and (vi) scientific knowledge and integrity. The Declaration then moves on to elaborate how these principles could be applied in different domains: in science, technology, and innovation systems; in education, in risk

management processes, in public awareness-raising, in international cooperation and in governance for accountability.

In September 2017, the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology of UNESCO (COMEST) finalized, a report aiming to raise awareness and promote public consideration and inclusive dialogue on ethical issues concerning the different use of contemporary robotic technologies in society. It was released publicly released in October 2017 (COMEST, 2017). In its report, COMEST proposes a technology-based ethical framework to consider recommendations on robotics ethics based on the distinction between deterministic and cognitive robots. COMEST further identifies ethical values and principles that can be helpful to set regulations at every level and in a coherent manner, from engineers' codes of conduct to national laws and international conventions. These relevant ethical principles and values include: (i) human dignity; (ii) value of autonomy; (iii) value of privacy; (iv) "do not harm" principle; (v) principle of responsibility; (vi) value of beneficence; and (vii) value of justice. The principle of human responsibility is the common thread that joins the different values that are enunciated in the report.

Closing Remarks

The way issues such as climate change, resource depletion, violent death, savage inequalities in life chances, and threats to biodiversity are approached and conceived, let alone resolved, embody multiple and profound ethical issues. At the most basic level, the perception of the existence of a problem is derived from a sense of incongruence between a given situation and the values the viewer deems relevant to that situation. Accordingly, the structure of values that leads to the problems being seen as "global problems" needs consideration. Equally, problems are not "solved" in any abstract or disembodied neutral or "value-free" sense. They are resolved, or there are attempts to resolve them, in directions or according to criteria and goals derived from sets of ethical values. Accordingly, the ethical values attached to

References

- Commission on Culture and Development (1995). Our Creative Diversity. Retrieved from http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/dynamic-content-single-view/news/our_creative_diversity_report_of_the_culture_and_developmen/
- Commission on Global Governance (1995). Our Global Neighborhood. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Gauthier, J., & Pettifor, J. L. (2011). The evolution of ethics in psychology: Going international and global. In P. R. Martin, F. Cheung, M. Kyrios, L. Littlefield, M. Knowles, B. Overmier, & J. M. Prieto (Eds.), *The IAAP handbook of applied psychology* (pp. 700-714). Oxford, UK: Wiley-Blackwell Publishing.
- Kim, Y (1999). Common Framework for the Ethics of the 21st Century. Retrieved from <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000117622?posInSet=1&queryId=a784b066-9aa1-4db8-9bef-72e9528bd69c>
- Kim, U., & Park, Y. S. (2007). Development of indigenous psychologies: Understanding people in a global context. In M. J. Stevens & U.P. Gielen (Eds.), *Toward a global psychology: Theory, research, intervention, and pedagogy* (pp. 147-172). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc.
- Küng, H. (1991). *Global Responsibility: In Search of a New World Ethic*. London: SCM Press.
- Millennium Project (n.d.). Future Global Ethical Issues. Retrieved from <http://www.millennium-project.org/special-studies/special-studies-future-global-ethical-issues/>
- Parliament of the World's Religions. (1993). Declaration toward a global ethic. Retrieved from https://parliamentofreligions.org/pwr_resources/_includes/FCKcontent/File/TowardsAGlobalEthic.pdf
- Pettifor, J.L., & Ferrero, A. (2012). Ethical dilemmas, cultural differences, and the globalization of psychology. In M. M. Leach, M. J. Stevens, G. Lindsay, A. Ferrero, & Y. Korkut (Eds.), *The Oxford handbook of international psychological ethics* (pp. 28-41). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
- United Nations (2003). Convention against Corruption. Retrieved from https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption/tools_and_publications/UN-convention-against-corruption.html
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (2017). Declaration on Ethical Principles in Relation to Climate Change. Retrieved from <https://en.unesco.org/themes/ethics-science-and-technology/ethical-principles>
- United Nations Global Impact (2019). UN Global Impact: 2018 Annual Management Report. Retrieved from <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/publications/UN-GC-2018-Annual-Mgmt-Report.pdf>
- Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists. (2008). Retrieved from <http://www.iupsys.net/about/governance/universal-declaration-of-ethical-principles-for-psychologists.html>
- World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (2017). Report of COMEST on Robotics Ethics. Retrieved from <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000253952>

Future Challenges for Applied Psychology

Pedro Neves, IAAP Member⁴

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of IAAP, the centennial committee decided to take a look into the future and ask the board members what they foresee to be the key challenges for the future of applied psychology. Our members answered our call for ideas, and we received responses from the four corners of the world. Innumerable challenges were identified, some specific to particular areas of action, and some that are shared by multiple fields of applied psychology. In this article, I would like to highlight some of these concerns and the expectations IAAP members have concerning the role played by applied psychology. We received the feedback from over 30 members, including Executive Committee members, Division Presidents, members of the Board of Directors and Past Presidents of IAAP.

The contributions were varied, ranging from the need for sustainable practices to the open science debate, passing through the roles of social media, the rise of temporary work and other flexible forms of employment, and the threat of pseudoscientific approaches. There were also several concerns that were shared by multiple members. Given the plethora of contributions, the following section will describe the six challenges most commonly identified by IAAP members: a) the need for more evidence-based practice; b) the promotion of diversity and inclusive communities and workplaces; c) the aging population; d) the increase in socioeconomic inequalities; e) the tensions of glocalization; and f) digitalization and artificial intelligence.

Evidence-Based Practice

The need to argue for the importance of designing strategies and interventions based on empirical evidence, rather than anecdotal evidence or personal experiences was an important shared concern. Judy Kuriansky, a member-at-large of the Board of Directors and one of our main IAAP representatives at



the United Nations, focused on the importance of this issue in the aftermath of disasters. She contends that “many natural disasters have struck countries around the world in recent times. The literature has pointed out the immediate and long-term emotional sequelae of these events on survivors, but research needs to be done to establish the evidence-base for interventions for psychosocial support, to prove that they are effective. Also, assessment protocols and instruments need to be developed, and methodologies shared, that can be applied, that are tested and proven to be effective in various settings”. Fanny Verkampt, President of Division 10: Psychology and Law, highlighted that “important issues still limit evidence-based practices (EBP) in forensic settings. One example may be the reluctance of practitioners to rely on EBP recommendations” and argued that “an important challenge in the area of Psychology and Law is therefore to pursue research focusing upon scientific methods that can both counter pseudo-science and fulfill legal amendments”. David Dozois, a member-at-large of the Board of Directors, also argued that “there is a huge gap between research and practice. We need better ways to inform people about evidence-based practice (and the distinction between empirically supported treatments and evidence-based practice)”.

4 Nova School of Business and Economics, Lisbon, Portugal

Diversity and Inclusion

The promotion of more inclusive societies, and workplaces in particular, was also discussed by several members. As Vicente Martinez-Tur, a member-at-large of the Board of Directors puts succinctly: "Although there has been a sustained improvement of quality of life around the world, exclusion persists". Barbara Kozusnik, President of Division 1: Organizational Psychology, defended that "Thanks to increases in technology and global markets, many organizations today have an international presence. We face an even greater demand to develop strategies and tactics in the workplace where everyone has equal rights and equal opportunities to succeed. Yet the creation of a diverse and inclusive workforce is perhaps one of the most challenging topics in our profession". Lourdes Munduate, an Executive Committee member, also zoomed into this problem in the organizational context: "Many people remain vulnerable and are 'being left behind' (United Nations, 2016). Vulnerable workers in the sense of access to jobs matching their competencies and integrating into the workplace can include different categories of people as the one with physical or mental disabilities, immigrants, LGBT people, women, older workers, or youngsters starting on the labor market. 'Standard' practices may have to be reconsidered in order to not only manage the diversity of the workforce but also to promote inclusion at the workplace". These concerns were also shared by Nuria Gamero, another member-at-large of the Board of Directors, who argued that "although research has generally focused only on one aspect when studying diversity, each person fits into many social categories, and therefore, there is a need to know the implications of the intersection of these facets. [...] The importance of a healthy, safe, and inclusive workplace is a movement that will be with us for the coming decades".

Aging Population

The United Nations identifies this as one of the key global issues to be tackled as "virtually every country in the world is experiencing growth in the number and proportion of older persons in their population",

providing an estimation that by 2050 one in six people in the world will be over 65 years old (UN website). The consequences are fairly obvious: aging "is correlated with an increase in health challenges, comorbidities, and functional limitations" and is accompanied by an increase in plasticity, as "the older people are, the more variance occurs between individuals" (Sonia Lippke, President of Division 8: Health Psychology). Janel Gauthier, Past-president of IAAP, emphasizes that "we will not just be wrestling with the fact that the world's population is exploding. People will be living longer than ever, too. All those senior citizens are going to require care. In fact, it is estimated that the number of centenarians will increase from 500,000 today to over 26 million by 2100." Kazumi Renge, President of Division 13: Traffic and Transportation Psychology, brought attention to the role of aging in driving behaviors: "useful interventions for older drivers (training and/or ITS) should be strongly introduced." Usha Kiran Subba, a member-at-large of the Board of Directors, also discusses the difficulties in managing the challenges that accompany these demographic changes: "There is a general lack of awareness of the benefits of cognitive testing, cognitive training, and rehabilitation, as well as the role of testing in early diagnosis. As a result of this, there is a devaluation of the testing which patients and caregivers often consider as long, time-consuming, unnecessary, and expensive without any immediate benefit of a medical cure".

Socio-Economic Inequality

The rising inequalities were also mentioned by several members, followed by a call to action to "find ways and means to reduce the rising inequality" (Saswata Biswas, member-at-large of the Board of Directors). As Tomasz Zaleskiewicz, President of Division 9: Economic Psychology, puts it: "one of the features of the contemporary world are increasing socio-economic inequalities. Research on the societal macro-level has shown that greater inequalities correlate with various health and social problems. One of the aims of applied economic psychology will be to precisely recognize the cognitive and emotional consequences of inequalities on the individual level". Paul

Future Challenges for Applied Psychology cont.

Hartung, President of Division 16: Counselling Psychology, provides a different angle to this problem. He argues that “we must prioritize and actively help vulnerable people [...] we must help rekindle their sense of self, self-respect, dignity, and career identity. Above all, we must understand that the problem is not insufficient resources and opportunities for all. Rather, the focus should be on sharing available resources equitably to enhance the ideal of counseling, especially for the disenfranchised”.

Glocalization

With globalization came many challenges, namely whether theoretical models and practical interventions are applicable across different cultures and contexts. The integration of both global and local considerations is needed to provide reliable and effective solutions to both communities and individuals. This concern was shared by two Past-Presidents of IAAP. On the one hand, Jose Maria Peiró argues that “applied psychology needs to make more visible the richness of the glo-cal research achievements” and “states-of-the-art need a more systematic consideration and account to linking the research findings to the local contexts in which they are studied aiming to make sense of those results with global meaning”. On the other hand, Janel Gauthier questions: “How can we bring different people from different cultures together to address those issues and create a world based on mutual trust, respect, and understanding? How can we help to achieve greater peace, harmony, and justice for all persons and peoples in the world?”. Sonia Lippke, President of Division 8: Health Psychology, provides a perspective focused on the individual and states that “the increase of globalization and migration demands attention because individuals may feel overwhelmed”. Andrew Mogaji, a member-at-large of the Board of Directors, calls our attention to the need to “identify and study the unique characteristics of the psychological life of cultural groups from a more empirical perspective” in order to help solve the global/local tension.

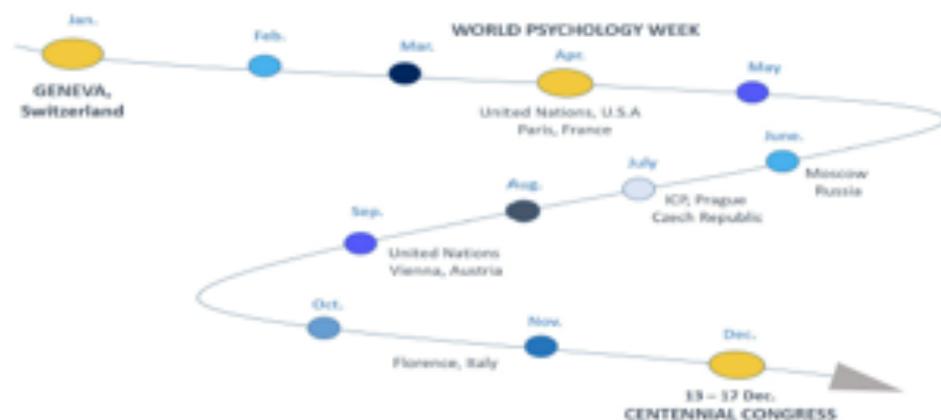
Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence

This last category was by far the most discussed by IAAP’s members, including three past-presidents and multiple division presidents. Ana Maria Jacó, President of Division 18: History of Applied Psychology, resumed it perfectly: “We are living in a world of great changes that were considered as ‘science fiction’ topics”. The challenges that emerge from living in a (no longer) sci-fi world can be resumed to the two questions posed by Michael Frese, Past-President of IAAP: “is AI replacing humans and disempowering them? is AI replacing human intelligence and what is human intelligence in juxtaposition to AI?”. Digital literacy is now as important as financial literacy, declares Erich Kirchler, a member-at-large of the Board of Directors. Interestingly, as advances in artificial intelligence will probably lead to the displacement of unskilled workers, Gary Latham, member-at-large of the Board of Directors, questions: “What can be done to train these people so as to enable them to find work that is meaningful for them?” Daniel Dodgen, President of Division 6: Clinical and Community Psychology, focuses on the potential of technology and argues that “community psychologists will be considering the impact of technology on their own work and the communities they work with. Clinical psychologists should be preparing now for how to use technology to reduce barriers to mental health services. Strategies may include expanded teletherapy and web-based research”. Yanjie Su, another member-at-large of the Board of Directors, follows this reasoning and provides an integrative perspective to argue that “new technologies such as Virtual Reality (VR), Artificial Intelligence (AI), or Functional Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (fNIRS) could be further applied to multiple themes of study”.

There were innumerable additional – and important – ideas shared by our members (and they will be made available in our centennial website), but it is impossible to address all of them in such a limited space. Nonetheless, the challenges discussed above provide a broad and comprehensive view of what applied psychology will be facing in the future and in most cases of what we are already facing (or preparing to face) in our countries and fields of work.

2020 a year of celebration across the world #IAAPCentennial

The Centennial year starts where the first ICAP was organized (Geneva, Switzerland). During 2020, IAAP organizes different activities across the world, culminating with the celebration of the Centennial Congress.



Celebrating 100 years of Applying Psychological Science to global realities

IAAP and Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), invite all interested parties to participate in IAAP's special Centennial Congress of Applied Psychology in 2020.

CCAP 2020
International Convention Center of Cancun, Mexico
December 13-17 of 2020

Special registration rates will be set to bring together applied psychologists from all over the world to share their work and views on the application of psychological science to local and global realities.

Plan ahead and join us in Cancun!
www.CCAP2020.com

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

www.iaapsy.org



1920 - 2020 Centennial of IAAP

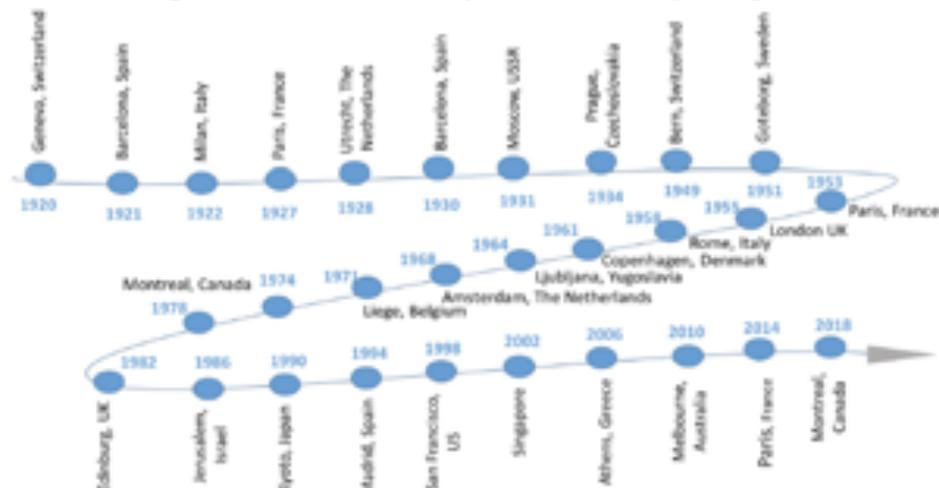
International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP)

is the oldest international association of individual members and affiliate international associations. It was founded in 1920 as the "Association Internationale de Psychotechnique". The first two Presidents were Edouard Claparède and Henri Piéron, both French speaking. In 1955, with Clifford B. Frisby as the third President, the name of the association became the

International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP)

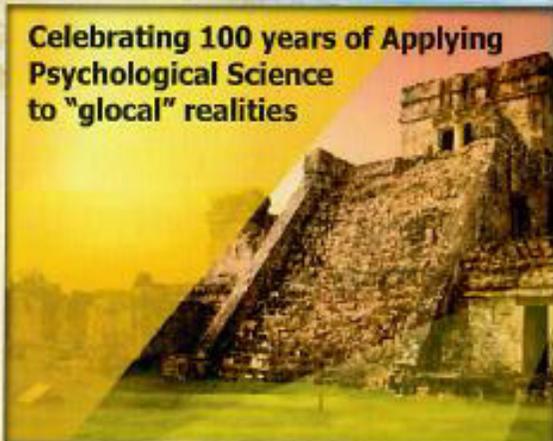
IAAP history written in

IAAP is the organizer of all ICAPs. A story that started 100 years ago...



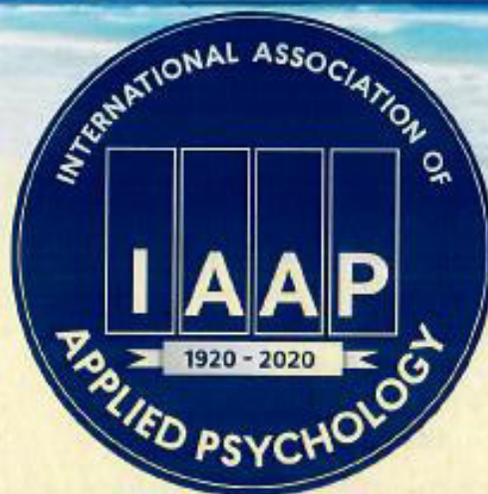
"Looking at the past to construct a better future"

Celebrating 100 years of Applying Psychological Science to "glocal" realities



The International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) was founded in 1920 and is organized around seventeen divisions and one student division that cover the principal areas of applied psychology. The divisions are:

- Division 1 – Work and Organizational Psychology
- Division 2 – Psychological Assessment and Evaluation
- Division 3 – Psychology and Societal Development
- Division 4 – Environmental Psychology
- Division 5 – Educational, Instructional and School Psychology
- Division 6 – Clinical and Community Psychology
- Division 7 – Applied Gerontology
- Division 8 – Health Psychology
- Division 9 – Economic Psychology
- Division 10 – Psychology and Law
- Division 11 – Political Psychology
- Division 12 – Sport Psychology
- Division 13 – Traffic and Transportation Psychology
- Division 14 – Applied Cognitive Psychology
- Division 15 – Students
- Division 16 – Counseling Psychology
- Division 17 – Professional Psychology
- Division 18 – History of Applied Psychology



www.ccapcancun2020.com

100 CENTENNIAL CONGRESS
OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY
CANCUN, MEXICO
2020

Celebrating 100 years of Applying Psychological Science to "glocal" realities

2020 / 13-17 DECEMBER



The Faculty of Psychology of the National Autonomous University of Mexico and the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAPP) invite everyone to participate in the Centennial Congress of Applied Psychology December 13-17 of 2020, Cancun, Mexico.

Congress venue

The Centennial Congress of Applied Psychology will take place at the Convencion Center, Cancun, Quintana Roo, Mexico.

The Scientific Committee for the Centennial Congress of Applied Psychology invites all to submit abstracts for CCAP 2020, Proposals are sought for:

- Symposia
- Panel discussions
- Oral presentations
- Poster and coffee presentations
- Book presentations

We invite contributions from all fields of psychology and related areas. We specially appreciate applied research and work that involves evidence based Interventions. We expected authors to submit original work that has not been published or accepted for presentations in other conferences.

Registration fees for the Centennial Congress

Registration fees for the Centennial Congress

Non-member	Early Up to February 28 th 2020	Standard Up to July 1 st 2020	Final After July 1 st 2020
A	500	605	640
B	420	525	550
C	340	415	465
Student	220	270	330
Member			
A	275	310	385
B	200	220	275
C	100	110	185
Student	90	100	135
Accompanying a registered assistant	30	40	55

* US dollar

Important dates & more Information

www.ccapcancun2020.com

APAW Mission Statement

Applied Psychology Around the World (APAW) is one of three official publications of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP). We have two academic journals - *Applied Psychology: An International Journal* (<http://bit.ly/IAAPintl>) and *Applied Psychology: Health and Well-Being* (<http://bit.ly/IAAPhealth>). Our e-News is published once a month with a series of regular information about Applied Psychology and our community.

Applied Psychology Around the World (APAW) is our newest publication; APAW ISSN registration number is: 26939-6521. The APAW is only distributed online, with three thematic issues per year.

The purpose of APAW is to share news and reports about applied psychology, through theme-based articles. The themes are determined in advance so that one can prepare a paper in relation to the theme of the issue.

The themes of the upcoming issues and article deadlines are as follows:

- Vol. 2. Issue 2: Terrorism & Peace building, papers due by April 1st (May issue)
- Vol. 2. Issue 3: Climate Change, papers due by August 1st (September issue)
- Vol. 3. Issue 1: Work and Organizational Psychology: Challenges around the World (January issue)

APAW welcomes submissions of papers addressing the themes of each issue; one can include scientific research projects, data analysis, information of various kinds (books on the topic, conferences, etc.), and practice related to applied psychology around the world on the theme of the concerned issue.

Submissions are encouraged from members in all regions of the world. Articles should be written to be understood by a diverse range of readers with differing levels of expertise in psychology (undergraduate students, postgraduate students, practitioners or Professors), in correct English (using the US spell check).

How to Prepare Articles for APAW

Authors may correspond with the Chief-Editors, Christine Roland-Lévy at president@iaapsy.org and Christina Sue-Chan at secretarygeneral@iaapsy.org. In the subject line of your email, enter the subject: **"Submission for Publication in APAW"**. All articles and news items for consideration should be submitted in electronic form only in a Word compatible file. Short papers are preferred.

Requirements:

- Written in North American English (use US spell check)
- A short title
- Authors and their e-mail address and institutions
- An abstract of no more than 200 words and up to five keywords, *optional*
- References should follow the style of the American Psychological Association
- All works cited should be listed alphabetically by author after the main body of the text.
- Single space between paragraphs, no indentation, font should be Arial, size 10, section heads/subhead should be bold.
- Figures (including photos), should be at least 300 dpi resolution, and saved as a TIF, EPS, PNG, JPG, or PDF

The copyright of all papers published in APAW is held by the IAAP.

IAAP Board of Directors

OFFICERS

Christine Roland-Lévy, France
President

Janel Gauthier, Canada
Past-President

Christina Sue-Chan, Hong Kong
Secretary-General

Lourdes Munduate, Spain
Treasurer

Lyn Littlefield, Australia
Divisions Coordinator

Luminita Patras, Spain
Membership Coordinator

DIVISION PRESIDENTS

- 1: Barbara Kozusznik, Poland
- 2: Kurt Geisinger, USA
- 3: Rolando Díaz Loving, Mexico
- 4: Terry Hartig, Sweden
- 5: Frédéric Guay, Canada
- 6: Daniel Dodgen, USA
- 7: Despina Moraitou, Greece
- 8: Sonia Lippke, Germany
- 9: Tomasz Zaleśkiewicz, Poland

- 10: Fanny Verkampt, France
- 11: Wilson López López, Colombia
- 12: Elisabeth Rosnet, France
- 13: Kazumi Renge, Japan
- 14: Peter Graf, Canada
- 15: Pedro Altungy, Spain
- 16: Paul Hartung, USA
- 17: Robyn Vines, Australia
- 18: Ana Maria Jacó-Vilela, Brazil

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Renan de Almedia Sargiani, Brazil
Lisiane Bizarro, Brazil
Sheyla Blumen, Peru
James Bray, USA
Annamaria Di Fabio, Italy
David Dozois, Canada
Ferdinando Fornara, Italy
Nuria Gamero, Spain
Richard Griffith, USA
Harris Shah Adb Hamid, Malaysia
James Kagaari, Uganda
Erich Kirchler, Austria
Silvia Koller, Brazil
Saswata Kumar Biswas, India
Judy Kuriansky, USA
Gary Latham, Canada
David Leiser, Israel
Jérémy Lemoine, France
Kobus Maree, South Africa
Andrew Martin, Australia

Vicente Martinez-Tur, Spain
Susan McDaniel, USA
Andrew A. Mogaji, Nigeria
Maria Paz Garcia-Vera, Spain
Kristina Potocnik, Scotland
Diana Prescott, USA
Paul Wesley Schultz, USA
Ralf Schwarzer, Germany
Purnima Singh, India
Tushar Singh, India
Tholene Sodi, South Africa
Sabine Sonnentag, Germany
Ute Stephan, England
Yanjie Su, China
Usha Subaa, Nepal
Anwarul Hasan Sufi, Bangladesh
Akira Tsuda, Japan
Ole Tunold, Norway
Richu Wang, China
Liqi Zhu, China