INTERNATIONAL NEWS


Florence L. Denmark, PhD
APA & ICP/NGO Representative, Representative of APA’s Committee on Aging

According to the United Nations, a million people turn 60 every month and it is estimated that by 2050 the world will contain more people aged 60 and older than children under the age of 15. People live longer and population control programs have cut birth rates. However, this demographic shift will also bring problems that must be attended to. Issues of this dramatic population shift were addressed in the NGO Forum on Ageing and the Second World Assembly. (Unfortunately, there was limited publicity on the Forum and Assembly.)

The World NGO Forum on Ageing

The World NGO Forum on Ageing was held in Madrid from April 5th to April 9th at the FEMA Center. I was the only APA/NGO Representative who attended, although two SPSSI/NGO Representatives who are APA Members were at the Forum. I also represented APA’s Committee on Aging. There were approximately 3,500 individuals from 116 countries who attended the Forum. The New York/NGO Committee raised money to fund 18 individuals from developing countries, including one Navajo Indian woman from New Mexico. Some of the other countries that these people came from were Egypt, Syria, India, Albania, the Congo, Guatemala, Chile, Iran, and Nigeria. Among the highlights of the Forum were hearing some of the issues and concerns of their own aging activities as well as the informal and social contact that members of the New York Committee on Aging had with these participants.

Forum sessions included topics on a broad array of themes. These themes included health issues, public policy on aging, participation of older persons, and older persons' rights.

Several concerns addressed at the Forum session included the following. Older persons have more difficulty gaining access to sufficient health care, education, and work, just to name a few. Another concern raised was women’s issues, and the fact that older women are more frequently the victims of violence than are older men. Women also face difficulties due to the fact that they often have lower salaries, which in turn lead them to have low pensions when they reach old age. This also contributes to poverty, as older persons in developing countries more often acquire poor diet and ill health. They also suffer from lack of sufficient housing and frequently, abandonment. Other issues raised included the physical environment, relationships between generations, rights of older persons with mental illness, media, social activism, the importance of NGOs, mental health, ageing and sexuality, participation of older people in public policy, training of future caretakers, loneliness, quality of life, transportation, disability, advocacy, dignity in aging, and new technologies. Some countries ignore human rights of older persons.

The NGO Forum raised issues which were presented to the Assembly. The Forum proposed the creation of a Special Rapporteur on ageing, a special agency within the United Nations that would report on the implementation of the Plan of Action on Ageing. The Forum Declaration covered many other points, including the need to ensure active participation of older persons in local and national debates. In addition, the Forum covered the importance of the United Nations drawing up an international convention, which would discuss eliminating discrimination against older persons at various levels.

The following are some of the points that arose in the Forum and were submitted to the Assembly: - Improve and develop mental health services that will include prevention and problem management.
- Guarantee economic security and social protection.
- Focus more research on issues related to older persons, such as violence, nutrition, and HIV/AIDS.
- Create ways of taking action to prevent discrimination against older persons, especially older women.
- Provide a basis for minimum income for older persons.
- Increasing older people’s awareness of (Continued on page 16)
WEB - NEWS

We have two websites (Division 52 and International Society of Clinical Psychology) and several list-servers for Members, Affiliates, and Students. Websites are open to public; however list-servers are designed for the members/affiliates, and student members only to enhance communication among them.

Websites:  
<http://orgs.tamu-commerce.edu/div52>  
<http://orgs.tamu-commerce.edu/iscp>

List-servers:  
Affiliates div52affiliates@listserver.tamu-commerce.edu  
<mailto:div52affiliates@listserver.tamu-commerce.edu>  
Members div52members@listserver.tamu-commerce.edu  
<mailto:div52members@listserver.tamu-commerce.edu>  
Students div52students@listserver.tamu-commerce.edu  
<mailto:div52students@listserver.tamu-commerce.edu>

Websites:  
Division 52 website can be reached at <http://orgs.tamu-commerce.edu/div52/>
This is the official website of the American Psychological Association Division of International Psychology and includes information about the division; membership information (including a printable membership form); contact information on the board members, committee chairs, international liaisons, and student representatives; live chat room and message board; and an information clearinghouse that contains information about career opportunities, academic training opportunities, clinical training opportunities, funding for research, travel support and awards.

The International Society of Clinical Psychology (ISCP) website can be accessed through http://orgs.tamu-commerce.edu/iscp/. The page contains information about the ISCP; annual meetings, membership application and has an online chat room.

List-servers:  
Division 52 manages several list-servers. The main purpose of these list-servers is to enhance communication among its subscribers. Once you've determined that you wish to subscribe to one or more list-servers, you can send commands to Majordomo to have it add you to the list, so you can begin receiving mailings. To receive list mail at the address from which you're sending your mail, simply say "subscribe" followed by the list's name:
subscribe demo-list
If for some reason you wish to have the mailings go to a different address (a friend's address, a specific
(Continued on page 13)
DIVISION 52 PROGRAM

at

2002 Convention of the American Psychological Association

Symposium: Successful Strategies for International Psychological Research
8/22 Thu: 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM
McCormick Place Lakeside Center-Level 2,
Meeting Room E262
Chair
Paul E. Priester, PhD
University of Wisconsin--Milwaukee
733 Ender's Hall
Milwaukee, WI 53211
Overcoming Obstacles to International Psychological Research: The Role of University--Community Collaboration
Participant/1st Author
Mojisola F. Tiamiu, PhD
University of Toledo
2801 W. Bancroft St.
Toledo, OH 43606
Researching Trauma Among Torture Survivors in South Africa: Some Considerations
Participant/1st Author
Asraf Kayee, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
University of Stellenbosch
Private Bag X1, Maitland
Stellenbosch Western Cape 7602
South Africa
Issues in International Collaborative Research: Perspectives From Asia
Participant/1st Author
Dominic So, PhD
Howard University
525 Bryant St. NW
CB Powell Bldg., Rm. N269
Washington, DC 20059
Co-Author
B. James Starr, PhD

Symposium: Depression in the Mothers of Young Children---An International Perspective
8/22 Thu: 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM
McCormick Place North Building-Level 4,
Meeting Room N426a
Chair
Abraham W. Wolf, PhD
Dept. of Psychiatry
MetroHealth Medical Center
2500 MetroHealth Dr.
Cleveland, OH 44109-1998
Participant/1st Author
Eduardo Lugo, MA
300 N. Ingalls Bldg.
10th Fl.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0406
Co-Author
Cynthia Ramirez, MA
Co-Author
Clarissa Silva, MA
Discussant
Susan Kay Nolen-Hoeksema, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
University of Michigan
525 E. University Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Mental Health Associates
20 South Park St. #408
Madison WI 53715
608-256-4848 Fax 608-256-4449
Frances M. Culbertson@ssa.gov

Members-at-large

Transnational Family Research Institute
8307 Whitman Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817-6820
301-469-6313 Fax 301-469-0461
TFR12000@cs.com

College of Staten Island
57 Butterworth Road
Staten Island, NY 10301
718-982-3771 Fax 718-273-0900
Deitch@postbox.cuny.edu

Psychology Department
Connecticut College
New London, CT 06320-4196
860-439-2336 Fax 860-439-5300
jchrisler@conncoll.edu

Psychiatric Services
2727 Marshall Court
Madison, WI 53705
608-238-9254 FAX 608-274-6311
jkrice@facstaff.wisc.edu

Newsletter Editor
Ivan Koy, PhD
625 Main Street
New York, NY 10044-0034
212-486-0048 Fax 212-486-0174
ikosipa@aol.com

Membership

Richard Velayo, Ph.D.
Dept. of Psychology, Pace University
41 Park Row
New York, NY 10038-1598
212-346-1506 Fax 212-346-1618
Velayo@pace.edu
psychorico@aol.com

Dorothy Litwin, Ph.D.
237 Mamaroneck Ave
White Plains, NY
914-723-7676 or 914 273-7992 Fax 914-273-2893
LEEMAMA@aol.com

Fellows

Joan Chrisler, Ph.D.
Harold Takooshian, Ph.D.
See Above
**Discussion:** Feminist Applications in International Research
8/22 Thu: 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Hyatt Regency McCormick Place Hotel
Hotel-Second Floor, Regency Ballroom D
Chair
Kathryn L. norsworthy, PhD
Rollins College
1000 Holt Ave.
2726
Winter Park, FL 32789-4499

Feminist Applications in International Research: Southeast Asia
Participant/Author
Kathryn L. norsworthy, PhD
Rollins College
1000 Holt Ave.
2726
Winter Park, FL 32789-4499

Feminist Applications in International Research: Eastern Europe and Russia
Participant/Author
Sharon G. Horne, PhD
Dept. of Counseling
University of Memphis
101 Ball Hall
Memphis, TN 38152

**Presidential Address:** C. Spielberger
8/22 Thu: 2:00 PM - 2:50 PM

Hyatt Regency McCormick Place Hotel
Hotel-Second Floor, Regency Ballroom C
Chair
Florence L. Denmark, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Pace University
41 Park Row
13th Fl.
New York, NY 10038

Cross-Cultural Assessment of Emotional States and Personality Traits
Participant/Author
Charles D. Spielberger, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
University of South Florida
4202 E. Fowler Ave.
BEH 339
Tampa, FL 33620-8200

**Business Meeting:** Awards Ceremony
8/22 Thu: 3:00 PM - 3:50 PM

Hyatt Regency McCormick Place Hotel
Hotel-Second Floor, Regency Ballroom C
Chair
Charles D. Spielberger, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
University of South Florida
4202 E. Fowler Ave.
BEH 339
Tampa, FL 33620-8200

**Symposium:** Perception of Sexuality Among Middle Easterners
8/23 Fri: 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM

McCormick Place South Building-Level 5,
Meeting Room S502a
Chair
Brigitte A. Khoury, PhD
Dept. of Psychiatry
American University of Beirut
850 Third Ave.
18th Fl.
New York, NY 10022

Struggle for Sexuality: The Case of the Muslim Adolescent
Participant/Author
Azhar Abu Ali, MA
1458 Carrington Ridge Ln.
Vienna, VA 22182

Pleasure Versus Procreation: Middle Eastern Americans—A Clash of Cultures
Participant/Author
Berta Davis, PhD
16055 Ventura Blvd.
1128
Encino, CA 91436

Adult Survivors of Abuse and Their Attitudes Toward Sexuality: Case of Lebanon
Participant/Author
Brigitte A. Khoury, PhD
Dept. of Psychiatry
American University of Beirut
850 Third Ave.
18th Fl.
New York, NY 10022

Discussant
Susan Heitler, PhD
4500 E. Ninth Ave.
#6605
Denver, CO 80220-3926

**Symposium:** Arab Americans and Muslims—Research, Counseling, and Training
8/23 Fri: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

McCormick Place South Building-Level 5,
Meeting Room S502a
Chair
LeRoy E. Reese, PhD
Div. of Violence Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4770 Buford Hwy. NE
MS K-60
Atlanta, GA 30341

Arabs and Muslims: A Cultural and Religious Review
Participant/Author
Daniel H. Hall, MA
4194 Bridgewater Pkwy.
Apt. 301
Stow, OH 44224
Differential Research Patterns Among
Various Ethnic and Religious Groups
Participant/1st Author
Sally Diegelman, MA
2849 Audrena Ct.
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221
Clinical Issues in Working With Muslims
and Arabs
Participant/1st Author
Mahanz N. Mousavi, MA
678 Hollibaugh Ave.
Akron, OH 44325
Factors Related to Trainees' Engagement
of and Resistance to Multicultural Training
Participant/1st Author
John E. Queener, PhD
University of Akron
127 Carroll Hall
Akron, OH 44325-5007
Discussant
LeRoy E. Reese, PhD
Div. of Violence Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
tion
4770 Buford Hwy. NE
Atlanta, GA 30341

Symposium: Terrorism and Psychology
8/23 Fri: 9:00 AM - 10:50 AM
McCormick Place North Building-Level 4,
Meeting Room N427d
Chair
Elizabeth K. Carll, PhD
4 Bittersweet C.
Centerport, NY 11721
Data and the Drama of Terrorism and Vio-
ence
Participant/1st Author
Chris E. Stout, PsyD
22918 N. Woodcrest Ln.
Kildeer, IL 60047-7844
Worldview of a Muslim Terrorist
Participant/1st Author
Clark McCauley, PhD
Solomon Asch Center for Study of
Ethnopolitical Conflict
University of Pennsylvania
3910-33 Chestnut St.
St. Leonard's Ct., Suite 3A
Philadelphia, PA 19104
Psychological Profile and Dynamics of
Terrorists
Participant/1st Author
Tom Greening, PhD
1314 Westwood Blvd.
Suite 205
Los Angeles, CA 90024
Psychological Intervention in the Wake of
Terrorism: A Multifaceted Approach
Participant/1st Author
Elizabeth K. Carll, PhD
4 Bittersweet C.
Centerport, NY 11721
Symposium: Psychology's Response to
Global Health Problems
8/23 Fri: 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM
McCormick Place Lakeside Center-Level 2,
Meeting Room E261
Chair
Michael J. Stevens, PhD
Illinois State University
4620 Psychology
Normal, IL 61790
Management of HIV and AIDS: A South
African Perspective
Participant/1st Author
R.P. de la Rey, DrPH
Dept. of Psychology
University of Pretoria
Pretoria 0002
South Africa
Adolescent Smoking in Taiwan: Subcul-
ture or Addiction?
Participant/1st Author
Sue-Huei Chen, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
National Taiwan University
Taipei 10764
Taiwan R.O.C.
Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in Romania
Participant/1st Author
Eugen Iordanescu, BA
Dept. of Psychology
Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu
B-dul Victoriei, Nr. 10
Sibiu 2400
Romania
Co-Author
Michael J. Stevens, PhD
Symposium: Issues in Immigrant and
Refugee Psychology---Cuban, Venezuelan,
and Albanian
Contexts
8/23 Fri: 12:00 PM - 12:50 PM
McCormick Place South Building-Level 5,
Meeting Room S502a
Chair
Michael I. Loewy, PhD
1610 Amelia St.
#4
Columbia, MO 65201
Adjustment and Adaptation of Cuban
Refugees: Looking Ahead to Future Waves
Participant/1st Author
Roberto Valasquez, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Dr.
San Diego, CA 92182

**Symposium: Developing Cross-Cultural Assessment Measures—Implications for International Research and Practice**

8/23 Fri: 1:00 PM - 2:50 PM

McCormick Place South Building-Level 4, Meeting Room S403b

**Cochair:**
- Robert F. Ostermann, PhD
- 34 Fairview Ave. South
  Paramus, NJ 07652

- Cochair:
  - Gloria Behar Gottsagen, PhD
  - 22777 Meridiana Dr.
  - Boca Raton, FL 33433-6310

**Baseball, Apple Pie, I.Q. Tests: Defining and Measuring Intelligence**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Samuel O. Ortiz, PhD
  - Dept. of Psychology
  - St. John’s University
  - 8000 Utopia Pkwy.
  - MARSB36A
  - Jamaica, NY 11439

**Cross-Cultural Application of an Empathy Scale: Basis for Conflict Resolution**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Andreas S. Anastasiou, PhD
  - Mary Baldwin College
  - 402 Pierce Science Bldg.
  - Staunton, VA 24401

**You Don’t Know What I Know: Assessing New Immigrant Children**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Sharone L. Maital, PhD
  - 325 Highland Ave.
  - West Newton, MA 02465

**Performance of Spanish Speakers on Verbal and Nonverbal Cognitive Measures**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Jonathan H. Sandoval, PhD
  - Div. of Education
  - University of California, Davis
  - 1 Shields Ave.
  - Davis, CA 95616-8579

**Measurement in the Future: Beyond the 20th Century**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Peter F. Merenda, PhD
  - 258 Negansett Ave.
  - Warwick, RI 02888-3425

**Children’s Temperament in Four Diverse Countries**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Thomas D. Oakland, PhD
  - University of Florida
  - P.O. Box 117047
  - 1403 Norman Hall
  - Gainesville, FL 32611-7047

**Representative to APA Task Force on Immigrant Children, Youth and Families**

**Fred Bernak, Ph.D.**

**Graduate School of Education**
- George Mason University
- MSN4B3, 4400 University Drive
- Fairfax, VA 22030
- 703-993-3941 Fax 703-993-2013
- fbernak@gmu.edu

**Div. 52 Liaisons to CIRP**

**Ernst Beier, Ivan Kos and Gloria Gottsagen**

**Charles D. Spielberger, PhD**

**Dept. of Psychology**

**University of South Florida**

**4202 E. Fowler Ave.**

**BEH 339**

**Tampa, FL 33620-8200**

**Poster Session: Issues in International Psychology**

8/24 Sat: 12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

**McCormick Place Lakeside Center-Level 3, Hall D1**

**Cochair:**
- Susan E. Dutch, PhD
  - Dept. of Psychology
  - Westfield State College
  - Westfield, MA 01086

**Cochair:**
- Lynn H. Collins, PhD
  - Dept. of Psychology
  - La Salle University
  - Philadelphia, PA 19141

**Big-Five Structures of Value Processing**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Ibrahim A. Kira, PhD
  - 2655 Whalen St.
  - Hamtramck, MI 48212

**Developing Online Counseling for Japan: Challenges and Realities**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Jason S. Zack, PhD
  - 415 Sansovino Ave.
  - Coral Gables, FL 33233

**Co-Author**
- Yumiko Kawanishi, MA

**Teaching Professional Ethics in Mexico:**

**A Need for Faculty Development**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Josie A. Wilson, PhD
  - Dept. of Psychology
  - Southern Oregon University
  - Ashland, OR 97520

**Work Schedule and Spouses’ Experience of Marital Quality: Crossover Effects**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Josip Obradovic’, PhD
  - Tuzkanac 31
  - Zagreb
  - Croatia

**Co-Author**
- Mira Cudina-Obradovic, PhD

**Influence of Occupational Stress and Social Support on Counselor’s Burnout**

**Participant/1st Author:**
- Sung-Kyung Yoo, PhD
  - Dept. of Psychology
  - Ewha Woman’s University
  - 11-1 Daehyun-dong
  - Seoul NONE
  - South Korea

**Co-Author**
- Sung-Ho Park, MA
Contributing Factors in Aggressive Behavior of Puerto Rican ADHD Children

Koyangst
Kyoung Do 411-719
Korea
Multicultural—Feminist Collaborative Consultation With Hungarian Crisis Counselors: A Qualitative Analysis
Participant/1st Author
Susan S. Mathews, MS
2310 Aldrich Ave., South, #102
Minneapolis, MN 55405
Co-Author
Sharon G. Horne, PhD
Perceived Family Violence and Behavioral Problems Among Children in Taiwan
Participant/1st Author
Yih-Lan Z. Liu, PhD
Center for Teacher Education
National Tsing Hua University
101 Sec. 2, Kuang-Fu Rd.
Hsinchu 300
Taiwan R.O.C.
Co-Author
Hsiao-Ling Chao, MEd
Cross-Cultural Validity of the Gough/Prejudice Tolerance Scale
Participant/1st Author
Ute Zimmermann, MS
Pacific Psychological Associates
2221 Rosecrans Ave., 211
El Segundo, CA 90245
Co-Author
Megan Sullaway, PhD
Co-Author
Edward W. Dunbar, EdD
Comparing the Sensation-Seeking Scale Between Asian and Caucasian Populations
Participant/1st Author
Sharon K. Grewall, BA
2971 Plaza del Amo
Unit #276
Torrance, CA 90503
Co-Author
Bradley T. Conner, MA
Eating Disorders in France: Ethnic, Gender, and Age Differences
Participant/1st Author
M. Sean O'Halloran, PhD
Div. of Professional Psychology
University of Northern Colorado
Greeley, CO 80639
Co-Author
Stacy Callahan, PhD
Co-Author
Henri Chabrol, PhD, MD
Co-Author
Juli Germer, MA
Personality and International Student Adaptation
Participant/1st Author
Eun H. Ha, PhD
Dept. of Psychiatry
NHIC Ilsan Hospital
Baeksuk-dong 1232, Ilsan, Tempe, AZ 85287-1111

Co-Author
J. Jeffries McWhirter, PhD
Co-Author
Maria U. Darcy, BA
Perspectives on a Russian Orphanage: A Multidisciplinary Approach
Participant/1st Author
Scott L. Moeschberger, MA
Dept. of Counseling Psychology
Ball State University
TC 622
Muncie, IN 47306
Co-Author
Jennifer L. B. Moeschberger, MA
Co-Author
Tara Kosinski, BA
Culturally Sensitive Assessment and Diagnosis: Source Documents and Best Practices
Participant/1st Author
Beth A. Hackethorn, BA
School of Psychology
James Madison University
MSC 7401
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
Co-Author
Craig N. Shealy, PhD
Relationships Among Religion, Acculturation, and Coping Style: Asian International Students
Participant/1st Author
Gargi Roysircar-Sodowsky, PhD
Antioch New England Graduate

CALL TO MEMBERS:

To submit short academic articles up to 1500 words, viewpoints of approximately 200 words, relevant news regarding research in intercultural and/or international psychology, as well as a news regarding upcoming programs courses, or job opportunities.

You are also invited to submit your expressions of interest to participate in particular research, or your desire to join specific programs. You may also share your knowledge of international positions available, and/or your wishes to engage in or announce any other pertinent international contact.

The next issue of The International Psychology Reporter is scheduled for Summer 2002. Please send your contributions by May 30, 2002 to:

Ivan Kos, PhD, Editor
625 Main Street, # 625
New York, NY 10044
e-mail: IKos@ipa@aol.com
Mary E. Walsh, PhD
Construct Validity of Occupational Awareness Inventory Among South African Children
Participant/1st Author
Graham B. Stead, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Vista University
Pvt. Bag X613
Port Elizabeth 6000
South Africa
Co-Author
Julie Chetty, BS
Gambling Illusions of Control: A Cross-Cultural Instrument
Participant/1st Author
Jeffrey I. Kassinove, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Monmouth University
West Long Branch, NJ 07764-1898
Co-Author
Liora P. Schmelkin, PhD
Differences in Courage Between Cultures: An International Perspective
Participant/1st Author
Heather N. Rasmussen, MS
2904 W. 23rd Terr.
Lawrence, KS 66047
Co-Author
Kristin K. O’Byrne, MA
Co-Author
Stephanie Petersen, MS
Co-Author
Shane J. Lopez, PhD
Cross-Cultural Assessment: Generic and Specific Issues in Test Adaptation
Participant/1st Author
Alex Casillas, MA
1803 Calvin Ct. #4
Iowa City, IA 52246
Co-Author
Steven B. Robbins, PhD
Participation in Volunteer Activities Among Japanese Workers
Participant/1st Author
Tomoyuki Yasuda, MA
600 E. Pollock Rd.
2204-D Nittany Apt.
State College, PA 16801
Co-Author
Juhy Kim, PhD
Co-Author
Rod van Whitlock, PhD
Factor Structure of Parental Discipline Style Scale With Latina Mothers
Participant/1st Author
Giuseppe Constantino, PhD
514 49th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11220
Co-Author
Frances Leon, MA
Co-Author
Nanet Lopez-Cordoba, MA
Co-Author
Howard Eisman, PhD
Co-Author
Brett D. Tombs, MA
Co-Author
Robert G. Malgady, PhD
Co-Author
Erminia Costantino
Childhood Behavior in the United States and Anguilla, British West Indies
Participant/1st Author
Lanee S. Rivers, MEd
3675 Preakness Dr.
Decatur, GA 30034
Co-Author
Ellen W. Rowe, MA
Business Behaviors in 14 Countries: Special Considerations for Female American Expatriates
Participant/1st Author
Trupti V. Patel, BA
46 W. Montana Ave.
Glendale Heights, IL 60013
Co-Author
Susan M. Burroughs, PhD
Preliminary Validation of Burns Depression and Anxiety Inventories With Russians
Participant/1st Author
Donald G. Beal, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Eastern Kentucky University
127 Cammack
Richmond, KY 40475-3102
Co-Author
Natalia A. Kristskaia, MS
Generational and Gender Effects on Korean Perceptions of Han
Participant/1st Author
Sandia K. Webster, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Westminster College
New Wilmington, PA 16172
Co-Author
Young-Gun Ko, PhD
Insulting Effectively Across Cultures: Insults As Mirrors of the Self
Participant/1st Author
Ayse K. Uskul, MA
Dept. of Psychology
York University
4700 Keele St.
Toronto ON M3J 1P3
Canada
Co-Author
Gun R. Semin, PhD
Cross-Cultural Evidence for Discriminating Anxiety From Depression in College Students
Participant/1st Author
William G. Masten, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Participant/1st Author
Robert F. Osterman, PhD
34 Fairview Ave. South
Paramus, NJ 07652

Positive Psychology Laboratory: Quest for Approaches to Psychotherapy Among Chinese
Participant/1st Author
Samuel M.Y. Ho, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
University of Hong Kong
Pokfulam Rd.
Knowles Bldg., 6th Fl.
Hong Kong NONE
China

Clinical Considerations Regarding the Application of Positive Psychology
Cross-Culturally
Participant/1st Author
Christy M. Barongan, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Mary Baldwin College
New and Frederick Sts.
Staunton, VA 24401

Discussant
Martin E.P. Seligman, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
University of Pennsylvania
3815 Walnut St.
Philadelphia, PA 19104-3604

Symposium: Teaching and Mentoring Women in the International Arena
8/25 Sun: 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM

McCormick Place Lakeside Center-Level 2, Meeting Room E253a
Chair
Joy K. Rice, PhD
University of Wisconsin-Madison
4230 Waban Hill
Madison, WI 53711

Teaching the Psychology of Women From a Global Perspective
Participant/1st Author
Silvia S. Canetto, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1876

Internationalizing the Teaching of Health Psychology and Women's Health
Participant/1st Author
Joan C. Christer, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Connecticut College
New London, CT 06320

Process and Practice Issues in Mentoring International Women
Participant/1st Author
Frances M. Culbertson, PhD
Mental Health Associates
20 S. Park St.
#408

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Page 9

Participant/1st Author
Robert F. Osterman, PhD
34 Fairview Ave. South
Paramus, NJ 07652

Positive Psychology Laboratory: Quest for Approaches to Psychotherapy Among Chinese
Participant/1st Author
Samuel M.Y. Ho, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
University of Hong Kong
Pokfulam Rd.
Knowles Bldg., 6th Fl.
Hong Kong NONE
China

Clinical Considerations Regarding the Application of Positive Psychology
Cross-Culturally
Participant/1st Author
Christy M. Barongan, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Mary Baldwin College
New and Frederick Sts.
Staunton, VA 24401

Discussant
Martin E.P. Seligman, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
University of Pennsylvania
3815 Walnut St.
Philadelphia, PA 19104-3604

Symposium: Teaching and Mentoring Women in the International Arena
8/25 Sun: 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM

McCormick Place Lakeside Center-Level 2, Meeting Room E253a
Chair
Joy K. Rice, PhD
University of Wisconsin-Madison
4230 Waban Hill
Madison, WI 53711

Teaching the Psychology of Women From a Global Perspective
Participant/1st Author
Silvia S. Canetto, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1876

Internationalizing the Teaching of Health Psychology and Women's Health
Participant/1st Author
Joan C. Christer, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Connecticut College
New London, CT 06320

Process and Practice Issues in Mentoring International Women
Participant/1st Author
Frances M. Culbertson, PhD
Mental Health Associates
20 S. Park St.
#408

Symposium: Positive Psychology—International, Cross-Cultural, and Clinical Implications
8/24 Sat: 1:00 PM - 2:50 PM

McCormick Place Lakeside Center-Level 2, Meeting Room E265
Chair
Gloria Behar Gottsegen, PhD
22777 Meridiana Dr.
Boca Raton, FL 33433-6310

Curiosity and Exploratory Behavior
Participant/1st Author
Charles D. Spielberger, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
University of South Florida
4202 E. Fowler Ave.
BEH 339
Tampa, FL 33620-8200

Several Notable Facts About Subjective Well-Being Across Cultures
Participant/1st Author
Edward F. Diener, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
603 E. Daniel
Champaign, IL 61820-6232

SWS Cross-Cultural Research: Positive Indicators More Universal in Developing Countries

Symposium: Issues in Cross-Cultural Psychology
8/25 Sun: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

McCormick Place Lakeside Center-Level 3, Meeting Room E353b
Chair
Harold Takooshian, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Fordham University
113 W. 60th St.
New York, NY 10023-7475

Unanticipated Consequences of Globalization: Contextualizing Terrorism
Participant/1st Author
Michael J. Stevens, PhD
Illinois State University
4620 Psychology
Normal, IL 61790

 Differences in the Perception of Rape Between Japanese and Americans
Participant/1st Author
Niwako Yamawaki, MS
University of Utah
201 S. 1460 East
Rm. 426
Salt Lake City, UT 84112-9061

Definitions of Abuse in Lebanon
Participant/1st Author
Laura Sheridan, BA
Boston University
509 Park Dr.
#21
Boston, MA 02215

Prevalence and Patterns of Alcohol Use in Central Nigeria
Participant/1st Author
James T. Gire, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Virginia Military Institute
Carroll Hall
Lexington, VA 24450

Bringing Mental Health to Japan's Elderly Population
Participant/1st Author
Jason S. Zack, PhD
415 Sansovino Ave.
Coral Gables, FL 33233

Structure of the Padua Moral Judgment Scale: A Study of Young Adults in Nine Countries
Participant/1st Author
Anna L. Comunian, PhD
Dept. of General Psychology
University of Padua
Via Venezia 8
Padua 35122
Italy
Co-Author
Uwe P. Gielen, PhD

Paper Session: Issues in Cross-Cultural Psychology
8/25 Sun: 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM
McCormick Place South Building-Level 4,
Meeting Room S401bc
Chair
K. Robert Bridges, PhD
Pennsylvania State University New Kensington Campus
3550 Seventh St. Rd.
New Kensington, PA 15068
Cross-Cultural Study on Autonomy and Perceived Control in Learning
Participant/1stAuthor
Hsiaso H. d'Ailly, PhD
Renison College
University of Waterloo
Waterloo ON N2L 3G4
Canada
Cross-Cultural Examination of Self-Efficacy Beliefs
Participant/1stAuthor
Rob Klassen, MA
13624 Blackburn Ave.
White Rock BC V4B 2Y8
Canada
Values of Muslim Women in the United States
Participant/1stAuthor
Lynn Wilcox, PhD
California State University, Sacramento
6000 J St.
Sacramento, CA 95819-6079
Meanings of Spirituality Among Israeli and Jewish Youth
Participant/1stAuthor
Yisrael Rich, PhD
School of Education
Bar-Ilan University
Ramat-Gan 52900
Israel
Co-Author
Rachel-Gali Cinnamon, PhD

Symposium: Religion and Mental Health
8/25 Sun: 12:00 PM - 12:50 PM
McCormick Place South Building-Level 5,
Meeting Room S501d
Cochair
Lynn H. Collins, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
La Salle University
Philadelphia, PA 19141
Cochair
Susan E. Dutch, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Westfield State College
Westfield, MA 01086
Religion and Mental Health: A Hindu Perspective
Participant/1stAuthor
Narasappa Kumaraswamy, PhD
Dept. of Psychiatry
School of Medical Sciences
University of Sains Malaysia
Kubang Kerian
Kota Bharu Kelantan 16150
Malaysia
Strength of Religious Belief and Mental Wellness
Participant/1stAuthor
Elizabeth Nair, PhD
Dept. of Social Work and Psychology
National University of Singapore
Block A56
11 Law Link
NONE 11750
Singapore
Influence of Social and Socio-Political Factors on Mental Health
Participant/1stAuthor
Samvel Jesmaridian, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Yerevan Acharian University
Yerevan NONE
Armenia

Symposium: September 11th-- The Challenge of Transformational Dialogue
8/25 Sun: 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM
McCormick Place South Building-Level 4,
Meeting Room S405a
Chair
Kenneth J. Gergen, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Swarthmore College
500 College Ave.
Swarthmore, PA 19081
Transformative Dialogue in a World of Difference
Participant/1stAuthor
Kenneth J. Gergen, PhD
Dept. of Psychology
Swarthmore College
500 College Ave.
Swarthmore, PA 19081
Transformative Dialogue: Performance, Conversation, Inquiry
Participant/1stAuthor
Mary Gergen, PhD
25 Gearsly Mill Rd.
Media, PA 19063
Melting Identity Categories: The Potential for Dialogic Transformation
Participant/1stAuthor
Glenda M. Russell, PhD

TOTAL NUMBER OF SESSIONS = 19

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CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

Starting a Clinical Psychology Program in Japan

Submitted by:
Judith E.N. Albino, PhD
President, Alliant International University

A lliant International University (AIU) has established an unprecedented Master's Degree program in Clinical Psychology in Japan. The seeds of the AIU program in Japan were planted about a decade ago by Kazumi Nishio, a 1982 alumna of CSPP and Dr. Satoru Saito, a well-known psychiatrist, lecturer, and author, and head of the Institute of Family Functioning (IFF), in Tokyo. More recently, Natalie Porter, PhD, AIU Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, has joined them in developing the program.

Starting a new psychology degree program is a challenge. It is a special challenge in Japan, a nation where psychotherapy is often regarded with skepticism and the academic and social cultures are vastly different than in the U.S. Alliant International University's California School of Professional Psychology (CSPP) met that challenge by drawing on two traits that are part of its legacy: a spirit of innovation and a dedication to multicultural sensitivity.

In the early nineties, an awareness was dawning in Japan that worsening social problems, including domestic violence, addiction, and sexual abuse, might be addressed through the practice of psychology. The growing interest in psychology paralleled the emergence of a women's movement in Japan, where for the first time large numbers of women were receiving a higher education, becoming conscious of gender inequalities, and becoming involved in political activities aimed at redressing a variety of social conditions, many of them still objects of denial by the mainstream culture. Domestic violence was not even regarded as a crime, and the first law against it was not to be passed until October 2001.

Against this background, Dr. Nishio and Dr. Saito began working in Japan to advance both the practice of psychology and the women's movement. Recognizing an unmet demand for practical training, Dr. Nishio began bringing mental health professionals to Japan and bringing groups from Japan to the U.S. to learn about mental health practice there. In 1989, she sponsored a visit to Japan by Claudia Black, PhD, who presented lectures on substance abuse. Later, Judith Herman, MD, and Bessel van der Kolk, MD, came to Japan under Dr. Nishio's auspices to present on post-traumatic stress disorders and childhood sexual abuse, as did Natalie Porter, who presented lectures on childhood sexual abuse and family dynamics. Dr. Nishio and Dr. Saito also published and lectured widely in Japan. Their work contributed to a grass-roots movement that led to the founding of self-help groups, shelters, and other institutions previously unknown in Japan.

"In Japan," says Dr. Nishio, "the traditional extended family system had been breaking down for many years. School violence was becoming more prevalent. A million people have been diagnosed with hikikomori - the Japanese term for a kind of withdrawal in which sufferers stay home from school or from work."

In response to these signs of social malaise, the Japanese government recognized a need for school counselors, but it discovered that programs to educate counselors are scarce, and so are professors to staff new programs. Dr. Nishio tried to interest established Japanese universities in adopting a professional-school model for educating clinical psychologists, but the prevailing models were research oriented with little applied training, and there was resistance to the idea of applied clinical psychology. Dr. Nishio says that topics imported from outside Japan, such as domestic violence, sexual abuse, and substance abuse, were seen as threatening and dismissed as unnecessary. Dr. Nishio and Dr. Saito concluded that they would have to partner with an institution that already had a model of applied clinical education, and they turned to CSPP.

The CSPP program in Japan requires 48 semester credit units, which are offered part-time - 16 credit units per year for three years - in the Japanese language, to a cohort of students participating throughout Japan. The program is headquartered at the San Francisco Bay Area (SFBX) campus of CSPP and taught primarily by CSPP faculty, including adjuncts. Japanese interpreters are used when necessary, but AIU has the advantage of drawing on its alumni, among whom are many eminent Japanese and Japanese-American psychologists.

As a post-baccalaureate program, the AIU program is intended for adult learners. Different parts of the program are delivered in three ways. Instruction for the foundational psychology courses, which represent 25% of the program, is delivered online. For the duration of the program, monthly week-end sessions are delivered in person, in Tokyo, by Japanese faculty, including CSPP alumni. Four week-long intensive sessions in the more applied areas of clinical psychology are delivered in person by CSPP faculty experts, the first three sessions in Japan and the last at AIU's San Francisco Bay Area campus. In Japan, the IFF provides physical infrastructure - classrooms, library facilities, and offices.

During their third year, students will be involved in clinical practica and/or internships. Faculty in Japan will be called on for contributions specific to the national culture, customs and conditions. They will provide instruction in the most applied and experiential areas. They will develop and oversee field placement settings in Japan. And they will evaluate the students' clinical abilities in these settings.

CSPP's Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology in Japan is unusual in several ways. In Japan, the applied, professional nature of the curriculum makes it unique in a university culture where advanced degrees in psychology focus on research and theory. The specific curriculum contains topics that have traditionally been neglected in Japan. The program is also unique because it is offered in the Japanese language, primarily by psychologists who are bilingual and bicultural. Their expertise in both Western/US and Japanese psychology will allow AIU to deliver an educational experience that not only presents new perspectives on Japanese social and mental health problems but also ensures the cultural relevance and appropriateness of the curriculum.

The AIU program in Japan does more than provide a much needed degree program with an unprecedented emphasis on practice. It also will nurture development of

(Continued on page 12)
added some new variations and the ability to acquire additional data from clients. In the afternoon, after we had broken bread together at lunch, I invited Drs. Cecchin, Boscolo, and Selvini to join me on stage as a panel to discuss what I had presented and to field questions. Their divergent points of view and very different personality styles fostered a lively and spirited discussion. Here as elsewhere throughout this trip, I was provided with fine translators, for which I am always grateful.

The next two presentations were in Treviso and Florence. Treviso has a lovely old walled city in its center and is quite quaint and lovely. Florence, replete with many magnificent museums, churches, and shopping venues is a joy to visit. In both cities, the invitations were extended by various Family Therapy & Divorce Mediation Institutes. (The turnouts of current and former trainees was enormous. Divorce mediation is clearly in vogue now and has been for the last several years - given the spiking divorce rates alluded to earlier. Some people have tried to arrange to offer mediation services under Church auspices but met with little to no success since the Catholic Church’s official position is still anti-divorce. Such a service under the aegis of the Church would seem like it was condoning divorce. Thus training and mediation, like therapy, are happening at and by Institutes and in the emerging independent (private) practices. The number of Institutes in the major metropolitan regions is proliferating and everyone present appeared eager to acquire more knowledge about both divorce and mediation processes and techniques to help clients cope with either or both.

I learned the day before the workshop in Florence that in the late afternoon I would be joined on a panel by the directors of a half dozen prestigious Institutes in the region. The format was to be that each would give a brief summation and then have time to address questions to me. These directors were bright, energetic, enthusiastic and curious as were many of the therapists, lawyers, judges and mediators in training in the audience. (Since at present Italy is a country that has no rules and regulations governing who can be a mediator and what their qualifications should be, people from all kinds of backgrounds are requesting training. No doubt as the field becomes more popular, some regulations to protect the public will be put into effect.) The statements were well thought out articulations of their various positions; the questions were provocative and challenging to answer. Mediation is thriving in Italy under the leadership of some outstanding theoreticians and practitioners and I was delighted to be able to contribute to its deepening and expanding.

Combining the workshops and presentations with witty and informatives lunch and dinner conversations with colleagues, with visits to the Pitti Palace, the Academy and other fine museums and to attend a performance of Boris Gudonov by La Scala Opera Company was a thoroughly marvelous experience. "International psychology" is indeed exciting and gratifying.

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BOOK REVIEW

An Integrative Model of Group Tensions


Review by
Oksana Chumachenko, Institute for International and Cross-Cultural Psychology, St. Francis College, USA

ntergroup Relations in States of the Former Soviet Union is aimed at understanding the formation of social identity within the context of different ethnic groups in society. As part of the European Monographs in Social Psychology series sponsored by the European Association of Experimental Psychology, the purpose of this book is to assess the present psychosocial situation of Russians in the countries of Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, and Kazakhstan which proclaimed their independence after the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991. Russians are now the minorities who live outside of their motherland in the "foreign" countries and, thus, they experience much hardship in readjusting to new social systems and lending meaning to their lives.

The book is divided into three parts. In Part I, Chapters 1 and 2 provide a theoretical foundation for the book by including an in-depth discussion of the causes and consequences of stereotyping, prejudice, competition, and conflict within the context of intergroup relations in the former Soviet republics. Most important, however, are the opening pages of the first chapter, which offer a thematic orientation necessary for the reader's full understanding of the interplay between social dynamics and the motivational roots of societal integration (pp. 8 ff.). According to the ethnic competition theory, for instance, the increased mixing of peoples in modern urban societies intensifies the competition between various groups, thus evoking ethnic and national identifications of the people (pp. 31 ff.). This contradicts Allport's (1958) famous contact theory and the almost universal expectation that increased contact should make people find some common ground and realize that they are more similar than they thought. In Chapter 3, the historical development of the five countries in relationship to Russia and Russians is examined. It includes a brief discussion of the current political situation, the actual ethnic configurations, and the economic stratifications of the populations in the five countries.

Part II incorporates the main components of an empirical study. Chapters 4, 5, and 6 focus on the attitudes of the five ethnic groups toward Russians, next, of Russians toward the ethnic groups, and, finally, the attitudes of Russians and the five main groups toward Jews and Armenians. The method of the study consists of national surveys, which were administered to the members of the in-groups and the outgroups in the five post-Soviet republics. The findings imply that the mutual evaluation of the indigenous population (or "titulars") and Russians appear to be rather positive in Belarus and Ukraine, more negative in Moldova and Georgia, and very negative in Kazakhstan (p. 2). It should be noted in this context that both the Belarusian and Ukrainian cultures are Slavic in nature in contrast to the Latin, Persian, and Turkish heritages of Moldova, Georgia, and Kazakhstan, respectively. At a more general level, positive intergroup attitudes are more likely to develop if two ethnic groups share an idiosyncratic history and culture including a common language and religion (Maass, Ceccarelli, & Rudin, 1996). On the other hand, the circumstances in Moldova, Georgia, and Kazakhstan are not in favor of Russians. First of all, the indigenous languages of these countries are not Slavic in origin. In addition, perceived economic competition excludes Russians from these countries' mainstream society. In the case of Islamic Kazakhstan, however, the (Christian) Russians are kept at a distance even though the nation needs Russian assistance to help bring it through its economic crisis. Chapter 6 outlines a framework for explaining how negative mutual images and perceived competition among the dominant titular group and Russians affect their negative attitudes toward Jews and Armenians (pp. 149-178). Russian have viewed these "satellite" groups as outsiders for many centuries. For the most part, Jews have occupied commercial positions across the former Soviet Union, while the people originating in Armenia, a small Transcaucasian country, form a powerful coalition of highly educated professionals in the prestigious spheres of economics, sciences, engineering, arts, and business. Thus, the authors suggest that as the titular groups and the Russians are intermingled in broader societal conflicts, both Jews and Armenians tend to be conveniently perceived by them as exploiters of the available resources and opportunities.

In Part III, the authors reveal their views and ideas about the consequences of intergroup relations. In Chapter 7, the profile of potential conflict scenarios between the indigenous populations and Russians is analyzed in accordance with prevailing negative intergroup attitudes and the political makeup of the respective nations. Chapter 8, in turn, focuses on the socioeconomic factors, individual preferences, and adaptation strategies that people use to identify with a particular group (pp. 211 ff.). The authors conclude that self-esteem, ethnic competition, and group alliances influence the intergroup attitudes.

Overall, this scholarly volume makes an outstanding contribution to the psychosocial study of intergroup relations. Nonetheless, the book's sociological orientation leaves room for future investigators to explore in more detail such psychological topics as the effects of cognitive, affective, cultural, and motivational factors on people's behavior in intergroup situations in the former Soviet republics. The book's integrative approach points to the authors' intention to construct a comprehensive theoretical model of intergroup mechanisms by taking into account intergroup perceptions, evaluations, attitudes, and behaviors. Their integrative model should prove of great value in international research on ethnic group relationships and tensions.

References
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their rights in order to encourage them to push for helpful changes.

The Second World Assembly on Ageing

The Assembly began on the 8th and ended on the 12th of April. The Assembly endorsed measures to implement the concept of a "society for all ages", which was the theme of the Assembly. The Plan of Action includes commitment to action on issues that include older persons and development, improved health and well being in old age, and ensuring a supportive environment. The importance of international cooperation was highlighted as being essential for improvement in these areas.

This plan supported a flexible approach to ageing, so as to ensure the rights of older persons to continue working. Rising life expectancy was recognized as a major achievement to humanity, and currently the modern world has the wealth and technological capacity to provide enormous opportunities. It is important to strengthen bonds and encourage mutually responsive relationships between younger and older generations. The role of the family should be emphasized in order encourage solidarity and promote spiritual values.

Another issue that was given consideration at the Assembly was the widespread impact of HIV/AIDS on older persons. Also, there was emphasis placed on the increasing amount of people over 80, who represent the "older old."

Unfortunately, the Plan of Action lacks a strong implementation section. However, implementation, follow-up, and national monitoring of the Plan of Action are essential to ensure dedication to these plans for improvement. Implementation at a national level is particularly important.

There is a need for governments to provide leadership to assist effective collaboration between and among national and local governments, older persons and organizations. Older persons are becoming an increasingly larger percentage of the population and will soon outnumber the young for the first time, especially in developing countries. This in turn leads to increased problems with sufficient pension and disability systems. Situations in developing countries were given high priority due to the intensification of the phenomenon of aging in these areas. Attitudinal change towards older persons is essential, and the world should begin to see older persons as a resource for experience and knowledge, rather than a burden to society.

An ECE Ministerial Conference will be held in Berlin in September 2002 in order to give specific form to the principles and global recommendations contained in the International Action Plan on Ageing.

People have asked me whether anything was raised about the situation in the Middle East and the issues of the Israelis and the Palestinians. To my knowledge in the Forum this topic was not raised. However, the Assembly on April 11th the situation of older people in the occupied Palestinian territories came up when discussing countries in economic transition. Many Muslim countries used the Assembly to point out the economic problems of the elderly in the Palestinian territories. Other countries did not speak about the Palestinians. Other than this, it does not seem that the Assembly was hijacked by those with a narrow or hostile political agenda. The Assembly did state the importance of protecting and assisting older persons in situations of armed conflict and foreign occupation.