INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS

Annual Report of the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) to the International Council for Science (ICSU)

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Secretary-General

This report covers the period January to December 2004.

INTRODUCTION

The International Union of Psychological Science is an organization composed of National Member organizations (national societies/associations/committees of scientific psychology, national academies of science, or similar organizations), comprising not more than one National Member per country. Eleven Charter Members founded IUPsyS in 1951. At December 31, 2003 the number of National Members was 70. As a Union, IUPsyS holds membership both in the International Council for Science (ICSU) and in the International Social Science Council (ISSC), special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and consultative status with the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) as well as official relations with the World Health Organization.

MEMBERSHIP

Countries with National Membership in IUPsyS in 2004 were: Albania; Argentina; Australia; Austria; Bangladesh; Belgium; Bulgaria; Canada; Chile; China; Colombia; Croatia; Cuba; Czech Republic; Denmark; Dominican Republic; Egypt; Estonia; Finland; France; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Hong Kong; Hungary; India; Indonesia; Iran; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Korea; Lithuania; Malta; Mexico; Mongolia; Morocco; Netherlands; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Nigeria; Norway; Pakistan; Panama; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Russia; Singapore; Slovakia; Slovenia; South Africa; Spain; Sudan; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Venezuela; Vietnam; Yemen; and Zimbabwe. Among these, Jordan and Sudan were admitted in 2004; the adhering body for India is now the National Academy of Psychology – India. At the end of the year, several potential applications were at varying stages of preparation.

Thirteen organizations are now affiliated with IUPsyS. The complete list of Affiliates is: Association de Psychologie Scientifique de Langue Française (APSLF); European Association of Experimental Social Psychologists (EAESP); European Association of Personality Assessment (EAPA); European Association of Personality Psychology (EAPP); European Association of Work and Organizational Psychology (EAWOP); European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCP), Interamerican Society of Psychology/Sociedad Interamericana de Psicología (SIP); International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP); International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP); International Council of Psychologists (ICP); International Neuropsychological Society (INS); International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD); International Society of Comparative Psychology (ISCP).
addition, special liaison relationships have been established with the European Federation of Professional Psychologists Associations (EFPPA) and the International Test Commission (ITC).

**VITAL STATISTICS**

Number of National Members: 70  
Number of Affiliated Organizations: 13  
Number of Publications: 1 Journal (founded in 1966)  
Number of Scientific Meetings:  
1 quadrennial International Congress  
1 biennial Regional Conference

**ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

This section summarizes some items of business not otherwise presented elsewhere in the Annual Report. Highlights of 2004 included the very successful XXVIII International Congress of Psychology in Beijing, China, research activities and special projects reported below, in particular the large grant awarded from ICSU’s 2004 grants programme, continued success of the *International Journal of Psychology*, further enhancements of the *Psychology Resource File*, and continued work on revision of the Statutes as well as on the administration, management, and structure of the Union, especially the Assembly’s adoption of a strategic planning framework.

**Assembly and Executive Committee Meetings**

In August, 2004, the Assembly of the Union met during two sessions in conjunction with the XXVIII International Congress of Psychology held in Beijing, China. A total of 62 delegates were present, representing 34 countries; there were also 14 Observers and Guests.

In his final report to the Assembly, the President, Michel Denis, emphasized the importance of launching strategic planning and revising the Union’s Statutes. He also highlighted the increased presence and activity of psychology in the international science arena. An example of action in this area is the Union’s position in ICSU. While pursuing its efforts in the ISSC, the Union has recently enhanced its activities in ICSU. These include participation on ICSU’s Executive Board (M. Denis), Committee for Scientific Planning and Review (P. Ritchie) and the Policy Committee on Developing Countries (C. Kagitcibasi). In addition to ICSU, the Union is present in other international bodies where it has privileged status in the UN system, in particular, ECOSOC and WHO.

Another particularly active front addressed in the President’s report is support for the development of psychology in countries where it was recently established or is still developing. The needs here are different from those in other regions/countries where psychology has a long history. In this context, the Advanced Research Training Seminars remain a flagship activity, as is the organization of Regional Conferences. A more recent initiative is the National Capacity Building workshops.

The President expressed his gratitude for the work performed by the EC during the past four years, especially fellow Officers. The President expressed special recognition of the outgoing Past President, G. d’Ydewalle, who leaves the EC after a total of 26 years devoted to the life of the Union. The President invited the Assembly to join in a tribute to d’Ydewalle for his accomplishments in the service of international psychology.

The Assembly approved several amendments to the Statutes. The amendments more clearly identify quorum and voting in the Assembly, make more explicit the status of Officers, establish a new procedure for appointment of Secretary-General, Treasurer, and Deputy Secretary-General, and remove ambiguity about the term “International Congress of Psychology”. Further work continues on completing a comprehensive review of Statutes and Rules of Procedure.

The Assembly also devoted considerable attention to the Report of the Work Group on Strategic Planning. It adopted a Policy Directive that the Union will function on the basis of a Strategic Plan and the process of strategic planning will be a fundamental principle for the Union’s governance and management. It also adopted a Procedural Directive that at each Assembly, the EC will submit a progress report on the Strategic Plan as well as any proposed revisions.

The Assembly also adopted initial strategic priorities:

1. Implement the policy and procedures for strategic planning (including development of a strategic vision).
2. Pursue permanent sources of new funding and augmenting short-term project funding.
3. Evaluate the Union’s requirements for human resources.
4. Identify and maintain current core functions and ongoing short-term special projects.
A progress report will be presented to the 2006 Assembly.

Among other matters, the Assembly received a progress report from Assembly delegate, Professor J. Gauthier, on a joint IUPsyS–IAAP initiative on the development of a universal declaration of ethical principles for psychologists. The Assembly endorsed that work continue.

The Executive Committee met in August, 2004 in conjunction with the XXVIII Congress and the Assembly in Beijing. Excellent arrangements for all these meetings were coordinated by EC member and outgoing Vice–President, Professor H. Zhang, Congress President Q. Jing, Congress Secretary-General K. Zhang, and Congress Deputy Secretary-General B. Han with the assistance of colleagues from Union National Member, the Chinese Psychological Association and from the Institute of Psychology of the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology.

Much of the work of the Executive Committee is reflected in the actions adopted by the Assembly already reported. It also continues to carefully monitor the current UNESCO Framework Agreement. As noted in recent Annual Reports, the Union remains very concerned about the implications for research and special projects of possible changes in funding received from UNESCO via ICSU and ISSC.

The priority accorded to capacity-building and to regional development is concretized in several activities, including Regional Conferences, Advanced Research Training Seminars, and new activities being planned by the Standing Committee on Psychology as a Science and as a Profession and the International Network of Psychology and the Developing World.

The Executive Committee reviewed activities of the Union’s several international research networks and projects. Activities of the past year are reported below in the highlights of specific projects. As already noted, the emphasis in 2004 was on collaborative projects focused on capacity building in the developing world as well as on the water project received favourably by ICSU. Directions for future actions were endorsed. Activities for 2005 are generally well-defined and initiatives for 2006–2007 are under active consideration. Several of those retained will be submitted for consideration by ICSU and ISSC. Longer-term planning of special projects is now contingent on the directions and priorities to be set in the course of strategic planning.

The Executive Committee for the current quadrennium (2004–2008) is: President, Prof. Bruce Overmier (USA); Secretary-General, Prof. Pierre Ritchie (Canada); Past-President, Prof. Michel Denis (France); Treasurer, Prof. Michel Sabourin (Canada); Vice-Presidents, Profs. Saths Cooper (South Africa) and Ingrid Lunt (United Kingdom); Deputy Secretary-General, Dr. Merry Bullock (USA); Members: Profs. Helio Carpintero (Spain); James Georgas (Greece); Hassan Kassim Khan (Yemen); Sonoko K Kuwano (Japan); Patrick Lemaire (France), Elizabeth Nair (Singapore), Juan José Sánchez Sosa (Mexico), Rainer Silbereisen (Germany), Barbara Tversky (USA), and Kan Zhang (China).

The Officers are the President, Secretary-General, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents, Past-President, and Deputy Secretary-General.

Finances

Detailed financial statements, independently audited, have been submitted to the ICSU and ISSC Secretariats.

The Treasurer, Professor Michel Sabourin, presented a comprehensive report to the Executive Committee. While the financial base of the Union remains sound, the Treasurer reported increasing concern about the prospect of deficits in future years, an experience that already occurred in the past quadrennium. Current operational finances remain very tight and provide little margin for new initiatives. As noted previously, the budgets of some National Members continues to affect their capacity to render timely dues payments; this is typically due to economic and currency problems in their respective countries. In addition, the portion of the surplus allocated to the Union from the Montreal (1996) Congress was depleted as planned over the previous quadrennium (1996–2000). Unfortunately, the Stockholm Congress (2000) did not achieve a surplus. Therefore, there was no equivalent revenue source for the current quadrennium. Nonetheless, the Treasurer confirmed that financial prudence in the management of the Union’s affairs has allowed it to maintain financial viability. He noted that financial reporting requirements continue to increase, adding to the administrative load of the Union.

The EC approved the following motion for submission to the 2004 Assembly:

“Considering that there has been no dues increase since 1996, i.e., for the past 8 years, while the inflation index has increased Union expenses during that same period;

Considering that the Stockholm International Congress of Psychology in 2000 generated no surplus and that the Union no longer has the allocation of approximately US$18,000 per annum
provided by the Montreal ICP of 1996 surplus during the previous quadrennium (1997–98–99–2000);

Considering that the Union has maintained and expanded the scope of its capacity building activities (ARTS, National Capacity Building workshops, Regional Conferences);

Considering the success of the Union’s activities to increase the presence of Psychology in international organizations (e.g., ICSU, ISSC, UN Secretariat, WHO) pursuing objectives congruent with the Union’s Mission;

Considering that stable, previously automatic yearly grants from UNESCO through ISSC and ICSU are no longer stable, and that grant applications are now competitive, making it very difficult to predict levels of annual support;

Considering that efforts will be made to find alternate sources of funding and to increase non-dues revenues;

Considering that the Union Statutes (Art. 8) and Rules of Procedure (Section 2, art. 2) require that a recommendation for a dues increase to the Assembly be made by the Executive Committee after considering the financial needs of the Union, as described in the Report of the Treasurer;

Therefore, the Executive Committee of the Union recommends, for the purpose of calculating the annual dues of the Members of the Union in conformity with the unit-based category system described in Article 8 of the Statutes, that the unit value be increased by 30US$, as of January 1st, 2005.’’

Following extensive discussion, the Assembly approved a dues increase to be implemented in two steps, US$20 in 2005 and a further US$10 in 2006, except that National Members in Category A shall be exempted from the increase.

The Union expects to establish the International Psychology Development Fund in the coming year to build an endowment. Additional efforts to secure external funding of special projects is also being pursued. In particular, the Work Groups on Funding and Fund-raising will continue its review of additional sources of non-dues funding and revenue to sustain and enhance Union activities. A revision of the Union’s dues categories will also be deliberated by the Executive Committee in 2005 for consideration by the next meeting of the Assembly in 2006.

Secretariat

Progress on electronic communication to facilitate internal communications has been sustained, especially within the Executive Committee and externally with the more established international organizations in the psychological as well as increasingly with the Assembly, National Members, and broader communities. Nonetheless, this mode of communication remains difficult to access for a number of National Members.

As noted in recent Annual Reports and in the Secretary-General’s report to the 2004 Assembly, the administrative burden of the Union continues to be greater than available resources. The result is a noteworthy overload, typically prompting a short-term priority-setting orientation. The volume of communications as well as the expectation of rapid responses is an ever increasing challenge relative to available administrative resources. This attenuates the general advantages afforded by electronic communications. It is also compounded by the unlikely prospect of additional resources being allocated to the secretariat in the immediate future. The Secretary-General recommended that internal resources be an important consideration in strategic planning.

No new work on the Archives was initiated in the past year.

The work of the Secretary-General has been ably complemented by the assistance of the Deputy Secretary-General, Professor Merry Bullock, who continues to provide especially valuable service as web master of the Union’s website <www.iupsys.org>.

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING 2004

Scientific meetings

XXVIII International Congress of Psychology

The XXVIII International Congress of Psychology, under the auspices of the Union, was held August 8–13, 2004 in Beijing. It was organized under the leadership of Congress President, Professor Q. Jing, Union Vice-President H. Zhang, and Congress Secretary-General, K. Zhang. IUPsyS former Past-President, Professor G. d’Ydewalle, served as the Union Liaison to the XXVIII ICP. The Organizing Committee and its subsidiary components worked diligently on preparations. The Union’s Secretary-General also worked closely with Congress Secretary-General Kan Zhang and Deputy Secretary-General Buxin Han to ensure smooth coordination of Union activities at the Congress.

The Congress was a complete success. There were more than 6400 registrants. They benefitted from some 80 keynote or state-of-the-art lectures
as well as 225 invited symposia. There were 5,600 abstracts (including 3,465 abstracts from outside the People’s Republic of China) covering interactive sessions featuring posters or oral presentations. The scientific program fulfilled its promise of rich diversity across the full breadth of the discipline, encompassing all the regions of the world.

**XXIX International Congress of Psychology**

The XXIX International Congress of Psychology will be held in Berlin, July 20–25, 2008. The organizational structure of the Congress is now in place. Congress President, Professor Ralf Schwarzer, made a progress report to the Assembly and Executive Committee. Union Past-President M. Denis, in his capacity as Union Liaison to the Berlin Congress, together with Union Treasurer M. Sabourin, later met with the leadership of the Congress in Berlin. Under the auspices of His Excellency, the German Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China, a signing ceremony for the contract between the Union and the Berlin Congress was held at the German Embassy during the Beijing Congress.

**XXX International Congress of Psychology**

The Assembly voted to hold the XXX International Congress of Psychology in Cape Town, South Africa in 2012. The incoming Executive Committee appointed Secretary-General P. Ritchie as the Union’s Liaison to the Cape Town Congress.

**Future Regional Conferences**

Regional Conferences are not held during the years of the major international congresses. The South-East Asia Regional Conference will be held in Bangkok, Thailand in late 2005. This conference will be under the primary auspices of the IAAP, with support from IUPsyS and IACCP.

It is expected that a decision on the 2007 Regional Conference will be made in the coming year.

**ISSC General Assembly**

The Union was represented at the 2004 ISSC General Assembly meeting by EC member, Professor K. Zhang. In addition, outgoing EC member and former Union Vice-President, Professor C. Kagitcibasi, was elected Vice-President (Scientific Activities) of ISSC at this meeting. The Union reviews with great interest the deliberations on the future advancement of the social sciences.

**Publications**

The IUPsyS publications program is guided by the **Standing Committee on Communications and Publications** chaired in 2004 by former Past-President G. d’Ydewalle until the conclusion of the Beijing Congress. Current Past-President M. Denis now chairs the committee.

The *International Journal of Psychology* (Editor: L. Hernández Guzmán) remains the major regular scientific publication channel of the IUPsyS. The International Platform Section of the Journal (Editors: P. Ritchie and M. Bullock) continued to serve as a quick-access information forum on major national and regional developments in scientific psychology. A continuously updated calendar of international congresses and conferences in psychology was again part of that section as well as being posted to the website. Beginning with the 2002 volume, manuscripts appeared exclusively in English with abstracts in English, French, and Spanish. In her 2004 report to the Assembly, the Editor noted the publication of special issues on: Advances in Psychological Science in China, Literacy and Brain Autonomy, and Prospective Memory; as well as special issues in press on: Environmental Perception and Cognitive Maps and Social Psychology Around the World. Special issues in progress include Education in Psychology, Experimental and Lab Research in Asian Countries and Origins and Development of Indigenous Psychologies. A search has been initiated for the next Editor who will assume responsibility with the 2006 volume.

The *International Handbook of Psychology* (Editors: K. Pawlik & M. Rosenzweig) published in 2000 is being considered for Chinese, Spanish and Russian language editions.

The fifth edition of the *Psychology Resource Files* (Editors: J. B. Overmier & J. A. Overmier) was published in 2004. This initiative, the Union’s first venture in publishing in CD-ROM format, continued to be well received. The fifth edition, as with the immediate prior edition, now takes advantage of the likelihood that users of the CD-ROM will have concurrently available access to the internet. However, such access is not required for the use of the databases. Among the resource tools, users will find a historical time-line for psychology, with integrated links to the internet; an organized list of useful internet websites that are primarily meta-sites offering access to further sites; a review of the origins and developments of scientific psychology in various regions of the world; as well as updates of materials which were included in preceding editions. Special tribute is paid to the devoted and effective contributions of the founding Co-Editors, Professors J. B. Overmier & J. A. Overmier. Professors M. Stevens and D. Wedding assume responsibility as...
the next Co-Editors, beginning with the 2005 edition.

The IUPsyS Website (www.iupsys.org), under the direction of the Deputy Secretary-General, M. Bullock, continues to be enhanced. It is a rich source of current information on the Union and activities of international significance.

The Union’s newsletter Keeping You Posted under the direction of Deputy Secretary-General, M. Bullock facilitates communication with National Members.

As requested by the Executive Committee, in 2002 the SC on Communications and Publications approved the development of a comprehensive, internationally oriented conceptual history of psychology (Editors: K. Pawlik and G. d’Ydewalle). The publication target-date is 2005.

The **Standing Committee on Research and Special Projects**, chaired by Professor B. Overmier, continues to assist the Assembly and Executive Committee in providing general oversight and a policy framework. Alternatives to current procedures for development, monitoring, and reporting of projects by the committee remain under consideration. As noted previously, the need for often rapid response to externally controlled factors has led the committee’s historic functioning to become increasingly marginal to effective decision-making. The future mandate and role of this standing committee is being deliberated further as part of the general review of the Union’s mission, structure, and functions.

The **Standing Committee on the Development of Psychology as a Science and a Profession** chaired by former Vice-President J. J. Sánchez Sosa worked primarily through the **Work Group on National Capacity-building** described below.

The **Task Group on Women’s Issues** met at the Beijing Congress. Several projects are under consideration. A list serve has been established.

The Union’s **Standing Committee on the Psychological Study of Peace**, previously chaired by Professor D. Bretherton (University of Melbourne), is now chaired by Prof D. Christie (Ohio State University). The committee is actively developing a new work plan.

**Special Projects**

The **Advanced Research Training Seminars** (ARTS) continues to be a center-piece of the Union’s capacity-building program. ARTS are held every even-numbered year, in conjunction with the major international congresses of the Union and of IAAP. For the 2004 ARTS, the Co-Coordinators were outgoing Co-Coordinator Professor J. Adair and Co-Coordinator Professor I. Lunt. The 2004 ARTS were offered in conjunction the Beijing Congress. The 2004 ARTS will be:

- Development and Evaluation of Psychological Interventions in Health and Disease convened by Professor S. Maes (University of Leiden, Netherlands); Environmental Psychology in Developing Countries: A Multi-method Approach convened by Professor B. Ruback (Pennsylvania State University, USA); and Survey Research Methods convened by Professors J. Harkness and P. Mohler (Center for Survey Research and Methodology, Mannheim, Germany). ARTS is a complex organizational undertaking which relies heavily on the voluntary contributions of the Co-Coordinators, the Workshop leaders, and on those who assist with local arrangements. The 2004 ARTS received financial support from UNESCO via ISSC, and from the American Psychological Foundation, British Psychological Society, Canadian Psychological Association, Chinese Psychological Society, Psychological Society of France, Japanese Psychological Association, Netherlands Institute of Psychologists, Norwegian Psychological Association, and The Royal Society (UK), as well as from the Union itself. Support was also received from the University of Manitoba (Canada) and the Centre for Survey Research and Methodology (Germany) as well as to the co-sponsors of ARTS activities in 2004, the International Association of Applied Psychology and the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology.

In this quadrennium, the creation of the Union’s **Work Group on Capacity-Building for National Psychology** resulted from the Executive Committee authorization to develop additional capacity-building activities to address the national and regional development of psychology as a science and as a profession. The short-term priority was accorded to the countries of Asia and of the Middle East. Coordinated by EC members Professor Y. Poortinga (Tilburg University) and Professor E. Nair (University of Singapore), in 2002 an initial activity was held in Singapore. In 2003, the major activity was the workshop conducted at the Middle East and North Africa Regional Conference of Psychology. In 2004, the focus again returned to Asia with a revised and expanded workshop presented in Beijing, following the XXVIII International Congress of Psychology. Financial support was received from UNESCO via ISSC as well as from the National Committee for Psychology of the National Academy of Sciences
of the USA. Support was also received from the Institute of Psychology of the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology and Beijing Normal University.

The **International Network on Psychological Dimensions of Global Change** has built on the foundations of the previous project **Perception and Assessment of Global Environmental Change** (PAGEC), chaired by former Union President K. Pawlik (University of Hamburg). In this quadrennium, it established a new initiative focused on **Psychological Aspects of Global Change**. This research was previously supported by UNESCO under the auspices of the Human Dimensions Program of Environmental Change of both ICSU and ISSC and by the US National Academy of Sciences. In 2002, a scientific conference focused on evaluation of PAGEC and on research planning for psychological aspects of global change was held in Istanbul, Turkey.

As an outcome of the very successful Istanbul meeting, priority was accorded to the development of a large-scale project on sustainable water use. The project coordinators for this new endeavour are Professors M. Bonnes (University of Rome) and G. Moser (University of Paris V). Under their leadership, in 2004 a new activity, **Human Dimensions of Global Change: Human Perceptions and Behavior in Sustainable Water Use**, was launched. This two-year research project received financial assistance from UNESCO and the USA State Department via ICSU. This innovative project includes a team of scientists from France, India, Italy, Germany, Spain, and Turkey. The International Geographic Union is the principle external partner for this endeavour. In 2004, pilot work was completed in four communities in France, India, Italy, and Mexico. The main outcomes and achievements of the research activities conducted to date are the implementation and timely completion of the four pilot studies composing the first phase of the project. The data gathered through these four pilot studies allow a very informative (although necessarily partial and preliminary) picture of possible cultural, social, psychological, and geographical variations existing in the human use and perception of fresh water resources, according to the different national contexts considered in the present research project.

The second stage of the project is now being implemented. Final results and analysis are expected by early 2006.

The Research Network Project **Psychology in a Multi-disciplinary Environment** is an extension of the former project, **Psychology and Cognitive Science**. It was launched to provide a framework for engaging contacts with international bodies representing other disciplines related to psychology. The objective is to explore the possibilities for IUPsyS and other organizations whose objectives partly overlap to join their efforts in launching activities and stimulating collaborations that promote an interdisciplinary view of science. The project remains based with the Human Cognition Group under the direction of IUPsyS Past-President, Professor M. Denis (LIMSI-CNRS, France). It also continues to be a broad-based international endeavour drawing on the strong 31-country network already identified in Stage I of the project. Particular attention is being accorded to the capacity building value of this project in countries where psychology can contribute to new technologies that may promote sustainable research and attendant economic benefits. Prior activities and support from UNESCO, the US National Academy of Sciences and ICSU were described in detail in previous Annual Reports.

The objective remains the pursuit of common scientific issues through joint initiatives which are currently being considered. IUPsyS continues to evaluate this project as an important success of recent years. The capacity-building dimension has been particularly well achieved by the work to date. Future multi-disciplinary endeavours will build and expand on the scholarly and training activities undertaken by this project since its inception.

The **International Network of Psychology and the Developing World** (INPDW) was coordinated by EC Member, Dr. S. Cooper. Activities continued to center on facilitating communication between individual psychologists who work in the developing world, helping to make IUPsyS more visible in the developing world, supporting psychological research in different areas of the planet, and enhancing participation in the International Congresses of Psychology and in the Regional Congresses held in developing countries or countries in transition. The Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS) are regarded as very important in helping to facilitate research and international networks. Recent efforts have focused on expanding the network in sub-Saharan Africa and in South Asia. The INPDW has also contributed to the national capacity-building activities.

The **IUPsyS HealthNet**, co-ordinated by Professor J. J. Sánchez Sosa (National University of Mexico), continued its renewal and expansion in this quadrennium. It has grown steadily with participants in more than 30 countries. It is a network of psychologists working as clinicians and
scientists on a wide range of health problems. They develop and implement illness prevention and health promotion programs as well as specific clinical interventions. HealthNet was instrumental in creating the Latin American Network of University Health Research Programs as well as the Latin American Association of Schools and Institutes of Psychology. Currently, HealthNet plays an instrumental role in both organizations.

This Network also provides collaboration and assistance to Union and to the World Health Organization (WHO) in implementing the IUPsyS–WHO Work Plan. In particular, Professor Sánchez Sosa and Professor S. Hotz (University of Ottawa), assisted by Secretary-General Ritchie, provided strong support to the Union’s collaboration on the WHO Adherence project headed by Dr. E. Sabaté of WHO. HealthNet’s contributions were featured in Professor Sánchez Sosa’s presentation at an invited symposium at the XXVIII International Congress of Psychology.

The HealthNet website is fully operational with assistance from the General Directorate for Academic Computing of UNAM. The HealthNet web page may be found at: http://www.unam.mx/healthnet. The hard copy HealthNet Newsletter is also published periodically and disseminated world-wide.

Official Relations between the Union and the World Health Organization (WHO) were established in the current quadrennium (2002). Secretary-General P. Ritchie, serves as the Union’s Main Representative to WHO. The current WHO–IUPsyS Work Plan (2002–2005) has several foci. Consistent with the generic WHO goal of “Achieving Health for All” and reducing the burden of disease and illness as well as current WHO priorities, the Work Plan supports and enhances:

1. Capacity Building;
2. Evidence Based Change;
3. Transferability of Knowledge.

Specific activities include collaboration on Adherence and Compliance to Therapeutic Regimes, contributing to policy development and projects in the Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health and Substance Abuse cluster (with emphasis on behavioural and psychological risk factors for health) as well as to the Organization of Health Services Delivery in the Evidence and Information for Policy cluster (with emphasis on reducing the burden of diseases of poverty as well as the role and functions of Psychology in national health systems, including Primary Care). In 2004, the Union undertook to support the development of the next edition of the International Classification of Diseases, with particular focus on the Mental Health section. This activity is under the auspices of the Evidence and Information for Policy cluster of WHO. The Union has appointed Dr. Geoff Reed (USA) as its member of the Core Group coordinating this activity in WHO. The Union’s contributions to the Adherence project were the primary focus of an Invited Symposium convened by Professor P. Ritchie on International Advances in Clinical Health Psychology.

BRIEF REPORT ON USE OF 2004 ICSU AND ISSC GRANTS, UNESCO, US NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, AND US STATE DEPARTMENT SUBVENTIONS AND FUNDING FROM OTHER SOURCES

A description of activities supported by UNESCO and the US State Department through 2004 ICSU grants, by UNESCO through 2004 ISSC grants, and by the US National Academy of Sciences as well as those receiving support from other sources was provided in the report of special projects and in separate, elaborated reports to the granting bodies. This included the project on Human Dimensions of Global Change: Human Perceptions and Behavior in Sustainable Water Use, the Advanced Research Training Seminars on Environmental Psychology in Developing Countries: A Multi-method Approach, and on Survey Research Methods, as well as for the workshop on National Capacity Building/Civil Society.

A separate detailed report and financial statements for the project as well as audited financial statements for 2004 have been submitted to the ICSU and ISSC secretariats.

CONCLUSION AND FUTURE PLANS

In 2004, the Union concluded the quadrennium that spanned completion of its first half-century and the start of its second half-century. The Union’s 50th anniversary was officially celebrated on the occasion of the XXVII International Congress of Psychology, held in Sweden where the Union was founded. It is equally appropriate that the first full quadrennium of the new era began at the XXVIII International Congress of Psychology in Beijing, China. The Union’s first regional conference of psychology was held only a little less than a decade ago in China. The 2004
Congress confirmed the Union’s commitment to contribute fully to the development of psychology in all parts of the world. Through ARTS and the national psychology initiative as well as its International Congress and Regional Conferences of Psychology, the Union has reaffirmed the importance it accords to capacity building. The 2000–2004 quadrennium was also characterized by the Union’s increased contribution to international development through strong relations with ICSU, ISSC, the UN secretariat, and WHO. Where strong collaboration existed, it has been maintained. In other cases, particularly ICSU, the UN secretariat, and WHO, the relationships were substantially enhanced. IUPsyS is also increasingly engaged in multi-Union endeavours.

In 2001, the Union began a process of self-examination that led in 2004 to initial changes in the way IUPsyS conducts its business. The work of the Executive Committee in 2004 sustained the self-assessment and future planning that characterized much of its work in the previous quadrennium. Continuing increased demands on the Union’s resources compel thoughtful choices and effective decision-making. As reported above, the 2004 Assembly mandated that the Union function on the basis of a Strategic Plan. Henceforth, the process of strategic planning will be a fundamental principle for the Union’s governance and management. The Assembly also provided direction to the new Executive Committee and Officers. Initial progress will be reviewed at the 2006 Assembly in Athens, Greece. The Union requires a well crafted approach to strategic planning. A major challenge of the new quadrennium will be to make noteworthy strides toward realizing this objective.

Recent world events have confirmed the importance of international collaboration to enhance human well-being. The Union has demonstrated wisdom in the energy devoted to greater and more systematic contribution to public policy especially through the United Nations family. That the Union has been accorded Special Consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and Official Relations by the World Health Organization underscores that these initiatives are welcomed. At the same time, increasingly in collaboration with other scientific unions, IUPsyS remains committed to making a contribution to the global science community, to the enhancement of scientific endeavours, and to the application of scientific knowledge through its partnerships with the International Council of Science and the International Social Science Council.

The new Executive Committee has already strongly re-affirmed the Union’s commitment to capacity-building in all areas of the world as well as to supporting psychological scientists and science based practitioners. The programme of Advanced Research Training Seminars, the renewal of the International Network of Psychology and the Developing World, the establishment of the National Capacity-Building project, successful Regional Conferences and further initiatives by HealthNet were cornerstones of the Union’s work in the previous quadrennium. While the specific activities will vary, these elements serve as a strong foundation with which to begin the 2004–2008 quadrennium.

The noteworthy successes of the Union’s publications program in the recent past is now a matter of record. The Standing Committee on Communications and Publications continues its work on a daunting task, the development of a book on the conceptual history of psychology from an international perspective. Its publication is expected in the coming year. The dissemination of knowledge through the International Journal of Psychology is a stable feature of the Union. The outgoing Editor, Professor Laura Hernández Guzmán has ably guided the journal through the implementation of having Abstracts in three languages. The latter also underscores the desire to make the journal more accessible. The Union’s Psychology Resource Files has moved from initial implementation to orderly evolution. It is a major success of the current quadrennium. The coming year will be one of transition between the founding Editors, Professors J. B. Overmier & J. A. Overmier, and the new Editors, Professors M. Stevens and D. Wedding. The Union will also continue to evaluate its future in the realm of electronic publishing.

Specific research activities or special projects in Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe are underway or are being planned. New or revised projects have been prepared. Maintaining a comparable or achieving an even greater level of contribution in the new quadrennium to that of the past four years will be a real challenge. As previously anticipated, this will occur in the context of the Union’s adjustment to funding and other changes in UNESCO that have an impact on the scientific community and our federative bodies, ICSU and ISSC. Hence, what began in the previous quadrennium takes on even greater importance in the current four years: securing additional funding sources.

Sustaining relations with National Members remains an important goal. An Assembly meeting is always an opportunity to benefit from global collective exchange. The 2004 Assembly was an
occasion of thoughtful deliberation through productive and vigorous debate on strategic priorities as well as on the functions, means, and vehicles to achieve them.

Annual Reports in recent years have noted the heavy demands placed on the Union to mobilize the capacity to make possible the achievements reported here. With the sustained growth in activity and the continued dramatic increase in external as well as internal communications, the Union’s small part-time Secretariat receives demands beyond the limits of its resources. This challenge is not limited to the Secretary-General nor to the Officers. The same phenomenon is found across the Union’s activity centers. Enhancing the Union’s own infrastructure to carry out the IUPsyS mission requires thoughtful attention. This is a fundamental consideration in the review of the Union’s functions and structure that is carried over to the new quadrennium. Without practical solutions to managing the Union’s overall workload, it is unlikely that strategic priorities can be achieved. Hence, making the Union’s governance, internal operations, and management as efficient as possible is in itself an important strategic goal.

Notwithstanding the reservations about internal capacity, the prospects for the Union remain positive. The actual results of the quadrennium just concluded have reaffirmed that such hope can be realized.

The International Union of Psychological Science—through the actions of the Assembly together with the leadership of the Executive Committee and Officers, in concert with National Members, Affiliates, and Liaisons—has led to the start of its orderly renewal. Determining the policy framework and strategic vision along with securing the financial means and human resources needed to realize the full potential of the Union’s priorities is the challenge faced by those charged by the 2004 Assembly to provide leadership in the new quadrennium.