

**International Union of Psychological Science (IUPSYS)
General Assembly Meeting
Athens, Greece
July 20, July 21, 2006**

MINUTES

President Bruce Overmier welcomed delegates to the Assembly and previewed the events to come during the meeting.

1. Call to Order: Roll call to certify delegates, and to identify representatives of affiliated organizations and other organizations.

Assembly Delegates

Argentina (1)	Jose Eduardo <u>Moreno</u> (S. 1, 2)
Australia (2)	Paul Martin (S. 1), Amanda <u>Gordon</u> (S. 1, 2)
Belgium (2)	Frederick <u>Anseel</u> (S. 1,2), Gery d' <u>Ydewalle</u> (S. 1, 2)
Canada (2)	Janel <u>Gauthier</u> (S. 1,2), John <u>Berry</u> (S. 1, 2)
China (2)	Xiolan <u>Fu</u> (S. 1,2); Buxin <u>Han</u> (S. 1,2)
Colombia (1)	Ruben <u>Ardila</u> (S. 1,2)
Denmark (2)	Roal <u>Ulrichson</u> (S. 1,2)
France (2)	Jacques <u>Vauclair</u> (S. 1,2)
Germany (2)	Uwe Wetter (S. 1); Peter <u>Frensch</u> (S. 1,2)
Greece (1)	Jim <u>Georgas</u> (S. 1,2)
India (1)	Janak <u>Pandey</u> (S. 1,2)
Indonesia (1)	Rahmat <u>Ismail</u> (S. 1,2)
Ireland (1)	Eunice <u>McCarthy</u> (S. 1,2)
Japan (2)	Kyoko <u>Noguchi</u> (S. 1,2)
Norway (2)	An-Magritt <u>Aanonsen</u> (S. 1,2); Bjorn <u>Rund</u> (S. 1,2)
Singapore (1)	Elizabeth <u>Nair</u> (S. 1,2)
Slovenia (1)	Mojca Pavsic (S. 1)
South Africa (2)	Ann <u>Watts</u> (S.1,2); Brett Bowman (S. I); Shahnaz <u>Suffla</u> (S. II)
Spain (2)	Jose Maria <u>Prieto</u> (S. 1,2); Helio Carpintero (S. 1,2)
Sweden (2)	Lars Ahlin (S. 1); Orjan <u>Salling</u> (S. 1,2)
Turkey (1)	Okan Cem <u>Cirakoglu</u> (S. 1,2)
United Kingdom (2)	Richard <u>Eiser</u> (S. 1,2); Ingrid Lunt (S. I)
United States (2)	Suzanne Bennett- <u>Johnson</u> (S. 1,2); Dianne <u>Halpern</u> (S. 1,2)
Yemen (1)	Hassan Kassim <u>Khan</u> (S. 1,2)
EC Members	J.Bruce <u>Overmier</u> (S. 1,2) Saths <u>Cooper</u> (S. 1,2) Juan-Jose <u>Sanchez-Sosa</u> (S. 1,2) Rainer <u>Silbereisen</u> (S. 1,2) Kan <u>Zhang</u> (S. 1,2) Michel <u>Denis</u> (S. 1,2) Patrick <u>Lemaire</u> (S. 1,2) Barbara <u>Tversky</u> (S. 1,2)

Ex Officio (non-voting)

EC Members

Pierre Ritchie (S. 1,2)
Michel Sabourin (S. 1,2)
Merry Bullock (S. 1,2)

Voting Delegates present: 44 (S. 1); 40 (S. 2)

Observers

Claudia Dalbert (IJP)
Hrvoje Gligora (Croatia)
Elaine Lawson (USA)
Yuvanna Mivanyi, Nigeria
Tove Beate Pedersen (Norway)
Barbara Shoenburg (ICP 2008)

Session I

I. Procedural Business

2. Adoption of the Agenda

3. Membership issues

3.1 Category O (Observer)

Slovakia, Italy and Russia have been moved into the Observer category.

4. Minutes

The Assembly received the 2004 and 2005 Executive Committee Minutes and approved the 2004 General Assembly Minutes in S. II.

5. Report of the President

Overmier described the Union's present focus on addressing its mission to advance psychology as an applied and basic science by serving as the voice for psychology on an international level, fostering the development of the discipline, engaging policy makers, and contributing to new initiatives to science, applications; and the advancement of human welfare

He elaborated on these of goals:

- Serving as the voice for psychology on an international level;
This includes interfacing with other sciences through the International Council of Science, and the International Social Sciences Council; interacting with global organizations such as the UN system, WHO, and other global organizations;
- Fostering development of the discipline
This includes increasing international capacity for psych and psych contributions; establishing and maintaining standards in education, training, research
- Engaging policy makers
This includes increasing understanding and visibility on a public level

Overmier noted that these goals give rise to important activities, that come on top of the activities that the Union traditionally has done. This raises serious issues of matching functions and available human resources to carry out the Union's activities, many of which go on behind the scenes.

Overmier prefaced a review of the actions to be requested of the Assembly by noting that the charge from the Assembly to the EC at the last meeting was to develop and bring to the GA a strategic plan. The information brought to the present meeting is an interim development in that strategic plan. As the EC began to undertake strategic planning it was clear that the current Union committee structures were not perfectly suited to the new activities and goals of the Union and it was necessary to first undertake an effort to evaluate and form a committee structure to speak directly to the priorities of the union. Thus one outcome brought to the Assembly is a report of the new structural organization of the Union's committees and workgroups, along with their terms of reference in furthering the Union priorities.

Another set of actions is affirming the housekeeping functions given to the EC to revise and streamline the statutes. Another action is that a proposal from EC for a policy statement endorsing specific national recognition for psychology in those countries where it is not recognized as an autonomous profession.

6. Report of the Secretary-General

The Assembly was referred to the Annual Report

7. Report of the Treasurer

The treasurer presented the audited financial statements for 2005 and the budget and interim accounts for 2006.

8. Report on Strategic Planning

8.1 Liaison with National Members

Each EC member is an assigned liaison to national member organizations. The Assembly delegates were encouraged to be active in this consultation process.

8.2 International Psychology Development Fund

The Union has inaugurated an International Development Fund to enable stable funding for new, especially capacity building activities. Information on the fund is available at www.iupsys.org/intlfund.html

8.3 Dogan Foundation Award

The IUPsyS is inaugurating a prize for distinguished contributions to psychology that is funded by the Mattei Dogan Foundation. The first call is now available on the IUPsyS web. The first Prize will be awarded at the International Congress of Psychology in Berlin, 2008

II. Action

9. Statutes and Rules of Procedure

9.1 Amendment of Statutes and Rules of Procedure

Ritchie reviewed the changes to the statutes. These changes included housekeeping changes (in wording and structure) and substantive changes. The changes were discussed in the last Assembly meeting and were incorporated in the documents circulated prior to the 2006 meeting.

Motion

There was a motion to approve the amendments to the statutes and rules of procedures as presented in supplementary documents to the Assembly.

There was an amendment to add to article 1 "as defined in Article 9" to highlight the mission of the Union

The amendment carried.

There was an amendment to change article 6 as follows:

(delete 6i and add new 6a)

"To enhance and promote the development of the science and the profession of psychology"

There was no discussion of the proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure.

The main motion to accept the proposed changes to the statutes with amendments to Article 1 and Article 6 carried.

In addition, it was noted by Assembly members that the description of the duties of the different officers in terms of representing the Union (Articles x, x and x) were not consistent. It was also noted that the wording in Article 9 was ambiguous and could mean that a national member that is a national academy of science could theoretically include no psychologists as delegates. There was a suggestion to add "Where the adhering body from a country is a national academy of science, national research council, or similar organization, the delegates to the Assembly shall be psychologists." to this article.

It was agreed to review these changes and analogous changes to Article 10 and to bring a proposal for changed wording to the Assembly in 2008.

9.2 Membership Categories

Sabourin provided a summary of the issues addressed by the membership work group. The present system comprises 13 categories. The criteria for category assignment are not clear, and there is little incentive to move from a lower to a higher category. The charge of the work group was to reduce the number of categories and to simplify the system.

The goal of the membership committee is to find a more transparent system with fewer categories that mandates the smallest number of changes from the current dues level. The draft proposal calls for 6 dues levels with varying numbers of Assembly delegates. The committee proposes to ask the Assembly to charge the EC with developing a new system based on the principle of 6 categories with corresponding delegate levels.

In discussion, there were questions about the criteria that would be used to assign categories, and suggestions to attend to a multifactorial assignment based on GNP, purchasing power parity, the number of psychologists in a country, and dimensions such as the number of universities with doctoral programs and the history of contributions to psychology. There was also agreement that assignment to categories should be transparent and clear and visible.

There was a motion to:

- 1. Approve in principle that the current 13 Dues Categories shall be changed to 6 Dues Categories
- 2. Approve that the 6 Dues Categories shall entitle Members to 1, 2 or 3 delegates to the Assembly
- 3. Endorse that the process of category assignment shall be clear and transparent
- Charge the EC with preparing a Statute Amendment proposal to this effect for submission to the 2008 Assembly.

There was an amendment (Berry, Canada) to change the motion as follows:

- delete point 2,
- add to point 3 (1) Taking into account the way in which decisions about which countries are in which category are made and (2) examining the implications of having wealthy countries implicitly considered to be more influential in the direction of international psychology than less wealthy countries

There was discussion of point 2 (variable numbers of delegates), including the basis on which variable numbers of delegates would be granted and the value of having this based on financial resources; whether the number of delegates should be based on financial ability or on numbers of psychologists represented by the adhering member

The amendment to strike item 2 from the proposed motion carried. The amendment to add text to point 3 was withdrawn.

The following motion carried:

1. The Assembly approves in principle that the current 13 Dues Categories shall be changed to 6 Dues Categories
2. The Assembly endorses that the process of category assignment shall be clear and transparent
3. The EC is charged with preparing a Statute Amendment proposal to this effect for submission to the 2008 Assembly.

The President inquired if the vote was to limit the proposed dues structure to mandate a single vote per National Member. The Assembly delegates indicated that this was not their intent. The President determined that the intent of the Assembly was to charge the EC with taking into consideration the issues raised during the discussion of the item as minuted, stressing the importance of clarity of purpose and transparency of process.

10. Elections Committee

Ann Magrit Aanonsen (Norway) and Dianne Halpern (USA) were elected by acclimation to serve as the elections committee.

11. International Journal of Psychology

The journal editor Claudia Dalbert was introduced to the GA and made a brief report about the aims and status of the journal. .

12. Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS) Programme

Lunt reviewed the 2006 ARTS programs, listed the present donors, including in kind contributions from the University of Athens which made local accommodations available, and national members who sponsor individuals to attend ARTS, and introduced the aspiration of ARTS to be maximally funded with a strong multiplier effect that is sustainable, and to assure that individuals chosen are linked to their university in their home country.

As followup Lunt will be writing letters to National Members thanking them for contributions to ARTS and asking for suggestions for conveners for the 2008 ARTS workshops. The plan is for the 2008 ARTS to include workshops on qualitative methods, quantitative methods, and a substantive area. The time line will be accelerated so that participant selection is complete 9 months in advance of ARTS. National Members will be asked to make contributions to the ARTS budget.

The long term intent is to strengthen the Union's capacity building endeavor through participation and contributions from national member associations and through longer term stable funding. This is an important effort to develop the next generation of scientists from the majority world and to include as wide a swath of scholars as possible

There was a suggestion from the Assembly to recruit a representative from each national member association who could ask for assistance in ARTS.

13. Psychology Resource File

Editors Wedding and Stevens were introduced to the EC and congratulated on their work

14. Special Projects

14.1 Capacity Building Initiative in the 2004 Tsunami Aftermath

Nair was applauded for her role in the tsunami initiative. She introduced Rahmat Ismail, and provided a short illustrated account of the workshop.

14.2 Human Perceptions, Representations and Behaviors in Sustainable Water Use

The Assembly was referred to the report

14.3 Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists

Gauthier presented a power point presentation outlining progress to date and a request for feedback from national members. (DO WE WANT TO REITERATE HERE THE UNION'S FEEDBACK?)

14.4 WHO collaboration re: International Classification of Diseases

Geoffrey Reed briefly outlined progress to date and field trials of the ICD using APA's practice network methodology. There were questions for discussion of how the project takes account of fluidity in classifications across cultures;

15. International Congresses of Psychology

15.1 XXVIII Congress (Beijing, 2004) Final Report

The Assembly applauded the Beijing Congress organizers

15.2 XXIX Congress (Berlin, 2008) Progress Report

Frensch presented a power point summary of progress to date. The second call will be published in the next months.

Assembly discussion focused on measures to maximize equitable geographic (and male/female) representation, with a suggestion to extend further invitations to this end. There was discussion of the challenges of balancing criteria of geographic representation and high quality work in the present case where the development of psychology is skewed geographically.

Frensch responded that the organizers will make every attempt to recruit people from areas that are not represented. He noted that the current distributions are similar to those in the Beijing and Sweden programs for both geography and gender. There was also a suggestion to develop guidelines for future Congresses to facilitate broad representation

15.3 XXX Congress (Cape Town, 2012) Progress Report

Cooper reported that the Congress organizing committees are becoming formed.

16. Regional Conferences

16.1 2005 Asia Regional Conference (Bangkok)

The Assembly was referred to a report of this Congress published in the Platform Section in the IJP

16.2 Future Regional Conferences

There was an announcement that Jordan is under consideration for the regional 2007 conference.

IV. Information

17. Committee on the Psychological Study of Peace

The committee will sponsor a conference 10-17 June 2007. The Assembly was referred to written reports

18. International Council for Science (ICSU)

The Assembly was referred to the written reports. Eiser (UK) reported that he is the only psychologist in an ICSU planning group "Natural and Induced Human Environmental Hazards and Disasters:

19. International Social Science Council (ISSC)

The Assembly was referred to the reports

20. United Nations Secretariat (New York)

Sabourin reviewed UN relations and plans for increasing representation at more UN locations.

21. UNESCO

22. World Health Organization (WHO)

The Assembly was referred to the report. A number of questions were asked about mechanisms for increasing cooperative activities with WHO and National Members. Cooper reported on a WHO-sponsored conference in South Africa; Ismail reported that Indonesia has good relations with WHO and would like to improve cooperation within the country.

23. Organizations affiliated with IUPsyS

23.1 Report of the IUPsyS -IAAP Joint Committee

The IAAP-IUPsyS joint committee meeting raised issues from the ICAP 2006 Congress, including conference fees and visa issues. These will be discussed at future meetings to develop suggestions and guidelines.

23.2 Reports from Affiliated Organizations

IACCP (Georgas) - reported on their 2006 Biennial Meeting which is traditionally held at the same venue as the International Congresses.

ISSBD (Silbereisen) reported that the new president is Anne Petersen

24. World Forum

The World Forum topic was policy making and influencing government policy.

Session II
July 21, 9:00 – 12:00

V Consultation and Recommendations for the Assembly

25. Strategic Priorities and Strategic Initiatives

25.5 Policy Statement

The EC introduced a proposed policy statement on Official Recognition of Psychology as a Profession. This statement had arisen from reports by National Member organizations that their development was hindered when psychology was not a recognized discipline for the health or other licensed professions. It was noted that this statement is compatible with IUPsyS's expanded mission to support the development of the discipline of psychology broadly. It was also noted that this statement pertains more to the professional than to academic/scientific psychologists.

Proposed statement:

IUPsyS supports legislative recognition, or the equivalent, of Psychology as a profession. Such recognition should establish Psychology as an autonomous profession based on established standards of education and training anchored in scientific psychology.

If endorsed this statement will be sent to National Members and posted on the website.

There was discussion of wording of the statement to include its essential elements: that psychology is an autonomous discipline, that it is based on scientific psychology, and that it requires rigorous training;

There was discussion of the role of the Union in proposing such a resolution. Assembly Members noted that such a resolution is important to those national associations that are working toward multicountry recognition of psychology training and for countries working toward building the training level of psychology.

After discussion the revised statement was:

The International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) supports legislative recognition, or the equivalent, of Psychology as an autonomous profession, based on established standards of education and training anchored in scientific psychology

There was a motion to accept the revised statement
The motion passed.

25. Consultation with the Assembly

The Assembly reviewed the revised organizational charts for the Union and the proposed Standing Committee Structure with associated workgroups. There was endorsement for this new structure, and a suggestion to add another workgroup on the topics of ethics and standards.

The Assembly then broke into small discussion groups with the task of developing (in each group) one vision for IUPsyS, one specific goal, and one means of achieving that goal.

The Groups reported back to the Assembly:

Group 1. (Spokesperson Rahmat Ismail, Indonesia)

Vision: The Union is the home to all psychologists in the world

Goal: Facilitate the technical and scientific capability of psychologists to address the specific issues in their society

Means: Create a data bank of updated information, procedures and technologies in psychology

Group 2 (Spokesperson Ann Watts, South Africa)

Vision: Psychology is a vibrant science whose relevance is recognized by policy makers, other sciences and the public

Goal : International dissemination of scientific knowledge making it relevant through translation to practice

Means Establishing international communication through networks, such as psynet (healthnet as a model).

Group 3 (Spokesperson Rainer Silbereisen)

Vision: Psychology addresses real world issues and concerns such as globalization, individualization, social change, peace and war, poverty and health (issues in which there is rapid change that influences the context that influence humans)

Goal: Accumulate evidence and research with the best modern standards in terms of Interdisciplinarity (behavioral psycho social genome aspects, brain),

Means: Like other disciplines through research syntheses like the Cochrane reports

Note: This Vision does not specify within-psychology targets but real world targets that utilizing psychology - e.g., Effects of doing genome interaction research on large scale social change

Group 3 also produced a *Procedural vision* Be more inclusive in terms of the distribution of age in the national members. Promoted developing mechanisms to involve new and "young" psychologists in organizational activities.

Would improve in forms and means of communication

Discussion after the Group reports was to encourage the EC to develop communications channels for Assembly members. These might include a list of names and emails of delegates at the congress; development of a listserv for Assembly members.

There was also the suggestion to repeat the Vision/Goal setting at the national society level and the national level - to provide a bottom up approach to goal setting.

VI. Other Business

26. **Time and place of the next Assembly meeting:**
Berlin, Germany - S. I July 21, 14:00-18:00; S. II July 23, 14:00-18:00
27. **Adjournment**