Bulletin

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All National Members, Affiliates and Liaisons of IUPsyS are encouraged to circulate this and future monthly Bulletins to relevant groups, such as members of committees or their national membership.

If you have comments about the Bulletin or suggestions for items to include in future editions, or if you wish to add names to the IUPsyS email list for the Bulletin and Newsletter, please contact the IUPsyS Secretariat: secretariat@iupsys.org

The IUPsyS Monthly Bulletin is for IUPsyS National Members, Affiliates, and related organizations, and their members. It provides brief updates on the work of the Union and related regional and international matters.

This Bulletin and previous issues are available at: http://www.iupsys.net/publications/bulletin/index.html
The IUPsyS Officers held their annual face-to-face meeting at the Maropeng Cradle of Humankind, near Johannesburg, South Africa from 18 to 19 April 2015. Last year’s face-to-face meetings were held in Besenfeld, Germany from 02 to 04 April and in Paris, France on 08 and 11 July, prior to and after the meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) and the Assembly. Officer Teleconferences were held on 10 September 2014, 25 November 2014, and 23 February 2015, and the EC Teleconference was held on 28 May 2014. These increased governance engagements, instituted on 27 July 2012, have enabled both the EC and Officers to be kept abreast of developments within IUPsyS, particularly operational and financial issues.

While the Officers were pleased to record healthy finances, the perennial inability of some National Members to meet their annual membership fee obligations featured high on the agenda as did the preparations for the 31st ICP to be held in Yokohama, Japan from 24 to 29 July next year and the Latin American Regional Psychology Conference to be held in Armenia, Colombia from 02 to 05 September this year.

The decision to appoint Wiley-Blackwell as publishers, and the subsequent appointment of Past President Rainer K. Silbereisen as Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Psychology (IJP), is already beginning to see results. The IJP, a global journal that is open to all the fields of psychology, has increased its footprint and quality. Reports from the Standing Committees on Strategic Planning, Capacity Building, and Communications and Publications served at the meeting as did progress reports from Work Groups, such as the Work Group on Representation on the Executive Committee, and reports of the various portfolios (e.g. UN WHO) and conferences where the IUPsyS leadership participated (such as the 1st CANPA and the 5th ARUPS conferences).

Holding the IUPsyS Officers meeting at the UNESCO World Heritage Site, which contains some of the earliest known fossils of our ancestors, held a special solemnity and was a humbling experience.

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The 5th ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) Regional Union of Psychological Societies (ARUPS) took place from 25-27 March 2014 at the Chevrons Conference Centre in Singapore. The theme was “Professionalising Psychology: Raising the Standards of Psychology for Nation Building”. The scientific committee co-chairs were Prof George Bishop (Yale-NUS College and National University of Singapore) and Dr Monica Walet (Singapore Psychological Society/Raffles College of Higher Education), who was one of the two Singapore delegates to the last IUPsyS Assembly held in Paris on 10 July 2014). There were two representatives each from Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, with seven others from Singapore.

There were three well-subscribed workshops at Raffles College. Sonia Suchday (Chair of the US National Committee for IUPsyS), assisted by Oscar Barbarin (IUPsyS EC Member), presented a full-day workshop on ‘Globalization and Well-Being: Sustainable Research in a Changing World’ which was sponsored by the Union. There was also a half-day morning workshop entitled ‘Virtual Reality in Psychological Research and Therapy’, and an afternoon workshop on ‘The Prevention and Treatment of Anxiety Disorders in Children and Adolescents’.

The ARUPS Council held its biennial meeting at the same venue. The following countries were represented there: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Singapore. After discussion, it was noted that HIMPSI (Indonesia) President, Dr Urip Purwono, would assume the ARUPS President-Elect position.

Unlike previous ARUPS Conferences, the 5th ARUPS Conference in Singapore had a majority of delegates from neighbouring countries (there were over 400 delegates), rather than the host country. The Opening Ceremony which was held in the morning, observed a minute’s silence for the late Lee Kuan Yew, and a tribute by a veteran Singaporean psychologist alluding to the late Prime Minister’s foresight in recognising psychological tools and insights was read. The opening ceremony included the welcome from the ARUPS and SPS Presidents, IUPsyS President Cooper’s opening address entitled ‘Psychology in the ASEAN Region: Taking the Lead’, and keynote addresses by Dr Col Bernard LIM (Singapore, ‘The Profession of Psychology in Singapore’), Dr Lourdes Caradang (Philippines, ‘Raising the Level of Psychological Practice through Mindfulness, Integrity and Mentoring’) and Dr Urip Purwono (Indonesia, ‘Professionalising the Profession of Psychology: From Indonesia to Regional Experiences’).

The Surabaya-Singapore Declaration on Psychology in the ASEAN Region, committing Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines to creating a minimum platform for mobility for psychologists within ASEAN (as agreed to last year by the ARUPS leadership in Surabaya, Indonesia) was also formally signed.

For more information:  http://www.arups2015.org/ 
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1000094663830060&sk=photos
U.S. NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE IUPsyS

The U.S. National Committee for the International Union of Psychological Science (USNC/IUPsyS), housed at the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, represents the nation’s psychological science community to the Union. The USNC/IUPsyS is composed of preeminent scientists in various areas of psychology as members and includes liaisons from U.S. professional societies. This network of scientists advances the committee’s goal, which is to develop and foster international partnerships, enhance the capacity to contribute to transnational research and create a diverse, globally-oriented scientific workforce operating across disciplinary and national boundaries.

A recent major activity of the USNC/IUPsyS was convening a workshop addressing ways of overcoming challenges to effective international collaborative research in the social and behavioral sciences and education (and preparing summaries of the event). This September 2013 workshop was attended by 50 individuals from fields related to psychological science, including leaders of successful transnational projects. The workshop followed a 2006 workshop that identified benefits and obstacles in international collaborations. For more information, see: http://www.nap.edu/catalog/12053/international-collaborations-in-behavioral-and-social-sciences-research-report-of).

Participants at the 2013 workshop discussed ways that universities and other organisations could address common challenges. These include strengthening infrastructure to support international collaboration, fostering relationships among collaborators, dealing with authorship and cross-cultural dissemination, developing strategies for anticipating and resolving conflicts, dealing with challenges of new technologies, and building intercultural competence. Judith Torney-Purta and Oscar Barbarin co-chaired the workshop. The report, Building Infrastructure for International Collaborative Research in the Social and Behavioral Sciences: Summary of a Workshop, was issued by the National Research Council in December 2014. It was presented in January 2015 at the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. to an audience of psychological scientists, joined by National Academy staff, advisors on science policy, and funders.


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USNC/IUPsyS members and staff at the release of the workshop report, “Building Infrastructure for International Collaborative Research in the Social and Behavioral Sciences”. From left to right, Sonia Suchday (USNC/IUPsyS Chair), Charles Super, Ester Sztein, Lois Peterson Kent, Oscar Barbarin (workshop co-chair), Judith Torney-Purta (workshop co-chair), and Merry Bullock.

Co-chairs of the workshop committee Oscar Barbarin and Judith Torney-Purta offering remarks at the presentation of the workshop report.
News from International Bodies

WHO: GLOBAL CLINICAL PRACTICE NETWORK

The Global Clinical Practice Network (GCPN) is an international set-up of mental health and primary care professionals established as a core apparatus for the development of the classification of mental and behavioural disorders in ICD-11. To provide feedback and to participate in internet-based field studies, and for further information, see:

http://www.globalclinicalpractice.net/

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE COUNCIL: PRESENNNA MADHAVAN ARATHI AWARDED WZB-ISSC GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP

Dr Arathi Presenna Madhavan is the latest Fellow of the WZB-ISSC Global Fellowship Programme. She has been at the WZB Berlin Social Science Center since April 2015 and will spend six months researching “New reproductive technologies in the globalized context of expansion of the market and the retreat of the welfare state.”

For more information, see:


CALL FOR WORLD SOCIAL SCIENCE FELLOW

The International Social Science Council (ISSC) calls for applications from outstanding early career social scientists around the world to become World Social Science Fellows and participate in a World Social Science Seminar on Sustainable Urbanization with the thematic of “Urban governance to tackle urban poverty and environmental sustainability.” The seminar will be taking place from 9-13 September 2015 in Durban, South Africa. For more information, see:

http://www.worldsocialscience.org/activities/world-social-science-fellows-programme/call-for-applications

APA: CALL TO ACTION ISSUED BY APA DIVISIONS

18 Divisions of the American Psychological Association and other organisations issued a call to action on the 1-year anniversary of the abduction of Nigerian schoolgirls that is an appeal to support international human rights standards as protection for girls and women against abductions, trafficking, and other forms of violence and discrimination. The call asks all psychologists and psychological organisations to advocate with their national professional associations and their national government to urge all Member States of the United Nations toward full implementation. For more information, see:


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