

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**of the**  
**INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE (IUPsyS)**

submitted by  
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Secretary-General

This report covers the period January to December 1998.

**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, 1998 the number of National Members was 64. As a Union, IUPsyS holds membership both in the International Council for Science (ICSU) and in the International Social Science Council (ISSC) as well as type-A consultative status with UNESCO. In 1998, special consultative status was attained with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); consultative status with the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) was maintained. A Work Plan for Co-operation between the World Health Organization and IUPsyS, approved by both organizations, has been functioning since 1997.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Countries with National Membership in IUPsyS in 1998 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; Korea; Malta;

Mexico; Morocco; Netherlands; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Nigeria; Norway; Pakistan; Panama; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Russia; Singapore; Slovakia; Slovenia; South Africa; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Venezuela; Vietnam; and Zimbabwe. Among these, two new National Members, Slovakia and Ukraine were approved in 1998. At the end of the year, two applications, Mongolia and Peru, were pending clarification of some information prior to submission to the Executive Committee and the Assembly. Several others were at varying stages of preparation.

Eleven organizations are affiliated with IUPsyS: 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); Interamerican Society of Psychology/Sociedad Interamericana de Psicologia (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). In addition, special liaison relationships were established in 1998 with the European Federation of Professional Psychologists Associations (EFPPA) and the International Test Commission (ITC).

## **VITAL STATISTICS**

Number of National Members:	64
Number of Affiliated Organizations:	11
Number of Publications:	1 Journal (founded in 1966)
Number of Scientific Meetings	3 Advanced Research Training Seminars

## **ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

*Assembly and Executive Committee Meetings*

This section summarizes some items of business not otherwise presented elsewhere in the annual report.

For the first time since the approval of a By-law amendment in 1996, the Assembly of the Union held a regular official meeting at the mid-point between two international congresses of psychology. The 1998 meeting was held in San Francisco, USA. A total of 67 delegates were present at the session, representing 38 countries.

The President, G. d'Ydewalle, underscored the importance of inter-organizational relations and particularly cited recent initiatives with United Nations system and the World Health Organization. IUPsyS will work to ensure that benefit is derived from psychology's presence, especially in sustaining momentum in scientific and professional activities. The President also summarized the consultation with all National Members asking them to describe their organisation's commitment to psychology as a science and as a profession. He concluded that this activity had promoted National Members' awareness of the goals and aims of the Union.

Among other business, amendments to the Rules of Procedure were approved creating an Elections Committee as well as revised nominations and elections procedures. The Assembly also approved that the Executive Committee continue exploring research activities and other initiatives to further psychology internationally.

The Executive Committee also met in San Francisco, USA. The Executive Committee continues to carefully monitor implementation of the new UNESCO Framework Agreement. In particular, it remains concerned about the implications for research and special project funding received from UNESCO via ICSU and ISSC. UNESCO's plans for a World Science Conference in 1999 were also reviewed with strong support expressed for the Union contributing to the Conference in collaboration with ICSU, ISSC and other scientific unions.

In other business, the Executive Committee approved the Decade of Behavior initiative and

directed that it be introduced to ISSC. It also approved the re-appointment of Francois Doré as Editor of the International Journal of Psychology (IJP) until December 31, 2001. It endorsed extending IUPsyS auspices to PSICODOC (Spanish language CD-ROM literature documentation).

Continued support of Regional Congresses was reaffirmed. Following the successful initial efforts in China (1995) and Mexico (1997), the Executive received an encouraging report on the 1999 Regional Congress for Southern Africa. The venue will be Durban, South Africa. The Organizing Committee held a productive joint meeting with the Executive.

The activities of the several international research networks and projects were reviewed. These included collaborative projects in the developing world (e.g., Child rearing Practices of Low Socio-economic Status Women in Turkey; Social Integration in Southern Africa) as well as those on Psychological Dimensions of Global Change, and extending the project on Psychology and Cognitive Science to include a focus on advancing knowledge in an interdisciplinary environment. Directions for future actions were endorsed. Progress on specific projects is detailed below in reviewing activities undertaken during 1998. Initiatives for 1999 are well-defined and those for 2000 are under active consideration. Several of those retained will be submitted for consideration by ICSU and ISSC.

A preliminary review of the 1998 Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS) was received and prospects for future ARTS considered. It was recognized that ARTS has quickly come to be a major IUPsyS contribution to capacity building.

A report on plans for the XXVII International Congress, Stockholm (Sweden) in 2000 was very well received. A progress report on establishment of the organizing structure for the XXVIII International Congress, Beijing (China) in 2004 was also favourably received.

Officers and other members of the Executive Committee for the current quadrennium (1996-2000) are: President, Prof. Géry d'Ydewalle (Belgium); Secretary-General, Prof. Pierre Ritchie

(Canada); Past-President, Prof. Kurt Pawlik (Germany); Treasurer, Prof. Michel Sabourin (Canada); Vice-Presidents, Profs. Cigdem Kagitçiba\_i (Turkey) and Jan Strelau (Poland); Deputy Secretary-General, Dr. Merry Bullock (Estonia); Members, Profs. John Adair (Canada), Rubén Ardila (Columbia), Michel Denis (France), Hiroshi Imada (Japan), Lars-Göran Nilsson (Sweden), Bruce Overmier (USA), Ype Poortinga (Netherlands), Juan José Sanchez Sosa (Mexico), Houcan Zhang (China).

Professor Derek Blackman (United Kingdom) resigned from the Executive Committee and Assembly in 1998 in order to devote all his attention to a senior position to which he was appointed in Geneva.

The Executive Committee learned with great regret of the death of former President and Secretary-General, Professor Roger Russell.

### *Finances*

Detailed financial statements, independently audited, have been submitted to the ICSU and ISSC Secretariats. They will be submitted to the Executive Committee at its 1999 meeting.

The financial base of the Union remains sound although current finances provide little margin for new initiatives. In his report to the 1998 Assembly, the Treasurer, M. Sabourin, reviewed the Union's finances in detail. He noted the challenges created by significant changes engendered by the new UNESCO Framework Agreement through which some Union activities receive support via ICSU and ISSC. The strains on the budgets of some National Members also affects their capacity to render timely dues payments. Nonetheless, the Treasurer confirmed that fiscal prudence in the management of the Union's affairs allowed it to maintain financial viability.

### *Secretariat*

The IUPsyS Archives were transferred in 1998 from Louvain (Belgium) to the Union's legal venue in Montréal (Canada). Work on cataloguing will proceed over the next several years. Greater use of electronic communication has enhanced internal communications, especially within the Executive Committee and externally with the more established international

organizations in the psychological and broader communities. The prospect for doing so with the Assembly and National Members over time remains high. However, the administrative burden of responding to a rapidly increasing volume of communications as well as the expectation of rapid responses attenuate the general advantages afforded by electronic communications media. The work of the Secretary-General has been ably complemented by the assistance of the Deputy-Secretary-General, M. Bullock, who completed her first full year in 1998.

## ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING 1998

### *Scientific meetings*

Three Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS) were conducted in 1998 under the coordination of IUPsyS Executive Committee member, J. Adair. Two received support from UNESCO via ISSC: Developing Effective Health Behaviour Interventions (Professor M. Fishbein) and Qualitative Approaches in Cross-Cultural Psychology (Professors R. Serpell and A. Akkavi). In addition, Advances in Cognitive Psychology (Professor P. Graf) was offered. In addition to the funding support of UNESCO/ISSC and the Union itself, ARTS secured financial support from 9 national organizations and 5 other institutions.

The IUPsyS is actively supporting the First African Regional Congress of Psychology to be held in Durban, South Africa in July, 1999 under its auspices with the collaboration of the International Association of Applied Psychology and the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology. This regional congress will receive substantial assistance from the Union, for example, through IUPsyS sponsored keynote speakers, invited symposia and workshops. Partial funding for some activities has already been approved by UNESCO via ISSC and ICSU.

### *Publications*

*The International Journal of Psychology* (Editor: F. Doré) continued to be the major publication channel of 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. In addition, a regular column in the International Platform on activities and issues in the United Nations system was initiated. The Editor, in collaboration with the Chair of the Standing Committee on Communications and Publications, Professor K. Pawlik, initiated a comprehensive review of the journal. This led to approval at the 1998 Executive Committee of revised 'Aims and Scope' for the journal.

The *Proceedings of the XXVI International Congress of Psychology*, published in late 1997 in two volumes has attracted positive attention and strong dissemination results. Work continued on preparation of the *International Handbook of Psychology* due for publication in 2000 under the editorship of K. Pawlik and M. Rosenzweig. In anticipation of the imminent 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the IUPsyS, former Officers D. Bélanger, W. Holtzman, and M. Rosenzweig are preparing a history of the Union. A new edition of the IUPsyS Directory is nearing completion under the editorship of Executive Committee member, B. Overmier. ISSC has confirmed that five short articles ('boxes') prepared under the auspices of the IUPsyS will be published in the World Social Science Report.

An important new initiative, the Psychology Resource Files, was approved by the 1998 Executive Committee. Under this aegis, materials and texts presenting useful information about psychology and psychologists internationally will be published periodically. It is anticipated that the revised IUPsyS Directory will be the initial offering.

The IUPsyS WWW Homepage (<http://aix1.uottawa.ca/~iupsys>), now under the direction of the Deputy Secretary-General, M. Bullock, has been considerably enhanced.

### *Special projects*

The Standing Committee on Research and Special Projects, chaired by Vice-President Jan Streau, continues to assist the Assembly and Executive Committee in providing general

oversight and policy framework. In 1998, it undertook a preliminary consultation with National Members on ideas for future projects, especially those with a goal of promoting capacity building.

Work of the International Network Project on Psychological Dimensions of Global Change on project "**Perception and Assessment of Global Environmental Change**" (PAGEC) continued with Professor K. Pawlik (Germany) as Project Director. This research is supported by UNESCO under the auspices of the Human Dimensions Program of Environmental Change of both ICSU and ISSC. Building on preparatory work completed in prior years, work on Project PAGEC in 1998 proceeded in accordance with the established work plan. Following completion of the comparative analysis of pilot interviews with close to 500 respondents in six participating countries (Germany, India, Nigeria, Russia, Turkey, USA) significant within- and between-country variations and co-variations have been tabulated. Respondents in the participating countries differed in how they conceptualize the scope and dimensions of their individual and collective environment, in how they weigh and prioritize environmental hazards and risks, assess threats to their individual and collective safety and security and to individual health demands, and in the way they conceive of possibilities and actual contributions towards environment-friendly behaviour. They also differ significantly in the relative weight assigned to different sources of information about environmental change and individuals' role in contributing to such change and in mitigating effects on their individual well-being. On the basis of a detailed psychometric item analysis of the pilot study questionnaire data, a revised, now fully structured questionnaire has been developed and is available to researchers on request.

In addition, a PAGEC Symposium was convened at the International Congress of Applied Psychology in August 1998. Participants from eight countries reported on their PAGEC-related individual research programs and on research priorities evolving in their countries.

Supported by U.S. National Academy of Sciences through ICSU, the IUPsyS **Initiative on Psychology and Cognitive Science** completed its current project and concurrently began



planning a new stage of work in 1998 with Professor M. Denis (France), as Project Director. The final version of the report based on the IUPsyS survey on psychology and cognitive science was circulated to the presidents, secretaries-general, and delegates of the National Members of the Union. This comprehensive report provided a detailed analysis of the extensive survey on Psychology and Cognitive Science conducted among the National Members of the Union. Responses were received from 31 countries (Albania, Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, and USA). Dissemination was also achieved through publication of a special issue of the *International Journal of Psychology* (1998, 33, 6): "Psychology and Cognitive Science: An International Perspective", edited by M. Denis (December 1998). The issue contains four articles, by M. Denis (France), J.-F. Le Ny (France), W. Kintsch (USA), and J. Glasgow (Canada).

Given the findings of the original initiative and the potential for interdisciplinary activities, the project has been renewed with a revised objective. The second stage focuses on **"Psychology in a Multi-disciplinary Environment"**. The earlier project unequivocally confirmed the increasing pertinence of a multi-disciplinary environment to psychology and other disciplines working in cognitive science. In 1998, the groundwork was prepared for a large scale multi-disciplinary initiative. As an extension of the project "Psychology and Cognitive Science", this new project was launched to provide a framework for engaging contacts with international bodies representing other disciplines related with psychology. The objective is to explore the possibilities for our Union and other organizations whose objectives partly overlap ours to join their efforts in launching operations that promote an interdisciplinary view of science. During ICSU's Extraordinary General Assembly of ICSU, contacts were made with officers of several Unions, in particular the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO), the International Geographical Union (IGU), and the International Union of the History and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS). Continued contacts took place until the end of this year, involving the officers of our Union and of these organizations. Already activities are being prepared which will unfold over at least the next two years. In

particular, an IUPsyS-IBRO Joint Symposium, "Neuroimaging of Cognitive Functions" and an IUPsyS-IGU Joint Symposium, "Spatial Cognition and Geographical Knowledge" will be held in the context of the XXVII International Congress of Psychology (Stockholm, July, 2000). Another action consists in the organization of a three-day training workshop for young psychologists from developing and Eastern Europe countries, to be held as a satellite activity of the Stockholm congress.

The work of the IUPsyS International Network on the Young Child and the Family, under the coordination of Vice-President Cigdem Kagitçiba\_i, continued its work on several activities including the promotion of psychology as a science and as a profession with national Members. In 1998, initial deliberations were held on developing comprehensive data and information on the education and training of psychologists throughout the world.

As a result of networking activities of the last two years, the Directory of Centres involved in Research and Applied work on the Young Child and the Family in Developing Countries and Eastern Europe was completed. It will be published in the International Journal of Psychology (International Platform Section) in 1999. It promises to be a valuable resource for those interested in communicating and collaborating with research centers in the world focusing on the young child and the family.

Supported by UNESCO through ISSC, the project entitled "**Dealing with Poverty and Social Integration Through Studying Child Rearing Practices of Low Socioeconomic Status Women**" with Professor C. Kagitçiba\_i (Turkey) as Project Director yielded further data and analysis. Preliminary work was undertaken in 1996 with a pilot study, followed by field research in 1997 and 1998. This ongoing project examines the comparative effects of two empowerment programs on women who live in low-income, low-education areas of Istanbul, Turkey. Various effects of each program are studied, both in comparison to each other and to a no program control group. This project examined the specific and general effects on women of two different empowerment programs. The two programs, Functional Adult Literacy Program (FALP) and Mother-Child Education Program (MOCEP), though different

in content and goals, reach similar groups of women with low S-E-S standing and rural background in Istanbul, Turkey. The main research question whether the experience of participation in a women's support program provide general benefits or whether the gains are content-specific. Preliminary analyses have been carried out, and multivariate analyses are presently under way. The results are pointing to both specific and general benefits accruing from program participation. These gains are seen both in basic cognitive processes and also in self esteem, family relationships, and child rearing patterns. Cognitive benefits following the process of gaining literacy (from FALP) of unschooled women were expected. However, the finding that they were also the case for schooled participants of MOCEP points to more general positive effects of women's active voluntary participation in a community program. As for more positive intra-familial relations and child rearing patterns, these are especially notable for MOCEP, as expected. However, some similar changes also result from FALP. This can best be understood in terms of general benefits involving increased self esteem of women and their more positive outlooks on life which are reflected in their improved family relations, particularly with their children. The study has significant programmatic and policy implications. Its results and their implications will be discussed at a workshop to be held in Istanbul, Turkey in the Spring of 1999. In addition, an outgrowth of this project is planned for 1999 examining possible changes in the employment capabilities and labor force participation of women who underwent the two programs. This project is expected to throw further light on the benefits of women's empowerment programs in the context of poverty.

Supported by UNESCO through ISSC, the Union's Standing Committee on the Psychological Study of Peace, Chaired by Professor M. Wessells (USA), has continued work on its project on **"Social Integration in Southern Africa"**. In late 1997, a 5 day workshop on **"Youth, Political Violence and Conflict Resolution in Southern Africa"** was conducted at the University of Witwatersrand (South Africa). A second workshop, **"Youth and Political Violence in Southern Africa: Building Cultures of Peace"** will be offered over a 6 day period as a satellite to the First Regional Congress of Psychology for Southern Africa. Based on the strongly positive evaluation of participants in the first workshop, it is expected that the

follow-up activity will make a significant social contribution.

The International Network of Psychology and the Developing World, coordinated by Executive Committee member, Professor R. Ardila, contacted all the national societies of countries in the developing world, informing them about the objectives of the Network, its needs, and the specific tasks to be undertaken. Current activities are centred on facilitating communication among 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 participation in international and regional congresses of psychology. The Network has continued to play a role in facilitating the IUPsyS commitment to sponsoring regional congresses particularly those in developing countries. The Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS) are seen as very beneficial in helping to begin research work and international networks. The Network has been re-established and a database of participants is being developed.

The IUPsyS HealthNet, co-ordinated by Executive Committee member, Professor J.J. Sanchez Sosa, has embarked on a period of renewal and expansion. Established in the previous quadrennium, grew to more than 100 psychologists in 25 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. In Mexico, three agencies have offered to help in specific ways. The General Directorate for Academic Computing of Mexico's National University (UNAM) has set aside some technical and human resources in order to help develop and install the Health Net Web Page. The National Council for Science and Technology of Mexico is providing some financial help through a research grant for the development and evaluation of an intervention package aimed at increasing the quality of life of persons with HIV as well as AIDS patients. These resources would help develop and post information ranging from prevention to assisting in comforted and dignified dying. UNAM's General Directorate for Research and Technological Development is in the process of assigning resources to the Health Net through a research grant. Additionally, a new joint program between Mexico's National Council for Science and Technology and several main universities, is evaluating a nationwide project to assess and develop interventions for several adolescence related problems such as teen pregnancy and addictions. A portion of the project's funds is also expected to support such initiatives as those of Health Net.

As a result of a HealthNet initiative, a special IUPsyS liaison, Professor Robert Martin (Canada), was appointed to the World Health Organization (WHO) in late 1996. The initial outcome of this activity was the establishment of a Work Plan approved by both IUPsyS and WHO which may lead to a permanent formal relationship with WHO. The Work Plan emphasizes the development of specific outcomes, including 'Behavioural Science Learning Modules' and contributing to the 'WHO Quality of life Assessment Instrument' as well as communication and information-sharing activities. Collaborative work will focus on a broad range of health psychology activities including the participation of health psychologists in health education, and health promotion as well as traditional areas of mental health.

This Network also provides collaboration and assistance to Secretary-General P. Ritchie, IUPsyS representative to WHO, in implementing the IUPsyS-WHO Work Plan. There is clear support within WHO to develop closer ties with psychology, particularly within a health psychology and behavioural science framework. The renewal of Health Net is also of considerable interest to WHO. The Work Plan is also committed to producing Behavioural Science Learning Modules; the modules currently under development focus on diabetes, immunization and pre-natal care.

#### **BRIEF REPORT OF USE OF 1998 ICSU GRANT AND UNESCO AND U.S NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES SUBVENTIONS**

A description of activities supported by UNESCO and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences through 1998 ICSU grants was provided in the report of special projects, in particular those of the project on Perception and Assessment of Global Environmental Change and of the project on Psychology in a Multi-disciplinary Environment.

#### **BRIEF REPORT OF USE OF 1998 ISSC GRANT AND UNESCO SUBVENTION**

A description of activities supported by 1998 ISSC/UNESCO grants was provided in the report

of special projects, in particular the activities of the Project on Psychological Dimensions of Global Change, Project on Dealing with Poverty and Social Integration Through Studying Child Rearing Practices of Low Socioeconomic Status Women. The two Advanced Research Training Seminars funded in 1998, Developing Effective Health Behaviour Interventions and Qualitative Approaches in Cross-Cultural Psychology were provided in the report of scientific meetings.

## CONCLUSION AND FUTURE PLANS

Following a very successful previous quadrennium capped in 1996 by a strong scientific programme at the XXVI International Congress of Psychology, expectations were high for the new quadrennium (1997-2000). At the mid-point, prospects are excellent for achieving the ambitious objectives which have been set. The Union is committed to capacity building in all areas of the world as well as to supporting psychological scientists and practitioners and those conducting or implementing the fruits of research in related domains. In 1998, this was manifested in part through three Advanced Research Training Seminars, active planning and a major investment in the next Regional Congress - the First Africa Regional Congress of Psychology, dissemination of knowledge in the *International Journal of Psychology*, and the successful distribution of the *Proceedings of the XXVI International Congress of Psychology* as well focussed research activities and special projects in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe.

Collaborative relationships with the UN through services based in New York, at UNESCO in Paris and at WHO in Geneva also progressed well in 1998 without diminishing the Union's intent to maintain and enhance contributions to ICSU and ISSC. Like all Unions, IUPsyS continues to adjust to new funding arrangements with UNESCO through ICSU and ISSC. This will undoubtedly remain the case for the balance of this quadrennium.

Sustaining the renewal of relations with National Members, implementing new plans for the Union's publications program, maintaining several current activities and the prospect of additional research and special projects will be priorities in the year ahead and beyond. These endeavours will be complemented by enhancing the capacity of its own infrastructure to carry out the IUPsyS mission.

