

**International Union of Psychological Science  
Executive Committee  
Berlin, Germany  
July 19-20, 2008**

**MINUTES**

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**In attendance:** J. B. Overmier (President); M. Bullock; H. Carpintero; S. Cooper; M. Denis; J. Georgas; H. Khan; P. Lemaire; E. Lunt; E. Nair; P. Ritchie; M. Sabourin; J-J Sanchez-Sosa; R. Silbereisen; B. Tversky; K. Zhang

Guests included: C. Dalbert, P. Frensch, R. Perry, B. Schauenberg

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The President opened the meeting and welcomed the EC. He noted honors and awards bestowed on EC members during the year:

- Carpintero received a *Doctor Honoris Causa* from the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia
- Denis: Promoted to "Senior Researcher of Exceptional Grade" by the National Center of Scientific Research; Named "Chair" of the Cognitive Science panel of the ERC (European Research Council) for "Advanced Grants"
- Georgas received the 2007 Ursula Gielen Global Psychology Book Award of the International Division 52 of the American Psychological Association; for Georgas, J., Berry, J., van de Vijver, FJR, Kagitcibasi, C. and Poortinga, Y (2006). *Families across cultures: a 30-nation psychological Study*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Quicheng Jing received the 2007 Society or Research in Child Development (SRCD) Distinguished Scientific Contribution to Child Development Award
- Sanchez-Sosa received a special recognition diploma from UNAM for having been the Doctoral Dissertation advisor and Masters Thesis advisor (Main Tutor) of the two postgraduate students whose dissertation and thesis each won UNAM's "Alfonso Caso" Medal Award
- Tversky received 2 new granddaughters
- Overmier received three wards:
  - Aconcanual Award for contributions to psychological science and international leadership by the Universidad del Aconcagua y Asociacion Argentina de Ciencias del Comportamiento given in Mendoza, Argentina, 2007
  - Fellow, National Academy of Psychology, India, for "*distinguished contributions to the advancement of Psychology as a discipline and profession*" in India, 2007
  - Doctor o Science *honoris causa*, Université de Montreal (Canada) 2008

**I. Procedural Business**

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was accepted with the addition of 13.2 and 13.3

**2. Minutes**

**2.1 2006 Assembly**

## **2.2 2007 EC**

THE MINUTES WERE ACCEPTED BY THE EC AND WILL BE POSTED ON THE WEB.

### **3. Report of the President**

#### **3.1 Orientation**

#### **3.2 State of the Union / Strategic Priorities**

The President reviewed the goals and charges to the EC over the last quadrennium including the mandate to develop a strategic plan, and to assure resources to the Union.

The Goals are to set the strategic plan for the next quadrennium, including the structures that will guide the Union's larger goals. The EC will discuss new financial capacity and strategic deployment of resources; and will discuss moving in the directions suggested by the GA, including a professionalization of the structure of the Union that will requires changes in the configuration and duties of the officers.

### **4. SC on Publications and Communication**

In *Executive Session*, the EC heard a report on the process of soliciting proposals for the Union publishing program.

THE EC ENDORSED THE CHOICE OF PSYCHOLOGY PRESS FOR THE PUBLISHER FOR THE UNION 2009-2012 AND MANDATED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT.

### **5. Strategic Plan**

#### **5.1 Adoption of Strategic Priorities and Implementation plan 2008-2012**

#### **5.2 Allocation of financial resources**

The draft Strategic Plan and allocations draft were circulated to the EC. After discussion of the plan, the EC suggested several amendments to be incorporated into the information available to the Assembly, including:

- Indicate under Executive Officer description that the list of duties are "illustrative" and not "exclusive"
- Change action terms to "enablers"
- Note that international representation examples are "representative"
- Remove bullets from Service to the discipline section

The EC noted that there are several points for consideration by the incoming EC, including:

- Discussion of mechanisms for a transition (in voting, statutes change, etc.) for new officers
- Configuration of the composition of officers, and consideration of whether the officer terms of service should be changed to allow staggered terms, for example whether selection of the Secretary-General should be in off years; the role of the treasurer, and the like.

THE EC ADOPTED THE STRATEGIC PLAN WITH AMENDMENTS AS NOTED

THE EC VOTED TO ENGAGE AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND TO BEGIN A TRANSITION PHASE AS THE CURRENT SECRETARY-GENERAL AND DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL END THEIR 2-YEAR TERMS

**6. Recommendation to the Assembly for the Appointment of Secretary General, Deputy Secretary-General, and Treasurer**

THE EC RECOMMENDED TO THE ASSEMBLY THE REAPPOINTMENT OF PIERRE RITCHIE AS SECRETARY-GENERAL AND MERRY BULLOCK AS DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR 2-YEAR TERMS TO END IN 2010 AND THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MICHEL SABOURIN AS TREASURER FOR A 4-YEAR TERM.

**7. International Congresses of Psychology**

**7.1 XXIX Congress** (Berlin, 2008) Progress Report

Congress President Frensch and General Secretary Schauenburg briefed the EC on preliminary attendance figures and the overall Congress status.

**7.2 XXX Congress** (Cape Town, 2012) Progress Report

Cooper gave a report on the ICP2012 preparations. Deadlines have been set, including an early deadline to enable participants to know in advance for funding, etc. The last deadline for submissions is October 2011.

Cooper reviewed significant parts of the contract, including a levy for the Union from registration fees.

The EC reviewed the handing off ceremony in Berlin.

**7.3 XXXI Congress** - Selection of Venue

The SG reported that there were currently no active bids for the Congress. The EC discussed possible bids that might arise in the next two years and timing of decision processes. The EC affirmed the importance of involving the Assembly in early stages of the decision process.

THE EC AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO THE ASSEMBLY THAT ACTION AND DECISION ABOUT THE 2016 CONGRESS BE DEFERRED TO THE MELBOURNE ASSEMBLY, WITH MATERIALS SUBMITTED SUFFICIENTLY IN ADVANCE TO BE GIVEN CONSIDERATION.

**8. Report of the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General**

**8.1 New Members** (Namibia, Thailand)

There was discussion of the applications for admission of two new members. A National Member had raised a question about the application from Thailand that is currently under review in response to a query from the officers.

THE EC RECOMMENDED ADMISSION OF NAMIBIA

THE EC RECOMMENDED ADMISSION OF THAILAND PENDING A SATISFACTORY RESPONSE FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING ARTICLE 6.

**8.2 Change in Adhering Body** (Spain, France, Italy)

THE EC VOTED TO APPROVE THE CHANGE IN STATUS FOR SPAIN AND FRANCE, each of which was moving toward a larger more representative body for psychology in the country

THE EC VOTED TO ACCEPT BRINGING THE CHANGE IN ADHERING BODY FOR ITALY TO THE ASSEMBLY PENDING THE DELIVERY OF SOLID DOCUMENTATION AND RETURN TO GOOD STANDING THROUGH THE PAYMENT OF DUES.

**8.3 New Affiliate (ARUPS)**

THE EC VOTED TO RECOMMEND TO THE ASSEMBLY THE ADMISSION OF ARUPS AS AN AFFILIATE.

**9. Report of the Treasurer**

### **9.1 Financial statements**

The EC received the auditor's report.  
THE EC RE-APPOINTED MIZGALA AND CIE AS AUDITORS.

### **9.2 Budget Forecast 2009-2010**

This item was postponed pending the discussions of the strategic plan and budget at the 2008 Assembly meeting.

## **10. Standing Committee on Strategic Planning**

### **10.1 Dues Structure and Membership Categories**

Sabourin introduced the Dues Structure report and summarized progress since the last EC meeting.

The EC discussed the current proposal and its many complexities and noted that whereas the goal of the exercise was to increase transparency and equity across all the varied national members of the union, there are challenges in developing one consistent rubric because the resources, structure and actions of psychology across countries are variable for both historical and pragmatic reasons.

The EC recommended a 3-step sequence:

1. The EC will recommend this transparent system (measure of country wealth; measure of country size; measure of development of the discipline) to the Assembly
2. The EC will recommend that the Assembly endorse further data collection
3. The EC will recommend that the Assembly ask the EC to prepare a recommendation for statutes changes for the 2010 Assembly

The EC noted that the question of proportional voting of 1 vs. 2 delegates could be raised at a later time.

### **10.2 Work Group on Funding**

The Funding report was not discussed, and will be transferred to the incoming EC.

### **10.3 International Psychology Development Fund**

Overmier reported that the International Fund has grown with a new pledge of 50,000.

The EC endorsed Overmier's shepherding of this resource for the Union.

### **10.4 Work Group on Awards**

Silbereisen provided a brief report and recommended that this report be remanded to the incoming EC for action.

#### **10.4.1 Dogan Prize**

Currently there are 21 Dogan awards. Mattei Dogan was interested in the idea of a specifically social psychology oriented prize. This idea will be transferred to the WG on awards in the Incoming EC.

### **10.5 Evaluation Criteria for Capacity Building & other projects**

Lunt reviewed her report/paper and opened it to discussion. There was broad agreement that evaluation of projects and attempts to develop metrics for long term evaluation of activities was a crucial part of fulfilling the strategic plan.

There was discussion of the evaluation of capacity building and it was noted that each project may require specialized criteria for assessing outcomes and a "multiplier" effect.

The EC adopted this document in principle and made a general suggestion to broaden evaluation activities for all Union activities. The EC recommended sending this to the incoming EC for further development and implementation.

## **11. Nominations and Elections**

### **11.1 Report of the Elections Committee**

Denis referred the EC to the published elections report.

## **12. Standing Committee on Publications and Communications, continued**

### **12.1 International Journal of Psychology**

Perry gave a report on subscription rates, circulation rates and trends for the International Journal. She noted that there were 1600 preorders for Congress abstracts; at the Congress, the IJP issue with information on psychology in Germany was in every delegate's bag.

The EC discussed the impact factor for 2007 which was a drop from 2006 and 2005. One reason for this was that in 2006 the journal carried substantially more papers because of the substantial accepted manuscript backlog carried over from the previous editor. The first papers under the present editor were published in later 2006.

Perry noted that in 2009 the normal journal page number will go up to 480 pages (extra 48 pages) that will allow about 50 articles a year.

She also discussed marketing, which is a part of every issue. The articles are available free for a period of time.

IJP Editor Dalbert, reviewed editorial office activities and noted a slight increase in the acceptance rate of those manuscripts that do comply with the scope of the journal and are reviewed.

She also noted that there has been an increase in unsolicited manuscripts from outside US, Europe to 51% in 2008 (up from earlier years) – attracting better ms and more from outside N American and Europe. The country of first author for 2004-6 was: 194 authors from 36 countries; in 2008 there were 40 ms from 22 countries (but the rate of ms/country was 1.8, down from 3.3); In addition reviewers were recruited from more than 30 countries.

Future plans: Issue 1 in 2009 will be a special issue on the "new racism"; a global special section psychology and global poverty reduction 2010 will be undertaken by variety of journals in consortium (also with UNESCO and WHO).

### **12.2 Psychology Resource File**

The editors provided a report on the status of the current CD and new contributions anticipated for the coming year. The editors expressed appreciation for the good working relations with Psychology Press and the EC.

The editors raised questions for the future. These included (1) Commissioning of new materials: occasionally there is a need to fill in gaps – and an important mechanism is commissioning contributions. (2) Language policy: the editors queried whether the earlier English only language policy would hold for abstracts and conference submissions.

These questions will be referred to the incoming EC.

### **13. *Standing Committee on Capacity Building***

#### **13.1 ARTS 2008**

Lunt reported on ARTS for 2008, reviewing the number of participants in the three ARTS seminars. She noted that the range of countries represented has increased.

Funding for ARTS was discussed. Support to date has been from a small handful of organizations, and it is necessary to raise sufficient funds to be able to fund each workshop at the \$10,000 level.

There was discussion of the need to professionalize the ARTS process, and to ground it more clearly in the three parent organizations, including developing a systematic relationship.

The EC received the report and recommendations and recommended to the incoming EC to draft and implement a formal memorandum of understanding for the further development and implementation of ARTS.

#### **13.2 National Capacity Building**

The EC discussed the impression that there were multiple opportunities for capacity building projects and noted that there are opportunities for funding programs to foster collaboration. Such funds may be available in national defense related contexts and organizations.

SAARC: Janak Pandey wrote to the EC to request Union participation at the annual NAOP meeting. This meeting can be used to build a regional grouping around ARUPS. Nair proposed a future capacity building model of activities using regional groupings to further capacity building to individual countries.

Follow-up after the tsunami: the workshop was used to develop activities beyond the workshop; researchers in the four countries have presented their work and kept contact through conferences; Nair suggested an agenda on capacity building and resilience building.

Zhang noted that after the China earthquake national members sent offers to China to offer training. He expressed thanks for these activities.

Cooper added that a structural outcome from these activities was the formation of ARUPS and its activities with national members. The EC noted that this model might be applied in other regions. The South Asian and Middle Eastern organizations are examples.

#### **13.3 HealthNet**

Sanchez-Sosa distributed a HealthNet report and noted that there is a new directory at the global level with research on health and behavior, already being updated for 2009. The website is now updated every month for health news, health research and health organizations. The current project is to produce for ICSU a directory of organizations that have regional priorities in health in the Americas.

Sanchez-Sosa reported that a new consultation with HealthNet members is about to begin.

### **14. *Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists***

#### **14.1 Recommendation to the Assembly**

THE EC RECOMMENDED TAKING THE REVISED UNIVERSAL DECLARATION TO THE ASSEMBLY WITH A RECOMMENDATION FOR ADOPTION AS A DOCUMENT OF THE UNION.

**15. *Committee for the Psychological Study of Peace***

Overmier summarized the history of Committee and IUPsyS, and noted that Christie had reopened the issue of the relation between the committee and IUPsyS with a new letter. Overmier reported the officers' recommendation that the decision of the EC to encourage the Committee for the Psychological Study of Peace to become an independent organization and an affiliate of IUPsyS be supported.

Silbereisen noted that the EC needs to make a decision concerning the letter and its request. He noted that any reconsideration would need to consider terms of reference, lines of reporting, and terms of responsibility.

AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION THE EC REAFFIRMED ITS INITIAL DECISION AND REQUESTED THAT THE INCOMING EC CONTINUE DISCUSSION HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AFFILIATION AND FURTHER INTERACTION

**16. *Regional Conferences of Psychology***

**16.1 2009**

Overmier discussed the proposed conference in Bulgaria. IAAP is the lead organization. The incoming EC will appoint a liaison to this conference.

**16.2 2011**

THE EC ENDORSED DEVELOPING A REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION

**17. *International Council for Science (ICSU)***

Denis offered a report on ICSU. He elaborated and reminded the Union that others (Ritchie and Zhang) are involved in other bodies within ICSU. There was a recommendation to generate nominations for the upcoming ICSU elections.

**17.1 Grants program**

The ICSU grants program will be open with deadlines in the Fall.

**17.2 Health and Well Being**

IUPsyS is involved in the Unions' activities in this area. The USNC-IUPsyS Chair is leading the planning group; Ritchie worked with Dov Jaron (co-chair of the planning group) at initial states to develop the project

**17.3 Regional Offices**

ICSU regional offices are active and IUPsyS members are active within those arenas; Zhang; Cooper; and Sanchez-Sosa are each involved with their respective regional offices.

**17.4 Relationship with Social Sciences**

This relation is developing, primarily with ISSC to include the social sciences in ICSU activities and to develop collaborations.

**18. *International Social Science Council (ISSC)***

**18.1 Special Members Meeting April 2008**

Overmier reported on the meetings within ISSC.

**18.2 World Social Sciences Review**

The EC was referred to circulated materials on a planned summit in April 2009 in Norway.

**18.3 World Social Sciences Report**

IUPsyS suggested and successfully placed former IJP editor Laura Hernandez on the WSSR board. Editorial control of the Report is in the ISSC Secretariat.

**19. United Nations (UN)****19.1 World Health Organization (WHO)**

Deferred to the Incoming EC.

**20. Special Projects and Activities****20. 1 Atlas Project**

Deferred to the Incoming EC.

**21. Liaison reports****21.1 World Forum.**

The World Forum will take place during the ICP2008. Invitations were sent to all international organizations with special emphasis on IUPsyS affiliates

**22. General Review of Assembly Agenda**

The EC reviewed 2008 Assembly Agenda.

**23. Union Activities During the XXIX Congress**

The Secretariat reported on Union activity Schedules and Locations

**II. Other Business****24. THE UNION UNANIMOUSLY PROCLAIMED MICHEL DENIS AS HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBER OF THE EC****25. Adjournment**