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

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This report covers the period January to December 2011.

#### INTRODUCTION

The International Union of Psychological Science is an organization composed of National Member organizations (national societies, associations or 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, 2011 the number of National Members was 73.

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 2011 were:

Albania	Denmark	Ireland	Nigeria	Sudan
Argentina	Dominican Republic	Israel	Norway	Sweden
Australia	Egypt	Italy	Pakistan	Switzerland
Austria	Estonia	Japan	Panama	Turkey
Bahamas	Finland	Jordan	Peru	Uganda
Bangladesh	France	Korea (S)	Philippines	Ukraine
Belgium	Georgia	Lithuania	Poland	United Kingdom
Bulgaria	Germany	Malta	Portugal	United States of America
Canada	Greece	Mexico	Romania	Uruguay
Chile	Guatemala	Mongolia	Russia	Venezuela
China	Hong Kong	Morocco	Singapore	Vietnam
Colombia	Hungary	Namibia	Slovakia	Yemen
Croatia	India	Netherlands	Slovenia	Zimbabwe
Cuba	Indonesia	New Zealand	South Africa	
Czech Republic	Iran	Nicaragua	Spain	

At the end of the year, several applications for National Membership were complete and a number of others were in preparation. It is anticipated that a significant number of new National Members will be admitted at the 2012 Assembly.

Sixteen organizations are now affiliated with IUPsyS:

- ASEAN Regional Union of Psychological Societies (ARUPS)
- Association de Psychologie Scientifique de Langue Française (APSLF)
- European Association of Counselling Psychology (EACP)
- European Association of Social Psychology (EASP)
- European Association of Psychological Assessment (EAPA)

- European Association of Personality Psychology (EAPP)
- European Association of Work and Organizational Psychology (EAWOP)
- European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCOP)
- 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 Behavioral Development (ISSBD)
- International Society of Comparative Psychology (ISCP)
- Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)

In addition, Special Liaison relationships have been established with the European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA) and the International Test Commission (ITC).

At the end of the year, several applications for Affiliate Status with IUPsyS were in preparation.

### **VITAL STATISTICS**

Number of National Members: 73 Number of Affiliated Organizations: 16

Number of Publications: 3: (International Journal of Psychology; Psychology Resources

Around the World; IUPsyS Newsletter)

Number of Scientific Meetings: 1 quadrennial International Congress

1 biennial Regional Conference

Periodic focal meetings

### **ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

This section contains information on the planning, management and administrative work of the Union.

Particular emphasis was given to implementation of the Strategic Plan adopted by the Assembly for the 2008-2012 quadrennium. The President assessed progress against the Strategic Plan in his report to the 2010 Assembly and in periodic reports to National Members in the IUPsyS Newsletter. Further details are given below.

## Strategic Plan

The 2008-2012 Strategic Plan contains guiding principles and targeted actions.

The five Core Operating Principles are:

- 1. Serve the science and the profession at the global level;
- 2. Recognize that National Members vary in their specific developmental and policy needs;
- 3. Capacity Building efforts focus on national and individual levels;
- 4. Representational and Policy activities focus on international over-arching organizations;
- 5. Monitoring and evaluation of activities is a necessary vehicle for planning and accountability.

The five Basic Principles and Decision Rules are:

- 1. Activities support continuous engagement with National Members;
- 2. Activities support continuous engagement in international representation;
- 3. Activities are important for development of the discipline and of organized psychology;
- 4. Activities are uniquely suited to the Union;
- 5. There are consequences to the discipline if the activity is not done.

The five Strategic Priorities are:

- 1. Capacity Building;
- 2. International Representation;
- 3. Service to National Members;
- 4. Service to the Discipline: Development of a Common Core;
- 5. Communications and Dissemination.

Each of these priorities has targeted specific actions whose progress is described in other sections of this report. Strategic planning is guided by the work of the *Standing Committee on Strategic Planning* chaired by the President Professor R K Silbereisen, assisted by the Secretary-General, other Officers and members of the Executive Committee.

## **Assembly, Executive Committee and Officer Meetings**

The Union Assembly last met in 2010; the Assembly will next meet in July 2012 in conjunction with the 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology in Cape Town, South Africa.

The Executive Committee (EC) met in August 2011 in Beijing; the meeting was generously sponsored by the Chinese Psychological Society. The focus of the meeting was on reviewing, planning and developing the work of the Work Groups within the context of the current Strategic Plan, as well as on reviewing progress and contributing to the development of the 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology to be held in 2012 in Cape Town. Preliminary consideration was also given to the development of the Strategic Plan for the next quadrennium, 2012-2016.

The members of the Executive Committee for the 2008-2012 period are: Helio Carpintero (Spain); Peter French (Germany); James Georgas (Greece); Nick Hammond (UK); Laura Hernandez Guzman (Mexico); Maria Larsson (Sweden); Pam Maras (United Kingdom); Bruce Overmier (USA); Janak Pandey (India); Pierre Ritchie (Canada); Michel Sabourin (Canada); Rainer K Silbereisen (Germany); Gonca Soygüt (Turkey); Barbara Tversky (USA); Ann Watts (South Africa); Kan Zhang (China). The Editor of the International Journal of Psychology, Michele Robert (Canada) and the Editor of Psychology Resources around the World, Merry Bullock (USA), also attend meetings of the EC.

The Officers of the Union are President (Rainer K Silbereisen); Secretary-General (Pierre L-J Ritchie); Vice-President (Kan Zhang); Past-President (Bruce Overmier); Treasurer (Michel Sabourin); Deputy Secretary-General (Ann Watts). The Executive Officer (Nick Hammond) is an *ex officio* non-voting participant in Assembly, EC and Officer meetings.

The Officers held two meetings in 2011, in April and July. Smaller groups of EC members and Officers met when possible in conjunction with other activities.

## **Finances**

Detailed financial statements, independently audited, have been completed and submitted to the EC, and to other organizations where required as part of reporting on the use of external grant funds.

The Treasurer, Professor Michel Sabourin, presented a comprehensive report to the Executive Committee. In line with strategic planning, the Union's budget is now developed and managed within a quadrennial framework. Prospects for the current quadrennium are better than those of recent years, largely due to the current publishing contract, grants in support of the WHO ICD initiative and other initiatives, and the prospect of further non-dues revenues.

Following endorsement of the general principles for a revision of the membership category system in 2008, the 2010 Assembly endorsed the implementation of the principles based upon an assessment of National Member status, computation of a National Member score and the banding of these scores into six National Membership categories (with associated dues levels). This

endorsement is reflected in changes to the IUPsyS Statutes and Rules of Procedure. The new dues are being introduced in a graduated manner through 2014.

As noted in previous annual reports, some National Members continue to have difficulty in rendering timely dues payments; this is typically due to economic and currency problems in their respective countries.

The International Psychology Development Fund (IPDF) was established in the previous quadrennium to build an endowment for capacity-building. This was an important first step in securing the Union's long-term commitment to support for capacity-building initiatives. Notwithstanding global financial difficulties, the IPDF has grown modestly. It is anticipated that it will support funding for focal capacity-building activities in 2012, associated with the International Congress of Psychology.

The Union has been successful in attracting external funding to support a number of its activities. These include:

- Funding from the Jacob Foundation to support developmental activities for young psychologists (to be held in conjunction with ICP2012 in Cape Town)
- Funding from the American Psychological Association to support the Union's contribution to the World Health Organization's revision of the international Classification of diseases
- Funding from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to support the continuing Caucasus Workshop series on bereavement
- Funding from the International Science Council (ICSU) to support a capacity-development workshop on Psychological Intervention after Disasters in the Asia and Pacific Region (this will be held early in 2012)
- Funding from the Dogan Foundation in support of the Mattei Dogan Prize in Psychological Science. The Mattei Dogan Prize will be awarded at ICP2012 in Cape Town.

#### Secretariat

The Executive Officer, which is a half-time position, has been in post since October 2009. The Executive Officer manages the Union secretariat among other duties. Following a review of workload, the EC agreed to extend the role to a 60% part-time position effective 2012, supplemented additional administrative support as required, up to the established budgetary limit. From November 2011, Dr Jason Dunn has been working part-time as the Union's Executive Assistant assigned to the Union secretariat.

Dr Ann Watts, appointed as Deputy Secretary-General at the 2010 Assembly, continues in this role. In light of the establishment of the post of Executive Officer, it is anticipated that the Statutes will be amended at the 2012 Assembly to terminate the position of Deputy Secretary-General. The incumbent Secretary-General, Professor Pierre Ritchie, has announced that he will not seek a new term and will step down following the 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology.

# **ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING 2011**

## Scientific meetings

30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology. The EC received a detailed progress report on the 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology to be held in Cape Town, South Africa in 2012 from Congress President Saths Cooper and Congress Secretary-General Ann Watts as well as from Union Liaison, Secretary-General Ritchie. The EC expressed its satisfaction with the development of the scientific programme and other plans for the Congress.

31<sup>st</sup> International Congress of Psychology. The 31<sup>st</sup> ICP will be held in Yokohama, Japan, in 2016. The EC received a progress report on preparation for the Congress from the Union Liaison President

Silbereisen. The EC noted that the aftermath of the tragic Tsunami in March 2011 has inevitably delayed preparations but expressed its confidence in the Congress team.

Regional Conference of Psychology. The 2011 Caribbean Regional Conference of Psychology was held in Nassau, in November 2011 with the theme of Psychological Science and Well-Being: Building Bridges for Tomorrow. The CRCP 2011 was hosted by the Bahamas Psychological Association under the auspices of the International Union of Psychological Sciences (IUPsyS), International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP), and the International Association for Cross Cultural Psychology (IACCP). Participation reached close to 400 registrants, including 100 students and representing 37 countries, including 20 Caribbean nations and territories. The conference addressed broad psychological science themes, with a focus on psychological application, education, training and policy initiatives amongst psychologists within the Caribbean region, in the Diaspora, and between the Caribbean region and other parts of the world. By all measures, the CRCP 2011 was a great success.

### **Publications**

The IUPsyS publications program is guided by the Standing Committee on Publications and Communications chaired by Past-President Bruce Overmier.

The International Journal of Psychology remains the major regular scientific publication channel of IUPsyS. The current editor, Professor Michèle Robert, has continued the work of recent editors to give the journal an identity and to increase its importance, recognition, and value in advancing psychology as a science and the applications of that science. The scope of the journal has expanded to include articles that evaluatively review special science and applications topics. The International Platform Section of the Journal (Editors: Professor P Ritchie and Dr Ann Watts) continues to serve as a quick-access information forum on major national and regional developments in scientific psychology. The current Editor announced that she will not seek a renewal. A Call for Nominations will be issued early in 2012. It is expected that an editor-designate will be appointed at the time of the Union's 2012 governance meetings.

In 2010, the Executive Committee decided to change the format of the *Psychology Global Resource* and to develop it further in the form of a web-based portal rather than as a CD-Rom. This development, now renamed as *Psychology Resources Around the World*, has proceeded during 2011 under the guidance of Dr Merry Bullock who has been appointed as its Editor. The web portal will provide:

- an up-to-date and authoritative source for information on the psychology organizations, structures, and resources in every country in the world;
- an overview of regional, global psychology, conferences, networks and events
- resources for teaching, research, service and application
- links to codes of ethics, constitutions, data archives and portals, interest groups, reference material

The web portal will be formally launched at the International Congress of Psychology in Cape Town in 2012.

The *IUPsyS Website* (www.iupsys.net) developed significantly during 2011. It is managed by the Executive Officer and provides wide information on the Union and its current and past activities of international significance.

The Union's *Newsletter*, under the joint editorship of EC member Professor James Georgas and the Executive Officer, publishes articles on the work of the Union and other matters of broad interest, and facilitates communication with National Members.

The Monthly Bulletin, first introduced in 2010, continues to be circulated by email to National Members and other interested parties. The Bulletin provides brief information and updates on the work and activities of the Union and related regional and international matters.

## **Capacity-building**

Capacity-building is guided by the work of the Standing Committee on Capacity Building chaired by EC member Professor Laura Hernandez Guzman. It provides an oversight and coordinating role across the various components of capacity-building. An important activity during 2011 was a focal strategic planning meeting. Key activities in 2011 were as follows.

Strategic Planning for Capacity Building (Chairs Professor Laura Hernandez Guzman and Professor Pierre Ritchie): A three-day meeting held in May 2011 focussed on the Union's current and future capacity-building activities over a four-year to eight-year period. The outcome report, which included 24 detailed recommendations, articulates the principles upon which decisions concerning Capacity Building should be based. The outcomes will feed into the Union's Strategic Plan for the 2012-2016 quadrennium.

Work Group on Education for Psychologists (Chair, EC member Professor Janak Pandey): This WG aims to promote education and training in scientific psychology worldwide. During 2011, the group has continued to gather data from national members on the level and type of education available for psychologists in their respective countries. The Group is planning a focal three-day workshop in May 2012on strategic issues related to developing international guidelines and standards for Psychology Education and Training.

Work Group on National Capacity Building (Chair, EC member Professor Pam Maras): The Group held a symposium on National Capacity Building at the Caribbean Regional Conference of Psychology in November 2011. A further workshop is planned at the International Congress of Psychology in Cape Town in 2012.

Advanced Research Training Seminars (Liaison to ARTS Steering Committee, EC member Professor Gonca Soygüt): The 2010 ARTS Programme was held in Melbourne in July 2010. Plans for the 2012 ARTS Programme started with the appointment of Dr Nick Hammond, IUPsyS Executive Officer, as ARTS Coordinator for 2011-12. The three seminars for the 2012 Programme will be: Coping with the Strains of Globalization: Culturally Appropriate Methods for Research on Health and Wellbeing; Analyses of Psychological Data with R; Research as Praxis: Action and Theory-Making and Application in Community Psychology Research. ARTS2012 will be held in conjunction with ICP 2012.

Special Capacity Building Initiatives. The Union runs special initiatives to focus on developing research capacity and the capacity of national associations in developing countries and countries in transition, with support funding from external sources. A series of capacity building workshops for countries in the South Caucasus region on the general topic Bereavement Research and Practice is currently under way. The first workshop was held in 2009; focussing on research findings; a second workshop took place in October 2010 and focussed more on application and practical training. A third workshop was held in 2011 with a focus on curriculum development for psychology programmes. The series is supported by German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The events have proved highly successful as well as rejuvenating IUPsyS National Membership in the region.

The Union has received funding from the International Science Council (ICSU) to support a workshop on Psychological Intervention after Disasters in the Asia and Pacific Region. The workshop will be run in Beijing in February 2012.

Quality Enhancement and Evaluation (Chair, EC member Professor Barbara Tversky): Evaluation guidelines for all capacity building activities were developed by the Work Group on Evaluation and endorsed previously by the EC. They have now been used with positive effect on a number of occasions.

# Awards and recognition

The Fondation Mattei Dogan Prize in Psychological Science was established in 2006 by the Union under the generous auspices of the Mattei Dogan Foundation. This award is part an IUPsyS initiative to recognize achievements by psychologists, and was awarded for the first time to Professor Michael Posner on the occasion of the 29<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology (Berlin, Germany) in July 2008. It is awarded every four years, and will be next awarded in 2012 at the 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology.

Work Group on Awards (Chair, Past-President Bruce Overmier). Building on the Dogan Award as well as on the efforts initiated in the previous quadrennium by President Silbereisen, the Group has developed four new awards: Young Investigator Awards (one in basic science, one for applied work), Lifetime Career Award, and Achievement against the Odds Award. Calls for nominations were issued in 2011 and the new awards will be first bestowed at the 30th ICP in 2012.

### **International Council for Science**

The Union continues to maintain strong relations with the International Council for Science (ICSU). In the current quadrennium, Past-President Overmier served on the ICSU Executive Board; Secretary-General Ritchie served on the Committee for Scientific Planning and Research; and EC Vice-President Professor K. Zhang served on the Committee on Freedom and Responsibility in the Conduct of Science. Secretary-General Ritchie also served on the Planning Group on Human Health and Union Treasurer Michel sabourin served as Treasurer of CODATA.

The General Assembly of ICSU took place in September 2011, and the Union was represented by President Silbereisen, Past-President Overmier and Secretary-General Ritchie.

### **International Social Science Council**

Union Treasurer Michel Sabourin served on the ISSC Executive Committee and was elected Treasurer of ISSC late in 2010, at the last ISSC General Assembly.

## **World Health Organization**

Official Relations between the Union and the World Health Organization (WHO) were established in 2002 and have been renewed regularly since that date. Secretary-General Ritchie serves as the Union's Main Representative to WHO. The Union is committed to support the development of the next edition of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), with particular focus on the chapter on Mental Disorders and Substance Abuse. With the support of a major grant from the American Psychological Association, the Union has seconded Dr G. Reed to WHO as Senior Project Officer for the revision of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse chapter of the ICD. The Union is represented by Deputy Secretary-General Watts on the International Advisory Committee for the ICD revision. WHO is developing its own new strategic initiative entitled mhGAP related to the gap between demonstrated need for mental health research / services and the insufficient capacity to meet the need in may parts of the world. The Union will be considering how it can best contribute to this initiative.

The Work Group on HealthNet and Health Psychology which incorporated HealthNet continued its renewal under the coordination of Deputy Secretary-General Watts. A Strategic Review of HealthNet was recommended by the Strategic Review of capacity-building in Wuerzburg in 2011. The Officers then authorized such an activity which was held in time for the report to be received by the 2011 EC. The Strategic Review recommended, and the Officers and EC endorsed the major recommendations, which were: (1) HealthNet as a virtual network in its historic incarnation is discontinued; (2) A renewed HealthNet will focus on supporting the Union's work with WHO; (3) A renewed HealthNet will be integrated with the Psychology Resources Around the World (PRATW); it remains to be determined whether all HealthNet activities would be subsumed under PRATW or whether some

might be better managed under a different rubric. These elements will be included in the 2012-16 Strategic Plan.

# **United Nations secretariat (New York)**

At the United Nations secretariat in New York, the Union continues to hold Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and is a recognized Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with the Department of Public Information. It became increasingly clear that there was an absence of clear policy direction and hence ambiguous accountability regarding the Union's activities at the UN secretariat in New York. In 2011, the Union undertook a strategic review of these activities year under the direction of Deputy Secretary-General Watts. The review recommended that the Union maintain representation at the UN Secretariat in New York and that this engagement should occur in a coordinated and well-planned manner, with the focus on policies that are aligned with the Union's goals and strategic priorities. The recommendations were endorsed by the Officers and EC and will be included in the 2012-16 Strategic Plan.

## **CONCLUSION AND FUTURE PLANS**

This annual report highlights the Union's sustained shift to more strategically-oriented planning, and the consequences for the way it conducts its business. A number of the key areas of the Union's activities have been the subject of Strategic Reviews, with others anticipated in 2012 and 2013. The Union is developing a well crafted approach to strategic planning. A challenge for the next quadrennium is refinement of this process.

Capacity-building has emerged as a central priority as part of the Union's core vision, and the Review conducted this year will do much to shape the Strategic Plan for the next quadrennium. Historically, through its International Congress and ARTS, and in the past decade through regional conferences of psychology and national capacity-building, the Union demonstrated the importance it accords to capacity-building. The current Strategic Plan reaffirms the Union's commitment to this area, and the wide range of Capacity Building activities during the year is testament to the implementation of this commitment. Furthermore, the choice of Cape Town, South Africa as the venue of the next International Congress of Psychology well illustrates the Union's intent to devote resources to supporting the development of psychology in Africa.

The Union continues to make a sustained contribution to international development through strong relations with ICSU, ISSC, the UN secretariat, and WHO. It is evaluating opportunities to further enhance inter-disciplinary collaboration in the advancement of science and its applications to human well-being.

Development of the range of IUPsyS activities, as well as in its internal communications and operations, has been enabled by the appointment of a part-time Executive Officer and, more recently, by the appointment of a part-time Executive Assistant. Nevertheless, there remains an urgent need to secure additional financial and human resources to truly achieve the objectives of the Union's current Strategic Plan and the aspirations for the future. Transition in the Union's senior leadership is proceeding in an orderly manner through a series of succession planning activities coordinated by the Secretary-General with the assistance of the Executive Officer as well as the current and former Deputy Secretaries-General.

The International Union of Psychological Science through the actions of the Assembly, together with the leadership of the Executive Committee and the Officers, in concert with National Members, Affiliates and Liaisons now works increasingly within a strategic framework based on a vision and key priorities. The accomplishments of the first three years of the current quadrennium are the result of sustained leadership and active participation by the Union's various constituents. These remain the necessary ingredients to ensure future success. The prospect of further substantial progress in the coming year is excellent.