



Bulletin

IUPsyS' Global Footprint

Year-end Message from IUPsyS President Professor Pam Maras 2



International Union
of Psychological Science

Established in 1889

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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.

IUPsyS' Global Footprint

YEAR-END MESSAGE FROM IUPSY S PRESIDENT PROFESSOR PAM MARAS



Pam Maras

This is my final end of year message as President. It was an honour to be elected President-Elect in 2016 and to take on the role of President in 2018. Two years of my Presidency have been served under various forms of 'lockdown'. When I recorded last year's message, I noted that I could not have imagined the global public health emergency that affected the entire globe; one year on, COVID-19 continues to affect lives world-wide.

Despite 2021 being an 'unusual' year, IUPsyS has continued to deliver our ambitious 2020-2024 Strategic Plan, which has five complementary Strategic Goals which provide a cohesive blueprint that will allow IUPsyS to build on previous accomplishments.

1. Grow IUPsyS' global footprint and impact as a broker / convener of psychological science
2. Engagement with National Members
3. Increase regional activity and engagement
4. Improve the global visibility and profile of IUPsyS
5. Develop IUPsyS' operational capacity and financial underpinnings

A dynamic Action Plan underpins each of these five areas that will grow and strengthen IUPsyS and realise its mission to serve humanity and science.

Most activities have been in virtual fora; however, we have kept in line with our strategic objectives. In this short message I outline some highlights, you can read more about IUPsyS work on our [website](#).

It was with sadness that in 2020 we noted the deaths of colleagues, including Professor Albert Bandura. Professor Bandura was the recipient of the **2012 IUPsyS Lifetime Career Award**. The Award Jury noted that, 'Bandura's scientific contributions are among the very most important in all of psychology and have been applied in fields such as education, promotion of social skills, business, health promotion, and sports. Albert Bandura is the fourth most cited psychologist in all of psychology (with Freud, Skinner, and Piaget)'.



Albert Bandura

As IUPsyS' flagship journal, the **International Journal of Psychology (IJP)** is the only truly multidisciplinary and international psychology journal, and it publishes strong psychological science from around the world. See, for example, our recently published special issue - the first of two - on Psychological Research on COVID-19, in addition to many other topics from psychological aspects of migration to psychopathology, social media, and other diverse topics.



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Under the leadership of Editor-in-Chief, Abigail Gewirtz, IJP has gone from strength to strength. IJPs 2-year impact factor is 2.0, up from 1.255 in 2019 and is ranked 79 out of 140 (Psychology Multidisciplinary: ISI Journal Citation Reports ©). In support of early career psychologists, the editorial team of IJP contributed to a webinar titled '[Get Publishing – An IUPsyS Webinar for New Authors](#)'.

As psychology's global voice, IUPsyS is represented on, and works in collaboration with, many international bodies including: The International Science Council (ISC), the United Nations (UN) and the World Health Organization (WHO). For example, Past-President Saths Cooper served on the Governing Board of the ISC Council from July 2018 until the 2021 ISC General Assembly. Professor Cooper was also Deputy Chair of the Committee on Freedom and Responsibility in Science during this period. ISC has hosted numerous initiatives and high-level webinars related to the COVID-19 pandemic and IUPsyS worked collaboratively with ISC to jointly host a webinar, '[The two psychologies of the pandemic: From 'fragile rationality' to 'collective resilience'](#)' on 20 April 2021.

For the last three years I have been pleased to represent IUPsyS on ISC's Committee on Data ([CODATA](#)) which promotes global collaboration to improve the availability and usability of data for all areas of research. I am also the IUPsyS Ambassador to CODATA's Digital Representation of Units of Measure ([DRUM](#)) and a member of the Committee on FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship initiatives.

Earlier this year IUPsyS was a main respondent in an ICP response to UNESCO recommendations on [Open Science](#). IUPsyS' contribution included highlighting a need for Equity of contribution and access to outputs generated by higher income countries and consideration of Funding implications for ability of scientists in low and middle income countries to contribute.

IUPsyS involvement in the UN is being re-visioned within the context of the Strategic Plan, in particular how the Union can impact [Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development](#) and beyond.

IUPsyS has Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and Consultative Status with the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI). The Union is also a member of The Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO) and the Psychology Coalition at the United Nations (PCUN).

IUPsyS has strong and active links with WHO which have continued, led by Secretary General Ann Watts. For example, the first comprehensive [resource](#) dealing with WHO's ICD-11 classification of mental and behavioural disorders based on a psychological approach to diagnosis, will be published January 26, 2022, in partnership with the American Psychological Association (APA). IUPsyS will be running a webinar on this publication in 2022. IUPsyS is also actively involved in [WHO Rehabilitation Competency Framework Working Group](#) and have provided expert opinion on the structure, language, and content of the Framework.

In addition to these existing activities, I have been pleased to represent IUPsyS on the Standing Committee of Gender Equality in Science ([SCGES](#)). SCGES is independent of the International Science Council but arose from [The Gender Gap in Science Project of the International Social Science Council](#) (now part of the International Science Council, (ISC), inaugurated in 2018. Following this project, international unions decided to act together to promote gender equality in science, by supporting women and girls' equal access to science education and fostering equal opportunity and treatment for females in science careers - watch out for an IUPsyS webinar for SCGES in the coming year.

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Support for our National Members has continued, we now have a network of over two million psychologists globally. Since my first election to the IUPsyS Executive Committee in 2008, I have been privileged to be involved in IUPsyS capacity building activities including with colleagues and leadership in regions to develop regional bodies including in the Caribbean, Africa and the Asia Pacific. The focus of IUPsyS capacity building in regions has meant that we have been able to support the maximum number of national organisations in regions. This strategy is embedded in our strategic plan, and in July 2021, the IUPsyS Assembly agreed to change the status of our regional affiliates, to become Regional Members. Our current Regional Members, and the dates they were formed are European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA, 1981), ASEAN Regional Union of Psychological Societies (ARUPS, 2006), Caribbean Alliance of Psychology Associations (CANPA, 2013), Pan-African Psychology Union (PAPU, 2014), Arab Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS, 2015), Asia-Pacific Psychology Alliance (APPA, 2017) and the Union of Central American Colleges & Associations of Psychology (UCCAP, 2021).

In light of the pandemic and the need to protect the health and welfare of attendees and citizens, our flagship 32nd International Congress of Psychology was rescheduled to 18-23 July 2021, renamed **ICP2020+** and took place virtually. The Czech-Moravian Psychological Society and the ICP2020+ team worked tirelessly to deliver a Congress of the highest scientific quality and addressed important issues for society. The philosophy of openness underlying the Congress was reflected in the Congress theme, "Open minds, societies and world". The change in format did not affect the quality and vibrancy of the ICP2020+ scientific programme - 3,500 participants from 107 countries participated; an exciting feature of the Congress was over 130 Keynote Addresses and 19 State of the Art Lectures. I was pleased to convene an IUPsyS Presidents Symposium on 'The Global Implications of Open Science' sponsored by Wiley publishers at the ICP2020+, a recording of which will shortly be available on our website.

The 33rd International Congress of Psychology (ICP2024) will take place in Prague in 2024, so look out for information about this in the next few months. The 34th International Congress of Psychology (ICP2028) will take place in Melbourne, Australia in 2028.

In addition to IUPsyS prestigious **awards** which were presented at ICP2020+, the IUPsyS Executive Committee decided to bestow a quadrennial Recognition Award on a 'National Member organisation as deemed appropriate' to the Federation of Venezuelan Psychologists/ Federación de Psicólogos de Venezuela for their forbearance in the face of significant adversity

IUPsyS will hold its next Assembly in 2022 during which elections for Secretary-General and three Executive Committee Members, will take place during the (the Congress of our Regional member EFPA) in Ljubljana Slovenia July 2022.

My appreciation is extended to outgoing EC members including Goh Chee Leong, the first Treasurer from the Asia Pacific region and Saths Cooper, Past President. Saths was the first President from majority world and global South. He has made an exceptional contribution to global psychology and the Union for over 20 years. His tireless efforts, commitment, encyclopaedic knowledge of world affairs and acumen has significantly affected the growth of the Union to include regions from the majority world. He will be missed from the Executive Committee – however we will most certainly continue to call on him for support and advice.



Saths Cooper



Goh Chee Leong

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I would like to extend a welcome to the new Executive Committee including **Amanda Clinton** who was elected the first female IUPsyS Treasurer and **Germán Gutiérrez** who was elected President-Elect at our last Assembly. Germán has an outstanding scientific record and a strong commitment to support the development of psychology internationally – I am sure he will be an excellent President and I look forward to working with him and colleagues on the Executive Committee when my term of President ends in July 2022.



Germán Gutiérrez



Amanda Clinton

Without the support of the **Executive Committee** and the National Members and Affiliates, it would not be possible to achieve so much. My personal thanks must go to them. In particular to the Secretary-General, **Ann D. Watts** and the Administrative Coordinator, Karl Swain, and other colleagues in the secretariat led by Ann D. Watts.



Ann D. Watts

I recorded my message last year, in the week that the first vaccination against COVID-19 was administered. The development of COVID-19 vaccines in such a short time, was extraordinary and a testament to the power of collaboration in science for public good. The collaborative effort that resulted in the development of vaccines in 2020 provided a tool to reduce serious health effects of the virus. However, low and middle-income countries, already affected by severe disparities in resources and access to health, have been the least likely to benefit from the scientific breakthrough of the vaccine. As noted, on by the World Health Association, “Developing a vaccine against COVID-19 is the most pressing challenge of our time - and nobody wins the race until everyone wins”. Psychology models of cooperation need to take account of geo-political context challenges, mainly euromerican findings even those tested on ‘real life’ situations. This global public health emergency highlighted the need for cooperation and collaboration that supersedes national boundaries and disciplinary interests. IUPsyS has no national boundaries and has always and remains committed to collaboration, the effectiveness of which is supported by a wealth of psychological empirical evidence. Psychology is, and should be, at the forefront of human endeavour. We must work collaboratively for public good, exploring the science, application, and impact of psychology in our fast-changing world, opening ourselves to fresh challenges and opportunities so that our discipline can continue to serve humanity.

It has been an honour to serve the Union as President. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I wish you and your families, friends and colleagues a happy, healthy, peaceful and better 2022 in which we have opportunities to meet in person.

*Professor Maras' 2021 year-end video message may be accessed [here](#).