

INTERNATIONAL
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Newsletter

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Newsletter

International Association of Applied Psychology

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International Association of Applied Psychology

The International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) is the oldest international psychological association. Established in 1920, it now has individual members in more than 80 countries, and holds an international Congress every four years in different cities of the world.

The major fields of activity within IAAP are reflected in its 16 Divisions.

- Organizational Psychology
- Psychological Assessment & Evaluation
- Clinical & Community Psychology
- Psychology & National Development
- Environmental Psychology
- Educational and School Psychology
- Political Psychology
- Traffic & Transportation Psychology
- Applied Gerontology
- Health Psychology
- Economic Psychology
- Psychology and Law
- Sport Psychology
- Applied Cognitive
- Students
- Counselling Psychology

All members receive the quarterly journal *Applied Psychology: An International Review* free of charge (\$150/£99 to non-members in 2004). Members also receive the *IAAP Newsletter* free of charge. Additional Journals are offered to IAAP members at substantially reduced subscription rates (*European Journal of Work and Organizational Psychology, International Journal of Human Resource Management, Human Relations, Journal of Organizational Behaviour*). There are also substantially reduced membership fees for student members and for members from low income countries.

Dues for 2004: there is a graded scale of dues based on self-evaluated yearly income. Student Members will pay \$20/£13 (\$10/£7 for 1st year). For further information visit <http://www.iaapsy.org>

Application for IAAP Membership

Please write to the Secretary General, José Maria Prieto, Complutense University of Madrid, Faculty of Psychology, Somosaguas, Madrid 28223, Spain, Fax: 34 1 3510091; Tel: 3943236, email: jmprieto@psi.ucm.es

Editorial

The third issue of the IAAP Newsletter for 2004 presents a personal reflection from President Michael Frese, speaking against mindless parochialism and making his case for membership in an international psychology association. The first report on IAAP representation and active involvement in United Nations activities was filed by Judy Kuriansky. Members can look forward to the UN activities report as a regular Newsletter item.

Elias Besevegis, Secretary General of the International Congress of Applied Psychology to be held in Athens in 2006, informs us of the progress in the preparations for this next milestone in the IAAP calendar. Division 4 (Environmental Psychology) and Division 13 (Traffic and Transportation Psychology) have provided updates on their latest publications, upcoming congresses, and various divisional initiatives.

This issue also carries an article from Italy on the role of the Cultural Mediator in relation to global immigration. On a more somber note, we acknowledge the passing of a distinguished scholar from China, Professor Chen Li.

Elizabeth Nair
Editor

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

Michael Frese, President of IAAP

I would like to use today's newsletter to describe some very personal reasons of why I am in IAAP and why I personally think that IAAP is so important.

Let me start out with the fact that there in the Twenties, people in Germany developed what they called "**German science**". This approach also became popular in psychology as "German psychology". "German science" was supposed to contrast to cosmopolitan science, which was an international type of science. It used methodology that was only used in Germany. It used theories that were only used in Germany and it was proud to be only German and not international. The "German science" was supposed to detect the positiveness of Germans, it was supposed to

be inspiring and it was supposed to be parochial. The fascists really liked this kind of theorizing and it became very quickly the dominant form of “scientific” thinking after Hitler came to power.

Psychology quickly took up this idea of “German science” and embraced “German psychology”. German psychology as well as any national psychology had very little empirical foundation and completely collapsed when scientific scrutiny was applied. German psychology was shutting out other people and cultures – as a matter of fact it was also used to support the politics of racial and religious discrimination that culminated into the holocaust. Because of this horrible past in Germany, people like me have vowed to fight national forms of science and psychology wherever we can find it. For this reason, I personally need the moral and cognitive support that I receive from the International Association of Applied Psychology in this fight. Obviously, today there is no more danger that people start a “German science” in the old fascist sense (or any other nationality, religious group, etc.). On the other hand, there is still an underhanded parochialism in many countries and in many practices of psychology. Often psychologists look at their own country and forget about the other countries (obviously, this problem is much more frequent in larger and more dominant countries than in the smaller ones). Thus, the danger today is not fascist German science but what I call mindless parochialism. IAAP helps a lot to work against mindless parochialism.

Thus, I believe that the mindlessness of parochialism is the most important issue. Whenever people are stopped and asked “Do you believe that all of these study results are applicable everywhere in the world?” scholars usually give useful answers and they start to think about the implications of this question. However, in our normal everyday experience, mindless parochialism can dominate our thinking. We only take notice of theories that are around us, we only cite people who are cited in our environment, and we even forget sometimes to describe the potential limitations of our study results – whether results are generalizable to other nations, cultures, and civilizations.

- 1) There are many implicit and explicit developments that actually enhance this mindless parochialism. The first is certainly that people’s careers are typically made within a nation. Therefore, in terms of career chances, it frequently pays off for young scholars to stay within national boundaries, both in terms of their thinking and in terms of their scientific approaches and eventual publications. Also, in each country there are “local heroes” who have high influence in their country, but are not known across countries – they typically reinforce mindless parochialism. These scientists are locally dominant and

often think of themselves as the navel of the world, they are the ones who need to be cited to publish in this country, and often new knowledge is attributed to them. If one looks across the borders to other national areas, we often detect that there are other national heroes of outstanding and often dominant scientists, who produce other types of traditions. Moreover, due to the threat of terrorism, many countries have tightened the relationships and made scholarly exchange more difficult (this is not just true of the United States but also of Europe). Fear reigns, again reinforcing mindless parochialism (even if we know that it is still much more likely to die when we cross a busy street than to be attacked by terrorists in nearly every country). Finally, because of our pre-occupation with national issues, cognitive capacity is less directed at international concerns. We have only so much of cognitive capacity and this is usually directed towards our immediate environment and concerns. Therefore, we stay mindless in our parochialism. This is where IAAP comes in and can be used to help to battle mindless parochialism:

- 2) Whenever you read anything about psychology in our newsletter and journal, people immediately become aware of national and other differences.
- 3) Belonging to IAAP itself implies that we work against parochialism.
- 4) Belonging to IAAP makes internationality cognitively much more salient than if we do not belong to an international association.
- 5) IAAP goes beyond the simple fact that we cross national boundaries, but also that we cross subdisciplinary boundaries. Again, I think IAAP helps to reduce the mindless parochialism within subdisciplinary traditions that we fall prey to so easily.
- 6) IAAP can make it obvious that local heroes are often only local. IAAP makes it possible to work against simple-minded traditions and to make it explicit that influential local heroes are often more local than they think they are.
- 7) Travel helps. Travel very often also helps to develop new ideas about new research topics. For example, my travels to Africa have helped me to develop an interest in entrepreneurship, which I did not have before, because I noticed that entrepreneurship was the best way to decrease poverty and to develop a well functioning civil society. This has helped me to embrace a new study of entrepreneurship from a psychological perspective.

I do not want to imply that people choose to be mindless in their parochialism. As a matter of fact, when they are confronted with issues related to differences and similarities in other countries and cultures, they are often quite eager to get to know more about it. However, you need some kind of continuity to overcome mindless parochialism. IAAP has

helped me to make sure that I keep international issues at the forefront of my mind, that international issues are cognitively salient, that I can understand different approaches in different language areas and that I understand how local traditions can influence our thinking. It has clearly helped me to never ever fall prey to German psychology.

What is the danger of not belonging to IAAP? People who do not belong to an international association may think that their study results are true everywhere else, and unthinkingly assume that they have understood a phenomenon, although they may have just understood a cultural expression of a phenomenon. They may unthinkingly assume that all relevant psychological knowledge is developed within their own nation or to believe that all psychologists think alike. Or they may believe that their own country has the best standards for psychological research and that one does not have to pay attention to any other parts of the world. Just to avoid those dangers, it pays off to be a member of IAAP.

I think \$60 is a very small price to pay for being helped to keep internationality in your mind and to not fall prey to mindless parochialism. I hope that we educate our young scholars in this tradition.

I hope you agree with me that one more way of combating mindless parochialism is to go to international congresses. I will see you at Beijing at the 28th International Congress of Psychology (ICP2004), August 8-13 (website: www.icp2004.org, www.icp2004.cn).

UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITIES

Dr. Judy Kuriansky, IAAP UN representative

Report about IAAP working with the United Nations:

This note to the membership is intended to bring you up to date with the activities of IAAP at the United Nations.

As IAAP President Michael Frese wrote so eloquently in the IAAP newsletter last November, IAAP is very proud to have achieved registration as a non-governmental organization (NGO) with the Department of Public Information (DPI) of the United Nations. This is thanks to the efforts of IAAP President Frese, Treasurer Ray Fowler, Secretary General José Prieto, and President-Elect Mike Knowles, working in tandem with others in cooperating psychological organizations.

Since the birth of the United Nations in 1945, psychologists in many NGOs now serve within the UN, to apply psychological science/ practice

to timely issues. What this means is that IAAP has an opportunity to develop initiatives and input psychological knowledge into the United Nations system, that can be helpful to the UN network of countries around the world and related governments, corporations, associations, other non-governmental organizations, and international organizations.

This Spring, IAAP President Michael Frese and Ray Fowler passed the mantle of representing IAAP on to two members of IAAP, namely Judy Kuriansky and Moshe Banai. Dr. Kuriansky is an adjunct professor of clinical psychology at Columbia University Teachers College, and Moshe Banai is Professor of Management at Baruch College – The City University of New York. Both Judy and Moshe, having the advantage of living in New York, thereby with easy access to the UN, have got involved in UN activities and committees, in order to carry out IAAP's goals.

Both delegates Kuriansky and Banai attended the DPI/NGO Annual Orientation meeting at the United Nations on February 25, 2004. At that meeting, Chief of the NGO Section, DPI, Paul Hoeffel and Under Secretary-General Shashi Tharoor welcomed the several hundred delegates from various NGOs, and described the cooperation between the Department of Public Information and the NGOs. Other Chairs, Joan Levy and Joan Kirby explained the emphasis of efforts being focused on the upcoming Conference to be held at the United Nations on September 10–12, 2004.

The conference will focus on the role and plans of civil society organizations to help implement the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set by world leaders at their high-level millennium session in 2000, by the target date of 2015. These 8 MDGs were described by IAAP President Frese in the last newsletter and can be accessed at www.un.org/millenniumgoals. Over 2,000 NGO representatives from all over the world will be invited to attend lectures and workshops. UN Secretary General Kofi A. Annan will address the opening session in the General Assembly hall at United Nations headquarters in New York City. IAAP members can contact the IAAP office for more information about this.

The orientation was organized to inform NGO delegates about the various offices at the UN DPI and how to access to UN information, with presentations from various departments such as the Public Information Officers, Communications Office, Internet Service and Special Projects Unit, and directions about use of the library, retrieval of UN documents and educational outreach programs. The UN has weekly briefings and workshops that can be attended by delegates and any other interested parties. You can access all these activities on the UN websites at www.un.org.

Delegates can join various committees within the Committee of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) that focus on topics such as Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Aging, Child Rights, Disarmament, Education, Family, Freedom of Religion or Belief, Health and Communications, Human Rights, Human Settlements, Finance, Population and Development, Social Development, Status of Women, Sports, and Sustainable Development.

IAAP UN delegates Kuriansky and Banai subsequently attended the Mental Health committee meeting, on issues from terrorism to problems of refugees. They also met with Anie Kalayjian to discuss involvement of IAAP members at the upcoming UN conference.

Given her extensive expertise in media and being a journalist, delegate Kuriansky has become active in the Media Committee that is in charge of preparing for the upcoming UN conference by developing press releases for the NGOs and upcoming arrangements for journalists' coverage of the conference.

Dr. Judy Kuriansky represented IAAP in another activity organized by Pace University on April 1. Pace University Manhattan campus hosted a reception and symposium on "Psychologists at the United Nations" for about 120 students and professionals. Twenty-two psychologists representing seven NGOs and one university working with the United Nations gathered and gave a short presentation on a panel about their organization and its efforts at the UN.

The event was organized by the New York regional groups of the APA Divisions of International Psychology and Social Issues, under the direction of APA Division 52 on International Psychology, its President Richard Velayo and Fordham University Psychology Professor Harold Takooshian.

The symposium addressed the question of what issues of human well being are on the global agenda of the United Nations today. Other delegate presenters included Corann Okorodudu from the American Psychological Association, Peter Walker and Lauren Appelbaum for the Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI), Margot Nadien from the International Council of Psychologists (ICP), Anie Kalayjian of the World Federation for Mental Health ((WMFH), Carol Iltis and Douglas Seiden from the International Union of Psychological Sciences ((IUPsyS), Marram Hallak from the Association for Women in Psychology (AWP), and Anthony DeLuca from the International School for Mental Health Practitioners (ISMHP).

The symposium was preceded by a reception hosted by Professor Herb Krauss and the Pace University Psychology Department, to honor the UN psychologists, and APF 2004 Gold Medallist and Pace Professor Florence

Denmark who was recognized for her pioneer work in psychology on the international scene.

On May 8, Pace University hosted another event – the 12th Annual Pace University Undergraduate Psychology Conference, with a panel of psychologists working on international issues. As more and more psychologists work globally, this symposium intended to bring together experienced psychologists to describe for students and colleagues their diverse activities on the international scene. Dr. Kuriansky represented IAAP, presenting on “Cross-cultural models of collaborations between China and America in therapy and research: Clinical, epidemiological, and technological approaches.”

The symposium was chaired by Harold Takooshian, PhD, from Fordham University. Other presenters include “Cross-cultural neuropsychology” by F. Frank LeFever, PhD, New York Neuropsychology Group, “Educational reform in China: A six-year experiment” by Jiannong Shi, PhD, National Academy of Sciences, Beijing, and “PsyChat translation software for cross-national communication” by Giuseppe Sottile, MA, APA Division of International Psychology.

The conference was sponsored by the Pace Psychology Department, APA Division of International Psychology, New York State Psychological Association, The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI), International Organization of the Study of Group Tension (IOSGT) and others. Further information can be accessed at <http://webpage.pace.edu/rvelayo/paceconference2004/>.

NOTE: IAAP members are encouraged to participate in the developing involvement of and contributions of IAAP to the United Nations. Several have already e-mailed President Frese about their related work. Please let your interest be known; your work is valuable and your involvement important.

IAAP members are also invited to contact the IAAP office with their interests in these areas, or any other subject, and also to submit any reports or research papers that can then be submitted to the UN library for access.

26TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY, ATHENS, 2006

Pr. Elias Besevegis

Secretary General, Organizing Committee

The preparations regarding the organization of the 26th International Congress of Applied Psychology, to be held in Athens in July 2006, are proceeding smoothly and effectively. The Organizing Committee and the Scientific Program Committee of ICAP26 met with the President of IAAP Michael Frese and Charles Spielberger in Athens on February 29, 2004. Both scientific and organizational matters were discussed. The IAAP Divisions have sent their keynote lectures, state-of-the-art lectures and presidential addresses as well as invited symposia. The Organizing and the Scientific Committees are in the process of inviting distinguished international figures to deliver keynote addresses. In addition the Organizing and Scientific Committees have invited distinguished psychologists, many of whom may not be IAAP members, to organize symposia and workshops. The Second Announcement of the Congress will be ready in July 2004. It will be available on the website of IAAP (www.iaapsy.org) as well as the ICAP26 website (www.erasmus.gr) and also at the ICAP26 booth during the 112th Annual Convention of APA in Honolulu, Hawaii, 28 July–1 August 2004, and during the 28th International Congress of Psychology in Beijing, China, 8–13 August 2004, where members of the Organizing and Scientific Committee of the ICAP26 will be present. We encourage all members of IAAP to follow the most recent developments in the organization of the Congress on the ICAP26 website.

The ‘Intercultural Mediator: an Italian experience in Umbria

Roberto Viridi, Foreigners University of Perugia, Terni, Italy

Pino Fumai, Scientific Committee of ARIPT, Rome, Italy

It is clear that a great change has occurred in our society for some years. More and more often we hear people talk about migratory phenomena from poor countries to industrialized countries, among

which Italy must be considered a country of immigration in every respect. The basis of the migratory phenomenon is the usual conflict between social realities and different cultures, which often leads to discrimination, to cultural and institutional racism. Nowadays we have to meet the needs of people belonging to ethnic groups and cultures very different from our culture. In every working field it is usual to meet a foreign client/patient. For this reason we need a specific education in order to train us for intercultural reception. This measure could solve or at least improve the quality of the insertion of these people and at the same time we would see also a decrease of the “feeling of social isolation” and of existential uneasiness that immigrants often undergo.

What does it mean to be an Intercultural Mediator? Who is this necessary collaborator? A mediator is an intermediate figure who “stays between”, who knows the reasons, the customs and the laws of the country of reception and who has the office to serve as a bridge, to make it possible to pass from one culture to another. He must act as exchange between different rules of life and of social organization. He has a many-sided office: he makes the entrance of the immigrant easier, he helps the communication with the staff in finding the needs of the foreigner, he searches for the most consistent way for the specific case. This is also in order to eliminate the common attitude of mere tolerance, which often surrounds the foreigner.

Being aware of the fact that culture is the best instrument we have to intervene effectually towards people, we are training ourselves to become this very important “bridge” of which so often people talk about today. The region Umbria has a long tradition in promoting exchanges among different cultures. Even today Assisi, in the name of San Francesco, who tried the first intercultural meeting between two strongly opposed monotheistic religions, Christianity and Islam, is a centre for exchanges among the different religious cultures of the world, a real project for globalization.

2003 saw the end of the first course of high qualification of a very innovative professional figure: the Intercultural Mediator. This course was held in Terni. It was promoted by an association of territorial institutions working in the fields of training and work. The Diploma of Intercultural Mediator was achieved by 16 young people who attended 1120 hours of lessons, in two years, and 480 hours of stages in the territorial services of the Umbrian region, and to a training experience in Morocco, in contact with the institutions and the world of immigration coming from that North African region. To draw an outline of this new professional figure, which recently has been at the centre of the cultural debate in our country, we can start by listing the required qualities and capabilities:

- To communicate in “cross cultural” fields, also by using multimedia
- To orientate people to work, also temporary work agencies
- To get in contact with intergovernmental agencies and to interact with their activities
- To promote the right systems of reception and of cultural exchange
- To act as mediator among the immigrants, the volunteers and the consumers
- To act as mediator among the immigrants and the institutions
- To act as mediator among the needs and the work, by orienting the human resources
- To suggest plans to the institutions, to the cooperative societies and to the volunteers in the field of welcoming foreign people
- To find resources to endow projects
- To act to defend the human and social rights in order to promote a culture of solidarity
- To act in the dimensions of the social ecology and of the territorial compatibilities

The fields of knowledge are founded on disciplinary areas culturally and technically pertinent to the outlined figure. They dealt with economic and law disciplines, system’s disciplines, the anthropological, linguistic and communication dimensions, the technologies of information and transmission of knowledge, the different ways of promoting and integrating people in the social, working and trade fields, and the services to support and enrich resources and people.

Culture communicates and promotes. We need a spread of culture and, above all, a kind of culture able to face the complexities of man’s mobility, of global communication and of the difficult meeting of different models of life. In this field the Intercultural Mediator could play a strategic role.

NEWS FROM DIVISIONS

Division 4: Environmental Psychology

New Publications

Acceptability of Transport Pricing Strategies. Edited by Jens Schade and Bernard Schlag. 2003. Amsterdam, Oxford: Elsevier.

From the publisher’s description: “Several studies and research projects all over the world have considered transport pricing strategies as promising attempts to solve the urgent traffic problems in urban areas. However, empirical results have shown that public and political acceptability of such strategies is low. Until now, acceptance research in transport has

occurred in comparative isolation. There are no standardized terms and no generally recognized research methodologies. This volume attempts to overcome this research problem and bring the disciplines involved together. Thus, the first aim is a contribution to an interdisciplinary exchange which covers all relevant aspects of acceptance. Contributions come from some of the most recognized psychologists, economists, civil engineers, sociologists and political scientists in the field, like, e.g., Bruno S. Frey, Tommy Gärling, Peter Jones, José Viegas, Tony May, Stef Proost, and other excellent authors. The second aim is to look deeper into the question of which determinants influence the amount of acceptability. A third aim deals with chances to overcome the lack of public and political acceptability, to bring together the most advanced state of the art and to propose forthcoming and possible solutions for implementing different kinds of travel demand management measures including pricing." For details, see <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/inca/681031>.

Human Decision Making and Environmental Perception: Understanding and Assisting Human Decision Making in Real-life Settings. Liber Amicorum for Charles Vlek. Edited by Laurie Hendrickx, Wander Jager, and Linda Steg. 2003.

On the occasion of Charles Vlek's retirement as professor of Environmental Psychology and Decision Sciences at the University of Groningen, The Netherlands, his former PhD students presented him with a Liber Amicorum. The book consists of 14 contributions from colleagues who, in addition to its editors, include Henk Wilke, Birgitta Gatersleben, Agnes van den Berg, Ric van Poll, Geertje Schuitema, Wokje Abrahamse and several others. The contributions cover examples of applied social psychological and decision making research, in which basic principles, theories and methods are used to study important societal issues, such as environmental quality, traffic safety and health. More information on the book as well as a free copy can be obtained from Linda Steg, e-mail: L.Steg@ppsw.rug.nl.

Psicologia Ambiental, a thematic issue of the journal *Estudos de Psicologia (Natal)* (May/August, 2003), guest edited by Jose Pinheiro.

Estudos de Psicologia (Natal) is a biannual publication of the Graduate Program in Psychology of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte in Brazil. It publishes original empirical reports, theoretical and review articles, short communications, reports of scientific and professional events, and book reviews. This thematic issue on environmental psychology includes contributions by authors from Brazil, Mexico, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, the USA, France and Venezuela, including Jose Pinheiro, Leanne Rivlin, Victor Corral-Verdugo, Esther Weisenfeld, Enric Pol, Hartmut Günther, Paula Castro, Sylvia Cavalcante, Gleice Elali, Gabriel Moser and several others. As a Brazilian scientific periodical that

primarily targets a Brazilian/Portuguese public and Spanish speaking countries, the texts are in Portuguese; however, abstracts in English are also provided. The journal is indexed in SciELO, an electronic bibliographic database, with abstracts in Portuguese and English and full text (html and pdf) in Portuguese: see <http://www.scielo.br/>. The thematic issue on environmental psychology is now available there. For further information, view the web site or contact revpsi@cchla.ufrn.br.

Social/Human Impact Detection Methodologies for Environmental Impact Assessment. Emilia Moreno and Enric Pol. 2002. Documents dels Quaderns de Medi Ambient, 8. Barcelona: Generalitat de Catalunya, Departament de Medi Ambient, 2002. [Originally "Metodologies per a la detecció dels impactes sobre el medi social/humà." Main text in Catalan, translations in English and Spanish.] Available through http://mediambient.gencat.net/cat/el_departament/actuacions_i_serveis/publicacions/quaderns_ma_catalunya.jsp?ComponentID=3459&SourcePageID=3431#1.

SID/BCN. Social Impact Detection: Interactive Forms [compact disc]. Enric Pol and Emilia Moreno. 2002. Monografies Socio/Ambientals, 21. Barcelona: Publicacions Universitat de Barcelona. Available through <http://www.publicacions.ub.es/>

Adapted from a description provided by Angela Castrechini of the University of Barcelona: The first publication is a new book which should be of interest to researchers engaged with processes of environmental impact assessment. The book, written in three languages (Catalan, Spanish and English in one volume), offers a study of the methodologies that would be useful for detecting the impacts of the social/human environment created by buildings and installations subject to environmental impact assessment.

Based on a psycho-socio-environmental approach, this volume deals with the distinction between the concepts of Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Impact Study (EIA and EIS) and analyzes their components and procedures, including the concept of Social Impact. The book illustrates this concept by analysing several methodologies developed during the last three decades. The methodological review includes some of the best known matrices (such as Leopold's, Bereano's and Sorensen's), cartographic systems (GIS, McHarg method), simulation methods, methods of numerical format, methods based on indicators, check lists and questionnaires, and others based on participative approach and combined systems.

According to the authors, these methodologies, generally, focus on the physical dimensions of the environment, decomposing it in vectors (air, water, energy, waste, etc.). The parameters for assessment are usually given by specific legislation. However, human and social dimensions are quite underestimated. In addition there is confusion about which should

be the parameters to be measured. Considering this, the aim of this book is to shift the focus of environmental assessment from the dominant way of analysis to consider the relevance of the social impact assessment.

The book can be complemented with the compact disc *SID/BCN. Social Impact Detection: Interactive Forms*, published by the same authors. This is a tool for detecting and explaining social impacts. From a background in socio-environmental psychology, it consists of a checklist useful for elaborating a social inventory and detecting impacts. The SID/BCN is a systematic methodology, which facilitates social environmental analysis; the relationships of the project with the environment; and the presentation of results in similar and compatible terms as those used in professional Environmental Impact Studies. The SID/BCN has been tested and applied obtaining good results in numerous impact studies. It is believed that this CD is useful for academic researchers, professionals and institutions engaged with environmental impact assessment processes.

New Dissertation

Physical and Social Environmental Components Generating Stress in Hospitals

Patricia Ortega-Andeane, School of Psychology, National Autonomous University of Mexico.

Within the Environmental Psychology paradigm, we present the results of a study that identifies the relationships among the physical, socio-environmental and medical attention variables involved in generating manifest and internal stress responses in patients of a general public hospital's waiting rooms at Mexico City.

The type of illness, the waiting time and the type of waiting room were grouped as medical attention variables. The physical variables measured were: sound, light, temperature, humidity, air velocity, quantity of suspended particles in the air and social density. The socio-environmental variables included were: function, physical assessment, spatial perception and equipment, confidence in and feeling safe with the medical service, evaluation of the time spent inward, the human quality of the service, environmental meaning and signaling.

The results allowed us to develop a predictive model based on structural equation statistics which aims to link the theoretical relationships among stressors, such as: physical comfort, symbolic environmental meaning and way finding, with empirical data obtained from this study, including the observed variables such as waiting time, temperature and social density.

Results are discussed taking into account the relevance of environmental stress sources in health care centers, and recommendations concerning physical, architectural and management issues, are made.

Upcoming Conferences

- 18th Conference of the International Association for People-Environment Studies, 7–10 July 2004, Vienna, Austria. See <http://www.bwk.tue.nl/iaps/>.
- 8th National Congress of Environmental Psychology, 14–16 July 2004, Toledo, Spain. See http://www.uclm.es/congresos/psicologia_ambiental.
- 3rd International Conference on Traffic and Transport Psychology (ICTTP 2004), 5–9 September 2004, Nottingham, UK. Several symposia on sustainable transport will take place within the conference program, and these may be of interest to environmental psychologists. More information can be found at www.icttp.com.
- 7th International Conference of the Russian Society for Ecological Economics (RSEE 2003), June 24–30 2005 (to be confirmed), Saint Petersburg, Russia. The organizers have included “Environmental Psychology and Ethics” among core topics of interest at the conference. For details, contact Dr. Irina Shmeleva at irina_shmeleva@hotmail.com.
- 6th biennial conference of the Environmental Psychology Division of the German Association of Psychology, 19–21 September 2005, Bochum, Germany. The conference language will be English. A call for papers will be sent out in October, 2004. Papers from all areas of environmental and conservational psychology are welcome. For more information, see <http://www.eco.psy.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/conference>
- “Waste The Social Context: Sociology, Psychology and Economics of Waste Management,” 11–15 May 2005, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The organizers have included topics of interest to environmental psychologists, such as “Public Perception, Attitudes and Actions” and “The Culture of Waste.” The first call for papers will be sent out in June 2004. The conference is hosted by the University of Alberta and the Edmonton Waste Management Centre of Excellence. Direct inquiries to Jerry Leonard at the Edmonton Waste Management Centre of Excellence (jerry.leonard@edmonton.ca).

Notes

If you have not been receiving periodic e-mail messages regarding developments within the Division, please do not delay in sending your e-mail address to Terry.Hartig@ibf.uu.se. We also welcome newsletter items and website addresses of interest to those working in environmental psychology.

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Division 13: Traffic and Transportation Psychology

Since the last Newsletter report on the Division's activities, members of the Executive Committee of Division 13 have mainly worked in order to prepare the third International Conference for Traffic and Transport Psychology, ICTTP2004, which will take place in Nottingham. Prof. Geoffrey Underwood (University of Nottingham, UK) invites Traffic and Transport Psychologists to meet from September 5 to 9, 2004. Nottingham is a few kilometres from the East Midlands Airport, where a number of "no-frills" flights to European hubs, including Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels and Geneva have been scheduled. The formal announcement, and further information may be found at <http://www.icctp.com>. IAAP members benefit from a considerable fee reduction.

During the ICTTP2004 a General Assembly of Division 13 will take place. Among other important topics, the question will be raised as to whether we should install a European Chapter for Traffic and Transportation Psychology. It is very likely that this Chapter will be founded.

The proceedings of the ICTTP2000 will be published in a few weeks by Elsevier.

In order to continue the work of enlargement of the Division we ask every member of Division 13 to indicate names of psychologists working in the field of transport and traffic. Several Conferences which concern at least partly the field of transport and traffic are projected and organized with the support of Division 13. Members are invited to participate in:

- The 18th Conference of the International Association for People-Environment Studies, IAPS, entitled 'Evaluation in progress', will take place from July 7 to 10 in Vienna. Preliminary conference information may be found at <http://info.tuwien.ac.at/iaps2004/>. There will probably be some sessions on travel psychology and mode choice.
- The next International Congress of Psychology, ICP, which takes place in Beijing, August 8–13 2004, will include sessions for traffic and transport as well. Information can be received from Kazumi Renge [renge@tezukayama-u.ac.jp]. See also <http://www.icp2004.org>.
- The next IAAP Conference which will take place in Athens in the year 2006. Division 13 plans to organize several symposia and sessions. Participants who want to present a paper, either for a regular session or within a symposia, and those who want to organize a symposium may contact Raphael D. Huguenin (r.d.huguenin@bfu.ch).

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Mourning for Prof. Chen Li from University of Zhejiang, China

President Michael Frese sent this letter to Prof. Zhang Kan (BOD member) and Prof. Zhong-Ming Wang with regard to the death of Prof. Chen Li from China, on behalf of the IAAP membership

With great sorrow I have heard the news that our colleague Prof. Chen Li from the University of Zhejiang, China has passed away a few days ago. I got to know Prof. Chen who has studied in Germany and England and

was probably the oldest active scholar until his death at 103 years. He still had PhD students and contributed to psychology in China until his death. On behalf of the IAAP, I would like to express our mourning for this enormously important scholar from China and want to express our deep sympathy to the Psychological Association in China and to his colleague Prof. Wang Zhong-Ming from University of Zhejiang. You have lost an enormously important scholar of international reputation.

Yours truly

Michael Frese

President of the International Association of Applied Psychology

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