Report of the Treasurer

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Treasurer, IACCP, 1988-1996
July 1, 1994 to June 30, 1996

At the last International Congress of IACCP in Pamplona, Spain, in 1994, the net worth of the Association was $28,752.06, and as of July 1, 1996, the net worth is $18,044.15, reflecting a downward trend. Revenues have declined slightly even though membership has remained constant, interest income has increased slightly, and substantial excess funds were given to IACCP by the organizers of the Pamplona meeting. While the organization continues to be fiscally sound, costs for publications have increased substantially, as has financial support of workshops, meetings, and sponsored members. The dues increase implemented in 1990 stabilized IACCP financially for almost five years, but current fees will not sustain the increasing expenses of the organization. It is time for IACCP to again consider a dues increase to offset the downward turn in its financial status as well as the increased costs expected by the expansion of the Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology from four to six issues annually. Along with increased costs for the Journal, publication costs for the Bulletin and meeting proceedings have increased.

The general operating expenses of IACCP have also increased somewhat due to several one-time expenses associated with the purchase of a new computer and the mailing of the membership directory.

Membership Records

In the current IACCP database, there are records for over 900 members, with 621 identified as active members, those who have paid dues within the previous three years. At the time of the last Treasurer's Report in 1994, there were 603 active members, indicating that the organization has experienced a slight increase in membership over the past two years. Of the current active members, 65% are from non-USA countries and 35% are from the USA, approximately the same proportions as reported in 1994. Records indicate 37 new members joined IACCP during the second half of 1994, 62 in 1995, and 52 for the first half of 1996. These data suggest a substantial increase in new members across the two year period. Efforts to recruit new members have been very successful, thanks to the work of the Secretary General and Regional Representatives. Almost 40% of the new members are paying $15 or less in membership fees which also contributes to the downward financial trend of the organization. An analysis of the records of the 141 members who have failed to renew their memberships, those who have not paid dues since 1992, indicates that 64% are from countries other than the USA (N = 90), and of these, 51% are from developing countries (N = 44; India has the highest number of non-renewals with 8). There are 51 USA members and 10 Canadian members who have not renewed membership. Reasons for non-renewal are unknown, but meeting the financial requirements for membership has become easier for members from developing countries with the expansion of the sponsorship program. Additional means for supporting sponsorship should be investigated, perhaps through foundation grants.

Publications

Looking at the members who have paid their dues for 1995 and 1996 (N = 517), the majority of IACCP members subscribe to both the Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology and the Cross-Cultural Psychology Bulletin (N = 431, 84% of membership) while a smaller number (N = 84, 15%) only subscribe to the Bulletin. The number of complaints about receipt of publications continues to decline but the recent letters sent to IACCP members by Sage Publications...
informing members that their subscription to the *Journal* had recently lapsed, resulted in a rash of often heated inquiries. Sage has reported that they cannot delete IACCP members from these mailings. However, they have added a postscript in these letters that IACCP members should disregard the notice, but many members do read far enough to see this added information at the end. The Treasurer's Office continues to make every effort to contact Sage Publications when complaints arise to insure reliable delivery of the Journal.

**Membership Directory**

Publication of the membership directory in 1994 has provided more reliable communication between IACCP members. Although efforts were made to have United Parcel Service deliver the directories to the Pamplona meeting for distribution, errors by their agents held up the shipment. After lengthy negotiations with UPS, the directories were returned to IACCP along with a complete refund of shipping costs. Directories had to be mailed individually to members, and even with reduced mailing charges from a local mailing service, distribution costs were unfortunately doubled.

**Computer**

Because the IACCP Zenith 286 computer had insufficient memory to handle the membership database and reports, a new Gateway 2000 PS-60 computer was purchased. This computer has greatly improved record-keeping and correspondence with the membership.

**Assistant to the Treasurer**

In June, 1994 Michelle Parks-Major became the third Assistant to the Treasurer since 1988. Ms. Parks-Major has given countless hours of dedicated, efficient service to the organization. She has carefully attended to every problem experienced by IACCP members, and she has been diligent and conscientious in trying to improve membership satisfaction. Ms. Parks-Major has just completed her Masters degree at Wake Forest but will return to Winston-Salem on occasion to assist with IACCP work and training of the new Treasurer. As with the previous two Assistants, during Ms. Parks-Major's tenure as Assistant, Wake Forest University Graduate School generously provided Ms. Parks-Major with a tuition waiver ($13,850 per year) and graduate fellowship ($3500 per year), requiring IACCP to pay only half of her assistantship ($3500 per year) support.

**Summary**

In summary, IACCP has experienced a serious, though not disastrous, downward trend in its financial situation over the past two years. Membership has grown somewhat but continues to be an important concern. IACCP will have to readjust membership fees to cover actual cost of operation in order to remain solvent. As I step down from the Treasurer's position that I have held for the past eight years, I am sure that I will not miss the headaches of balancing the books, dealing with computer crashes, and finding issues of *JCCP* that have gone astray. However, I certainly will miss my associations with each of you, if only by mail, and my involvement in a vital, intellectually exciting organization. I hope I have contributed, at least in some small way, to the continued healthy future of IACCP.

**Editor's note.** Please see the September Bulletin concerning the dues increase approved by members in response to this problem.

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**The End of an Era**

For many years the University of Allahabad has been an important stopping point for foreign psychologists with an interest in India. Frequently, these visitors have been housed at Greenwoods Inn, where Mrs. Kahn and her staff have ministered to the guests' needs. An unusual establishment, Greenwoods has consisted of five guest rooms with a broad verandah looking out into the garden of Mrs. Kahn's private residence.

Since 1983, the names of foreign psychologists who have enjoyed Greenwoods' hospitality include: Adair, Argyle, Das, DeRidder, Eldering, Kanungo, Malpass, Pepitone, Poortinga, Ruback, Ward, and Williams. A number of these have stayed at Greenwoods on several occasions.

Sadly for us, Mrs. Kahn who is now in her 80's, has announced her retirement and the closing of Greenwoods, thus ending a major contribution to the comfort and productivity of psychologists visiting the University of Allahabad.

John E. Williams
Allahabad, India
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