

**International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology
19th International Congress
Bremen, Germany
July 27-31, 2008**

**Draft Minutes of the General Meeting
held on
July 30, 2008
18:45 – 19:45**

Approximately 110 members of IACCP attended the General Meeting.

(0) Confirmation of the Minutes of the General Meeting held on the Isle of Spetses, Greece, July 2006

The minutes of the General Meeting at Spetses, earlier published to the membership in the *Cross-Cultural Psychology Bulletin*, 40, 36-39, and once again made available to the members present at the General Meeting, are unanimously approved.

(1) President's report

James Georgas presents the President's report to the General Assembly. He thanks Klaus Boehnke, Ulrich Kühnen, Franziska Deutsch, and Mandy Boehnke, all the other members of the organizing committee, and all the student volunteers who have been organizing one of the most successful congresses of IACCP, both in terms of the high scientific level of its program and the large number of participants. In the remainder of his report he states:

“Klaus Boehnke has been the Secretary-General of IACCP for the past 8 years. I want to thank him for his competence, hard work and dedication to IACCP and its membership, which was clearly manifested by the extraordinary success of the Bremen Congress.

It is my great pleasure to honor Shalom Schwartz, who during the past six years as President-Elect, President, and Past-President, has contributed so much to IACCP. His leadership, his dedication to the goals of IACCP, have greatly augmented the position of cross-cultural psychology in the scientific world. His wise counsel to me and to the EC during the past two years are greatly appreciated.

The term of office of a number of members of the Executive Council ends this year. I would like to thank Nandita Chaudhary as Deputy Secretary-General, Dharm Bhawuk as Treasurer, and Regional Representatives Susumu Yamaguchi and Andrew Mogaji, for their services to IACCP during these past two years.

It was particularly gratifying to me personally and to the EC, to see the bestowing of Honorary Fellowships upon former presidents Deborah L. Best and Peter B. Smith, for their outstanding services to cross-cultural psychology and to IACCP.

IACCP has matured these past few years, despite a number of problems that all psychological associations encounter. IACCP has had a distinguished influence on psychology these past years through its theories, its conceptual approaches, its methodology, and its paradigmatic research in cross-cultural psychology. Its influence has changed theories, methods and research findings in many areas of psychology, and will continue to raise the bar of cross-cultural psychology in the future. Our *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology* is the most respected in the areas of cultural/indigenous psychology and cross-cultural psychology. We owe thanks to our recent editors, Peter Smith and Fons van de Vijver for this accomplishment, and gratitude to Walter J. Lonner for his guidance during the past four decades in making JCCP what it is today. I am certain that David Matsumoto, its current editor, will make even stronger efforts to increase its influence in cross-cultural psychology.

It has been a great honor to have been your president these past two years. I pass the baton to Heidi Keller, your new president, and to the new EC and I look forward to serving as Past-President for the next two years.”

(2) Secretary-General's report

Out-going Secretary-General Klaus Boehnke reports on plans for future IACCP congresses. He elaborates on difficulties IACCP is having in finding appropriate dedicated hosts for both the 2009 Regional Congress of IACCP as well as the 2010 20th International Congress of the organization. He gives an account of EC deliberations on a planned 2009 Regional Congress of Cross-Cultural Psychology in Africa. The EC has revoked its interim decision to possibly hold that congress in Lagos, Nigeria and is meanwhile seriously examining other options in West Africa. As for the next International Congress, which is to be staged as a satellite congress to the 27th International Congress of Applied Psychology in Melbourne, Australia, July 11-16, 2010, initial plans to have this congress hosted in Adelaide have not materialized. Initiated by President James Georgas, the EC is currently venturing into holding IACCP's next international congress in Melbourne. A formal proposal is being solicited.

As for a Regional Congress in 2011 and the 21st International Congress in 2012, the Secretary-General reports a much more favorable state-of-affairs. The EC has decided to accept a proposal by former president Çiğdem Kağitçibaşı to host the 2011 Regional Congress of IACCP in Istanbul in conjunction with that year's European Congress of Psychology (ECP) in the same city. Planned dates for the regional congress are June 30-July 3, 2011, immediately preceding the ECP.

Klaus Boehnke then reports that the EC has accepted a proposal by Deon Meiring and Leone Jackson to hold the 21st International Congress of IACCP in Stellenbosch, South Africa, in conjunction with that year's International Congress of Psychology in Cape Town. Congress dates are planned to be July 17 to 21, 2012. The Secretary-General then gives the floor to the successful South African applicants, who draw the attention of the General Meeting to the most important characteristics of the chosen venue. They emphasize that the organization will be modeled after the Bremen congress, in the sense that inexpensive accommodation in university dormitories will once again be offered. Under the “Any Other Business” agenda point of the General Meeting the South African congress organizers show a video of Cape Town, Stellenbosch and the university premises.

Concluding, the Secretary-General reminds the General Meeting that for 2013 proposals for a regional congress are sought, preferably from a region of the world that has not recently seen an IACCP regional or international congress. For 2014 proposal from Europe are once again in place, as that year's International Congress of Applied Psychology will be taking place in Paris.

(3) (Associate) Treasurer's report

The Chair of the Communications and Publications Committee, Bill Gabrenya, reads out a brief report by the associate treasurer Sharon Glazer, who was appointed to act as such by the EC during the current EC's term of office, but cannot be present at the General Meeting.

Sharon Glazer was appointed Associated Treasurer effective October 1, 2007. Her report is based on data available to her since that time.

Resources of the Association have been quite stable. Membership is approximately the same as it was at the Spetses conference with some increase in the number of probationary members. Currently, the IACCP consists of 922 members from 65 countries. Of these members, 644 are in good standing and 278 are probationary members whose dues are in arrears one or two years.

Current total equity of the association is \$138,908.05. Of this, at least \$15,000 is to be dedicated to the Triandis fund.

Dues were solicited for the 2008 calendar year by postal mail and email. An online payment system using PayPal was initiated on January 27, 2008 following a long development period. About 40% of members used the new online system to pay their dues, about \$22,000. Other payments were

processed by the office of the Associate Treasurer, 35% by credit card, 25% by cash or check.

Royalties to Sage included \$48,502.41 in April, 2007 and \$50,128.39 in April, 2008. The Department of Psychology of San Jose State University has donated photocopying and telephone resources.

The major expense during this period was subscription payments to Sage for the Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology (nearly 30%). About \$12,000 was paid to support JCCP editorial processes. Funds were distributed for the Witkin-Okonji Award, the ARTS program, this Congress, and the Harry and Pola Triandis Doctoral Thesis Award.

Caleb Smeraldo, a graduate student in I/O Psychology at San Jose State University, was hired as Assistant Associate Treasurer in October 2007 and has been a tremendous help. Bill Gabrenya was thanked for his work on setting up the online payment system.

(4) Report from the Communications and Publications Committee

The Chair of the Communications and Publications Committee, Bill Gabrenya, reports on the status of IACCP print and online publications.

Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology: David Matsumoto took over as editor of the Journal in June, 2008. JCCP's impact factor dropped from its high of 1.92 in 2006 to 1.52 in 2007. This change is considered random error. The overall trend is upward. In 2007, JCCP was ranked 15th among 47 social psychology journals. Bill presents the most-cited articles in 2005-6, the first of which was Çiğdem Kağitçibaşı's "Autonomy and relatedness in cultural context – Implications for self and family." Online accesses of JCCP articles have increased dramatically since 2006, from 400,000 to a projected 900,000. Full-text downloads increased from 100 to a projected 185. IACCP members were given online access to JCCP through iaccp.org in mid-2008, implying greater online access in 2009 and beyond. As online accesses are important to publishers, these trends enhance the value of the journal to Sage. Bill presents the 10 most-downloaded articles for June 2007-June 2008. Highest on this list was Sun-Mee Kang's "Measurement of acculturation, scale formats, and language competence: Their implications for adjustment."

Cross-Cultural Psychology Bulletin: Bill describes the current status of the *Bulletin*. The *Bulletin* will be published twice per year, in print and online, for the foreseeable future. The recent switch to a larger format has facilitated a more professional looking magazine. The School of Psychology at Florida Institute of Technology has donated all or most of an Associate Editor position for 12 years.

Congress Books: Bill reviews the status of four recent Congress books. The Pultusk (2000) book will be placed online in late 2008 (or early 2009). The Yogyakarta (2002) book was placed online a couple years ago. The Xi'an (2004) book has been printed but only partly distributed due to problems on the part of the Congress organizers in securing sufficient funding for mailing. The Association has decided to pay for distribution of the remaining copies in cooperation with the Institute of Psychology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The Spetses book (2006) is due out in late 2008 and should go online in mid-2009.

Web site: The Association's primary web site, iaccp.org, continues to develop with new member-only features. Most recently, a member book section was added to the home page.

eBooks: In addition to the online Congress books and the online *Bulletin*, the *Online Readings in Psychology and Culture* project, created at Western Washington University by Walt Lonner, will move to the IACCP web site and become an IACCP publication in 2009.

Online Directory: The Association's other web site, iaccp-directory.org, has added several functions, including a way for members to see the history of their dues payments and print customized membership certificates. Most notably, dues may now be paid online through PayPal.

(5) Report on the Bremen Congress

As representative of the Local Organization Committee (LOC) of the 19th International Congress, EC member-at-large Ulrich Kühnen gives a report of the Bremen Congress. He states that the congress

program encompasses the Walter J. Lonner Distinguished Lecture, the Presidential Address, 10 Keynote Addresses, 9 State-of-the-Art Lectures, the Harry and Pola Triandis Dissertation Award Presentation, 10 Invited Paper Symposia (with usually 5 papers), 51 Paper Symposia (usually 5 papers), 51 Paper Sessions (4-6 papers), 2 Workshops, 2 Information Sessions, 2 Lunchtime Interviews, and 1 Round Table. Furthermore, 152 Single Posters and 1 Poster Workshop were part of the program. As social events the congress encompassed the Opening Ceremony followed by a barbeque, a Reception of the Senate of Bremen at the Überseemuseum, a boat trip and dinner on the River Weser (not included in registration fee), and the Congress Dinner. Registered participants of the congress came from 54 countries (see separate Congress Report in this Bulletin Issue).

Ulrich Kühnen also assures the General Meeting that the congress will break even financially. In concluding, he thanks political scientist Franziska Deutsch, who acted as the congress's Secretary-General with great enthusiasm, sociologist Mandy Boehnke, who took to the duty of Treasurer of the congress, and all other members of the local organizing committee as well as the numerous student assistants of the congress, among them most prominently Natalie Schnelle and Lidet Tadesse, for their engaged work that guaranteed the smooth running of the 19th International IACCP congress.

(6) Results of the Elections for the EC

President James Georgas announces the results of the 2008 IACCP elections: President Elect, Kwok Leung; Secretary-General, Bill Gabrenya; Treasurer, Sharon Glazer; Deputy Secretary-General, Márta Fülöp; *Regional representatives*—Central and South Africa, Therèse Tchombé; East Asia, Junko Tanaka-Mitsumi; Europe, David Sam; Insular Pacific, Ron Fischer; North America/USA, Veronica Benet-Martinez. He furthermore announces that the EC decided to fill the second Regional Representative position for Europe, vacant due to the election of Márta Fülöp, current Regional Representative for Europe, as Deputy Secretary-General, with the runner-up of this year's Regional Representative election for Europe, Kostas Mylonas. Tania Esmeralda Rocha-Sanchez (Central America, and the Caribbean), Charles Harb (North Africa & Middle East), Kim Noels (North America/Canada), Claudio Torres (South America), Ramesh C. Mishra (South Asia), and Augustinus Supratiknya (Southeast Asia) continue their terms of office as Regional Representatives.

(7) Any other business

President James Georgas thanks all out-going EC members, among them current Past-President Shalom Schwartz, and Secretary-General Klaus Boehnke for their services on the EC of IACCP.