
Minutes of the General Meeting of the IACCP

Melbourne, Australia

July 9, 2010 17:00 - 19:00

The General Meeting of the IACCP is held at each biennial Congress for all members of the Association who attend the conference. It immediately followed Heidi Keller's Presidential Address, "Future perspectives for cross-cultural psychology: Some considerations of a developmental psychologist."

Approval of the Bremen minutes

The minutes of the General Meeting held at Bremen in July 2008, earlier published for examination by the membership in the *Cross-Cultural Psychology Bulletin*, 43, 42-47, are unanimously approved.

President's report

Heidi Keller presents the President's report to the General Assembly. She thanks the organizers for their successful Congress and the other officers and regional representatives for their work over the previous, difficult two years.

Using a Powerpoint presentation, she presents details of the 2010 election of officers and announces the winners. In contrast to previous elections, the winners had been notified

as soon as the results were known so they would have the opportunity to make plans to attend the pre-conference Executive Council (EC) meetings as a way to enhance continuity in the governance of the Association. (See sidebar for results.) The election was held from February 10 to March 23. Turnout was 240, about 40% of eligible voters. Two informal polls were attached to the ballot concerning disciplinary identity and preferred methods (see sidebar).

Secretary-General's report

Secretary-General Bill Gabrenya presents his report with the aid of a Powerpoint show. He prefaces his report by noting that the officers had met for 21 hours up to this point in the conference and the EC had met for 17 hours, indicating the number and difficulty of issues that were discussed.

Constitution: The 1992 IACCP Constitution was revised over a period of about 18 months and was approved at the EC meeting earlier in the week. Following formal procedures for adoption, it would be presented to the membership for their approval following the Congress. The

Constitution was revised to meet legal requirements for U.S. tax exemption, accommodate changes in Association publications, especially JCCP, improve organizational process such as elections, review of officer performance, committee arrangements, and numerous other relatively minor issues. The new Constitution is online at iaccp.org (About IACCP...).

Special interest groups: The new Constitution contains a provision for Special Interest Groups (SIGs) in order to allow for more

2010 Election Results

Officers:

President Elect:	Yoshi Kashima (Australia)
Deputy Secretary-General:	Márta Fülöp (Hungary)
(no election for Secretary-General or Treasurer in 2010)	

Regional Representatives:

Europe:	Zeynep Aycan
Mexico, Central America, Caribbean:	Alejandra Dominguez-Espinosa
North Africa and Middle East:	Gabriel Horenczyk
North America/Canada:	Steven Heine
South America:	Maria Cristina Ferreira
South Asia:	Minati Panda
Southeast Asia:	Gregory Arief Darmanegara Liem
(no elections in remaining regions in 2010)	



Daphne Keats She wrote the 1992 Constitution (center, between John Berry and Debbie Best, at Melbourne Congress).

diversity within the Association. General rules for SIG formation were included in the Constitution, and detailed rules are maintained outside the Constitution, under the governance of the EC.

IACCP cultural psychology task force: A group composed of IACCP officers and representatives of the field commonly known as “cultural psychology” was formed in 2009 in order to bring the fields closer together and ameliorate conflicts that occurred at times since the 1990s. The Task Force included: Heidi Keller, Steven Heine, Patricia Greenfield, Kwok Leung, Bill Gabrenya, with consultation by Michele Gelfand. It developed a set of recommendations, including setting aside cultural psychology keynotes at Congresses, dedicating a JCCP special issue to cultural psychology, and creation of SIGs. (See Gabrenya (2009), *Cross-Cultural Psychology Bulletin*, 43, 13-22 for additional commentary on this project.)

Interim solution for Middle East/North Africa region representation: Due to legal and practical restrictions on communication between Israel and most Arab states in this region, the EC decided after considerable discussion to appoint a non-voting representative in the region for either Israel or the Arab states, whichever is not represented on the EC. This solution will “sunset” (terminate) in 2014, at which time the

EC will discuss the question again.

Cameroon regional conference: The 4th Africa Region Conference of IACCP was held at the University of Buea, city of Buea, Cameroon in August, 2009. The conference had originally been planned for Lagos, Nigeria, but the EC voted at its Bremen meeting to pursue another African location. Profs. Therese Tchombe and Bame Nsamenang generously stepped forward to organize the conference under an abbreviated time line. This was our first African conference in many years, despite our African roots dating to the 1960s. The conference was preceded by an extensive workshop program designed for several types of participants that was primarily organized by Ronald Fischer. A report on the conference appears in this issue. Because so few members were able to attend the conference, the Secretary-General presents a slide show of conferences highlights to the present (captive) audience.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights: The Universal Declaration of Ethical Principals for Psychologists (UD) was approved by the EC in its preconference meetings. The UD was not approved at the 2008 Bremen EC meeting but a presentation at the Melbourne EC meeting by Janel Gauthier helped convince the EC to approve the UD.

2010 Ballot Survey Items

1. Putting all of the complications and ambiguities aside, would you classify yourself as a (1) cross-cultural psychologist, (2) cultural psychologist, (3) both, or (4) neither or other?

Cross-cultural	42%	Both	34%
Cultural	13%	Neither/other	11%

2. In your own research, do you prefer to use (1) quantitative methods, (2) qualitative methods, or (3) a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods? (4) don't know/don't care.

Quantitative	37%	Combination	55%
Qualitative	7%	Don't know/care	1%

These results were similar to previous polls (see Gabrenya (200), *Cross-Cultural Psychology Bulletin*, 43, 13-22)

Funding EC travel to Congresses: Sharon Glazer read a statement prepared by the EC proposing to partially fund Congresses travel expenses so that all EC members have the opportunity to participate in biennial EC meetings. This proposal was motivated by the high cost of travel for many EC members to conferences in Australia and South Africa, as well as the high cost for officers to attend the Cameroon regional conference. A vigorous discussion involving members present ensued, focusing on issues such as the actual costs to the Association, the appropriateness of such support given the values and traditions of the Association, the question of whether this new expenditure would deprive the Witkin-Okonji Award of resources, the extent to which some members find it difficult to take positions on the EC due to the cost of attending Congresses, proper use of new income from JCCP royalties, common practices in other international scientific societies, and more. It was decided to make a proposal to the full membership via email prior to making a decision.

Treasurer's Report

Sharon Glazer presents the Treasurer's Report with the aid of a Powerpoint show. Sharon relates her personal experience as Treasurer, describing the excessive amount of time required by her and Bill Gabrenya to maintain the Treasury, including accounting, supervision of assistants, processing, handling special issues, writing software, and communicating with the membership.

The most notable event in 2009 was the Association's regaining U.S. federal tax-exempt status as a non-profit corporation. The fiscal year has been established as June 1 to May 31 in order to accommodate our calendar-year dues cycle and our Summer conference schedule.

The fiscal situation of the Association is stable, with total assets of \$169,599, including \$20,338 of which is in the Triandis Award fund. Membership is also stable, ranging from 644 members in July 2008 to 642 members in July 2010. Most members are in Europe (194) and the USA (165). The major costs to the Association are publication expenses paid to Sage for JCCP and to the JCCP Editorial office, and accountant and attorney fees. Large expenditures were also made to support the Melbourne and Cameroon conferences, ARTS, and the Witkin-Okonji Award. Our primary income comes from dues and JCCP royalties. The Psychology departments of San Jose State University and Florida Institute of Technology have contributed to the Association monetarily and in providing facilities.

Sharon reviews the anticipated costs for the present Congress and the coming year. She thanks her two assistants, Omar Ganai and Emalynn Robinson. Finally, she happily reports that the financial records and situation of the Association are in order, following several years of difficulties that she inherited.

A detailed Report of the Treasurer appears in this issue of the *Bulletin*.



now they move closer together for the photographer, especially the women, even though this puts Liz and Sara behind the candelabra and Sara farther from her husband.

Report on the Melbourne Congress

Yoshi Kashima presents a brief report on the Melbourne Congress that was to begin the following day. The Congress will have very good attendance despite the global financial crisis and some travel disruptions. There will be more than 450 delegates from more than 50 countries, participating in 44 symposia, more than 120 oral presentations and more than 40 poster presentations. Given these numbers, we should be able to break even financially. These good attendance results suggest the strength of our Association's core members' commitment to the organization and its scientific activities.

CPC report

Peter Smith presents the Communications and Publications Committee (CPC) report. Peter is functioning as interim Chair of the commit-



CPC Breakfast club Previous CPC chair Peter Smith with current CPC chair/former JCCP editor Fons van de Vijver, Hester van Herk, former IACCP president Ype Poortinga and current president Kwok Leung.

tee until the completion of negotiations with Sage Publication concerning JCCP. Most dues are now paid online through PayPal or a similar site called YourPay Merchant Services. We have transitioned away from PayPal due to difficulties with declined credit cards.

Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology:

The EC approved a second term as Editor for David Matsumoto until June, 2013. Negotiations with Sage are underway concerning

New iaccp.org Website

In Autumn, 2011, the Webmaster built a new IACCP website as part of a larger project to combine the main organizational website, iaccp.org and the directory/dues payment website, iaccp-directory.org. The new website is built on top of a modern content management system, Drupal, that allows highly detailed control over the content (e.g., pages that only members can view), easy page creation, and good security. We anticipate that the new website will facilitate the creation of more content specifically for members and greater interactivity.

After logging in, members will see a set of links in the left sidebar, "Members Only," that allow you to search the member directory, pay dues, access JCCP online, and other functions in the future.



A gaggle of presidents Past/present/future: Jim Georgas, Heidi Keller, Çiğdem Kağıtçıbaşı, Shalom Schwartz, Ype Poortinga, Kwok Leung, Deborah Best, Daphne Keats, John Berry, Walt Lonner, Yoshi Kashima, Peter Smith.

increasing the number of issues published each year in order to deal with a long publication lag and to meet greater demand for publications in the field. Some concerns within the CPC and EC regarding JCCP include its stagnant impact factor and determining the appropriate number of special issues.

Cross-Cultural Psychology Bulletin: The Editor of the *Bulletin*, Bill Gabrenya, has decided to step down after 15 years and pass it along to the next generation of cross-culturalists. A search for a new editor will ensue after the Congress. The future of the *Bulletin* in its present form as a printed magazine/newsletter has been discussed in detail and Bill has developed several alternate scenarios involving Internet methods.

Web site: The Association currently has two websites, one for the Association and another for maintaining dues and membership records. The Webmaster, Bill Gabrenya, plans to merge the websites using a more modern technology in late 2010. (See sidebar on page 39.)

Online Readings in Culture and Psychology: Ownership of the ORPC was transferred from the Center for Cross-Cultural Psychology

at Western Washington University to IACCP in 2008. The ORPC website was converted to a newer technology (Joomla) in 2009 under the temporary editorship of Bill Gabrenya and moved to the IACCP web server. A permanent Editor of the ORPC will be sought in 2010.

Upcoming Conferences

Report on the Istanbul regional conference: Çiğdem Kağıtçıbaşı reported on progress in planning the 2011 Turkey conference and invited all to attend.

Report on the Stellenbosch Congress: Deon Meiring and Leon Jackson reported on progress in organizing the 2012 Congress in South Africa, and showed a video introducing the area.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Gabrenya, Secretary-General