

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN PSYCHOLOGY

March 18-19, 2005, Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Joy Rice, PhD, Chair; Eileen Borris, EdD; Joy Rice, PhD; Judith Torney-Purta, PhD; Georgia Chao, PhD, Lillian Comas-Diaz, PhD; Thema Bryant-Davis, PhD; Juan Jose Sanchez-Sosa, PhD; and Danny Wedding, PhD.

Absent: Raymond Fowler, PhD

Liaisons: Sandra Shullman, PhD (Board of Directors); Florence Denmark, PhD (APA Main NGO Representative), Frank Farley, PhD (Division 10)

Guests: Merry Bullock, PhD (APA Science Directorate); Gary VandenBos, PhD (Communications and Publications) Janet Soller, PhD (Communications and Publications); the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA)

Staff: Sally Levery, International Affairs Assistant; Bertha Holliday and Alberto Figueroa, Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs

Dr. Rice called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. March 18. Dr. Rice and the Committee congratulated Dr. Torney-Purta on receiving a 2005 Decade of Behavior Research Award.

1. Approval of the Minutes

CIRP voted to approve the October 1-2, 2004 minutes.

2. 2005-2007 CIRP Meeting Dates

CIRP noted that it will meet September 30-October 1 (at the Hyatt Regency in Reston, Virginia). The committee was given its meeting dates for 2006 and 2007.

3. Election of 2006 Chair

Georgia Chao was elected the 2006 Chair.

4. Nominations for 2006-2008 Terms

CIRP reviewed the nominations compiled by the APA Governance Affairs Office and made additional nominations. The Committee identified three slates of nominees to fill the vacancies that will occur with the completion of the terms of Drs. Borris, Rice, and Torney-Purta. Three slates were developed:

Cross National Research and Policy: Irene H. Frieze, Carlotta Ocampo, Oliva Espin, and Sharon Brehm

Global Mental Health and Practice: Andres Consoli, Robert M. Martin, Carloyn Zerbe Enns, James Blumenthal, and Gloria Gottsegen

Teaching and Technology: Richard Velayo, Linda Woolf, John Dovidio, and Tom Oakland

5. Awards Subcommittee

Dr. Rice appointed an Awards Subcommittee to review nominations and recommend recipients for the two APA international awards – the Award for Distinguished Contributions to the International Advancement of Psychology Award and the APA International Humanitarian Award. The members of the subcommittee are Drs. Rice, Borris, Chao, and Bryant-Davis.

6. International Scientific Meeting Support Fund

The Chair appointed Drs. Chao, Torney-Purta, and Sanchez-Sosa to review applications made for international scientific meeting support. CIRP awarded the \$3500 fund to the Interamerican Society of Psychology to support their 2005 congress in Buenos Aires.

7. David International Travel Award

The Chair also appointed Drs. Chao, Torney-Purta, and Sanchez-Sosa to review applications for the David International Travel Award. They recommended that Leapetswe Maletse, PhD, of the University of Botswana, receive the award, which is administered by the American Psychological Foundation.

8. American Psychologist Special Section Subcommittee

The Chair designated a subcommittee (Drs. Chao, Comas-Diaz, and Wedding) to serve during 2005. The subcommittee will review and make recommendations to CIRP on any proposals for special sections on international issues. The Committee noted that a proposed APA meeting on immigration could produce papers for a special section.

9. Psychology International Editorial Advisory Subcommittee

Sally Leverty told CIRP that she would like to end the printed edition of the newsletter in 2005. Drs. Torney-Purta and Wedding volunteered to help turn the newsletter into an electronic publication.

10. 2005 CIRP Convention Hours

The Committee received an update on CIRP's 2004 convention program.

11. Applications for UN Representatives

CIRP received a report that the Board of Directors had approved its recommendations for appointments to the APA UN NGO team.

12. United Nations Report

CIRP received a report from Florence Denmark, APA's Main UN NGO representative. The Committee discussed the need for greater dialogue between CIRP and the UN team; not only should the Association be communicating its priorities and issues to the UN team, the UN team should be working to identify emerging UN issues and initiatives that may

influence APA policy. Staff will send Dr. Denmark updated copies of APA's public interest-related resolutions.

13. Guidelines for Oversight of APA's UN Representatives

The Chair appointed a UN Oversight Subcommittee – Dr. Comas-Diaz (chair) and Drs. Fowler, Borris, Rice, Chao, and Bryant-Davis (supported by the Office of International Affairs) – to facilitate communication between APA and its UN Delegation.

14. Task Force on the World Conference Against Racism (WCAR) Report

Dr. Shullman, who chaired the WCAR Task Force, briefed CIRP on its findings and on Council's actions. Council adopted the main motion of the report, which contained a number of recommendations for specific CIRP actions, however, the Task Force was asked to revisit certain issues. The item will go back to the Board of Directors and June. In the meantime, Drs. Rice and Comas-Diaz will draft a memo to the Board and will ask them to clarify the action items relevant to CIRP.

15. Joint CIRP / CEMA World Conference Against Racism Subcommittee

The full committee met with the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs to discuss ways to develop recommendations for APA action on the WCAR delegation's report. A joint CIRP-CEMA subcommittee was appointed to propose short, medium, and long range plans, and to identify time-lines and responsible entities for the implementation of initiatives. Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs and Office of International Affairs staff will work with the subcommittee: Drs. Bryant-Davis, Chao, and Fowler (CIRP) and Drs. Alvarez, Dass-Brailsford, and Manly (CEMA).

16. Conceptualizing Time

The Committee used its conceptualizing time to address the three priorities it identified at its October 2004 meeting.

16a. Dissemination, follow-up, and use of the APA Resolution on Cultural and Gender Awareness in Psychology

ACTIONS

- Draft cover letter to international organizations and national psychology associations (Dr. Rice)
- Ask the *Monitor* to publish an article on the resolution. Drs. Borris, Chao, and Bryant-Davis will suggest possible contexts for the article.
- Translate the resolution into Spanish and send to Latin American psychology organizations and department chairs (Dr. Sanchez-Sosa)
- Send the resolution to BEA, TOPPS, and groups involved in the American Council of Education's project to internationalize the undergraduate curriculum (Drs. Torney-Purta and Wedding)
- Publish in the *AP*
- *AP* special section (Drs. Rice, Chao, and Comas-Diaz)

16b. Division Liaisons to CIRP

CIRP discussed the current role of its division liaisons and how they could better facilitate communication with the divisions.

ACTIONS

- Use division liaison breakfast at convention to solicit feedback
- Contact the Committee on Division and APA Relations and ask that CIRP's chair-elect attend the annual division leadership conference (Sally Levery follow up with Division Services)
- Solicit division support for issues important to CIRP, for example, difficulties experienced by international affiliates who want to attend convention (Drs. Rice and Sanchez-Sosa will review convention policies concerning affiliates and draft letter to Board of Convention Affairs)
- CIRP chair and chair-elect draft letter to division presidents to encourage greater interaction between divisions, CIRP, and the Office of International Affairs (Drs. Rice and Chao)
- Draft letter to Gerald Koocher stating CIRP's support for, and great interest in, the proposed APA-sponsored conference on immigration. CIRP will offer its expertise (for example, suggested invited speakers), and ask how it can be helpful. (Drs. Comas-Diaz, Sanchez-Sosa, and Rice)

16c. Facilitating international communication and alliances through APA

Gary VandenBos briefed CIRP on APA's activities involving the mutual exchange of psychological information globally. These included coverage of international journals, acceptance of foreign authors in US journals, and issues related to the equitable access of research data.

ACTION

- Propose that the *Monitor* write an article on international publishing issues and suggest who to contact for information.

17. APA Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual International Activities Oversight Group

Dr. Wedding will represent CIRP on the oversight group. The group will conduct its future business by conference calls.

18. American Council of Education (ACE) Project

Dr. Torney-Purta represents CIRP on the APA working group promoting the internationalization of the undergraduate psychology curriculum. She provided a written update on the work of the working group and asked the Committee to send her their comments and suggestions.

19. Division Liaison Reports

Dr. Frank Farley represented Division 10.

20. IUPsyS Report

Dr. Merry Bullock briefed the Committee on recent IUPsyS activities, including their Asian tsunami relief activities and a new donation program with the American Psychological

Foundation. Dr. Bullock also invited CIRP to suggest speakers and topics for invited symposia for the 2008 International Congress of Psychology.

21. USNC Report

CIRP received an extensive written report of USNC activities. Dr. Bullock reported that the USNC did receive funding from the National Academies of Science for four years. She asked CIRP to suggest researchers with expertise in survey methodology to help the USNC; Dr. Torney-Purta volunteered her services.

22. APA Tsunami Relief Initiatives

Merry Bullock is APA's coordinator of the Association's tsunami relief initiatives and she updated the Committee on these projects, which will focus on mental health and capacity-building of the indigenous peoples of the affected areas. For example, APA will support IUPsyS workshops to train local mental health leaders to design and implement mental health systems. Other initiatives include an educational web site on trauma and disaster relief, generating a list of frequently asked questions, developing a group of experts to help trainers, and a conference on the ethical implications of natural disaster relief.

Cross-Cutting Agenda

CC-1: 2004 Policy and Planning Board 5-year Report

The 2004 Policy and Planning Board 5-year Report recommended that APA develop a global perspective and "participate with other international psychological societies in setting specific goals to improve the human condition..." CIRP supports the broad recommendations of the report, but commented that the specific recommendations ("#7" in the report), lacked a basic understanding of CIRP's mission and of the mission of the NGO team at the United Nations.

CC-5: Report of Task Force on Enhancing Diversity

CIRP reviewed the task force report and made specific comments about the recommendations made under the heading "International and Current Events Awareness."

- **CIRP coordinate efforts to identify a model of the effects of catastrophic disaster as a situational cause of marginalization of groups ...**

This recommendation suggests a course of action that is outside CIRP's purview and mission. In addition, the recommendation does not define "marginalization," and the recommendation lacks clarity. The Committee did propose, however, that it could take the lead in creating a bibliography of research in this field.

- **CIRP identify and reach out to other international psychology-related organizations, such as those in the Middle East, to develop joint activities related to convention, training, practice, and research.**

CIRP's mission charges the Committee to "initiate and maintain communication with international and regional organizations of psychologists in other countries and in other national and international associations of psychologists." The suggested activities generally in agreement with CIRP's broad mission to encourage and support the free circulation of psychologists and psychological ideas and information, although activities related to training and, in particular, practice, are outside of the Committee's mission. Furthermore, such activities have financial implications that are not addressed by the recommendation.

- **CIRP pursue collaboration with international training programs, such as those currently being developed in many Muslim nations, regarding training issues.**

See above.

CC-6: the Proposed Resolution on Enhancing Diversity in APA

CIRP reviewed the proposed resolution and made the following comments:

Line 13: add “socio-economic status.”

Lines 41-47: When they are adopted, CIRP recommends revising the resolution to include the APA Guidelines for the Psychological Practice with Women and Girls.

CC-10: Resolution on Drug Abuse Treatment to Prevent HIV among Injecting Drug Users

The Committee recommended adoption of the resolution with one modification:

Line 103: Insert the words “and international” – Support psychologists as they engage in interdisciplinary and international efforts involving other health, etc. If feasible, data on the numbers of international injection drug users could be referenced to provide context.

CC-11: Resolution on the 2005 White House Conference on Aging

The Committee supports adoption of the resolution but suggests the addition of one more “Whereas” that addresses the particular issues – health, poverty, etc. -- that have an impact on the quality of life of older women, widows, and divorcees.

CC-12: Proposed Resolution on Recommending the Immediate Retirement of American Indian Mascots, Symbols, and Personalities.

The Committee acknowledges the seriousness of this issue and recognizes that American Indian mascots and symbols are something that people find offensive, but it does not support adoption of the resolution without modifications. CIRP feels that the resolution is undermined by its lack of references to scholarly, empirical psychological literature, especially when a large body of psychology literature – which, while it may not refer specifically to American Indians – is available on social identity and stereotyping.

CC-16: Raymond Fowler Award for Outstanding Contributions to APA

CIRP will nominate Corann Okorodudu for the Fowler award and ask to CEMA to co-nominate. The deadline for the nomination is October 1, 2005, to the Special Projects Office

CC-17: APA Presidential Virtual Working Group on Anti-Semitic, Anti-Jewish and Other Religious, Religion-Related and/or Religion-Derived Prejudice

CIRP nominated Amal Winter to serve on the working group.

CC-18: APA Presidential Virtual Working Group on Prejudice and Discrimination in All its Forms

CIRP nominated John Dovidio and Vanessa Nyborg to serve on the working group.

CC-19: Task Force on Socioeconomic Status

CIRP nominated Bernice Lott and James Jackson to serve on the task force.

Subcommittees

Awards: Rice, Chao, Borris, Bryant-Davis

AP Special Section

Comas-Diaz, Chao, Wedding

PI Advisory Committee

Torney-Purta, Wedding

UN NGO Oversight Committee

Comas-Diaz (Chair), Fowler, Borris, Rice, Chao, Bryant-Davis

CIRP-CEMA Subcommittee on WCAR Report

Bryant-Davis, Chao, Fowler

Liaisons

LGB International Activities Oversight Group
Wedding

APA Task Force on Internationalizing the Undergraduate Curriculum

Torney-Purta

Committee Member Assignments

16a. Gender Resolution

- Cover letter on gender resolution to international/national organizations (Rice)
- Translate resolution into Spanish and send to Latin American psychology organizations and department chairs (Sanchez-Sosa)
- Draft cover letter and send with resolution to BEA, TOPPS, and groups involved in ACE curriculum project (Torney-Purta)
- Article proposal for Monitor (Borris, Chao, Bryant-Davis)
- AP Special Section proposal (Rice, Chao, Comas-Diaz)

16b. Role of Division Liaisons

- Review convention policies that affect international affiliates – e.g. registration fees, program submission (Rice, Sanchez-Sosa, OIA)
- Letter to division presidents to encourage greater interaction between divisions, CIRP, and the Office of International Affairs (Rice and Chao)
- Letter to Gerald Koocher *re* immigration conference (Rice, Comas-Diaz, Sanchez-Sosa)

16c. Facilitating International Communication

- Contact *Monitor* about an article on international publishing issues (OIA)

International Affairs Office

Follow-up with OEMA (15)

Follow-up with Division Services / CODAPAR (16b)

Send APA public interest resolutions to NGO reps (12)

Identify and contact professional organization NGOs re their UN reps' operating procedures (13)

Coordinate Fowler Award Nominations (Okorodudu) packet with OEMA/CEMA – 500-word nominations statement, 3 letters of support, vitae.