

APA Committee on International Relations in Psychology
March 28–30, 2008
Minutes

CIRP: Stephen Quintana, PhD (Chair); Lynn Collins, PhD; Carolyn Enns, PhD; Oliva Espin, PhD; Shinobu Kitayama, PhD; Jeanne Marecek, PhD; Pamela Flattau, PhD; and Laura Johnson, PhD

Liaisons and Monitors (partial attendance): Michael Wertheimer, PhD (Board of Directors); Florence Denmark, PhD (UN Main Representative); Pierre Ritchie, PhD (IUPsyS Liaison, by conference call); Ester Sztejn, PhD (USNC Liaison); Raymond Fowler, PhD (IAAP Liaison); Fong Chan, PhD (CDIP Monitor); Chandra Mehrotra, PhD (CONA Monitor)

Division Liaisons (partial attendance): Carole Rayburn, PhD (1); Joseph De Meyer, PhD (9); Henry David, PhD (34); Corann Okorodudu, EdD (35); Chanming Duan, PhD (17); David Eckerman, PhD (25); Judith Torney-Purta, PhD (15); Jennifer Babcock, PhD (39)

Staff Liaisons: Merry Bullock, PhD, Senior Director, Office of International Affairs; Sally Leverty, Office of International Affairs, Amena Hassan, Communications Manager, Office of International Affairs

Guests: Alan Kazdin, PhD, James Bray, PhD, Sandy Shullman, PhD

Introductions and Chair's Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Quintana who welcomed the ongoing and new members of CIRP. Dr. Marecek presented an overview of psychology education and training in Sri Lanka, continuing CIRP's efforts at educating itself about psychology in other countries.

1. **CIRP Meeting Dates**

The meeting dates through 2010 were received.

2. **Review of Minutes**

The Committee approved the fall 2007 Minutes.

3. **Determination of CIRP Slates**

CIRP developed three slates of candidates for the 2009–2011 terms. Staff will determine each candidate's willingness to serve and provide biographical data to CIRP. Final slates will be determined by conference call.

4. **Awards Committee**

Dr. Quintana appointed Dr. Enns, Dr. Collins, and Dr. Johnson to join him on the subcommittee to review applications for the APF Henry David Grants, the APF Frances M. Culbertson Travel Grant, and the 2008 Scientific Meeting Support Fund. The subcommittee's recommendations are subject to approval by the full committee.

5. **David Research Award**

CIRP recommended to the APF Board of Directors that the 2008 David Grants be given to Jessica Anne Fehringer and Lisa Rosenzweig.

6. **Frances Culbertson Travel Grant**

CIRP recommended to the APF Board of Directors that the 2008 Culbertson Travel Grant be given to Deborah Ale, PhD.

7. **Scientific Meeting Support Fund**

CIRP awarded \$4000 to the 2009 Interamerican Congress of Psychology to be held in Guatemala. The funds will be used to support organizational activities taking place in 2008.

CIRP awarded \$1000 to the 3rd International Conference on the Teaching of Psychology to be held in St. Petersburg, Russia. The funds will be used to partially cover travel and registration expenses for students.

8. **Review of Strategic Goals**

CIRP reviewed its strategic goals and discussed the need to set priorities / extent to which APA will support international activities, embrace international in its strategic plan.

9. **OIA Update**

CIRP received as information the Office of International Affairs' annual report to the Council of Representatives. Dr. Bullock discussed some of the highlights of the Office's major activities, including the Map of the World activities, enhanced informational brochures and convention activities.

10. **International Activities at APA**

Dr. Bullock briefed CIRP on the international activities of some of APA's offices.

11. **CIRP 2008 Convention Activities**

CIRP received information on CIRP-sponsored programming at convention. CIRP will discuss its 2009 program during its fall 2008 meeting, but proposed some ideas for follow up in the fall:

- Invite representatives of other psychology NGOs
- Invite State Department Jefferson Fellows
- Provide site visits for international visitors
- Facilitate meetings between international and US researchers

12. **Fulbright Initiative**

Amena Hassan briefed CIRP on the preparations for interviewing the Fulbright scholars at convention.

13. **Presidential Initiatives – Grand Challenges**

At his request, CIRP will send Dr. Kazdin a shortlist of international issues that are relevant to APA's membership, for example, barriers to graduate education and research, international mobility, and international credentialing.

16. **UN Oversight – Update**

CIRP discussed the current term limits for UN representatives and agreed they were appropriate. CIRP moved to make no recommendations to the Board of Directors to change or eliminate the term limit for members of the UN NGO team.

CIRP also discussed the Durban Review planned for 2009 and agreed to monitor the planning process. Drs. Johnson and Nicolas were designated to develop draft procedures for the appointment of delegations to UN activities and conferences.

17. **APA Delegations at UN Conferences**

CIRP will develop procedures that APA can use to prioritize UN initiatives and a mechanism to identify which of these the Association should endorse. In addition, the Council of Representatives has tasked CIRP to develop a plan to prepare and brief APA delegations to future UN conferences and events. Dr. Denmark, Dr. Flattau, and Dr. Nicolas will draft recommendations for further discussion. Further, CIRP will conceptualize how the UN team and APA can contribute without attending face-to-face conference.

18. **UN NGO Team Recruitment**

CIRP reviewed applications for the UN NGO team and produced a shortlist of candidates. Staff will notify the candidates and request additional information from them. Further discussions will take place by e-mail and conference call.

19. **BEA / CIRP Task Force on Quality Assurance**

Dr. Shullman met with CIRP to review the report of the task force and the challenges to psychology to respond to questions concerning international quality standards. CIRP will review the document to determine if it is ready to go out broadly to other APA governance groups and to international organizations for comment.

20. **Internationalizing the Undergraduate Curriculum – BEA and CIRP Working Group**

Dr. Marecek and Dr. Kitayama briefed CIRP on the Working Group's conference call meetings. CIRP developed a number of issues important for internationalizing the curriculum including definitional issues (definition of internationalization), language issues, and suggested developing workshops for textbook authors to implement internationalization content, developing a bibliography of resources, and an *AP* special section on the issue.

21. **Cross-Cutting Agenda – Action Items**

CO-01: *APA Strategic Planning*

Dr. Quintana represented CIRP at the strategic planning meeting

CO-02: *Memberships for Graduates with Doctoral Degrees in Related Sciences*

CIRP supported the intent of this item. Dr. Collins will prepare comments

CO-03: *Agendas on the WEB*

CIRP supported providing an option of web-based agendas as long as limited numbers of paper copies were available at the meetings. Dr. Enns will prepare comments.

CO-04: *Principles for the Recognition of Proficiencies in Professional Psychology*

CIRP reviewed the report and proposed further editorial changes. Dr. Espin will prepare CIRP's comments.

CO-05: *Report of Task Force for Increasing the Number of Quantitative Psychologists*

CIRP reviewed the report and supports sending it to the Council of Representatives. However CIRP found that the recommendations in the report were disappointing because they were not sufficiently active. CIRP felt that APA was missing an important opportunity to be a leader in pointing out the importance of quantitative psychology to global issues. Dr. Flattau will provide comments

CO-06: *Report of Task Force on Evidence-Based Practice with Children and Adolescents*

CIRP reviewed the report and applauded its sensitivity to cross-cultural issues. CIRP supports the main motion and recommends that the Council of Representatives receive the report (Dr. Kitayama)

CO-07: *Final Report of the Task Force on Gender Identity, Gender Variance, and Intersex Conditions*

CIRP was concerned that the report had a tone that pathologized the content; they were disappointed that culture was largely not mentioned, and that notable resources were omitted from the report. They also noted a number of typographical errors and examples that were lacking research citations. CIRP will send its specific comments to the LGBT staff liaison (Dr. Johnson).

CO-08: *Resolution on Transgender and Gender Identity Non-Discrimination*

CIRP supports the main motion and recommends that Council adopt the resolution as APA policy (Dr. Marecek)

CO-09: *Request for Reviewers for the Final Report of the Task Force on Appropriate Therapeutic Responses to Sexual Orientation*

CIRP was interested in finding reviewers with expertise in international contexts. (Dr. Collins)

CO-10: *Task Force on Mental Health and Abortion: Review of the Final Report*

Dr. David reviewed the report on behalf of CIRP. CIRP concurred with Dr. David that the task force did an exceptional job on the content of the report, but believed that the report required careful editing for polish for the public before release. He also noted, and CIRP concurred, that this report will garner strong public interest. CIRP will recommend to the Women's Program Office that the report should be reviewed by a professional editorial writer before it is disseminated further.

CO-11: *Report of the Task Force on Resilience and Strength of Black Children and Adolescents*

CIRP was concerned that the report appeared to ignore some populations including biracial children and black immigrant children. Although they were aware that there might be good reasons for this they believed they should be explicit in the report. Beyond this point, CIRP supports the main motion and recommends that Council receive the report (Dr. Espin)

CO-12: *CEMA: Request for the Creation of an APA Task Force on Multiculturalism and Diversity of the Next Generation of Psychology Faculty*

CIRP believed that in the creation of such a task force it would be important for members to have expertise in international issues, and expertise in international pipelines issues (Dr. Flattau)

22. **APA Policy Manual Review**

Staff will investigate the apparent confusion between the 1973 and 1986 policies in opposition to torture.

23. **Review of CIRP's Mission Statement**

CIRP reviewed its mission statement and recommends no changes.

24. **Review of International Affiliate Bylaw**

Drs. Enns and Johnson will work with staff to identify practical mechanisms for international affiliate applicants to provide proof of eligibility. OIA will meet with Membership to discuss this issue. Dr. Johnson suggested adding an additional membership category – departmental memberships – for psychology programs in low and lower-middle income countries.

25. Renewal of WHO-ICD Project Support (with BPA)

Pierre Ritchie briefed CIRP on the background of IUPsyS's engagement with the UN system and the past successes of IUPsyS /APA collaboration to substantially increase the profile of psychology at WHO. CIRP and the Board of Professional Affairs will recommend to the APA Board of Directors that APA provide for a sustained contribution of psychology to the revision of the Mental Health chapter of the ICD.

26. Evidence Based Applied Psychology

CIRP read the item with interest and offered a number of comments including:

- A change in nomenclature from evidence based to research based (more appropriate for applied psychology). They noted that applied psychology has always been evidence-based .
- CIRP suggested the issues could be clarified with a better definition of applied psychology and the scope of the item.
- CIRP suggested involving other professional societies, such as the Evaluation Research Society.
- CIRP suggested advocating that this topic be included in president-elect James Bray's initiatives on the future of psychology practice

27. CIRP/BSA Discussion on International Science Activities

CIRP met with BSA to explore possibilities for collaborative international science-oriented activities. Topics discussed included international research collaborations; international IRB issues; students and international graduate education and research exchange; NSF funding for international activities; International research standards and cultural validity; ATI in international research; training for review panels for international research projects.

28. Global Warming Taskforce (BSA)

CIRP will submit its nominees to serve on a Global Warming Taskforce to the Science Directorate.

29. Immigration Taskforce (BAPPI)

CIRP reviewed the main motion and the substitute main motion. CIRP does not recommend approval of the main motion in its present iteration. CIRP will send its comments, including changes in nomenclature and identification of critical issues to the BAPPI staff liaison.

30. International LGB Network

CIRP will write a memo to the Public Interest Directorate and to BAPPI supporting sustaining APA's systematic participation in the international network.

31. Division Liaisons

CIRP received as information reports from liaisons from the following divisions:

- Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI–Division 9): Dr. De Meyer briefed CIRP on SPSSI's wide range of NGO activities centered on ageing, trafficking, immigration, child soldiers, and medical management of HIV/AIDS. SPSSI now has an NGO representative in Geneva.
- Educational Psychology (Division 15): Dr. Torney-Purta reported that the division has an international committee; goal to foster collaborations particularly with younger scholars
- Society of Counseling Psychology (Division 17): Dr. Duan reported on the many activities and initiatives of the division's international section—awards programs, convention breakfast for

international scholars, Web-based surveys and discussions, and student mentoring. She noted that the recent international conference on counseling psychology held in Chicago attracted 200 presenters from 46 countries.

- Population and Environmental Psychology (Division 34): Dr. David noted that a long-term goal of the division is to increase its international activities. The division may change its name to Society for Psychology of Conservation, Population, and Environment
- Psychoanalysis (Division 39): Dr. Babcock asked CIRP to prepare talking points for divisions as well as guidelines on starting an international section. Dr. Bullock noted that Division 17 is an excellent model for divisions wishing to form an international committee or section.

32. **USNC**

Dr. Sztejn briefed CIRP on the USNC's current activities and gave CIRP copies of the disk, "International Collaboration in Behavioral Science." The committee moved to set aside sufficient time at the September meeting for in-depth discussion on developing collaborations between the USNC and APA.

33. **IUPsyS**

CIRP received as information a report on the IUPsyS' activities.

34. **IAAP**

Dr. Fowler reported that the IAAP had formed a "tandem alliance network" with the International Council of Psychologists, the Asian Psychological Society, and the International Positive Psychology Association.

35. **WFMH**

CIRP received as information a report from the WFMH.

36. **Psi Chi**

CIRP received as information a report from Psi Chi.