

## The APA/UN Team Annual Report 2011

Submitted by Deanna Chitayat, PhD, Chair, APA NGO Representation\*

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### Executive Summary

The APA Team at the United Nations is arguably one of the most productive among all the volunteer non-governmental organizations (NGO's). This year, we 7 volunteer representatives were involved in 23 committees, 24 planning committees, authored 37 papers, proposals, written statements, parallel events, presentations and publications. We held 7 leadership positions in substantive committees. We have organized, planned and co-chaired Psychology Day 2011 and 2012, APA Symposia, and initiated a Psychology Coalition. We have advocated for the inclusion of psychological science and practice in all our endeavors, and included psychologists as speakers in all our symposia. Our student interns (appointed for the academic term September-May) have participated as professional partners in all our work.

| <u>Activity</u>   | <u>Individual Participants</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|
| NGO Committee Participation   | 23 (multiple committees/rep)   |
| Chairs/Co-Chairs  | 3                              |
| Executive Committees  | 4                              |
| Sub Committees  | 9                              |
| Planning Committees   | 24 (multiple committees/rep)   |
| Co-Chairs of APA Team Activities  | 4                              |
| Papers, Proposals, Parallel Events,<br>Written Statements, Presentations: | 37                             |

For more information please see [www.apa.org/international/un](http://www.apa.org/international/un)

### Introduction

APA is an accredited non-governmental organization (NGO) to the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) and has special consultative status to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). In 2008, APA was elected to the Executive Board of the Conference of NGOs (CoNGO) and served 2008-2010.

During 2011 the Association was represented at UN headquarters in New York by a team of volunteer NGO representatives. The structure of the team is as follows:

- A Main Representative, serving for a term of 5 years. The Main Representative serves as the APA team chair.
- 4 ECOSOC Representatives, each appointed for a renewable 5-year terms
- 1 Main Representative to DPI, appointed for a renewable 5-year term
- 1 Alternative Representative to DPI, appointed for a renewable 2-year term

\*My appreciation to Emily Dow, who assisted me in the preparation of this report. Deanna Chitayat, Main Representative

- Special Project Representatives, appointed for 1-year renewable terms, in substantive areas that support the team's work
- Up to 4 Student Interns, appointed for the academic year.

The APA Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP) provides oversight for the APA UN representative team, which reports to the APA Board of Directors. The APA Office of International Affairs, in consultation with representatives from the APA Executive Office, Public Interest and Science Directorates, provides administrative support.

For effective outreach and input, it is essential to work in collaboration with other NGOs, presenting the voice of civil society at the United Nations. The members of the APA team belong to and hold leadership positions in a variety of NGO committees, working groups, and task forces. APA's team works to ensure that UN documents and statements include a psychological / behavioral perspective; that psychological expertise is available to the UN through panels, briefings, written statements, and other educational activities. The APA team invites psychologists for symposia and other presentations and disseminates APA materials and activities relevant to UN goals. The APA team also attends briefings held by the UN Department of Public Information (DPI) and disseminates information about UN events to APA offices and members. Although the requested commitment from each APA team member is one day of volunteer activity per week, most engage in UN activities more frequently. In addition, all team members attend a once-monthly APA team meeting for updates and coordination.

In 2011, the APA team engaged in a process of strategic planning for APA activities at the UN. They developed talking points for team members, organized a half-day training session on Advocacy in the UN context, and held a strategic planning retreat. In summer 2011 a new Psychology Coalition was initiated in collaboration with other psychology NGO's for the purpose of advocating the use of psychological science in UN documents and decision making..

#### **APA UN/NGO COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES – 2011**

Members of the APA team were involved with the following NGO committees, working groups and task forces in 2011. These committees meet regularly at UN headquarters and APA team members provided input and organized committee-related activities. The roles of APA team members are indicated in parentheses.

- DPI (Department of Public Information) (DPI Main Representative, Associate DPI Representative)
- NGO Committee for Health (observer)
- NGO Committee for Indigenous Peoples (observer)
- NGO Committee for Human Rights (observer)
- NGO Committee on Ageing (member)
- NGO Committee on Ageing International Day of Older Persons Planning Committee (member)
- NGO Committee on HIV/AIDS (Co-Chair, Executive Committee)
- NGO Committee on HIV/AIDS World AIDS Day Briefing (organizer)
- NGO Committee on Mental Health (Members-at-large, Treasurer, Executive Committee)
- NGO Committee on Mental Health Working Group on gender (member)
- NGO Committee on Mental Health Working Group on Racism (member)
- NGO Committee on Sustainable Development (CSD) (member)
- NGO Committee on the Family (Co-Chair, member)
- NGO Committee on the International Day of Older Persons Planning Committee (members)

- NGO Committee on the Status of Women (CSW) (members)
- UNICEF Working Group on Girls (member)
- NGO Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) 55 Planning Committee (member)
- NGO CSW 56 Planning Committee (Co-Chair)
- NGO CSW 56 Reception Committee (Co-chair)
- NGO Committee of Trafficking (member)
- NGO Committee on Migration (member)
- The Human Rights Committee (NGO), Subcommittee on Elimination of Racism, Prejudices and other Intolerance (member)

### APA UN TEAM ACTIVITIES

**2011 Annual Psychology Day.** APA co-coordinated the 2011 Annual Psychology Day at the United Nations through a planning committee comprised of representatives of the 7-8 psychology organizations at the UN on the theme of: *Reach Them, Teach Them: The role of Psychology in Achieving Universal Access to Education: Exploring Innovations and Challenges*. This event featured a morning briefing (see next item) and an afternoon plenary talk, workshops, and general discussion session.

**2011 Annual Psychology Day DPI Briefing, morning session.** Coordinated with DPI, 400 attendees, *Reach Them, Teach Them, the Role of Psychology in Achieving Universal Access to Education*. On site at the UN

**2012 Annual Psychology Day.** APA is co-coordinating the 2012 Annual Psychology Day at the United Nations with representatives of the 7-8 psychology organizations at the UN. The theme for the program is *Contributions from Psychology to the UN Agenda on Fulfilling the Rights of Vulnerable People*.

**APA 2011 Convention Symposium.** The APA UN/NGO team organized a symposium at the APA annual convention, *Does Educating Girls Matter? Barriers and Promise from a United Nations Perspective*, chaired by APA's Main Representative to the United Nations. The UN Team members and interns addressed the UN Millennium Development Goals, gender-related barriers in STEM fields, violence and discrimination against girls in education, and stories of success in global education.

**Intern Program.** The APA team managed the APA UN Intern program (4 graduate student interns from local universities). The interns are appointed for the academic year.

**Dissemination.** The APA UN/NGO team members contributed to a regular column, *APA at the UN*, in the newsletter of the APA Office of International Affairs, *Psychology International* (see page 10 for other publications)

**Advocacy.** APA UN/NGO team members organized and participated in a half-day advocacy training session at the UN. Team members also attended the annual Ambassador's Luncheon and the Launch of UN Women, and developed advocacy talking points on HIV/AIDS, Climate change, and STEM education.

**Psychology Coalition.** Psychology NGO's collaborated on developing a Psychology Coalition for the purpose of advocating for the inclusion of psychological science in the deliberations of the UN. A mission statement, bylaws and structure have been developed. A Written Statement titled "Psychological Perspectives on the Empowerment of Rural Women and Girls as a Strategy for Eradicating Poverty" was developed to advocate for the inclusion of psychosocial research and strategies in developing ECOSOC policy on rural women and girls. Additionally, a proposal for a Parallel Event, *Transforming Poor Rural*

*Communities through Psycho-social Empowerment of Women and Girls*, has been accepted for the CSW 56<sup>th</sup>. These two advocacy activities, sponsored by APA, were the first products of the Psychology Coalition.

**2011 Team Retreat.** The team participated in a retreat for strategic planning, followed by a consolidated team report.

## **SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**

### **Planning Activities** [Event (Role, Name)]

- Psychology Day 2011 (Co-chair, Deanna Chitayat; 5 APA Team Members)
- Psychology Day 2011, Morning DPI Briefing (Co-chair, Deanna Chitayat)
- Psychology Day 2012 Planning Committee (Co-chair, Janet Sigal; 4 APA Team Members)
- Psychology Day 2012, Program Committee (Co-chair, Deborah Vietze)
- 55<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women, Planning Committee ( Deanna Chitayat)
- 56<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women, Planning Committee ( Deanna Chitayat)
- 56<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women, Reception Committee (Co-chair, Deanna Chitayat)
- 2011 International Day of the Family (Assisted, Janet Sigal)
- 2011 International Day of Older Persons (Assisted, Janet Sigal; all interns participated in registration for this event)
- NGO Committee on Mental Health Working Group on Gender (Janet Sigal)
- Local campus/Chicago area celebration/program of the UN's "International Day Against Homophobia" (Leader, Neal Rubin)
- Argosy University Chicago movement (faculty, students & administration) to join the UN's "Academic Impact" program (Leader, Neal Rubin)
- Local campus/Chicago area program in recognition of the UN's "International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women" (Leader, Neal Rubin)
- Working Group on Girls: Advocacy Committee ( Deanna Chitayat)
- Team Retreat (Leader, Neal Rubin; Convener, Deanna Chitayat; Follow up report, Neal Rubin and Deborah Vietze)

### **Presentations** [Committee/Event: Title/Topic (Role, Name)]

- 55<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women: (Parallel Event) Psychology Caucus (Co-chair, Deanna Chitayat)
- 55<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women: (Parallel Event) What Psychology Offers to the Education of Women and Girls (Co-chair, Deanna Chitayat)
- 55<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women: (Parallel Event) Best Practices in STEM Education with NASA (Chair, Deanna Chitayat)
- 55<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women: Parallel Event with NGO Committee on Mental Health Working Group on Gender (Janet Sigal)
- 55<sup>th</sup> United Nations Commission on the Status of Women: (Parallel Event) Mentors and role models: Increasing equality in STEM (Chair, Deanna Chitayat; Invited address, Susan Nolan)

- General Family Committee Meeting: Culture, Gender and Domestic Violence (Presenter, Janet Sigal)
- Women, Power and Aging Conference (Presenter, Sherry Dingman)
- Committee on Sustainable Development, Conference of Nongovernmental Organizations (CoNGO) in Consultative Status with the United Nations: Sustainability: Applying psychological principles to social change. (Invited address, Susan Nolan)
- 19<sup>th</sup> United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development: (Parallel Event) Sustainability: Applying psychological principles to social change (Invited address, Susan Nolan)
- 2011 APA Convention: Does Educating Girls Matter? Barriers and Promise from a United Nations Perspective (Presenters: APA UN Team members Deanna Chitayat, Sherry Dingman, Juneau Gary, Janet Sigal, Susan Nolan, Neal Rubin, and Deborah Vietze, along with Dr. Dingman's student (Batsirai Brunzawabaya, Auburn University) and Dr. Nolan's student Rebecca Schaffner)
- 2011 APA Convention: International service experience and opportunities (Invited discussant, Susan Nolan)
- Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) UN symposium: The United Nations and International Psychology (Presenters, Janet Sigal and Neal Rubin)
- European Congress (Istanbul): Symposium Integrating Human Rights and Social Justice with Diversity in Psychology Education and Training: Multiculturalism, Immigration, Trafficking and the UN (Convener, Neal Rubin); Diversity and Human Rights in Psychology: A view from the United Nations (Paper).
- International Council of Psychologists (ICP) (Discussant, Neal Rubin) – please supply title
- Zonta International, Educating Girls: Adam's and Puleng's story (Invited address, Deanna Chitayat)

### **Publications**

Gary, J. & Rubin, N. (July 2011). UN Matters: APA and the United Nations: A Reciprocal Relationship. *Psychology International*.

Gary, J. & Rubin, N. (October 2011). UN Matters: Student Intern Experiences on the APA United Nations NGO Team. *Psychology International*.

Gary, J. & Rubin, N. (December 2011). UN Matters: World AIDS Day: Getting to Zero, December 1, 2011. *Psychology International*.

Chitayat, D., Dingman, S., Gary, J. M., Nolan, S., Rubin, N. S., Sigal, J., Vietze, D., Bvunzawabaya, B., & Schaffner, R. (In press.) Does Educating Girls Matter? Barriers and Promises from a United Nations Perspective. *International Psychology* (Newsletter of APA Division 52)..

Gary, J. (Fall 2011). Psychology Goes International. GSAPP (Rutgers U.) Alumni Newsletter, 12(5), pp. 11-13.

Vietze, D.L. (In progress.) Global Human Rights Violations and Concerns for LBGT Youth.

Vietze, D.L. (In progress.) A Review of the UN Year on People of African Descent.

Chitayat, D., Okorodudu, C., Kirkman, C. (2010) Psychological Perspectives on the Empowerment of Rural Women and Girls as a Strategy for Eradicating Poverty. Vietze, D.L. (Ed.) 56<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women, Written Statement.

### **Planning for Upcoming Events**

- Commission on the Status of Women, 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting (2012): organized Parallel Events: Transforming Communities through Psychosocial Empowerment of Poor Rural Women and Girls (Deanna Chitayat and psychology coalition members)

- Commission on the Status of Women, 56<sup>th</sup>, Reception and Awards Ceremony (Co-Chair, Deanna Chitayat)
- 2012 Annual Psychology Day at the United Nations (Co-chair, Janet Sigal)
- 2012 APA convention symposium (Coordinators: Neal Rubin, Deborah Vietze)
- Input on Mental Health Committee's Working Group on Racism's co-sponsorship of a program on Racism and Migration being sponsored by the Sub-Committee for the elimination of Racism of the NGO Committee on Human Rights. The program will take place in March, 2012, in commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (March 22). (Deborah Vietze)

## ROSTER OF NGO REPRESENTATIVES

### APA UN/NGO REPRESENTATIVES

**Deanna Chitayat, PhD, APA UN/NGO Main Representative (2008-2011), Appointed 2008-2012**  
Dean (retired), University College, Hofstra University

Dr. Deanna Chitayat was the Main Representative of the APA / UN Team in 2011; the Co-chair of the Annual Psychology Day, 2011 at the United Nations; and Convener/facilitator of the newly formed Psychology Coalition. In these roles she organizes and chairs monthly meetings, prepares reports, participates in Team/intern recruitment, provides leadership for new initiatives, provides information on UN activities and oversight.

In addition Dr. Chitayat is an active participant in the NGO/CSW Planning committee for the Commission's annual meeting. This year she is co-chairing the CSW Reception, organized and submitted a proposal for a parallel event for CSW 56 and 3 parallel events for CSW 55.

Dr. Chitayat participates in the Working Group on Girls, member of the Advocacy Task force. She has monitored and reported on the UN third Committee. She attends meetings of the NGO Committee on Trafficking and the NGO Committee on Migration.

In the summer 2011, with strong support from the APA Team, Dr. Chitayat began a new advocacy initiative. She began by organizing Advocacy training for the team, and hosted a retreat to develop ideas for advocacy initiatives and goals. In the summer, the team began thinking about including other Psychology NGO's. The other NGO's were eager to participate, forming a Psychology Coalition which has developed a mission statement, and drafted guidelines, processes, and structure. The Psychology Coalition, although it was newly formed, developed two initiatives to correspond with the planning of CSW, which meets only once per year for 10 days, and provides a unique opportunity to promote psychological science. Deanna Chitayat and Corann Okurodudu (UN-NGO Representative for SPSSI), APA student intern Christina Kirkman, with assistance from Deborah Vietze and the other APA interns, co-authored a written statement, proposing the inclusion of "Psychosocial empowerment" in ECOSOC policy recommendations on Rural Women. This was the inaugural activity of the Coalition, and the first for the APA team. The second initiative was a proposal submitted (and accepted) by Deanna Chitayat, for a Parallel event also on Psychosocial Empowerment for CSW 56. APA is the lead sponsor on both these activities.

Dr. Chitayat chaired the APA Symposium on "Does it Matter if We Educate Girls?" and presented a paper on a girls' education. She was an invited guest speaker on this subject at Zonta International. A paper coauthored by all the APA presenters and edited by Juneau Gary, Neal Simon and Deborah Vietze has been submitted to International Psychology. As part of Psychology Day, Deanna and Mary Berry (NGO Representative for IAAP) collaborated with DPI for a Morning Briefing on the theme of girls' education. The briefing was attended by about 400 people.

Deanna Chitayat completed her term as a member of APA's Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP) in 2011. She will end her term as APA/ UN team representative and chair in March, 2012. She was the recipient of the Florence Kaslow Award for Distinguished Contribution to Internal Family Psychology in 2011.

**Sherry Dingman, PhD, APA UN/NGO ECOSOC Representative, Appointed 2009-2013**

Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Dr. Sherry Dingman has participated in NGO/DPI Committee work, specifically the Committee to Stop Violence Against Children; The Committee on the Family - Health committee; Indigenous Persons, Human Rights. She attended the Ambassador's Luncheon. With the help of a graduate assistant, she used peer reviewed articles published in APA journals to address her topic of interest.

Dr. Dingman has participated in Psychology Day planning committee tasks, and has worked on drafting letters, investigating speakers, contacting potential speakers, attending meetings, producing presentations for convention, team retreat participant where we strategized future directions, and reviewed materials for a collaborative Division 35-APA UN Team brochure on trafficking.

Dr. Dingman also presented at the Women, Power and Aging conference, and written up this presentation for publication. Additional presentations include at the annual APA convention and paper-presentations on trafficking at the 3rd annual Interdisciplinary Conference on Trafficking.

**Juneau Gary, Psy.D. UN/NGO DPI Main Representative, Appointed 2011-2015**

Kean University, Department of Counselor Education

Dr. Juneau Gary's primary role has been her involvement as the DPI main representative. In addition to her role at DPI, she is the co-editor (with Neal Rubin) of "UN Matters", a regular column for *Psychology International*, a newsletter published in PDF form and on the APA international web site (every 2 months), and is co-author of a manuscript currently in press. She was nominated for a position on the DPI Executive Board, but was not elected. She helped with a special briefing in reference to Holocaust Remembrance Day (1/27/11), and the DPI orientation program (for new members) (June 1-2, 2011).

Dr. Gary participated in the APA-UN retreat in January, 2011. She was a primary liaison for venue and physical logistics (recordings, extension cords, rolling carts,) for Psychology Day 2011. She is a member of the Psychology Day 2012 committee. She submitted several publications to APA's "Psychology International" (PI) web site and Division 52's International Psychology Bulletin (IPB).

Dr. Gary recently received the Kean University (NJ) 2011 Presidential Excellence Award for Distinguished Service at Kean University, largely based on her UN activities.

**Susan Nolan, PhD, APA UN/NGO Representative (Appointed 2009-2013)**

Seton Hall University, Department of Psychology

Dr. Susan Nolan is currently a member of and on the Executive Committee of the NGO Committee on Mental Health, as elected Treasurer. She is also a member for the Committee on Sustainable Development (CSD), and has presented at a recent meeting on psychology and sustainable development. Dr. Nolan is a member of the CSD Working Group on Sustainable Production and Consumption. She wrote a briefing paper on the assessment of human development, including environmental measures and measures of well-being to contribute to the development of talking points for Rio+20.

In her role as a UN APA representative, she has attended 11 other UN events (including the Launch of UN Women, the International Day of Older Persons, a CMH-sponsored event at the Museum of

Tolerance, events at the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Sustainable Development, and various other panels and presentations). She advocated for Psychology by meeting with the Ambassador from Bolivia twice at the Bolivian Mission (with the CSD working group). She has worked with interns Joseph Hamer in Spring 2011 and Magdalena Galazyn in Fall 2011 on several projects, but in particular, those related to CSD. She has been an active member in the Psychology Day 2011 and 2012 planning meetings. Dr. Nolan attended Psychology Day at the UN, brought over 10 Seton Hall University students, and moderated one of the afternoon workshops.

Dr. Nolan is also the Chair of the International Committee for Women, Division 52 (International Psychology) of APA, the Elected Treasurer and Board Member of Division 52 (International Psychology) of APA, a member, Membership Committee, Division 52 (International Psychology) of APA. She has attended Division 52 meetings at Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) in March 2011 and at APA annual convention in August 2011. In the Spring of 2011, she was the instructor for the International Psychology course at Seton Hall University, and has brought over 30 Seton Hall students to psychology-related events at the United Nations. She has adapted International Psychology to be taught in the Dominican Republic, May 2012.

Dr. Nolan's international travels include attending the European History of the Human Sciences (EHHS conference) in Belgrade, Serbia in July 2011, where she presented on statistics. She visited Surrey, UK in August, 2011 to interview Stella Cunliffe, a prominent international statistician and the first female president of the Royal Statistical Society. She made several presentations (eight) this year related to her UN activities. Dr. Nolan has 4 pending publications – articles, chapters, and encyclopedia entries.

**Neal S Rubin, PhD, Argosy University, Chicago (Appointed 2011-2013)**

Dr. Rubin was appointed as DPI representative this year and attended the DPI orientation program. He led the APA UN team retreat for strategic planning, and consolidated the team report for the follow up of issues discussed at the retreat. Dr. Rubin participated in Psychology Day 2011 planning and attended Psychology Day 2011. He led a symposium of APA representatives at the Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) UN Symposium. He has led a local campus/Chicago area celebration/program of the UN's "International Day Against Homophobia". Dr. Rubin led an Argosy University Chicago movement (faculty, students & administration) to join the UN's "academic impact" program and led a local campus/Chicago area program in recognition of the UN's "International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women". He has participated in Psychology Coalition meetings.

In July, Dr. Rubin chaired a symposium and presented a paper on human rights at the European Congress of Psychology (ECP) in Istanbul, Turkey. In August, he was a discussant at a presentation of UN representatives at the International Council of Psychologists and presented as part of the APA/UN team at the APA Annual Convention.

With Juneau Gary, he initiated the 'UN Matters' column for *Psychology International*. Dr. Rubin wrote and edited subsequent columns, and organized the team's submission of a paper based on its 2011 symposium at the APA Convention to the *International Psychology Bulletin*.

**Janet A. Sigal, PhD, APA UN/NGO Representative (Appointed 2006-2011, reappointed 2012-2016)**  
Farleigh Dickinson University, Department of Psychology

Dr. Sigal is the current Co-Chair of Psychology Day at the UN 2012 with Martin Butler (NGO Representative for the International Association of Applied Psychology). Responsibilities include setting up subcommittees, negotiating the Psychology Day venue, consulting with the program subcommittee, the finance committee and the communications committee, consulting with the interns to facilitate registration and the website.

Dr. Sigal is also the Co-Chair of the NGO Committee on the Family. During executive meetings, the Committee plans general family meetings, contacts speakers, coordinates with the UN point person on the Family, helps plan the International Day of the Family, Dr. Sigal also attended Expert Group Meetings on the Family in June. Dr. Sigal and her Co-Chair take turns as Moderators of the monthly Family Committee General Meetings.. Interns Joana Kyei and Fahad Rahman attend all executive board meetings of the Family Committee. Last spring, intern Samuel Ouma presented at the Family General Meeting.

At the November meeting of the NGO Committee on the Family, Dr. Sigal and Fahad were the speakers on the topic of "Culture, Gender and Domestic Violence" at a General Family Committee Meeting.

Dr. Sigal is a member of the NGO Committee on Ageing, and was on the Planning Committee. She assisted at the International Day of Older Persons in October 2011, and coordinated the APA interns, who participated in registration for this major event. Dr. Sigal was the co-convener of the Gender Perspectives and Mental Health Working Group for the NGO Committee on Mental Health. The working group developed a statement for the Commission on the Status of Women meetings in March, 2011, and sponsored a side event at these meetings. She is also a member of the Committee on the Status of Women and the Migration Committee.

Dr. Sigal is the Intern Coordinator for the APA UN/NGO team. She coordinates the review of applicants for the intern positions and sets up interviews with the team. She manages the intern program, informing new interns of their acceptance, sending them a description of their activities, providing an orientation to the UN, and serving as an ombudsman for the interns. Dr. Sigal and Deborah Vietze worked with the interns in October, 2011 as they did an excellent and thorough literature search on psychological literature relevant to rural women that was used to develop a Psychology Coalition statement.

Dr. Sigal is currently the Social Program Chair for the Eastern Psychological Association (EPA). She is also the Co-Editor of a book in Progress on Violence Against Women across the Lifespan.

**Deborah Vietze, Ph.D, APA UN/NGO ECOSOC Representative (Appointed 2011-2015)**

City College of New York and the Graduate Center, City University of New York

Dr. Deborah Vietze has spent time promoting the idea of strategic planning, helping to organize events, providing guidance and mentoring to the APA/UN interns, taking a lead on editing various documents for the team, and has begun to organize an effort to submit an article to the American Psychologist.

Dr. Vietze attends meetings weekly and has worked or is working on specific projects for The Human Rights Committee, Subcommittee on Elimination of Racism, Prejudices and other Intolerance, Mental Health Committee's Working Group on Racism, and the Family Committee. She has attended DPI Briefings, and has discussed psychology's role and relevance with fellow attendees. Dr. Vietze has attended several Programs offered by these Committees.

As part of advocacy for psychology, Dr. Vietze regularly monitors a web-based special interest group on LGBT rights, discrimination and successes. She is organizing a report to describe how psychology links to globally-specific and country-specific LGBT rights. She has provided input on the Mental Health Committee's Working Group on Racism's co-sponsorship of a program on Racism and Migration being sponsored by the Sub-Committee for the Elimination of Racism of the NGO Committee on Human Rights. The program will take place in March 2012 in commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (March 22). Vietze has additionally organized an analysis for review of The Year on People of African Descent for the above Subcommittee.

Dr. Vietze has provided support and feedback to colleagues as requested to sustain efforts to face challenges at the UN. She has organized---and assisted with organizing---the UN Team symposium for presentation at APA's annual meeting, and organized a report on a CSW Parallel event 2011 for APA. Dr. Vietze presented on Psychology's contributions to the development of girls and girls' education at the 55<sup>th</sup> CSW. She assisted in drafting an article based on the APA 2011 annual meeting symposium for the *International Psychology Bulletin*. In addition, she has participated with the APA team writing group on refining for clarity and shortening the short statement for CSW from the Psychology Coalition at the UN. Dr. Vietze has attended several CSW panel events, representing psychological perspectives in one-on-one and group discussions.

Dr. Vietze was a member of the operations/logistics subcommittee for Psychology Day 2011, and helped with strategic planning for the 2011 event. She additionally assisted with publicity and registration Psychology Day 2011. Currently, she is Co-Chair of Psychology Day 2012 Program Committee. In addition to this role, she is developing a set of materials and statements to be distributed at Psychology Day and for use with mission contacts.

Dr. Vietze is assisting the APA Office of International Affairs with editing and revising a report on girls and trafficking. She is assisting in the development of an emerging strategic plan, strengthening relationships with other psychology NGOs, and fostering team building and writing collaboration. She is providing guidance---mentoring---and support for Christina Kirkman who has been very helpful, resourceful and involved.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS ASSOCIATES**

**Bea Krauss, Ph.D, ( Appointed 2010, 2011)**  
Hunter College, CUNY

Dr. Krauss has served as the co-chair of the UN Committee on HIV/AIDS.

## **INTERNS**

2011-12 Interns

Magdalena Galazyn, Doctoral program in Developmental Psychology at the City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate Center

Christina Kirkman, Doctoral program in Developmental Psychology at the City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate Center

Joana Kyei, Doctoral program in Clinical Psychology at Rutgers University's Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology

Fahad Rahman, Master's program in Clinical Psychology at Teacher's College, Columbia University