Have you always wanted to explore international research collaborations but not yet taken action? Read the new series in *Psychology International*—Collaborate! In each issue, we feature a short article by your colleagues describing their own international collaborations—what they are, with whom, how they began and how they continue. Please, send us your own stories (international@apa.org). The series begins with an overview by Mark M. Leach, University of Southern Mississippi, on some strategies for forging international contacts and collaborations. It is followed by a description of the beginning of a research collaboration between the U.S. and Brazil.

**International Research 101: Increasing Opportunities**  
By Mark M. Leach, PhD  
University of Southern Mississippi (m.leach@usm.edu)

The best advice for increasing international experiences is to expand your experiences—but how do you do that? In the following, I will suggest some general guidance on ways to increase international research collaboration and international experiences. There are no magic strategies or secret ideas other than to become proactive. Most of the strategies I will suggest require minimal or no additional funding. What they do require is luck and perseverance to make good connections to allow projects to come to fruition. International collaboration can be an extremely fulfilling experience for those with a requisite global philosophy. This is not to say there are not challenges—
collaborations with colleagues in the U.S. are challenged by different levels of commitment, schedules, and expectations. Add cultural, training, technological, and philosophical differences and the challenges increase - but so do the rewards.

**How to begin?**

**Read broadly.** The easiest first step is to read articles relevant to your research area published in international journals. Follow-up by writing to the authors you meet there, perhaps proposing a research or other project and ask if they are willing to collaborate. Here is one example - a colleague approached me about assisting with a project that would extend a recently published article on anger rumination and forgiveness. The authors of that article were from England so I suggested that we write a couple of paragraphs about the idea and invite the authors to collaborate. We did, and are developing a cross-cultural study that incorporates mutual interests. Sometimes you need to be flexible - many international psychology departments do not have subject pools, and many international faculty members cannot collect data in classrooms or have difficulty in accessing laboratory equipment.

**Propose a journal issue.** A second strategy is to propose a special issue for your favorite journal and add international colleagues as authors. You might even propose a special issue that focuses on global perspectives within your field. Depending on the level of English writing skills of your international colleagues, you may need to assist with editing. Of course, if you have reading and writing fluency in a second language then your journal options increase significantly internationally.

**Publish in international journals.** A third strategy follows from the second - publish in international journals. Historically many U.S. psychologists have considered international journals as less stringent in their requirements. Although the quality and impact factor of many international journals is very high, this preconception unfortunately still leads some in the U.S. to perceive fewer benefits and less recognition for publications in international journals. This misconception may change with APA's broader coverage of international journals in the search databases. Certainly, I have made more international connections through publishing in international outlets than within U.S. outlets. Just one example - my interest in international ethics (published in the International Journal of Psychology) led to discussions initiated by a South African colleague who read my work, which resulted in a sabbatical at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa. We work on projects together to this day.

**Use your networks.** Once you have begun to make connections, ask your international colleagues if they are familiar with others who may be interested in collaborating. This new role of coordinator can lead to further new research ideas, and long-lasting relationships.

**Expand your teaching.** You can also expand internationally in your teaching. Instructors can offer international readings in coursework. An increasing number of textbooks are being published that address a host of areas with relevant research from around the globe, and journal articles with international, cross cultural and global perspectives have existed for years. Introducing students to psychological constructs that have global reach will increase their world views and will project the idea that examining these constructs from multiple perspectives is valued.

**Other examples.** These are just some examples. Others include presenting at international conferences (or those in the U.S. that attract international colleagues - see www.apa.org/conference.html for a long list of potential conferences in every area across psychology), joining international psychological organizations (look for the international organization in your sub-area of psychology), attending programming with an international theme, such as Division 52 of APA,
hosting international colleagues at your institution, talking with colleagues who have international connections, considering sabbaticals and short-term trips overseas, and attracting international students into your program.

Again, an illustration – a current student of mine from Hong Kong intends to return after her training program is completed. She is thus interested in initiating projects that will be beneficial to her upon her return. We began collaboration with a few of her former professors in Hong Kong on data collection as part of that process.

Research projects are not the only way to collaborate. There is growing interest in global professional mobility as well (see Hall & Lunt, 2005, American Psychologist, 60 (7), p. 712-726) including thinking about international pre-doctoral internships, externships and post-docs. At the moment there are no structured programs to do this – but the increasing reality of professional mobility within Europe can serve as a model for working toward this goal.

In sum, there are multiple opportunities to become involved in international issues if psychologists are philosophically and practically inclined to do so. This is especially important for the next generation of psychologists – as globalization trends continue, the internationalization of psychology will allow us all to remain current. Already five to six years ago more psychological research was being conducted and published outside the U.S. than within the U.S., a first in our field. Opportunities abound. Collaborative agreements with international colleagues offer richly rewarding, experiences that will expand your world view, that will be mutually beneficial, and that will serve to strengthen our profession.Ψ

The following article is the first in a series that will describing international collaborations. Please send your example of how you began, maintained and continued collaborations with colleagues elsewhere in research, advocacy or professional activities. — Ed.

Not Strangers When We Meet
Clare Porac, PhD, Visiting Senior Scientist, APA Science Directorate

The community of researchers publishing in the areas of human lateralization and hand preference is an international group. The primary journals in these areas are international in editorial board composition and scholarly content. For this reason, it is not unusual for me to receive e-mails, letters and requests for reprints from psychologists located around the world whose scholarly interests are similar to mine.

In the late 1990’s, I published a series of articles that examined issues surrounding, what has come to be known as, the elimination vs. modification controversy. The elimination hypothesis, proposed in a series of controversial and highly-publicized papers published in the late 1980’s and early 1990’s, argues that the reduced prevalence of left-hand preference among adults over the age of 65 years is due to the fact that left-hand preference is a marker for decreased survival fitness. In other words, for a variety of reasons, left-handers do not live as long as right-handers. The startling nature of this theory, and the serious implications it has for the well-being and peace of mind of left-handers, prompted researchers throughout the world to publish work that explores various aspects of the complex empirical basis on which the theory is built. An alternative modification hypothesis has also been advanced that argues that left-handers are not at risk for an early death; rather, they experience covert and overt
pressures from a right-sided world that foster increasing use of the right hand with advancing age. Many papers have been published on these topics in a number of international journals over the past 10-12 years. My papers are among those favoring the modification hypothesis explanation for age differences in the prevalence of left-hand preference.

The elimination vs. modification controversy in the literature sets the context for why William L. Berdel Martin (Lee), a professor of psychology at the Universidade Federal Do Pará in Belém, Pará, Brazil contacted me via e-mail in 2000. He asked me to comment on a paper that he was planning to submit for publication entitled “Mean mortality among Brazilian left- and right-handers”. I was delighted to read and comment on the paper and it was eventually published in Laterality, an international journal that publishes theoretical and empirical work on lateralization topics. Lee sent me a second paper a few years later requesting, once again, comments and suggestions. In both instances, Lee's e-mails politely explained that he did not have the benefit of colleagues close at hand who worked on lateralization issues and, therefore, prior to publication submission, he was in search of an opinion from someone who knew the field.

Lee's data were carefully collected and the questions he was addressing in these papers were ones of great interest to me and highly relevant to my own research work. In the course of our e-mail communications about the second paper, I asked him if his university hosted international visiting scholars. When Lee responded with an enthusiastic “yes”, we started a vigorous e-mail correspondence about how we could arrange for me to spend some time in his department at the Universidade Federal Do Pará doing both research and graduate teaching. After considering a number of options, I thought that the best approach was to apply for a Fulbright award with the Universidade Federal Do Pará as the host institution. I knew this was a long shot option, because only 10 Fulbright awards to Brazilian institutions are granted each year and these span a number of different disciplines. I decided to go ahead with the application even given the low probability of success because I had an upcoming sabbatical.

Because there were a number of things I needed to know about the host institution for my Fulbright application, Lee and I had an extensive e-mail conversation over several months as I planned my application proposal. During the course of these e-mails I sent him copies of my research materials to be translated into Portuguese and Lee, in turn, sent me a draft of a manuscript he was preparing that used as its' theoretical base a hypothesis that had been put forward in a paper that I had published with Alan Searleman in 2001. Lee asked me if I would join him as an author on this paper which tested the theory that Alan and I had proposed in 2001 with data collected in Brazil. Of course, I was enthusiastic about this opportunity and we started a writing collaboration via e-mail that also lasted for several months. Lee sent me additional data from his Brazilian samples which we used as part of a poster presentation at the 2005 APA convention in Washington. We have subsequently also prepared these data for publication. So, currently, we have two co-authored papers at the journal submission stage.

Unfortunately, but not unexpectedly, my Fulbright application was not successful so a sojourn in Brazil is not in the immediate future. I was invited to give a conference at the annual meetings of the Associação Brasileira de Psicologia in October, 2005 but my appointment as APA visiting Senior Scientist for the 2005-2006 academic year prompted me to delay a visit to Brazil.
Collaborate! Information and Profiles

(Continued from page 4)

until 2006. In the meantime, Lee and I continue our e-mail conversations and pursue a research collaboration of a type that is only possible in an era of high-speed electronic communication. Through the course of our e-mail conversations I have learned quite a bit about the realities of conducting research in a developing country. For example, many research tools that researchers in North America take for granted as being readily available, such as the latest PC versions of SPSS, were not available to Lee until 1996. For this reason, Lee has a wealth of data that he has collected over the last 20 years that remains to be explored from a statistical point of view.

Over the course of these five years, Lee and I have also become friends. I learned how a stint in the Peace Corps serving in Brazil in the 1960’s promoted his interest in seeking a teaching position in Brazil after receiving his doctoral degree from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1975. He returned to Brazil on a Fulbright Latin American Teaching Fellowship to a fledgling psychology department in the newly-minted Universidade Federal Do Pará. Lee credits his Peace Corps experience with making do on nothing as the basis for his ability to conduct research with limited resources during the past 30-year period when both his department and his university grew in size and matured in facilities and programs. E-mail often promotes a unique form of communication style that has worked in our case to allow Lee and I to exchange research ideas and stories of personal history. For this reason, when we finally see each other face-to-face, we will not be strangers when we meet.

New ASIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION welcomes all psychologists

The Asian Psychological Association (APsyA) is a new professional society founded in 2005 to bring together psychologists in the rapidly developing countries of Asia. The new organization will join regional associations in other geographical areas including Europe (EFPA), the Middle East (MENA) and the Americas (SIP).

APsyA’s mission is to advance the science and practice of psychology throughout Asia. To this end APsyA seeks to strengthen regional and international bonds between psychologists and to promote and to facilitate channels of communication between individual psychologists.

APsyA will hold its first convention August 18-20, 2006, in Bali, Indonesia, with the theme of: Asian solidarity for diversity: Towards a better quality of life in Asia. CIRP member Ray Fowler will present a plenary address at the conference. Membership in the new association will focus on, but not be limited to, psychologists living in Asia. Other psychologists who have an interest in Asian issues are welcome to join and participate in its activities.

To organize the association and plan for its initial convention in 2006, an Interim Board of Directors has been formed, with Dr. Sarlito W. Sarwono of Indonesia serving as interim president. Other officers and directors-at-large include psychologists from the Philippines, Australia, Canada and Malaysia as well as other Asian countries.

Psychologists interested in knowing more about APsyA are encouraged to visit the website at: www.apsya.org.
APA Practice Directorate and the World Health Organization

Geoffrey Reed, PhD, and Lynn Bufka, PhD, senior staff in the APA Practice Directorate's Professional Development Department, are involved in World Health Organization (WHO) projects addressing classification of health, health conditions, and disease. Their involvement reinforces the role of organized psychology in matters related to health and health care and helps to provide a behavioral and psychological perspective on human health in WHO's discussions and activities. In this article, Lynn Bufka describes APA’s activities and issues.

Implementing the International Classification of Functioning and Disability (ICF)
by Lynn Bufka, PhD, APA Practice Directorate

In 2001, the World Health Assembly approved the International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF) as a universal system to classify the functional aspects of health and health conditions. APA was the largest American site for field trials of the ICF, which involved many psychologists in the pre-publication final review, and has been committed to incorporating functional classification in health care through its ongoing educational and health policy efforts.

APA is now involved in the next step toward implementing the ICF. Although the ICF provides a framework and individual codes for classifying human functioning, the codes themselves are not yet operationalized in a reliable way to ensure consistent use of the ICF across health care systems (such as hospitals, clinics, and national health ministries) and health care professionals.

With the collaboration of the World Health Organization, APA has spearheaded an effort to further the operationalization of the codes and to create a manual for health care professionals. The work is being done by a network of official representatives from several professional organizations as well as identified content experts. Psychologists and health care professionals from across the world have provided some preliminary comment and review on the prototype version of the manual. The completed manual will be released for review and comment in 2006. Dr. Reed and Dr. Bufka routinely attend North American and international meetings to update colleagues on this work and to collaborate on other related educational and implementation endeavors related to the ICF. For more information, please contact lbufka@apa.org.

Revision of International Classification of Diseases.

As an outgrowth of APA’s work with WHO on the ICF, Dr. Reed was appointed by the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) to serve as its representative to the core revision group for the development and revision of Chapter V (Mental and Behavioural Disorders) of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD). The ICD is used to classify diseases and other health problems recorded on many types of health and vital records, including hospital records and death certificates, and is considered to be the international standard diagnostic classification for disease.

The latest version, ICD-10, was adopted by WHO Member States in 1994, and plans for a revision (ICD-11) to be complete in 2011 are now underway. Because the ICD is the predominant system for classifying and diagnosing disease in the world, its revision will have important implications for (Continued on page 7)
mental health professionals.

The classification of mental health has some unique elements that contribute to a more complicated revision process. Central among these is that there are two classification systems for mental disorders (ICD and DSM) that are similar but not identical. In addition, functional aspects of mental health behavior as classified in the ICF overlap with many of the diagnostic syndromes identified in ICD. To facilitate the revision process, APA has taken the lead in creating a Global Health Practice Network. Using technology and infrastructure developed as part of APA’s ongoing Practice Network, the GHPN will be used to gather health practitioner’s input to improve ICD-11 diagnostic criteria, and to gather contemporary clinical data that will inform the ongoing revision work groups. Enrollment in the GHPN is open to all independent mental health clinicians— for more information please visit https://who.apapracticenet.net.

APA plans Athens Activities

This summer’s major international Congress will take place in July (16-21) Athens, Greece, where colleagues will meet old friends and make new ones at the International Congress of Applied Psychology. APA will be there, too — represented by APA President Gerald Koocher, who will present a workshop on Family Interventions Following a Child’s Death and will give a plenary talk on ethics; and by APA CEO Norman Anderson, who will give a keynote address titled “A Perspective on the Future of Psychology.”

APA staff from the Office of International Affairs, Ethics Office, APA Books, and Publications will also be on site, with substantive contributions to the Congress program. These include a roundtable discussion for journal editors (moderated by Gary VandenBos, APA publisher), a “how to publish” in APA books and journals (moderated by Julia Frank-McNeil, APA books), and a roundtable on an initiative to explore ethical issues arising from research and intervention in complex humanitarian emergencies and disaster (moderated by Merry Bullock, Office of International Affairs, and Stephen Behnke, Ethics Office).

APA’s activities don’t stop with presentations — look for a booth with APA information and publications staffed by Julia Frank McNeil and the Office of International Affairs Sally Leverty; there will also be an APA-hosted reception to toast the Congress organizers.

Those planning to attend should note that APA has a travel grant program to help defray registration fees at international conferences — with an application deadline three months in advance of the Congress. See www.apa.org/international/awardintravel.html for travel awards and see www.icap2006.com for the Congress website.
Recently at the UN, Harold Cook, PhD, APA UN representative and Chair of the NGO Committee on the Family, organized the following event:

NGO COMMITTEE ON THE FAMILY, NEW YORK, Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations www.ngocongo.org

THE STATUS OF THE CONVENTION ON DISABILITIES: FAMILY ISSUES

DATE: December 8, 2005, UN Church Center, 777 UN Plaza, 7th Floor

SPEAKER: JEAN-PIERRE GONNOT, Chief Inclusive Development Section, Division for Social Policy and Development/DESA, United Nations Secretariat. Mr. Gonnot provided an update of the Convention and highlighted the issues related to the family. Discussion and questions followed.

UN Profile:

United Nations NGO/Committee on Ageing¹
Florence L. Denmark, PhD
Chair, NGO Committee on Ageing, APA
Main UN Representative to the United Nations

According to the United Nations, a million people turn 60 every month, and it is estimated that by 2050 the world will contain more people aged 60 and older than children under the age of 15. People live longer and population control programs have cut birth rates.

COA – The Committee on Ageing
The NGO Committee on Ageing at the United Nations is one of the most active NGO committees and is dedicated to raising “… world awareness of the opportunities and challenges of global ageing. The Committee advocates within the United Nations community to further integrate ageing in UN policies and programs and encourages member states to include ageing needs in social and economic policy considerations. The goal of the Committee is to further the United Nations mission of building a society for all ages.”

Membership in COA includes people of all ages who share a concern and a commitment to dealing with issues of older persons. Each member of the COA is affiliated with one of approximately 75 organizations including the American Psychological Association, International Federation on Ageing, AARP, International Council of Psychologists, and the Gray Panthers.

In addition to Executive Committee meetings held every month, the Committee holds monthly presentations and discussions on critical emerging issues, organizes caucuses, and prepares positions statements related to ageing issues. As Chair (and former Treasurer) of the Committee, I preside over all of these meetings, attend meetings of CONGO (the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations), and present a statement each year to the Commission on Social Development. The Committee on Ageing is one of four committees that report to the

(Continued on page 9)
Commission on Social Development. The other Committees are Family, Youth, and Disabilities. In addition to these formal channels, members of the committee work to encourage dialogue on ageing issues with the United Nations missions, government representatives, and other NGOs. For instance, COA jointly sponsored a program with the Family Committee on "Older Persons and their Families: Needs and Concerns." This program was held in January 2006. I served as moderator for the panel.

The Committee on Ageing has committees and subcommittees under its aegis. These include a Program Committee with two subcommittees: Elder Abuse and Multigenerational Issues, that each present programs on an annual basis. Other working groups include a Development Committee (fundraising) and a committee on the International Day of Older Persons (IDOP), which sponsors a program annually on the first Thursday of October. This event is the opening of an annual briefing on ageing sponsored by the UN’s Department of Public Information. Other co-sponsors include the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and recently the UN Population Fund, which has provided money to bring in speakers from around the world.

International Day of Older Persons
The International Day of Older Persons has been an important event at the United Nations and draws speakers and audiences internationally. Topics change each year, but all have the common theme of issues that are critical to older persons. In 2005, the topic was "Poverty Reduction Strategies with and for Older Persons - Regional Perspectives.” In 2006, the focus for IDOP will be "Ensuring a Supportive Environment.” In 2007, the theme will be "Madrid Plus 5.”

During the UN International Year of Older Persons in 1999, the COA created networks of exchange and dialogue to discuss issues pertinent to the world’s older population. There is a global listserv that disseminates ageing information to members and a website that is accessible to inform the public of critical ageing issues: www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ageingassembly

Other work involves advocacy to change policy and increase awareness of policy makers and governments to include older persons in global objectives. In 2002, the Committee contributed recommendations for the Second World Assembly on Ageing in Madrid, Spain, which I attended. The plan of action developed by the Assembly included poverty reduction, improved health and well-being in old age, and ensuring a supportive environment. The importance of international cooperation was highlighted as being essential for improvement in these areas.

In 2002, the United Nations Development Programme formulated Eight Millennium Development Goals, addressing poverty, health and well-being, education, and environmental issues around the world. Although they do not specifically address ageing issues, the COA will advocate for recognition that ageing should be included in these goals in order for them to reach their objectives.

The COA plans to continue its active participation in the UN around global and domestic ageing issues. The Committee intends to continue to participate in the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, work to heighten awareness regarding ageing issues, bring ageing to the forefront at the United Nations, and (Continued from page 8)
enhance international ageing networks and support systems.

The COA is dedicated to policy change and awareness of ageing issues on a global scale. Attitudinal change toward older persons is essential, and the world should begin to see older persons as a resource for experience and knowledge, rather than a burden to society. ¹

¹ Ageing is the UN spelling and Aging is the US spelling.

# International Overview

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<td>February 26-28, 2006</td>
<td><strong>Active Aging in Asia and Pacific: Showcasing Best Practices</strong></td>
<td>Honolulu, Hawaii, USA</td>
<td><a href="http://vrchawaii.org/ActiveAging/details.htm">vrchawaii.org/ActiveAging/details.htm</a></td>
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<td>March 15-19, 2006</td>
<td><strong>1st Middle East Congress on Aging</strong></td>
<td>Istanbul, Turkey</td>
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<td>May 30-June 2, 2006</td>
<td><strong>International Federation on Ageing 8th Global Conference</strong></td>
<td>Copenhagen, Denmark</td>
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<td>June 15, 2006</td>
<td><strong>World Elder Abuse Awareness Day</strong></td>
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<td>July 15-20, 2006</td>
<td><strong>10th International Conference on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders</strong></td>
<td>Madrid, Spain</td>
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**International Overview**

**Tribute to Division 5 Liaison to CIRP**
By Raymond D. Fowler, PhD

It is with great sorrow that we inform you of the death of Mary L. Tenopyr, PhD. Dr. Tenopyr, who was the Division 5 liaison to CIRP, died after a long battle with lung cancer. Mary was a leading psychologist at AT&T, building that organization’s capacity to test and select employees. AT&T’s research on testing represented the leading edge of personnel psychology.

Mary died November 30, 2005, at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville, New Jersey. She received her Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree from Ohio University and was awarded a PhD with specialty in Psychological Measurement from the University of Southern California. Throughout her distinguished career, she acted as a research psychologist for the United States Airforce, a personnel executive for Rockwell International, and research manager for the U.S. Civil Service Commission. She was also an adviser on testing and selection for the U.S. Department of Labor, and has served as a consultant for the State of California Fair Employment Commission.

Mary was an active participant in APA affairs for many years. She was a member of the Council of Representatives from Division 14: The Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology, and served as president of that division 1979-1980. She served in the Committee for Testing and Assessment in Psychology (CPTA) and was a tireless, witty and steadfast colleague. She will be greatly missed.

**Director’s Column**

**Toward a Global Psychology**
Merry Bullock, Senior Director, Office of International Affairs

This issue of *Psychology International*, the third in its new electronic format, brings articles to inform you about psychology’s international reach and to encourage you to place your own work in an international context. In addition to the *International Overview*, which provides reports of APA’s interactions in the global program and policy arena—such as the UN and WHO, and the *Announcements* section with opportunities to encourage you to think about participating in psychology around the world, there are two new series that begin with this issue. One, *Collaborate!* is designed to encourage international outreach by example — each issue will feature an international collaboration in research or application. The other, *Psychology in Action*, will feature an article about the application of psychology to activities in the international arena.

These series are part of APA’s commitment to encouraging a global psychology — to foster knowledge and interest in how psychology is perceived, taught and practiced.

(Continued on page 12)
around the world. In doing this, it is important to engage in an exchange of ideas about APA’s role in this venture, and a discussion of what global psychology is, and how it might be addressed.

**What is global psychology?** Responses to the term “Globalization” have an approach-avoidance character. Most literally, “globalization” first referred to the increasing integration of economies throughout the world, particularly through trade and financial flows. For our purposes, it refers to the increased flow of people and knowledge across borders, with its cultural, political, and social implications. On the positive side, globalization promises increased access and interaction; on the negative side, again extrapolating from the economic context, it connotes increased inequality and loss of local determination. Applied to knowledge, it connotes inequalities in access to resources and training, and degradation of local (sometimes called indigenous) epistemologies and models. How does this map onto global psychology? And how does this inform APA’s international activities?

As the world’s largest professional psychology organization, APA and its policies and products occupy a unique position in the world of psychology. Its journals are among the most cited; its ethics code is broadly disseminated, its manual of publication style forms the discipline’s standard. Beyond APA alone, American psychology, again because of its history and sheer numbers, has dominated the face of psychology. The positive side of this is that it provides the discipline with an established base with which to interact in the world arena. The negative side is that being the largest and most prolific voice carries the risk of failing to recognize and failing to listen to other perspectives, arising from different histories, cultures, and individuals. Worse, it carries the danger of failing to realize that a truly global face of psychology must be multifaceted and multicultural. This observation is, of course, not at all new. Efforts to increase diversity, cultural competence, and cultural sensitivity have their core in trying to overcome the assumption of a single norm for psychology. However, this observation is useful in asking how APA can be effective in the international arena, and how APA can practice a global psychology in a positive direction.

**Opportunities for Psychology.** Globalization offers a tremendous opportunity for psychology. An increase in interaction in research, teaching, and application across borders and across cultures provides the input necessary to achieve a global psychology that is enriched and most likely changed by contact— in its content, methods, and scope. Like all opportunities, however, this must be nurtured, and this must be addressed by open discussion about how to do it. Although we might all agree that it is important to keep an inquiring mind, to share and learn rather than inform and teach, we also know that our cognitive and social systems make this very difficult to implement. To begin to develop ways to do so, we need your input.

**Concrete suggestions.** The Office of International Affairs, and its advisory group, the Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP) are committed to fostering a global psychology in its optimistic, positive sense (one example is CIRP’s shepherding of APA’s Resolution on Cultural and Gender Awareness, see www.apa.org/international/cirpdesc.html). At last month’s Science Leaders’ Conference (see www.apa.org/science/science/scilc.html) a breakout group on international psychology as infrastructure for the discipline generated a long list of suggestions for accomplishing such outreach—from sharing press releases to developing programs to encourage student exchange, to
developing training for building collaborations and interacting in the international arena. At CIRP's next meeting, discussion will include ideas for how APA's outreach in the development of training, exchange and organizational development can be part of the process toward positive globalization.

The challenge for us all is to create a context in which two, seemingly contradictory worldviews find expression. The first, expressed most eloquently by Shylock, in Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*, tells us that we are all the same—regardless of ethnic group, age, experience or social, or political history. The second, expressed in many ways from the social psychology of groups to cross-cultural psychology to individual differences, tells us we are vastly different across cultures, experience, and history. Psychology and its organizations, both national and global, offer us a venue in which the we can affirm the validity of each of these statements, and in which we can use this to enrich our research, teaching, and service to society.

APA co-sponsors international conference on occupational stress and health: *Work, Stress, and Health 2006*

The American Psychological Association, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the National Institute of Justice, the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, and the U.S. Department of Labor, will convene the sixth international conference on occupational stress and health entitled "Work, Stress, and Health 2006: Making a Difference in the Workplace" in Miami, Florida, on March 2-4, 2006, at the Hyatt Regency Miami Hotel. Continuing Education Workshops will be held the day before the conference on March 1, 2006.

The Work, Stress, and Health conference series is designed to address the constantly changing nature of work, and the implications of these changes for the health, safety, and well-being of workers. Numerous topics of interest to industry, employees, and researchers are covered in the series including: new employment contracts, workplace restructuring, long hours of work, work and family, workplace violence, workforce diversity, the aging workforce, cardiovascular disease and work, disability management, mass disaster and terrorism, and best practices and stress prevention programs.

For complete information and conference registration forms, visit www.apa.org/pi/work/wsh2006.html or contact the conference coordinator, Wesley Baker, at wbaker@apa.org or at 202-336-6033.
APA Offers Travel Grants

Funds are available to facilitate international exchange and interaction at psychology conferences and meetings. There are two travel grant programs, each of which covers conference registration fees.

**Travel Grants for US psychologists to attend international conferences**

Eligible applicants are APA and APAGS members. Preference will be given according to the following criteria:

- Accepted presentation on the conference program
- Have not attended an international conference in the past 2 years
- Early career or graduate student psychologist

Application information is available at www.apa.org/international/awardintravel.html. Deadline is 3 months prior to the time of the conference.

**Travel Grants for International Affiliates**

Eligible applicants are APA Affiliates from low-income or restricted currency countries. Preference will be given according to the following criteria:

- Accepted presentation at convention
- Affiliate from a low income or a restricted currency country
- Have not attended an APA convention in the past 2 years

Application information is available at www.apa.org/international/awardconv.html.

**Other travel grants available from APA include:**

- Science Directorate Student Travel Program (for graduate students)
- David Travel Awards (see www.apa.org/international/awarddavidcall.html)

International Programming at Regional Psychology Association Meetings:

**EPA March 2006 in Baltimore**

by Uwe Gielen, PhD, & Harold Takooshian, PhD

Since its founding in 1997, the APA International Division has steadily promoted international psychology in the USA. Year 2006 promises to be another banner year under Division 52 President Joy Rice, with a midwinter Board meeting on Feb 2-6 in San Antonio linked with the first-ever APA Summit on Immigration, and programming at the annual APA meeting on in New Orleans.

Meanwhile, Division 52 has reached out to the other 7 U.S. regional psychology associations to increase their international programs at their annual meetings. This year, the Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) will include "international" as one of the nine official tracks for its meeting—a "first" for EPA or any regional association. The March 17-18 EPA program at the Baltimore Wyndham Inner Harbor Hotel includes two invited speakers, and eight back-to-back symposia featuring presenters from at least ten international or cross-cultural psychology groups. EPA has long enjoyed a reputation as an unusually friendly, lively, low-cost meeting, with details available at www.easternpsychological.org.
APA announces 2006 International Award Winners

The American Psychological Association (APA) gives two awards in recognition of outstanding contributions to international cooperation and advancement of psychology—

the Award for Distinguished Contributions to the International Advancement of Psychology and the APA International Humanitarian Award. The 2006 award winners are Michael Cole, PhD, and the Center for Victims of Torture (CVT)—Guinea Team, respectively.

**Distinguished Contributions to the International Advancement of Psychology award.**

Michael Cole is an APA Fellow and professor of Communication, Psychology, and Human Development at the University of California, San Diego. After receiving his doctorate from Indiana University in 1962, He went to Moscow as a post-doctoral fellow where he worked with A.R. Luria, a preeminent psychologist of the Soviet Union. According to Cole, he has for many years "been seeking to develop a mediational theory of mind building upon the traditions of Russian cultural–historical activity theories and American pragmatic social sciences.” He began early in his career to conduct international and cross-cultural research on cognitive development, especially as it relates to the role of literacy and schooling. His recent research has been devoted to a longitudinal study of individual and organizational change within educational activities specially designed for after-school hours. This research makes extensive use of new communication technologies and the use of computers and computer networks in research with both children in community settings and with undergraduates. He is also studying the use of interactive video-conferencing as a medium for teaching and inter-institutional collaboration.

**APA International Humanitarian Award**

The Center for Victims of Torture’s Guinea team was given the International Humanitarian Award for its work with refugees from Sierra Leone and Liberia. The team is international and interdisciplinary. CVT’s seven team members represent psychology, research, social work, counseling, and education. They have spent between one and five years in a remote jungle region of Guinea, West Africa, providing culturally sensitive mental health services to thousands of severely war-traumatized Liberian refugees. In addition, the team provided valuable training in trauma counseling and refugee mental health for over half the health care workers and other specialists working in the camps. Unlike many NGOs that work in rural areas of Africa, the CVT Guinea team has continually collected data to evaluate its program and to monitor the quality and effectiveness of their work. Data collected by the team showed significant improvements in mental health, including lower levels of anxiety, depression, posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms, and increased social support.

CVT’s Guinea team includes Dr. Shanee Stepakoff, clinical psychologist; Dr. Erika Falk, clinical psychologist; Dr. Jean-Baptiste Mikulu, clinical psychologist and field coordinator (currently country director for CVT Liberia); Yuvenalis Omagwa, psychiatric nurse clinician (currently clinician/trainer for CVT Sierra Leone); Potiphar Nkhoma, social work clinician; Maki Katoh, country director (currently country director for CVT Sierra Leone); and Dr. Jon Hubbard, clinical psychologist and Director of Research for CVT.

(Continued on page 16)
APA is now seeking nominations for the 2007 International Awards
The deadline to apply is June 1, 2006. The complete Calls for Nominations for both awards, including the nominations criteria, is on the Web at www.apa.org/international/awards.html. For more information, contact Sally Leverty in the Office of International Affairs at sleverty@apa.org or 202-336-6025.

APA Help Center Now Offers Psychology Materials in Spanish
If you speak Spanish, you can now access free Spanish language materials on mental health issues at the American Psychological Association’s (APA) online help center, www.APAHelpCenter.org. Materials include facts and tips on subjects such as stress, mind/body health, developing resilience and recognizing the signs of youth violence. Because psychology is relevant to so many areas of everyday life, the site also offers information on work and school, family and relationships, emotional wellness, disasters and terrorism as well as psychological statistics and facts. To access the Spanish materials, go to www.APAHelpCenter.org and click on the Spanish language button.

NEW INTERNATIONAL PhD PROGRAM INVITES APPLICANTS
In collaboration with several universities abroad, the Institute on Family and Neighborhood Life (IFNL) at Clemson University has launched a PhD program in International Family and Community Studies. The program is designed to educate professionals to generate, diffuse, and apply knowledge needed to strengthen communities’ capacity for family support, meaningful participation, and strong relationships; it will prepare students to work as (a) scholars in interdisciplinary institutes or academic departments on child and family studies, social policy studies, international studies, or community development or (b) researchers, planners, or administrators in domestic or international governmental or non-governmental agencies concerned with children, families, and/or communities.

In addition to their participation in IFNL’s domestic initiatives, students in the program will be required to participate in a year-long international internship in research and public service. This experience will be under the supervision of faculty at cooperating universities in the Czech Republic, the Dominican Republic, Estonia, India, South Africa, Spain, and Thailand.

Drawing heavily on developmental and community psychology (among other social science disciplines), students will study cross-cultural trends in human development, family life, and community life amid global change, and will acquire a strong foundation in social science methods. They also will learn strategies of community development and humanitarian assistance, as well as international human rights law and policy. Graduates will be equipped to undertake normative and empirical analyses to guide international policy and program development, and they will understand the legal, philosophical, and theological underpinnings of social transformation. Students will undertake basic historical and cultural studies of three world regions, and will be expected to become conversant in a foreign language or, if already conversant, to become more skilled in use of the language in scholarship and public service.

U.S. and international students, with baccalaureate or master’s degrees are invited to apply. Applications for admission will be received at any time, but financial aid for fall 2006 may be fully distributed soon after March 1. For further information, visit www.clemson.edu/ifnl, and click on “Doctoral Program.”
Announcements, cont.

The APA Science Directorate will sponsor five ATIs in the summer of 2006. These week-long programs expose new and established faculty, researchers, and advanced graduate students to state of the art psychological research methods and emerging technologies. More information about these exciting programs can be found at http://www.apa.org/science/ati.html. International applicants are welcome.

The first 2006 ATI will take place May 21-26 at Massachusetts General Hospital in Charlestown. This Boston neighborhood will set the backdrop for an ATI on functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI), with a special focus on data analysis. The course provides training and hands-on experience in experimental design and imaging methods. Directed by Robert L. Savoy, PhD, head of fMRI Education at Massachusetts General Hospital, the course is designed for active researchers who are new to the field of fMRI. Applications for this course must be submitted by February 17, 2006.

The second ATI will take place June 5-9, 2006 at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville. This program will feature a series of lectures and computer workshops on longitudinal methods, modeling, and measurement in contemporary psychological research using structural equation modeling. John McArdle, PhD, Karen Schmidt, PhD, and John Nesselroade, PhD, will lead the course. Applications must be submitted by February 28, 2006.

A third ATI will be held June 5-9, 2006 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, focusing on the use of large-scale datasets. Data from the NICHD Study of Early Child Care will be thoroughly introduced, so that researchers may independently use and train others to use the NICHD databases for original scholarship and publication. Applications must be submitted by February 28, 2006.

From July 10-14, 2006, APA will hold an ATI on performing web-based research at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls. Topics will include web-based data collection, shared databases, and Authorware. Applications must be submitted by March 15, 2006.

The final ATI of the summer will be held July 17-21, 2006 at the University of Cincinnati, Ohio, covering non-linear methods for psychological science. Organized by Guy Van Orden, PhD, this program will teach methods of nonlinear analysis, including tutorials on software used for non-linear statistics. Applications must be submitted by March 15, 2006.

Through a subsidy from APA’s Science Directorate and grants from the National Institutes of Health, tuition for each course has been substantially reduced.

For all courses, advanced graduate students, post-docs, and new and established faculty are invited to apply. Applications are available at http://www.apa.org/science/ati.html and must be submitted electronically through each program’s website. For more information, contact APA’s Science Directorate at ati@apa.org.
Tending the Helper’s Flame: Providing Psychosocial Support to Humanitarian Aid Workers
John H. Ehrenreich, PhD, State University of New York, College at Old Westbury

Natural disasters, epidemics, famines, wars, and ethnic cleansing focus attention on the need for humanitarian assistance. While many psychologists conceptualize assistance in terms of providing direct services to individual survivors, the most far-reaching “psychosocial” interventions for most survivors of catastrophic events may be assistance rebuilding communities, facilitation of pre-existing individual and community modes of responding to calamity, and support for political reconciliation and economic recovery. (See the papers prepared by the Psychosocial Working Group, on-line at http://www.forcedmigration.org/psychosocial/papers/PWGpapers.htm, for more on this perspective). Thus, first responders, those who come later to help administer shelters and refugee camps or help reunite families or provide direct health or mental health services, those who work on less crisis-driven, longer-term development” projects, and human rights workers who document human rights abuses and assist in setting up ‘transitional justice’ processes can all be seen as providers of “psychosocial” assistance.

All kinds of humanitarian aid work, however, are highly stressful. Every year, many aid workers are killed, assaulted, kidnapped, or otherwise injured. Aid workers in many areas face chronic fear and uncertainty. They are repeatedly exposed to tales of traumatization and personal tragedy or to gruesome scenes and they may, themselves, have horrific experiences. They live and work in physically demanding and/or unpleasant conditions and experience excessive work loads, long hours, chronic fatigue, and lack of privacy and personal space. They are often separated from their family for extended periods. Both anecdotal accounts and a growing number of empirical studies have documented the emotional consequences on aid workers of chronic and acute exposure to these stressors. Common responses include “burnout,” “compassion fatigue,” “vicarious” or “secondary” traumatization, direct post-traumatic stress syndromes (resulting from direct exposure to or witnessing traumatizing experiences), depression, pathological grief reactions, anxiety, “over-involvement” or “over-identification” with beneficiary populations, self destructive behaviors such as drinking and dangerous driving, and interpersonal conflict with co-workers or with family members.

Although stress takes its toll most directly on the humanitarian workers themselves, it also has a negative impact on their ability to carry out their agency’s mission and, consequently, it has an adverse effect on the people the agencies are trying to help. Workers suffering from the effects of stress are less efficient and less effective in carrying out their assigned tasks. They become poor decision makers and they may behave in ways that place themselves or other members of the team at risk or disrupt
the effective functioning of the team. From the standpoint of the humanitarian aid agency, staff stress and burnout may impede recruitment and retention of qualified staff, and increases absenteeism and health care utilization and costs. Thus, providing psychosocial support for staff of humanitarian agencies is a “psychological” intervention with direct positive effects on the staff members but equally, profound positive effects on the health, mental health, and the material well being beneficiaries of their services.

Most psychologists are familiar with the techniques of stress management by individuals, and several recent publications adapt these techniques to the specific circumstances of humanitarian aid workers. (See Print Resources at the end of the article). However, stress-reduction activities carried out by individual humanitarian workers may account for less of the variability in psychological outcome than leadership and work team factors. The latter are, to a greater or lesser degree, under the control of the agencies that employ humanitarian workers. Consequently, mental health professionals concerned with aid worker stress have increasingly focused on generating and disseminating information about agency practices.

With respect to knowledge generation, existing empirical research on stress among staff of humanitarian aid agencies has been largely cross-sectional. A multinational team of researchers, including psychologists and psychiatrists assembled by the Amsterdam-based Antares Foundation (with funding from the U.S. Center for Disease Control) is currently collecting data for a multi-site longitudinal study of risk and protective factors with respect to stress in staff of international aid agencies. Focusing more on “practice wisdom,” several recent invitational conferences (in Amsterdam, convened by the Antares Foundation with support from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control; in Melbourne, Australia, sponsored by the Directorate of Social Issues of the Australian Psychological Society and the International Conflict Resolution Centre at the University of Melbourne; and in South Bend, Indiana, sponsored by Action Without Borders/Idealist.org) have addressed strategies for reducing stress in staff of humanitarian agencies. The Indiana conference spawned smaller working groups, made up of interested NGO human resources directors, safety and security staff, stress management consultants, and academics, that continue to meet on a regular basis in Washington and, less regularly, in New York City.

With respect to knowledge dissemination, the state of current “best practices” is summarized in Guidelines for Good Practice in the Management of Stress in Humanitarian Aid Worker (Amsterdam: Antares Foundation, 2005, available online at http://www.antaresfoundation.org). Prepared by a panel of experts, the Guidelines address the issue of stress in both national and expatriate staff of both small and large NGOs. They are expected to evolve as more experience is gained using them and as new results from ongoing research appear.

A wide range of resources for managing stress in staff of humanitarian agencies can be found in several recently established websites addressed both to individual humanitarian workers and to agency managers. The most comprehensive of these, www.psychosocial.org, developed by Idealist.com/Action Without Borders, includes links to a wide range of print and Internet resources for both individual aid workers, project supervisors, and NGO managers. A link to Idealist.com’s consultants list provides, under the heading “Stress Management and Mental Health,” a directory of psychologists and agencies that offer expertise in stress management for humanitarian workers (including
consultation to NGOs as well as services to individuals). A link to “Community” includes information on joining a list serve intended to connect people in the field of humanitarian worker support. The website of the Pasadena-based Headington Institute, www.headington-institute.org, provides additional links to a variety of resources and offers Continuing Education credits for mental health professionals for a program on “Helping the Helpers: Understanding, Assessing and Treating Humanitarian Workers Experiencing Acute Stress Reactions.” The Geneva-based Centre for Humanitarian Psychology (www.humanitarian-psy.org) has developed a CD-ROM based self-study course, “Stress Management in Insecure Environments,” on managing stress in humanitarian workers.

**John Ehrenreich, PhD (jehrenreich@hotmail.com) is Professor of Psychology at the State University of New York, College at Old Westbury.**

**Managing Stress in Humanitarian Aid Workers: Print Resources**


**In the next issue of Psychology International**

The risks to humanitarian aid workers so well articulated in Dr. Ehrenreich’s article are also a concern to psychologists and mental health practitioners at the United Nations (UN). The international humanitarian and diplomatic enterprise has become increasingly perilous – in recent years, the lives of UN staff, agency personnel and peacekeepers have been jeopardized as never before. Psychology and psychologists have an important role in addressing how this historical shift affects individual well-being and institutional effectiveness.

In the next issue, Neal Rubin, APA – UN team special project associate, will discuss a proposed UN program to respond to education and training needs of UN personnel who are deployed outside of headquarters, often in conflict or disaster areas. This program addresses the uniqueness of life at duty stations, the impact of extended separation on individuals and their families and the needs of individuals and families pre- and post-deployment. Ψ