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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

HAPPY HOLIDAY!

December 13, 2023

Welcome to the first issue of the Bulletin, our new IACCP newsletter! We owe great thanks to Wolfgang Friedlemeier, chair of the Communication and Publications Committee, for taking the initiative to fund and hire the newsletter editor, Xue Jiang 姜雪. She introduces herself at the end of the issue.

We have been in dire need for a medium to communicate regularly with the Association membership following the cessation of the Cross-Cultural Psychology Bulletin over 10 years ago. That Bulletin, initiated by Harry Triandis in 1967 as the Cross-Cultural Social Psychology Newsletter, had a long run but became too difficult and too expensive to edit, print, and mail worldwide. For the historical record, I present the covers of the first and the final issue, the latter featuring every photo of a member that I was able to take over 17 years on the next page.

A lot has happened in IACCP since 2019, the last time we held an in-person General Assembly of the Association (at the Costa Rica Regional Conference hosted by Mariano Rosabol-Coto). Covid got in the way of so much of our normal interaction, and then we were not able to hold a GA at the Limerick conference due to scheduling problems. To bring you up to date, here are a few of the most notable events in the Association.



William K. Gabrenya
President
2022-2024
Florida Institute of Technology

Solidarity Outreach Scheme and SPARK Grant Programs Initiated

Two new initiatives were developed by groups of mostly-young members led by ORPC editor Michael Bender: the Solidarity Outreach Scheme (SOS) program and SPARK grants. The SOS program (that would be ... - - - ... in Morse Code) was borne of the Association's work to support conference attendance by Lebanese members who were hurt by the country's 2020 financial collapse. The committee developed a formal program to assist all members affected by acute, unexpected crises, like natural disasters and warfare. Michael describes the program in detail in this issue of the *Bulletin*.

SPARK grants provide funds for projects that increase awareness of our field, build local research capacity, and enhance networking among cross-cultural psychologists. In line with the Association's longstanding support for colleagues throughout the world, these grants are primarily awarded to members in economically developing countries. Please take a look at the SPARK grant reports in this issue.

Membership Committee Commences

Anat Bardi, our Deputy Secretary-General from 2020 to 2022, initiated a far-reaching endeavor to examine ways to increase IACCP membership. She formed three subcommittees, Conferences, Knowledge Exchange, and Languages, chaired by Maya Benish-Weisman, Anat, and Mariano Rosabol-Coto, to perform a deep dive into how aspects of these three areas attract and serve our members. Please contact the Secretary-General if you would like to see their final report.

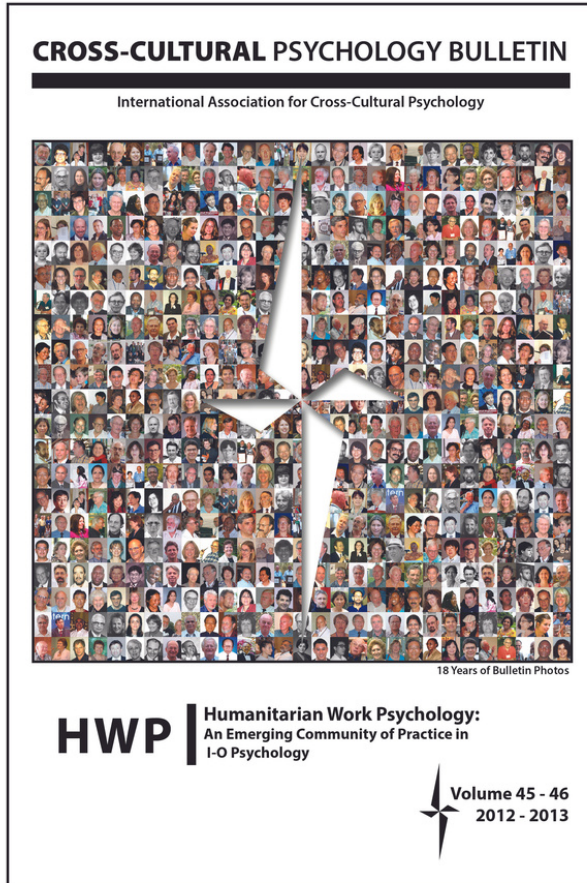
Outstanding Service Award Developed

As a volunteer organization, we depend quite literally and indeed existentially on the efforts of ... volunteers. My sense over the years has been that IACCP rewards scholarship in several ways, as we should, but we do not recognize volunteerism adequately. A new recognition award, the Outstanding Service Award, has been developed in the EC and ratified by the membership as an amendment to the IACCP constitution. The OSA should help to fill this glaring gap in our recognitions of excellence.

Conferences Carry On in the Covid Era

Most members are surely aware of the complicated history of our conferences in the Covid era. Our planned 2020 International Congress in the Czech Republic was postponed when the first, especially scary wave of Covid swept in. The following year wasn't much better, so the "2020+1" virtual Congress was organized through the efforts of some of the original Czech organizers (Martina Klicperová-Baker, Iva Poláčková Šolcová) and an ad hoc committee of IACCP members (Michael Bender, Sharon Glazer and myself). With Šárka Dobiášová of the Czech-based PCO Computer Systems Group, the committee experimented with several then-new technologies, such as Whova and Gather, in putting together a successful conference.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Finance Committee Formed

I have formed a committee to look carefully at how we handle our financial resources and how we can safeguard them looking forward. The committee will look at revenue (dues, JCCP royalties, and other sources of income), banking (how we hold our money), and expenditures (the budgeting process). Managing a non-profit scientific association's finances is indeed...complicated.

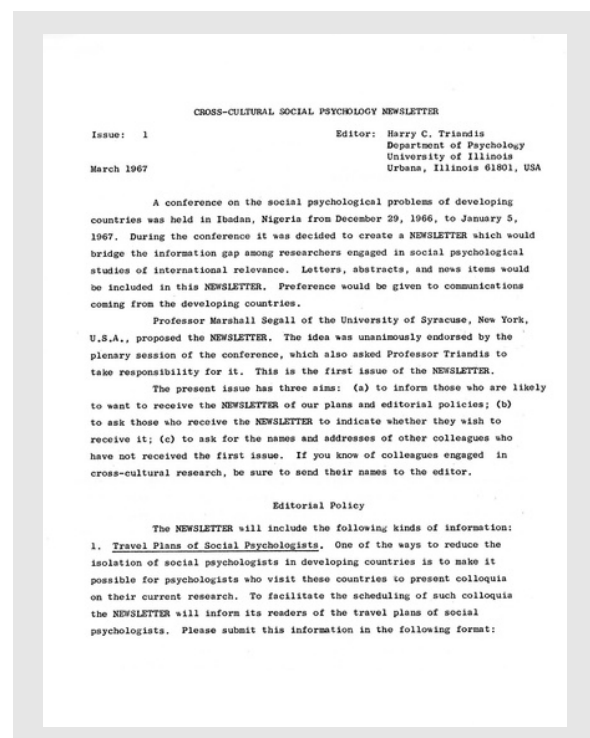
Come to the 2024 International Congress in Bali, Indonesia

Now, all roads (flights) lead to Bali, Indonesia, site of our 2024 Congress. Organizing committee chair Ayu Okvitawanli and her team have lined up an impressive group of keynote speakers that are described elsewhere in this issue. See: <https://iaccp2024.org> (aliases to <https://iaccp.ub.ac.id>). By the time you read this, abstract submissions will have opened. We hope to see many of you in beautiful Bali.

If you haven't yet successfully suppressed your Covid memories, recall things were better in 2022 but still a little too uncertain to chance an in-person conference. For the first time in my memory, the Association hosted its own conference with the help once more of Šárka and Computer Systems Group. Emma Buchtel (Hong Kong) led the organizing committee with the help of Rachana Bhangokar, Alex English, Lusine Grigoryan, Natasza Kosakowska-Berezecka, Julie Quadrio, Andrew Ryder, and Jaimee Stuart. Yoshi and Emi Kashima (Australia) chaired the Scientific Committee. We learned that hosting our own conference, in contrast to working with a local organizing committee, is a tremendous amount of work, even with the help of an experienced PCO, and we thank these organizers for their great efforts! The conference was highly successful and, as an added benefit, introduced some new scientific program platforms such as "provocation sessions."

Limerick Regional Conference Brings Us Back

We enjoyed our first return to normal on the salubrious campus of the University of Limerick, Ireland. Hosted by Anca Minescu with an organizing committee including Pablo DeTezanos-Pinto, Mona Corinna Griesberg, Sarah Horan, Sarah Jay, Johannes Karl, Liyiyana Mbeve, Louise Mulcahy, Leticia Scheidt, and Arpi Volgyesi, the conference provided an excellent example of the way we love to blend science, community, and celebration. Thank you Anca, et al.!



ASSOCIATION RESPONSE TO THE HAMAS AND ISRAEL CONFLICT

The tragic events in the Middle East that began, most recently, with Hamas' October 7 attack on Israel presented the Association with a difficult situation similar to, but indeed more complex than, Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022. Many members as well as individuals outside IACCP called on us to issue a statement of support, primarily but not exclusively, for Israel. Others demanded that we take a neutral stance and make no statement of any kind. The EC held an emergency meeting in October to discuss our course of action. We decided to issue an expression of our values and beliefs as a statement of what we share as a community of scientists, despite our considerable political and national diversity. The statement reads as follows:

The International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology is a highly diverse scientific society committed to advancing our understanding of the intersections of psychology and culture. We prioritize the application of scientific methods to deepen our insights into the human condition and to contribute to a more compassionate world for every individual. We reject violence, including terrorism, as a means to resolve interpersonal and international conflicts. We believe that all lives hold equal worth, transcending the many collective and individual identities that distinguish us. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to those who endure physical and emotional suffering, including our members and all those affected by violence and the increasingly frequent natural and human-induced disasters.

This first issue of the *Bulletin* arrives during a season in which many world religions celebrate their identities and beliefs and pray for peace. I hope in this holiday season you can—briefly—look beyond the current state of things and imagine peace.

William K. Gabrenya
President 2022-2024

UPCOMING CONFERENCE

The XXVII International Congress Of The International Association For Cross – Cultural Psychology

August 5 – 9, Bali, Indonesia, 2024

CONFERENCE THEME

The XXVII International Congress of the IACCP adopts the theme “Globalization in Context.” As the world becomes more global, globalization takes different shapes in different societies. Post-pandemic, some countries have been transformed for the better with an acceleration in communication technology, but others are still struggling with efforts to rebuild their economies. The Bali Congress will bring together the latest research on the effects of globalization on culture and on how different cultures respond to the globalized world following the pandemic. Therefore, we are delighted to invite you to participate in The XXVII International Congress Of The International Association For Cross–Cultural Psychology *August 5 - 9, In Bali, Indonesia, 2024*, proudly hosted by Universitas Brawijaya.

CONFERENCE TIMELINES

February 15, 2024 - Submission Deadline
March 31, 2024 - Early Bird Registration

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Website: <https://iaccp.ub.ac.id>
Registration: <https://confbeam.org/2024/iaccp/kfz/>

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Prof. Drs. Koentjoro
Universitas Gadjah Mada



Prof. Shinobu Kitayama
University of Michigan



Dr. Andik Matulesy
Chairman of HIMPSI
Indonesia



Prof. James Liu
Massey University

The Walter J. Lonner Distinguished Lecture Series



Professor
University of Auckland, Psychology,
Auckland, New Zealand | Jun 1993 - present
Director
Max Planck Institute for the Science of
Human History, Jena, Germany | Apr 2018 -
present

IACCP CONFERENCES PROCEEDINGS UPDATE



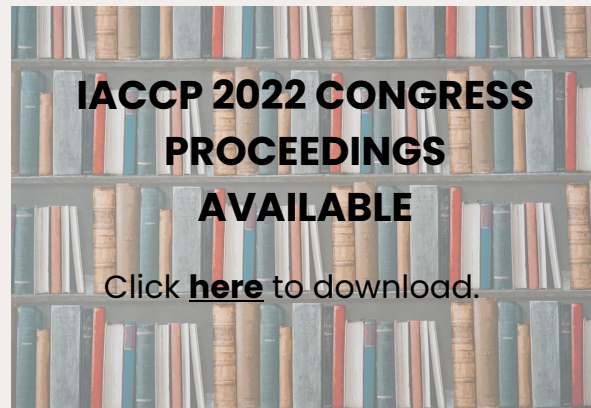
**LIMERICK REGIONAL
CONFERENCE ABSTRACT
AVAILABLE**

Click [here](#) to download.



**IACCP 2022 CONGRESS
RECORDINGS**

Videos available on the IACCP
YouTube channel [here](#).



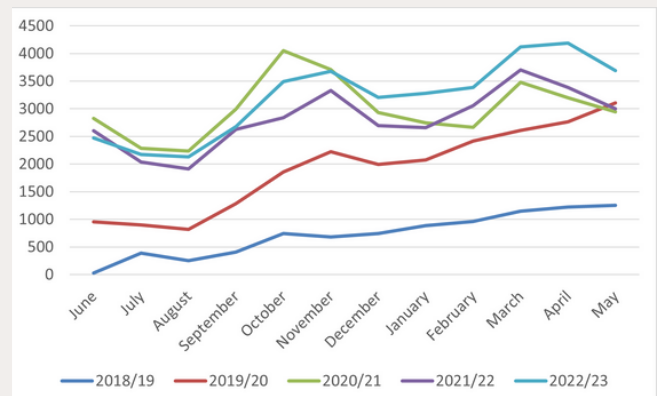
**IACCP 2022 CONGRESS
PROCEEDINGS
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**IACCP PROCEEDINGS
DOWNLOAD NUMBER IS RISING!**

IACCP proceedings are thriving and we're making waves in the research community. Our individual paper downloads are skyrocketing – just take a look at the graph! – and our full volumes are flying off the virtual shelves. In September 2023, we even hit an impressive 4200 downloads for individual papers!

Full text downloads of IACCP proceedings papers



ONLINE READINGS IN PSYCHOLOGY AND CULTURE

About ORPC

The ORPC is the online, peer-reviewed, open-access journal of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology. It has been active in its present form since Walt Lonner established it formally in 2002, so we have just passed the 20-year anniversary of its existence. The ORPC features reviews and new perspectives that reflect current trends and discussions in cross-cultural psychology and related fields written by scholarly experts.

The ORPC has a long history. It started as a collection of scientific materials compiled as course readings. When Walt Lonner was teaching the undergraduate “Psychology and Culture” at the Department of Psychology at Western Washington State College (now Western Washington University) in 1970-1975, there were no introductory textbooks for cross-cultural psychology. This changed when new textbooks became available in the 1980s – but these were not always affordable or accessible worldwide. Walt’s slogan became “Give Cross-cultural Psychology Away” as he approached authors to provide overview papers for the ORPC, which was formally established in 2002.

The ORPC changed structure in 2010 when Wolfgang Friedlmeier became the editor-in-chief, an editorial board was formed, and the journal moved to a professional submission and review system (hosted by Grand Valley State University Libraries using the Digital Commons platform from Bepress (an Elsevier company)). We are thankful for the GVSU library to cover the costs and to make the publication of this Online Journal free for IACCP.

Today’s ORPC is different from other journals in two ways: first, ORPC is a unique Open Access journal, because there are no fees for authors or readers. Second, ORPC focuses on reviews and new perspectives, which means that the articles are of interest for scientists, but also educational practitioners: The articles are helpful tools for students and in-class discussions. The cost-free access and the overview character of the articles led and lead to a high number of downloads across the globe: more than 300,000 times per year.



Michael Bender
Tillburg University
ORPC Editor

Adi Falls in Ghana, by
Kylie Klunder, Grand Valley State University

ORPC is a great outlet for scholars from all walks of their career. ORPC provides for PhD students a good opportunity to publish overview pieces of their work to a wide audience. ORPC gives advanced scholars the chance to contribute to the collection of seminal work by advanced scholars in the field by disseminating it via ORPC. Papers published in ORPC benefit from high visibility among scientists and practitioners, as seen by the high number of downloads.

The current editorial board includes Michael Bender (editor-in-chief), Rachana Bhangaonkar, Wolfgang Friedlmeier, Judith Gibbons, Johannes Karl, Walt Lonner (advisory editor), Caroline Ng Tseung Wong, Vladimir Ponizovskiy, and Paraskevi Simou.

Interested in getting in touch with the ORPC and/or browsing the articles?
Visit the [website](#).

You can also contact the editor Michael Bender at
m.bender@tilburguniversity.edu

INTRODUCING IACCP MEMBER SUPPORT: SOLIDARITY OUTREACH SCHEME



Michael Bender
Tilburg University
Grants Committee Member

The IACCP has established the Solidarity Outreach Scheme in 2021. The SOS financially facilitates the participation of IACCP members who, for unexpected reasons, cannot cover expenses associated with attendance at international congresses or regional conferences (i.e., fees, travel, accommodation). The SOS also provides a 1-year membership waiver.

Its purpose is to give a clear signal that we understand that circumstances our members may find themselves in are affected by developments outside of their control. As a scientific community, we cannot overcome this adversity - but we can hold a space in our midst for those affected. If you are in a region in unexpected crisis IACCP wants to help, even if it is only in a small way.

For the IACCP conference in 2021, the Executive Council of the IACCP (EC) approved of an ad hoc scheme developed by Michael Bender to facilitate participation by Lebanese members. At that time, Lebanon experienced multiple crises, including an economic collapse, rising political instability, the Covid-19 global pandemic, and a massive explosion in Beirut's port. Lebanese colleagues who wanted to participate in our conference simply could not.

After that, in May 2021 the EC agreed to establish a general Solidarity Outreach Scheme. The SOS was developed further and formalized in 2021 by Michael Bender and Mustafa Achoui, with support from Anat Bardi (then deputy secretary of the IACCP). It has been operating for two conference/congress cycles; in 2021/22 and 2022/23, and has helped colleagues attend our gatherings from various regions with unexpected difficulties (e.g., Lebanon, Ukraine).

Click [here](#) to find out more about the Solidarity Outreach Scheme and how to apply.

Colleagues we could support in previous rounds have not been and will not be the only academics experiencing dramatic adversities. We depend on member insights to ensure we seize opportunities to help. This is specifically important when it concerns underrepresented regions. Spread the word and encourage colleagues to apply, so that our association can support those affected by unexpected challenges.

The SOS is not designed to help with structural (i.e., recurring, foreseeable) issues, for those members can apply for the Witkin-Okonji Memorial Fund Award (international congress) and for Regional Conference Travel Support (regional conferences).

The current committee consists of Zeynep Aycan (chair Zeynep Aycan ZAYCAN@ku.edu.tr), Jason Young (treasurer), Judith Gibbons, and Mostafa Zarean.



Member Support: Solidarity Outreach Scheme

TESTIMONIALS FROM AWARDEES



Awardees of the Solidarity Outreach Scheme Participated in the Regional Conference in Ireland!

The IACCP gave members an incredible gift: Travel aid to the Limerick Regional Conference in 2023. They aimed to boost representation of members from a specific region that may not have been able to attend otherwise. And boy, did they deliver! The winners, who snagged this award, shared their breathtaking experiences with us. Check it out!



Rebeca Bayeh
*PhD Student, Clinical Psychology,
 Fordham University*

"Thanks to the IACCP Regional Conference Travel Award, I had the chance to present my master's research on neurodiversity and intersectionality at this year's IACCP. It felt very special to share my work with fellow cultural and cross-cultural psychology enthusiasts: since we can all appreciate the value of contextualizing individuals in their cultural world, the conversation on individual and collective experiences of distress and discrimination is taken to a new level. I was also able to connect and re-connect meaningfully with cultural researchers from a truly international community, and to feel inspired by so many amazing projects and initiatives being developed by colleagues all over the world. I'm honored to have had the chance to make such meaningful connections, and for the opportunity to exchange cultural, scientific and activist experiences with inspiring mentors and colleagues."

Jude Nachabe
*PhD Student, Clinical Psychology,
 Concordia University*

"IACCP's generous award facilitated my journey to Limerick, Ireland, making it possible for me to present my research amidst the financial constraints faced by many graduate students. Covering my flight costs and accommodation, this opportunity not only enabled the presentation of my work but also fostered meaningful connections with like-minded researchers and fellow students. The experience, unburdened by financial worries, allowed for a seamless exchange of ideas and connections that greatly enriched my academic pursuits. I am profoundly grateful to IACCP for this invaluable support, which has significantly enhanced my academic journey."





Muaz Özcan

PhD Candidate, Social/Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Koç University

"Receiving the Solidarity Outreach Scheme (SOS) travel grant from IACCP was a true turning point in my academic journey as an early career researcher. It meant much more than financial support; it symbolized the unwavering solidarity within the cross-cultural psychology community.

This award not only allowed me to participate and present my research at the 2023 IACCP Limerick Conference but also reinforced the sense of belonging and support that this association provides. It reminded me that even in challenging times, we can come together, stand by each other, and continue to contribute to the advancement of our field.

I am deeply grateful for this opportunity and the values of unity and support that it represents. I am also profoundly thankful for the chance to meet and spend time with some of the most eminent scholars, which has been an invaluable experience for my academic growth.

Additionally, I had the privilege of meeting with early career researchers, the field's rising stars, which further enriched my conference experience and expanded my network of peers."



Casey Botha

Academic Coordinator, University of the Western Cape

"I am truly grateful for the opportunity to attend the IACCP conference in Limerick 2023. This award allowed me to be the first in my family, fortunate enough to travel to Ireland and attend such a prestigious conference. The conference allowed me to network with peers, scholars and researchers who have similar interests and are on the same journey as me. I have learnt so much from everyone. "

Dr. Anton Kurapov

Faculty of Psychology, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

"The pursuit of expanding academic horizons, especially within the vibrant field of cross-cultural psychology, is a never-ending and deeply rewarding journey. The diversity of our world offers endless material for study and understanding. The IACCP conference in Limerick was a cornerstone event for delving into this richness, and I am profoundly grateful to the president and the Committee of IACCP for the award I've received.

This was my first conference on a global scale, and it was a revealing experience. It showed me the vast landscape of cultural research and gave me the opportunity to contribute my own findings to the field. Receiving this award has been a pivotal moment in my life. It was incredibly meaningful to connect in person with the community after many months of virtual interactions.

I want to express my deepest thanks for this opportunity. It's been a defining step in my academic and personal growth."

Ani Grigoryan

Research Associate, Yerevan State university

"The IACCP regional conference was a fascinating journey for me, starting from the very beginning when I was preparing the application for the IACCP Travel award. At that time, I was in a post-surgery rehabilitation process and didn't believe the possibility of winning an award and participating. Traveling to Ireland was very expensive, especially considering the fact that there wasn't an Irish embassy in my country, and I had to apply for the visa in Bulgaria.

The confirmation letter about the award made me believe that there was an opportunity and motivated to deal with other challenges. I applied for additional financial support from my university to cover all expenses, and finally, I was prepared for the travel. However, it wasn't the end of the story. It took three days for me to get to Limerick as I spent almost two days in airports due to delays of my transit flight.

Nevertheless, the whole experience at IACCP was amazing, full of discoveries, insights, and valuable connections. I felt that it was worth dealing with all those challenges, worth being here, and enjoying the conference. The workshops and sessions were very fruitful and thought-provoking. The scholars I met, were wonderful, open to share their experiences and learning from you. I could never have imagined that one day I would meet scientists in person whose articles and books I read during my study years.

IACCP2023 was the conference for me where a diversity of opinions, approaches, findings, and views were listened to, respected and valued. I am incredibly thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this, and to experience one of the most adventurous and memorable journeys in my life. It wouldn't have happened without the IACCP Travel award."

IACCP SPARK GRANT

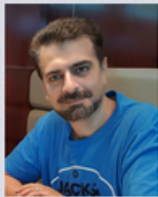
IGNITING GLOBAL INTEREST IN CROSS-CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY

The SPARK Grants are here to bring excitement and curiosity to cross-cultural psychology while also illuminating IACCP. By sharing resources, these grants aim to create a network of talented local researchers and bring together diverse psychology experts from around the world. Let's light the fire under global psychology and learn more about some of our 2022 and 2023 awardees for their past experience and current planning!

Read more about SPARK by clicking [here](#).

2022 - 2023 Awardees

Congratulations



Ali Elhami & Anita Roshan



Divya Bhanot



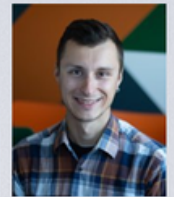
Shivantika Sharad



Sunil K. Verma



Anna Alekseeva & Anton Kurapov



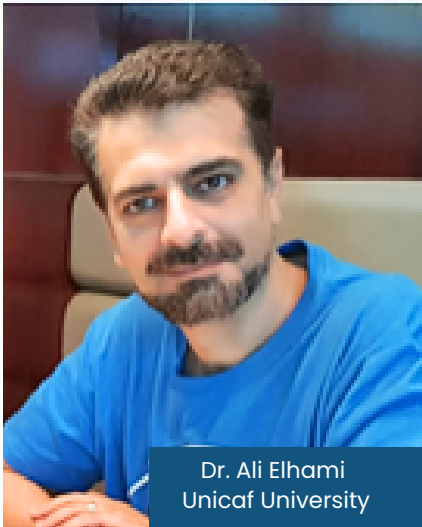
Mete Sefa Uysal & Tabassom Fanaian



Lucy Tavitian-Elmadjian & Thia Sagherian-Dickey



INTEGRATION POLICY AND ACCULTURATION INTERDISCIPLINARY SEMINAR/WEBINAR SERIES



Dr. Ali Elhami
Unicaf University

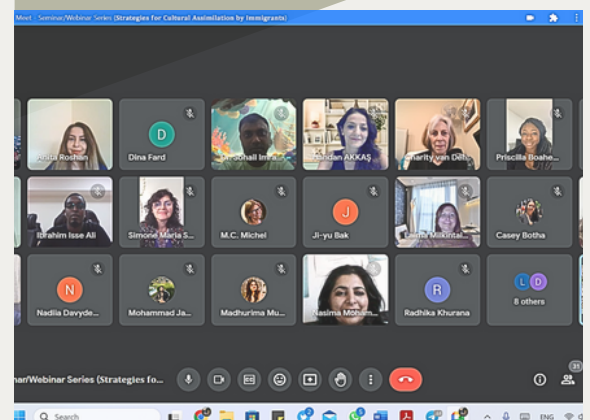


Dr. Anita Roshan
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

“Our SPARK project is a series of monthly seminars/webinars focused on promoting the successful integration of immigrants and refugees into communities. Each session, one outstanding scholar or expert in the field will present research and best practices on topics such as acculturation, intercultural contact, communication accommodation theory, and language acquisition. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in interactive discussions, gaining practical tools and strategies to foster a sense of belonging and empowerment among newcomers. By sharing knowledge and experiences, our SPARK project aims to create a network of individuals dedicated to creating inclusive communities for immigrants and refugees. These sessions aim to equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to support newcomers effectively. Additionally, our project addresses the importance of cultural sensitivity and diversity, fostering inclusive and welcoming environments for immigrants and refugees. In addition, another goal of these series is to raise awareness about the challenges and barriers that immigrants and refugees face when trying to integrate into new communities. By highlighting these issues, we hope to encourage empathy and understanding among community members and policymakers, ultimately leading to more inclusive and supportive environments for newcomers.”

“The first session of our project was in October and fortunately we could have a good turnout of participants. We were able to engage with a diverse group of individuals who shared their personal experiences and insights. This initial success has motivated us to continue organizing more sessions and expand our reach to involve even more community members.”

“In our local community, we envision creating a platform for open dialogue and understanding between different cultures and backgrounds. By fostering cross-cultural psychology, we aim to promote empathy, respect, and appreciation for diversity. Ultimately, we hope to bridge gaps and build stronger connections within our community, leading to a more inclusive and harmonious society. “





Dr. Mete Sefa Uysal
*Friedrich Schiller
University*



Tabassom Fanaian
Independent Researcher

EXPLORING ALLIANCE-BUILDING: CHALLENGES IN REPRESSIVE TOTALITARIAN CONTEXTS

“We aim to explore the factors that prevent, impair, or demobilize alliance-building among activist groups in repressive totalitarian contexts, specifically focusing on Iran and Turkey. In order to gain a comprehensive understanding of activists' viewpoints and the challenges they encounter, we will conduct semi-structured interviews in both countries. By undertaking this analysis, our primary objective is two-fold. Firstly, we aim to identify common problems experienced by activists that hinder alliance-building, as well as discern the tactics employed by totalitarian leaders in Iran and Turkey to prevent the formation of a cohesive anti-governmental alliance. Secondly, we seek to explore the cultural and historical factors that contribute to these obstacles and challenges, with a particular emphasis on cross-cultural differences.”

PREDICTORS OF INTEGRATION OF UKRAINIAN MIGRANTS IN DIFFERENT EUROPEAN COUNTRIES: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

“The main objective of the project is to define the main factors, which predict and mediate the process of integration of Ukrainian refugees in different European countries, such as Austria, Germany, and Switzerland.

We have developed a questionnaire to study the peculiarities of integration of Ukrainian migrants in different European countries. It covers three major aspects of the integration process: cognitive, emotional, and behavioral. The cognitive scale is represented by defined plans of professional self-realization and organization of living space in the conditions of a new living environment, for example determination of priority areas of professional development, training, desired social status and lifestyle. Emotional aspect of integration is represented by the satisfaction of migrants with the standards of living in another country, in particular, education, medical care, cultural leisure, and acceptability of cultural traditions and values of the host country. The most significant aspects of integration are the real manifestations of migrants entering into the new socio-cultural space, namely the beginning of professional activity, foreign language skills, active social life, which represent a behavioral component of integration. In this context very important is to define of possible communicative, speech and cultural difficulties, which are certain indicators of the integrative process.

In addition to this for determining the willingness of refugees to either continue a long-term stay in the host-country or move back to Ukraine as soon as safety situation allows, we have developed own questionnaire that consists of question concerning the desire of participants to integrate into host-society economically and culturally. At this stage, we have started collecting data using an online Google Form.”



Dr. Anna Alieksieieva
*University of Modern
Knowledge*



Dr. Anton Kurapov
*Taras Shevchenko National
University of Kyiv*

2021 – 2022 Awardees

GIOI INITIATIVE

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN ASIAN CULTURE: EXPECTATIONS AND PRESSURE

MODEL MINORITY

POSITIVE STEREOTYPE
Asian Americans would expectably have **higher academic achievement and parental expectations** than Latino Americans, African Americans, and European Americans. (1)

"MODEL MINORITY"
Is a phrase describing cultural expectations Asians as individuals that are **smart, hard-working, inhumanly persistent, and therefore destined for success.** (2)

UNCHANGED VALUES
Even as they integrate into Western environment, Asi descent still appreciates **traditionally Eastern values** such as a **focus on academic achievement, intrinsic effort, and persistence.** (1)

DEBILITATING PRESSURE ON THE CHILD

STUDY = STRESS
Unrealistic expectations from school and family a child lose interest in knowledge acquisition, and **associate learning with stress.** (2)

HURTING MENTAL WELLBEING
The real effort to reach what are already impossible expectations makes children start to doubt themselves, adopt a **lower sense of self-worth**, and become **subjected to mental problems.** (3)

THE "CURSE" OF INTELLIGENCE
Over-focusing on academic performance makes Asian students **less psychologically adjusted and socially engaged.** They may also experience **more conflict** in relationship with their parents over high educational expectations. (2)

PARENTS ARE ALSO UNDER PRESSURE

INVISIBLE FORCES
Raising a human being is no small feat. But a collectivist culture, the constant **worry making mistakes and criticisms from society** is felt by parents more than ever. (3,4)

Stress from the pursuit of **"perfect parenting"** increases the risk of **parental burnout** especially among East Asians. (3,4)

Burnt-out parents often resort to **harmful parenting behaviours** such as **negligent, harsh discipline, and overcontrol.** (5)

1. Aguilto, A. K., & Benk, K. (2008). College students' adjustment: The role of parent-college student expectation discrepancies and communication reciprocity. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 37(3), 387-392.
2. Hsin, A., & See, Y. (2014). Exploring Asian Americans' academic advantage over whites. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 111(23), 8416-8421.
3. Tho, T. T., Nguyen, T. P. S., & Pham, H. T. T. (2021). Perceived stress and coping strategies in high school gifted students in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. *International Journal of Mental Health*, 50(2), 98-112.
4. Furutani, K., Kawamoto, T., Akimori, M., & Nakashima, K. I. (2022). Exhausted parents in Japan: Preliminary validation of the Japanese version of the Parent Burnout Assessment. *New Directions for Child and Adolescent Development*, 2020(174), 33-45.
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Parental Expectations and Students' Academic Well-being – A Cross-Cultural Perspective between Asia-Pacific and Western Countries

“GIOI Initiative was co-coordinated by Nhi Nguyen (Bachelor of Arts, Media and Communications at The University of Melbourne) and Mai Vu (Bachelor of Science, Psychology at Monash University). GIOI Initiative is a research-informed social media campaign aims to raise social awareness & spark meaningful public & professional conversations about student wellbeing & parental expectation in Vietnam, Malaysia & Australia. Our Initiative is named after the highest academic achievement title at the end of the school year, "Học Sinh Giỏi". It is a motivation, an expectation, a pressure that Vietnamese parents create for their child. It is also a well-regarded Asian value that the community has on both the child and the parents.”

When disseminating the topic in a cross-cultural perspectives, it is definitely challenging for us to highlight the differences in parental expectations across cultures, while still acknowledging that their love and care for their children are their main motivation, no matter how different their expressions might be. Moreover, as cross cultural psychology has not been introduced much to general audience in Vietnam, it is our priority to write about this topic in an approachable way. It is an amazing opportunity for us to get support from a reputable organisation like IACCP, despite we were not confident in our expertise and experience in cross cultural psychology. The best advice from us would be to apply, try your best, and trust that your motivation and effort in building more cross-cultural psychology initiatives would be rewarded one day. Thank you, IACCP for giving us this precious opportunity. We were honoured to be initiating meaningful conversation about academic pressure stemming from culture and society. We also helped introduce the concept of cross-cultural psychology to the wider community. We enjoyed learning and researching about the topic of social pressure to do well academically from cross-cultural psychology perspectives from academic experts and business leaders. We also acquired useful skills in campaign management, professional writing, particularly proposal and report, interview skills. “

PODCAST  With Ms My Holland (Equest Asia)



With Mr. Quang Nguyen (Utrecht University)

Bridging Disciplines and Cultures through Webinars on Culture and Values

“The project consisted of a series of Monthly Multidisciplinary Webinars on Culture and Values. This initiative was more than just a series of talks; it was a platform for knowledge exchange and interdisciplinary collaboration. The webinars were a vibrant hub for stimulating research discussions, featuring 23 guest speakers from diverse academic backgrounds, ranging from early career scholars to esteemed professors from Harvard. Our presenters and audience members came from various social science disciplines, including psychology, sociology, political science, economics, culturology, anthropology, and even extending into the humanities and natural sciences.

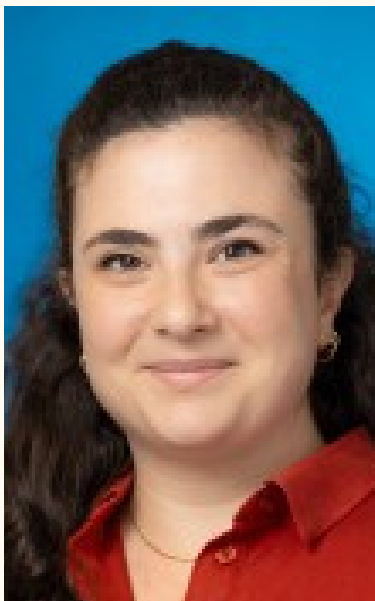
The journey was not without its challenges. Coordinating schedules across time zones and disciplines, ensuring a balanced representation of perspectives, and fostering engaging discussions required meticulous planning and adaptability. These challenges, however, became valuable lessons in patience, organization, and the power of diversity in thought.

To future SPARK awardees, my advice is simple: build more bridges. In the realm of science and academia, the exchange of ideas should be swift and boundless. Embrace interdisciplinary approaches and foster collaborations that transcend traditional boundaries. This approach not only accelerates scientific progress but also enriches our personal and scholarly growth.”



Dr. Plamen Akaliyski
Lingnan University
Hong Kong

Emic Perspectives on Employee Agency



Dr. Rawan Ghazzawi
Tilburg University

“Our SPARK project was about empirically investigating what employee agency is in non-WEIRD contexts. Accordingly, we organized a workshop and subsequent focus groups (still ongoing) on the topic of “Emic Perspectives on Employee Agency”. In order to achieve the aims of the workshop or to work towards achieving them, the workshop was divided into three parts. The first part of the workshop included presentations in which the participants shared their research interests and experiences. The second part included the keynote presentation by Dr Miguel Silan on indigenous psychology approaches. The final part included a hands-on activity to explore the concept of agency in various non-Western contexts. When it comes to the focus groups, our aim was to further investigate the concept of employee agency in different cultural contexts. Accordingly, we conducted focus groups among Turkish, Chinese, and Lebanese individuals. We will also conduct at least, two additional focus groups: one among Ethiopian individuals, and another among Italian ones.

Throughout the project, we encountered some challenges including:

- Low turnout in the workshop because some individuals might have seemed enthusiastic and expressed their willingness to join but were not able/actually willing to do so eventually. Although this was at first perceived as a challenge, it ended up making the workshop ideal for delving deeper into specific topics that are of interest to all the participants.
- Difficulty in collecting data within the set time due to the cross-cultural nature of the data collection and the fact that it relied on volunteers. These volunteers had to collect data in their native language and then deliver transcripts in English.

However, even given these challenges, we really enjoyed and are still enjoying working on this project as it has already provided us with a lot of valuable insights! We noticed that the participants in the focus groups also saw this as an exercise for them to reflect on their work, which is something that they do not do often. Taking part in the focus groups allowed them to share their frustrations and challenges, and accordingly, tactics each one uses to address them. This converted the focus group at times to a support group, which made us feel very happy!

Personally, I believe that my networking skills have improved a lot during this project as it pushed me to seek out collaborations and make cold calls in order to be able to access more samples.”

SPARKing Research and Collaboration in SAARC Nations

“The primary objective of this project was to increase knowledge and highlight the importance of cross-cultural psychology in undergraduate students of SAARC nations. This workshop sought to demonstrate the importance of cross-cultural psychology theories and methods within a context that is familiar to students, as opposed to a WEIRD perspective. Through this project, we sought to create a SAARC resource ecosystem to create opportunities for networking with fellow researchers at various stages (senior researchers, regional researchers, and international researchers). We also created a website (crossculturalpsych.in) to facilitate collaboration, information dissemination, and knowledge exchange all together on one forum.”

“A 3-day workshop introducing research in cross-cultural contexts was conducted on 15-17 December 2022. This included six sessions on a variety of issues targeted toward undergraduate students of SAARC nations.”

Testimonial from one of the 12 participants

“Since I had never been exposed to the branch of cross-cultural Psychology before, I was inquisitive to know more about the field. That’s the reason I joined the workshop, to broaden my horizons. Personally I found the speakers as the most valuable aspect because as they were conducting the session, they kept narrating their experiences, what all we could do and what all could go wrong. Since the line-up included not only Indians but also professors from abroad, I think that played a major role in being able to see different perspectives of the same thing!”

“Overall, the workshop was quite successful in spreading awareness about cross-cultural psychology and creating the possibility for interactions and collaborations amongst the students. We did think about holding this workshop again at some point, with better reach, and perhaps an in-person interaction as we believe it will be a valuable experience for the students. As was recommended by the panel, we tried very hard to have students from all SAARC nations, however, despite registrations, many did not eventually attend. We hope that future such workshops find a way to address this. The panel had also suggested the possibility of including PhD students as mentors. While that was not something we could accommodate during the workshop itself, maybe when we hold the workshop again, we can add that to the website, and perhaps include that in the actual workshop itself. It would be great to have a list of PhD students along with their areas of research and their contact details. This way the participants can contact the PhD students as and when they wish to. Our main take-aways was that we need to find a way to improve our reach. We need to reach more undergraduate students, and we need to find better ways of doing this. Plus, a face-to-face interaction would definitely be more impactful, but that would compromise our reach. So, a good balance needs to be set.”



Pallavi Ramanathan
Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)
Delhi



Madhumita Ramakrishna
University of Queensland – IIT –
Delhi Academy of Research



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Your support is invaluable to the IACCP's mission of fostering collaboration and understanding in cross-cultural psychology. We appreciate your commitment to our community and eagerly anticipate another year of shared knowledge and discovery.

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About the Bulletin Editor



Xue Jiang, 姜雪, Ph.D., is a postdoctoral research associate in the Human Development and Family Science department at Purdue University, USA. She earned her doctoral degree in Educational Psychology from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Xue's research is dedicated to uncovering effective caregiving support systems that promote resilience and well-being among children and adolescents impacted by parental migration in rural China and rural America. Originally from Guizhou, China, Xue has resided in the United States for nearly a decade, dedicated to pursuing her academic career.