



Missouri Team Conducts PTSD Training During Mission to Pakistan

By Danny Wedding



Afghan refugees in Pakistani center (Photo by AP)

In January 2001, three Missouri psychologists—Barbara Bauer, Wayne Anderson, and the author—accompanied University of Missouri–Columbia psychiatrist Arshad Husain on a humanitarian journey to Pakistan to train local medical and mental health providers on how to treat post-traumatic stress disorders. The team also trained community professionals who are working with refugee women and children who had fled Afghanistan. At the time, of course, none of us could have anticipated how important this part of the world would subsequently become or that our work there might help Pakistani health providers in dealing with the current state of emergency.

Our team of volunteer mental health professionals traveled to Pakistan under the auspices of the University of Missouri–Columbia (MU) International Center for Psychosocial Trauma (ICPT). Founded by Husain, the MUICTP sends multidisciplinary teams of psychologists, psychiatrists, educators, and social workers to train local physicians, teachers, and mental health professionals to work with children traumatized by war or domestic violence. Those trainees in turn are expected to pass on their knowledge and skills to other professional colleagues. The MUICTP has worked in such diverse places

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APA Delegation Delivers Message to WCAR

By Corann Okorodudu

2001 was an extraordinary year in APA's international activities and contributions! APA's Special Consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (UN) attained in June 2000 provided a significant opportunity for APA to contribute psychological perspectives, scholarship, and other organizational resources to the UN's global agenda. Though in a learning/discovery phase in 2001, APA's UN Representatives made substantive psychological contributions to UN World Conferences held during the year, working with the guidance of APA's Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP) and in collaboration with representatives of other UN-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and committees. APA's broadest and most intense intervention in the major UN agenda thus far was our participation in the preparatory processes and World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance (WCAR).

Respect for the inherent dignity of all members of the human family is the psychological foundation of justice, freedom, and peace in the world. Non-discrimination on the grounds of race is one of the guiding principles of the United Nations. This principle is clearly established in the preamble of the Charter of the UN and a number of its human rights declarations and conventions, especially the 1965 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Despite continuing

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Special thanks to William S. Cramer who provides maps for Psychology International.

Readers may submit articles for publication consideration to the International Affairs Office at the above address. Deadlines for manuscript submission are: February 15, April 15, July 15, and September 15.

Joan Buchanan

On December 6, I received an e-note from Dr. Said Gulob Shah Hashemi, an Afghan psychologist currently living and working in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Dr Hashemi writes, “I am an active member of local youth projects, where I have focused mainly on the issues of child trauma. Trauma, especially among young Afghan children and women, is an acute problem which afflicts many of those who have managed to escape our homeland. It is distressing for me to see so many youth who lack basic knowledge or mechanisms to cope with the pain that they possess. Here in Dushanbe, one can clearly see that children are the real victims of war.”

Dr. Hashemi’s first-hand testimony supports data documented in a November 6 World Health Organization (WHO) Special Report, “The Invisible Wounds: The Mental Health Crisis in Afghanistan.” The report cites a 1997 UNICEF survey that revealed that 40 per cent of the 300 children interviewed had lost at least one parent, 66 per cent had seen dead bodies or parts of bodies, and fully 90 per cent were convinced that they would die in a warfare situation. The current situation both inside Afghanistan and in camps outside the country can only reinforce these fears born of earlier conflicts.

Even before the current conflict, the mental health situation in Afghanistan was dire. The people have endured 23 years of war, persecution, executions of civilians, fear of land mines, forced displacement from their homes—to name a few of the terrors that mark the everyday reality of Afghan life. During the Taliban era, women’s problems were further compounded by the isolation of the burqua, loss of stature, and what must have been sheer terror of reprisals and public assassination. The WHO report cites a 1996 study on the mental health situation of women in both Kabul and refugee camps in Pakistan. Ninety-seven per cent of the 160 women interviewed showed signs of depression and 86 percent experienced anxiety disorders.

The decades of war have left communities in chaos. The WHO report estimates that when the US bombing campaign began on October 7, 2001, there were already 60,000 widows without any family support. Both informal and formal support systems are inadequate and there is no professional infrastructure in place to help Afghans cope with their mental health problems. In early 2001, WHO reported that for the population of 25 million there were only 20 psychologists, 18 psychiatric nurses, and eight psychiatrists in the entire country. Inpatient facilities were also limited, with 50 beds in Kabul and two other centers in Mazar-I-Shariff and Jalalabad. We do not yet know the status of the mental health professionals or whether these facilities have survived the bombing.

We do know the status of the humanitarian health-related efforts on the ground in Afghanistan. The WHO 30 Day (November 15 through December 15) Operational Plan reports “The current Crisis of combined drought, displacement and conflict has called to a halt all efforts to improve health systems in Afghanistan. We are struggling now just to avoid “excess” deaths. So, far, estimating all health sector inputs, about 28 per cent of the needed medical supplies for the next three months have already been positioned, and health workers in NGO supported clinics are still functioning.” This report does not mention mental health but I think we can all deduce that an enormous proportion of the patients in these clinics are experiencing mental health related problems.

Meanwhile back in Tajikistan, Dr. Hashemi extends an invitation to his fellow psychologists around the world. He writes, “I would like to continue correspondence with colleagues from your organization who might be interested in learning more about the psychological landscape among youth in Central Asia and Afghanistan. These areas are geographic frontiers, yet they present very interesting and potentially fruitful venues from which to research child psychology. Furthermore, I would like to extend my services to colleagues who might be interested in visiting Dushanbe or Afghanistan with a mind to becoming involved in the large task of rebuilding our country.” Interested readers can reach Dr. Hashemi via e-mail (said_hashemi@yahoo.com).

In closing, I send each of you my best wishes for a happy, productive and—most important—peaceful 2002.

Joan Buchanan is Director of the APA Office of International Affairs.

efforts by the international community, racial discrimination, ethnopolitical conflicts, and violence persist throughout the world. Therefore, the objectives of the August 31–September 8, 2001, World Conference on Racism which convened in Durban, South Africa, were to: (1) review progress and reappraise obstacles; (2) consider how existing international standards can be better implemented; (3) increase the level of awareness of racism and its effects; (4) review historical, social, cultural, and economic factors that lead to racism; and (5) develop action-oriented regional, national, and international measures including mobilization of needed resources.

From the time APA entered the preparatory process to the end of the Conference in Durban, APA's delegates advocated fairly successfully with governments and NGOs for the insertion of language (in the draft Declaration and Program of Action of the Conference) that would recognize that the integration of psychological perspectives is essential both to effective understandings of the sources, processes, and outcomes of racism and related intolerance and to the efficacy of remedial, corrective, and preventive measures and strategies.

The APA-appointed Delegation attended a Pre-Durban Strategy Meeting organized for US NGOs in Washington, DC (July 2001), the Pre-Conference NGO WCAR Forum, and the WCAR. The Delegation included representatives of APA's UN Team (Thema Bryant and Corann Okorodudu, who also represented APA Divisions 9 and 48); CIRP (James Jackson), APA Division 45 (Anderson J. Franklin), APA's Committee on Ethnic Minority Issues (William Parham), and the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (Bertha Holliday).

The six-member APA Delegation developed and distributed the following four documents which they used in their advocacy and networking with government delegations and NGOs (mainly the caucuses for Health/Mental Health, African/African Descendants, and Women) at the WCAR:


- (1) The APA Resolution on Racial and Racial Discrimination;
- (2) A lobbying document reflecting recommended psychological/mental health concepts to be included as alternative text in the Declaration of Commitment and Program for Action of the Conference;
- (3) An APA Declaration for the WCAR, prepared in consultation with the WCAR NGO Health/Mental Health Caucus and a number of organizations representing psychological and mental health scientists and practitioners;
- (4) And an APA Statement entitled, "Psychological Causes and Consequences of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerances," which CIRP member James Jackson read to the Conference Plenary and is included in the official record and documentation of the Conference.

The September 11 attacks on the US and their aftermath have underscored the crucial importance of fulfilling the promise of the

UN World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance. We should not be surprised that the negotiations at the conference were difficult. The issues under consideration are among the most sensitive in the UN's agenda. The Declaration and Program of Action of the Conference might not be as strong on some issues as some would have liked it to be, but it does provide a historic breakthrough in the degree of consensus that was reached in recognizing both historic and contemporary injustices and focusing attention on remedial, protective, and preventive strategies. It calls upon governments, the UN system, civil society institutions and organizations to respond promptly and efficiently to the implementation requirements of the Program of Action. We invite psychologists across the divisions and governance units of APA and psychologists more broadly to enter into dialogue that can lead to strategic actions to address racism, racial discrimination, and related intolerance and to building cultures of social justice and peace. We have the capacity to meet this challenge. What we need to mobilize is sustained political will.

Corann Okorodudu, EdD, is the American Psychological Association's Main Representative at the United Nations. She was the leader of the APA Delegation to Durban. A former chair of the APA Committee on International Relations in Psychology and Past-President of Division 48, Dr. Okorodudu is a professor of psychology at Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey. The complete text of the Intervention Statement of the APA Delegation to the WCAR is published in the Fall 2001 issue (volume 12, no. 4) of Psychology International.

SINGAPORE



**XXV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF
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as Rwanda, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Albania, India, and Oklahoma City. The Center recently received funding from the US Institute of Peace to provide counseling to refugee children who fled from Chechnya to the neighboring Republic of Ingushetia.

Our mission in Pakistan was to conduct two training programs on post-traumatic stress management, the first in Karachi, and the other in Rawalpindi. Each three-day training program provided a joint session devoted to identifying PTSD, depression, and suicide risk factors, and two parallel sessions, one for general medical practitioners and family physicians and another for mental health professionals. The physician group was trained in basic progressive muscle relaxation and various breathing techniques, as well as a number of more

Many of these individuals were desperately poor and received minimal health care and mental health services. These problems have only been exacerbated since the September 11th attacks ...

advanced techniques including critical incident stress debriefing. The mental health professional group received more specialized training in stress management and coping, the use of hypnotic imagery, and Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing.

Following the second training program, our team conducted a pre-conference workshop on trauma psychiatry and psychotherapy at the 13th International Psychiatric Conference, held in Islamabad. The conference was devoted to “Mental Health in the New Millennium,” and was sponsored by the Pakistan Psychiatric Society and the World Health Organization.

The trip to Pakistan provided a meaningful opportunity to share our clinical experiences in treating PTSD and other anxiety disorders with our Pakistani colleagues in their complex, fascinating, and very different society. Perhaps the most poignant part of the trip was visiting several of the refugee centers that had been set up for women and their children fleeing from the human rights violations of the Taliban (or sometimes from husbands and fathers empowered by Taliban rule). Many of these individuals were desperately poor, resided in the slum areas of Rawalpindi and Islamabad, and received minimal health care and mental health services. These problems have only been exacerbated by the momentous events that have occurred since the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

None of us who participated in this trip could have foreseen that nine months later we would spend most of September watching the seemingly endless television reports documenting the refugee problems we had witnessed first-hand during our January visit. We like to think those physicians and mental health professionals we trained are providing better care for these new refugees as a result of our modest efforts.

Danny Wedding, PhD, is a clinical psychologist who directs the Missouri Institute of Mental Health in Saint Louis. The author appreciates the helpful comments of Tim Gallimore, Barbara Bauer, and Arshad Husain on an earlier draft of this paper. Additional information about the International Center for Psychosocial Training is available at <http://www.e-wtc.com/emrc/traumatized.html#ICPT>. Dr. Wedding can be reached by e-mail at wedding@mimh.edu.



Many refugee women and children are in dire need of health care and mental health services (Photo by AP)

COUNTRY PROFILE: IRAN

By H. Kamarzarin

While Iran has a civilization over 2,500 years old, the study of psychology began only about 1,000 years ago, during the Middle Ages, when psychology—along with mathematics, astrology, and medicine—was considered a part of Islamic knowledge. Psychologists during this era studied the mind (*El-mo-nafs*) in the context of philosophical and theoretical insights. For instance, a study on personality development or physical and mental health would focus on “growth personality with an insight into perfectionism.” One of the most brilliant intellectuals of this time, Avesina, came closer to modern-day psychology. In his book *Moalejat*, he refers to the treatments that he has applied for healing both mental and physical (psychosomatic) disorders. During this early period, however, experimental studies did not deal with the breadth of issues we do today.

Scientific psychological study began in the early decades of the 20th century when Iranian psychologists began to follow western models, thanks to the translation of reliable books and psychological pamphlets. Mrs. Badrol-molook published the first such leaflet in 1930. By 1950, Dr. A. Siasy had founded a psychology program in the faculty of literature at Tehran University. Consequently, university libraries began to expand their collections of books and journals. The same era witnessed the establishment of a psychological society, clinics, and university education up to the MA level. But despite this progress, there still existed a gap to be bridged between the country’s social and psychological needs.

After the 1978 revolution, Iranian psychology began stressing the nation’s cultural and social needs in

connection with the changes that were taking place in the society. As the country’s communications development grew, so did psychology. In response to need, the field began to include new branches of psychology and expanded academic levels.

Today, psychology is one of Iran’s most attractive fields of study for students, researchers, and the general public. There are psychotherapy centers staffed by doctoral-level clinical psychologists (who were trained both inside Iran and, for example, in Canada, Europe, the United States, and India) and consultants (BA psychologists). Doctoral degrees are now available in educational psychology, general psychology, and mental health, as well as in clinical psychology.

The Iranian Psychological Association (IPA) has nearly 4,000 members and seven executive managers that oversee the following IPA divisions: (1) exceptional children; (2) consulting; (3) clinical; (4) research; (5) measurement; (6) theoretical; and (7) educational psychology. Along with specialized psychological magazines, the IPA publishes three journals—one featuring psychological research, one dealing with mind and behavior, and one devoted to educational research.

At the present time in Iran, psychology appears to be moving toward a new identity by trying to balance the three different sources of its history: its religious and philosophical roots; its western intellectual and international grounding; and its orientation to meeting the present needs of our society.

H. Kamarzarin, MA, is an educational psychologist at Shiraz University. Readers may contact Mr. Kamarzarin by regular mail (PO Box 113, Dezfoul, Iran) or by e-mail (zarin@dezfoul.net).



Travel Grant Applications are Available for XXV ICAP in Singapore: The American Psychological Association (APA) has applied to the National Science Foundation (NSF) and to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) for support to administer a block travel grant program for US participants in the scientific program of the XXV International Congress of Applied Psychology in Singapore, July 7-12, 2002. If granted, NSF and NIMH funding will be used exclusively for scholars working in areas that are central to their missions. At least half of the awards will go to investigators who are either students or within eight years of receiving their doctoral degree. Although APA has not received final word on the availability of funding, applications are now available from the APA Office of International Affairs, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC, 20002, (202) 336-6025 (telephone); (202) 218-3599 (fax); international@apa.org (e-mail); and at <http://www.apa.org/international> (website).

APA Announces 2002 International Award Winners: The American Psychological Association (APA) gives two awards in recognition of outstanding contributions to international cooperation and advancement in psychology—the Award for Distinguished Contributions to the International Advancement of Psychology and the APA International Humanitarian Award. The 2002 award winners are Stanley Krippner, PhD, and Professor Elizabeth Lira, respectively.

Krippner is a professor of psychology at the Saybrook Graduate School in San Francisco, and a Fellow in three APA divisions. He has conducted workshops and seminars on dreams and hypnosis in two dozen countries and at the last four congresses of the Interamerican Society of Psychology. He is the author and editor of a number of books, including *The Psychological Effects of War on Civilians: An International Perspective*, due to be published later this year.

Professor Lira has worked on behalf of a variety of human rights issues in a number of countries, including her native Chile, where she worked with victims of torture during the Pinochet era. Lira has written or edited many books and articles on psychology and human rights in situations of state-sponsored terrorism that incorporate her experiences of the last two decades. She often serves as an international consultant on this topic. She teaches at the Universidad Alberto Hurtado in Santiago, Chile, where she is a member of the Center for Ethics.

Psychologist Heads "Ground Zero" Office: APA member and University of Tulsa psychology professor Elana Newman, PhD, a leading researcher on the psychological impact of covering violence on reporters, is serving as director of an office in New York City that will assess and serve the needs of news organizations and journalists covering the September 11 attacks. The office has been established by the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma. Based at the University of Washington in Seattle, the Dart Center is an international resource center and program developer that encourages excellence in reporting on victims of violence and trains and supports journalists who cover violent events. Newman, a practicing licensed clinical psychologist, is a member of the Dart Center's executive committee and an ad hoc member of the board of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. More information about the Ground Zero Office is available on the Dart Center's website at <http://www.dartcenter.org>.

US Institute of Peace Offers International Grants for Conflict Resolution: The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) is inviting applications under a solicited grant competition for research and other activities addressing conflict prevention and resolution. Most grants range from \$25,000 to \$45,000 a year, and the project period is two years. USIP supports nonprofit organizations and individuals from both the US and abroad that are engaged in studies, workshops, curriculum development, and training on the causes of war and other international conflicts; and the ways conflicts have been or can be prevented, contained, or ended. The Institute's priorities include strategic nonviolent conflict, the Middle East and South Asia, and conflict resolution training. All projects must be submitted on an application form available at <http://www.usip.org/grants/sg2002.html> or by contacting the United States Institute of Peace, Grants Program: Solicited Grants, 1200 17th Street, NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC, 20036-3011; (202)-429-3842 (telephone); (202) 833-1018 (fax); grant_program@usip.org (e-mail).

New On-Line Journal Addresses Psychology and Social Issues: *ASAP (Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy)* is a new on-line journal sponsored by the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI). *ASAP* is not a thematic journal and submissions in any content area related to the goals of SPSSI will be considered. They will be peer-reviewed and evaluated in terms of scholarly excellence and relevance to social problems, social action, and policy. The second volume of *ASAP*, a special feature on terrorism and its consequences, is now available electronically to SPSSI members and to all institutions that subscribe to the *Journal of Social Issues*. Non-members can access the table of contents and article abstracts at <http://www.asap-spssi.org>. For more information about article submission and *ASAP*, contact Rhoda Unger, PhD, Resident Scholar, Women's Studies Research Center, Brandeis University (MS 079), Waltham, MA 02454-9110; (781) 736-8104 (telephone); asap@spssi.org (e-mail).

International Meetings Calendar

February 26-March 2, 2002

6th Annual Meeting of the Biofeedback Foundation of Europe Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS. Contact: Danielle Matto, PO Box 75416, 1070 AK Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Tel: 011 31 20 44 22 631; Fax: 011 31 20 44 22 632
E-mail: mailto:mail@bfe.org
Website: <http://www.bfe.org>

March 25-26, 2002

12th Annual Rotman Research Institute Conference: Emotions and the Brain Toronto, CANADA. Contact: Education Department, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, 3560 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6A 2E1
Telephone: (416) 785-2500 ext. 2363; Fax: (416) 785-4215
E-mail: conference@rotman-baycrest.on.ca
Website: www.rotman-baycrest.on.ca/conf

April 7-10, 2002

4th Meeting of the International Academy of Family Psychology - "Families in Context: International Perspectives on Change" Heidelberg, GERMANY. Contact: Dr. Sabine Walper at walper@edu.uni-muenchen.de or Dr. Florence Kaslow at kaslowfs@worldnet.att.net

May 9-19, 2002

10th Annual International Conference on Conflict Resolution St. Petersburg, RUSSIA. Contact: Steve Olweean, Director, Common Bond Institute, 12170 S. Pine Ayr Drive, Climax, MI 49034 USA
Tel/Fax: 616-665-9393
E-mail: solweean@aol.com
Website: <http://ahpweb.org/cbi/home.html>

May 27-31, 2002

International Conference on Linguo-Cultural Studies - "Intercultural Communication: Reality and Perspectives" Alushta, the Crimea, UKRAINE. Contact: angela@tnu.crimea.ua

May 28-31, 2002

1st Mexican Congress on Human Development Mexico City, MEXICO. Contact: Lucila Martinez, Universidad Iberoamericana, Dpto. De Educacion y Desarrollo Humano, Prol. Paseo de la Reforma 880, Colonia Lomas de Santa Fe, 01210 Mexico, D.F.
Tel: 5267-4201; Fax: 5267-4270
E-mail: lucila.martinez@uia.mx

June 17-21, 2002

International Conference on Psychology Education St. Petersburg, RUSSIA. Contact: Victor Karandashev, Email: victor.karandashev@usa.net; vkarandashev@mail.ru

July 1-5, 2002

International Council of Psychologists (ICP) 60th Annual Convention: "Helping Others Grow" Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila, PHILIPPINES. Contact: Dr. Antoinette Thomas
Tel: 450-466-9459
E-mail: antoinettethomas@videotron.ca
Website: <http://www.geocities.com/icpsych>

July 7-12, 2002

25th International Congress of Applied Psychology SINGAPORE
Contact: Conference Secretariat, CEMS Pte Ltd, c/o Jeanie Chan, 1 Maritime Square, #09-43, World Trade Centre, Singapore 099253
Telephone: 65278-8666 ;Fax: 65-278-4077
E-mail: jeanie@cemssvs.com.sg
Website: <http://www.icap2002.org>

July 14-18, 2002

3rd World Congress for Psychotherapy (WCP): "Anima Mundi - The Challenge of Globalization" Vienna, AUSTRIA. Contact: WCP-Head Office, Rosenbursenstrasse 8/3/7, A-1010 Vienna, Austria
Tel: 43 1 512 04 44; Fax: 43 1 512 05 70
E-mail: wcp.office@psychotherapie.at
Website: <http://www.worldspyche.org>

July 15-19, 2002

The XVI International Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP) Yogyakarta, INDONESIA. Contact: E-mail: pal@yogya.wasantara.net.id
Website: <http://www.iacpp.org/conferences/indonesia/first.html>

July 16-19

International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) 25th Annual Meeting Berlin, GERMANY. Contact: ISPP Central Office, Pitzer College, 1050 N. Mills Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711
Tel: 909-621-8442; Fax: 520-395-2224
E-mail: ispp@pitzer.edu
Website: <http://ispp.org>

July 18-21, 2002

2nd Biannual Conference on Personal Meaning: Freedom, Responsibility, and Justice Vancouver, BC, CANADA. Contact: Derrick Klaasen, MA, Executive Director, International Network on Personal Meaning, c/o Trinity Western University, Graduate Program in Counseling Psychology, 7600 Glover Road, Langley, BC V2Y 1Y1, Canada.
Tel: 604-513-2121; ext. 3355; Fax: 604-513-2010
E-mail: derrickk@twu.edu
Website: <http://www.meaning.ca>

July 20-24, 2002

34th Annual International Conference of the Community Development Society: "Building Peace - Community and Diversity" Cleveland, Mississippi, USA. Contact: Jerry W. Robinson, Jr., PhD, Center for Community Development, Delta State University, PO Box 3134, Cleveland, MS 38733
Tel: 662-846-4359; Fax: 662-846-4359
E-mail: jrobins@dsu.deltast.edu
Website: <http://www.comm-dev.org>

July 29-August 3, 2002

11th World Congress of Psychophysiology Montreal, CANADA. Contact: E-mail: sm.wilkinson@elsevier.co.uk
Website: <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/iop2002>

July 30th - August 9th 2002

31st International Summer School Berlin: "Dealing with Time in Groups and Organizations" Berlin, GERMANY
Contact: Group Dynamics Section of the German Association for Group Psychotherapy and Group Dynamics (DAGG), European Academy Berlin, Bismarckallee 46-48, D-14193 Berlin, Germany
Tel. 49(0)30-8959510; Fax 49(0)30-89595195
E-mail: ir@iss-berlin.org
Website: www.iss-berlin.org

August 2-6, 2002

Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development Ottawa, CANADA. Contact: ISSBD, School of Psychology, University of Ottawa, PO Box 450 Stn. A, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 6N5
Fax: 613-562-5147
E-mail: issbd@uottawa.ca

August 4-8, 2002

17th Congress of the International Association of Empirical Aesthetics: Art and Environment Takarazuka, JAPAN. Contact: The Secretariat of IAEA2002 Takarazuka University of Art and Design 7-27 Tsutsujigaoka, Hanayashiki, Takarazuka, Hyogo, 665-0803, Japan
Fax: 81-727-58-7869
E-mail: info@iaea2002.gr.jp
Website: <http://www.iaea2002.gr.jp>

Additional international meetings can be found on the Office of International Affairs Homepage at <http://www.apa.org/international>, on the IUPsyS Homepage at <http://www.iupsys.org>, or in the *International Journal of Psychology* available at many libraries.

Old Books and Journals Become a New Resource for Libraries in Need

The APA Office of International Affairs acts as a clearinghouse for members of APA, the International Council of Psychologists, and others who wish to donate collections of psychological journals and books to libraries outside the United States. Several times a year, eligible institutions receive lists of books and journal collections donated in response to announcements in the Monitor, Psychology International, and international psychological newsletters. On behalf of the many institutions that received donations in 2001, APA thanks the donors to its Used Book and Journal Donation Program. Their generosity made valuable resources available to libraries and psychology departments that cannot otherwise afford them. The following story about one such institution—the National Center for Mental Health in the Philippines—was contributed by Florida psychologist Zev Ben Beitchman, PhD.

When I first visited the Philippines in 1994, I inquired where psychological treatment was provided. I was directed to the National Center for Mental Health (NCMH), a special training and research hospital mandated to render a comprehensive range of quality mental health services nationwide. Upon my arrival at the NCMH, I met with the Chief Psychologist, Emerita Villafuertes. She was very accommodating and she showed me around the large facility. It reminded me of what the old state hospitals used to look like in the US, only much more relaxed, open, and friendly.

What is now the NCMH was formally opened on December 17, 1928, and called the Insular Psychopathic Hospital. The hospital was later known as the National Mental Hospital and given its present name in 1986. A year later, the NCMH was categorized as a Special Research Training Center and Hospital under the Department of Health. Located in Mandaluyong, a city in Metropolitan Manila, the NCMH sprawls on a 46.7-acre compound, with a total of 35 pavilions or cottages and 52 wards. It has a staff of almost 2,000 consisting of doctors, nurses, nursing attendants, administrative staff, and medical ancillary personnel who provide a number of hospital-based mental health programs and services to an average of 3,400 in-patients a day. There is also an out-patient division that caters to patients who come in either for consultation or for their regularly scheduled check-ups, or who need acute crisis-intervention and home-based follow-up treatments.

The mission of NCMH is to become a globally recognized learning center that provides responsive and comprehensive mental health care services and excels in training and research. On my second trip to the Philippines, I gave a training entitled “Child Abuse—A Global Concern,” and was the first international speaker for the Center’s Psychology Department. Over 200 people attended the lecture including hospital staff and students. A band played for me and I was honored with a clock made of shell and a Certificate of Appreciation from the NCMH. I was able to repay their generosity in part by bringing the staff much needed journals and books which were donated by the APA Office of International Affairs and members of the Dade County Psychological Association.

Although the NCMH is now on a mailing list that provides them some journals, the psychology staff still needs journals, books, and tests and other materials to enhance their capability as a research and training center. Donations can be sent directly to Emerita Villafuerte, Chief Psychologist, National Center for Mental Health, 7de Febreo Street, Mandaluyong City, Republic of the Philippines.

For more information about the APA/ICP Book and Journal Donation Program, please contact Sally Leverty in the Office of International Affairs at (202) 336-6025 (telephone); (202) 218-3599 (fax); or sleverty@apa.org (e-mail).

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