



President's Letter

*Shane Jimerson,
ISPA President*

Be the Change: Active Engagement Enhances the Future Vitality of School Psychology Around the World

It is with tremendous delight and extraordinary enthusiasm that I share this update with ISPA members, following the recent transition to serving as President of ISPA. As I have highlighted previously, professional organizations are strong and effective in accomplishing their aims when members are actively engaged (Jimerson, 2014). Indeed, there are many ISPA members who have contributed so much to ISPA over the decades, and presently, there is an incredible number of actively engaged members. Below I will highlight a few of ways in which this active engagement is evident, and I invite and encourage others to become further involved with ISPA activities.

Active Involvement in ISPA Committees, Interest Groups, and Leadership

First, it is important to acknowledge and embrace the contributions of so many ISPA members who have dedicated their time and energy as leaders and participants in ISPA committees, interest groups, and other

leadership positions. Current leaders of the committees and interest groups are featured on the ISPA Website. In addition, I express sincere appreciation to the efforts of the ISPA Executive Committee members who invest endless hours for the great good of ISPA and the profession around the world. Jürg Forster has recently transitioned from the ISPA Executive Committee following 6 years of incredible efforts and contributions, our admiration and appreciation to Jürg for his important leadership during those years. Bonnie Nastasi recently joined the ISPA Executive Committee as President-Elect, and thus, is committed for the next six years, already actively engaged and immersed in further advancing ISPA aims.

It is also the good fortune of ISPA to have Michael Sheehan and Janet Muscutt who were both reelected for another term as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively, as each contributes immensely to the operations and future of ISPA.

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Of course, Paul Bartolo has been an incredible President during the past two years and continues to serve ISPA as Past-President. My sincere gratitude to each of the ISPA Executive Committee members, as our future successes continue to represent the collective contributions of the talented and committed group of leaders actively engaged in ISPA. As per recent communications from the ISPA Central Office, we invite and encourage all members to become further involved with ISPA committees, interest groups, and leadership.

ISPA 2015 Conference in São Paulo, Brazil

The recent 37th Annual ISPA Conference, 24th June to the 27th June 2015 at the Mackenzie University in São Paulo, Brazil was informative, invigorating, and inspiring. The active participation of ISPA members as well as over 1,000 Brazilian (ABRAPEE) colleagues created a vibrant and engaging environment, within the beautiful Mackenzie University campus setting. With international colleagues from over 25 countries, there were many opportunities at paper presentations, symposiums, poster sessions, workshops, interaction groups, and social events to learn about the profession and practice of school psychology around the world. Those who attended have memories and knowledge to treasure.

PLUS ONE! The 2015 ISPA Membership Initiative

As recently communicated to all participants at the ISPA 2015 conference and also to all ISPA members via communications from the central office, we ask each and every ISPA member to join us in our current membership campaign -- PLUS ONE! In order to exceed 600 members by the end of 2015, we ask each ISPA member to get at least one additional ISPA member by the end of 2015. If we are successful with each ISPA member adding at least one additional member, then ISPA would be able to double in size. With

additional members, ISPA will be better able to accomplish its central aims. Those who become members from now until the end of 2015, will join for 2016 and get the rest of 2015 at no additional cost. We will need every ISPA member to help us, to be successful in surpassing the 600 member mark for 2015! Dr. Sally Bass serves as the Chair the ISPA Membership Committee and President-Elect, Dr. Bonnie Nastasi serves as co-chair of the Membership Committee. As of September, it is evident that we have surpassed 500 members already! This is fantastic, as it was at the end of December 2015, when we previously surpassed 500 members, thus, we are well on our way to surpass 600 ISPA members in 2016. As noted in recent communications, there is now an opportunity for NEW student members to receive the rest of 2015 and all of 2016 for FREE! Thus, please make every effort to involve ALL STUDENTS in each program around the world. It is easy to join ISPA online <http://www.ispaweb.org/membership/membership-form/>

Participate in ISPA 2016 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The website for the ISPA 2016 Conference in Amsterdam, The Netherlands July 20-23, 2016 is now online. All pertinent details regarding submissions, registration, lodging, are available on the website. Participation at the ISPA conference in Amsterdam will afford unique opportunities for students and early career colleagues to get to know each other as well as meet colleagues from around the world. The social activities, intellectual sessions, and professional development will provide opportunities for all participants to be enriched. We are looking forward to the largest and most exciting ISPA conference, we look forward to your participation.

Contributions to ISPA Capital Campaign

The contributions of so many ISPA members to the ISPA Capital Campaign is truly inspiring. The challenge from an ISPA

colleague was to raise over US\$5,000 by the end of the ISPA Conference 2015 and the ISPA colleague would match with a contribution of US\$5,000. I am delighted to share that ISPA members contributed over US\$5,000, and we have received the contribution from our ISPA colleague, thus, having secured over US\$10,000. During the 2015 conference, ISPA members took the initiative to create a countdown and give hugs for donations, and really rallied to meet the mark. A particularly generous ISPA member asked what the amount needed was prior to the closing ceremonies and then wrote a personal check for the balance to be certain that ISPA surpassed the challenge amount and received the match! As you know from the ISPA budget reports during the past few years, these resources are essential to ensure the future vitality of ISPA. We will continue to seek resources that ISPA can use to further engage and inform members and accomplish the central aims of ISPA. My sincere appreciation to all who contributed so generously to the ISPA capital campaign. Bravo!

It is the collective efforts of all that will accomplish the central aims of ISPA. Please embrace my gratitude for all your previous efforts and please accept my invitation to become further involved with ISPA. We welcome the participation of all – students, early career colleagues, mid career colleagues, retired colleagues – who share our commitment to the specialty of school psychology and to helping children and families around the world. I encourage each of you to “be the change” that you would like to see in ISPA and in school psychology around the world.

Jimerson, S. R. (2014). The roles of school psychology associations in promoting the profession, professionals, and student success. *International Journal of School and Educational Psychology*, 2, 214-222. DOI:10.1080/21683603.2014.934628

ISPA Annual Report

Paul Bartolo,
ISPA Past President



The year 2014-15 has been mainly a year of consolidation of ISPA's mission and action.

1. Our shared goals and regular communication have been strengthened:

-We have updated our mission statement not only in vocabulary but also in scope with a commitment to the creation of enabling, inclusive educational environments. (Following a discussion at the General Assembly in Lithuania, a subcommittee made up of Tom Oakland, Bonnie Nastasi and Paul Bartolo revised the amendments which were accepted in an electronic vote in December 2014).

-We have consolidated the standing of our new journal, the *International Journal of School and Educational Psychology*, with a successful 2nd year and now into the third year. This was achieved through collaborative efforts by editorial staff as well as efforts at publicity with US and other school psychology academics and practitioners at conferences and other meetings. It is evidenced in that the level of article rejection is now exceeding 30%. We are pressing for the indexing of the journal at the earliest possible, which we are told can only be pursued successfully after the third year.

-Our WGR newsletter has been published regularly and on time. It also now includes more varied material as it is mostly supplied as an electronic publication. Each of the four issues of 2014 included an article on child

rights under the adopted slogan ‘Child Rights—For All Our Children—NOW!’ Regular features now also include a section for committee reports and a section on current published research.

-The ISPA Website has become more interactive. Membership registration and renewal is regularly carried out online. The Website regularly features news items, as had been agreed, about every two weeks. More interactive facilities for committees will be provided when the necessary funding is available.

-The ISPA Facebook group has become more interactive and has now over 600 members through the efforts of Priscilla Kucer and Daniel Borg.

-We have continued to improve our efficient communication with and through the Central Office. All the thousands of emails yearly are answered promptly, often within hours, and at maximum within three working days.

2. Our Conferences have continued to serve as a promotion of our mission and connection to school psychology in different regions while also raising funds for ISPA’s operations.

-The 36th ISPA Conference in Lithuania with the theme “Children’s Rights and Needs: Challenges to School, Family, and Society”, successfully celebrated one of our main goals over the past year – the promotion of child rights as part of the 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on Child Rights through the successful Lithuania Conference 2014 with Child rights theme.

-Total registration for the Lithuania conference was 284 and both the scientific and social programmes were evaluated positively.

-This year we are organising our first joint conference of ISPA’s 37th annual Conference together with that of the local association of Brazil – ABRAPEE biennial XII

Congress. Though challenging, this too can be regarded as a success for both ISPA and ABRAPEE particularly in terms of collaboration across organisations.

-We have carried out an electronic survey among members about conferences: as a result we have already reduced the conference duration to an evening opening and three full days to make it more accessible and are planning to choose venues that will be attractive to more delegates from across the world.

3. We have consolidated our administrative structure.

-We have strengthened our collective decision making in the Executive Committee with regular - four yearly - skype meetings, plus face-to-face meetings on pre- and post-ISPA Conference days and during the US NASP Convention. EC members also have distributed task responsibilities for various specific tasks and liaison roles with the ISPA standing committees, committees and interest groups.

-We have established regular monthly monitoring of our membership over the past one and a half years and, through Shane’s initiative, we have succeeded in improving our membership month by month to exceed the 500 member goal in December 2014.

-We have a reliable structure for monitoring of our membership and other activities, bookkeeping and regular auditing of our accounts through the use of a professional Central Office which is physically based in the Netherlands but operates mostly through internet communications. We are trying to make it more affordable for our relatively low resourced organisation by seeking to expand our membership and tapping other funding resources.

-We have now firmly established our free tax status in California, US – at some cost as we had to make up for past inconsistent

accounts, which will also eventually enable particularly US citizens to donate tax free contributions to ISPA.

-All the above, plus our continuing initial investment in our new IJSEP journal have been a challenge to our budgets. We are trying to ensure a stable future by working on a reduced deficit balance on our journal which we expect to become a source of income in due time, on ensuring more financially successful future conferences, possible income from training courses (ESPCT had previously been an important source), and on sponsorship support (that has so far been best achieved through Shane's capital campaign whereby the collection of \$5000 voluntary contributions to ISPA by our members by the end of June 2015 will get a promised match of another \$5000 from an anonymous donor) – we continue to seek also possible contributions from our friends through their wills. We have also reduced our expenses on auditing and maintenance of tax free registration in California through longer term agreements with administrators.

4. We have continued to pursue our mission through specific international activities.

-One of our most important activities over the past few years has been the establishment of the ISPA International Accreditation of School Psychology programs led by Peter Farrell. Over the past year, on the basis the experience gained and further reflection, the accreditation materials have been revised (they are available on the ISPA website www.ispaweb.org/accreditation). Informal requests have been received for information about accreditation from two school psychology programs, one in Europe and one in the USA which are expected to take place during 2015/6. Meanwhile, the first programme accredited four years ago has inquired on the procedure for reaccreditation.

-ISPA's representative in UNESCO continued to function as secretary to UNESCO NGO Education for All group which is promoting the evaluation of EFA 2015 and the launch of Education 2030.

-We have actively strengthened our links with regional associations, particularly NASP in the US and NEPES in Europe.

5. Elections and Transition year

-This is a year of transition of EC roles: Shane Jimerson takes on the Presidency and Paul Bartolo becomes Past President; we have a new President Elect – Bonnie Nastasi - and Jürg Forster has completed his six years of presidential roles on the EC. Janet Muscutt and Michael Sheehan have been unanimously confirmed as Secretary and Treasurer.

**Deadline for the December, 2015 Edition
of World*Go*Round:**

November 15, 2015

Julia Coyne, jhcoyne@mac.com

Submit Early and Often!

**ISPA 2016 Conference in
Amsterdam,
The Netherlands!
July 20-23, 2016**



ISPA General Assemblies

I & II

*Janet Muscutt, ISPA
Secretary*

37th Annual Conference, São Paulo, Brazil.

The first General Assembly was held on Thursday, 25th June, 2015, 6.00-7.30 p.m. Forty six members were in attendance. The President, Paul Bartolo, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending after a full and exciting day at the Conference.



(Photo courtesy of Jürg Forster)

Item 1:

Paul presented the **ISPA Annual Report for 2014-2015**. The Report focused on a number of key areas including the revision of the Mission Statement, the progress of the Journal; the changes to the WGR to a mainly e-mailed document, and the vibrancy of the Website

with news items posted every 2 weeks, or even more frequently.

Paul reflected on the impact of the 2014 Conference in Lithuania and the positive feedback that has been received, especially in relation to the focus on 'Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of Children's Rights'. Referring to our current conference Paul commented on the new experience for ISPA of 2 types of conferences coming together and that this is a development following from Dinan in 2001 when we had 2 conferences running together.

Paul then outlined the work of the EC and the developments at Central Office and the positive feedback given concerning the efficiency of the quick response network to emails. Paul praised the work of the ISPA membership including the work of the Committees and its impact, drawing attention to ISPA's NGO representation at UNESCO, where Jean-Claude is the Secretary of Education. Paul commented that with more funds we could also attend NATO in New York and that with the good news of our Membership increase we still need to improve our budgets, particularly during this period of 'investment to save' in terms of establishing our own Journal and moving office from the US to Amsterdam whilst maintaining our Registration facility in the US which is now in California.

Paul concluded by discussing the ISPA International Accreditation, which with the clear guidance of Peter Farrell is now in its 5th Year. Nebraska, which was our first, is now up for renewal. Two programmes outside of the US have requested to go through the Accreditation process in the coming academic year. He warmly welcomed Shane to the Presidency.

Item 2:

Leadership Workshop Report by the President-Elect, Shane Jimerson. Shane thanked everyone for travelling so far, their

support of ISPA, and for attending such a late meeting. Whilst the Agenda of the Leadership workshop was displayed, Shane extended a welcome for more people to attend Leadership next year. Shane reported on the progress of the Capital Campaign and welcomed all to contribute to reach the \$5,000 target before the end of the Conference. Shane highlighted the areas of Membership; Contributions and Resources.

Using a map to show where in the World ISPA members are, a number of interesting facts were noted; for example, 75% are from 6 countries, which are The United States, The Netherlands, Germany, Cyprus, The United Kingdom and Canada.

Shane then introduced The Plus 1 campaign. This is a request for ISPA members to introduce 1 more person each with the added extra that if they sign up for 2016 in 2015 they get the remaining 2015 subscription free! Also, Shane discussed the importance of encouraging more students to join ISPA, as, from October 2015 free Membership would be available for 2016.

Item 3: Results of the EC elections which were held in January/February 2015 and overseen by Past President Jürg Forster.

Jürg announced that Michael Sheehan (current Treasurer) and Janet Muscutt (current secretary) were re-elected for a second term of office and that Bonnie Nastasi was elected to be President Elect. Jürg commented on the changes in the voting system and that this year everyone was willing to vote electronically.

Item 4: Paul Bartolo officially confirmed the amendments to the ISPA Mission Statement

Paul commented that the whole membership had been involved and 'The Mission Statement' was electronically confirmed. Paul drew attention in particular to the final

amendments which were Point 4 - Standards offering Accreditation as support, and Point 9 - Specifically introducing the word 'inclusion'

Item 5: The Financial Report for 2014/15 and proposed budget for 2016 by the Treasurer, Michael Sheehan.

Michael opened with a greeting in Brazilian Portuguese. He went on to present the complex financial news in an informative and engaging manner, stressing the ongoing need for a 'prudent approach' to financial management.

No donations had been received this year, but this had been balanced by contributions to the capital campaign and raising funds from the Pre-conference Workshops.

A major issue during the past year was the Exchange Rate problems due to the deterioration of the Euro against the Dollar. Michael offered the detailed Financial Report to the Membership for examination.

When displaying the Spreadsheets, Michael drew the Members attention to a number of the following 2 factors/issues: 1.) In terms of the 2014 expenditure, the mismatch resulted mainly from the projected income from the Kaunas Conference including the fees charged by the previous auditors Steinberg. 2) With an overall Deficit for 2015 of \$40k, Michael explained how this resulted in the need to propose a neutral budget and significant changes to reduce the deficit including a change of Auditors and fixed agreements of demands, reduction in allocations to EC and Committees, significant reduction of CCF for this current year reflecting the true figure of the funds raised last year for CCF. As most of our income is from our Conferences, in order to balance the books, Michael also pointed out that we would require an annual net profit of \$27K or we would have to increase the Membership fees by \$100.

A very lively debate followed with many questions and suggestions from the Membership with the agreed outcome that Michael would present the suggestions from GA I in budget presentation in GA II so they could be put to a vote.

A Motion was put forward by Bill Pfohl and Seconded by Terry Bowles: To look at the Membership dues and raise this sum by a figure of up to 10%. Also the readjustment of the levels so as not to discourage anyone from becoming a Member.

Item 6: Cal Catterall Fund candidates came forward to formally receive their awards.

The candidates were: Carmelita Jacobs - South Africa; Laura Cornell - Tulane US; Pricilla Jones - US; Sofia Mendes - Portugal.



Recipients of the Cal Catterall Fund with Janet Muscutt (Photo courtesy Bill Pfohl)

As the meeting drew to a close the formal Presidential Handover took place with the Welcome to Shane and Bonnie and farewell to Jürg. A plaque was presented to Jürg who responded with an inspiring thank you to the Membership for an exciting 6 years, during which he had learned a lot, met new people, made new friends, overcome many problems - if not all! He enjoyed so many successful conferences and reaching out to so many countries.

Paul then closed the meeting by thanking the EC and everyone who works on behalf on ISPA and developing Psychology across the world.



Jürg receiving his plaque (Photo courtesy of Bill Pfohl)

The second General Assembly took place on Friday, 26th June, 2015, 6.00-7.30 p.m.

The meeting opened with 49 members present and 2 further members attending just before and just after the voting. An opening statement was made by the new President, Shane Jimerson, who opened the meeting with thanks to all and the affirmation that:

“we are all in this together and will all work together to enable ISPA to thrive.”

As the incoming President, Shane expressed his commitments to ongoing communication and increasing ISPA membership, resources and commitments for the benefit of children throughout the world. He also asked us to join him in a ‘visualisation’ to:

“Imagine all the wonderful things that will never happen if you do not do them”

Shane’s second act as President, supported by Michael Sheehan, was to lead us all in a Tribute to Tom Oakland, wherein he highlighted some of Tom’s many contributions to ISPA and so many other fields having lived in all 5 continents and worked in more than 40 countries.

Reports from Members were then presented starting with Beth Doll as Associate Editor of IJSEP Journal

Beth reported that the Journal was now in its 3rd year and receiving excellent academic articles as Rik D'Amato has done a wonderful job in getting the Journal off the ground and established. Beth reported that she is currently in the process of reviewing for the Journal and would welcome members to contact her.

Beth's report was followed by Jürg about the status of WGR, speaking on behalf of Julia Coyne who had a lovely baby girl in March. Jürg discussed the changes since WGR became available on line and that currently all members are sent an electronic version including 17 members who have requested to continue with a paper copy sent by post. This year 3 issues were edited by Julia and 1 by Paul and Jürg when Julia had her baby.



Jürg invited the membership to send suggestions for improvements and stressed that we welcome new ideas especially for new sections to go alongside the strong research section and excellent reports and articles from the Committee Chairs.

This part of the meeting was concluded by Sue Lijkwan who presented a Report on Central Office covering the many tasks CO undertakes on behalf of ISPA and informing us that Members are currently from 50 different countries.

The next part of the meeting was the Budget for 2016 being put to the vote by Michael Sheehan. Michael proposed a budget of \$61,275 as a neutral budget. On behalf of the Membership, Bill Pfohl proposed this motion

and Frank Worrell seconded it with the following outcome: 48 members agreed; 2 opposed; Nil abstentions. Therefore, the proposed budget was accepted by the Membership.

Michael then proposed a fee re-structure which had been suggested by the membership in GA I. This was proposed by Terence Edwards and seconded by Sally Bass and put to the vote with the result: 49 agreed; 1 opposed and no-one abstained. Consequently, the changes to the fee structure were accepted.

A number of representatives from our National Affiliates presented reports :

Willy van Halem, who presented a report on ESPECT and EuroCom, with additional greetings from Bernhard Meissner. Since Comenius has changed to Erasmus, training programmes have taken place in Germany, Belgium and Bavaria. It was celebrated that since 2002 more than 500 School and Educational Psychologists have been training in critical support but that the changes in funding have had an impact and a decision as to whether or not to continue will take place in March 2017 at the Conference in Germany. Willy concluded by stressing to the Membership that 'All are invited'.

Vitor Coelho, as the new President, provided an overview of the current work of NEPES which included: creating a new website www.nepes.eu; creating a book on Inclusion; conducting an International questionnaire on Competencies expected in School Psychologists and 'renovating' an offer concerning training.

Chairs of Committes then also took the opportunity to update the membership. These included Terry Bowles who reported on the progress of the SEL group which was just

established 2 years ago. Amanda Clinton leading on Programmes and Practice Development stressed that new members are welcome.

Peter Farrell sent a report on the work of the Accreditations Committee and this was presented on his behalf by Shane.

Priscilla Jones presented on behalf of herself and Daniel Borg on the activities of Students and Early Career Psychologists. She encouraged people to find about ISPA and its benefits by getting a taste of WGR, and noted that when WGR is searched in Google, the WGR indeed pops up, but only old editions – so, the overall benefit of membership is in getting the latest news! Priscilla also reported that Facebook is very active with wide discussions ranging from exchanging ideas on Graduate programmes to good hotels!

Bonnie Nastasi presented on behalf of the Professional Development and Practices Committee. Currently they are looking for a new chairperson. They have worked very successfully with the Child Advocacy Committee on Children’s Rights and are currently developing a manual on Children’s Rights for training programmes including the development of on-line training which can be accessed via Tulane University.

Sally Baas as the New Membership chairperson discussed focusing on the Plus 1 campaign and positive reward ideas such as a badge in email when a member recruits their Plus 1.

The formation of a new Interest Group was proposed by Julene Nolan, focusing on Multi-cultural competencies. She agreed to write an article promoting this in this and future editions of WGR.

This section of the meeting was drawn to a close by Bonnie by thanking all the committee

chairpersons and asking for everyone to think of getting involved in the committees.

Shane, as the new President then invited issues from the floor. This is an opportunity for any ISPA member to raise ideas or issues from the membership. The first was a good news item when the membership had raised the difference to reach the \$5000 matched funding pledge and so ensured \$10,000 for ISPA funds.

Further discussions took place around Fellowships and Patrons, and an offer was made that that if anyone wants to develop an interest/development activity in their country they can use ISPA logo for share of profits. Sally also shared ideas forwarded from Interaction Groups.

The meeting concluded with Awards and recognitions. This year, 3 members were honoured as follows:

Presentation of the ISPA Distinguished Services Award to Bill Pfohl, Presentation of the ISPA Outstanding International Scholar Award to Shui-fong Lam and Presentation of the ISPA Award for Outstanding International School Psychology Practice to Erika Voigt.

ISPA Distinguished Services Award 2015 presented to Dr. William Pfohl



(Photo courtesy of Bill Pfohl)

The ISPA Distinguished Services Award 2015 was awarded to Dr. William (‘Bill’) Pfohl, who has served the International School

Psychology Association for years with his many skills and capacities as a specialist in Crisis Management, as a respected scholar, and above all, as a true Leader of the Association. Bill served as President Elect, President and Past President from 2007 to 2013. He was a leader and a President with a clear vision, with a strategic plan and with a true sense for the importance of collaboration. Teamwork has always been more important to Bill than individual contributions, and so it was only natural for him to involve all members of the Executive Committee in discussions and decisions that were thoughtful, mindful and well supported by the membership. Bill is a splendid networker with precious contacts to many colleagues in the United States as well as all over the world. He supported the organisation of ISPA Conferences in the Netherlands, Malta, Ireland, India, Canada and Portugal. Bill contributed his expertise to the revision of the ISPA Code of Ethics that was finalised under his leadership and adopted by the General Assembly in Vellore, India.

He also contributed to the continuing developments in school psychology in India through post-conference seminars in the following year. Bill has been one of the regular contributors to the course of training on Crisis Management in Schools run by the European training centre, and he was also instrumental in supporting the school psychologists in Japan after the tsunami and the nuclear disaster of March 2011 to implement crisis management action. He has also actively participated in the implementation of the ISPA accreditation programme which also took off under his presidency.

Bill also successfully planned and implemented a new Corporate Design of ISPA, as well as the registration of the new ISPA logo as a trademark. Bill's greatest legacy to ISPA was his drive for the launching of the new ISPA journal, *The International Journal of School & Educational Psychology (IJSEP)*, which launched successfully in 2013 through his advice and organisational efforts.

After leaving the ISPA EC, Bill continued to take care of the development of IJSEP and also contributed to the new initiative of the Executive Committee to offer pre-conference workshops at ISPA conferences that would promote ISPA's mission in offering officially recognised CPD as well as being a source of financial support to ISPA. Bill Pfohl has rendered invaluable services to the International School Psychology community, and truly deserves the ISPA Distinguished Services Award 2015.

ISPA Outstanding International Scholar Awarded to Dr. Shui-Fong Lam



The Executive Committee is delighted to present Dr. Shui-Fong Lam with the ISPA Outstanding Scholar Award. Dr. Lam has been the director of the educational psychology training program at the University of Hong Kong for several years. Throughout this period she has maintained an impressive record of research and scholarship with over 23 publications in the last four years.

During this period she has directed a major international research project on school engagement, coordinating the work of ISPA members in 12 different countries. This is the first international study of student engagement, which has led to the development of a valid and reliable scale to measure school engagement among young people in different countries. Additional research has also advanced knowledge and understanding of the complex interconnected variables that explain different levels of school engagement among diverse populations.

Dr. Lam's leadership in managing this complex international research project has been outstanding during the past decade. Dr. Lam has maintained communications with ISPA scholars from the 12 countries and she has taken the lead in preparing publications. To date 3 articles have been published in high ranking academic journals and Dr. Lam has also presented several papers at international conferences, not least the ISPA conference in Montreal in 2012 where her key-note presentation was extremely well received. At this presentation she demonstrated her enviable talent for presenting quite complex statistical information so that it could be easily understood by all the delegates. It is with great honor that ISPA presents her with the 2015 Outstanding Scholar Award.

The Outstanding International Psychology Practice Award to Dr. Erika Voigt



Janet Muscutt had the honour of introducing Erika Voigt's nomination with the opening statement :

"Renuka Selvaraj from India nominated Erika for this award, and Bonnie Nastasi supported the nomination. I am delighted to read Renuka's nomination as it encapsulates all we know about Erika's skill, kindness, understanding and passion to share outstanding psychological practice across the world."

Renuka Selvaraj's nomination:

"I feel privileged and honoured to be given the opportunity for writing the nomination of my Friend, Mentor, Philosopher and Guide, Dr. Erika Voigt of Germany, for the

ISPA award for Outstanding International School Psychology Practice.

Though I personally consider her as a member of my family, I would like to focus my nomination on the strong academic work she has done for our Country India.

I have known Dr. Erika Voigt since 2006 when she was here to attend the IAAP conference at NITTTR, Chennai. She was instrumental in connecting the conference participants with ISPA and school psychology during the conference. I had the opportunity to meet her along with my new born son (that year the picture of our family was splashed in the WGR along with a report of the IAAP Conference by her). What a great way to be introduced to ISPA!

And in 2008, again I met her in the IAAP Conference at Kolkata, along with Dr. Katarina from Germany and Dr. Zoran Pavlovic from Slovenia. Erika enriched our ideas about School Psychology and the role of ISPA in promoting the wellbeing of children around the globe. She came all the way to Chennai to address a group of International participants of the Women Empowerment Programme and spoke to them on the need for psychological services to girls in developing and under-developed nations.

In all these interactions, she has been a motivating factor towards an idea of developing the discipline in India and also hosting the ISPA Conference in India. With financial support from ISPA and with her support I attended the ISPA conference at Malta, which paved the way for the conduct of the ISPA Conference in 2011 in India. With the support of Dr. Erika, myself and Dr. Ramalingam, we were able to convince the ISPA Executive into thinking on awarding the conference to India.

After the Malta conference, Erika visited India to help us finalise arrangements and academic initiatives for the conference. In the year 2010, again with her support our team came to Ireland and with Erika's support and

guidance we did the promotion for the conference.

All through this, Erika was working tirelessly so that the children in India should be benefited. During her visits to India, she visited many schools and special education centres and unstintingly offered her expertise. Along with Dr. Paul Bartolo, Erika was instrumental in conducting the first ever workshop on “Needs Analysis of Psychological Services in Schools” sponsored by Kare, a special education institution to which Dr. Erika continues to support to this day. This initial workshop paved the way for ongoing training initiatives.

Since 2008, Erika has visited India every year and led the training for the participants of the Women Empowerment programme in School Psychology. Her lectures and her approach to the course is always well received by the trainees and as a consequence of her leadership she is a person known to women’s empowerment groups in almost all countries of the world.

She was responsible for motivating the University of Madras (one of the oldest institutions in the country) to start its first ever M.Phil (School Psychology) programme. She along with Dr. Paul provided curricular support. Due to her continuing presence in our country, many young psychologists have associated with her to work in areas of School Psychology.

IAAP honoured Dr. Erika by awarding her a fellowship in the year 2009. She was also instrumental in bringing out the Golden Book of ISPA. She spent several hours on the computer finalising the minute details of how the book should be, in association with Dr. Ramalingam and Dr. Peter Whelley.

She has inspired many people to attend ISPA and she has volunteered to help academics to attend ISPA Conferences, with one objective of Promoting School Psychology so that children all over the world will have a better life. She is a role model for academics

like me to work selflessly. Wholeheartedly, I nominate Dr. Erika Voigt for the award.”

Erika’s Response:

“I thank you for the honour to be nominated for the ‘Outstanding ISPA School Psychology Practice Award’! Thanks for your attention and recognition! I am grateful to belong to our group of dedicated ISPA professionals, in which each of you EC members is an outstanding model of engagement!

I appreciate Cal Catteral’s introduction in his Foreword to ‘Psychology in Schools - an International Perspective’ (1976):

“It will take a world of understanding to help psychology to make its rightful contribution to the educational problems of the world’s schools.”

He continues to describe the necessity of practising school psychology and training all over the world:

“to avoid “the trap of thinking, that the way of doing something is the only way to do it”, to look “how others work and solve these same problems” and to realise “that many of the problems that we face are either caused or sorely aggravated by the way we put society and our schools together.”

ISPA’s multifarious and co-operative approach has created an impressive development of our profession during the 40 years since. I thankfully appreciate that I could participate and contribute to this learning experience and gift of growing mutual understanding by living and working with our colleagues abroad.

Tomorrow you will meet at the ISPA Conference in São Paulo. My thoughts and best wishes for a professionally and personally good meeting are with you! I will miss the refreshing ISPA atmosphere; I will miss meeting you,

dear friends and colleagues. I would have liked very much to enjoy your company as the years before, but I know that it is wise to resist this year, respect limits of capacity and physiology.

My heartfelt greetings and kind regards,
Erika Voigt (From my desk at home)



Review of Financial Developments since Kaunas Conference

*Michael Sheehan,
ISPA Treasurer*

The incredible skyline of the largest metropolis in the Southern Hemisphere contrasted with the sylvan tranquil surroundings of Mackenzie University for our Conference this year in São Paulo, Brazil. I first reviewed significant financial developments since the previous Conference. The US Internal Revenue Service's Publication 78 computer data base reconfirms that the International School Psychology Association, Inc. is a qualified charitable organization in good standing and eligible to receive tax deductible contributions. We have also complied with all the California reporting requirements for a California tax exempt organization and are accordingly listed in the Californian Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts. The Association thus has tax-exempt status in California and this is important for intending US contributors who may wish to donate gifts or bequests to ISPA. Other encouraging developments over the past year include the ongoing success of the Capital Campaign and increased revenue due to a rise in membership dues and journal subscriptions. On the negative side, our financial status has

been adversely affected by the continuing deterioration in the value of the Euro v. the US Dollar.

The money previously deposited in low-yielding CHASE deposit accounts was reinvested in a CHASE Investment Profile with moderate risk by the Financial Task Force as agreed at the General Assembly last year. The value of this Portfolio on December 31, 2014 was \$62,033.

Financial Report for 2014

The 2014 Report was then presented with the accompanying Income and Expenditure slides:



Income US\$

	Actual 2013	Approved 2014	Actual 2014	Approved 2015	Emerging 2015	Proposed 2016
Member'p	26,512	25,000	26,451	27,785	27,785	31,285
Conference	43,739	17,000	12,850	20,000		17,672
Journal	5,316	6,000	5,816	5,400	5,400	5,900
CCF	2,405	1,500	1,059	2,500	1,500	1,000
Cap. Camp.			2,564	1,000	2,000	1,900
Accredit.	987	1,000	504	1,000	500	500
Workshops				500	500	1,500
Bank Int. etc	150			1,000	1,000	1,000
Funds	574	1,100	455	500	500	500
Total	\$ 79,683	\$51,600	\$49,699	\$59,685	\$39,185	\$61,257

The projected income for the year was close enough to target. In particular, the Conference income of \$12,850 from the Lithuanian LOC was most welcome and we expressed our appreciation to Rasa Markšaitytė, Convenor, and her hardworking team for all their successful endeavours. It was also encouraging to note the ongoing support of members for the Capital Campaign. The target figure of \$5,000 was in fact exceeded during the Conference.

There was a major increase on the expenditure side, however, and the slide below demonstrates that we had an operational deficit for the year amounting to \$33,381.

This contrasts with a budgeted deficit of \$12,800. I mentioned last year that the deficit of \$12,800 could be significantly exceeded because of a number of emerging factors including the unexpected expense in rationalising our US tax exempt status. In the event we made a payment of \$15,070 to the US Auditors Steinberg Associates in respect of this work and incurred other unscheduled expenses under the heading of 'Bank Charges' amounting to \$5,619. This latter sum is comprised of a bookkeeping adjustment of \$2,830 to account for the ongoing deterioration in the value of the Euro against the US\$ and a further sum of \$2,789 in respect of PayPal/Buckaroo payments made to our ABN AMRO Account. All ISPA assets and transactions are reckoned in terms of US\$ and consequently our EURO assets are now worth less in dollar values. The Euro deteriorated c. 12% in terms of the dollar value in 2014. Unfortunately, the financial institutions are predicting a further deterioration of c. 11.5% during 2015. Hopefully, the exchange rate will stabilise thereafter. The Annual Report for 2014 prepared by our auditors, Kok Accountants, was available for consultation at the meeting.

Balance of Bank Assets

The total net worth of our Bank Assets amounted to \$126,350 on December 2013, a decrease of \$7,681 on the previous year, as shown on the slide below.

ISPA Balance of Bank Assets in \$

	Dec 31 2013	Dec 31 2014	May 31 2015
CHASE Business Account ...0867	\$17,862	\$17,864	\$7,869
CHASE Business Classic ...5677	\$51,434	\$18,260	\$16,374
Total CHASE	\$69,296	\$36,124	\$24,243
European Accounts in USD	\$2,834	\$28,525	\$24,599
Total	\$72,130	\$64,649	\$48,842
CHASE Investment Portfolio	\$61,901	\$61,701	\$62,033
Kaunas Profit to be added			
Total Bank Assets	\$134,031	\$ 126,350	\$ 110,875



Expenditure US\$

	Actual 2013	Approved 2014	Actual 2014	Approved 2015	Emerging 2015	Proposed 2016
C. O.	26,646	29,000	27,439	26,656	26,656	27,828
Journal	20,000	13,000	20,021	20,000	20,000	15,000
CCF	6,309	10,000	3,228	10,000	10,325	1,000
Auditor	8,575	6,000	19,128	8,000	5,000	5,000
Web	1,581	400	425	3,000	2,500	3,000
ISPA Rep.	2,007	3,000	3,226	3,000	3,000	2,000
Committees	582	3,000	823	3,000	3,000	2,303
Promotion	1,726		1,963	2,479	2,479	2,076
Publs/Postage	1,516		1,208	400	400	400
Bank Charges	1,235		5,619	1,150	5,500	2,650
Total	\$70,177	\$64,400	\$83,080	\$77,685	\$78,860	\$61,257

I pointed out that our underlying financial situation was not yet fully reflected in these figures and on present indications we can expect a further decrease in the value of our Bank Assets in the current year.

Financial Overview

It is clear that corrective action needs to be taken to restore the financial stability of ISPA. I estimate that a Conference net profit of c. \$27,000 would be required to sustain the current rate of expenditure. The deficit would otherwise need to be met through increasing the membership dues by \$100 per member! This latter measure is not of course being proposed but the meeting authorised me to present a proposed increased schedule of dues at General Assembly II.



Expenditure US\$

	Actual 2013	Appr'd 2014	Actual 2014	Appr'd 2015	Em'ing 2015	Proposed 2016
C. O.	26,646	29,000	27,439	26,656	26,656	27,828
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Public./Postage	1,516		1,208	400	400	400
Bank Charges	1,235		5,619	1,150	5,500	2,650
Total	\$70,177	\$64,400	\$83,080	\$77,685	\$78,860	\$61,257

The Brazil Conference was not well supported in terms of international participation. I advised the meeting that it was prudent to envisage a nil profit at that stage. This of course represents a further impending deterioration in our financial position as we had budgeted on the basis of an expected profit of \$20,000. As I write we are hopeful that we may in fact achieve a modest profit, but the position will not be clear until later in the year.

The identification of conference sites that are well supported by members and thus yield significant profits is now vital for the future viability of the Association. We look forward to a promising start on this road in Amsterdam in 2016.

Proposed Budget for 2016

In view of the above considerations the EC agreed that I should propose a neutral budget for 2016.



Operational Balance in \$

	Actual 2013	Appr'd 2014	Actual 2014	Appr'd 2015	Em'ing 2015	Proposed 2016
INC	79,683	51,600	49,699	59,685	39,185	61,257
EXP	70,176	64,400	83,080	77,685	78,860	61,257
BAL	9,507	-12,800	-33,381	-18,000	-39,675	

While anticipating that with a successful Conference in Amsterdam we will realise the projected the income, significant changes are necessary on the Expenditure side. We are continuing to carefully monitor all expenditure items to see where savings can be achieved. From 2016 the agreed annual start up payment of \$5,000 to Taylor and Francis for the IJSEP production costs will cease. We have already negotiated a reduction in the combined auditor fees of Kok Accountants and Steinberg Associates for 2015 and this will continue in 2016. Reductions in the expenses allocated for ISPA EC and Committees Representation were also proposed.



Income US\$

	Actual 2013	Appr'd 2014	Actual 2014	Appr'd 2015	Em'ing 2015	Proposed 2016
Member'p	26,512	25,000	26,451	27,785	27,785	31,285
Conference	43,739	17,000	12,850	20,000		17,672
Journal	5,316	6,000	5,816	5,400	5,400	5,900
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Accredit.	987	1,000	504	1,000	500	500
Workshops				500	500	1,500
Bank Int. etc	150			1,000	1,000	1,000
Funds	574	1,100	455	500	500	500
Total	\$ 79,683	\$51,600	\$49,699	\$59,685	\$39,185	\$61,257

Despite the aforementioned reductions it was also necessary to propose a major reduction in the CCF budget to achieve a balanced budget. This figure now stands at \$1,000, which is also the projected total of contributions to the CCF Fund from donations at membership renewal and collections at the ISPA and NASP Conferences. It is proposed to only spend the revenue raised for the Fund until our financial position improves when the position will of course be reviewed.

The budget was passed by 48 to 2 with no abstentions at General Assembly 11. I also presented a proposed new schedule of membership dues as authorised at General Assembly 1. This was approved by 49 to 1 with no abstentions. The new schedule of fees incorporates increases of approximately 10% for 2016. I will report further on this in the next issue of WGR and will of course keep you updated on financial matters throughout the year.

Save the Dates!
ISPA 2016 Conference
Amsterdam,
The Netherlands
July 20-23, 2016



ISPA Executive Committee Report

*Janet Muscutt, ISPA
Secretary*

ISPA 365: Thinking about ISPA everyday all around the world.



ISPA Executive Committee (Photo courtesy Bill Pfohl)

The Executive Committee meets at regular intervals throughout the year, besides being in touch via regular emails. Most meetings are by Skype but with each Conference the Committee spend 2 full days in meetings pre Conference and 1 full day after. This allows the Committee to review, evaluate and plan.

This year the Committee met together in person in the exciting and dynamic city of São Paulo. We then had the pleasure of joining with fellow ISPA members, Conference presenters, Members of APRAPEE and Brazilian Psychologists and students. During the time phase July 2014 to June 2015 the EC have discussed the many issues related to running an International association. Standing items for discussion by the EC at each meeting are: Members and members' issues, finances, the Journal, World-Go-Round, the Website and

networking, Central Office and Conference. Issues following each EC meeting are shared with the membership through the WGR, the website, mailshots and the Annual General Assemblies I and II.

Members and members' issues: Tom Oakland Memorial:

Following the devastating news about Tom's death, the EC have looked at ways to honour Tom's memory. This has included the special WGR edition and the series of arrangements at the Conference which included Time to think of Tom in the Leadership workshop; one minute of silence led by Paul at the Opening Ceremony. Also, a Memorial Image poster and book of remembrance and cards at the ISPA reception table and the LOC's Brazil celebration of his life and work, which was part of a standing display throughout the Conference.

At the meeting after the Conference the EC agreed to create a lasting Memorial to Tom and as sadly Tom left us in the year he was the ISPA Outstanding International Scholar it was agreed that the Award would be re-named: *The Tom Oakland ISPA Outstanding Scholar Award* in his honour.



Tom receiving his award from Paul Bartolo in 2014

Support for our Brazilian Colleagues:

After the Conference, following a request from Brazilian colleagues, a formal letter was sent by the EC to support a very important piece of legislation which will improve Psychological Services in Brazil.



Increasing the opportunities for the engagement of ISPA members has included discussions to review Committees, role and scope with the introduction of a new Committee to be responsible for Awards & Recognitions. The quality of the articles in the WGR from the Committee Chairpersons was praised and is proving to be a popular new feature.

The Journal, ISJEP, is going from strength to strength. Following a meeting with Taylor and Francis at the NASP Conference in Orlando in February the situation was made very clear with publishers about their responsibility to publish on time and that the Membership need to receive their copies promptly. Since then all additions have been on time. Rik D'Amato has been, and continues to be an excellent editor but as his term of office will end in the near future the EC will need to start advertising for new editor next year.

With the Website, networking and additional communications occurring as frequently as 2-3 times a month and the World-Go-Round becoming an on-line document, many opportunities have been identified and the EC anticipates changes to the WGR in terms of the style and content in the coming year. Building on suggestions from the Membership changes could include: an easier to read 'on-screen' format, increasing the number of pictures introducing new sections, such as 'Fact sheets' on hot topics as downloads and reviewing Students' posters as short research articles.

Each year, working in partnership with the Conference LOC, and feedback from the Membership ideas to improve the Conference experience for the Membership are discussed. This year the issues of re-introducing a

Conference Coordinator, different ways of managing the pre-conference workshops and possible changes to the organisation of the Interaction Groups to also provide opportunities for Committees to meet as part of the interaction process have been discussed. Equally ways of reducing costs are a constant topic of discussion and it was suggested that instead of the ISPA Reception, personal Thank You Cards will be given.

Throughout the forthcoming year the work of the EC will continue to focus on supporting, maintaining and developing ISPA and welcomes contact from the members on any issue but would particularly welcome their ideas on ISPA's current 3 themes: ISPA Membership, ISPA Contributions and ISPA Resources.

Creating Internet-based Services: Professional Frontiers in a Digital Age

*Sarit Alkalay and Emek Yezreel, Academic College and University of Haifa, Israel;
Avivit Dolev, private practice, Israel*

At the recent ISPA conference held in São Paulo Brazil, we conducted a workshop in collaboration with Prof. Bill Pfohl and Dr. Sharone Maital. The workshop focused on an important innovative topic which we have been deeply involved in over the past five years: ***"Creating Internet-based services: Professional frontiers in a digital age"***. This paper outlines our experiences in establishing and operating a public school psychology service website in Israel and the impressions and insights gained from the workshop.

In the 21st century, the Internet has become a common public space, particularly among the younger generation, though it is increasingly visited by adults as well. The

Internet offers easy access to up-to-date information, along with opportunities to bring people together and to overcome distance and time constraints (Gilat, 2013). In a similar and parallel fashion, the workshop brought together people from all over the world. We were curious about how psychologists from different countries and different cultures would relate to the issue of psychological services provided over the Internet, and we were thrilled to discover that the Internet is very relevant to the work of school psychologists around the world.

The increasing use of the web by adults, and especially by children, has led to a proliferation of online professional services, such as tele-medicine (including psychiatric services) provided through Internet-based platforms. School psychologists may be able to use these exciting platforms to enhance their efficiency and their accessibility to clients and to enrich the diversity of the services they offer. Such use is in accordance with Miller's notion that psychologists should "give psychology away" (1969), thus promoting children's well-being by reaching a wide audience that might benefit from the professional knowledge and experience. Indeed, one of the challenges faced by school psychologists in their everyday professional activity is the overwhelming volume of their tasks, thus limiting the availability of their services to many potential clients and restricting the possibilities for assisting a broad population of children, parents and educational staff. The Internet may offer school psychologists a new and creative platform for overcoming this reality. Nevertheless, many school psychologists continue to rely on well-established traditional methods using direct, face-to-face interactions. These professionals are often wary of expanding their work setting into the "new world" of technology—a world in which many professionals are relative newcomers who need to overcome concerns about change and acquire new skills. This attitude was distinctly

evident during the workshop. Many of the participants stated their conviction that the "world is heading towards Internet-based communication" and that "the children are already there and we need to be relevant to their world".

Alongside explicit statements, we also got the impression that the psychologists were concerned that part of their professional identity would be "dimmed" or even "lost" given the lack of the face-to-face interactions they were accustomed to. The discussions at this point in the workshop revealed that the participants perceived the Internet as being contrary to psychology and that the two "entities" could not be intertwined. The participants were under the impression that by immigrating to this "foreign country" of the Internet they might lose an important aspect of their professional identity, namely the warmth and experience of being "human" they apply during interactions with their clients. Additionally, the participants stated that they were apprehensive that the use of the Internet for psychological services might cause them to fail to notice important clues they usually rely on during their professional work, such as body language, tone of voice, facial expressions and the like. The participants expressed their concern that missing these clues would be detrimental to their ability to intervene effectively. These responses were familiar to us from our experience in Israel with our own website and from the workshops we conducted with local psychologists at various public school psychology services in Israel.

We were intrigued by these questions, which led us to contemplate why psychologists need and use such clues and what the Internet may have to offer in order to overcome the absence of these clues. Based on the experience we gained in closed Internet forums for children or parents that we initiated for emergency exercises, we learned that when a client posts a request for help, the written

message reveals the client's "genuine voice". We can evaluate the text using parameters such as the fonts, spaces and colors used by the individual in writing the post. For example, in the abovementioned forums, we came across questions from children clearly expressing distress, such as "what should I do if I am HOME ALONE, AND MOMMY DOESN'T ANSWER THE PHONE! Can you help me?"

In fact, we believe that communicating with our clients via the Internet may even offer an advantage, as it enables us to "meet" the client as soon as he/she writes to us, thus circumventing the process of reference from others (e.g., a parent or a teacher) which is sometimes tainted by various biases and conflicting interests. This is an excellent starting point for an intervention because the client is engaged in the therapeutic process and thus takes responsibility for resolving the troublesome situation. Another advantage we noticed was the ability to use "off-line" communication (e.g., e-mails) or even to delay our responses on the forums. This graceful delay of a response provides us with the opportunity to contemplate the best approach in order to help our clients and to consult with others when needed. Both psychologists and their clients can save and reread the history of the written correspondence, which may assist in exploring the difficulty presented. Patients report that therapy based upon e-mail provides them a more intensive experience of awareness and insights and is also beneficial in terms of enabling them to focus on and remember their precise message to the therapist (Chechele & Stofle, 2003).

Indeed, writing as a therapeutic technique is not a novelty. Freud used written correspondence with his patients that enabled him to overcome distance or physical limitations (Benjamin & Dixon, 1966). Thus Freud's use of the mail did not contradict his perception of the crucial elements of therapy. In effect, writing maintained Freud's therapeutic paradigm of "a clean slate"—a

neutral medium upon which the patient can transfer his inner emotional world. In line with this, Green (2005) referred to e-mails as "fulfilling Freud's' image of the therapeutic couch" (Green, 2005), namely by neutralizing body language, eye contact, subjective interpretations of intonation and intuitive gestures and thus maintaining the therapist's neutrality. Written correspondence with clients is also a well-established method in the narrative therapeutic approach (e.g., White & Epston, 1990).

Thus, in our opinion, writing via the Internet does not symbolize a "new world". In effect, using e-mail as a therapeutic channel is the most common form of Internet-based therapy (Green, 2005). Indeed, we believe this method is in fact an "old world" technique implemented on a new technological frontier. Given this assumption, we wanted to enable the participants to "cross the technological bridge" using an everyday commonly used device, namely e-mail. We presented them with fictitious e-mails from children, parents and teachers expressing various difficulties (e.g., a child writing about social difficulties with classmates, parents writing about their divorce and their child's reactions to it, a teacher writing about behavioral problems in her class). We were surprised to discover that this task was not as natural as answering private e-mails. The participants were perplexed and answering the e-mails raised concerns that the insufficient information presented in the e-mails would be misleading and that they could not offer a sufficiently good professional solution.

In our experience, psychologists can use e-mails as an opening position in an ongoing dialogue with the client rather than as a one-round question-answer session. This method may be especially applicable to school psychologists, given the diverse and sometimes frenzied nature of our work. Therapy is only one of the methods we use in the process of helping others, alongside short-term counseling. Children, parents and teachers

often ask us questions that lead us to providing a short and focused answer or a referral to some other professional (e.g., neurologist or speech therapist). The Internet can help us in this process by serving as a preventative measure in assisting others with relatively minor problems, thus increasing the efficacy of early intervention. The client needs an empathic professional who is tuned into his distress, a goal that can easily be achieved through a written response based upon our well-established professional expertise. We are in charge of the situation and can determine what is needed in the next exchange of communication. Thus we can ask for more information regarding the difficulty or advise a child to share his problem with his parents. We can always resort to face-to-face interaction, if needed.

Ethical and legal issues were discussed throughout the workshop. It is imperative that psychologists be well acquainted with the laws in their own countries regarding Internet-based psychological services. Communicating with children via the Internet is forbidden in some countries, whereas in others it is permitted provided that parents give written consent. When a child approaches us directly via e-mail, we have no way of knowing whether his or her parents are informed or if they approve. It is our professional duty to ask for the parents' written approval, just as we do in the case of face-to-face therapy with a minor. Moreover, if written correspondence with children is allowed by law, parents may demand to read the e-mails. This poses an ethical dilemma: Should we insist on confidentiality? Do written e-mails have the same status as the content of face-to-face meetings? If we reveal the e-mails, what will be the effect on the therapeutic alliance established with the child? In some countries we are compelled to reveal the content of e-mails if a parent asks for it. However, we still have a choice as to how to do

this, and in some cases this might even be integrated in the therapeutic process.

Finally, we wish to highlight the fact that the Internet poses a threat of exposing privileged information to unsanctioned parties. Thus, private psychologists, and especially public school psychology services, should take every precaution in order to protect the e-mails and other psychological documents, for example by periodically changing passwords, backing up stored information and clearly indicating their identity and professional status in order to avoid impersonation.

In conclusion, the workshop was a thrilling and intriguing experience for us. We feel that despite embracement of the Internet in our daily lives, many school psychologists are still hesitant and ambivalent regarding the professional possibilities it presents. We would love to hear from you and learn more about your views and experiences as school psychologists using the Internet. SURVEY - Internet and Psychology.

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Cal Catterall Awardee Thanks Committee

*Laura Cornell
Tulane University*

The Cal Catterall Award provided me with funding to attend the 2015 ISPA conference in São Paulo, Brazil. These funds allowed me to attend sessions with school psychologists from around the world to learn from their research and experience as practitioners. Perhaps even more influential was the opportunity to informally meet and talk with so many different people. Engaging in conversations with such a diverse group of professionals and hearing the challenges and triumphs of schools in Siberia, South Africa, and Brazil, to name a few, reminded me of the underlying purpose that unites all of our work: to support the development of children. My experience at the ISPA conference has given me a global perspective on the needs of children, and an expanded network of professionals to engage with and learn from in the years to come. I am extremely grateful to the Cal Catterall Committee for this opportunity and how it has influenced my vision of our work as school psychologists.

WILL the continued promotion of the psychological rights of children throughout the world.

Please remember the work of ISPA when making your Will. Just add the amount you wish to give ISPA to your **WILL** or **TRUST**.

It won't hasten your departure by a day!

Please contact ISPA Central Office,
Leidseplein 5, 1017 PR Amsterdam, The
Netherlands, for further information.

Multicultural Issues in School Psychology

Julene Nolan, Chair

One of the great opportunities presented by attending our annual conference is the chance to meet with professionals from all over the world who share similar interests and passions. It was during just such a discussion in São Paulo that a number of members expressed shared interest in developing a committee on multicultural issues in school psychology. This organic groundswell of interest resulted in a motion at the general assembly that the Executive Committee considers approving a new committee on multicultural issues in school psychology.

The vision of this committee is to provide membership with a community of like-minded professionals to share ideas, resources, information, research, and technical skills. In particular, this committee will provide a network to investigate common practices in facilitating multicultural competence in graduate students studying school psychology. Members will be able to share ideas, resources, and evidence-based practices used in their graduate program.

Additionally, this committee would provide a central location to disseminate information on international practicum and immersion experiences available to school psychology graduate students. This has been a common question posed by students to university faculty and on the ISPA Facebook page.

Another aim of this committee is to provide a community to those interested in cross-cultural research in the area of multicultural issues in school psychology. Members may find colleagues with whom to collaborate in a number of areas

including diversity, culturally sensitive assessment and intervention, the achievement gap, social justice and equality, academic and social development in the context of multiculturalism, etc. It is the goal of this committee to meet as a community at our annual conference, to prepare and present informative papers and workshops, and to keep our membership informed on the current status of multicultural issues in school psychology. This proposal has already been accepted by the EC and those interested in being members of this subcommittee can contact Julene directly on drjulenenolan@gmail.com.

The Society for the Study of School Psychology (SSSP) and the International School Psychology Association (ISPA) are seeking applications for the 2015 International School Psychology Research Initiative. This year's proposals are due by **November 1, 2015**. While residents of the United States are not eligible for this initiative, most SSSP members have one or more international colleagues who may be eligible. Please forward this request for applications to your international colleagues as appropriate. In the past three years, we have had 6-8 competitive applications for this award, and the hope is that we can match this record for the November 2015 applications.

Residents of the USA may not be Principal Investigators or Co-Investigators. Note that there is a clarification in this year's RFA: US Residents may be collaborators on a project; the identity of any U.S. collaborators will be masked before the applications are sent to the review committee for consideration. Follow the link for detailed instructions:

<http://www.ispaweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/International-awards-Guidelines-and-Instructions.pdf>

Contact Beth Doll with any questions or requests: bdoll2@unl.edu.

Memories of ISPA São Paulo



Frank Worrell Keynote (Photo courtesy ABRAPEE)



Shane opening exhibition (Photo courtesy ABRAPEE)



ECs of both ISPA & ABPRABEE (Photo courtesy ABRAPEE)



Closing Ceremony singing actors (Photo courtesy ABRAPEE)



ISPA Newsletter
WORLD*GO*ROUND

Julia H. Coyne, Editor
Montclair State University
Department of Psychology, 1 Normal Ave
Montclair, NJ 07043, USA
jhcoyne@mac.com

Mary Stafford, Consulting Editor
Janet Muscutt, Associate Editor

ISPA WEBMASTER

ispacentraloffice@ispaweb.org

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SCHOOL & EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY (IJSEP)

Rik Carl D'Amato, Editor
Chicago School of Professional Psychology
Department of School Psychology
325 N. Wells St.
Chicago, IL 60654
rdamato@thechicagoschool.edu
www.tandfonline.com/usep

ISPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Shane Jimerson
Gevirtz Graduate School of Education
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9490
jimerson@education.ucsb.edu

President Elect

Bonnie Nastasi
Department of Psychology, 2007 Percival Stern Hall
6400 Freret Street
Tulane University New Orleans, LA 70118
bnastasi@tulane.edu

Treasurer

Michael Sheehan
2 Annville, Western Road
Cork, Ireland
mfdsheehan@gmail.com

ISPA CENTRAL OFFICE

Leidseplein 5, 1017 PR Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Phone +31 20 623 36 77
Fax +31 20 625 59 79

ispacentraloffice@ispaweb.org
www.ispaweb.org
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Past President

Paul Bartolo
Faculty for Social Wellbeing
University of Malta
Msida MSD 2080, Malta
paul.a.bartolo@um.edu.mt

Secretary

Janet Muscutt
8 Thelwall New Road
Thelwall Warrington, Cheshire
WA4 2JF, UK
janet.muscutt@salford.gov.uk