

Letter from the
President

Jürg Forster, ISPA President,
Switzerland

Dear ISPA members and
colleagues,

It is an honour to send you this letter in my new function as President of ISPA. Our association has just held its 33rd Conference in Vellore, India, and those who attended will agree: it was a memorable event! This issue of World Go Round will give you an opportunity to look back on five inspiring days in a country where school psychology was almost non-existent two years ago. The Indian bid to run the ISPA Conference was part of the inspiration for the establishment of the Indian School Psychology Association (InSPA). Hopefully if you didn't have the chance to attend, this issue will give you an idea of what you missed - and inspire you to join us next summer in Montreal, Canada!

My presidency is motivated by my wish to contribute to ISPA's mission: the promotion of school psychology around the world. Our core goal in school psychology is to support the mental health and well-being of children and parents, teachers,

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Save the Date:
Montreal, Canada
9-13 July 2012
International School
Psychology Association
(ISPA) Conference



Montreal LOC Chair Suzette Goguen with
India LOC Organizing Secretary Renukadevi
Selvaraj, July 2011

Please plan to attend
and meet wonderful
colleagues from
around the world!

and administrators. How can we further promote and develop school psychology and learn from each other? It is this challenge that sparked my interest in ISPA some 15 years ago. I was also attracted to the ISPA "spirit" and have attended most of the conferences since then.

Let me briefly introduce myself. My name is Georg Forster, but everyone calls me Jürg (pronounced Yurg). I am employed by the municipality of Zurich, Switzerland, and work as Director of its School Psychology Services. Our 32 part-time working school psychologists serve the 26,000 school children of the town, their parents and schools. Switzerland is a multilingual and multiethnic country where school psychology is well established. The school systems in the country are changing rapidly and so is the role of the school psychologist. I will write more about this in future letters.

During my psychology studies at universities in Belgium and Switzerland, I became interested in collaborating with and learning from colleagues abroad. I benefited a lot from internships in Ireland and Germany, and worked in the clinical field before I became a school psychologist. I am an active member of the Swiss ISPA affiliate SKJP, the Association of Child and Youth Psychology, and have served on ethics boards in national and European psychology associations. Child rights and mental health are my main professional interests, as well as international networking. My wife Alexa and I are parents of 3 young men.

At the ISPA General Assembly II in Vellore, I outlined the goals I will pursue in the coming years. There are a few major challenges for ISPA. At present, 50 percent of our membership lives in North America, 25 percent in Europe and 25 percent in other parts of the world. This is not just due to the unequal distribution of school psychologists worldwide. There are regions such as Eastern Europe, Latin America and Asia where we have colleagues and where our association can play an important role in supporting the development of school psychology. The article on the Leadership Workshop in Vellore in this issue of WGR covers this topic.

Another challenge for ISPA is to find new ways to reach young psychologists who cannot afford to travel to our conferences. We will contribute to the Futures Update Online Conference of NASP that will be held in autumn 2012. Certainly we can learn from such experiences and find our own ways to

increase ISPA's visibility in regions of this world where we don't yet have members. Electronic communication has a potential that we can increasingly draw upon in the future.

A major change is due in the Executive Committee and the Central Office when our Executive Secretary Bob Clark steps down at the end of 2011. Also the Secretary's position held by Coosje Griffiths and Treasurer's position held by Peter Whelley will end in summer 2012. The transition of the ISPA Central Office is underway and will be communicated to the members in due time.

In times of change, continuity is crucial. It will be especially important to build on our strengths and maintain the positive traditions and "spirit" of ISPA. The conferences have been ISPA's main activity since the first Colloquium held in 1975 in Munich, Germany. Let us continue to use conferences for a lively exchange of research and best practice in our field - they are a great opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones!

As many ISPA members who have been active in our association for 25 years or longer begin to retire, it will become a major task to preserve and archive the history of ISPA. In times of economic crisis we have to make sure that the finances of ISPA remain in good shape. A smooth transition to a new treasurer can contribute to this. And last but not least: let us continue to uphold the ISPA spirit! Where else can school psychologists find such open-minded and warm-hearted colleagues? Where else do we enjoy the diversity of our profession and learn from the approaches practised in different parts of the world as much as when we attend an ISPA conference?

I finish with a comment on our conference in India. During the preparation phase, the Local Organising Committee was confronted with unexpected difficulties. The regional authorities didn't provide the necessary support for the venue in Chennai. Even as late as three months before the conference, many questions couldn't be answered - either by the LOC or by the ISPA Central Office. This frustrating situation led to a lower number of registrations than in past years. It was in May when VIT University in Vellore stepped in and offered to hold the ISPA Conference on its campus. The LOC and Executive Committee agreed with the change of venue, and this ultimately proved to be a very reasonable decision. The delegates from India and from abroad were welcomed warmly by staff and students of the renowned Vellore Institute of

Technology (VIT). The workshops, keynotes, symposia, poster and paper presentations were of good or high quality. More importantly, this ISPA conference was a unique occasion to interact with our colleagues in India, with researchers and practising psychologists (*school counsellors*) as they are called there) who were most interested in learning more about approaches in other parts of the world. This cultural exchange was a highlight of the 33rd ISPA Conference in Vellore, India, and contributed to its great success. It achieved what Bill Pfohl our Past President so eloquently expressed: "ISPA has planted a seed to grow a forest!" - Thank you, Bill, for your inspirational leadership over the past 2 years!

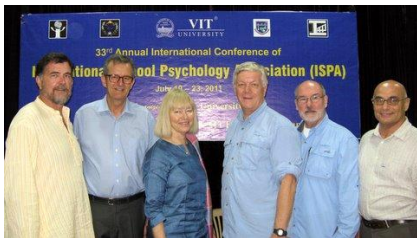
ISPA Secretary's Report: Vellore, India, July 2011

Coosje Griffiths, ISPA Secretary



The ISPA Executive Committee (EC) met over three days before and after the 33rd Conference in Vellore, India. The conference venue was Vellore Institute of Technology, which proved to be a warm and hospitable venue for us. The EC also conducted two General Assemblies, the Leadership Workshop and attended various committee meetings during the conference.

The EC members leading up to the First General Assembly (GA I) were: President, Bill Pfohl (USA), President Elect, Jürg Forster (Switzerland), Past President Helen Bakker (The Netherlands), Secretary; Coosje Griffiths (Australia), Treasurer, Peter Whelley (USA), Executive Secretary, Bob Clark, (USA). As Helen Bakker's term of office finished, the EC functions shifted to Jürg Forster as President, Bill Pfohl as Past President, and Paul Bartolo as



President Elect. Helen's outstanding contributions to ISPA were acknowledged at GA I especially her role in supporting the Conference LOC's and the work of NEPES. Her presence on the EC will be sorely missed.

Conference

The EC met with Dr Renukadevi Selvaraj, Secretary of the LOC and Dr Erika Voigt to finalize arrangements for the conference in India before the conference and subsequently after the event for reflection and evaluation. The EC was pleased with the feedback from participants on the quality of the speakers and presentations, the social and cultural events. Participants were appreciative of the friendly and helpful volunteer support provided by the VIT University students on the campus. Of particular interest to many participants was the opportunity for a two-way exchange and insights into the development of school psychology in its early stages in India. The EC was pleased to learn that as a result of the conference, VIT University has decided to include Psychology courses into its academic program.

Two highlights of the conference were the extent of the local and national media reporting of the conference and the unique Children's Assembly, which added a new dimension to the Conference. The two cultural events at the Opening and Closing Ceremonies were particularly enjoyable. They included traditional Tamil dances and music by children from local cultural groups, as well as fashion shows, music and traditional and modern dance and music provided by the VIT students. The talent and organization displayed by the students were outstanding.

A moment of silence was held at the Closing Ceremony for the citizens and victims and their families in Norway, after the tragic shooting and bombing there.

Future Conferences

A key activity by the EC was discussing and planning for future conferences. The final agreement was signed for the 9-13 July 2012 Conference in Montreal, Canada between ISPA and Suzette Goguen (LOC Chair, Montreal). Other bids for ISPA Conferences for 2013 and beyond were discussed and considered for future consideration and negotiations including: Portugal, Lithuania, Panama, Spain, Vietnam, Nicaragua, and Puerto Rico.

It was decided that the Past President (Bill Pfohl) would continue the conference coordination role. Ongoing support for Bill in this role offered by Helen Bakker was gratefully accepted by the EC. Please contact Bill Pfohl if you are keen for ISPA to consider a Conference in your country.

Given that fifty percent of the ISPA members are from the USA, the promotion of ISPA is vital at the NASP Convention. Therefore, the EC will be

focusing on promoting ISPA at NASP in Philadelphia in February 2012. Activities will include an exhibit booth at NASP and a presentation at the annual Reception there highlighting the work of ISPA and promoting the ISPA Conference in Montreal 2012.

The updated Conference Manual is being reviewed and edited by the Convener's Taskforce, and chaired by Michael Sheehan (Ireland). It will be made available by September and will be an excellent resource for the smooth preparation of future ISPA Conferences.

General Assemblies (GA)

Sixty participants attended one or more General Assemblies.

General Assembly I (GA I)

The following reports were provided:

- Executive Report for 2010-11 by the President (Bill Pfohl)
- Financial report by the Treasurer (Peter Whelley) (provided for ratification at GA II)
- Past President's report (Helen Bakker)
- President Elect's report (Jürg Forster) on the Leadership Workshop (see WGR article)
- The Code of Ethics revision (presented by Jürg Forster for ratification at GA II)
- Introduction of the affiliates attending (Coosje Griffiths)
- Presentation of the successful Cal Catterall recipients for 2011 (Janet Muscutt)
- Bill Pfohl reported on his term of office as ISPA President and formally thanked Helen Bakker for her six-year term of ISPA Presidency. He also thanked Bob Clark for his outstanding commitment to the management of the ISPA Central Office. Paul Bartolo's was warmly welcomed as ISPA's President-Elect.

General Assembly II

- The President, Jürg Forster, gave his opening address and vision for ISPA. Jürg formally thanked Bill Pfohl for his term as ISPA President.
- The Treasurer's report (Peter Whelley), which included an increase in membership dues, was proposed and then ratified by the Assembly.
- The updated Code of Ethics was passed unanimously by the Assembly following a query about addressing emerging issues such as use and misuse of new technologies. It

was agreed that the Code of Ethics will need constant review and revision. The updated Code of Ethics is now posted on the ISPA web site. The contributions of Gladiola Musabelliu, Mary Stafford and Tom Oakland to the revision were acknowledged.

- The need to revisit the structure of the ISPA Executive Committee was presented to the Assembly by Jürg Forster. He outlined the need to provide a more realistic term of office on a four year cycle: one year as President Elect, two years as President and one year as Past President. This would allow for another role on the EC involving PR, communication, publications and the website. The position could come from a committee, affiliate group or early career school psychologist. The ISPA EC re-structure will be an ongoing task of the EC.
- Bob Clark provided a report on the Central Office. He outlined the need for a paid Executive Secretary, given that no volunteer offered to take on the role. The implications for ISPA in terms of increased costs were discussed.
- The ISPA Golden Book project was presented by Erika Voigt, as Chair of the Retiree's interest group. It was acknowledged as a valuable promotion of ISPA and record of ISPA's history (see WGR article).
- Committee Chairs at the GA II had an opportunity to outline direction for their respective committees.
- Bill Pfohl announced the new elections for the positions of Treasurer and Secretary commencing in July 2012. Deadline for nominations is 15 October 2011.
- A plaque and certificate was presented to Dr Phuong N. Le for the inaugural ISPA Award for Outstanding International School Psychology Practice (see article in WGR).

ISPA Central Office Transition

The EC considered a number of options for the establishment of a new central office in 2012. These options were presented Jürg Forster as the Chairperson of the Task Force. A number of applications tendered for the position of ISPA Central Office (CO). More information and negotiations were required before a decision could be finalised. There were concerns about growing costs of running ISPA and its capacity to sustain

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such costs. It was acknowledged by the EC that the true costs of running ISPA have not been fully understood due to the extent of the volunteer work done by Bob Clark at CO and others. Sustainable income streams for ISPA were explored by the EC including increasing membership fees, attracting new members, starting a new journal, possible funding through Foundation grants, funding through the Accreditation Project, and ongoing training courses (e.g. Critical Incident Response).

The EC decided that a change in the constitution is required to allow for non-members to manage the ISPA CO. This was agreed in principle at the General Assembly and will be put out to the membership for electronic/postal vote.

One aspect of the CO move is the archiving involved. A generous offer to provide facilities for archiving by the American Psychological Association (APA; USA) was accepted. The archiving work currently is being undertaken by Bob Clark and Betts Rivett and is being provided complimentary by APA.

ISPA EC Structure

The EC formed an ISPA EC Structure Taskforce to develop a renewed ISPA EC structure plan to enhance the work of ISPA. Proposals will be discussed in the WGR and submitted to the membership for vote in summer 2012.

ISPA Publications

The EC is still considering options for a journal that is able to provide ISPA with an income stream. A new WGR Editor/Co-Editor is being sought. The EC decided that for environmental reasons and costs involved, the WGR will be sent out electronically. Paper copies will need to be requested by members who do not have access to emails. Selected WGRs will be made accessible on the website for the promotion of ISPA and the rest will be archived in the *Member's Only* section of the web site.

Logo Trademark

The EC agreed to the process of obtaining a Trademark for the ISPA logo, which is now in process.

ISPA Committees

It was agreed at the Leadership Workshop that ISPA needs to increase its reach into Asian countries and that it would be advantageous to form an Asian Committee to promote this work.

NEPES was considered to be a vital link for ISPA and Paul Bartolo will represent ISPA at these meetings following the pioneer work of Helen Bakker.

The EC will conduct a mid year meeting in February 2012 in conjunction with the NASP Convention (USA) for those EC members who are already attending NASP in Philadelphia. Those not attending will be part of a SKYPE session.

Finally, the Executive Committee is grateful to the members of the Indian Local Organizing Committee, NITTTR and the VIT University staff, students and volunteers for making the Conference in India such a memorable event. It is hoped that the Conference will result in ongoing professional exchange to strengthen the growth of school psychology in schools to benefit the wellbeing of children across the world. The EC is keen for ISPA to continue to strengthen its bonds with India and the Indian School Psychologist Association (InSPA) and that the ongoing two-way exchange will result in further progress of School Psychology in India.

ISPA Leadership Workshop Report July 19, 2011 at VIT, Vellore, India



Jürg Forster, ISPA President

Each year, the ISPA President-Elect invites Chairs of ISPA Standing Committees, Task Forces, Interest Groups and representatives of Affiliates as well as ISPA Conference Organisers to the annual Leadership Workshop. This year, 25 persons attended this pre-conference workshop at the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) where ISPA held its 33rd conference. The day was entirely dedicated to the *Development of School Psychology in Asia*. The Executive Committee felt that coming to India was a unique opportunity for ISPA to support colleagues in Asia, so the topic of the workshop was chosen accordingly.

Bill Pfohl presented on *School Psychologists Responding to the Disaster in Japan*. He spoke about the psychological needs of the school children who survived the devastating tsunami. It was reported that children who were contaminated by radiation during the course of the nuclear disaster risked being excluded or bullied by others who had been less exposed to nuclear radiation. Since the profession of school psychology is still young in Japan, it was important to address policy makers and support them with guidelines based on current best practice on how the mental health of school children can be

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addressed and become a main focus of crisis management. Shane Jimerson, chair of ISPA's Research Committee, and co-workers were very helpful in making NASP emergency response resources available to Japanese colleagues. Translation was offered and Shane and Bill provided consultation via telephone conferences and e-mail correspondence.

G.P. Thakur and Panch. Ramalingam presented on *the Role of InSPA and ISPA for Developing School Psychology in India*. In India, it was reported that a law on free and compulsory education for children aged 6 to 14 was put into effect in the year 2010 and 130 million children are within this age range to benefit from the new regulation in India. However, it is difficult to teach or to learn in schools that are poorly equipped. Many public schools lack tables, textbooks, running water, toilets, and some have a high level of teacher absenteeism. Dropout rates are a major problem. It is in this context that InSPA, the Indian School Psychology Association, was founded in the year 2009 with the aim of improving the situation. The impulse had been given by Prof. B. Mukhopadhyay from Chennai, a long-standing ISPA member. He had been an active coach and trainer for teachers in the aftermath of the tsunami of December 2004 when 3000 children in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu had lost one or both of their parents (see his article *Counselling Tsunami Hit Children: Role of School Psychologists* in WGR, June 2005, p.5). Now InSPA is planning training courses in School Psychology and counts on support from ISPA trainers.

Phuong Le and Bob Clark's topic was *School Psychology in Vietnam*. As WGR readers know, a *Consortium to Advance School Psychology in Vietnam* was established in January 2010 (WGR, June 2011, p.14). In the Leadership Workshop the question was discussed, how it was possible for the communist government of Vietnam to promote a close collaboration with US-based institutions working in the field of School Psychology. According to Phuong Le, school violence and suicides among students had become an increasing problem in Vietnam during the past several years. The authorities were alerted and were interested in establishing mental health services in the schools. A Memorandum of Understanding between the governments of the United States and Vietnam served as a basis for the inception of the Consortium.

The Leadership Workshop concluded with a discussion on the role of ISPA in the promotion of school psychology in Asia. Several points were brought up:

- An Asian Committee shall be founded. It can address topics that are of special relevance to School Psychology in Asia. ISPA members who wish to join this Interest Group are requested to notify the Central Office by e-mail.
- School Psychology training courses in Tamil Nadu are still in an early phase of planning. They may start in 2012 and address psychologists as well as teachers.
- ISPA Accreditation of School Psychology Training Programmes can become an opportunity for ISPA in Asia.
- Finally, it was suggested that ISPA collaborate with NGOs active in Asia in the fields of Child Protection and Sexuality Education.

The outcome of this productive workshop will be further elaborated in the months to come.

Elections for Secretary and Treasurer - 2012-2015

Bill Pfohl, Past President



ISPA will hold two elections in 2012. The Treasurer and Secretary positions will be open, as both current office holders have served their maximum terms. Each office serves on the ISPA Executive Committee (EC) for three-year terms. They can run for re-election one time. They will join the President-Elect, President, and Past President on the Executive Committee. The terms will run from July 2012 to July 2015. All meetings as well as written and verbal communications are in English.

The elected officers will meet yearly for an Executive Committee meeting at the annual Conference. Their expenses are covered by ISPA. These meetings are held in July or early August. There will be an expectation of regular e-mail interaction, participation in Skype calls that are arranged by the President, and other matters that arise.

The Treasurer will be responsible for maintaining regular communication with the Central Office and EC, making a yearly budget, assisting with an ISPA financial audit, and assisting with financial matters of ISPA.

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The Secretary will be responsible for taking and posting on the ISPA Members Only webpage minutes of all Executive Committee and General Assembly meetings, as well as writing articles of ISPA business for the World*Go*Round. This person will assist the web manager in posting materials on the website and seeing to the website updates. The Secretary will be responsible for keeping a Google Calendar for ISPA business. He or she will also assist the President in developing an Agenda for each meeting. The Secretary is responsible for all ISPA's official correspondences.

The nominations for these TWO separate offices must be received before October 30th. Candidates will then be asked to complete a brief biography and statement of intent for the specific office. Any current ISPA member is eligible for office and a current member may nominate any other current member. (Please check with the person before you nominate him/her.) Self-nominations are also welcome. Statements of each candidate will be published in the World-Go-Round and posted on the ISPA website. All officers are expected to be current members of ISPA.

Please send your nomination to: Bill Pfohl, Past President at billispa@gmail.com by OCTOBER 30, 2011. Subject line: Election for Secretary/Treasurer. Electronic ballots for the Election will be sent in early February 2012, as indicated in the ISPA By-Laws.

Secretary

The Secretary is responsible for recording events accurately and distributing this information. For this purpose, the Secretary shall record the official minutes of Executive Committee meetings and General Assemblies.

Regarding the minutes of Executive Committee meetings, the Secretary shall send out a dated draft within one month of these recorded events to the Executive Committee, Colloquium Coordinator and Central Office.

The aforementioned have one month to make their comments and recommendations in writing.

If changes are recommended and made, a new dated version shall be distributed by the Secretary to all the above-mentioned.

The final approval of the minutes is done at the next Executive Committee meeting.

The Secretary shall mail draft minutes of the General Assemblies and the approved budget within two weeks to the Chair of the General Assemblies. A cover letter shall indicate corrections, and remarks

shall be returned to the Secretary within one month from its receipt.

A final (dated) version with suggested additions and corrections of the Chair of the General Assemblies shall be distributed within two weeks to the Chair of the General Assemblies, the Executive Committee members and the Central Office. The Chair of the General Assemblies formally approves the minutes of the General Assemblies and acknowledges their acceptance by her or his signature to them.

The Secretary is to prepare and submit a summary of the Executive Committee meetings and General Assemblies for publication in World Go Round.

The Secretary shall send a summary of assigned and agreed tasks to all participants of Executive Committee meetings based on the finalized minutes.

The Secretary shall write and send official correspondence as directed.

The Secretary assists the President in drafting the proposed agenda. Draft agenda are sent to all participants at least eight weeks prior to the date of the meeting. Participants have two weeks to suggest further items. The agenda are mailed four weeks prior to the date of meetings after consulting with the Central Office regarding other materials to be sent.

The Secretary is responsible for providing a timetable of meeting schedules during Executive Committee meetings.

The Central Office shall have one copy of all final and approved material for safekeeping.

The Secretary assists the President, as assigned, in organizational activities.

Treasurer

The Treasurer serves in a leadership role with the Executive Committee on financial matters and in developing the budget.

The Treasurer submits a proposed budget each year to the Executive Committee for discussion and its approval. Subsequently, the Treasurer shall distribute the proposed budget approved by the Executive Committee, during the first meeting of the General Assembly. The budget shall be presented for discussion, revision, and final approval at the second meeting of the General Assembly. In the event that there is no General Assembly due to cancellation of the Colloquium, the budget will be printed in the September issue of WGR. Feedback from members will be sought.

The Treasurer is responsible for the management of all ISPA money according to established fiscal policies and procedures. This management is done in

direct coordination with the Executive Secretary.

The Treasurer is responsible for the maintenance of all fiscal policies and procedures and for proposing fiscal changes.

Central Office Report and Executive Secretary Remarks

(as part of General Assembly II, 22 July 2011, 33rd ISPA Conference-Vellore, India)

Bob Clark, ISPA Executive Secretary



Introduction:

These remarks were presented by Dr. Robert D. Clark, Executive Secretary of ISPA on the occasion of his last presentation to the General Assembly of the association on 22 July 2011 at its annual meeting in Vellore, India. Dr. Clark retires from his position on 31 December 2011.

- I. I would like to first introduce the Assistant Executive Secretary, my wife Lynn. She does not have that official title but has functioned in every way in that role! To you, Lynn, thanks for all you do for ISPA and indeed in support of me. This will be my fifth and last General Assembly as Executive Secretary (ES) of ISPA. As of Dec 31, 2011 I will surrender my duties to a new management team. It has been both a pleasure and, at times, a trial to serve the association these past years but now I transition to devote more time to my family and other duties that have too often been neglected in serving ISPA's needs
- II. History of my time in the Central Office (CO):
 - At the conference in 2005 in Greece I was approached to consider taking on ES duties. I considered the matter and began to explore ways this might happen.
 - In the fall of 2005 I obtained the permission of my dean at National-Louis University in Chicago, where I was a Professor and Director of the School Psychology training program and submitted a letter of intent to host the CO on my university campus.
 - In late January 2006 I traveled to Denmark to visit the existing CO and spoke with the second (the first was Cal Catterall) ES, Anders Poulsen, and the third ES, Elisabeth Jacobsen in order to learn about CO functioning and time commitments.

○ It you've never had a role like that of ES, you'll likely not appreciate the work these latter two people performed in the development of ISPA.

- In July 2006 while at the conference in Hangzhou, China the bid submitted by me on behalf of NLU was accepted over two other candidates. Following that conference I immediately began working on hosting the CO with an official start date of 1 January 2007.
 - It was my goal to have the CO hosted on a university campus embedded with a School Psychology program.
 - I immediately learned that ISPA, despite the opinions of some of the leadership, is a complex and multifaceted association and I was clearly an AMATEUR at this professional association management business.
 - To be clear, during my first seven or eight months on the job I was relatively clueless as to what I was doing and what needed to be done. The EC members from that time will agree.
 - In the summer of 2008 the CO moved from National-Louis University to its current home on the campus of The Chicago School of Professional Psychology where I serve as a Professor in School Psychology.
 - It has been a steep learning curve and I just now, at the end of my tenure, feel I have an adequate grasp of the job if not a full sense of effectively managing everything.
- III. Some accomplishments
 - Since the fall of 2006 we have established a more professional accounting and membership data-base systems and instituted a professional, independent audit of ISPA's finances.
 - ISPA is now a two currency association with accounts in the Euro and the US Dollar.
 - Since taking over the CO, the financial resources of ISPA, despite a serious recession in most of the world, have nearly doubled from around \$100,000 to nearly \$200,000. I attribute this to several things.
 - In kind contributions from National-Louis University (from 2006-2008) and The Chicago School of Professional Psych (from 2008-present) of about a quarter million US Dollars. These myriad free services and materials have included essentially all the infrastructure needed to run the CO – part of

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my salary – student workers and their compensation – equipment, furniture, office space, printing, telephone, postage, etc.

- Four very successful conferences in Tampere, Finland; Utrecht, NL; Malta; and Dublin, Ireland. I have been lucky to have served during this time.
- The European Training Center, now known as European School Psychology Center for Training established by Bernhard Meissner and colleagues has contributed significantly to ISPA's bottom line.
- Modest gains in our investments.
- Involvement of 15 students from NLU and TCS in the management of the association. The development of new leaders is essential to ISPA's vitality and long term success. I hope my example in the CO has moved ISPA in that direction.
 - Of those 15 students, 10 have been able to attend ISPA conferences including two this year: Lauren Eby and Benjamin Cook.
 - I hope ISPA leadership will put more emphasis in the future on student and young professional involvement in the life and functioning of ISPA.

III. Future Directions for ISPA

- As you have heard, ISPA has been managed by amateurs and volunteers for its 35 plus years of existence.
- ISPA's is moving forward with Professional Management of the association which has its benefits and perils. I see a brighter future with professional management if ISPA continues to do the following four things: Membership Support, Leadership Development, Professional Management, and, Fund Raising and Professional Development:

1. Membership Support:

- a. ISPA is a service organization for its members in fulfillment of its mission and goals.
- b. Moving forward ISPA must broaden and expand those services to include:
 - i. Consultation to governments, professional colleagues, and universities in development of School Psychology internationally.
 - ii. Supports for students and early career professionals in identifying field

placements and job opportunities internationally

- iii. Expansion and emphasis on the website and Social Media as communication and association promotion tools.
- iv. Sponsorships must be sought in support of annual conferences and other services of ISPA.
- v. A "leadership" internship or mentorship program should be initiated to develop leaders for ISPA for roles such as conference coordination and committee leaders' roles.

2. Leadership Development:

- a. Serving on the EC is time consuming and demanding. The leadership must be supported and identification and cultivation of new leaders must be formally and systematically pursued.
- b. Committee structures and functioning must be strengthened and better and formally incorporated into the life and functioning of the association.

3. Professional Management

- a. We should *not fear*, as an association, the movement and transition to a professional management structure. It is a good thing, I believe, to engage those whose job it is to manage such associations.
- b. The ISPA Leadership should not be afraid to risk and select the best service providers for the CO management because, in the long run, I believe the association will benefit.
- c. The ISPA conference management process must be systematically and formally addressed and made a priority. Again, ISPA need not fear "professional" management of its conferences but embrace it. The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and the association will be all the better served.

4. Professional Development and Fund Raising

- a. ISPA cannot rely on membership dues alone to support the association's mission; other sources must be pursued vigorously and professionally and these include
 - i. Conferences – these are essential and necessary functions of the association

and must be professionally managed and planned. ISPA is ready for it.

- i. Publications – pursuit of a journal that ISPA controls and derives material benefit from is an essential and urgent need. Others related activities might include:
 - Publications of Proceedings of conferences;
 - Position papers that address pressing world and regional needs.
- iii. Development of Training Centers in other regions of the world using the existing ESPCT model serves ISPA's mission, professional development needs, and can offer support for other mission related needs.
- iv. Regional Workshops at other times of the year than the summer that focus on topics of need and timeliness.
- v. Accreditation of Training Courses/ Programs with ISPA stamp of approval; including formative consultations.

IN CONCLUSION:

So what will I do for the last months of my term? The fall is always a busy time in the CO, chief among these is the solicitation of membership renewals and the preparation and distribution of the September and December issues of the *World-Go-Round*. In addition to these latter duties I plan to:

- Digitize ISPA archives so there will be more access to members and scholars. This includes digitation of all issues of the WGR stretching from its founding.
- Assist the EC in every way to support the transition to a new CO location and management structure.
- Continue my work on the Accreditation Taskforce, and
- Assist with closing of the financial accounts and the audit of the 2011 finances.

I am not going away. Hopefully Lynn and I will be coming to many future conferences and interacting with colleagues and friends we have grown to know and appreciate dearly – so if you want to host us in your homes, my email address is DrRDClark@gmail.com!

So it is a goodbye for now and I leave with no regrets. I do, however, look forward to more time with my family and soon to be five grandchildren, to

travel opportunities with Lynn, my wife, free of ISPA obligations, and, finally, I look forward to attending an ISPA conference and actually going to a presentation session or two and attending an occasional keynote address. I wish ISPA continued success!!!

33rd International Conference of International School Psychology Association (ISPA) at VIT University, Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India

Dr.S.Renukadevi, Organizing Secretary, ISPA India Conference 2011



The 33rd Annual International School Psychology Association (ISPA) Conference was conducted successfully at VIT University, Vellore, Tamilnadu from 19th to 23rd July, 2011. VIT University, Vellore, organized this event in association with Indian School Psychology Association (InSPA), National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Chennai and Indian Academy of Applied Psychology (IAAP).



The theme of the conference was *Educational Psychology in the context of Globalization, Diversity and Societal challenges*. The sub themes under which the conference sessions were organized were: Educational Psychology Perspectives, Instructional Design and Delivery, Counseling and Assessment, Technology and Innovation, Psychological Health and Well Being, Diversity and Inclusion, Profession and Ethics. A total number of 315 delegates from 25 countries

participated in the Conference.

The countries included USA, UK, Germany, Estonia, India, Canada, Ireland,

Netherlands, Lebanon, Poland, Italy, Turkey, Israel, Australia, France, Nepal, Srilanka, South Africa, Brazil, Malta, Japan, Nigeria, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Iran.



The Inaugural function was presided over by Dr. G. Viswanathan, Chancellor, VIT University, Vellore. Dr. S. Narayanan, Pro Vice Chancellor

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welcomed the gathering. Dr. S. Renukadevi, Organizing Secretary presented the report of the conference. Dr. S. Mohan, Director, NITTTR, Chennai; Dr. Bill Pfohl, ISPA President; Dr. Habib Ahmad, President, IAAP; and Dr. G. P. Thakur, Chair, Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of ISPA India Conference offered felicitations. Dr. G. Viswanathan, Chancellor, inaugurated the Conference by lighting the lamp and delivered the Inaugural address. He reiterated that psychology should be included as part of the Engineering stream. The Conference Abstract book was released by the Chancellor. Dr. S. K. Sekar, Director, VIT Business School and Coordinator of the conference, offered a vote of thanks. Shri. Sankar Viswanathan, Vice-President (Admin), Shri. G. V. Sampath, Vice-President (Operations) and Shri. Sekar Viswanathan, Vice-President (University Affairs) graced the dais. The ISPA Executive Committee (EC) also graced the Dais.

The scientific programme included Preconference workshops, symposia, workshops and paper presentations. The Preconference workshops were conducted on 19th July 2011. The preconference workshops included *School Psychologist as an advocate of Children's Rights* by Dr. Bonnie Nastasi, Tulane University, USA; *Yoga Meditation as a Psychoeducational Intervention for healthy life* by Dr. B. Mukhopadhyay, NITTTR, Chennai, India; *Consultation as a tool for School Psychologists: Helping pupils by working with their teachers* by Dr. Sharone L. Maital, University of Haifa, Israel; and *School Conflict Management Training* by Ms. Jennifer Batton, Cuyahoga Community College, Ohio, USA.

Five keynote speakers delivered the lectures on the themes related to the conference. The keynotes included *Covitality: A New Perspective on the Psychological Well-being of Youth* by Prof. Michael Furlong, University of California, USA; *Empowering Youth to be Successful Global Citizens – The Role of School Psychologists in Comprehensive School Conflict Management Programs* by Jennifer Batton, Cuyahoga Community College, USA; *Creativity oriented Teaching learning process in Higher Education* by Dr. V. Job Kuruvilla, Toc H Institute Of Science and Technology, India; *Indian Elementary Education visa vis Psychological services* by Dr. G. C. Upadhyay, NCERT, India; and *Counselling and Testing in India* by Dr. Ravi Gunthey, JNV University, India. The scientific programme was

conducted across a period of four days during which 134 proposals were presented, including papers, workshops, symposia and posters.

One of the most memorable activities of this conference was the *The Children's Assembly*, where ten school children from different schools in Chennai and Vellore presented their papers on the various themes announced. About 170 school children and 150 delegates participated in this event. A jury comprising of delegates from India and abroad felicitated the children and answered their questions. Dr. Jürg Forster, ISPA President, presided over the event. Dr. S. Renukadevi was the convener. Dr. Erika E. Voigt, Ms. Malathy and Ms. Dhurgadevi coordinated the event. It was heartening to see children explaining the need for counselling at home, school and for life. The ISPA EC and the delegates presented a song to the children.

The valedictory function was presided over by the Chancellor Dr. G. Viswanathan. Dr. S. Renukadevi presented the report of the Conference. Dr. S. Mohan, Dr. Jürg Forster, and Dr. G. P. Thakur offered felicitations. Dr. V. Raju, Vice Chancellor of VIT University, offered a vote of thanks. Shri. Sankar Viswanathan, Vice President (Administration), graced the dais in the valedictory function.

An entertaining and wonderful cultural programme was presented by the students of the VIT Business school both on the Inaugural day as well as on the valediction day, which depicted how students of the University excel both in academics as well as cultural issues.

Local tours were organised for the delegates. Yoga Meditation classes were conducted in the dawn on all the conference days.

The LOC sincerely thanked Shri. Sekar Viswanathan, VP (University Affairs), for his leadership and readiness to accept and host this event. The press gave wide coverage of the events of the conference. The VITians excelled in their hospitality and conduct of the event. The students who worked at the registration desk were helpful and welcoming to the delegates.

We also are thankful to the President of ISPA, Dr. Bill Pfohl, and the ISPA EC for awarding the



Continued on page 12

ISPA Conference to be conducted in India. We were constantly helped and motivated by Dr. Erika E Voigt, Dr. Nora Katona and Dr. Helen Bakker.

Resolutions/Recommendations of the Conference

The conference deliberations confirmed the need for enhancing availability of psychological services in Indian School System and other Institutions of higher learning.

The delegates of the conference felt that several measures should be taken by the psychology community of India and other academic institutions, keeping in mind the *Right to Learn* initiative by the Government of India.

It was recommended that Departments of Psychology and other Institutes of higher learning should start certificate, diploma, degree, and postgraduate programmes in School Psychology.

Many universities and institutions of higher learning have been providing guidance and counselling programmes. It was recommended that parallel programmes need to be conducted for developing school psychologists and counselling psychologists.

IAAP, InSPA and several other psychology associations in India can be instrumental in developing short term modules to train school psychologists all over India

It was further recommended that the need of the special children, which is already under the purview of school psychology, be redesigned to the needs of the greater masses.

The latest technologies of ICT should be used to achieve the purpose of dissemination of school psychology.

It was recommended that initiative should be taken by VIT, IAAP, InSPA and GOI to sign an memorandum of understanding (MOU) with ISPA, so that international expertise should be available to the Indian scholars for effective delivery of school psychology services.

It was also requested that ISPA should extend its services on a project mode to the Asian subcontinent.

Finally, it was recommended that the subject of Psychology be included in the curriculum of engineering education.

ISPA Children Assembly 2011 (conducted during ISPA Conference)

Mrs. Malathy Kumar, & Ms. Dhurgaadevi,
KaRe, Chennai

Conception of the Idea:

The idea that a Children's programme should be conducted as part of the ISPA conference was offered by Dr. S. Mohan, Director of National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Chennai. Dr. S. Renukadevi of NITTTR, and Dr. Erika Voigt of Germany proposed



to conduct a Children Assembly similar to the scientific presentations during the conference. After consulting with some of the school counselors in the city, Dr. Erika and Dr. Renuka comprised a team that worked

on the flow of the program. The entire program from the conception stage to the final presentation at Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) on 22 July 2011 was conducted in a structured manner as detailed below:

- Conception of idea of Children Assembly
- Formulating topics for the Essay writing Competition
- Grading the topics according to the age level of the students
- Selecting a band of schools who will participate in the competition
- Preparing invite letters to the schools and reaching out to the schools
- Encouraging the students to participate by direct classroom announcements
- Encouraging the students to participate through the teacher counselor at schools
- Shortlisting the essay at the school level
- Receiving the Essays at NITTTR
- Preliminary screening of the essays at NITTTR
- 1st level selection by Indian panel of counselors and educators
- Final shortlisting by international panel of counselors
- Announcing the schools for the 10 top shortlisted essays
- Orienting the shortlisted students at NITTTR to present the essay to the international audience and student audience at VIT
- Transporting these students to VIT on the

Deadline for submission to the December issue
of *World*Go*Round*:

November 1, 2011!

Submit newsletter articles to Dr. Mary E.
Stafford, Editor, staffordm@uhcl.edu

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- appointed day
 - The Presentation
 - Reporting the results
- Topics included:

- Expectations of students from a counselor. How can counselors be helpful for you in your school?
- How can counseling be helpful for your life at home?
- How well do you understand your peers and teachers?
- How can counseling care for differences between students, between boys and girls and others?

While students were open to write on any of the above topics, they also had the liberty to contribute under more than one topic. Similarly, the students of class XI had the advantage of another topic, namely:

- What are your thoughts about choosing a career in counseling?

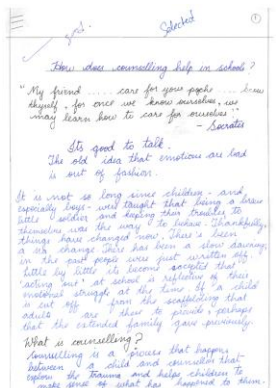
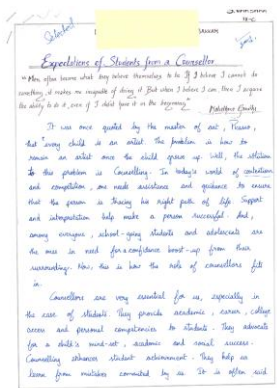
Selection and Shortlisting:

The entries started reaching NITTR starting the last week of May 2011.

The initial level of screening included parameters like presentation, articulation, grammatical structure, and originality of idea. A total of 83 articles from 38 schools were received. Of these, 27 essays were shortlisted. These essays were given to the panel of

judges who comprised of people from education and counseling backgrounds. After a thorough reading and discussion, they shortlisted 17 essays for the international panel to read and further shortlist. The international panel discussed the essays for more than a day and finally chose the best ten. These ten essays were judged best because their presentations were in line with the topic of the conference. Dr. Katarina Winkelmann gave academic support to this event.

Of the shortlisted essay, the essay of Sorna, written by a student from Nagapatinam Municipal Girls Hr. Sec. School, is worth discussing further. This is a government



school where students are from the rural local community which consists of major Muslim community and the occupational profile of the parents will be daily wage earners or small time farmers. The medium of communication is Tamil, the local language of the region, and the subject of English is handled as a subject with a strong backing and explanation in the local language. Sorna is interested in English as a language. It is this interest of Sorna which made this student write her first interschool essay.

The final shortlisted essays were:

1. Subhashini Nahar, 8th, Chinmaya vidhyalaya
2. Aarthi Menon, 8th, Chinmaya Vidhyalaya
3. Shanmugapriya, 8th, NSN Matriculation
4. Rhea Koshy, 8th, Ida Scudder
5. Varsha, 9th, Chinmaya Vidhyalaya
6. Nikshay Bhavth, 9th, Chinmaya Vidhyalay
7. Supreetha, 9th, NSN Matric
8. Subhashree, 9th, Devi Academy
9. Sworna, 11th, Nagapitam Municipal Girls Hr. Sec. School
10. Tara Briganza, 11th, Ida Scudder

Children's Assembly at VIT, Vellore

The Children Assembly was conducted on 22nd



July from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm at the Dr. Channa Reddy Auditorium of VIT University.

The programme was attended by ISPA Delegates and about 170 children from schools in Vellore and Chennai. The ten children whose entries were selected presented the Proposal in the Children Assembly. The session was chaired by Dr. Jürg Forster, President of ISPA. Peter Whelley, Coosje Griffiths, Dr. Erika Voigt, Dr. Lavanya and Ms. Saakshi Tikku were the judges who also answered queries by the students. Peter Whelley gave away the prizes to the students. Dr. Malathy welcomed the gathering and Dr. Dhurgadevi narrated the process. VIT University presented gifts to the children.

ISPA Song for the Children

A team led by Coosje Griffiths offered an ISPA song to the children. Ms. Kalpana Kumar and Master Rishi compered the programme. All the delegates participated and sang the song.

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Indian Children's Assembly Song "No Child To Be Left Behind"

Let us welcome everyone
Hello, welcome "Vanakam"
Growing friendships on this
day
Let us all say "Namaste"
CHORUS: International
School Psychology



We are here in Tamil Nadu
We would like to talk with you on
Children's rights & what we need
Let us share and plant this seed
CHORUS: Indian School Psychology

Children's rights in every nation
Every child to get an education
Being happy, being kind
No child to be left behind
CHORUS: I. S. P. A.

Learning worth sharing:

The entire process of the Children Assembly emphasized the need for a better school psychological counseling scenario in India. In particular on analyzing the topics, these findings are recorded:

- Students are in need of counselors and they want them in the school environment
- Their knowledge about psychology and counseling should be enhanced
- More interventions from the school level should be fed to the students for better understanding
- Stigmatizing the word psychology should be avoided

We look forward for the development of the school psychology discipline in India which will assist the student community.

The authors can be contacted at
mail2kare@gmail.com.

ISPA Award for Outstanding International School Psychology Practice 2011

Bill Pfohl, ISPA President

It is with great pleasure that I announce the recipient of the inaugural 2011 *ISPA Award for Outstanding International School Psychology Practice*. The successful recipient is Dr. Phuong N. Le.

Dr Le's tireless efforts to address the academic and mental health needs of children of Vietnam is the primary reason he is being recognized today by the ISPA Professional Development and Practice Committee, chaired by Dr. Bonnie Nastasi, through the nominations from his professional colleagues.

Dr. Le has provided for the professional development needs of Vietnamese school professionals, presenting at state, regional, national, and international conferences and conventions. He is a published author focusing primarily on issues surrounding Vietnamese Americans, bilingual and immigrant difficulties and, most recently, the development of the profession of School Psychology in his native country, Vietnam.

In many respects, the emergence of School Psychology as a

profession in his native country, Vietnam, is due directly to his vision, energy, determination, organizational skills, and selflessness in pursuing the goal of making



Vietnamese children's lives better. Currently Dr. Le is a full-time School Psychologist with the Long Beach Unified School District, California, USA, and has been an ISPA member since 2007.

There is no doubt that Dr Le is a highly worthy recipient of this award. It gives me great pleasure today in presenting this award to you as the first recipient of the 2011 *ISPA Award for Outstanding International School Psychology Practice*.

In his acceptance speech Dr. Le's said the following:

"Receiving this Award for Outstanding School



Psychology Practice in India, the land where Shakyamuni Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi were born is significantly meaningful for me. For me, school psychology is not a mere profession but a great means, great vehicles, or Mahayana as Buddhism calls it, to liberate children

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from mental sufferings. And Gandhi said, 'You must be the change that you want to see in the world.' Let's work together to make that change, to bring school psychology not only to Vietnam but to any place in the world where our children continue to suffer. Thank you ISPA and CASP-V for this award. For the future of our children!"

Cal Catterall Fund 2011 Recipients

There were four recipients of the 2011 Cal Catterall Fund, which provided funding for recipients to travel to India for the 2011 ISPA Conference. They are Irfana Samia, Nafiza Ferdowski, Lauren Eby, and Benjamin Cook. They are pictured here from left to right with the Chair of the Cal Catterall Fund Committee and the ISPA Executive Secretary:



- Recipient Irfana Samia, Bangladesh, India – Dhaka University
- Recipient Nafiza Ferdowski, Bangladesh, India – Dhaka University
- Janet Muscutt, UK, Chair, ISPA Cal Catterall Fund Committee
- Bob Clark, USA, ISPA Executive Secretary
- Recipient Benjamin Cook, The Chicago School (TCS), USA - going into internship
- Recipient Lauren Eby, The Chicago School (TCS), USA - going into internship

Volunteers Requested: Taskforce on History of ISPA

Bob Clark, ISPA Executive Secretary

At the conference in Vellore, India, the Executive Committee of ISPA authorized the establishment of a Taskforce on the History of ISPA. The purpose of the Taskforce is to assist in the archiving of the important records and artifacts of the association. Among the tasks of the Taskforce members will be establishment of policies and procedures for the selection of items to preserve, criteria for materials that can be discarded, and manner and location for the archiving the historical records of ISPA. If you



are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Bob Clark at bclark@ispaweb.org who will be chairing the Taskforce.

The Golden Book has arrived

Peter Whelley, ISPA Treasurer



After several months of international conversation and editing the Golden Book, a compilation of the colloquia and conferences since 1975

has been published. The premier issue was presented to Bill Pfohl during the General Assembly I at the 33rd conference in Vellore, India this past July. Professor Ramalingam of Pondicherry, India



Dr. Panch Ramalingam (L) presents premier issue of *The Golden Book* to Dr. Bill Pfohl

was instrumental in having the work published in India. Sue Hawick of Australia and Erika Voigt of Germany were the authors and were the major contributors to the compilation of this amazing tribute to the many years of ISPA gatherings across the globe. Erika also has been quite generous in her financial support of this work. The proceeds of the sale of the Golden book will go to the Cal Catterall Fund. The suggested price for the book is 10 Euros or 15 American Dollars. Those interested in purchasing a copy of the book should please contact the Central Office. A big thank you to all those who contributed to the development of the Golden Book!

ISPA Conference - A VITian Perspective

Dr. S.K. Sekar, Coordinator, ISPA Conference, VIT University, Vellore, TamilNadu- 632014



VIT University being an institution striving for academic, technological and research excellence to it's credit feels much proud for getting the opportunity in shouldering the responsibilities of International School Psychology Association by hosting the 33rd Annual International School Psychology Association Conference in the premises of VIT University, Vellore, Tamilnadu during 19TH to 23RD July, 2011 to the cause of achieving the Conference theme on *Educational Psychology in the context of Globalization, diversity and Societal Challenges*.

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The conference has provided an opportunity for VIT University to become one of the affiliates of ISPA and thereby enabled to update the training to meet the challenges, demands and needs of youth in order to cater the requirements of global society.

VIT University hosted this conference in association with Indian School Psychology Association (InSPA), National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Chennai and Indian Academy of Applied Psychology (IAAP).

By means of this mega event, VIT University could get the chance of serving the society at global level. During the conference deliberations, VIT University could develop an idea of introducing Educational Psychology as a subject into the Curriculum of the Engineering Education to the urgency and importance of the subject for the benefit of younger generation at large.

It was heartening to listen to the children explaining the “need for Counselling at Home, School and for Life” during one of the unique activities of this Conference i.e., The Children Assembly, where in School Children from different schools in Chennai and Vellore presented their papers on the various themes.

This particular Conference served as the appropriate platform to both VIT University and Delegates from various countries for exchanging their social and cultural heritage thereby strengthening the International Integrity. It was an immense pleasure for the VIT University that it could initiate a collaboration with ISPA in order to utilise the international expertise to be available for the Indian scholars for effective delivery of school psychology services. Further, it is considered that joining hands with an organization like ISPA is a rare opportunity in the interest and welfare of the society at large.

It is also hoped that collaboration with an organization like ISPA will develop the school/educational psychology services to be offered to millions of school and college going students in the Indian subcontinent.

We look forward to more interaction with ISPA in the near future.

VIT University sincerely thanks all the delegates who have travelled all the way from corners of the world to participate in this prestigious event.



Pamela's Grandstudents

Julia Coyne, Chair, ISPA Student and Early Career Interest Group

From the vantage point of an adjunct professor in school psychology and chair of the Student and Early Career Interest Group of ISPA, I am fortunate to be able to track the development and professional growth of students en route toward careers in school psychology. Of all the students with whom I come into contact on a professional basis, it seems that those involved with interesting and international endeavors such as ISPA are most valuable due to their unique experiences and outlooks. Such students have an unmistakably robust curiosity of the world and children's well-being, have established themselves in their programs, and are encouraging reflections of their trainers and professors. In terms of personal reflection, I realized that in the transformation from student to early career professional myself, it is easy to lose track of one's own developmental milestones. Luckily, several events came together for me during the ISPA conference in Vellore that remind me that I am still a product of my training, and that I owe much of where I am now to the ones who taught me, and am bound by a fascinating cycle of professional development.

This cycle of professional development was foremost on my mind this summer during ISPA in India for a few reasons: our exposure to the training model of business, being able to experience ISPA with a longtime friend, mentor and trainer, and seeing myself in the professional development continuum for the first time as a non-student.

ISPA delegates shared campus space with students and professor at the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), whose schedules continued through the summer. We interacted with our host students through the MBA program, which offered ISPA delegates the kindest and most attentive guidance and conversation. As enterprising entrepreneurs in training, VIT MBA students talked to us about their worldviews, and coursework, and were curious about the intersections of education and business. They too looked for opportunities for growth and helping children, and saw their program and professional formation as a key to allowing them access to their future professions. Hopefully, an awareness of children's mental health and educational issues will go with them as they shape,

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influence and finance future business ventures. Possibilities in this regard are endless.

I was able to travel and co-present with my own mentor, Pamela Kvilekval, former Director of Special Education in Andover public schools in Massachusetts, USA.

Currently, she's a special education consultant and trainer with offices in Rome, Italy and is mentor to a teacher training institute in Curitiba, Brazil. She was my professor, trainer and mentor when I lived in Rome, and was the first person to ask me if I would ever consider working with students with disabilities. I think we all have a memory of the singular experience that becomes the catalyst that led us to becoming school psychologists. Mine was when Pamela asked me if I'd ever consider working with children with disabilities. As one of Rome's foremost authorities on reading disabilities, she taught me a diagnostic prescriptive approach to teaching reading and shared some of her caseload with me, making me a Learning Disabilities Specialist first, which eventually led to two Master's Degrees and eventually a Doctorate in School Psychology. I was very proud to be able to share the ISPA experience with Pam as we showcased our initiatives to ISPA friends and colleagues to share what's happening in the world of diagnostic prescriptive reading remediation in Italy and Brazil. Being with my mentor again made me recall my formative years.



....which brings me full circle to the students. Also attending the ISPA conference were two graduate students at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology with whom I'm in contact:



Lauren Eby and Benjamin Cook. I introduced them to Pamela. As we explained our connections to one another, the VIT MBA student in our group exclaimed, "It's like Lauren and Ben are Pamela's grandstudents!" Full circle! We are all bound in the cycle of

professional development in one way or another, as teachers, students, grandstudents, practitioners, mentors, trainers, professors and instructors. Sometimes it takes getting to India to discover it!

One Way of Making Inclusion Possible



Katharina Winkelmann, Germany, & Rosène de Saint Hilaire, AFPEN, France



A report of a visit on July 26th, 2011 to two SCHOOLS located in Chennai: West Mambalam, India and a THERAPY CENTER for hearing and speech disabled children or children with special needs:

Helping with the organization of the Children's Assembly at the ISPA 2011 conference in Vellore, India, Erika Voigt (Germany) and Katharina Winkelmann (Germany) met Ms. Malathy Kumar, Senior Educationist, her daughter Kalpana Kumar, Occupational Therapist and Ms. Dhurgadevi, Educational Consultant in Chennai. After the conference we learned about a private initiative "KaRe" on school-based interventions and projects and were very happy to receive an invitation to visit two schools and a privately run Therapy Center in Chennai.

Rosène de Saint Hilaire, AFPEN delegate (Association française des Psychologues de L'Education Nationale), and Suzette Goguen, organizer of the next ISPA conference in Montreal, 2012, had the opportunity to join this excursion.

The following report is based on the information we received from our Indian colleagues, the teachers or educationists at the institutions and our impressions, written down by Rosène de Saint Hilaire and Katharina Winkelmann.

Our first visit led us to Chennai Champs School at Umapathy Str. in Chennai, a Preparatory School, Crèche and Day Care Center. This school is a private primary school with 8 children and it is the first school that has

totally accepted the inclusion program and the support from the Ka Re team. What does this mean?



In this school children with special needs are welcomed and are offered help within the regular lessons besides getting extra therapeutic help in a separate classroom if needed. A team of therapists

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work with the children and regular review is done with parents, teachers and the principal of the school. Reports are written monthly and after each term to show and discuss the individual improvement of the child. These discussions are held with all the people working with the child, not only in school but also with medical doctors, private therapists, etc. and supervised by members of Ka Re.

With these interdisciplinary meetings is connected the hope to find a common interdisciplinary language, which allows not only an agreed estimation of the problem for instance in respect of health impairment, learning difficulties, activity and capacity of participation but also offers the possibility to find resources within the family, the school or the community to facilitate and help the child with special needs. As a young Indian colleague told us, they are working on forms and assessment sheets that can be used by all the involved persons. Maybe a short version of the Child ICF would be a help for this group.

Besides the Prep School, Chennai Champs includes a Crèche for children from 6 months to 18 months, a Play School and Day Care Center for children from 1.5 years to 18 years with special offerings in music, dance, language training, little theater, arts & crafts or karate and gym for children in addition to academic programs.

As in many other countries, parents in India try to send their children to school with high academic standards as early as possible, so it was not surprising to hear that 1.5-year-old children already have two hours of school and the possibility of extracurricular activities, as mentioned above.

With relief, we noticed that the contents of the school lessons were centered around the normal skills a child has to learn, like sitting while eating and not running around, using a spoon or a cup, listening to a story, looking at books and pictures, etc. The school tries to involve parents in these programs and asks them to participate.

The second school we visited was the MGR Matriculation School at Arcot Road, a private pre-elementary, elementary and secondary school (grades 1 to 10). This school belongs to a group institution, including one special school for hearing impaired children, four elementary and secondary schools and one college.

The very friendly headmaster, Dr. Mgr. Janaki, willingly answered all our questions and took the time to show us around. The campus, originally sponsored by a well known Tamil actor, was well

maintained and offered shady places for the children. A huge garden is connected to the school campus and is used for teaching children to garden as part of their school projects. The fruits and vegetables are used to feed poor families. Mrs. Janaki, a former history teacher, before she became the chair manager of the school, invited us to taste milk from a fresh cut coconut, a very refreshing drink which we gratefully accepted in this hot and humid weather.

When we arrived the children of the nursery school just had their time to rest and take a nap or play quietly without disturbing their friends who wanted to sleep. The group of the elementary school still had their lessons and showed great interest in demonstrating their mathematic knowledge.

What is so special about this school in Arcot Road?

As with the Chennai Champ school, this one too is very much interested in introducing the inclusion program, although they still have a special school for hearing impaired children. The school



principal, the teachers and the school coordinator are interested in the inclusion program for children with difficulties. There is a close connection to the Ka Re Institution and the occupational and speech therapists. The group was able to set up a resource center in the school for special children where they can offer therapy during the school day. The school itself is already following the Montessori Method of teaching and a special room is equipped with the required teaching aids and Montessori material.

We want to thank both schools for the warm and hearty welcome and the time teachers, parents and other took to show us around and explain their vision of helping children with special needs.

The last part of our visiting program was the new established Center of Help, run by three young women, very much engaged in their profession as an occupational therapist, a speech therapist and an audiologist (*Rashi, Shetty, Kalpana*).

We could observe their therapeutic work with children, individually or in small groups of two or three children. The light rooms were well equipped with therapeutic material and arranged with great phantasy.

The three therapists work together with the Ka Re Institution and their aim is to support schools and

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create awareness in all preschools by doing a screening camp for children with difficulties, be it speech problems, behavior problems, dyslexia etc. in order to offer help as soon as possible. Individual therapy alone is not the most important help for children, but rather togetherness of all helping hands.

The private institution Ka Re, run by Malathy Kumar is offering school-based intervention programs for parents with children with special needs. The organization focuses on affordable multidisciplinary intervention in the school itself. They provide individualized education plans and modified learning methodologies. Their aim is to create awareness in parents and teachers and plan to provide workshops to achieve this.

As this group is already working interdisciplinarily with speech therapists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, special educators, social worker, psychologists and volunteers – their hope is to work together with school psychologists and establish a multidisciplinary school psychological center not only for private schools but for government schools and underprivileged children.

The open-mindedness and optimistic view of these young therapists and the Ka Re institution was overwhelming and we as ISPA members should try to support them.

Attention All Students and Training Programs:

Globalization of School Psychology

Max McFarland, Program Director, School Psychology Program, University of Nebraska at Kearney



WHO: All graduate students in school psychology - anywhere in the world

WHAT: A new International Graduate course titled: GLOBALIZATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY

WHEN: Spring semester, 2012 (i.e., begins 10 January, 2012)

WHERE: Wherever you are located in your training program. All you need is access to a computer with a camera and microphone.

WHY: Please consider this invitation to all graduate students in school psychology, anywhere in the world, to participate in this international experience.

This new course is being offered by the University of Nebraska Kearney School Psychology program, the first school psychology program fully accredited by the International School Psychology Association.

Course Description: (3 semester credit hours). The purpose of this course is to increase graduate student awareness of a) how the training in the discipline of school psychology is manifested across differing cultures/countries around the globe, b) current issues/challenges facing the discipline around the world (e.g., Children's Rights, Helping Children Deal with War, Children's Health and Mental health School Psychology Service Delivery Models, Training Standards, Crisis Prevention/Intervention, Professional Ethics), and c) how the discipline is addressing these challenges. Students will accomplish this via studying the role and practice of school psychologists in various countries, participating in the Research Symposium (*live time* video symposium where possible) sponsored by the International Collaborative Research Initiative at UNK, becoming student members of the International School Psychology Association (ISPA), and by electronically connecting with a student of school psychology in training in a country other than their own.

Opportunities will include:

1. Developing a partnership with a student in school psychology training from another country
2. Becoming a student member of ISPA
3. Engaging in scholarly exchange (as an observer or presenter if desired) with other international students via the International Collaborative Research Initiative Electronic Research Symposium (live time interaction/web based video conferencing)
4. Studying issues which challenge the discipline and mental health development of children in other countries (see above)
5. Becoming aware of the role/practice/training of school psychology in several other countries

If this is an experience that you are interested in joining, please contact:

Dr. Max McFarland

Program Director, Ed.S. School Psychology Program
University of Nebraska at Kearney

mcfarlandm@unk.edu

ISPA HAS THE FOLLOWING NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AS AFFILIATE MEMBERS: Australia: Australian Guidance and Counseling Association. Canada: British Columbia Association on behalf of School Psychologists. Denmark: Paedagogiske Psykologers Forening. Finland: Finnish School Psychology Association. France: Association Française des Psychologues de l'Education nationale (AFPEN); Association Nationale des Psychologues de l'Enseignement Catholique (ANPEC). Georgia: Georgian Professional Psychologists Association (GPPA). Germany: BDP- Sektion Schulpsychologie; ESPCT – European School Psychology Center for Training. Greece: Hellenic Psychological Society. India: Indian Academy of Applied Psychology (IAAP). Ireland: Psychological Society of Ireland Division of Education. Italy: Istituto Psicologico Europeo (ISPE). The Netherlands: NIP- Dutch Association of Psychologists. Norway: Forum for Psykologer i Skolen. Russia: Russian Federation of Education Psychologists. USA: American Psychological Society, Division of School Psychology; The Chicago School of Professional Psychology; Illinois School Psychology Association (ISPA); Massachusetts School Psychology Association; National Association of School Psychologists (NASP); New Hampshire Association of School Psychologists; Wisconsin School Psychologists Association.

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