

Special points of interest:

- IAIR is an interdisciplinary organization.
- There are currently 254 members.
- The next IAIR conference will be in Bergen, Norway, June 28-July 2, 2015.

In this issue:

Series Editor's Letter	1
Dean's Welcome	1
Conference Organizer's Letter	1
Important Submission Deadlines	2
Ronald Fischer	3
Lili Jiang	4
Grace M. Kibanja	4
Jason Lee	5
Luciara Nardon	5
Closing Thoughts	6
IAIR Information	7

Series Editor's Letter

This issue of WWA continues our efforts to promote familiarity among members of the Academy and to provide timely information regarding the 2015 IAIR conference in Bergen, Norway.

The profiles of five Academy members are featured in this

issue, whose diverse interests and accomplishments converge on our shared efforts to promote intercultural understanding.

Prof. Jarle Eid, Dean of the Faculty of Psychology at the University of Bergen, Norway, warmly offers a host's

welcome to IAIR members to the 2015 conference, and upcoming submission and award deadlines are reviewed.

Wishing you all the best!

Kelly McKay-Semmler, IAIR secretary and WWA series

Dean Jarle Eid's Welcome

Both experienced and beginning researchers are encouraged to participate as we continue to explore the challenges and the potential cultural diversity offers to contemporary societies and workplaces.

As the Dean of the Faculty of Psychology, I am pleased to invite you to the 9th Biennial Congress of the International Academy for Intercultural Research to be hosted by the Department of Psychosocial Science, Faculty of Psychology, University of Bergen. The research and teaching activities of the Faculty, and the Department in particular cut across the conference theme:



Professor Jarle Eid
Dean, Faculty of Psychology
University of Bergen

"Realizing the potential of cultural Diversity". The University of Bergen is therefore the right place for the conference. Though our research activities mainly have a psy-

chological perspective, this invitation is extended to researchers from a variety of disciplines including, social sciences, humanities, education and health, as well as commerce, and beyond, thus reflecting our values of multi-disciplinary approach to issues. Both experienced and beginning researchers are encouraged to participate as we continue to explore the challenges and the potential cultural diversity offers to contemporary societies and workplaces. On behalf of the Faculty of Psychology and the planning committee, I look forward to welcoming you to the conference and to Bergen!

Conference Organizer's Letter

Colleagues, the next deadline to submit proposals for the 2015 IAIR conference to be held in Bergen, Norway is December 31, 2014. As the chair for the conference, I want to encourage you to

submit your proposal as soon as possible, instead of waiting till the final deadline of January 31st. The disadvantage of waiting until the final deadline is that you may

not have the opportunity to revise and re-submit your proposal, should it be found wanting. As an appetizer, the opening reception will be held in the 750-year old

Conference Organizer's Letter



David L. Sam,
Chair, IAIR
Scientific Committee
and Conference
Organizer

King's Banqueting Hall –
Håkon's Hall (see
[http://
www.bymuseet.no/
index.php?
vis=78&spr=en](http://www.bymuseet.no/index.php?vis=78&spr=en)).

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The International Academy for Intercultural Research (IAIR) invites researchers to submit proposals for the 9th biennial congress on Intercultural Relations to be held in Bergen, Norway

June 28 – July 2, 2015. The conference in Bergen, IAIR2015 Bergen, is the Academy's 9th Biennial congress and has as its theme: **Realizing the Potential of Cultural Diversity in Society and at the Workplace.** The conference theme is one that is high on the agenda of most multicultural societies as they challenge societies politically, economically, socially, legally, and culturally. These challenges call for a concerted effort to achieve equity and full participation of all cultural communities in the larger society. Any discussion around this topic therefore requires a multi-disciplinary

approach. Thus, this conference is opened to scholars from all fields, from communication, psychology, sociology, political science, and many related fields and disciplines. The ultimate goal of this conference is to bring to Bergen leading scholars of the world to share research findings, engage in dialogue on how to tap into the positive sides of cultural diversity, and to discuss how employers, institutions, and governments can realize these potentials.

The conference includes invited keynote lectures and invited symposia by award-winning international scholars, together with open symposia, individual papers, posters and roundtable discussions. In addition, there is a pre-conference workshop—**Fellows' Day Workshop**—which offers senior researchers and scholars the opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas at a higher academic and scientific level of a chosen topic. The topic for the 2015 Fellows' Day Workshop is **The Value of Cultural Diversity: Rhetoric and Reality** to be organized by Dr. Milton J.

Bennett, Intercultural Development Research Institute, Milan, Italy.

Two keynote lectures will also be given:

- **Dr. Jim Sidanius**, Harvard University, USA
Title of lecture: "Macro-Micro Interfacing and the Production of Group-Based Social Hierarchy: The Case of Individual Differences in Social Dominance and Institutions Socio-Political Terror."
- **Dr. Maykel Verkuyten**, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
Title of lecture: "The Struggle Over Political Power: Attitudes Towards Immigrants' Integration in the Political Domain."

For more information about the conference visit the conference website:

www.iair2015.com.

Contact: iair2015@uib.no or da-vid.sam@psysp.uib.no

David L. Sam, Scientific Committee chair and IAIR 2015 conference organizer

IMPORTANT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

- ◆ Second proposal submission deadline: December 31, 2014
⇒ Accepted decisions by February 15, 2015
- ◆ Final deadline for proposal submissions: January 31, 2015
⇒ Accepted decisions by March 15, 2015
- ◆ Early Registration Deadline for the Conference: April 15, 2015

Upcoming Deadlines for 2015 IAIR Awards

In addition to proposal submission deadlines approaching, the due dates for three IAIR biennial awards are coming up. Please see the links to each award's page on the Academy website for more information:

Early Career Award

Due Date: January 1, 2015

The Early Career Award seeks to honor and recognize developing scholars who are moving the intercultural and cross-cultural research fields forward into the future. Individuals are eligible for this award if they have made substantial contributions to intercultural relations within six (6) years of receiving a PhD or equivalent advanced degree. Promising candidates **MUST** be nominated by an **IAIR Fellow**. So esteemed Fellows, please take time to recommend those whose work has caught your attention. Please send your nominations to the Early

Career Award Committee chair, Dr. Steve Kulich steve.kulich@gmail.com.

More information: <http://www.intercultural-academy.net/awards/early-career-award.html>

Rae and Dr. Dan Landis Outstanding Dissertation Award

Due Date: January 1, 2015

This award is intended to recognize and honor outstanding research by aspiring intercultural researchers. Nominated doctoral theses (dissertations) must be relevant to the field of intercultural studies. Doctoral theses eligible for an award must have been completed (and accepted by the awarding university) between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2014. Please send nominations to the Dissertation Award Committee chair, Dr. Arzu Wasti at awas-ti@sabanciuniv.edu.

More information: <http://www.intercultural-academy.net/awards/dissertation-award.html>

The William B. Gudykunst Outstanding Book Award

Due Date: March 15, 2015

This award recognizes the best book in intercultural research written by a member of the Academy. For the 2015 award, the selection committee calls for nominations (including self-nominations) for books (including edited books) written by members of the Academy and published in 2013 and 2014. All nominating letters and supporting materials must be submitted the Book Award Committee chair, Dr. Rosita Albert (alber001@umn.edu). More information: <http://www.intercultural-academy.net/awards/intercultural-book-award.html>

IAIR Members

Ronald Fischer

My name is Ronald Fischer and I am a reader at Victoria University of Wellington and a fellow of the Centre for Applied Cross-Cultural Research. Growing up behind the Iron Curtain in former East Germany made me deeply curious about the wider world beyond, and this curiosity about other people, their cultures and social conditions has driven a lot of my research. Since then, I have been fortunate to work with individuals and communities in remote corners of the world. My work today focuses

on an integration of social sciences with biological and evolutionary approaches to provide a more interdisciplinary and holistic perspective on human behaviour in social context and help with the development of theory-driven interventions to address social and human problems. I have been awarded a Marie Curie-Cofund Fellowship at the Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies in Denmark to pursue this vision focusing on collective rituals. Colleen Ward introduced me to IAIR and I en-

joyed the friendly atmosphere during my first Intercultural Academy Conference in Taiwan in 2004. I have been involved with the IAIR community since then, reviewing for the journal and being part of the selection committee for the Dan and Rae Landis Doctoral Thesis Award commission in



Ronald Fischer,
IAIR Full Member

Ronald Fischer, cont.

some years. My work on organizational justice and values was honoured in 2007 with an Early Career Award from IAIR at the conference in Groningen. My work continues to attract attention, and more recently, I was included in the top

ten list for most cited cross-cultural psychologists. I am an associate editor for the *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology* and also serve on a number of editorial boards of psychology and management journals. Outside work, I practice and

teach Capoeira (an Afro-Brazilian martial-arts) and love photography. Check out my blog at culture-mindspace.blogspot.com.

Email: ronald.fischer@vuw.ac.nz

Lili Jiang



**Lili Jiang,
New IAIR Student
Member**

I am Lili Jiang, a doctoral candidate at Göttingen University in Germany. I have been trained and worked as a Chinese instructor at Sichuan University, China. I also studied and focused on foreign language education at State University of New York in the United States and Uppsala University in Sweden. Currently I am based in

Germany and research the development of Chinese international students' identities during the process of their study in German universities. My research interest is focused on study abroad experiences and cosmopolitanism. My first encounter with IAIR started from reading articles in the *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*. With great excitement, I decided to join the aca-

demic family. Outside of my research and study, besides enjoying playing a Chinese traditional string instrument called Erhu/ Chinese fiddle, I am also a modern dancer and choreographer.

Email address: ljiang1120@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/415903.html>

Grace M. Kibanja



**Grace M. Kibanja,
IAIR Full Member**

I hold a PhD in social psychology from Makerere University, Uganda, as well as an Msc in research psychology and an honors degree both from Rhodes University, South Africa. Currently, I am a senior lecturer in the School of Psychology, College of Humanities & Social Sciences, Makerere University, Uganda. I teach social psychology, community psychology, psychology of gender,

and conflict & negotiation management. I am co-author of the book entitled, *Escaping from Behavioural Poverty in Uganda: The Role of Culture and Social Capital*, that is widely used as a key reference in University Programmes that teach on development in Sub-Saharan Africa. I enjoy working on collaborative research because it exposes me to the different cultures and learning experiences. It is through collaborative

writing that I was introduced to IAIR by my now research partner, Laura R. Johnson. I am part of the GIP GAP (Group on International Perspective on Governmental Aggression and Peace) team that collaborated in research that led to the realization of two books by Kathy Malley-Morrison entitled, *International Handbook of War, Torture and Terrorism*, and *International Handbook of Peace and Reconciliation* published by Springer in

Grace M. Kibanja, cont.

2013. I also contributed to a chapter in R. Albert & D. Landis (Eds.), *Handbook of Ethno Political Conflict: International Perspective*. I am honoured to be a member of

IAIR, through which I have been exposed to the debates and new developments in intercultural discourse. My current research interests include cultural values, gen-

der, civic engagement, and conflict and peace building.

Emails: gkibanja@yahoo.co.uk; gkibanja@chuss.mak.ac.ug

Jason Lee

Jason Lee is a research fellow at the Centre of Social Media Innovations for Communities (COSMIC) in Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. He graduated with a PhD in education from NTU where he investigated the use of social networking sites for social support among exchange students. Jason joined the IAIR in 2010 and attended his first conference the following year in Singapore as a presenter.

Jason's personal research centers on the use of social media, especially in the field of intercultural communication where he believes that the use of social media will have an increasing impact on intercultural exchanges. His passion



**Jason Lee,
IAIR Full Member**

on intercultural exchanges comes from his previous experience as an exchange student with AFS

Intercultural Programs where he spent a year in Perth, Australia. Jason currently serves as the vice chairman of AFS Malaysia, and he dedicates his free time to the organization by conducting intercultural communication workshops within the region for other partner organizations.

When Jason is not engaged in work, he enjoys travelling to different parts of the world to soak up the culture, and when back home, cycles on his road bike.

Email: JasonLee@ntu.edu.sg; Jason.Lee@afs.org

Website: <http://jason.creaturesville.com/>

Luciara Nardon

I am an associate professor of international business at the Sprott School of Business, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. I grew up in Brazil, did my graduate education in the United States, moved to Belgium, and finally settled in Canada. My research explores the role of culture on management and work practices, with particular emphasis on identifying skills and processes required to succeed in multicultural environments, including intercultural competence, cross-cultural communication, international assignments, and technology mediated work. I have taught graduate and undergraduate courses focusing on international management in Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Den-



**Luciara Nardon,
New IAIR Full Member**

mark, and the United States. In addition to academic articles, I am a co-author of three books, *Managing Across Cultures* (with Rich-

ard M. Steers and Carlos Sanchez-Runde, Cambridge, 2010 & 2013) and *Managing in the Global Economy* (with Richard M. Steers, Sharpe, 2006) and am currently working on a book on developing intercultural competence (under contract with University of Toronto Press). I am excited to become a member of the Academy and am looking forward to meet likeminded people in Norway. In my free time I love travelling, cooking with my family, and practicing Tai Chi.

Email: Luciara.nardon@carleton.ca

Website: <http://sprott.carleton.ca/directory/nardon-luciara/>

Closing Thoughts

I hope that you have enjoyed this most recent issue of WWA, and that the contents have both informed and motivated you to join us this summer in Bergen, Norway for the 9th biennial conference of the IAIR.

It is also my hope that, if you have not yet contributed your profile information for inclusion in the WWA series, that you will please consider doing so in the coming weeks. Your participation is essential for the success of this joint endeavor, as our members are the heart and soul of the Academy and of the WWA series. Please know that the time

you invest in sharing your profile information with the membership does not go unnoticed—you may be surprised how many members have contacted me in appreciation of your contributions!

In closing, Academy President

“Your participation is essential for the success of this joint endeavor, as our members are the heart and soul of the Academy and of the WWA series.”

Young Yun Kim and I send our sincere thanks to those who have already contributed their profile information and warmly encourage others to do so very soon. The final issue of the series will come out in June 2015, and having your profile information well in advance is a tremendous help to me as I prepare each remaining issue.

Wishing you all a happy close to the 2014 calendar year!

Kelly McKay-Semmler, IAIR secretary and WWA series editor

Visit the IAIR Website for More Information

Thanks to our webmaster, Anand Chandrasekar, the Academy website now has a page dedicated to archiving the Who We Are series issues (available at: <http://www.intercultural-academy.net/about-iair/who-we-are.html#download-pdf>).

In addition, as members’ profiles are featured in the WWA series, they are added to a growing collec-

tion of individually clickable profiles listed by member name. Individuals looking for information about specific IAIR members can now easily browse and click on member profiles, while the Who We Are issues are archived for those interested in viewing the profiles as a periodic compilation.

The clickable list of member profiles is available at:

<http://www.intercultural-academy.net/about-iair/who-we-are.html>.

It is our goal to have all of our members featured in the series and on the website by the 2015 biennial conference in Bergen, Norway. In the coming weeks, the IAIR secretary, Kelly McKay-Semmler, will be in contact with each member to solicit his/her profile.



IAIR 2015

Biennial Conference in Bergen, Norway

For more information visit: <http://www.uib.no/en/rg/saw/45318/9th-biennial-congress-international-academy-intercultural-research>

International Academy for Intercultural Research



The primary purpose of the Academy is to promote intercultural understanding. Accordingly, it promotes and encourages research, theory, and practice in the field of intercultural relations. The Academy also strives to disseminate to the public information regarding intercultural relations and it encourages interchanges between people with an interest in intercultural relations. The ultimate goal of the Academy is to promote world peace and prosperity through applications of academic principles and research findings to the betterment of human realities.

In furtherance of the goals, the Academy is an explicitly interdisciplinary forum which promotes and facilitates intercultural research in the areas of Psychology, Sociology, Communication, Education, Anthropology, Management, Political Science, and other areas of specialization in the social sciences and practice.

Visit us on the World-Wide Web at:
<http://www.intercultural-academy.net/>

Encourage Your Colleagues to Join

It is our mission to encourage the highest quality empirical research and practice aimed at understanding the ways in which cultures interact and the results, for good or ill, of those interactions. We invite all serious scholars of intercultural relations to join with us in this important enterprise—for we can have no greater purpose as scientists than reducing and, hopefully, eliminating intercultural conflict at all levels from individuals and groups to whole societies and nations. Please encourage your colleagues who are doing work in these areas to consider joining IAIR.

Benefits of Membership

- Subscription to the *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, the official journal of the Academy either on-line or hard copy.



Information about membership in IAIR is available on our website at www.intercultural-academy.net/

- Access to past issues of the Journal through Science Direct, a service of

Elsevier, Ltd.

- Significantly reduced fees for the biennial conferences
- Access to the member directory.
- Reduced subscription fees to many relevant Elsevier journals

Levels of Membership

Three levels of membership are available: fellow, full member, and student member. Criteria and application procedures are available on the website at <http://www.intercultural-academy.net/membership/levels-of-membership.html>