

## Special points of interest:

- IAIR is an interdisciplinary organization.
- There are currently 270 members.
- The next IAIR conference will be in New York, USA, June 25th-29th, 2017.

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## From the President's Desk

The work of the members of the Academy has never been more crucial than now. Economic uncertainty and fears from terrorism have motivated many people across the world to blame "the other" (immigrants in particular but all who are different) and seek political leaders who promise safety and security through walls and exclusion. Identity threat has become a common refrain from many segments of our societies.

The mission of IAIR asserts the opposite: we are dedicated to the understanding and improvement of intercultural relations through world-class social science research. We believe in engaging in dialogue rather than closing the door. You have confirmed this belief. More than 120 symposia, papers and posters have been submitted for the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference by re-



*Nan Sussman,*

searchers from 28 countries. Your research hypothesizes and tests interventions that decrease hate and violence, increase intercultural understanding, and change attitudes and behaviors. Additionally, attendance at the upcoming conference allows for new opportunities for research collaboration across borders as we grapple with similar social, psychological and intercultural issues.

Our research findings must be made available and accessible to elected officials so they can develop evidence-based public policy. Let's keep in

mind that we have witnessed countries, leaders and communities display enormous generosity of spirit and welcome to refugees and the disadvantaged.

It is important for us to continue modeling civil dialog especially with those with whom we disagree. I encourage you to participate in the Conference, held in what is arguably one of the most diverse cities in the world, and proudly so.

Into this sober message, I want to wish each of you a relaxing holiday season with family and friends. And the optimistic hope that 2017 will prove to be a year with more intercultural tolerance and respect.

Warm wishes,

Nan

## Call for IAIR Awards

Dear Members of the Academy

As you know, at each conference, we recognize colleagues whose research is outstanding. We rely on Academy members to nominate their colleagues and to serve on the selection committees. The details about the nominating process can be found at the Academy website ([www.intercultural-academy.net](http://www.intercultural-academy.net))

	Nomination Deadline	Committee chair
Outstanding Dissertation	January 31, 2017	Katje Hanke
Early Career Award	January 1, 2017	Wenshan Jia
Lifetime Achievement	January 1, 2017	Dharm Bhawuk
Outstanding Book (2014-16)	March 15, 2017	Rosita Albert

Please take the time to nominate a colleague, those at the beginning of their careers and those whose cumulative work has shaped our field. Awardees will be recognized at the 2017 Staten Island Conference and will give a presentation about their research. Early nominations facilitate the much appreciated work of the chairs and their committees.

## Janet Bennett - Fellow Representative

### My Background

A long time ago, in a land far, far away, I found myself living for two years on a one-mile square tropical island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. As a member of the U. S. Peace Corps, my worldview was transformed from being a child of the seventies into a global soul. And that has shaped my subsequent career.

For the last thirty years, I have served as the executive director of the nonprofit Intercultural Communication Institute, sponsor of the Summer Institute for Intercultural Communication, as well as the Winter Institute, the Qatar Institute. and the Master of Arts Degree in Intercultural Relations. ICI works diligently to maintain its reputation as the premier intercultural learning



**Janet Bennett,**  
**IAIR Fellow**

institute for professional development

My work includes designing and delivering programs for corporations, NGOs, nonprofits, govern-

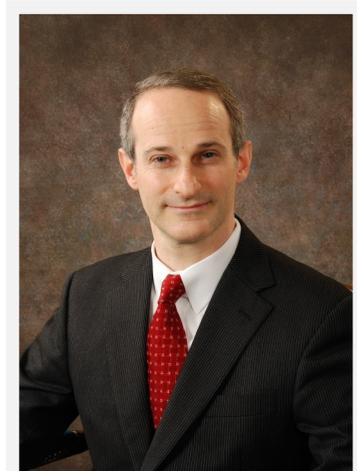
ment agencies, professional associations, healthcare organizations, over one hundred colleges and universities, and private schools. Currently, I have been focused on preparing trainer cohorts within organizations, to develop sustainable cultural diversity initiatives using internal trainers. I regularly offer intensive course in Japan, Austria, China, and the Netherlands, as well as teaching at Portland State University.

My recent publications have focused on intercultural competence, training of trainers, and particularly my current passion, on the integration of diversity and global initiatives. I recently completed the adventure of editing the *SAGE Encyclopedia of Intercultural Competence*, published in 2015.

## Adam Komisarof -Fellow Representative

I am a full professor in Keio University's Faculty of Letters and also teach in the Keio University Business School. I also conduct corporate workshops in intercultural communication in both Japanese and English.

My research interests lie in Japan-based acculturation, as well as broader theoretical conceptualizations of acculturation processes and outcomes (*At Home Abroad: The Contemporary Western Experience in Japan*, Reitaku University Press). My most recent book focuses on resilience strategies employed among transnational academics (*Crossing Boundaries and Weaving Intercultural Work, Life, and Scholarship in Globalizing Universities*, Routledge, with Zhu Hua).



**Adam Komisarof,**  
**IAIR Fellow**

As a Fellows Representative I hope to continue the growth, stability, and enrichment of IAIR, particularly in matters concerning membership. I firmly

believe that the quality of our academic society begins with the quality of its membership. It is essential that we maintain our strong membership base, while at the same time increasing our global representation from East Asia and other currently underrepresented regions.

I also hope to preserve and extend IAIR's current strengths: membership with world-class academic credentials, and conferences characterized by an intimate, collegial atmosphere. I hope to safeguard this delicate balance as we grow, yet keep the high standards for membership that make IAIR such a special organization and a pleasure in which to belong.

\*New board members were elected by acclamation for the 2017-19 term due to an uncontested slate.

## Kelly McKay-Semmler - Member Representative

I am an associate professor in the Department of Communication Studies at the University of South Dakota, USA. My primary areas of research and teaching are in intercultural and intergroup communication with an emphasis on cross-cultural adaptation. Specifically, my research has examined the role of communication in cross-cultural adaptation and host community members' attitudes toward immigrants. Currently, I am working alongside Prof. Young Yun Kim (general editor) as the associate editor of the upcoming *International Encyclopedia of Intercultural Communication*, an official publication of the International Communication Association (ICA).

I attended my first IAIR conference at the University of Hawaii in 2009 as a graduate student and have



**Kelly McKay-Semmler,  
IAIR Full Member**

since attended each of the subsequent biennial conferences. As IAIR secretary from 2012-2015, I also had the distinct pleasure of corresponding with many of you personally as editor of the *Who We Are* series, Past

-President Young Yun Kim's initiative to enhance our collective understanding of IAIR's membership. As I compiled your profiles and member reflections, I came to a more acute awareness of the vast diversity of our members' expertise and experiences and, simultaneously, the interdisciplinary bonds that unite us in promoting intercultural understanding. Stepping outside of our disciplinary silos there are opportunities for practicing a principle we know to be true: that multiple and diverse perspectives mindfully brought to bear on common goals foster a more complete understanding of the issues at hand and awareness of potential pathways to resolution.

I am delighted and honored to join the IAIR Board to represent you and promote the organizational goals of the Academy as a full member representative.

## Justine Dandy – Member Representative

I am a Senior Lecturer in psychology in the School of Arts and Humanities at Edith Cowan University (ECU). My research interests are in social and cross-cultural psychology, specifically cultural identity, intergroup relations, and attitudes to immigration, multiculturalism and diversity.

In the past six years my research focus has been on intercultural relations and social cohesion in multicultural Australian communities, and I have published both qualitative and quantitative research in this area (including in *IJIR*: Dandy & Pe-Pua, 2010). I am the Australian team leader for the research project 'Mutual Intercultural Relations in Plural Societies' led by John Berry, and I am also involved in an international project examining social markers of immigrant inclusion, with other IAIR members and led by Chan-Hoong Leong and Adam Komisarof. My recent publications



**Justine Dandy,  
IAIR Full Member**

include a chapter on intercultural relations in Australia, in a forthcoming text for Cambridge University Press (John Berry, editor), and findings from my work with col-

leagues: examining social cohesion in Australia from the perspectives of people from refugee backgrounds (Dandy & Pe-Pua, *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies*); and migrant and refugee women's experiences of pregnancy and antenatal care (Owens, Dandy, & Hancock, *Women and Birth*).

I have been a member of the Academy since 2011. I grew up in the multicultural contexts of Australia, the USA and Canada, and have seen both the tensions and benefits of living in culturally diverse communities. I am committed to the promotion of intercultural understanding, and believe that the Academy's role in promoting and disseminating high quality research that informs policy and practice is vital. I hope to further strengthen the Academy's responsibilities and activities by serving on the Academy Board and related committee activities as requested by the Board President.

## IAIR Biennial Conference News

We are excited to welcome the IAIR membership and other scholars from around the world to the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial IAIR Conference to be held at the College of Staten Island, New York City, USA, June 25-29, 2017.

We have received more than 120 submissions for symposia, papers and posters. This conference portends to be intellectually stimulating with ample opportunities for networking and fun. See the conference website: [www.csi.cuny.edu/iair](http://www.csi.cuny.edu/iair)

**LOGISTICS** We are diligently planning the 2017 Biennial Conference. Registration will open January 2, 2017 for early bird discounts. Member registration is \$490.00 for early bird between January 2<sup>nd</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>, \$530.00 regular fee for registrants between April 16<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>, and \$583.00 for late registrants between May 16<sup>th</sup> and June 10<sup>th</sup>. For Fellows, there is also an early bird discount for registration for the June 25 Fellows Day event as well. The conference will include prominent keynote speakers, several days of scholarly presentations and discussion, talks by Academy Award winners (scholars, not actors!), and several evenings of cultural programming. The conference will feature an extensive book exhibits area.

Board members should plan to arrive by the morning of June 24<sup>th</sup>. Board meetings will take place in the afternoon and evening of the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**BOOK EXHIBIT** We will have an exhibit of books relevant to our field. We would also like to feature books by member authors. Please send a citation for each of your books to [iair2017@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:iair2017@csi.cuny.edu). Publishers will be contacted to secure a copy of your book.

**FILM FESTIVAL** We are planning an intercultural film festival for Tuesday evening (the 27<sup>th</sup>). If you have produced a film that you would like to submit or you have the name of a film that you have seen, used in class, etc. please let us know. You can contact us through the conference email address: [iair2017@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:iair2017@csi.cuny.edu)

**HOUSING** There are two housing options:

1. The College of Staten Island dormitory housing, known as Dolphin Cove, and The Staten Island Hilton Garden Inn. The Dolphin Cove rates begin at \$58.00 for a single attendee bedroom (within a suite). Apartments range from two, three, and four bedrooms, each with a shared full kitchen, living area and one bathroom per every two bedrooms. Dolphin Cove also offers linen services and an on-premise fitness center.
2. The Hilton Garden Inn offers two room options both at a special discounted conference rate of \$139.00 (taxes additional): a room with one King sized bed or a room with two Queen sized beds. The Hilton Garden Inn offers an on-premise fitness center, an indoor pool, babysitting services and more.

For more information please visit our conference website at [www.csi.cuny.edu/iair/accommodations.html](http://www.csi.cuny.edu/iair/accommodations.html).

## IAIR Biennial Conference News (cont.)

**OPTIONAL EVENTS** include attendance at a Staten Island Yankees (farm team of the storied New York Yankees) baseball game. Baseball on Staten Island began with a stadium in the same location overlooking the bay. The first game played was in April 1886. It was said that, "The grand stand overlooks the bay, and a cool, refreshing breeze adds to the comfort of the onlookers; the playing grounds are neatly sodded, and altogether the Metropolitanans can boast of one of the best parks in the country." At that time, the team name was Metropolitanans and the audience was also given a view to the construction of the Statue of Liberty completed in October of that same year. The updated Richmond County Bank Ballpark was opened in 2001 with 7171 seats.

Another optional event is a tour of our Island's historic and culturally diverse sights. Beginning with a stop at the settler's first town, Historic Richmond Town is a completely authentic, original town and farm house complex featuring unique treasures from the mid-1600s. Next a stop at Fort Wadsworth, a Gateway National Recreation Area which has guarded the entrance to the New York Harbor for over 200 years. Strategically located on the west shores of the Narrows, it has the distinction of being the fort with the longest continuous military history in the United States. Then a stop at the September 11 Memorial/Postcards on the harbor in St. George. This tribute is an outdoor sculpture built in 2004 dedicated to the 274 Staten Island residents killed in the September 11 attacks of 2001 and in the 1993 World Trade Center Bombing. The centerline between the two walls (postcards) points directly at Ground Zero, thereby referencing the twin towers of the World Trade Center destroyed on 9/11. Afterwards the tour will visit the Staten Island Museum at Snug Harbor for the exhibit: *Infinite Compassion: Avalokiteshvara in Asian Art*. Infinite Compassion introduces visitors to Buddhist art, culture and belief across Asia. After the Buddha, Avalokiteshvara, is the most ubiquitous deity in Mahayana Buddhism. This revered Bodhisattva promotes compassion. The exhibit will interpret this aspect of the Buddhist art with sculptures, ritual objects, and paintings (thangkas) from India, Tibet, China, Nepal and Japan, as well as contemporary Asian art.

These optional events require individual registrations.

## IAIR President-elect Election

Please remember to cast your vote for IAIR President-elect before Saturday, December 31st.

The link below will take you to the online IAIR election ballot. Candidate statement links precede the voting choices. You may click on those links in the ballot to download statements from each candidate before you vote if you wish. When you are ready to make your selection, please click on the name of the candidate you prefer. When you are finished, click on the arrow at the bottom of the page. Your ballot will then be submitted.

Warm regards, Young Yun Kim, IAIR Past President/Chair Elections Committee

[2017IAIR\\_PresElect\\_Voting](#)

## Fellow Guest Column

John Berry, Queen's University, Psychology Department, Kingston, Canada, and Higher School of Economics, Department of Sociocultural Research, Moscow, Russian Federation



**John Berry,  
IAIR Fellow**

### **Mutual Intercultural Relations in Plural Societies.**

There is probably no more serious challenge to social stability and cohesion in the contemporary world than the management of intercultural relations within culturally plural societies. Successful management depends on many factors including a research-based understanding of the historical, political, economic, religious and psychological features of the groups that are in contact. The core question is "How shall we all live together?"

I am currently completing a book (Cambridge University Press), called *Mutual Intercultural Relations*. It is based on a project entitled Mutual Intercultural Relations in Plural Societies (MIRIPS). A description of the project is available on line at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/cacr/research/mutual-intercultural-relations-in-plural-societies-mirips>.

The first goal of the project is to evaluate three hypotheses of intercultural relations (multiculturalism, contact and integration) across societies in order to identify some basic psychological principles that may underlie intercultural relations across cultural contexts. This goal is pursued by repeatedly examining some features of intercultural relations in a number of societies that vary in their intercultural contexts. The second goal is to relate the pattern of findings to the contextual features of these societies, including a country's extant cultural diversity and their policies that deal with their diversity, and their historical, political and economic characteristics that may influence intercultural relationships. The third goal is to employ the findings and relationships to propose some policies and programmes that may improve the quality of intercultural relationship globally.

The research has been carried out by colleagues in 16 countries, who have arranged and adapted the evaluations to be appropriate for their particular contexts. In each country, two or more samples were drawn that represent the dominant ('national') group, and the non-dominant ('ethnic') group.

The core ideas that are addressed in the project have been derived from the Canadian policy of multiculturalism. They are:

- (i) Multiculturalism hypothesis: When individuals feel secure in their place in a society, they will be able to better accept those who are different from themselves; conversely when individuals are threatened, they will reject those who are different.
- (ii) Contact hypothesis: When individuals have contact with, and engage with others who are culturally different from themselves, they will achieve mutual acceptance, under certain conditions.
- (iii) Integration hypothesis: When individuals identify with, and are socially connected to, both their heritage culture and to the larger society in which they live, they will achieve higher levels of well-being than if they relate to only one or the other culture, or to neither.

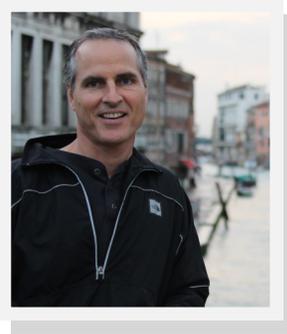
The overall findings are that out of 19 possible evaluations of each hypothesis, the multiculturalism hypothesis is supported in 16 of the national samples, and in 15 of the ethnic samples (with 2 opposing findings). The contact hypothesis is supported in 12 of the national and 11 of the ethnic samples (with two opposing findings). The integration hypothesis is supported in 12 of the national and 13 of the ethnic samples (with 5 opposing findings).

This pattern of findings is interpreted as generally supporting the three hypotheses, but with some variations according to national demographic, historical, political and economic factors. On this basis, I consider that there is sufficient support to propose that plural societies should seek to achieve positive intercultural relations by providing: (i) a secure environment for all groups that is free of threats and discrimination; (ii) opportunities for intercultural contact; and (iii) advocating for integrative identities.

## Newsletter Editor's Note

We are always on the lookout for newsletter content. If you would like to contribute a brief story (350-500 words), research insight from the field, or members in the news highlight that is relevant to our scholarly community, we will gladly receive them

New Members and Fellows: If you are new to the academy we would like to feature your profile in a future edition of the newsletter. If you will provide us with a 250 word biography/profile statement that describes your research



**Ripley Smith,**  
**IAIR Secretary and**  
**Newsletter Editor**

interests, personal hobbies or non-academic interests, and introduction/connection to IAIR along with a high resolution photograph of yourself we will introduce you to the membership in an upcoming newsletter. Please also provide us with a preferred email address and the URL of your institutional-affiliated personal website.

Submissions may be sent to:

[r-smith@bethel.edu](mailto:r-smith@bethel.edu)

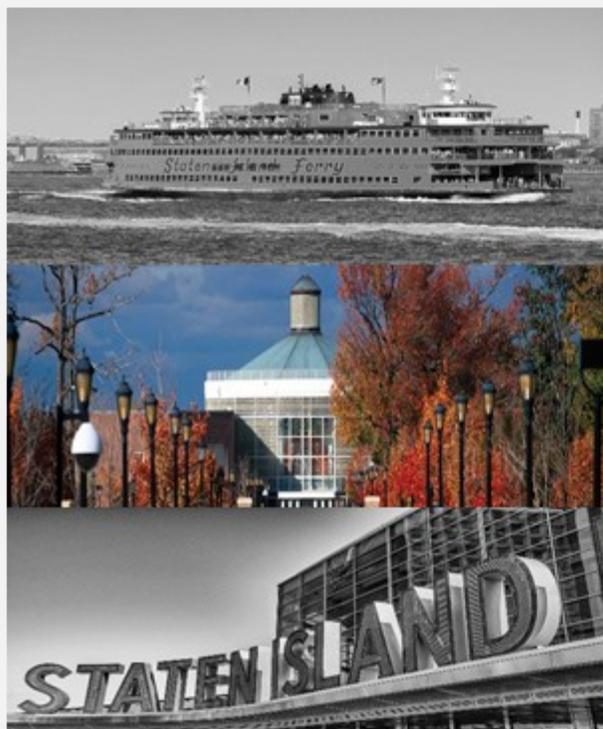
## Visit the IAIR Website for More Information

Thanks to our webmaster, Anand Chandrasekar, the Academy website has a page dedicated to archiving Newsletters as well as 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, they are added to a growing collection 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>.



## Save the Date

### IAIR 2017

10<sup>th</sup> Biennial IAIR Conference to be held in  
Staten Island, New York, USA  
June 25-29, 2017

You are invited to join us for the 20<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary of the International Academy for  
Intercultural Research. Our theme will be:  
**Applying Research to Improve Intercultural  
Relations**

For more information contact us at  
[iair2017@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:iair2017@csi.cuny.edu).

The conference Website is:  
<http://www.csi.cuny.edu/iair>

## 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.



**Information about membership in IAIR is available on our website at [www.intercultural-academy.net/](http://www.intercultural-academy.net/)**

### Levels of Membership

Three levels of membership are available: fellow, full member, and student member.

### Benefits of Membership

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

Criteria and application procedures are available on the website at <http://www.intercultural-academy.net/membership/>