

## Special points of interest:

- IAIR is an interdisciplinary organization.
- There are currently 232 members.
- The next IAIR conference will be in New York, USA, June 25th-29th, 2017.

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## From the President's Desk

World events continue to be tumultuous, much of it focusing on ethnic, religious, and intercultural violence and prejudice. How can these events inform our research, be translated for the public and shape governmental policy? These and other topics will be presented and debated at the **10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference, June 24-29, 2017 at the College of Staten Island.**

Several special programmatic features will highlight the conference. Two **keynote speakers** share their work and research. Simon Adams is the Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect. The advocacy of this non-governmental organization focuses on the prevention of mass atrocities, genocide, and war crimes by conducting research and recommending strategies to protect religious minorities and imperiled ethnic groups. David Webber, psychologist and Assistant Professor of Homeland Security, will present his latest research on the variables and environmental conditions that create terrorists and



*Nan Sussman,*

the strategies that he and his colleagues have successfully employed to de-radicalize violent extremists.

Lunch hours will provide "**special theme tables**" so that you and colleagues can discuss topics of mutual interest led by invited facilitators.

Interested in learning how to publish a book in the intercultural field? Have lunch with an IAIR author. Wish to know how grass-roots groups in the New York area are providing friendship and informal acculturation services to refugees? Dine with members of a local synagogue who are working with a Syrian family in New Jersey. Want to set up an international virtual classroom? Brown bag it with

American faculty who have teamed up with colleagues in Japan and Turkey.

There will be plenty of time for socializing and networking, too. Have a hot dog and cheer for the Staten Island Yankees. Explore the revolutionary history of Staten Island. Enjoy receptions, dinners and a film festival.

**The deadline for the Early Bird Discount is this Saturday, April 15.**

Looking forward to seeing you in Staten Island.

Nan





## Brislin to Receive Lifetime Award

IAIR Fellow, Richard Brislin will be awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2017 Staten Island conference. Dr. Brislin earned his Ph.D. at The Pennsylvania State University in 1969 and went on to teach, conduct groundbreaking research, and direct programs at Western Washington State University, Georgetown University, the University of British Columbia, The East-West Center, the University of Hawaii, and multiple visiting professorships.

Dr. Brislin is a Fellow in both the American Psychological Association and the Association for Psychological Science. His publications include more than twenty books and edited volumes, dozens of book chapters, and more than fifty journal articles spanning over four decades. A Senior Fellow at the East-West Center for more than twenty years, Dr. Brislin has trained and influenced generations of scholars studying intercultural relations.

## Schachner to Receive Early Career Award



Dr. Maja Schachner will be the recipient of IAIR's Early Career Award at the biennial conference in Staten Island. Dr. Schachner earned a joint Ph.D. in Educational and Cross-cultural Psychology at the Friedrich-Schiller-Universität in Jena, Germany and Tilburg University, Netherlands in 2013. Following her Ph.D. studies, Dr. Schachner completed two post-doctoral fellowships, first at the University of Postdam, Germany, followed by the College for Interdisciplinary Educational Research, Berlin, Germany.

Dr. Schachner has previously received the Butterworth Young Scientist Award from the *European Association of Developmental Psychology* and the Triandis Doctoral Thesis Award from the *International Association of Cross-Cultural Psychology*. Her research has been published in top education, intercultural relations, and cross-cultural psychology journals. In a very short time she has participated in an impressive range of research collaborations and has demonstrated a willingness to serve the academic community by reviewing articles for numerous scholarly journals.

## Ursula Moffitt - Student Member

Growing up in a working class neighborhood in Albuquerque, New Mexico, ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic diversity were the norm. As a teenager, an exchange year in Germany introduced me to the wider world of intercultural interactions, and also to the many diversities possible around the globe. I lived first with a Turkish German family in the West, then with a White German family in the East, and thus began my ongoing fascination with German history and identity.

After returning to the U.S. to earn a BA in psychology, I moved back to Europe, first to Turkey then to Germany, to earn an MA in German Turkish Social Sciences. I am now in the midst of a PhD in Inclusive Education at the University of Potsdam. I live in Berlin and appreciate the myriad artistic, cultural, and intercultural opportunities the city affords.



**Ursula Moffitt,**  
**IAIR Student Member**

My dissertation focuses on the transmission and understanding of norms regarding German identity, particularly among second and third generation adolescents and young adults of immigrant background. I am em-

ploying critical, qualitative, and quantitative methods to explore how cultural and ethnic diversity are addressed and understood, both during secondary school and beyond, and how these perceptions interact with ideas of what it means to be German today. The IAIR conference in Bergen offered me a great opportunity to discuss with and listen to many researchers interested in related topics, and I am looking forward to many more such interactions at the upcoming conference in New York.

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Website: [www.uni-potsdam.de/en/inklusion/diversityemphasis/moffitt.html](http://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/inklusion/diversityemphasis/moffitt.html)

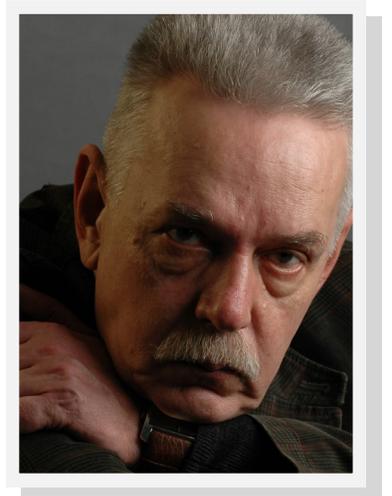
Research group blog:

[www.diversitygrouppotsdam.wordpress.com](http://www.diversitygrouppotsdam.wordpress.com)

## Vladimir Yanchuk – Member

After receiving my PhD in social psychology, I met Professor Peter Smith from Sussex University, with whom I have enjoyed a long term collaboration in cross-cultural research. Thanks to this meeting my interest in intercultural research began and has become the focus of my research for many years. The study of cultural distinctions, accompanied by my acquaintance with more than 80 countries of the world, has created the basis for my theoretical and empirical research in this area.

I enjoy moving around the world and experiencing the infinite cultural diversity which exists. Studying cultural diversity has helped me to develop methodologically integrative, eclectic approaches for social phenomenology analysis. It has also shaped my dialogical approach to psychological knowledge integration, resulting in both theoretical



**Vladimir Yanchuk,**  
**IAIR Full Member**

and applied research using a framework I call the Sociocultural-interdeterminist metatheory.

My specialties are in social, cross-

cultural and intercultural psychology, with particular research interests in the fields of intercultural dialog and mutual understanding, as well as shared meanings and experience formation. Much of my work has been conducted in the context of intercultural conflict resolution and ethnic conflict, with the aim of contributing to prevention or reconciliation.

I have previously been awarded the Francisk Skorina medal for achievements in the development of science and education in Belarus. It is my hope that collaboration with IAIR members will allow me to get acquainted with new colleagues and to find new opportunities for mutual enrichment and development.

Email: [yanchuk1954@gmail.com](mailto:yanchuk1954@gmail.com)



## Borja Martinovic - Member

I am an Associate Professor at the Department of Interdisciplinary Social Science at Utrecht University, the Netherlands, and I am a member of the European Research Centre on Migration and Ethnic Relations (ERCOMER, [www.ercomer.eu](http://www.ercomer.eu)).

By training I am a sociologist and social psychologist. Originally I am from Croatia, but I have lived in the Netherlands for half of my life, which is why I'm fascinated by questions related to immigrant integration and intergroup relations in the context of multi-ethnic societies. My research revolves around the phenomena of ethnic, national and religious group identities, intergroup contacts and relations, and attitudes toward political issues such as immigration and minority rights. I study these topics both from the perspective of dominant groups and from the perspective of ethnic minorities, and I do so by means of surveys and experiments.



**Borja Martinovic,  
IAIR Full Member**

Currently I am working on a large project funded by the European Research Council (ERC Starting Grant) on the topic of collective ownership of a country and its psychological causes and intergroup consequences.

I have been on the editorial board of the International Journal of Intercultural Relations (the Academy's journal) since 2015. I attended the conference in Bergen in 2015 and I look forward to attending the upcoming meeting in NYC in 2017.

Trivia:

- I feel at home in an international environment and I take every opportunity to travel.
- I function in three languages on a daily basis.
- In the summer, after the conference season, you can find me in Croatia on the beach.

Email: [b.martinovic@uu.nl](mailto:b.martinovic@uu.nl)

Website: [www.uu.nl/staff/BMartinovic/0](http://www.uu.nl/staff/BMartinovic/0)

## Member Input Needed

The IAIR conference planning committee is putting together a film forum and needs your help. The evening of Tuesday, June 27th several films will be screened followed by discussion. Our hope is to also screen several conference-theme-relevant films in a small theater during several afternoons.

But to make this film-forum successful, we need your help in identifying films (independent or commercial, feature-length or shorts) that are appropriate to the conference theme and/or will stimulate productive conversation surrounding topics of interest to our members.

Please submit any film title ideas to: [IAIR2017@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:IAIR2017@csi.cuny.edu)



## 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).

## Fellow Guest Column

Adam Komisarof, Professor and Faculty of Letters, Keio University, Japan

### Recognizing the Benefits of Inter-disciplinarity

In 2012-13, I spent a sabbatical at the University of Oxford's Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies. While there, I completed a book titled, *At Home Abroad: The Contemporary Western Experience in Japan*. Toward the end of my stay at the Nissan Institute, I was given the opportunity to present my findings from the book project. A talented young sociologist who was tasked with introducing me approached right before the presentation, and asked quizzically, "What is it that you do again? You're not a sociologist, right? You're not an anthropologist. How can I explain your field?"

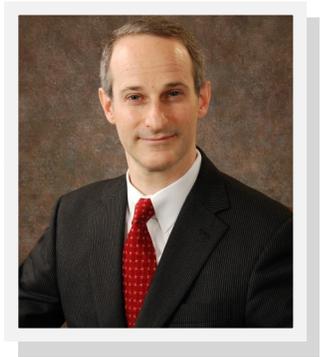
That confused exchange was the genesis of my next book, *Crossing Boundaries and Weaving Intercultural Work, Life, and Scholarship in Globalizing Universities* (Routledge). One of its aims is to forge common conceptual ground for researchers of culture, so I recruited an eclectic group of contributors: scholars in the fields of Cross-cultural Psychology and Intercultural Communication, such as David Sam and Anita Mak, but also sociologists, cultural anthropologists, cultural studies scholars, and most pivotally, my co-editor and co-author of two chapters, Zhu Hua (University of London)—an applied linguist.

In *Crossing Boundaries*, we identify four "schools" of intercultural communication studies, each which employs divergent ontological, epistemological, theoretical, and methodological orientations to culture. We also outline a position for allowing the inclusion of all of them, as each is valuable to understand better the work, life, and scholarship of transnational academics. From this point of departure, we forge more common ground between these schools of thought than is typically recognized, but also conclude that these schools cannot be reduced to facsimiles of each other; in fact, their substantial differences empower researchers from one orientation to "see" phenomena in ways that another might not.

For instance, Zhu Hua's research in interculturality stresses the key role in social interactions played by the orientation and negotiation of identity, while my own acculturation research focuses upon intergroup boundary permeability and belonging. Pairing them yields highly complementary findings as to what constitutes smooth, mutually-satisfying intercultural communication and how to actualize it. Zhu Hua highlights the reflexive relationship between discourse and social relations as well as the importance of aligning self-oriented identity and other-ascribed identity in intercultural interactions, while my acculturation model stresses the central role of belonging—i.e., acculturators' acceptance in their host society's cultural-linguistic community and/or as core members of their work organizations.

Though we employ different conceptual frameworks, nomenclatures, and theoretical assumptions, we fully agree: for positive intercultural relations to be established and maintained, complementary alignments of expectations, attitudes, and communicative behaviors between those living abroad and their hosts regarding who the transnational "is" and where s/he belongs in society are of paramount importance.

In *Crossing Boundaries*, by allowing for multiple approaches to coexist—rather than insisting on the correctness of only one—we are able to forge a richer view of the phenomena under examination. The resulting synergy enables us to see more of the intercultural domain spread before us via multiple vistas that represent unique, yet complementary scholarly viewpoints. By employing diverse approaches to researching intercultural communication, we gain a more nuanced portrait of transnational academics and how they weave work, life, and scholarship. My hope is that members of our IAIR community and others researching culture will more actively create rich collaborative relationships across disciplines, thus broadening our understanding of culture and how it impacts communication and intergroup relations.

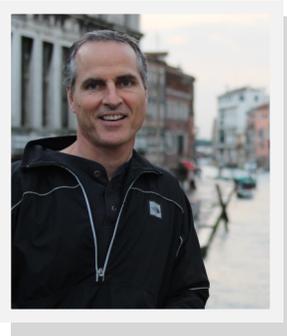


**Adam Komisarof,  
IAIR Fellow**

## 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)

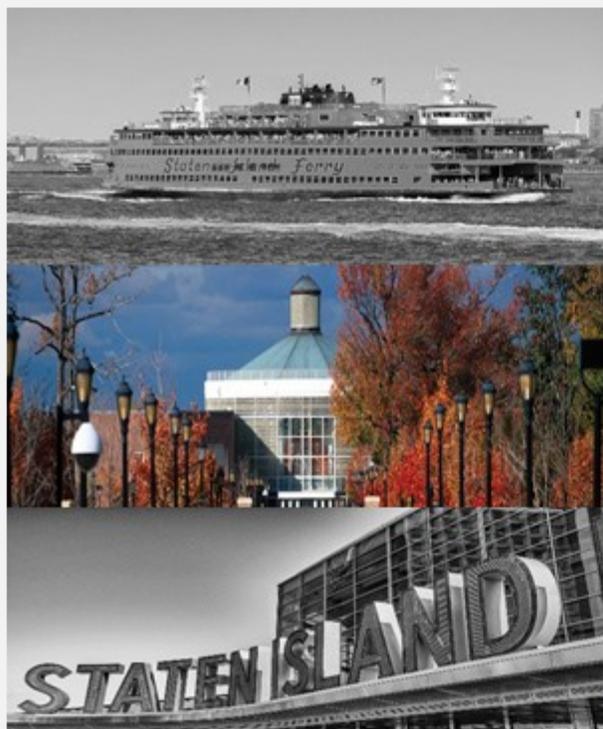
## Visit the IAIR Website for More Information

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/>