



International  
Academy for  
Intercultural

Join us June 12-13  
for our IAIR  
Webinar (p. 14)

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# IAIR Newsletter

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## President's Perspectives



**Steve J. Kulich**  
*IAIR President (2019-2021)*

Dear Members and Fellows of IAIR,

### **Coping Interculturally in the Time of Corona**

With all due to respect to and inspirations from Nobel Prize winner Gabriel García Márquez' great work *Love in the Time of Cholera* (*El amor en los tiempos del cólera*), our trying year of the pandemic continues globally through diverse and at certain times or in some places contested sets of policies, lockdowns, varied vaccination programs, measures for reopening, and hope for some new normalcy soon. And as Fellows and Members of IAIR, many of us are no doubt also considering how this impacts our research. We welcome you to consider some of the proposals that the Executive Council put together for an editorial to start 2021 in IJIR:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0147176720302170> .

### **Black, Asian, Vulnerable Lives and Cultural Identities Matter Everywhere**

We've made clear statements about how we as an Academy aim and intend to show our solidarity with those groups targeted by COVID or subject to any attitudes of prejudice, acts of discrimination, hate crimes, or other injustices in our societies or across the cultures we care about (see our "[Statement of Solidarity](#)" and empathy for BLM and engagement to overcome racism). In short, we...

**stand against** any form of racism, discrimination, injustice, or targeted attitudes or actions toward any social-cultural or vulnerable group anywhere...

**stand for** engaged, responsible scholarship and informed, nonviolent agency that facilitate greater intercultural awareness and social/psychological changes in intergroup relations ...

**stand with** the legitimate emotions and hurts of the vulnerable and victimized, seeking to understand your standpoint and share your pain...

**stand out** to conduct research that informs educators, policy makers, justice systems, institutions or individuals to promote equality and fair treatment of all cultural groups, and seek to

**under+stand together** better ways to address these rifts, resist divisive "isms," bring our diverse cultures together, and bridge the gaps with shared human care and concern as interculturalists.

Steve ([steve.kulich@gmail.com](mailto:steve.kulich@gmail.com))

Shanghai International Studies University (SISU)

## Cushner's Comments

Greetings from my home base in Northeast Ohio where the weather is finally beginning to break with hints of spring all around.

This past year has been a challenge for all of us for obvious reasons. While our Executive Board has convened every 2-3 months thanks to Zoom, and our full board has met twice, like everyone else, we have not been able to convene face-to-face nor have we been able to move forward with our in-person conference as planned. Although we will host a webinar in July during the time previously set aside for our conference, and have rescheduled the conference in Rapperswil for July 2022, our inability to come together has, I am afraid, impacted our ability to grow our membership.



It is with that in mind that I would like to encourage you to invite your colleagues and students to consider applying for membership in the Academy. There is an increasing amount that we have to offer scholars and practitioners alike. In addition to receiving our flagship journal, the International Journal of Intercultural Relations (IJIR), the first and one of the more respected journals in our field, there is a growing array of new inputs and connectivity available through our podcasts (available at: <https://intercultural-academy.net/publications/podcasts.html>), our YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC74hV7YY6HpDmmUv5UwBxUA>), and frequent outreach via LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter.

And we encourage you to consider how you might become more personally involved with the organization – from volunteering to serve on the various standing committees, becoming a part of the conference proposal selection committee that will soon be established, and to begin now to plan your conference presentation proposals for July 2022 (look for the Call for Conference Proposals to circulate soon after our July Webinar). And if you have the capacity to host a conference, we will be considering proposals to host the 2023 and 2025 conferences at our upcoming board meeting in July. Please contact me for specific proposal guidelines if you are interested ([kcushner@kent.edu](mailto:kcushner@kent.edu)).

Thanks for your continued support and involvement with the Academy.

*Ken Cushner*  
Professor Emeritus, Kent State University

With the latest global developments around the COVID-19 pandemic, I am reminded how crises bring out not only the best and worst in individuals, but also expose the strengths and weaknesses of our national cultures, which themselves constitute social and symbolic systems that people construct to coordinate responses to universal human dilemmas (harkening to Kluckhohn and Strodtbeck's work). Here in Japan, we have been fortunate to keep the death rate relatively low—around 9,200 deaths in total as of the start of April. This has been attributed to public health practices such as mask wearing and broad compliance with emergency measures declared by the government, for example, increased telework and early evening closures of restaurants and bars, to stem the spread of infections.



*Adam Komisarof*

### **The Pandemic, Social Values, and Acculturation**

With my background in intercultural communication and acculturation psychology, I attribute such patterns to the strongly socialized values in Japan of commitment to the public good through cooperation and rule compliance, as well as an intense aversion to inconveniencing or troubling others (conceivably arising from a culture of shame, collectivism, and strong uncertainty avoidance). Mask-wearing and vaccinations have not been politicized as they have been in my native United States, where individualism and the freedom to choose are paramount. Yet Japan is also experiencing a glacially slow vaccine rollout (at 52 years old I am unlikely to be vaccinated before August or later) and high rates of vaccine hesitancy, once again stemming from broad risk aversion. The US, on the other hand, has invested aggressively in the development and procurement of vaccines, leading to an overabundant supply, epitomizing the popular adage, “Nothing ventured, nothing gained.”

### **COVID, Cultural Patterns, and Best Practices**

Reflecting on these vastly different choices that have been made by governments and their citizens, I am further reminded of how we, as interculturalists, can contribute to this crisis and other contemporary challenges. When we experience and even embrace the liminal space between cultures, we tend to become open to a broad range of culture-influenced responses to the same basic phenomenon (in this case our behavioral and policy responses to COVID-19). With our understanding of culture as a conditioner (but not controller) of human behavior, we are liberated to a certain extent from such conditioning, which further enhances our ability to appreciate diverse problem-solving approaches in other cultures. Thus, we are well positioned to share best practices, as I am doing with my family and friends in North America, the Middle East, and Europe by encouraging mask-wearing (even early last year when there was doubt as to its efficacy at the start of the pandemic) and gargling with salt water after returning home from outside, as these are tried and true methods in Japan of keeping viruses at bay. The proliferation of best practices, whether it springs from diverse concepts of daily hygienic norms or new ideas emerging in the social and physical sciences, empowers us to address not only the pandemic but also other social, psychological, and public health problems that beg for fresh approaches.

## New Bylaws (2020), First Webinar (2021), Postponed Conference (2022)

In my last newsletter piece, I described several projects in IAIR about which I would like to update you today. First, thanks to the membership's overwhelming support, we received approval for extensive revisions to the by-laws in our referendum last winter.

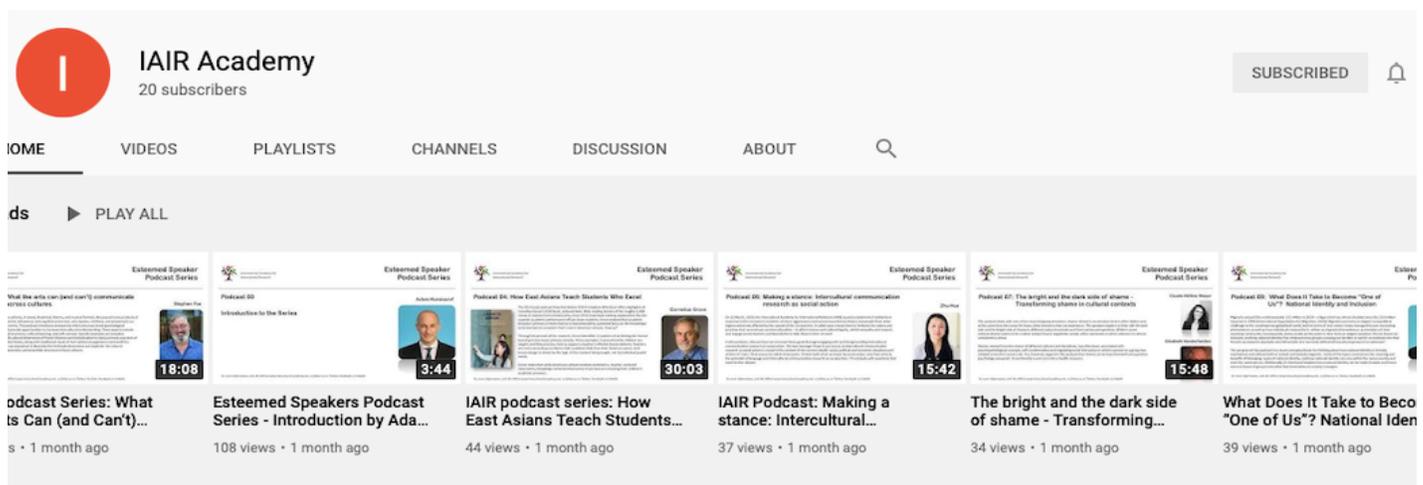
Also, our 2021 biennial conference in Rapperswil, Switzerland has been postponed until 2022, but in its place, we will be hosting a webinar in July with 2 days full of stimulating events, including talks given by many of our prominent members and fellows. The webinar will be free and open to the public, so please encourage your colleagues who are doing intercultural communication research (but not currently involved in IAIR) to attend (see p. 14 and our webpage for details).



## Showcasing Scholars, Recruiting Members

Further, as always, IAIR is looking to expand its membership, particularly to under-represented regions of the world such as Africa and Latin America. If you have any colleagues whom you think would be interested, you can encourage them to join by completing an application on our website. And in our drive to promote qualified members to become fellows, 6 new nominations are being considered this spring.

Finally, the Esteemed Podcast Series has been completed! We have uploaded 14 podcasts from fellows such as John Berry, Colleen Ward, David Sam, and Milton Bennett. I would also like to thank the Social Media Committee for their tremendous publicity of this project and numerous contributions to improve its efficacy, including their establishment of an [IAIR YouTube channel](#). As vaccines proliferate globally and deliver a strong dose of needed hope, I wish you all a safe, healthy, and fruitful spring in the Northern Hemisphere and autumn in the Southern Hemisphere.



Take care, and I am looking forward to seeing you at our webinar this July.

Adam Komisarof ([komisarof.adam@gmail.com](mailto:komisarof.adam@gmail.com))

IAIR President-Elect (2019-2021),

Keio University

## President-Elect (2021-2023)

It is with a great pleasure and honor that I accept this new role as President-Elect of the International Academy for Intercultural Relations. My vision is to continue the important work that the Academy has been involved with and carry on the accomplishments of the past and present Presidents of the Academy. In line with the philosophy of the Academy, I will champion intercultural understanding. Specifically, I will work towards raising the platform of the Academy as an association that stands for social justice and for reducing structural biases. An aspect of social justice is to ensure that the viewpoints of diverse groups are included rather than privileging the perspectives of Western intellectuals. As an Iranian immigrant myself, living most of my life in Toronto, Canada and with over 20 years of research experience in the acculturation field, I am committed to drawing talent to the Academy from diverse backgrounds. I will work towards building a future that hinges on cultural diversity not only within the Academy, but also in partnership with other associations. I firmly believe that providing a meaningful space and a sense of belonging for everyone leads to the fullest range of intellectual possibilities, creative potentials, and mutual respect.



*Saba Safdar*

My experience and skills will contribute to my success in this role. I have been an active Fellow of the Academy since 2007 and a long-time contributor. I have served as an elected Board member (2013-2015), a member of the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Intercultural Relations (IJIR) since 2008, and Associate Editor of IJIR since 2017. I also Co-Chair the Membership Committee of the IAIR.

In addition, I have many years of experience in executive boards of a number of scientific associations, amongst them: Deputy Secretary General of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP, 2016-2020); Chair of the Culture and Psychology School Committee, the educational wing of the IACCP (2018-2022); Chair of the International and Cross-Cultural Section of the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA, 2006-2008); one of the two Canadian delegates representing the CPA at the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) General Assembly (2020-2022), and Head of the Canadian National Panel for IUPsyS (2020-2024). The overarching goals of my various service roles have been to build a professional environment that is equitable and responsible in fostering collaborative exchange.

I hope that by serving as President-Elect, I am able to contribute to the strategic plans of the Academy including promoting “intercultural understanding” and “eliminating intercultural conflict”.

*Saba Safdar* ([ssafdar@uoguelph.ca](mailto:ssafdar@uoguelph.ca); <https://cccr.uoguelph.ca/>)

IAIR President-Elect (2021-2023),  
University of Guelph

Thank you for electing me to serve on the IAIR board. For those of you who don't know me, I am a Professor of Communication based at Alphacrucis College, Sydney Australia, where I have worked for the past twelve years. Prior to that, I was at Macquarie University Australia in the Department of International Communication, and prior to that I was an Assistant Professor at Oregon State University in the Department of Speech Communication. My research interests lie in the area of intercultural communication competence and related areas of cultural empathy, intercultural contact seeking behavior, and international education. For those interested, my publications are listed in my [Google Scholar profile](#). I teach subjects in the area of intercultural communication and research methods, although, in my current role as Deputy Vice President Student Affairs, I am not as often in the classroom as I once was.



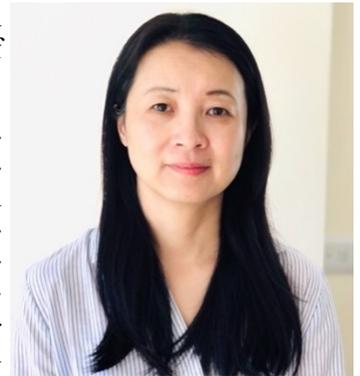
**Lily Arasaratman-Smith**

[\(lily.arasaratman-smith@ac.edu.au\)](mailto:lily.arasaratman-smith@ac.edu.au)

I have belonged to IAIR for ten years and have served on the editorial board of IJIR over those years in addition to serving as an Associate Editor for a couple of years. I enjoyed being part of the organizing committee for the 2019 Fellows Day program. I consider my IAIR colleagues to be my academic 'tribe.' Collectively, we do important work that is not only essential for enhancing our understanding of one another but also for identifying language and pathways to communicate across hurdles that may otherwise seem insurmountable. I have found IAIR to be a community for interdisciplinary research, collaboration, nurturing of emerging scholars, and lasting professional relationships that I have truly valued in my own career. I am invested in contributing to the continued good works of the IAIR community. I look forward to serving you as a Fellow representative.

I am Chair of Educational Linguistics and Director of the MOSAIC Group for Research in Multilingualism, School of Education, Birmingham University. I am fellow of Academy of Social Sciences, the UK. Before joining Birmingham in April, 2020, I was Professor of Applied Linguistics and Communication and Assistant Dean in Internationalization and Head of Department of Applied Linguistics and Communication in Birkbeck College, University of London.

I was born and grew up in China and went to study for my PhD degrees in Newcastle upon Tyne, UK many years ago. My intercultural experience as a student and a transnational scholar underpins the direction of my research and pedagogy of teaching. My main research interests span across multilingual and intercultural communication and child language. Among my recent publications are *Exploring Intercultural Communication: Language in Action* (2019 Routledge, 2nd edition), *Crossing Boundaries and Weaving Intercultural Work, Life, and Scholarship in Globalizing Universities* (2016, Routledge, co-edited with Adam Komisarof) and *Research Methods in Intercultural Communication* (2016, Blackwell). I am book series editor for Routledge Studies in Language and Intercultural Communication and Cambridge Key Topics in Applied Linguistics (both with Claire Kramsch).



**Zhu Hua**

[\(h.zhu.3@bham.ac.uk\)](mailto:h.zhu.3@bham.ac.uk)

I joined IAIR as a member in 2018 and am very honored to be awarded a fellowship this year. I was recently appointed to serve on the Gudykunst Best Book Award Committee in the next couple of years. I am very much looking forward to getting to know the colleagues and the Academy more through this role and other opportunities. If elected to the board, I would like to bring my experience of international collaboration and my commitment to equality and social justice to the role. The next few years are crucial for an international association like IAIR to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on its members and to maintain the vitality of the field. I was inspired by the IAIR Statement of Solidarity related to Covid-19 and the academy's subsequent initiatives to connect comments. In my podcast selected by IAIR, I have made the case for going about intercultural communication research as social action and outlined the social significance of our research. I very much hope to contribute to the Academy's effort to better connect and support our members.



**Anand Chandrasekar**  
([anandc@hawaii.edu](mailto:anandc@hawaii.edu))

I have been a student member of IAIR since 2011. Having recently obtained my doctoral degree from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, I became a full member of IAIR.

Professionally, I am a researcher and a faculty with Center for Creative Leadership in Singapore. The Center for Creative Leadership was a sponsor for the 2011 IAIR conference held in Singapore. I view my research to be at the intersection of three

streams - leadership development, Indian psychology, and positive psychology. I study positive psychological constructs using the perspective of Indian psychology and apply it to leadership development. As a leadership solutions faculty, I design and facilitate leadership development programs, specifically for youth and non-for-profits.

I have been actively involved with IAIR as the webmaster since 2011. I have helped set up, maintain, and update the main IAIR website as well as the website for a couple of IAIR conferences. With a view to making the user experience easier for members, I have, with support from the IAIR Board helped to migrate the website and the membership payments to a newer platform.

In serving on the IAIR Board, I aim to involve myself more closely in understanding and addressing the needs of members and make IAIR offerings more relevant to the membership.

I am an Associate Professor of Intercultural Communication in the Department of Modern Languages, Linguistics & Intercultural Communication at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (USA), where I serve as the Director of Intercultural Communication Graduate Program. I hold Master's degrees in Spanish and English Languages & Literature, and in E-Government Management, and Ph.D. degree in Applied Linguistics focused on intercultural communicative competence. I have been working for more than 25 years in higher education, including 10 years of experience as study abroad program coordinator and Head of university international affairs. I have been lucky to have an opportunity to live, study and work in four countries. I teach and publish in English, Hungarian, Russian and Spanish. Ten years ago, I received a scholarship to Leadership Decision Making program at Harvard University (USA), and in 2017 I was invited as a Visiting Professor to the University of Córdoba (Spain).



**Irina Golubeva**  
([golubeva@umbc.edu](mailto:golubeva@umbc.edu))

My main research interests concern the development of multilingual awareness and intercultural competence through study abroad exchange, internationalization of higher education, and conceptualization of intercultural citizenship. The book that I have recently written with Dr Caprice Lantz-Deaton ([Intercultural Competence for College and University Students: A Global Guide for Employability and Social Change](#)), discusses – among other questions – how intercultural competence can facilitate social change.

I am very enthusiastic not only about my research but about teaching as well. Two years ago, we launched a new certificate program in Intercultural Leadership, which focuses on issues of social justice. Last year I was honored to receive the Pedagogy and Teaching Award at my university and the title of “UMBC Innovation Fellow”, which was extremely motivating during the unexpected transition to online teaching.

As for many in the IAIR community, intercultural communication is not only a field of research for me but also an integral part of my private life. Born in Budapest (Hungary), raised in Saint Petersburg (Russia), lived, studied and worked in Hungary, Russia, Spain and the US – I am still exploring and negotiating my own cultural identity. I have been married for almost 30 years to a man coming from a different cultural, religious and professional background. We met when I was 18, and we are still hopeful that we will be able to manage our cultural differences. :) I am blessed that my family supports me in all my professional, academic and social endeavors.

I have always been strongly committed to non-profit work and served for seven years as a vice-president of the European Association of Teachers. I feel really privileged to be a member of the IAIR community, my second family. In serving on the IAIR Board, I will make every effort to further strengthen the Academy's commitment to supporting our young and aspiring scholars, and I also plan to explore new ways to mentor our student-members.

## Gratitude to Our Finishing, Continuing, and Beginning IAIR Board Members

With this election, we have a “changing of the guard,” and while taking on a new team brings in new energies, competencies, and directions, it also means saying “goodbye” to those we’ve worked closely with the last four years! Here is evidence of the online meetings we’ve held to keep the work of IAIR moving forward!



### The recent April 16 IAIR Board Meeting

Those Finishing **Fellow Reps:** Nan Sussman, Janet Bennett

**2017-21 Cohort: Member Reps:** Justine Dandy, Kelly McKay-Semmler

We all express our DEEP thanks for all that you four have done for the academy the last four years and know that each of you continue to serve in various roles to strengthen the Academy! THANK YOU for a job VERY WELL DONE!

Those Continuing **Fellow Reps:** Chan-Hoong Leong, Stefan Kammhuber,

**2019-23 Cohort: Member Reps:** Joep Hofhuis, Jonas Kunst

Those Starting **Fellow Reps:** Lily Arasaratnam-Smith, Zhu Hua

**2021-25 Cohort: Member Reps:** Irina Golubeva, Anand Chandrasekar

## 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award: Colleen Ward



**Colleen Ward** is one of the most influential intercultural psychologists today with a career that spans nearly 40 years. Colleen's education, professional career, and research are infused with an international perspective. For the past 15 years, she has been a Professor of Psychology and Founding Director, Centre for Applied Cross-Cultural Research (CACR) at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.

Colleen is internationally acknowledged as a leading authority on acculturation, immigration, and intercultural relations. Her scholarship has been recognized with a range of awards, including the Royal Society of New Zealand's (RSNZ) prestigious James Cook Fellowship in Social Science (2005-7); prestigious James Cook Fellowship in Social Science (2005-7); RSNZ's Te Rangi Hiroa medal (2011) for contributions to the advancement of the psychological study of immigration and cultural diversity; and her elections as Honorary Fellow of the International Association for Cross-cultural Psychology (2014) and Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand (2015) and her Charter Fellow status in IAIR. Dr. Ward's brief bio is included in Wiley's Encyclopedia of Cross-cultural Psychology (2013) and is featured in 150 Women in 150 Words for the celebration of the RSNZ's 150th anniversary (2017).

While her early research focused on gender psychology and mental health, her major focus for the past 25 years has been acculturation and intercultural relations. Two newer topics of investigation are cultural identity styles and normative multiculturalism.

Colleen's leadership is unrivaled. She has lent her considerable talents to the profession in myriad ways: editor-in-chief for the International Journal of Intercultural Relations; senior or consulting editor for Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology and Asian Journal of Social Psychology; editorial board of International Perspectives in Psychology, Journal of Psychosocial Intervention, Advances in Culture and Psychology, and Counseling Psychology Quarterly. Dr. Ward has served as President of the Inter-

national Academy for Intercultural Research, the Asian Association of Social Psychology, and the International Association for Cross-cultural Psychology

Beyond her professional and academic achievements, there are two characteristics that set Dr. Ward apart from her scholarly peers: (1) her engagement in translational science to systematically apply her research findings to pressing social issues and (2) her networking across academic, government and voluntary organizations to achieve positive psychological and social outcomes.

Under her leadership CACR became one of the first partners in the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Research Network, launched in Istanbul in 2009. Professor Ward's Youth Voices, Youth Choices: Integration and Social Cohesion in Multi-cultural Aotearoa/New Zealand project, which examined the experiences of Chinese, Pacific, and Muslim youth, formed a significant contribution to this UN think tank whose mission is the promotion of understanding between Muslim and Western societies. This project, combined with her work on the 13-nation International Comparative Study of Ethno-cultural Youth, resulted in her invitation to address the European Union's Agency for Fundamental Rights in Vienna (2012) on the topic of integration and social inclusion. Her research on multiculturalism later led to her public lecture on Multicultural Matters: Diversity, Policy and Ideology hosted by the President's Foundation for the Well-being of Society, delivered from Malta's national palace on the eve of the European Commission's Valetta Summit of Migration (2015). She has provided research and policy ideas for the New Zealand Ministry of Education, Department of Labor, Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Social Development, and the Longitudinal Immigration Survey.



## 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award: Jan-Pieter van Oudenhoven



Jan-Pieter van Oudenhoven has been a formative scholar in the field of intercultural studies and acculturation psychology. His contributions specifically to IAIR as president and as an associate editor of the International Journal of Intercultural Relations demonstrate his extraordinary service to the Academy, which was further solidified with his organization of IAIR's Groningen conference in 2007. Fur-

thermore, he has prolifically published his research in 4 books as well as a plethora of papers in highly respectable international journals and impactful book chapters.

Dr. van Oudenhoven's scientific work is characterized by a highly creative selection of topics that link his own field of cross-cultural psychology with the humanities and language sciences. Take for example his research on virtues across cultural groups within or across countries, or his publications on swear words in different cultures. This work is published widely in scientific journals but also attracts the attention of the media from the countries included in the research.

Dr. van Oudenhoven's work is not only driven by scientific curiosity but also by a drive to contribute to practice. Well-known is the Multicultural Personality Questionnaire (MPQ) that he developed together with his wife Karen van der Zee. The instrument was identified as one of the most robust instruments for assessing multicultural personality, and intercultural competence in general. It has been translated in multiple languages and is used and referred to extensively both by scholars and practitioners across the world to assess aspects of intercultural competence. In an influential paper together with Colleen Ward, Dr. van Oudenhoven argues that developments in current societies (the growing importance of transnational relations, a diminishing size of native majority groups in big cities, and greater acceptance of what is referred to as "global culture") increases the importance of competency models over traditional models of acculturation. Hence acculturation is no longer the process of migrants adjusting to a new cultural environment but has become the dynamic process that occurs in daily encounters between representatives of different cultural groups.

Jan Pieter has also made important contributions to acculturation psychology in terms of methods and measurement. His experimental scenario approach (asking people to respond to situations that represent various acculturation strategies in the Berry framework) has been an original, influential method applied in many studies of acculturation strategies across the globe.

To provide tools to help individuals that need to develop intercultural competencies, Jan Pieter developed the Intercultural Effectiveness Training. This training method is based on a well-accepted culture-training technique, the culture assimilator, which is also called intercultural sensitizer. The culture assimilator consists of several critical incidents that describe situations in which individuals experience misunderstandings caused by their different cultural backgrounds. The critical incidents are followed by four or five attributions of why the member of the other culture or group has acted in a particular way. The chosen option by the trainee is then checked against the option that is considered most appropriate in the other culture.

In the 1970s, culture-specific assimilators were designed to prepare individuals from one cultural group for interactions with a specified cultural group. Intercultural effectiveness training (IET) also consists of a set of cross-cultural critical incidents, but it is focused on training intercultural competencies rather than on teaching the right attributions. The instrument is based on the idea that there are many congruent experiences that are common in a variety of cross-cultural encounters. The critical incidents in the IET include situations in which individuals experience a misunderstanding caused by their different cultural backgrounds, for example in making contact with others, communication and language problems, respect for authority, and male-female relations. The IET focuses on three of the five intercultural competencies: cultural empathy, open-mindedness, and social initiative, which are applicable whenever people from different cultures engage in intercultural communication. With this development, Dr. van Oudenhoven has developed a practice-oriented method that improves culture-general intercultural competence (rather than focusing on interactions between 2 specific cultures with tools that cannot be generalized in other intercultural contexts).



## The 2019 Shanghai, China Early Career Award



*Ágnes Szabó*

*Dr. Ágnes Szabó is one of the most extraordinary young scholars I have had the honor of knowing and working with – (Colleen Ward, Recipient of the 2021 LAA)*

Ágnes's PhD work demonstrated an extremely novel way of developing and validating a measure of immigrants' identity styles over time. The dissertation has been described as being thoroughly planned, and impeccably carried out. She has since gone on to be a rising star in migration studies; in keeping with IAIR's interdisciplinary values, she combines acculturation theory with developmental and health psychology to examine immigrant health and wellbeing over the life course.

The novelty of Ágnes' approach to the immigrant experience is reflected both in her impressive network of international and interdisciplinary collaborators and her exceptional success in securing research funding. Ágnes works with a large network of collaborators which embraces renowned academics around the world, including experts in gerontology, migration and acculturation research – fields her research uniquely draws together. She has worked with well-established research teams in Wales and the Netherlands, examining resili-

ence in older immigrants; she is also currently engaged in research on managing multicultural identities along with collaborators in the United States, Australia and Mauritius. Ágnes uses both qualitative and quantitative methods in these studies and often plays the major role in conducting highly sophisticated statistical analyses in these collaborations.

Ágnes has recently received two highly competitive grant awards for her research on acculturation and aging from the Royal Society of New Zealand. This significant achievement will permit Ágnes to pursue her research on ageing immigrants for the next five years, combining theory and methods from acculturation psychology with gerontology and health research. She has been highly productive during and since her PhD with 39 peer-reviewed journal articles in top journals of her fields and 5 book chapters. She was either the lead author on these publications or provided analytic expertise that fundamentally shaped the direction of the work. Ágnes has also served as editorial assistant for the Academy's flagship journal – the International Journal of Intercultural Relations.

Ágnes exemplifies the qualities of an early career researcher and academic; she develops novel ways of integrating disparate research areas, undertakes advanced methodological approaches, and disseminates her research findings among the broader community via collaborations, invited talks, and contributions to public policy. Ágnes has already made a significant impact on theory and research on immigration and ageing. She is one of few, if any, in our Academy who has the capacity to combine acculturation theory and research with gerontology and health. There are now 272 million international migrants worldwide, and 12% of these are aged 65 or over. As the global population ages, her research will only become more important and impactful over time.

## The 2021 Rapperswil, Switzerland Early Career Award

Despite only having finished his PhD four years ago, Dr. Kunst has already made substantial contributions and become a leading young scholar in various fields that are at the core of our organization, including intercultural relations, acculturation, and cross-cultural research. In addition, he has been an active member of our organization for several years.

Dr. Kunst started his PhD in 2012 and finished it in 2016. His research output since then has been outstanding for a scholar at his stage. In total, he has published 47 papers, of which 28 are first-authored and 11 authored in an advising role with his students or post-docs in the lead. These numbers demonstrate not only Dr. Kunst's exceptional productivity but also his ability to guide and support young scholars. When it comes to the quality of his publications, Dr. Kunst has published in world-leading cross-disciplinary journals such as PNAS, as well as various reputable psychology journals such as Psychological Science, Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Nature Human Behavior, or Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin.

Since his start as a scholar, he also frequently publishes outstanding work on acculturation and intercultural relations in our academy's own journal. His major lines of research focus on interreligious relations, Islamophobia, the acculturation of immigrants as well as majority members, the effect of inequality on intergroup violence across societies, gender relations in egalitarian and unequal societies, and food habits between cultures. While his research focus is eclectic, it is far from fragmented. It forms a coherent set of ideas and findings that deal with the ways in which peoples of many backgrounds relate to each other and come to live together within culturally diverse societies. Dr. Kunst has established separate lines of research that he publishes on frequently.



*Jonas Kunst*

Dr. Kunst's research achievements have already been recognized with various awards, such as the Rising Star designation of the Association for Psychological Science, the Otto Klineberg Intercultural and International Relations Award from The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, the Publication Award of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, and the Rae and Dan Landis Dissertation Award from our association. His Google Scholar h-index is already at 19, which is very high for a young scholar.

Dr. Kunst has been an active and involved member of the IAIR. He has been part of various committees such as for the PhD award, is currently a board member, and together with Joep Hofhuis has established the social media committee that aims to further the organization's presence on platforms such as twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook. In addition, he is a member of the editorial board of the IJIR and reviews many papers per year.

## Introducing New IAIR Fellows

At our recent April 16, 2021 Board Meeting, the recommendations of Fellow Nominations confirmed by the Membership Committee were unanimously approved! We welcome these six scholars and will provide profiles for each in the next newsletter. And the Academy welcomes active Fellows to recommend those that they deem worthy of being considered for Fellow status for our next full Board meeting July 11, 2021. (according to our Bylaws, a nomination letter from an IAIR Fellow should be sent along with the candidate's CV to the Membership Committee for review).

Please congratulate with us the promotion of the following scholars as "Fellows":

Dr. William Gabrenya (Florida Institute of Technology, USA)  
Dr. Akiko Asai (J. F. Oberlin University, Japan)  
Dr. Justine Dandy (Edith Cowan University, Australia)  
Dr. Seth Schwartz (University of Texas at Austin, USA)  
Dr. Michael Bender (Tilburg University, Netherlands)  
Dr. Elena Makarova (University of Basel, Switzerland)

## Introducing New IAIR Members

Over the past several years, we also welcome the following New Members:

(and hope to feature each of you in our next newsletter, so please send us your "who we are" and "what we research" Bio and favorite profile picture -- send by email to Ripley at: [r-smith@bethel.edu](mailto:r-smith@bethel.edu))

Judit Kende (University of Lausanne, Switzerland)  
Ana Sofia Hofmeyr (Kansai University, Japan)  
Soyhan Egitim (Tokyo University, Japan)  
Ann-Cathrin Coenen (University of Oslo, Norway)  
Shahar Gindi (Beit Berl College, Kfar Saba, Israel)  
Jana Vietze (Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands)  
Kun Dai (Peking University, China)  
John Baldwin (Illinois State University, America)  
Plamen Akaliyski (Keio University, Japan)  
Elena Tartagolione (Arizona State University, America)  
Zed Zhipeng (Simon Frazier University, Canada)  
Andrew Nowlan (Kwansei Gakuin University, Osaka, Japan)

Our apologies if we have missed any names. If you have never been featured in the IAIR Newsletter, then please inform Ripley. Thanks!

# Announcing the July 12-13, 2021 IAIR Webinar

We welcome you to join us this **July 12-13, 2021** for a virtual meeting on

## “Researching Intercultural Perspectives, Problems, and Relationships beyond the Pandemic”



## IAIR 2021 WEBINAR

Since the International Academy for Intercultural Research (IAIR) Conference in Rapperswil, Switzerland is postponed to 2022 (Preconference 23-24 July, IAIR Conference 25-28 July), we will instead be hosting our first “IAIR Webinar” during part of the original conference dates of July 12-13, 2021.

We are planning a program that we hope keeps Academy Fellows and Members connected and updates us on important developments in cross- and intercultural research. Confirmed Keynote speakers already include:

**Shinobu Kitayama** (University of Michigan, current President of APS)

**Patricia Greenfield** (UCLA, recent President of IACCP)

**Richard Shweder** (University of Chicago, past President of SPA)

IAIR 2019-2021 Award winners will present their work, along with the President’s Address and several “rapid-fire” “cutting edge” Discussion Panels with IAIR Fellows sharing

short

- (1) “Recent Research in Focus” = summaries of their recent research, and
- (2) “Crossroads for Intercultural Research” = proposals for strengthening the field

The organizing committee (Steve Kulich, Adam Komisarof, Joep Hofhuis) are making arrangements with the SISU Intercultural Institute (Shanghai International Studies University) to host the online event (planning the schedule with 2 off-set time slots that hopefully work for as many time zones as possible).

Please watch the website for updated information (<https://www.intercultural-academy.net/>). If you’d like to help with any aspect of the event, please contact the IAIR Webinar team:

[steve.kulich@gmail.com](mailto:steve.kulich@gmail.com)

[komisarof.adam@gmail.com](mailto:komisarof.adam@gmail.com)

## The List of Related Conferences

### Already past but worth being aware of:

- SIETAR Europe

Austria: New citizens, valuing ALL languages in Europe

Mar 11, 2021 06:00 PM

Please register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Labg8ZngT-ilNVLI-Q8C9A](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Labg8ZngT-ilNVLI-Q8C9A)

- Virtual Congress: Bridging Our Intercultural Experiences & Identities

Fri Mar 12 2021

- WEBINAR Negotiating across cultures

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_tcTUaazUQvSC4s-92MGZVA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tcTUaazUQvSC4s-92MGZVA)

Starts: Wed Mar 17 2021, 06:00pm CET

Ends: Wed Mar 17 2021, 07:00pm CET

- International Association of Intercultural Communication Studies

The IAICS 2021 Conference will be held virtually March 12-13, 2021.

Conference website: [IAICS Virtual Conference Manipal 2021](https://www.kent.edu/stark/iaics)

(See: <https://www.kent.edu/stark/iaics>)

- Conference on “The Body, Embodiment and Bodyfulness in Intercultural Communications”

May 6-9, 2021

Munich, Germany (see: <https://www.ikk.uni-muenchen.de/aktuelles/konferenz/index.html>)

### NCA T&D Webinar:

- 21th International Conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities & Nations

June 01-04, 2021

Online Only - Hosted by University of Curaçao (see: [https://cgscholar.com/cg\\_event/events/D21/about](https://cgscholar.com/cg_event/events/D21/about))

- The International Conference on Intercultural Communication and Conflict Management (ICICCM, sponsored by the World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology)

June 21-22, 2021

Venice, Italy (see: <https://waset.org/conference/2021/06/venice/ICICCM>)

## The List of Related Conferences

- The IAIE will hold a conference in association with MOFET, IASCE and Ben Gurion University. The theme of the conference is “Intercultural Education in the Information Age” with a global focus on inclusion of minoritized and marginalized groups.

June 28-30, 2021

Kibbutzim College of Education in Tel-Aviv (see: [http://www.iaie.org/1\\_events.html](http://www.iaie.org/1_events.html))

- The International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR 2021) during the week.

Rethinking borders and boundaries: Beyond the global/local dichotomy in communication studies Nairobi, Kenya and wherever you are

July 11-15, 2021

The conference hub at USIU-Africa in Nairobi, Kenya and two thematic plenaries (see: <https://iamcr.org/nairobi2021> )

- 2021 Biennial World Communication Association Conference “ Communicating for Our Future”

July 12-18, 2021

See: <http://wcaweb.org/>

- The 32nd International Congress on Psychology (ICP): Psychology in the 21st Century: Open Minds, Societies, & World”

July 18-23, 2021

See: <https://www.icp2020.com/>

- IACCP 2020+ Virtual 25th International Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology

July 27-31, 2021

See: <https://www.iaccp2020.com/>

[https://www.iaccp.org/inspire\\_events/virtual-2021-iaccp-conference/](https://www.iaccp.org/inspire_events/virtual-2021-iaccp-conference/)

- Sixteenth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences The Opportunities of Crisis: Resilience and Change in World History

July 21–23, 2021

Oxford Brookes University, Headington Campus, Oxford, UK (See: [https://cgscholar.com/cg\\_event/events/I21/about](https://cgscholar.com/cg_event/events/I21/about))

- The Asian Association of Social Psychology (AASP) 2021 Conference

July 29-31, 2021

Online (see: <https://www.aasp2021seoul.org/html/?pmode=BBBS0014400001&smode=view&seq=59>)

## The List of Related Conferences

- 36th Annual Dignity Conference “Global Vulnerabilities – From Humiliation to Dignity and Solidarity”  
September 21–24, 2021  
Madrid, Spain
- SIETAR USA 2021: Mind, Culture, and Society  
October 8-11, 2021  
Hilton Omaha, 1001 Cass Street, Omaha, NE 68102-1152 (see: <https://www.sietarusa.org/Conference-Information>)
- The 20th International Conference of the International Association for Languages and Intercultural Communication (IALIC)  
Bogota  
postponed until November 24-26, 2021 (see: <http://ialic.international/conference-2020-bogota/> )
- The 36th SIETAR Japan conference “Leadership and Collaboration in Intercultural Contexts”  
November 27-28, 2021  
Online (see: <http://www.sietar-japan.org/en/>)
- The 37th Annual Conference of Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies ‘Envisioning a World of Ethical Solidarity!’  
2022  
Amman, Jordan (see: <https://www.humiliationstudies.org/whoweare/annualmeeting/38.php>)
- The eighth biennial International conference on the Development and Assessment of Intercultural Competence (ICC) on “Decentering Mobility in Intercultural Education: Engagement, Equity, and Access”  
January 27-30, 2022  
the University of Arizona’s CERCLL in Tucson, Arizona, and online. (see: <https://cercll.arizona.edu/icc/icc2022cfp/> )
- The 2021 SCCR Meeting (50th Annual Meeting of The Society for Cross-Cultural Research has been postponed until 2022.  
February 16, 2022 through February 19, 2022  
The Lafayette Hotel Swim Club & Bungalows 2223 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego CA 92104 (see: <https://sccr.org/>)

## The List of Related Conferences

- The 17th International Conference (ICLASP-17) of the International Association of Language and Social Psychology (IALSP)  
the Hong Kong Polytechnic University  
postponed to June 2022. (see: <http://ialsps.org/> )
- The 9th International Conferences on Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection (ICIAR)  
June 15 – 18, 2022  
Geneva, New York-USA (see: <https://isipar.uconn.edu/biennial-meetings/> )
- The 17th European Congress of Psychology (ECP)  
July 5-8, 2022  
Ljubljana, Slovenia (see: <https://www.ecp2022.eu/>)

## Call for Hosting IAIR 2023

Proposals welcome! (to be presented at July 11 Board)

Although our July '21 conference has been moved to July 2022 (and a huge note of appreciation to Stefan Kammhuber for hosting us in Rapperswil, Switzerland), we plan to return to our usual biennial conference schedule in 2023. With this in mind, we invite you to consider hosting a future conference in 2023 or beyond. If you and your institution are interested in considering this opportunity, please reach out to me and I can answer questions and provide you with guidelines to prepare a proposal to be presented at our virtual meeting of the board that will take place July 11, 2021.

Thanks for your consideration. Please send inquiries to [kcushner@kent.edu](mailto:kcushner@kent.edu)

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.



International Academy for  
Intercultural Research

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

## Social Media

The IAIR connects with its members, as well as with the general public, through several online platforms. For the latest news, publications, jobs and other updates, join us on:



Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/IAIROFFICIAL/>



LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12271660/>



Twitter - [https://twitter.com/iair\\_official](https://twitter.com/iair_official)

IAIR on Twitter – Regular updates about IAIR conferences, IJIR articles, and achievements of our members. Make sure to follow us @IAIR\_OFFICIAL



Youtube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC74hV7YY6HpDmmUv5UwBxUA>