

Special points of interest:

- IAIR is an interdisciplinary organization.
- There are currently 248 members.
- IAIR has eight Board Members
- The next IAIR conference will be in Bergen, Norway, 2015.

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Who We Are

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Series Editor's Letter

This month's issue of Who We Are (WWA) introduces you to 10 more IAIR members, including the Academy's new Board Members. Last month's issue featured the continuing Board Members; as such, now seems a good time to briefly explain how our Board of Directors is constituted.

In addition to the members of the Executive Council, the editor of *IJIR*, and the Founding President of the Board, the Board of Directors includes four additional full members and four fellows of the Academy.

Board Members serve four-year terms in office, and four of the eight Board Members are replaced in elections every two years: Two full members and two fellows. New Board Mem-

bers are elected by the full members and fellows of the Academy.

The full Board of Directors meets biennially, generally during the IAIR conference,



which means the next Board meeting will occur in Bergen, Norway in late June/early July of 2015. More information about our governing body is available in the IAIR by-laws, which can be downloaded from the Academy website at:

<http://www.intercultural-academy.net/about-iair/by-laws.html>.

While on the website, please check out the link to the Bergen, Norway conference (<http://www.uib.no/en/rg/saw/45318/9th-biennial-congress-international-academy-intercultural-research>). Conference organizer, Dr. David Lackland Sam, reports the call for papers, symposia, and posters will be opened March 1st, 2014.

More to come next month on Academy committees.

Cheers,

Kelly McKay-Semmler, IAIR Secretary and WWA Series Editor

Katja Hanke, New Board Member

I love to discover new places and experience new cultures, and as Gustave Flaubert put it: "Travel makes one modest. You see what a tiny place you occupy in the world." I am a so-called "German with a migrant background" (official German category), since my mother is originally from South Korea. I stud-

ied psychology in Germany, but my adventures started in New Zealand when I was travelling there during a working holiday for a year. I did a research internship at the Centre for Applied Cross-Cultural Research (CACR) in Wellington, New Zealand and subsequently embarked on pursuing a PhD degree in cross-

cultural psychology in 2006. This has been to date the most stimulating academic experience I had. After finishing my PhD in New Zealand, I did my first post doc in Taiwan which was a challenging, but a very rich experience. Now, I am back in Germany working as a lecturer at Jacobs University in Bremen. Cur-



**Dr. Katja Hanke,
IAIR Full Member
and New Board
Member**

Katja Hanke (cont.)

rently, I am also a Marie Curie fellow on a “Career Integration Grant” by the European Commission. The Marie Curie project, “Belongingness,” examines the host-migrant relationships in Germany from multiple angles. My research broadly focuses

on the intersection between social and cross-cultural psychology. In particular, I am interested in intercultural and intergroup relations, acculturation, peace psychology and applied social psychology as well as (cross-cultural) research methods.

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Wenshan Jia, New Board Member

I am a professor of communication in the Department of Communication Studies, Chapman University, Orange County, CA, USA. My areas of research interest are intercultural communication, global communication, communication theory, Chinese communication and media, and the US-China relationship. I

also teach in these research areas. I have a publication record of six academic books, 60 scholarly articles/book chapters/reviews/transla-

tions. I have made about 100 scholarly presentations, out of which six

are keynote presentations, 54 guest presentations/guest instructions and 39 conference presentations. I have received about a dozen major research awards including one IAIR Early-Career Award, Wang-Fradkin Professorship award from Chapman University and half a dozen book awards and *Choice* “Outstanding Book” titles. Having reviewed for 30 some journals/publishers/research foundations, I am on the editorial boards of several prestigious journals including *International Journal for Intercultural Relations* and *Asian Journal of Communication*. I have also received more than a dozen interviews/news reports from various international media for my expertise.

During my spare time, I have been consulting on

brand communication and global business communication and a local international friendship city project. I served as chair of the Faculty Personnel Council, interim department chair, and founding director of the Asian Studies Program at Chapman University. I have been an IAIR fellow since 2005 and on the IAIR Board since June 2013. Currently, I am authoring a book on global communication and editing a textbook reader on intercultural communication. I love hiking with my family and friends, rock & roll, and jazz besides Peking Opera and Italian Opera and classic music.

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**Dr. Wenshan
Jia, IAIR
Fellow and
New Board
Member**

Adam Komisarof, New Board Member

I am a professor in the Department of Economic Studies & Business Administration at Reitaku University near Tokyo, and I spent last year at the University of Oxford (as a visiting academic at the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies and a senior associate member of St. Antony's College). I am also an IAIR fellow and serving as a membership representative on the executive board. In my free time, I am a corporate intercultural trainer and have worked with clients such as Sony, Mitsubishi, Visa, and many others.

I have two main research interests: 1. the relationship between acculturation strategies and quality of intercultural relationships (particularly in Japan), and 2. intercultural communication teaching methodology. My first book, *On the Front Lines of Forging a Global Society: Japanese and American Coworkers in Japan*, won Reitaku University's Excellence in Research Award



**Dr. Adam Komisarof,
IAIR Fellow and New Board
Member**

last year. My latest book is *At Home Abroad: The Contemporary Western Experience in Japan*. I have been actively promoting it this year in Oxford, London, and Tokyo—

recently, for example, at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan and the Harvard University Club. In my year at Oxford, I was very impressed by the quality of scholarship, but I could find no faculty members or courses in acculturation psychology or intercultural communication. This strengthened my conviction that we have much more work ahead in sharing what we do to help promote intercultural understanding.

My hobbies include playing and watching basketball, boogie boarding, karaoke, and unlike any other member of IAIR, travel!

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Saba Safdar, New Board Member

I am an Iranian-born Canadian-educated associate professor at the Psychology Department, University of Guelph. I moved to Canada in the 1980s after the Islamic revolution in Iran. I completed my undergraduate honours degree at McMaster University and my graduate training at York University in Toronto, Canada. I am the director of the Centre for Cross-Cultural Research at the University of Guelph where my students and I conduct research that lies broadly within the area of cross-cultural psychology. My research primarily examines the wide range of factors that could help to understand adaptation processes of immigrants. I study the influence of the psychological resilience of immigrants, of their beliefs and strategies, and of their ethnic and national identities on their adaptation in a new society. I currently study the relation between the expression of



**Dr. Saba Safdar,
IAIR Fellow and New Board
Member**

identity and attitudes toward ethnic and conventional fashion/clothing among second generation immigrants in Canada.

I am a fellow of the International Academy for Intercultural Research

(IAIR) and an active member of the International Association of Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP) and the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA). I have served as the chair of the International and Cross-Cultural Section of the CPA. I am a member of the editorial board of the *International Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, the *Journal of International and Intercultural Relations*, and the *Journal of Iranian Psychologists*.

I have recently started a film making class, and in my spare time I take short films of little and big things around me including my dog, the garden, and the new kitchen in our household.

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IAIR Members

Elirea Bornman

I am a research professor at the University of South Africa (Unisa). Unisa is situated in the beautiful city of Pretoria in the center of the country. A short drive will take you into the African bush where wildlife abounds. This is my world and I love it. Although I am at heart a social psychologist, I am attached to the Department of Communication Science where I used to teach research methodology and international communication. From 2013 I am in the privileged position that I can dedicate all my time to research. My main research interest is social identification processes and inter-

group relations in post-apartheid South Africa. Lately, I have also been involved in research on nation-building and symbolic conflict as well as issues related to language and identity. I am furthermore particularly interested in the methodology of survey research. The great loves of my life are my three Maltese dogs who see to it that there is no lack of drama and excitement in my life. I try to keep fit by going to the gym regularly, and the dogs force me to go for a walk in the park every afternoon. As a reborn Christian I am involved in the activities of my local church. I further-

more love reading - mostly Afrikaans and international literature and the works of Scandinavian crime writers. I furthermore try not to miss any opportunity to go to the theatre and am a staunch supporter of the Springboks and Blue Bulls rugby teams.

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**Dr. Elirea Bornman,
IAIR Fellow**

Richard Bourhis

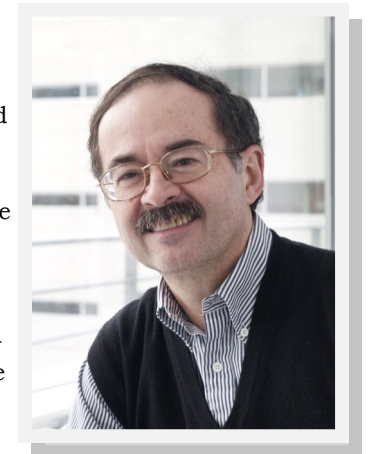
As a Montreal French Canadian, I received my primary schooling in French until my parents decided to send me to English high school. As I knew no English my parents sent me to the YMCA summer camp for a month to learn English, which I did more or less just in time to begin high school in English. It is from this moment that I became aware of bilingualism/biculturalism, which for a 12-year-old kid was a swim or sink adventure. I loved intercultural relations so much that to this day I cannot envisage living in other than multilingual/multicultural environments. After high school, I did my BS degree in psychology at McGill University where I published my first papers on bilingual communication with Wallace Lambert, Don

Taylor, and Howard Giles who was on a visit from the University of Bristol. So I completed my PhD on communication accommodation theory and social identity theory with Howard Giles with funding from Henri Tajfel. As associate professor, I taught social psychology at McMaster University in Ontario and then joined the Psychology Department at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) where I teach in French as full professor. I joined the IAIR in 1997 thanks to the invitation of Dan Landis and enjoy participating in a number of IAIR conferences while publishing regularly in the *IJIR*, especially on host majority acculturation orientations towards valued and devalued immigrants. In 2008, I received the Robert C. Gardner

Award for my research on bilingualism from the International Association of Language and Social Psychology and an award of distinction from the Canadian Race Relations Foundation. In 2010, I received a doctorate 'Honoris causa' from the Université de Lorraine, France while in 2012, I was elected fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and I received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for contributions to Canada.

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**Dr. Richard Bourhis,
IAIR Fellow**

Donal Carbaugh



Dr. Donal Carbaugh,
IAIR Fellow

I am a professor of communication, former chair of the International Studies Council and director of the graduate program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. My special interests are in the ethnographic study of intercultural interactions and in discerning in them, cultural philosophies of communication, especially as these address issues of identity, nature, and spirit. I have explored these in some detail as they pertain to Russian, Blackfeet (Native American), Finnish, and US American ways. One outcome of this is the book, *Cultures in Conversation* – designated the Out-

standing Book of the Year by the International and Intercultural Communication Division of the National Communication Association (NCA). The theoretical framework developing in these studies has been the subject of recent discussions in the *Journal of Multicultural Discourses* and *Language and Intercultural Communication*. Some recent works have examined cultural ideas about dialogue in several languages with a chapter about that by Slep and Sener appearing in their recent book, *Dialogue Theories*, alongside others about Martin Buber, David Bohm, Jurgen Habermas, the Dalai Lama, and Daniel Yankelevich. I have been most

active in NCA and the International Communication Association and am looking forward to becoming better involved in the important and interesting work of the Academy. Montana, especially Glacier National Park and the Blackfeet Reservation, hold great appeal to me, a place where I once guided tours and now enjoy hiking and “listening to nature.”

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Karen Medica



Karen Medica,
IAIR Student Member

My background is in international development and humanitarian assistance, and to date I have worked in this area for over 20 years. In this capacity I have worked across cultures in South Asia (Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives); South East Asia (Philippines, Indonesia); and the Pacific (Timor Leste, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, Vanuatu). I am currently completing my PhD research on cultural identity change, looking at a case study involving Indone-

sian PhD scholarships funded by the Australian aid program and seeking to understand the acculturation and re-entry experience of the awardees. The key journal that is referenced in my thesis is the *IJIR*, so it's not surprising that I was interested to join IAIR when encouraged by one of your members – Kerry Cronin (believe it or not we met because he was the priest who presided over my dear mother's funeral last year - it's amazing what places and in what contexts we meet people!). My research interests include intercultural change, international public policy, community development, program design and evalua-

tion. I still work in the aid sector as a contractor whilst studying, and in 2013, I worked in Papua New Guinea and Samoa and also selected international awardees for two Australian aid-funded scholarships. I look forward to being engaged with the Academy and perhaps one day holding office but still keeping space in my life for family, friends, swimming and yoga.

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Jacqueline Peters

I am a doctoral student in linguistics at York University in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. My interests are in sociolinguistics, discourse analysis, intercultural communication, language and ethnic identity, and intercultural interactions in social institutions. My dissertation research site is MAB-Mackey Rehabilitation Centre in Montreal, Quebec, which is my home. There I will be looking at contextualization cues that are known to differ between cultures to see whether there is significant variation in the interactions between White English-speaking clinicians and their White English-speaking clients and White English-speaking clinicians and their

Black English-speaking clients. I am at the recruitment stage of the study, and I am very excited to enter the data gathering stage. My previous research focused on the communicative styles of non-European Canadians, specifically Black Canadians of Caribbean descent both here in Toronto and in Montreal. I have lectured in introduction to sociolinguistics at Concordia University in Montreal in the Department of Classics, Modern Languages, and Linguistics.

When not studying in cafes with my fellow students, I relax by walking my dog, reading sci-fi/fantasy, or knitting.

Being new to the field of intercultural communication, having come from a background of sociolinguistic variation and change, I have only recently discovered the Academy. Last fall, I attended the "Perspectives on Interculturality" in St. Louis, Missouri, and I am looking forward to attending other related conferences.

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Jacqueline Peters,
IAIR Student Member

Gui Qingyang

I am a professor in the School of English Language and Culture, Zhejiang International Studies University, China (<http://www.zisu.edu.cn/>), currently a PhD student in the Department of Translation, Lingnan University, Hong Kong (<https://www.ln.edu.hk/>), and used to work as a post-graduate visiting scholar in the School of English Studies, University of Nottingham, UK. At the moment, I am engaged both in writing my PhD dissertation, based on my research project of *The Collective Identities of the Translators in July School in Contemporary Chinese Literature*, supported by the National Social Science Foundation, and in re-translating *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brontë, a part of the New Edition of *A Treasury of World's Classics*, to be published by Flower City Publishing House, Guangzhou in 2014. I am a new member.

The pace of my entry to this great and merry band of IAIR has certainly been accelerated by my direct links with Professor Wenshan Jia, who initiated the Intercultural Communication Workshops for Advanced University Teachers, organized in 2008 both by the United States TriWon Global Inc. and China Jiliang University where I used to work as the dean of the School of Foreign Languages and the director of the Institute of Language and Communication. I am a member of the China Association for Intercultural Communication since 2006. Just to list a few publications to indicate my research interests: 1. Lu Yuan's Chinese Rendition of *Faust: A Classic Translation with a Heightened Sense of Intercultural Communication*, *Chinese Translators Journal*, 2007(6). 2. Beware of Blind Westernisation of TEFL in Asia: A Chinese Case Study, *Asia TEFL*,

2005(2). 3. *Intercultural Communication Optional Course Design for Non-English Majors: A Case Study at CJLU*, at the thirteenth International Intercultural Communication Conference and the seventh Symposium of China Association for Intercultural Communication, Harbin, 2007. Some of the non-academic activities I deeply enjoy are jogging, table tennis and singing, which make me grow as a person.

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Gui Qingyang,
IAIR Full Member

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 en-

courage your colleagues who are doing work in these areas to consider joining IAIR.

Benefits of Membership

- Subscription to the *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, the official journal of the Academy either on-line or hard copy.
- Access to past issues of the Journal through Science Direct, a service of Elsevier, Ltd.
- Significantly reduced fees for the biennial conferences

- Access to the member directory.
- Reduced subscription fees to many relevant Elsevier journals

Levels of Membership

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

Visit the IAIR Website for More Information

Thanks to our webmaster, Anand Chandrasekar, the Academy website now has a page dedicated to archiving the Who We Are series issues (available at: <http://www.intercultural-academy.net/about-iair/who-we-are.html#download-pdf>). In addition, as members' profiles are featured in the monthly series, they are added to a growing collection of individu-

ally 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 monthly compilation. The clickable list of member profiles is available at: <http://www.intercultural->

[academy.net/about-iair/who-we-are.html](http://www.intercultural-academy.net/about-iair/who-we-are.html).

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