

Special points of interest:

- IAIR is an interdisciplinary organization.
- There are currently 269 members.
- The next IAIR conference will be in New York, USA, June 25th-29th, 2017.

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From the President's Desk

This issue of the IAIR Newsletter marks the first during my Presidency. The Newsletter will retain some familiar columns including biographical information about new members, essays from members, and Presidential remarks. It will also include new sections on "Members in the News" which of course will rely on you informing us when you appear in the media. We will also have columns about IAIR2017 conference details and deadlines and dates of other relevant conferences. The IAIR Secretary, Ripley Smith, is the newsletter editor. Please submit your "member in the news" items as well as short essays for the newsletter to him at r-smith@bethel.edu.

Let me begin with some closure: warm appreciation to Young Yun Kim who served as IAIR President from 2013-15 and now is Past President. The Academy is strengthened due to her calm leadership and commitment to the goals of the Academy. You will be hearing from Young later this year as she will coordinate the nomination and election process for new board members; heartfelt gratitude to David Sam, Chair of the IAIR2015 conference in Bergen Norway. It was unforgettable in its rich scholarly program, its historic seaside setting, and the organization of each



Nan Sussman,

day and evening. David is now President-elect (2017-2019) of the Academy and he will be coordinating a few special projects in the next two years; and finally, thanks to the out-going Editor-in-chief of IJIR, Colleen Ward. "Mahalo" to inimitable Dan Landis who continues as the Executive Director and Treasurer of the Academy that bears the imprint of his vision. There are also some new beginnings. I welcome Dina Birman as the new Editor-in-chief of IJIR. She is already making her mark on the journal through her revision of the scope and aims of the journal and her selection of new Associate Editors. She will also be an occasional contributor to the newsletter.

Never in the history of the Academy has the issue of immigration garnered as much worldwide attention as it is now. The movements of desperate mothers

with children, young men alone, and the elderly surging through Europe have reached levels not seen since the aftermath of World War II. The challenge to European countries is real as many countries remain fairly homogeneous. The immigrants bring racial, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversity. The percent of foreign born residents in most European countries is less than 10%. This compares to 13% in the US, 20% in Canada, and 27% in Australia.

Elsewhere, immigration is also a much-discussed topic. Some candidates in the US Presidential campaign have made this the centerpiece of their candidacies. Government officials in Japan, China, and Indonesia are discussing issues of immigration, guest workers, and internal migration. The members of IAIR have an opportunity to shape the tone of the debates and influence the policies being developed. We can bring data to the public's attention about how host country attitudes can shape the acculturation of immigrants; how discrimination and prejudice can exacerbate marginalization and separation; and how bilingual immigrants can become bicultural citizens.

(continued on p. 4)

IAIR 2015 Conference Reflection

David Sam



As I reflect back on the 9th Biennial Congress of the Academy after returning to my normal everyday life in academia, I can honestly say that the conference was a success. I am also filled with sincere gratitude and extend my warmest thanks to the many people who went to great lengths to make it such: the local organizers, the scientific committee, the congress bureau and all the delegates.



Considering the numerous challenges the organizers were facing during the months leading up to the congress, it is hard to believe that we managed to get it all done. For months, I feared that details would be overlooked, that delegates would not come and that we would end in the red. But, like a symphony orchestra, the success of

a conference is measured by the coordinated actions of many people: logistical preparations, quality presentations, the atmosphere at the social gatherings, making new friends and initiating new collaborative work, excellent key note speakers, and superb technical assistants ensuring mundane things like the sound system in the auditorium works properly. Even the weather was at its best during the conference, which, in a city like Bergen, where on average there is about a 66% chance of rain every day, getting dry days for the conference was a challenge.

In all, there were about 200 presentations, made up of about 80 individual papers presentations, 60 poster presentations, 8 symposia, 2 key-note lectures, and 3 award-winning presentations (i.e., Lifetime achievement, Early career and Best dissertation) and a Presidential presentation. In my opening speech, I encouraged delegates to make new acquaintances and initi-

ate research projects, and I believe friendships were formed and plans for closer research collaboration were discussed and initiated. The registration statistics indicate that there were 185 people registered for the conference, representing 41 different nationalities. Based on rough statistics taken during the opening session, this conference was also perhaps the one with the most first-time attendees.

As I end my reflections on the conference, I want to invite all paper/poster and symposia presenters consider submitting a paper for consideration for publication in SpringerPlus on the TOPICS IN INTERCULTURAL RESEARCH: REALIZING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY. For more information, visit <http://www.springerplus.com/about/update/Diversity>



David Moss

Engaging in trans-disciplinary research, teaching, and learning has been a hallmark of my work over the years. I came to international work through the global lens of ecojustice and environmental education. Collaborating with individuals from across Europe on a global change research agenda set in motion a keen interest in all things intercultural.

Today, as teacher educator at the University of Connecticut (UConn) in the northeast U.S., I continue working beyond the boundaries of traditional scholarly disciplines to prepare the next generation of primary and secondary teachers. Fostering the development of culturally responsive teaching practices for beginning educators is what drives my work. For many years I have directed an education (study) abroad program focusing on intercultural learning and promoting social justice/equity in urban school contexts.



**David Moss,
IAIR Member**

Specializing in curriculum studies, my research interests are in the areas of culturally responsive teaching and designing and assessing impactful education abroad programs. My co-edited books include, *Preparing Classroom Teachers to*

Succeed with Second Language Learners (Routledge, 2014); *Reforming Legal Education: Law Schools at the Crossroads* (IAP, 2012); *Critical Essays on Resistance in Education* (Peter Lang, 2010); *Interdisciplinary Education in an Age of Assessment* (Routledge, 2008); *Portrait of a Profession: Teachers and Teaching in the 21st Century* (Praeger, 2005, 2008); and *Beyond the Boundaries: A Transdisciplinary Approach to Learning and Teaching* (Praeger, 2003).

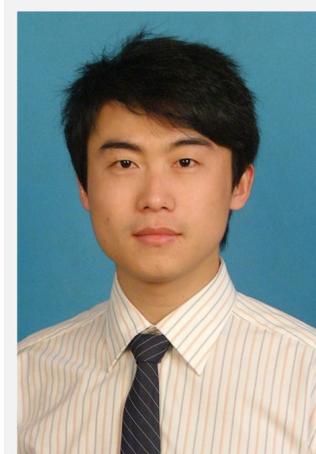
I value collaborative relationships and I am keen to be active in IAIR and seek to expand my network of colleagues and friends who are committed pursuing scholarly discourse through engaging and meandering conversations in groovy cafés in great cities, towns, and villages across the globe. Email: [david.moss@uconn.edu](mailto: david.moss@uconn.edu)

Zhang Shenyong

I am an associate professor at Dezhou University, Shandong Province, China. I became a member of the Academy after IAIR 2015 in Bergen.

My academic life began to be involved with international relations and intercultural communication beginning in 2006. Particularly, I am one of the faculty members of the First Buddhism English Training of China. This special experience helped me research Buddhism and China's traditional culture.

Inspired by Michael H. Prosser, I have been attending the annual IAICS and CAFIC conference from 2008. In 2011, I published my first



**Zhang Shenyong,
IAIR Member**

book with Ms. Xu Jun *Research on China's Global Image*. I co-authored with Michael H Prosser (U.S.) and Mansoureh Sharifzadeh (Iran) *Finding Cross-Cultural Common Ground* published in 2013 by World Dignity Press. My connection with Michael H. Prosser caused me to think more carefully about my country China and the world, and to face fundamental interests in my perceptions about intercultural communication.

As a Chinese youth, I have travelled to 15 countries and regions of the world.

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Members in the News

Tomoko Yoshida was interviewed on repatriation in Japan. To read the complete story visit: <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/community/2014/05/04/issues/kikokushoji-returnees-country-yet-ready/#.VgTVf4-qkko>

Nan Sussman was quoted extensively in a Wall Street Journal article on repatriation. For the complete article visit: <http://blogs.wsj.com/expat/2015/09/10/the-eternal-expatriate-why-many-repatriates-feel-the-desire-to-go-back-abroad/>

Colleen Ward gave a lecture titled, “Multicultural Matters: Diversity, Policy and Ideology” to the President’s Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society in collaboration with the Department of Psychology at the University of Malta. The lecture immediately preceded the Malta Summit on Immigration. For a press release on Colleen’s talk visit: <https://gov.mt/en/Government/Press%20Releases/Pages/2015/Nov/17/pr152559.aspx>

Special congratulations to **Colleen Ward** on her election as a Fellow of the *Royal Society of New Zealand*! Colleen is one of only 12 academics (and one of only three women) to become Fellows of the Royal Society of New Zealand in 2015. Academy Chairperson Professor Richard Le Heron FRSNZ said that being elected as a Fellow is an honour given to New Zealand’s top researchers for showing exceptional distinction in research or in the advancement of science, technology or the humanities. Colleen becomes one of a total of 404 Fellows and 59 Honorary Fellows of the RSNZ. Fellows are involved in providing expert advice, promoting best and innovative research practice and disseminating information on the sciences, technology and humanities. For the complete RSNZ news item visit: <http://www.royalsociety.org.nz/2015/10/21/top-researchers-and-scholars-elected-as-fellows-of-the-royal-society-of-new-zealand-3/>

Seth Schwartz, a new IAIR member, recently became president of the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood. His presidential address focused on international diversity in emerging adulthood research.

Several Academy Fellows and Members were quoted in a Wall St Journal article on expatriate life’s effect on political views. IAIR board member, **Wenshan Jia** noted that living outside one’s country of origin alters one’s view of political systems like communism and capitalism. For the complete story visit: <http://blogs.wsj.com/expat/2015/11/01/how-the-expat-life-changes-a-persons-political-views/>

President’s Desk (cont.)

I urge you to write “Letters to the Editors” to your local newspapers and to contribute to online blogs. Testify at hearings about immigration. Speak with your elected officials about evidence-based interventions and policies. And be certain to mention your member-

ship in IAIR. As Stefano Scarpetta, director of the department of employment, labor and social affairs for the O.E.C.D. commented, “What matters is the integration of the migrants in the receiving country. This will not occur by itself.”

I look forward to your

comments in the pages of the IAIR Newsletter. Share with us actions you have taken to ensure that research-based evidence and not just opinion informs public attitudes and shapes public policy.

Best regards,

Nan M. Sussman

Hydra Meeting on Immigrant Youth

By David L. Sam, IAIR President-elect

An expert meeting on immigrant youth was held on the Greek island of Hydra, September 16-20, 2015.

The meetings were sponsored by the *Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD)*, the *European Association for Developmental Psychology (EADP)*, and *European Association for Research on Adolescence (EARA)*.

As part of its internationalization efforts, the SRCD had an open call to international associations in developmental psychology to seek funding to initiate an activity that could foster closer collaboration between that association and SRCD. Three individuals from the EADP: Professor Frosso Motti-Stefanidi (President of EADP; University of Athens, Greece); Researcher Radosveta Dimitrova and Professor Laura Ferrer-Wreder (both of Stockholm University, Sweden) in collaboration with Professors Emilie Smith (University of Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia, USA) and Moin Syed (University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA) received a grant to initiate experts on young immigrants' adaptation to look into mechanisms that can explain positive adaptation among immigrant youth across cultures. The

EARA also made some financial contribution to be part of this initiative.

The organizers invited 10 experts from Europe and 7 from the United States for a 4-day meeting on the Greek Island of Hydra. I had the honor of being one of the experts from Europe, and my representation was because of my involvement with EADP.

The original goals of the meeting were to:

- Form an interdisciplinary panel of experts on adaptation of immigrant youth across multiple contexts to plan future collaboration
- Edit a special issue of journal on Positive immigrant youth adaptation for a leading developmental science journal, and
- Work towards an invited symposium during future SRCD and EADP Biennial meetings beginning in 2017.

Because the current refugee crisis was at the center stage at the time of the meeting, and the meeting was in Greece of all places, the organizers saw it as imperative to come up with a mission statement in support of immigrant youth, their future, their contribution to society, and what national governments need to do in order to

achieve this. Visit the following website for this [mission statement](#). Other than the crafting of the mission statement, other activities the group engaged in during the 4-day meeting were:

- Oral presentations by all the participants present,
- Prepared an outline for a possible [Social Brief Report](#) (of about 20 – 30 pages long) to be published by SRCD. This social Brief Report in essence will be a further elaboration of the Mission Statement and much more
- Develop an outline for the a special journal issue on the theme for the Hydra meeting
- Explore different ways of creating a forum where the expert group can continue discussing various issues relevant to immigrant youth adaptation.

Congratulations to the 2015 IAIR Scholarship Awardees

Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. Michael Prosser

Outstanding Dissertation: Dr. Anouk Smeeks

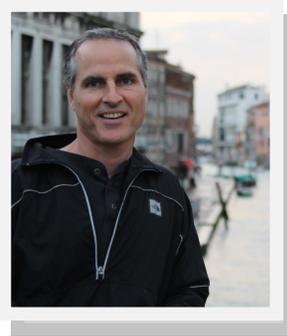
Early Career Award: Dr. Nicholas Rule

More information on these scholars and their excellent work can be found on the IAIR web site.

Newsletter Editor's Note

I want to begin this newsletter series by offering outgoing IAIR Secretary and WWA Series Editor Kelly McKay-Semmler a heartfelt thank you for the wonderful work she did during her years of service to the Academy. She edited 21 issues of WWA in addition to her other duties as Secretary. You have set the bar high indeed, Kelly, for those that follow in this office.

New Members and Fellows: If you are new to the academy we would like to feature your profile in a future edition of



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

the newsletter. If you will provide us with a 250 word biography/profile statement that describes your research 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

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 in the WWA series, 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>.



IAIR 2017

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

You are invited to join us for the 20th
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. The conference website is
under construction.

International Academy for Intercultural Research



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

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

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

Encourage Your Colleagues to Join

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

Benefits of Membership

- Subscription to the *International Journal of Intercul-*

tural Relations, the official journal of the Academy either on-line or hard copy.



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

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

Elsevier, Ltd.

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

Levels of Membership

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