

# CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE PSYCHOLOGIE

## *International Relations Committee*

### 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

#### **Membership**

The International Relations Committee (IRC) for 2019-2020 consisted of Janel Gauthier (Chair), Gira Bhatt (Secretary), John Berry, Cristina Busila, Naomi Koerner, Gary Latham, Kimberley Noels, Saba Safdar, Peter Suedfeld, Randal Tonks, Jennifer Veitch, and Marta Young. Ada Sinicore was the Liaison to the Committee for the CPA Board of Directors. Sadly, our dear IRC member Marta Young passed away on September 26, 2019. One new member joined the IRC this spring: Naomi Koerner (Associate Professor, Department of Psychology Ryerson University).

#### **Main Activities**

The Committee oversees and makes recommendations on matters pertaining to CPA's international representation and activities in psychology.

Since its last annual report to the Board, the Committee carried out the following activities:

##### a) **Psynopsis**

Publication of three articles about international psychology activities in *Psynopsis*: (1) "Russia and Cuba: The Hosts of Two Major Conferences," written by Janel Gauthier, Chair of the IRC, and John Berry, a member of the IRC (vol.41, issue 3, p. 29); (2) "A Conference on Intercultural Research at Shanghai International Studies University," written by John Berry & Saba Safdar, both members of the IRC (vol. 41, issue 4, p. 41); and (3) "The Global voice for Science, Including Psychology: The International Science Council," written by Jennifer A. Veitch, a member of the IRC (vol.42, issue 3, in press).

Publication of an obituary: "Remembering Marta Yolande Young (1963-2019)", written by Patrick Orchard; submitted to *Psynopsis* by Gira Bhatt, Secretary, International Relations Committee, and Maya A. Yampolsky, Chair, International & Cross-Cultural Psychology Section (vol. 42, issue 2, p. 29)

##### b) **CPA Convention**

Submission of a workshop proposal for CPA's 2020 Annual Convention. Title: *International Work by Canadian Psychologists*. Chair: John Berry; Panel Members: Frances Aboud, Roxane de la Sablonnière, Janel Gauthier, Frédéric Guay, Gary Latham, and Saba Safdar.

Submission of a symposium co-sponsored with the section on International and Cross-Cultural Psychology. Title: *Honouring Professor Marta Young, Past Chair of International and Cross-Cultural Section of the CPA*. Chair: Saba Safdar; Presenters: Gira Bhatt, John berry, Richard Clement, Jacky Chan.

However, with the change in plans for the Convention due to Covid-19, the workshop and the symposium will be re-submitted for presentation at the 2021 Annual Convention in Ottawa.

c) **Terms of Reference**

Revision of the Terms of Reference of the International Relations Committee to take on the responsibilities assumed by the former Canadian National Committee for the International Union of Psychological Science. This was done in response to a request made by the Board of Directors in March 2019. A working group was created to complete this activity. The members of the working group were: John Berry as IRC representative; Jennifer Veitch as former chair of the CNC (she completed two 4-year terms as Chair of the Committee); and Janel Gauthier as ex-officio member. A draft of the revised Terms of Reference was submitted to the members of the Committee for feedback in May 2020. The final draft of the document will be considered for approval at the upcoming annual business meeting of the Committee in June 2020. Once approved by the Committee, it will be submitted to the Board for review and approval.

d) **Call for Nominations for a Canadian Delegate to the IUPsyS General Assembly**

Marta Young was a Canadian Delegate to the IUPsyS General Assembly before passing away last Fall. Her term was due to end after the IUPsyS General Assembly meeting to be held in conjunction with the International Congress of Applied Psychology in Beijing, China, in July 2022. While there was no requirement to put out a call for nominations for one delegate to complete Marta's term, one was launched in February 2020 to provide an opportunity to the general membership to apply for the position. The Committee received three nominations and voted on them. The candidate who obtained the most votes was Saba Safdar. A recommendation was made to the Board of Directors to appoint her to complete Marta Young's term as Canadian Delegate to the IUPsyS General Assembly.

e) **Annual Business Meeting**

The next IRC annual business meeting will be a virtual meeting. However, this is not due to the cancellation of the CPA convention following the COVID-19 outbreak. The IRC had earlier decided in June 2019 to hold its annual business meetings virtually instead of in-person at CPA conventions to allow more members to participate in them. The IRC will hold its 2020 annual business meeting via video conferencing on June 11.

Other activities for 2019-2020 included representations on international organizations:

- **International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS).** The mission of the IUPsyS is the development, representation and advancement of psychology as a basic and applied science nationally, regionally, and internationally. The Canadian National Committee for the International Union of Psychological Science (CNC/IUPsyS) is the body responsible for Canada's membership and representation within the IUPsyS. The Board of Directors decided last Spring to assign this responsibility to CPA's International Relations Committee. Canada is entitled to two delegates to the IUPsyS General Assembly. The delegates for Canada were Saba Safdar and John Berry. Under the unique circumstances that all of us confront with the COVID-19 pandemic, the International Congress of Psychology - which was due to be held this July in Prague, Czech Republic - has been rescheduled to 18-23 July 2021 at the same Prague Congress Centre. For more information, see <http://www.icp2020.com/>

- **International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP).** The objectives of the IAAP are to promote the advancement of applied psychology around the world, chiefly through its quadrennial International Congresses of Applied Psychology and its publications, which include two journals (*Applied Psychology: An International Review* and *Applied Psychology: Health and Well-Being*) and a periodical (*Applied Psychology Around the World*) (see <https://www.iaapsy.org> for further details). Canada is represented on the IAAP Board of Directors by (in alphabetical order) Janel Gauthier (Past President of IAAP), Peter Graf (President of Division 14 Applied Cognitive Psychology), Frédéric Guay (President of Division on Educational, Instructional, and School Psychology), and Gary Latham (Past President of Division on Organizational and Work Psychology, and Chair of the Policy Advisory Committee). The next International Congress of Applied Psychology will be held in Beijing, China, July 25-29, 2018. For more information, see <http://www.icap2022.com/>
- **International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP).** The IACCP promotes research and communication within cross-cultural psychology through its biennial congresses and its publications: *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, the *Cross-Cultural Psychology Bulletin*, and biennial congress proceedings volumes (see [www.iaccp.org](http://www.iaccp.org) for further details). Canada is represented on the IACCP Executive Council by Saba Safdar who serves as Deputy Secretary-General, and Valery Chirkov who serves as Regional Representative (North America – Canada). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the next IACCP international congress - which was due to be held this July in Olomouc, Czech Republic - has been rescheduled to July 24-29, 2021. For further information, see <https://www.iaccp2020.com/>
- **InterAmerican Society of Psychology (ISP/SIP).** The SIP (the Spanish-language acronym) publishes the *Interamerican Journal of Psychology* and a newsletter (*Bulletin of SIP*), and organizes every two years an Interamerican Congress of Psychology and every two years a Regional Congress that alternates with the years of the Interamerican Congress. The next Interamerican Congress of Psychology (SIP) will be held in Asunción, Paraguay in 2021. The dates have yet to be confirmed. For more information, see <http://cipparaguay2021.com/>
- **Other International Psychology Organizations.** CPA Members/Fellows are encouraged to bring to the attention of the Committee their involvement in other international societies and associations.

*Janel Gauthier, Ph.D.*  
Chair