

Asian Association Social Psychology

<http://www.sites.psych.unimelb.edu.au/aasp/>

Newsletter

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From the Editor

Season's Greetings! Here in Japan the cherry trees are in bloom, universities are about to welcome a new cohort of fresh young psychologists, and spring is in the air. I hope readers will agree that there are many reasons for us to feel that spring is the season which best describes the developmental stage of the association since, *the*



AASP has come of age. The 4th conference in Melbourne was a resounding success, the membership has expanded, the quality and competition rates of the association's publications has increased, a third volume of the *Progress* has been published, there are deeper links with other academic associations in the field and as a crowning achievement, signaling the association's general recognition, the AJSP has been included in the ISI Social Sciences Citation Index.

There are many good reasons to be optimistic about the future of the organization as well. On a wider scale there is increasing

awareness of the impact of culture upon psychology, with symposia focusing on cultural and indigenous psychology at conferences being well attended, ongoing controversial intellectual debates, and articles demonstrating the importance of cultural considerations being published in prestigious journals including our own. Social psychology is

increasingly popular in Asia, with general psychology courses topping entrance requirement rankings here in Japan. There is every indication that the AASP itself is entering a new phase of development. It has a new publisher for *Progress in Asian Social Psychology*; a new AASP program providing support to authors publishing in English; and a new, energetic association president in Susumu Yamaguchi. There is also a new newsletter – this is the inaugural issue – to which members are invited to contribute photographs, articles and ideas.

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AJSP included in SSCI Social Sciences Citation Index

The AASP is very pleased to announce that the Asian Journal of Social Psychology has been selected for coverage in Current Contents of Social & Behavioral Sciences, and the Social Sciences Citation Index beginning with Vol. 4, No. 1, 2001.

Inclusion in the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) is not only fantastic news for the journal, it is also probably the single greatest achievement, in terms of concrete recognition of the quality of research being carried out by our members, of the Association since its foundation in 1995. Thanks and congratulations are due to the publishers, the journal's editors and to all the authors that have submitted to the AJSP. This achievement is a reflection of the quality of the articles, measured quantitatively in terms of their *impact factor* (explained below), that have been published hitherto. The prestige accrued by the AJSP's inclusion in the SSCI will increase the perceived level of authority of future issues of the journal and lead, undoubtedly, to a wider circulation in the future. The news has been added to the journal's homepage, and will be featured in all new marketing material.

As social psychologists, we apply quantitative techniques to analyze the behavior of social individuals. It can be of no surprise, nor cause for concern, that researchers apply quantitative techniques to analyze the behavior or, more precisely, the performance of social psychologists. The Social Sciences Citation Index, published by The Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), a commercial organization based in Philadelphia, is a list of over 1,700 of the world's leading scholarly social sciences journals. In addition to the index itself, the ISI publishes *Journal Citation Reports* (JCR) based upon an analysis of the number of citations of each paper included in the index. The most used data in the JCR are *impact factors* calculated as an average number of citations per paper for each journal, indicating the extent to which a specific journal's articles are referenced elsewhere. *Impact factors* are calculated in the following way

$$\frac{\text{Citations in year } t \text{ to articles published in } t-1 \text{ or } t-2}{\text{Articles published in years } t-1 \text{ or } t-2}$$

In addition to journal *impact factors* the ISI also publishes the half-life of the impact factor in years, citation rates for individual articles and individual authors, announcing on occasion

rankings of the top researchers in various fields in terms of their citation rates. This table shows the top ten journals in the field of social psychology according to their impact factor (IF).

R	Journal Title	IF
1	ADVANCES EXP. SOC. PSY. BUL	6.9
2	J. PERSONALITY & SOC. PSY.	2.7
3	J. HEALTH AND SOC. BEHAVIOR	2.5
4	J. EXPERIMENTAL. SOC. PSY.	1.7
5	J. ASSESSEMENT. PSY.	1.4
6	SOC. PSY. QUARTERLY	1.4
7	PERSONALITY & SOC. PSY. BUL.	1.2
8	ORG. BEHV. & HUMAN. DEC. PROC.	1.1
9	J. OF PERSONALITY	1.1
10	BRITISH J. SOC. PSY.	1.1

1999 ISI JCR Social Science Edition

The information published in the JCR is used by other academics and librarians, as an indication of the level of authority and quality of research articles. This can lead to problems such as tenure committees judging research quality by impact factor alone, and excessive self-citation. But these are problems of information misuse, rather than of the availability of the information itself, which can likewise be recycled for use as data for social psychological research (e.g. Lehman, 1989).

The AJSP's inclusion in the citation index will mean that those that are not familiar with our field of research will have some reference by which to guide, review and purchase decisions. The very fact of being included in the index, whatever the initial *impact factor* of the AJSP, will bring well-deserved attention to the research included therein. The inclusion of the JASP in the SSCI is also another reason why members are encouraged and advised to submit their best research for inclusion in our journal, which is, *demonstrably*, growing from strength to strength.

ISI Web page: <http://www.isinet.com>

Timothy Takemoto

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New AASP Program for Publishing in English

The AASP is starting a program for promoting its members to publish their academic works in English journals. The program consists of two parts:

1. The AASP-SESP International Collaboration Program

In this program, members who wish to receive some English language assistance in polishing a manuscript for an English journal will be matched with a volunteer from the Society for Experimental Social Psychology (SESP, based in the USA) who publishes in the same or similar research area. This is the procedure:

- (1) The AASP applicant will send an electronic copy of the English manuscript, nearly ready for submission to a journal, to the AASP Liaison (the Secretary General of AASP, currently Emi Kashima), together with a letter of submission intended for the journal editor.
- (2) The manuscript will be forwarded to the SESP International Cooperation Liaison Officer (currently Prof. Tony Greenwald at the University of Washington) who will find a SESP volunteer suitable for the paper content. When the partner is identified, the manuscript will be transmitted electronically to this person.
- (3) The SESP partner will identify and fix problems of English usage in the manuscript, and will send the author of the manuscript his/her written feedback via e-mail.
- (4) The author will revise the paper and will submit it to the journal. The SESP and AASP liaisons will contact both the AASP and SESP partners later to see if the cooperation has been successful.

Participation in this program is free of charge. We rely on the SESP members' good will and dedication.

2. The Victoria University of Wellington English Improvement Program

This program is for AASP members who intend to participate in the AASP-SESP International Collaboration Program, but wish, as a preliminary stage, to have English usage in the manuscript checked thoroughly and substantially by a postgraduate psychology student native in English. The procedure is similar to the one described above.

- (1) The AASP applicant will send an electronic copy of the English manuscript to the AASP Liaison indicating the intention to take part in this particular program.

(2) The manuscript will be forwarded to the Dr. James Liu at the Victorian University of Wellington in New Zealand. James will find a suitable postgraduate student in psychology. The latter will identify and fix problems of English usage in the manuscript. The feedback will be sent back to the author via James.

Participation in this program will involve the payment of a small gratuity to the postgraduate student, estimated to be between US\$200-300. It will be charged on the basis of the assistance time required.

We will protect the confidentiality of the applications as much as possible. It is assumed that co-authorship is not involved in the assistance made by the SESP partner or by the postgraduate students at the VUW.

A number of SESP members have already expressed their interests in contributing to the program. We would like to encourage members to take advantage of this great opportunity.

For further inquires, e-mail the AASP Liaison Officer, Emi Kashima:
Email: ekashima@swin.edu.au



Drs Emi Kashima and Deborah Terry in Melbourne

Progress in Asian Social Psychology (Volume 3)

The AASP is pleased to announce the forthcoming publication of the 3rd Volume of Progress in Asian Social Psychology, "Asian Social Psychology: Conceptual and Empirical contributions", edited by Kuo-Shu Yang, Kwang-Kuo Hwang, Paul B. Pederson and Ikuo Daibo, by a new publisher, Greenwood Press, in December 2002.

The third volume of the *Progress* continues the tradition of Volume 1 and 2. Volume 1 (Leung et al. Eds., 1998) contains papers presented at the 1st conference in Hong Kong. Volume 2 (Sugiman et al. Eds., 2000) contains papers presented at the 2nd conference in Kyoto. Volume 3 collects 16 of the best papers presented at the 3rd Conference of the Asian Association of Social Psychology at Academia Sinica, Taiwan, in 1999.

The overall quality and rigor of the 16 papers included in this volume testify to the strength of the research and the opportunities for theoretical advance in this field. With an average of nearly 50 references per chapter (over 750 citations in total), all of the chapters give a thorough introduction to their respective topics. Many of the papers include references to publications outside the field of social psychology in religious studies, philosophy and ethnology, demonstrating the way in which Asian social psychology is expanding the delineation of social psychology in general.

This volume contains papers focusing on six Asian cultures written by 31 authors based in 10 countries. Topics include (chosen at random, the full table of contents all volumes is at <http://www.sites.psych.unimelb.edu.au/aasp/>): stereotypes, the self, motivation, face, capital punishment, Confucian theories of governance, shame, and filial piety. Volume 3, like its predecessors, demonstrates above all the breadth of research in our field.

Despite the inclusion of major review articles, such as that of indigenous psychology in India (Sinha, Ch. 1) and of the psychology of rehabilitation - East and West - (Tam et al., Ch. 16), and articles by well known researchers, such as two authored by Uichol Kim (Ch. 9 and



Dr Yoshi Kashima in Melbourne

14), my preferences were governed by my research interests. For instance, the experimental investigation of parental beliefs regarding shame (Fung et al., Ch. 5) should go a long way to promoting an awareness of "healthy, and adaptive form of shame" in Asian cultural contexts. Likewise, the paper investigating the media coverage of

capital punishment (Sakamoto et al., Ch. 15) raises interesting questions about the relative merits of publicizing executions in Japanese and American culture, as well as about the deterrence effect of capital punishment itself.

Over and above the specific merit of the research represented in Volume 3 of the *Progress*, it is hoped that the three-volume set may come to be regarded as an essential reference work: an expanding, encyclopedic introduction to Asian social psychology of equal interest to researchers and educators alike. Participants in future AASP conferences are encouraged to submit their work to future volumes of *Progress* in the confidence that it will be found on the shelves of libraries and research rooms for many years to come.

Volume 3 will be available from:

http://greenwood.com/contactus/order_info.asp for about 64USD, and at a slight discount at the 4th conference. Vols. 1 and 2 are available from amazon.com but stocks are "limited".

The call for papers for Volume 4 has closed following a tremendous response from 4th conference participants (see p.6). The contact for submissions to Volume 5 will be announced after the next conference. Enquires concerning the *Progress* series should be addressed to the series editor, Dr. Kwok Leung (see p.1).

Timothy Takemoto

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The Fourth Conference of the Association in Melbourne, Australia

The fourth conference of our association took place from the 10th to 13th of July, 2001, on the campus of the University of Melbourne, Australia.

It was a groundbreaking conference in ways more than one. First of all, this was our first conference in the century and the millennium as the theme of the conference, Asian social psychology in the 21st century, signified. It was also the first time in which, following the successes of the Hong Kong, Kyoto, and Taipei conferences, AASP ventured out of the comfort zone of East Asia into the wider world. Symptomatically, we held our first ever conference in conjunction with the annual conference of the Society of Australasian Social Psychologists (SASP), an association of social psychologists in Australia and New Zealand.

Locals say there is a "tyranny of distance" for Australia, aka *terra australis incognita*. Indeed, it is probably the last continent to be populated by humans, indigenous people known as Australian Aborigines by about 40,000 years ago. It has the distinction of being the last continent colonized by Europeans only in the 18th century. It is probably fair to say that Australia is a former colonial outpost of the British Empire, which was far away from Europe that the British government saw it fit to send petty criminals out of sight after North American penal colonies became unavailable in the 18th century due to the independence of the United States of America. Despite the distance, a number of delegates hailed from a variety of countries, including Canada, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of China (Taiwan), the United States, and Thailand. More than 200 independent contributions (both individual papers and symposia) were made, and the intellectual climate of the conference was charged with excitement.

The conference was opened by Professor Richard Larkins, the Dean of the Faculty at the University of Melbourne, and followed by Professor Susumu Yamaguchi's AASP Presidential Address and Professor Kazuya Horike's JGDA Presidential Address. A special keynote address was given by Professor Sik-hung Ng (City University of Hong Kong), a native of Hong Kong and a long time resident of New Zealand, at the conference dinner which was held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, a "sacred place" for Australians as a Mecca of cricket and Australian rules football. Each day began with an invited



The Conference Dinner at the MCG

speaker's hour-long presentation delivered by Professors Klaus Fiedler (Heidelberg), Ken'ichi Ohbuchi (Tohoku), and Graham Vaughn (Auckland). Of special note is the fact that two Filipino social psychologists, Drs Augustus Anonuevo and Augusto Legaspi became the first recipients of the Kuo-Shu Yang Travel Award, initiated by Professor Kwok Leung and established by numerous donations from colleagues in Taiwan. Their contributions were invaluable in enriching our intellectual resources. On every day, a leisurely lunchtime was coupled with the customary poster sessions, in which most delegates spent hours on end discussing social psychology (as well as other things).

On the third day of the conference, SASP delegates began to arrive for their conference, and a number of jointly sponsored activities were held on the third and fourth days of the conference. As one of the joint activities of the AASP and SASP, three workshops were organized by Dr Emiko Kashima, including Dr Michael Platow's (La Trobe) "Conference Presentation in English," Dr Michael Smithson's (Australian National University) "Confidence Intervals in Statistical Inference", and Professors Kwok Leung (City University of Hong

Kong) and Cynthia Gallois's (Queensland) "Cross-Cultural Research Method." In addition, a number of symposia were held simultaneously, covering a wide range of topics such as culture and psychology, social cognition, small group processes, and social identity processes. At one time, six parallel sessions were concurrently running! On the last day, a reception was held with an opportunity for both AASP and SASP members to mix and talk while sampling local Australian wines, bringing the four-day conference to an end.

In many ways, the conference marked the beginning of an era for the AASP. We will be a more confident and internationally minded organization with an eye to social psychology in the world while clearly establishing strong roots in the soil of Asia. With an increasing number of colleagues attending not only from East Asia but also South East Asia and South Asia, our claim to show case the best of Asian social psychology is now beginning to have stronger validity. Clearly, with an announcement to hold our fifth conference in Manila, the Philippines, in 2003, the AASP shows a sign of its likely expansion in the future. Indeed, there is a concrete indication. To the call of submissions for the volume four of the *Progress of Asian Social Psychology*, our conference proceedings, 31 papers were submitted. Five editors, Drs Yumi Endo (Nara), Emiko Kashima (Swinburne), Yoshi Kashima (Melbourne), Cynthia Leung (Victoria University, Australia), and John McClure (Victoria University of Wellington), are busily working on the submitted papers. Although the submissions are generally of high quality, some papers had to be rejected, as the space limitation does not permit the publication of all the papers submitted. A high rejection rate, though regrettable in one respect, is a sure sign that the intellectual quality of the association activities is on the increase. There are a lot of reasons to look forward to our next conference in Manila.

Yoshi Kashima
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AJSP Editorial

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The Asian Journal of Social Psychology is entering into its fifth year, and all the indicators suggest that the Journal is on the right track to become a major voice in social psychology from Asia. Both the quantity and quality of the submissions have gone up, and it will also be indexed in the Social Science Citation Index, a major step forward indeed.



Dr Toshio Yamagishi in Melbourne

Because Susumu Yamaguchi is serving as President of The Asian Association of Social Psychology, he has stepped down as an associate Editor and assumed the role of a senior editor for the Journal. Dr Yamaguchi has been with the Journal since its inception. We thank him for his significant contributions in the past and look forward to his continued support and advice

in the future. We have also renewed the Editorial Board, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing board members for their valuable services and to welcome the new members to the Board.

Finally, I will take this opportunity to reiterate our editorial policy briefly. The Journal publishes both theoretical and applied social psychological research, which is broadly defined. Although we give priority to papers that are relevant to Asia, we also welcome high-quality papers that address fundamental issues in social psychology. For applied research, the issues must be framed in such a way that readers from any region will find them relevant and useful. Requests for a blind review are entertained if specified in the submission. To overcome the linguistic hurdle, we also review submissions in Chinese, Korean and Japanese, in addition to English. If accepted, the papers will be translated into English by the authors with our help.

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AASP 2003 Manila

The fifth conference of AASP will be held in Manila, Philippines, July 29-August 1, 2003.

This will be the first AASP conference in Southeast Asia, and we are excited about this opportunity for us to experience the hospitality and cultural diversity of the Philippines under the theme "The Application of Social Psychology in Asian Cultures".

There are over 7000 islands and 100 languages and dialects in the Philippines. The main religion is Catholicism. Filipino is the official national language, but English is the unofficial language, making the Philippines especially accessible for international visitors. The first departments of psychology were established in the 1920s and 1930s, and today psychology is one of the most popular undergraduate majors in the country, with enrolment in Masters and PhD programs very strong. For more information about psychology in the Philippines, please visit the website www.philippinepsychology.net

In keeping with the theme of the conference, the organizers would like to make a special effort to ensure that many symposia contain a mixture of basic and applied research from both developed and developing countries. We believe that one of the most important functions of AASP is to bring together scholars from different backgrounds in an atmosphere that increases mutual understanding. To accomplish this, we would like to do some pre-conference organizing. Dr James Liu has already compiled a list of more than 60 AASP members from Japan and Taiwan interested in building symposia with AASP members from other countries interested in similar issues. In the near future, you will receive further mailings from the organizing committee asking more members to join us in this effort.

The conference will be hosted jointly by three universities in Manila: Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle University, and the University of the Philippines. If you would like to register your interest in doing some pre-



Yu Niiya, Motoko Harihara and Eri Shigemasu in Melbourne

conference organization to build diversity into our symposia, please send your name, email address, university affiliation, and research interests to Dr. James Liu at James.Liu@vuw.ac.nz. If you would like more information about the conference, please contact Dr. Allan Bernardo at claabb@dlsu.edu.ph or Dr. Cecilia Gastardo-

Conaco at:
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Final Call for Papers

This is the final call for paper submissions to the 8th International Conference on Language and Social Psychology. ICLASP will be held in Hong Kong on July 10-14, 2002. The ICLASP website (see below) has been updated with new information on submission deadlines, plenary speakers, symposia, accommodation, and transportation.

Other conferences of interest, held immediately after ICLASP near Hong Kong, include the XVI Congress of the International Association of Cross-Cultural Psychology in Indonesia (July 15-19) and the 52nd Annual International Communication Association Conference in Korea (July 15-19). There are cheap add-on airfares between Hong Kong and other cities in the region. For example, attendees to the ICA Conference can get a Seoul-Hong Kong round trip for an extra US\$100 only.

Conference website:
<http://personal.cityu.edu.hk/~ssiclaspl/>