



Message from the President

In this Issue

Message from the
president

Update on small group
meetings

Education and Training
Report

AJSP update

Reports from Korea and
Hong Kong

AASP 2024 AGM
Minutes

AASP 2025 Conference
Update

Obituary



Minoru Karasawa
Nagoya University, Japan

Dear AASP Members

It has been over a year since I began to serve AASP as the President, and I am delighted to see we have achieved significant progress during this time. At this year's Annual General Meeting, held online on October 6th, reports on various activities and future plans were presented by our Officers and Committee Chairs.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to these leaders for their enthusiasm and dedication in advancing our mission. Among the achievements of this past year, let me highlight two key developments.

First, our flagship Journal, the Asian Journal of Social Psychology, has seen a notable increase in submissions, reflecting its growing reputation. This success largely owes to the tireless efforts of the entire editorial team. I extend my sincere thanks to the Editor-in-Chief and Co-Editors-in-Chief for their exceptional leadership, as well as to the Associate Editors, Editorial Board Members, Senior Editorial advisers, and our anonymous reviewers for their hard work in maintaining the quality of the journal while helping facilitate the editorial process.

Additionally, we have agreed with Wiley on the renewal of our contract for the years 2025 to 2029. Under this new agreement, AJSP will transition to a fully online format, discontinuing printed editions. This change will reduce production costs and make our Journal environmentally friendly.

Edited by
Prof. Roomana N. Siddiqui,
Dept. of Psychology,
Aligarh Muslim University,
India

We are also committed to making the Open Access option more accessible and beneficial for contributors. Such effort is essential for AASP because our membership includes researchers from countries and regions under various conditions, such as those that are financially and/or institutionally less advantaged. Second, this period witnessed remarkable productivity in Small Group Meetings (SGMs), which serve as vital platforms for training and networking, especially for early-career researchers. I am deeply grateful to the organizers for their outstanding efforts, as well as to the members of the SGM Subcommittee for their thoughtful and devoted work in reviewing proposals. I hope to see this trend of creative and impactful SGMs continues.

This year also brought changes to our Executive Committee. Ilan Dar-Nimrod, the Insular Pacific Regional Representative, and Kimin Eom, the Representative-at-Large for Singapore, stepped down from their positions. I am thankful for their invaluable contributions to AASP. At the same time, I am delighted to welcome Ben Lam at La Trobe University in Australia as Ilan's successor, and Jacinth Tan from Singapore Management University to replace Kimin's position.

On a sad note, we lost two esteemed past Presidents during this time: Professor Hwang Kwang-Kuo and Professor James Liu, both of whom played pivotal roles in AASP's foundation and growth. During the General Meeting, we honoured their memory with a moment of silence, and our thoughts remain with their families and loved ones.

Looking ahead, preparations are well underway for our next Biennial Conference scheduled for July next year in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. I appreciate Liz Jones and the Organizing Committee for their remarkable efforts in planning this event, and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to AASP.

AASP SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

I. Understanding Polyculturalism across Societies in the Asia-Pacific

Allan Bernardo (De La Salle University), Emiko Kashima & Ben Lam (La Trobe University)

The Small Group Meeting (SGM) on "Understanding Polyculturalism across Societies in the Asia-Pacific" convened at De La Salle University, Manila, Philippines, spanning from February 1st to 3rd, 2024. This event, orchestrated by three distinguished members of the AASP, Allan Bernardo, Emi Kashima, and Ben Lam, aimed at deepening our understanding of polyculturalism—an approach that views cultures as interconnected rather than distinct entities, with cultural groups mutually influencing one another. Given the AASP's commitment to peace and growing human relations within and across all countries in the Asia-Pacific region, our topic aligned closely with this commitment. The proposal garnered significant

interest from scholars and students across the Asia-Pacific region and Europe since its announcement in August 2023.

The applicant pool encompassed a diverse array of academic backgrounds and disciplines, including social psychologists, developmental psychologists, sociolinguists, and social scientists, all sharing a keen interest in diversity ideologies and intercultural relations. Ultimately, the SGM boasted a robust attendance of 27 participants, hailing from various corners of the globe: Australia (7), the Philippines (6), China (4), Indonesia (3), India (2), Belgium (2), Japan (1), Malaysia (1), and the UK (1).



Participants represented a spectrum of career stages, comprising PhD candidates, early to mid-career researchers, and seasoned faculty members, thus serving our goal of capacity building and research development in our region. While the majority were current AASP members, a notable contingent was new to both AASP and the research topic. There were also a number of local De La Salle staff and students who contributed their time and energy to make our SMG enjoyable and a success.

Across the three-day duration, participants immersed themselves in intensive learning and dialogues centered around the concept of polyculturalism. This rich discourse was augmented by three keynote presentations, three research paper presentations, and a critical commentary. Keynote speakers offered diverse perspectives on polyculturalism, including a historical overview emphasizing the concept of cultural borrowing (Melody Chao), an examination of polycultural language practices within transnational families (Xiao Lan Curdt-Christiansen), and an exploration of

polyculturalism within Australian music communities, encompassing their practices and social networks (Trisnasari Fraser). Research paper presentations further enriched the discussion by delving into ongoing empirical investigations on topics such as the dimensionality of polyculturalism (Allan Bernardo), the development of a new scale of polycultural identity (Ariane Virgona & Matthew Ruby), and the emergence of polycultural identity within family contexts (Emi Kashima & Ben Lam). Yoshi Kashima provided a commentary, addressing outstanding conceptual and theoretical issues while charting potential future directions. Dialogues permeated the event, unfolding within subgroups and the larger group, ranging from spontaneous and informal exchanges to structured mini presentations.

The atmosphere of the SGM exuded openness, curiosity, and collaborative engagement. Anticipating fruitful collaborations, participants began conceptualizing joint projects during the meeting. By the conclusion of Day 3, four broad research streams and project plans had already taken shape, led by early and mid-career scholars



and directed by the organizers and presenters. Plans were set in motion for a symposium at the upcoming IACCP congress, as well as the organization of a symposium focusing on these emerging projects slated for AASP 2025 in Malaysia. The objective of this gathering was to delve deeper into the concept of polyculturalism, a diversity ideology emphasizing the cultivation of harmonious relationships, aligning closely with AASP's dedication to fostering peace and enhancing human relations. This objective was met as we gained fresh insights into differing nuances of polyculturalism across various societies, insights to be examined further through forthcoming projects. Additionally, in line with AASP's mission to advance research on Asian traditions, philosophies, and ideas, our SGM played a pivotal role. By convening researchers from diverse backgrounds and career stages across



multiple countries, thus fulfilling AASP's broader goals. We not only facilitated meaningful exchanges but also laid the groundwork for research collaborations. This, in turn, strengthens our capacity to publish findings that contribute to a deeper understanding of polyculturalism and its psychological implications in Asian societies and beyond.

II. Community Research toward Sustainable collaborations between Vietnam and Aotearoa/NZ

Minh Nguyen (Massey University)

In March (13th – 15th, 2024) a small group meeting on ‘Community Research toward Sustainable collaborations between Vietnam and Aotearoa/NZ’ was held in School of Psychology, Massey University, Auckland Campus, New Zealand. This small group meeting is a result of collaboration among Association of Asian Association of Psychology, Massey University, and Vietnam Association of Psychology. The meeting brought together a diverse group of 30 participants from Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lankan, Indonesia, the USA, and three universities in New Zealand (Massey University, Waikato University, and University of Auckland). 30% of participants were Associate Professors and Professors, 35% were PhDs, and 35% were PhD candidates and graduate students. During the small group meeting, participants engaged in discussions and shared insights on applied psychologies, approaches in working with communities, fostering environmental and social regeneration, and issues of sustainability.



The meeting also emphasized the development of research skills, specifically addressing challenges such as paper writing for non-native English speakers and adopting ethically appropriate approaches in conducting research with communities. In addition, early career researchers were provided valuable opportunities for networking and future collaboration through engaging academic speed dating sessions with senior academics. This allowed participants to learn about each other's work and explore potential avenues for joint research initiatives. The participants have provided positive feedback on the meeting and looked forward to future events of a similar nature.



III. Social Psychology in Mental Health Studies: Showcase of Postgraduate Research in the Asia-Pacific Region

Wendy Li (James Cook University, Australia)

The SGM's aims were to: 1) showcase the achievements of our next generation of social psychology researchers who are working on research in the intersection between social psychology and mental health via research presentations and Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition; 2) Organise a "Research Capacity Building Workshop"; 3) support research students in the Asia-Pacific region to publish papers in this research field via the "Conversations with Editors"; 4) inspire research students via "What Next' Dialogues with Academics"; and 5) promote AASP among research students in Asian countries, Australia and New Zealand. Stressors, including environmental, social, and psychological stressors, have long been recognised as crucial factors that affect individuals' mental state and social behaviour. These stressors are not stand alone. Instead, they are associated with social structure, socioeconomic status, race, gender, and age. These systems may lead to an unequal distribution of resources and opportunities. Consequently, people with low status in the systems are more likely to experience stressful life conditions, which often lead to mental distress and even mental disorders. Extant studies on mental health largely focus on the potential stressors of individual experiences, and often ignore the possible structural factors as origins of these stressors. This limitation highlights the need of bringing social psychology into mental health research.



Focusing on the interface of social psychology and mental health research across Pacific-Asian societies, our SGM, held on 27 and 28 June 2024, enriches the interplay between social psychology and mental health in theory and research.



The two-day, interdisciplinary SGM attracted more than 40 participants from Australia, Singapore, India, Japan, and Sweden. Ten postgraduate students, from the disciplines of Psychology, Nursing, and Sports Science and Exercise, presented at the SMG and six students participated in the 3MT competition. The SGM was very well received by the participants.

THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE REPORT

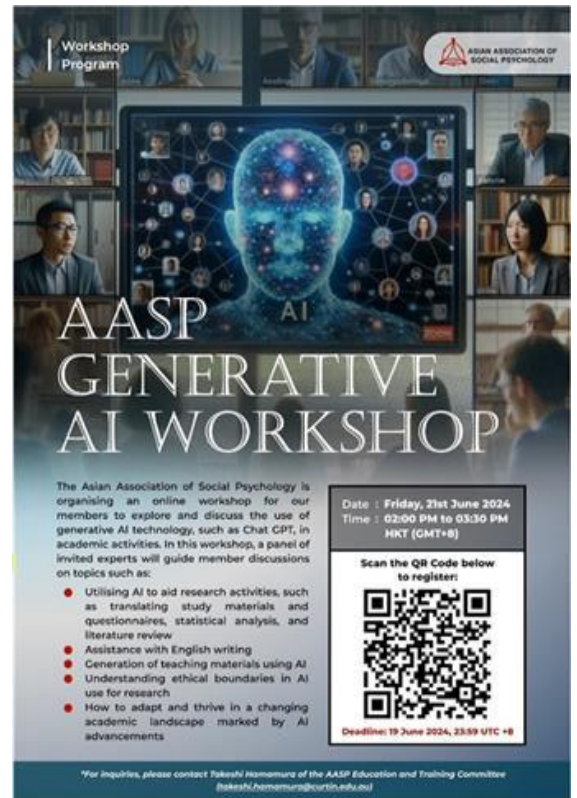
Takeshi Hamamura
Education and Training Committee Chair

The Education and Training Committee organized an online workshop titled "Generative AI Workshop," aimed at exploring and discussing the use of generative AI technologies, such as ChatGPT, in academic settings. This event garnered strong interest, with registrations reaching several hundreds. Despite our initial concerns about managing such high numbers, the workshop was conducted smoothly, thanks to the able assistance of Moh Abdul Hakim's team at Universitas Sebelas Maret. Over 100 participants actively engaged in the Zoom session on June 21. The event featured a panel of invited experts who shared their insights and experiences on the applications and challenges of using AI in academic settings. We extend our gratitude to these experts for their Generous contributions.

- Kongmeng Liew, University of Canterbury Alisha Chettri, AASP Education and Training Committee member, Tripura University.

- Vivian Lun, AASP Education and Training Committee member, Lingnan University
- Yu Niiya, AJSP Editor-in-Chief, Hosei University
- Sammyh Khan, AJSP Senior Editorial Advisor, Örebro University
- Adam Smith, International Christian University

Participants actively engaged in lively discussions, sharing their experiences with using AI for English writing assistance, teaching, and research activities, such as translation, coding, and literature searches. The workshop also featured stimulating debates on the ethical dilemmas and challenges posed by the increasing use of AI tools. Given the success of this workshop, we are considering follow-up events.



ASIAN JOURNAL OF SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY UPDATES

Yu Niiya

Hosei University, Japan Editor-in-Chief, AJSP

Greetings from the new editorial team! With Dr. Wendy Li from James Cook University and Dr. Xiaowan (Lucy) Lin from the University of Macau as Co-Editors-in-Chief, AJSP has experienced a smooth transition to our new editorial team. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Kim-Pong (Kevin) Tam, Dr. Angela Leung, and Dr. Sammyh Khan for their many years of dedication to the journal and for helping the new team learn the ropes. I would also like to thank many of the associate editors and editorial board members who have decided to continue working for AJSP as well as many enthusiastic new members who have joined the team. We will continue publishing high impact articles in all areas of personality and social psychology while maintaining our nurturing approach to empowering the next generation of Asian social psychologists. Together, I have no doubt AJSP will maintain (and improve) its impact on the field and its global presence. Please send your best papers to AJSP and don't forget to cite AJSP articles as often as you can!

New forays from January

AJSP will be published in an online-only format from January 2025 fulfilling our responsibility toward a sustainable future. Members will continue to have full access to all articles online. It will be moving to a

Continuous Publication model, where published articles will be immediately assigned to volumes and issues as soon as they appear online. Authors will no longer have to wait to add their newly published articles to their CV.

Another visible change will be in the layout of the pdf pages, as will be the case in many journals published by Wiley. AJSP will continue to welcome submissions using the APA style, but upon acceptance, they will be changed to the Chicago Manual of Style. We appreciate your understanding in regard to this change.

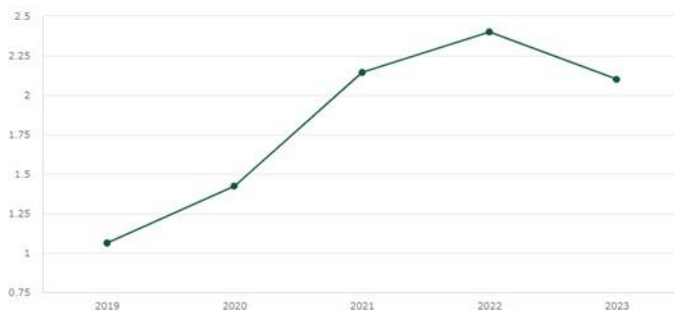
Last but not least, the aims and scope of the journal has been revised to provide a more concrete expectation of what kind of papers we would like to publish in AJSP.



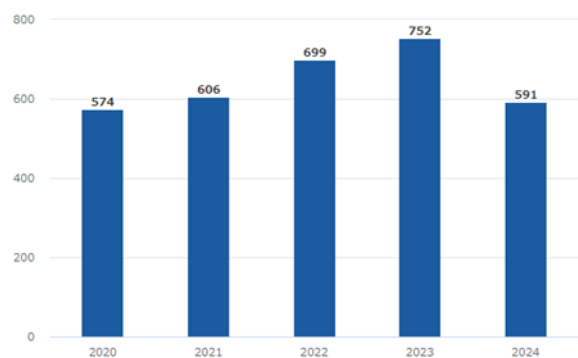
Asian Journal of Social Psychology

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IMPACT FACTOR BY JOURNAL



SUBMISSION TREND



[Call for Papers for a Special Issue on Global Consciousness in Memory of Dr. James Liu](#)

The Asian Journal of Social Psychology (AJSP) will publish a special issue on global consciousness dedicated to the memory and seminal contributions of Professor James Liu. This special issue aims to honour Professor James Liu's legacy by exploring and expanding upon the concept of global consciousness in contemporary psychological research. Please see the AJSP website or the AASP website for further details. The deadline for submission is January 31, 2025. Dr. Wendy Li (James Cook University), Dr. Darrin Hodgetts (Massey University), and Dr. Moh. Abdul Hakim (Sebelas Maret University) will serve as guest editors. We look forward to receiving your submissions and to honouring the remarkable contributions of Professor James Liu through this special issue.

Coming soon!

Asian Journal of Social Psychology is happy to announce that it is participating in a Multi-journal Special Issue on “Advancing the Interface between Research and Practice for Sustainable Development.” The Journal is compiling papers that examine the interface between research and practice and demonstrate the relevance of social psychological processes to the promotion of mitigation behavior, facilitation of social, cultural, and institutional changes, protection of vulnerable populations, and diffusion of adaptation practices in the context of the global climate change agenda.

REPORT FROM KOREA (DR. YOUNG-MI KWON)

The Korean Social and Personality Psychological Association (KSPPA) has a new steering committee for 2024 with Prof. Tae Kyun Heo of Korea University as its newly elected president.

KSPPA held its first biannual conference on May 18th 2024 at Korea University. The conference consisted of oral presentation sessions, poster presentation sessions, a special session for the awardees of research awards from the association, and a special symposium. Approximately 250 participants attended the conference. Two sessions including 13 oral presentations covered various topics in the fields of social psychology, personality psychology, and criminal psychology.

The special lecture session featured lectures by Prof. Young Hoon Kim (winner of the KSPPA's “Book of the Year”), Dr. Seung-beom Hong (winner of the KSPPA's “Paper of the Year”), and Prof. Hye-won Choi (winner of the Korean Psychological Association's Kim Jae-Il Early Career Award). The topic of the special symposium was confirmation bias, a phenomenon that members of the association voted as “the social psychological phenomenon that Korean society should pay attention to in 2024”. The symposium brought together experts in social psychology, communication, consumer advertising, and police investigation to discuss various perspectives on confirmation bias.



Prof. Hoon-Seok Choi (Sungkyunkwan University), who has served as president of KSPPA and AASP, has been elected as the 52nd president of the Korean Psychological Association. For the next two years, Dr. Choi will work to expand the social influence of society, promote member rights and interests, globalize Korean psychology, and strengthen the social contribution of psychology.

Update from the Hong Kong regional representative (Dr. Emma Buchtel)

After the Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK)'s successful hosting of AASP's 15th biennial conference in 2023, Hong Kong's 2024 social psychology events have continued with invited talks, seminars and meetings held across the Hong Kong universities.

The AASP2023@EdUHK conference website was moved to a permanent site (<https://aasp2023.wixsite.com/aasp2023>) and the Proceedings were published on the AASP website (<https://asiansocialpsych.org/conference-proceedings/>).

In June 2024, Prof. Michael Morris (Columbia University) gave an invited talk at the Department of Management and Marketing at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU); and in December 2024, Prof. Christian Welzel (Leuphana University, Germany) gave a Distinguished Lecture at Lingnan University's Department of Sociology and Social Policy, after which a dozen colleagues continued the intellectual feast at dinner next to Hong Kong's Gold Coast beach.

We look forward to several events in 2025. The Department of Psychology at Lingnan University will organize a conference on "Health and Well-being in the Digital Era" on 21-22 February, 2025. The conference consists of talks and symposia concerning the application of technology to promote mental health and well-being in different social contexts. Further details may be found on the website: <https://www.ln.edu.hk/psy/news-and-events/international-conference-health-and-well-being-in-the-digital-era>. We also look forward to Prof. Shinobu Kitayama visiting the Hong Kong Polytechnic University from April to May, and we cordially invite AASP members to keep an eye out for more information on other 2025 international conferences, including those to be hosted by Lingnan's Department of Sociology and Social Policy (in May 2025, "Advances in Comparative Culturology") and EdUHK's Department of Psychology (in December 2025, "International Conference on Well-Being").

AASP 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The Annual General Meeting was held virtually on 16th October 2024 via Zoom platform. A total of 40 participants including Minoru Karasawa (President and Chair), Xiaomin Sun (Secretary General),

Carolyn Heward (representing Treasurer Wendy Li), Yu Niiya (Editor-in-chief of AJSP), Elizabeth Jones (Chair of 2025 AASP Conference), Sylvia Chen (Past President), Takeshi Hamamura (Education & Training Committee Chair), Li Liu (President Elect), Allan B. I. Bernardo, Emi Kashima (Advisors to the Executive Committee), Moh Abdul Hakim, Youngmi Kwon, Minh Hieu Nguyen, Jennifer Gaskin, and others attended the meeting. The meeting commenced with a moment of silence in honor of the late Professor Hwang Kwang-Kuo and Professor Liu James Hou-Fu, recognizing their contributions to the field and their lasting impact on our community. This was followed by the President's report.

Prof. Minoru Karasawa presented the following updates:

- AJSP Publishing Agreement with Wiley:
 1. The AJSP publications will transition to a fully online format starting January 2025.
 2. An Article Processing Charge (APC) applies if the Open Access option is chosen.
 3. AJSP publications will remain available online as long as institutions maintain subscriptions.
 - Small Group Meetings: Three small group meetings were successfully organized on the following topics:
 1. Understanding Polyculturalism across Societies in the Asia-Pacific
 2. Community Research for Sustainable Collaborations between Vietnam and Aotearoa/New Zealand
 3. Social Psychology in Mental Health Studies: Showcase of Postgraduate Research in the Asia-Pacific RegionA fourth meeting is scheduled for December
 - Collaborations with Other Associations: Continued collaborations with various academic associations including the Vietnam Association of Psychology, the Society of Australasian Social Psychologists (SASP), and the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP). Notably, a joint symposium with the Vietnam Association of Psychology in Hanoi attracted over 600 attendees and 229 submissions for presentation.
 - Workshop on Generative Artificial Intelligence: Organized by Moh Abdul Hakim & Takeshi Hamamura, this online workshop drew over 100 participants. It was highlighted as a significant contribution by the Education and Training Committee.
 - James Liu Memorial Award: Inspired by a keynote speech by the late Professor James Liu, past president, the College of Healthcare Sciences at James Cook University, Australia, and the School of Psychology at Massey University, New Zealand have initiated a memorial fund. This award targets early career researchers focusing on culture in psychology and/or wellbeing.
 - Online Visibility: Efforts to enhance our online presence have been successful, with an increase in followers across our social media platforms:
 - Twitter: 1,589 followers, 2,706 posts
 - Facebook: 787 followers, 582 posts
 - Weibo: 712 followers, 754 posts
- Special thanks to Yang Li for her significant contributions to these efforts.

Secretary-General's Report:

Xiaomin Sun provided the following updates:

➤ Membership Growth:

As of August 4, 2024, AASP membership reached a historical high of 1,845 members, marking a continuous trend of annual growth.

The composition of our current membership (203 members) is primarily from the following top five countries: China (39), Philippines (20), Japan (18), Australia (18), and Indonesia (16).

➤ Membership Fees and Collaborations:

In our efforts to enhance AASP's visibility within the academic community and to expand membership, we continue our collaborations with various scholarly societies. We are maintaining our partnership with the Japanese Group Dynamics Association by offering membership rates of 35 AUD for one year and 60 AUD for two years for 2025 and 2025-2026.

➤ Publications and Communications:

The 2023 AASP newsletter was published, providing insights into the daily activities and achievements of AASP. We are thankful to all editors and contributors for their efforts in this endeavor.

We issued seven invitations this year for conferences, small group meetings, and workshops. We extend our deepest gratitude to all organizers, speakers, and participants for enriching these academic exchanges.

➤ Website and Online Content Updates:

Significant updates were made to various sections of the AASP website, including Our People, Conference, News, Publications, and Proceedings. We have published 13 news articles timely throughout the year.

Episodes 11 through 15 of the AJSP Editors Podcast have been updated, ensuring that our members remain well-informed and engaged.

Treasurer's Report

It was presented by Carolyn Heward on behalf of Wendy Li. She presented a comprehensive review of the financial activities for the fiscal year from 1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024. The balance sheet was also displayed, giving details of the financial status of the association.

AJSP Editor's Report

By Yu Niiya, Editor-in-Chief

A new editorial team has been established. Alongside myself as Editor-in-Chief, Wendy and Lucy have joined as Co-Editors-in-Chief. The team includes 13 continuing associate editors and 5 new associate editors, with a total of 52 editorial board members representing at least 18 countries.

The Journal Citation Reports (JCR) metrics show a current impact factor of 2.1, slightly down from last year. While maintaining an impact factor around 2.0 is desirable, there is no significant concern at this point. Submissions have increased to approximately 74 new papers per month, up from 62 last year.

The number of papers published as Open Access is increasing. However, AJSP will continue to operate as a hybrid journal for the foreseeable future.

Two special issues are currently in progress. The first is a multi-journal special issue overseen by Kevin, with several submissions already under review. The second, led by Wendy, is dedicated to Global Consciousness in memory of Professor James Liu, with a submission deadline of January 31.

The AJSP editors podcast format has been adjusted to shorter, more frequent episodes. Episodes 13 through 17 have been released.

The Journal is committed to maintain its quality and in this connection a Reviewers Training Workshop was organized by the Education and Training Committee to enhance the skills of our reviewers.

AASP CONFERENCE 2025 UPDATE

Professor Elizabeth Jones, Chair of the 2025 AASP Conference provided an update on the planning for the upcoming conference.

Title: The Social World and Language: Culture, Context, and Connections - Recent Developments in Language Sciences and Their Impacts on Culture and the Social World.

Dates: Scheduled from Thursday, July 10, to Saturday, July 12, 2025.

Venue: The conference will be held at Monash University's Malaysia campus.

Website: <https://www.aasp2025.com/> - The official website contains all relevant information, including registration details, submission guidelines, and updates.



WELCOME TO AASP 2025

Welcome to the Asian Association of Social Psychology (AASP 2025) Conference, July 10-12, at Monash University Malaysia
The social world and language: culture, context and connections
Recent developments in language sciences and their impacts on culture and the social world

OBITUARY

Fond Memories



James Hou-Fu Liu (刘豁夫) (1962 - 2024)

Let our collective remembering of Professor James Hou-Fu Liu be a blessing.

Jim passed away on 11th August, 2024, in an unfortunate accident that started while snorkelling off a beach in Indonesia. He is survived by his wife Belinda Bonzon-Liu, and daughter Brianna Bonzon-Liu. His other surviving kin include his mother Liu Liu An-Yun, and brother Liu Chieh-Fu (Jeff).

In a broader sense, members of the Asian Association of Social Psychology (AASP), right from its inception in 1995, have been his kin. At various periods for the last 20 or so years, he has served as Secretary General, Treasurer, President, Conference Organiser, Summer School Mentor, Advisor to Executive Committee, Editor-in-Chief and Senior Editor of its flagship Asian Journal of Social Psychology (AJSP)

He and the multitude of co-serving office-bearers of AASP have left their marks on its developmental trajectory, thereby extending the pioneering contributions made by Yoshi Kashima, Uichol Kim, Susumu Yamaguchi, and the late Kwok Leung. In response to current issues such as the COVID-19 pandemic, Jim and the AASP leadership have initiated a number of large-scale research projects and small group meetings that have further raised AASP's international profile.

Jim was born in Taiwan, China, near the city of Taichung (1962), where his parents had made their home after they left Shanghai. His maternal grandfather, according to Jeff, named him 豁夫 (Hou-Fu)

with the expectation that he would grow up with a broad mind and magnanimous temperament (豁达 大度 Huo-da-da-du) like that of an ancient emperor with the same family name, Liu Bang, who founded the Han Dynasty.

While Jim was still a young child the family moved to Carbondale, Illinois, USA (1966). There his father Liu Shu-Hsien took up an appointment in philosophy at the Southern Illinois University and rapidly rose to the rank of full professor by 1974. That must have set an example for Jim in his own academic career. The family made a sojourn in Hong Kong (around 1973-1975), where Jim picked up Cantonese as his third language after Mandarin and English. While there he attended KGV School.

Upon graduating from the Carbondale Community School (1980), Jim attended the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science (Engineering) (1984). He then worked with Hughes Aircraft/ Los Angeles as a computer scientist until 1986. A year later he and Belinda were married (1987).

In a decisive turn to his career, Jim came back to academia, this time to complete an MA, then in 1992 a PhD in psychology from UCLA. In the same PhD class was Minoru Karasawa, the current President of AASP. This was followed by a Post-doc Fellowship at the Florida Atlantic University (1992-1994). Around this period of time, Jim studied and researched with some powerhouses of social and political psychology, including Marilyn Brewer, Bibb Latane, and Jim Sidanius.

The author of this obituary had no hesitation in hiring Jim as a Lecturer in Psychology at the Victoria University of Wellington (VUW), New Zealand (1994). Like his father before him, Jim rapidly rose to the rank of full professor by 2010. From 2003 to 2015, he was Deputy Director then Co-Director of VUW's vibrant Centre for Applied Cross-Cultural Research. In 2015 he was head-hunted to take up a Distinguished Professorship and became Head of the School of Psychology at Massey University, Auckland, New Zealand. He remained at Massey to the very end. During his tenure at VUW, Jim was an active and productive collaborator in an applied practice research project on positive ageing and intergenerational relations in the Pakeha (European), Māori and Chinese communities. Through this and his subsequent association with the Māori community facilitated by Te Ripowai Higgins and many others, Jim fostered research and teaching in indigenous psychology and mentored a number of Māori PhD students, among whom were Awanui Te Huia and Arama Rata. His other early PhD students at VUW included Marc Wilson and Sammyh Khan. He received the Merit Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2003, not long after Brianna was born to the happy couple (2001).

Jim's openness to new perspectives and talent to critically synthesise them shone through his research work. These personal qualities, signified by his Chinese name, have been instrumental to the development of three major areas of research at VUW. The first one, already referred to above, was indigenous psychology that was making a powerful appearance in Asia inspired by the late Virgilio Enriquez and Kuo-shu Yang, among others. Another was work on social dominance and the legitimisation of inequality across cultures. Underpinning this work was his new-found cross-cultural

perspective coupled with his earlier political psychology perspective. Intellectually he was an Asian-American in as much as Asia and North America, roughly speaking, were the home grounds of the two perspectives, respectively.

The third area of research was the social/cultural representations of history and social identities. This research was informed by social representations theory and the social identity approach, both of which were developed in European social psychology as meta-theoretical systems. Intellectually, then, Jim also embodied developments in Europe apart from those in Asia and North America. Running through all his three major areas of research was his persistent concern with Aotearoa New Zealand, on which he has published extensively.

Jim's multi-perspective and integrative approach to psychological inquiry has been nurtured through collaboration with his father, the late Professor Liu Shu-Hsien (刘述先), himself an eminent figure of the third generation of neo-Confucians. Together they co-authored several papers. In their 1997 paper, for example, they proposed two Confucian philosophical principles for synthesising insights from different paradigms in psychology and other social sciences. Li-i-fen-shu (理一分殊 One principle, multiple manifestations) would allow multiple methods of inquiry and multiple manifestations of cultural reality to derive from one source, whereas T'ien-jen-ho-i (天人合一 Heaven and humanity in union) would relate each act and actor to holistic processes of nature and interpersonal harmony. It would have been gravely remiss of this obituary not to pay tribute to the father-son bonding.

Much of the three areas of research sketched above have continued following Jim's move to Massey University. While there, he has also initiated new research areas and these have been succinctly summarised by Dr. Kirsty Ross, Acting Head of School of Psychology at Massey University:

"In recent times, James was looking at global consciousness in culturally Chinese societies, as well as continuing research on the Digital Influence project, involving 40+ countries around the world. The Digital Influence project involves collaboration with social psychologists from around the world. It examines a wide range of social attitudes and behaviors, including mass media usages, trust in different people and institutions, and prejudice and discrimination."

Jim's last public lecture, delivered at the 27th International Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (5th-8th August, 2024), was on global consciousness (GC). According to an IACCP announcement, during his keynote address,

"... not only were we inspired by his work and firm anchoring in philosophy, but we were also encouraged by his vision and optimism about our role as Psychologists in caring about the future of the planet."

GC maps an individual's cosmopolitanism, openness to multiple cultural experiences and a pan-humanity level of self-categorisation onto a variety of social psychological topics such as environmental attitudes, intergroup biases and pandemic prevention behaviours.

A report by the GC research group led by Jim has been published in a 2023 issue of the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B, which was dedicated to multi-disciplinary synthesis. The report is a notable contribution from social psychology. It represents yet another application of Jim's talent in synthesising multiple perspectives.

Much of Jim's teaching career was dedicated to mentoring junior scholars in their research and publishing, often with an applied practice emphasis on social issues. He has done this in New Zealand, mainland China, Philippines, Indonesia, and Vietnam, among others.

At the time of writing, Jim's Google Scholar counts exceed 18,000 with an h-index of 71. These are impressive markers of accomplishment, particularly when taking into account his relatively short career in social psychology and extremely time-consuming editorial services to AJSP, Political Psychology, and other publications. Underlying the impressive figures is the huge number of research collaborators from numerous countries and regions. Jim's charisma, ability for interpersonal connectivity, entrepreneurship and generous hospitality are very much in evidence.

As Jim's soul-mate Belinda Bonzon-Liu has perceptively noted:

"In our eyes, his great legacy was the network he built all over the world and the young psychologists he mentored. His research was important, but the people he did the research with were much more precious to him."

Many of whom have left their footprints in the couple's Auckland home, and many more have been introduced by Jim to Belinda and Brianna during the Liu family's globe-trotting over the years. In Cicero's words, Jim had life's "fill."

Amen.

Sik Hung Ng, FRSNZ

President of AASP (2007-2009) 19th August, 2024

My Personal Remembrance of Jim Liu

The sudden passing of Professor James Liu in a tragic accident last August sent shockwaves through the AASP community and all who knew him. In our initial message to members, Professor Sik Hung Ng, one of Professor Liu's former colleagues and a past president of AASP, offered a heartfelt tribute (reproduced above). His words were so touching that I cannot hope to add more. All I can do to express my deep condolences is to share some personal memories from the years I was fortunate enough to spend with him.

I believe it was the fall of 1987. I was about to start my second year in graduate school at UCLA. At our Social Area meeting attended by faculty members and grad students, there was an announcement about the new first-year students. Among them was someone described, as I recall, as "a guy who did

his undergraduate in engineering and is now writing a novel somewhere." A few days later, I met that newcomer: Jim Liu.

Jim's initial adviser was the late Professor Gerry Shure, with whom he began a study on legal attitudes. It soon became evident, though, that Jim's intellectual interests were vast and diverse. He often shared with us his first-hand experiences of "social identity" as an Asian American growing up in Southern Illinois, and it wasn't long before he joined Marilyn Brewer's lab to study social cognition and intergroup relations. He also collaborated with Bernie Weiner on research examining how emotions influence causal inferences. The study was published in *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin* while Jim was still in graduate school, which was not too common at the time. Jim also developed a keen interest in cognitive psychology, inspired by courses taught by Bob Bjork and Keith Holyoak. I vividly recall his excitement in explaining to me how categorization and generalization work as a foundation of human intelligence. Another time, I was impressed with his insights on intuitive versus deliberate information processing, what we now know well as "fast versus slow" processes.

In 1988, Professor Jim Sidanius joined our department. He was a character of extraordinary enthusiasm for research, eloquence, and kindness to others. He showed little hesitation in taking a critical stance in debates, whether with an esteemed senior scholar or a grad student. Still, his gentle respect, even toward people with different views from his own, was visible to everyone. I believe that this elder Jim's rigorous yet graceful approach to academic discourse had a profound impact on the younger Jim. As we now know, Jim Liu became instrumental in the early days of the Sidanius group, building the foundation for Social Dominance Theory alongside people like Felicia Pratto, a postdoc at that time.

Between 1988 and 1990, our department welcomed many scholars from around the world, countries like Australia, Belgium, and the then-Soviet Union to name a few, and international students from various regions. One of our shared activities was to play football (more commonly soccer in the U.S.) at a nearby park. Jim displayed agility and skill, proving to be an all-around athlete and a knowledgeable sports fan as well. I enjoyed playing tennis with Jim, and we also visited Dodger Stadium together to watch baseball games. Other social occasions are also memorable, including a party at his apartment in West Los Angeles and a Christmas gathering at Belinda's family's house on the other side of town.

After earning his Ph.D., Jim moved to Florida Atlantic University for a postdoc, where he worked on high-profile projects. When we spoke at a conference, he mentioned how inspiring it was to work with his supervisor, Bib Latane, whose talent for managing large projects left a strong impression on him. To me Jim seemed to be successful in building a remarkable academic career according to the North American model. In 1995, I heard that a conference had been held in Hong Kong by a newly formed association, the Asian Association of Social Psychology. I deeply regret missing it, but I later learned from my Japanese colleagues that they had met my friend, James, at the meeting and were strongly moved by his broad theoretical and methodological expertise. Reflecting now, I realize he was reaching a turning point in his career, marked by his transforming from an Asian-American to a more authentic

“Asian” social psychologist. I’m pretty sure his colleagues at the Victoria University of Wellington and Massey University must have many more precise stories about this, but I speculate that after moving to New Zealand, Jim’s exposure to new cultural and historical contexts deepened his interest in concepts such as social representation and in addressing issues relevant to indigenous communities through more qualitative methodologies.

When we met again at the 1997 AASP Conference in Kyoto, we spent hours in thoughtful conversation sitting down by Zen gardens in Kyoto, both renowned like the one at Ryoanji and less known at other temples. I could see his commitment to establishing an Asian perspective in social psychology, which became our shared vision.

Since then, I have been privileged to contribute to this mission in various capacities, including serving as Associate Editor of AJSP under Jim’s leadership as Editor-in-Chief, then President-Elect, and currently as AASP President. I still feel I am only partway along the path toward the goal we envisioned together, but it is an honor to carry forward his legacy.

I sincerely pray that his spirit finds peace and continues to guide and inspire us in upholding his legacy.

Minoru Karasawa

The President of AASP

Remembering Professor Kwang-Kuo Hwang

His Contributions to International Psychology: Inheriting the Past and Initiating the Future



Kwang-Kuo Hwang (1945-2023)

An outstanding researcher, Professor Kwang-Kuo Hwang, peacefully passed away in his sleep on July 30, 2023, completing an 80-year journey through life. I have lost my mentor and guiding light. He leaves us with an enduring legacy and profound gratitude.

His sudden departure is difficult for many, including myself, to accept, and the more I reflect on it, the sadder it becomes. He would want us to honor him through a "critical inheritance" of his academic pursuits. He often said, "Do not become like me; utilize me."

My first one-on-one meeting with my mentor took place around the year 2000. He pointed out that our research on independence and separation was heavily influenced by Western theories, which he often referred to as "WEIRD" (Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, and Developed) psychology. He noted that Western psychological theories might not always be applicable to non-Western cultures. From that moment on, I began to adopt my mentor's epistemology and academic trajectory. From 2003 to 2008, I pursued a Ph.D. in Psychology at the University of Edinburgh in the UK. After returning to Taiwan, I have been teaching for the past 16 years with a respectful and cautious mindset, practicing my mentor's approach of reinterpreting Western epistemology through the wisdom of Confucianism, Buddhism, and Taoism. Together, we have learned, discussed, lectured, traveled, published academic journals and books, and founded the Chinese Indigenous Social Science Association (CISSA). What impressed me the most was my mentor's hope that we would find our own path in life (人生之道). He devoted himself to implementing the reinterpretation of Confucian, Buddhist, and Taoist teachings to initiate a scientific revolution in "WEIRD" psychology. By proposing psychological theories and empirical research rooted in our own culture, we can correct the shortcomings of "WEIRD" psychology and benefit a broader audience.

Professor Hwang earned his Ph.D. in Social Psychology from the University of Hawaii, USA. He was an exceptionally knowledgeable scholar with a profound understanding of both Eastern and Western cultures. He published over 140 papers in international journals and books (please see <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Kwang-Kuo-Hwang>), received the Taiwan National Science Council's Outstanding Research Award three times, and was honored with the Taiwan Ministry of Education's National Chair Professorship on two occasions. He is recognized as one of the world's top 2% scientists. He served as a Lifetime Distinguished Professor at National Taiwan University, the Founder of the Cultural China Research Center, the Honorary Chairman of CISSA, the President of the Asian Association of Social Psychology, and the President of the Asian Association of Indigenous and Cultural Psychology. He was dedicated to integrating Eastern and Western cultures, using scientific philosophy as a foundation to develop theories in psychology.

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, he synthesized his research insights to write the book series "Integration of Eastern and Western Four Noble Truths. The first book, titled "Transcendence and Reality: Mou Zongsan's View of Science (超越與實在：牟宗三的科學觀)" was published in June 2024 in Taiwan. The rest of three books will be published later.

Professor Hwang often argued that "tradition" in non-Western cultural wisdom should incorporate Greek tradition and establish an independent scholarly tradition. He acknowledged that this is a formidable task requiring sustained efforts from future generations, symbolizing the onset of struggle, and metaphorically reflecting the harsh realities encountered in the academic field. He sincerely hoped that non-Western

academic societies should learn to assimilate the strengths of Western civilization and construct culture-inclusive theories with a view to rejuvenating and rebuilding their academic traditions (Hwang, 2019a). This movement entails providing a clear scientific interpretation of non-Western wisdom and initiating a scientific revolution in "WEIRD" psychology and social science. It is also the primary reason for the establishment of the CISSA, also known in Chinese as the "Siyuan(思源) Association" on November 3, 2018. The CISSA's mission is to promote indigenous social science and encourage academic research worldwide that aligns with cultural contexts, fostering communication and exchange to advance global indigenous social science. The association aims to lead in the experimental field of Chinese social science, focusing primarily on the theoretical framework and local practices of Chinese indigenous social science. It emphasizes the importance of studying and advancing autonomous academic research based on the realities of Chinese society while introducing the latest academic achievements to international communities.

He stated that any academic movement, once it establishes its philosophical foundation, has found its "Dao(道)" (way). Consequently, he expressed his hope that our next mission phase would involve inheriting the past and initiating the future to further promote the localization movement from Asia to the world. His invaluable contributions for us to collaborate in advancing the international psychology movement can be categorized into the following four types of research:

1. Establish a series of theories grounded in philosophical reflection and cultural systems. For instance, the formal theories could focus on Confucian, Buddhist, and Taoist thought while also incorporating key concepts from Western social science. By embracing Chinese wisdom as a foundation and integrating Western knowledge, we can reshape academic traditions and develop a universal framework that formalizes and applies the wisdom of Confucian, Buddhist, and Taoist philosophies into universally applicable theories (e.g., Hwang, 2011, 2019b; Hwang, 1987; Shiah, 2016; Shiah, 2023).

2. Construct a substantial series of theories (e.g., Hwang, 2012; Shiah, 2021).

3. Utilize a variety of one-sided and analytical empirical research to support the arguments presented by the theories (e.g., Kuo et al., 2022).

4. Develop and expand the application aspects, and publish relevant books (e.g., Hwang, 2012; Shiah, 2021). He hoped that this academic movement would foster the development of indigenous social science. The goal is to integrate theory and practice to promote the sustainable advancement of global indigenous social science. The completion of these four tasks not only advances Professor Hwang's vision but also opens a new chapter for international psychology.

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