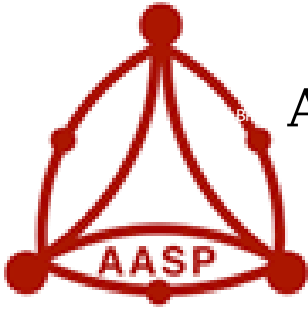


NEWSLETTER



ASIAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

MARCH, 2026

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is a pleasure to share the latest issue of our Newsletter with you. Since the previous issue was published last November, AASP has continued a wide range of activities, many of which are highlighted in these pages.

First, I would like to note several changes among our Executive members. The following colleagues, who have served actively as representatives-at-large, have recently completed their terms:

- Malaysia Dr. Elizabeth Jones (formerly at Monash University Malaysia)
- Vietnam: Dr. Minh Hieu Nguyen (Massey University, New Zealand)

We thank them sincerely for their dedicated service and valuable contributions to our association.

Following these transitions, I am pleased to report that the following colleagues have joined the committee. .

Please join me in welcoming them as they take on their new responsibilities.

Regional Representatives:

- Southeast Asia: Dr. Mirra Noor Milla (Professor, University of Indonesia)

Representatives-at-Large

- Malaysia: Dr. Eugene YJ Tee (Professor, HELP University)
- Vietnam: Mr. Trong Mai (Former Deputy Director, Institute for Psychological Research, Training and Application, Ho Chi Minh City)
- Philippines: Dr. Diwa Malaya Quinones (Associate Professor, University of the Philippines)

Among the many activities by AASP, one initiative I would particularly like to highlight is the Small Group Meetings (SGMs). The Asia-Pacific region encompasses great diversity in ecological, historical, political, and cultural contexts. Addressing both the unique challenges faced by individual countries and regions and the broader issues that cut across them through psychological approaches represents both a challenge and an important opportunity for our association.

Through interregional and interdisciplinary collaboration, the SGMs have great potential to further strengthen our community. They also provide valuable opportunities for early-career researchers and students as venues for training and networking. I hope you will enjoy reading the report of the most recent meeting and an announcement of upcoming one, and to consider participating in future SGMs.

We have also received encouraging updates on the publication consortium, an initiative launched under the leadership of our late former president, Professor James Liu. This collaboration among multiple academic journals is an ambitious and innovative undertaking. I thank the authors, reviewers, and editors who have contributed their efforts to this project. Importantly, this initiative is also connected to the shared global goal of advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). I am confident that perspectives developed by researchers and practitioners in the Asia-Pacific region will offer valuable insights not only within psychology but also to audiences in many other fields.

Preparations for the 2027 Biennial Conference are well underway. The call for symposium proposals will open in May, followed by the call for individual presentations in June. I look forward to the opportunity to reunite with many of you in the beautiful city of Cairns, Australia, and I encourage members to submit their work.

Updates from our regional representatives and representatives-at-large also play an important role in strengthening connections across the region. I encourage colleagues from many countries and regions to continue sharing news and activities in future issues.

Last but not least, I thank Roomana Siddiqui serving as editor of this issue, as well as all the contributors who generously shared information and updates.



Minoru Karasawa (Nagoya University)

AASP SMALL GROUP MEETING

International Seminar on Promoting Asian Psychologies in Aotearoa New Zealand

Nov 17th – 19th, 2025
Organizer: Minh. Minh Nguyen
University of Auckland & Massey University
Auckland, New Zealand

The international seminar “Promoting Asian Psychologies in Aotearoa New Zealand” was held at the University of Auckland (Nov 17th & 18th) and Massey University (Nov 19th), New Zealand. This event was the successful result of a collaboration between the University of Auckland, Massey University, and the Asian Association of Social Psychology (AASP).

The goal of this seminar was to provide a platform for participants to share theory, research and practice experiences in working with Asian communities, with an emphasis on sustaining Asian psychologies into the future.

The seminar featured a rich program including four keynote speakers from Aotearoa New Zealand, the Philippines, Indonesia, and China/Australia alongside 16 individual presentations.

Throughout the seminar, participants engaged in "deep-dive" sessions focused on applied psychologies, community-led approaches, and social regeneration.

The main focus amongst participants was dialoging the practicalities of modern academia, specifically:

Collaborative Research: Strengthening international partnerships for joint publications.

Relational Ethics: Navigating the complexities of ethical engagements within diverse cultural contexts.

Visibility and Advocacy: Enhancing the presence and voice of Asian communities and psychologies within the New Zealand landscape.

Two pivotal panel discussions were led by members of the Asian Psychology: Collective Aotearoa and the Enhancing Participation and Inclusive Change (EPIC) Collective. These sessions allowed participants to brainstorm potential collaborations with guidance from both senior researchers—including Professor Linda Waimarie Nikora, Prof. Wendy Li, and Prof. Joy Catenjela—and emerging scholars from the Collectives. This exchange created a unique space for cultural and knowledge sharing between scholars from across Asia and Aotearoa.





UPCOMING SMALL GROUP MEETING

Culturally Grounded Psychological Approaches to Pressing Community Challenges in Asia-Pacific

Date: July 8-10, 2026

Venue: Bali, Indonesia

Organizers:

Moh. Abdul Hakim, Ayu Okvitawanli, Fadri Kirana Anggarani (Universitas Sebelas Maret)

Takeshi Hamamura, Elizabeth Newnham (Curtin University)



Affiliated meeting: Call for Applications for “Understanding Intercultural Relations Across Societies: Polyculturalism in the Asia-Pacific and Beyond”

Date: July 13th, 2026,

Venue: Leuven, Belgium (the day before the IACCP 2026 Congress)

Organizers:

Emiko Kashima (La Trobe University, Australia)

Pallavi Ramanathan (FLAME University, India)

Jasper Van Assche (Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium)

Funded by the SPSP Community Catalyst Grant, the meeting invites researchers working on diversity ideologies—especially polyculturalism, which highlights cultural interconnectedness and harmonious coexistence.

This builds on earlier meetings in Manila (2024) supported by the AASP SGM scheme where scholars examined the implications of polyculturalism for intergroup attitudes, communication, relationships, and wellbeing in the Asia-Pacific. The 2026 meeting aims to expand global collaboration through an informal scholarly exchange. Anticipated outcomes include contributions to special journal issues, such as AJSP and JCCP, and symposia at future conferences.

Participation is in person. There is no registration fee, and lunch and afternoon tea are provided; participants cover their own travel. Applicants should submit the following by April 30th

- A paragraph on your research expertise
- A paragraph on your interest in polyculturalism
- A two page CV
- A supervisor recommendation (for PhD candidates)

If applications exceed capacity, priority will go to applicants with strong interests in polyculturalism or related areas. Acceptances will be issued by May 15, and participants must formally commit to attending.

Please direct applications and enquiries to Prof Emi Kashima at e.kashima@latrobe.edu.au.

PUBLICATION UPDATE

Special Issues in memory of Prof. James H. Liu

To honor the legacy of Prof. James H. Liu two special issues were published. The first issue edited by Drs. Kim-Pong Tam, Angela Ka-yee Leung, Sammyh Khan, and Gehard Reese was titled: Advancing the interface between research and practice in sustainable development. This was part of the Multi-Journal Special Issue project, in which nine journals collaborated to bring together cutting-edge manuscripts that bridge the gap between research and practice to address many of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The articles in this special issue seek practical solutions to the pressing challenge of climate change. Drawing from various psychological perspectives, they analyzed behaviours that are pivotal to the climate agenda, addressing not only everyday emissions reduction practices but also actions in the public sphere, information behaviours and adaptation strategies.

The second special issue edited by Drs. Wendy Li, Darrin Hodgetts, Moh. Abdul Hakim, and Sarah Choi explores and expands

the concept of global consciousness in three empirical studies (Choi et al., 2025; one theoretical paper (Fraser, 2025) and one scoping review (Chao et al., 2025).

The collection deepens our understanding of global consciousness by examining its conceptual foundations and showcasing the application of this construct within contemporary psychological inquiry. Professor Liu was at pains to remind us that global consciousness reflects an awareness of cultural diversity, global interdependence and our collective responsibilities to address the pressing challenges of our time. As the world grapples with climate change, growing socioeconomic inequalities and exclusions and geopolitical conflicts, this issue serves as both a tribute to Professor Liu's visionary scholarship and as a call to continue the work he so passionately championed—towards a more just, inclusive and interconnected world.

SPECIAL ISSUES IN MEMORY OF PROFESSOR LI LIU

Special Issues in AJSP

Social Psychology of Artificial Intelligence

Guest Editors

Drs. Mengchen Dong, (Max Planck Institute for Human Development)

Jim Everett (University of Kent)

Jianning Dang (Beijing Normal University)

This special issue seeks to honour Prof. Li Liu's enduring legacy of extending the boundaries of social psychology to incorporate new developments in the area of Artificial Intelligence.

Decolonizing Social Psychological Theories in Asia: Reclaiming Culture, Context, and Collective Meaning

Guest Editors

Toshiaki Sasao (International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan)

Chan-Hoong Leong, (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)

This special issue seeks to advance decolonial agenda for social psychology by repositioning Asia not merely as a site of data collection, but as a source of theoretical innovation and epistemic leadership. It calls for new frameworks, methods, and interpretations that reflect Asia's diverse sociocultural systems, moral traditions, and relational worldviews.

Special Issue in Journal of Pacific Rim Psychology

Addressing Social Challenges for Collective Wellbeing

Guest Editors

Jianning Dang (Beijing Normal University)

Huajian Cai (University of Oklahoma)

Xian Zhao (Ohio University)

JPRP through this issue honors the enduring scholarly Legacy of Prof. Liu, the Editor-in-Chief of JPRP and a pioneering researcher in social psychology. Prof. Liu devoted his career to exploring how addressing pressing social issues can foster collective wellbeing, with impressive work spanning intergroup dynamics, peace and conflict reduction, diversity and inclusion, fairness and equality, prosocial behavior, and climate change, etc.

Journal	SDGs	URLs
Asian Journal of Social Psychology		Published in February 2026 https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1111/(ISSN)1467-839X.interface-research-practice
Asia-Pacific Social Science Review		Published in October 2024 https://animorepository.dlsu.edu.ph/apssr/vol24/iss3/
International Perspectives in Psychology: Research Practice Consultation		Coming soon
Journal of Pacific-Rim Psychology		Coming soon
Jurnal Psikologi Sosial (Indonesia)		Published in February 2025 http://jps.ui.ac.id/index.php/jps/issue/view/20
Political Psychology		Published in December 2025 https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14679221/2025/46/6
Psicologia USP		Published in 2025 https://www.scielo.br/j/pusp/i/2025.v36/ https://www.scielo.br/j/pusp/a/l7bibxyvmF5q82HXJPY5Sp/?lang=pt
The Journal of Behavioral Science		Published in September 2024 https://so06.tci-thaijo.org/index.php/IJBS/issue/view/18115
Vietnamese Journal of Psychology		Coming soon

Report from the Korean Social and Personality Psychological Association (KSPPA)

KSPPA has appointed a new steering committee, with Prof. Eunkook M. Suh of Yonsei University as its president. The committee will serve a two-year term beginning in 2026.

In 2025, KSPPA held its annual spring and winter conferences on May 17 and November 28–29. These events featured oral and poster presentations, research award sessions, and a graduate student research competition. Approximately 200 participants attended both meetings to share their research and ideas.

KSPPA also announced its 2025 Book of the Year: *The Power of Longing: Nostalgia* by Kyung-hwa Hong.

The book was recommended for its empirical research on nostalgia and its exploration of unique Korean cultural experiences.

Additionally, the society members selected "community resilience" as the Social Psychological Phenomenon for 2026. The committee emphasized the need to foster community resilience amidst increasing local and global uncertainty.

In 2026, the Korean Psychological Association (KPA), KSPPA's parent society, will mark its 80th anniversary with a celebratory conference on August 20–22. The timeline for abstract submissions and further details will be announced soon.

UPDATE: AASP 2027 BIENNIAL CONFERENCE



The AASP 2027 Biennial Conference, to be held 6–8 August 2027 at James Cook University’s Cairns campus in Far North Queensland, Australia.

Conference Theme:

Advancing Social Psychology in a Transforming World

It will be followed by a two-day Post-Conference Immersion Programme (9–10 August 2027) designed to connect social psychological scholarship with community engagement through nature-based and wellbeing-focused experiences.

Abstract Submission

Abstract submissions will open in two stages:

Symposium Proposals Open: May 2026

Close: End of September 2026

Individual Presentation Abstracts Open: July 2026

Close: End of October 2026



Symposium proposals will open first to encourage the development of thematically aligned sessions that help define the intellectual direction of the conference.

Further details regarding submission guidelines will be circulated in April 2026.

We look forward to welcoming the AASP community to Cairns in August 2027 and to continuing to build a conference that advances social psychology across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Professor Pat Dudgeon
University of Western Australia

Professor Pat Dudgeon is Director, Centre of Best Practice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention, University of Western Australia. She is one of Australia's most influential and respected leaders in psychology, mental health, and community-engaged scholarship. A Bardi woman from the Kimberley and Australia's first Indigenous psychologist, she has transformed national and international conversations on Indigenous mental health, social and emotional wellbeing, and suicide prevention.

Through her leadership of the Centre of Best Practice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention and her direction of landmark initiatives such as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Evaluation Project (ATSISPE) Professor Dudgeon has reshaped research, policy, and practice by foregrounding Indigenous leadership, cultural knowledge, and strengths-based approaches.

In 2025, she was awarded the Australian Mental Health Prize and recognized as a Western Australia Senior Australian of the Year Nominee — reflecting her exceptional leadership and enduring commitment to community empowerment and social justice.





Professor Ying-yi Hong
Choh-Ming Li Professor of Psychology

Professor Ying-yi Hong is a professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Board Member, Society for Personality and Social Psychology. She is a leading cultural and social psychologist whose scholarship has significantly shaped contemporary understanding of culture, identity, and intergroup relations in a globalised world. Her research integrates experimental social psychology with interdisciplinary approaches spanning behavioural

economics, neuroscience, and genetics, examining how cultural systems, identity, and human biology interact and co-evolve in contexts of rapid social and environmental changes. She has conducted influential research on identity and intergroup dynamics during major societal events, including the 1997 Hong Kong handover, Hurricane Katrina, the 2011 Japan earthquake and tsunami, and more recent global disruptions such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

She edited *The Oxford Handbook of Multicultural Identity*, is a recipient of the Ursula Gielen Global Psychology Book Award. Professor Hong is a Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science, the Asian Association of Social Psychology, and Stanford University's Centre for Advanced Study in the Behavioural Sciences and is Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Pacific Rim Psychology*.



GRATITUDE

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Executive Committee of AASP for giving the editorial team an opportunity to compile this edition of the Newsletter. The Asian Association of Social Psychology is a well-knit community with a passion for research and advancing scholarship. The Newsletter highlights these achievements and celebrates visionary scholars.

Previously I edited the newsletter dedicated to Prof. James Liu and this one honors the legacy of Prof. Li.

This shows that AASP not only celebrates its academic leaders but remembers them with affection and renewed commitment to further their vision of making Asian Social Psychology more inclusive and vibrant.



Editor: Roomana N. Siddiqui