

МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ НАУЧНОЕ СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВО

BUILDING BRIDGES: PSI CHI AND INTERNATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

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“How can Psi Chi best partner with international psychologists to expand the honor society worldwide?” This has been an important question since 2009, when the 1,100 chapters of Psi Chi in the United States voted to become “The International Honor Society in Psychology”. This report updates and expands on a unique symposium offered at the 120th meeting of the American Psychological Association in Orlando, Florida, in August of 2012 — the first symposium on the Presidential theme of “Building Bridges” between Psi Chi and international psychology [8]. Here, seven leaders in international psychology in North and South America join to address different aspects of this timely question—with many suggestions on how to “build bridges” to expand Psi Chi globally. It was in part due to this historic symposium that in 2013 Guatemala became the first nation in Latin America, and Russia the first nation in mainland Europe to launch a chapter of Psi Chi.

Key words: International Honor Society in Psychology Psi Chi, American Psychological Association (APA), international psychology, student scientific society, scientific work of students.

OVERVIEW

(by Martha S. Zlokovich)

The field of international psychology is expanding as people around the world connect to share ideas about psychological and social issues, psychology education, and psychological interventions. In 2009 Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psy-

chology — founded in 1929 in the US — became Psi Chi, the *International Honor Society in Psychology*. The purpose of this symposium was to learn more about the internationalization of Psi Chi including how and why the Society has been welcoming international Psi Chi chapters. The individual presentations were followed by discussion of the issues brought up by the symposium presenters.

Many of the contacts Psi Chi makes outside the US are dependent on the time, effort, and dedication of international psychologists who spread the word about Psi Chi when they travel. Since 2009 the first two international chapters (affiliate chapters in Canada and Ireland that became full chapters at that time) have expanded to 15. These include 12 chapters in ten countries, and another three chapters outside the 50 states. As of September 2014, additional applications were in progress from faculty in Australia, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kuwait, Malaysia, The Netherlands, Puerto Rico, and Serbia [20; 21].

WHAT IS INTERNATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY?

(by Alvin Y. Wang)

What is International Psychology? What are reasons for Psi Chi to become an international organization? How can chapter advisors help internationalize their chapters?

In 2009, after several years of deliberation, Psi Chi's Board of Directors elected to "go global." It is interesting to note that Psi Chi was founded at the Ninth International Congress of Psychology which took place on September 4, 1929 at Yale University. So 80 years after its founding, Psi Chi returned to its international roots.

Psi Chi's Purpose Statement was revised to reflect its global aspirations: *Psi Chi is an international honor society whose purpose shall be to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship of the individual members in all fields, particularly in psychology, and to advance the science of psychology.* With this global vision, Psi Chi began to rebrand its logo, redesign its website, and update its marketing efforts to better serve the international psychology community.

Since 2009, Psi Chi expanded its outreach efforts to cultivate new friends and partnerships with organizations that share Psi Chi's vision for advancing psychology in the international arena. In this regard Psi Chi views APA Division 52 as a steadfast partner who has helped us build bridges across international waters. Several members of Division 52 were instrumental in these efforts. Dr. Harold Takooshian (former Psi Chi President) promoted Psi Chi to four Russian institutions in Moscow including: the Higher School of Economics (HSE), HSE's International Laboratory of Socio-cultural Research, the People's Friendship University of Russia, and the Russian Academy of Science's Institute of Psychology. Also instrumental in our friend-raising efforts was Dr. Mercedes McCormick, who is incoming President of Division 52 and Psi Chi Vice-President for the Eastern Region. Dr. McCormick promoted and implemented joint programming between our two organizations at the 2012 annual meeting of APA as well

as past meetings of the Eastern Psychological Association. Psi Chi is also appreciative of the support and sage advice concerning internationalization provided by two of Psi Chi's past-presidents: Dr. Florence Denmark and Dr. John Davis.

Psi Chi's Executive Director Dr. Martha Zlokovich has racked up her frequent flier miles while travelling overseas to promote our organization. In November of 2011, she attended the Caribbean Regional Conference on Psychology in the Bahamas and in July 2012 she attended the annual meeting of the International Association of Cross-Cultural Psychology in South Africa. This was followed by a Psi Chi presentation she made at the annual meeting of the International Congress of Psychology which was also in South Africa. There were several co-presenters including Psi Chi President Dr. Susan Amato-Henderson and Psi Chi President-Elect Dr. Maria Lavooy. It is also noteworthy that Dr. Zlokovich is incoming chair for the International Relations Committee of Division 2 and she is also a member of the Division 52 International Committee for Women.

Early Psi Chi's efforts began showing results, with the first five international chapters established in Canada (2), Ireland, New Zealand, and Egypt. We also have chapters in Puerto Rico (2) and in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Two chapters have been approved for University of the West Indies campuses (Barbados and St. Augustine), and several other international chapters are in various stages of the review process including: Russia, Guatemala, Australia, and England.

As with any organizational expansion, growing pains are to be expected. Psi Chi's Board of Directors is currently discussing several issues related to our international efforts. Perhaps the most critical is how we can meaningfully integrate international chapters into the governance structure of our society. One possibility is that an international region is created in addition to the six regions that currently exist. Another issue is that Psi Chi must improve its IT infrastructure to better meet the needs of our international chapters. Finally, Psi Chi's Board of Directors has been discussing ways in which our international chapters can participate in the numerous grants and awards programs that are available to students and faculty members.

As I pointed out earlier in my presidential message to Psi Chi members, "the time is right for Psi Chi to sit at the global table and join the transnational discourse that already exists through organizations such as Division 52..." [19. P. 4]. I am pleased to report that as of now Psi Chi has made significant advances in its efforts toward internationalization.

COMMUNITY INTERNSHIPS: STRENGTHENING MULTICULTURAL COMPETENCIES THROUGH INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

(by Maria del Pilar Grazioso)

In my Universidad del Valle de Guatemala (UVG), our students and faculty have a long tradition of working together on community partnerships. In 2013, after three years of effort, our UVG successfully formed the first chapter of Psi Chi in Latin America. One key project we hope to pursue is culturally-appropriate Spanish-language materials

to help introduce the Psi Chi concept to the hundreds of four-year colleges throughout Latin America. In July of 2014, our chapter was pleased to release a five-minute, Spanish-language video that is suitable to show throughout Spanish-speaking Latin America, www.youtube.com/watch?v=xo2lsDKtiw4&feature=youtu.be.

We hope to expand on this early effort, to promote Psi Chi globally.

PSI CHI OUTREACH TO THE EASTERN HEMISPHERE

(by Harold Takooshian)

How can Psi Chi best expand beyond North America? Though Psi Chi had its origins at an international meeting in 1929, it has been limited to the USA for its first 80 years [15]. Yet Psi Chi has long been interested to open its benefits to the fast-growing number of psychology students and faculty outside the USA [5], to the point of inspiring a new international student group on its 70th anniversary in 1999 — the International Psychology Student Organization, or IPSO [16]. We know Psi Chi's immense role in shaping psychology in the USA [6], which it portends to do in other nations [10; 12; 14].

On its 80th year in 2009, when Psi Chi chapters voted to “Go global,” many leaders of the APA international division were also past national officers of Psi Chi. Prime among these in 2012 was Psi Chi Eastern Vice President and Division 52 President-elect Mercedes McCormick, who chose her timely Presidential theme for 2013: “Building Bridges between Psi Chi and international psychology” [8].

In 2013, the Psi Chi Board appointed 14 Psi Chi “International Ambassadors” within the APA Division of International Psychology, to spread the word about Psi Chi while traveling abroad [13]. These 14 Ambassadors were: Bernardo J. Carducci, Lauren Crane, Dwayne Crites, John M. Davis, Florence L. Denmark, Melanie Domenech Rodríguez, Joseph R. Ferrari, Gina Grimshaw, Paul I. Hettich, Hy Le Xuan, Mercedes McCormick, David Skeen, Michael J. Stevens, Harold Takooshian.

As of 2014, the 1,100 Psi Chi chapters at U.S. campuses include nearly 90 percent of eligible U.S. four-year colleges. In contrast, Psi Chi has barely a dozen chapters among the thousands of campuses now eligible on six other continents.

Russia. In 2010, to mark the 125th anniversary of the origin of psychology in Russia in 1885, Professor Alexander Voronov integrated Psi Chi into his five-day multi-city conference [18]. Hundreds of students and faculty at five institutions in two cities appeared visibly excited to learn about the benefits of Psi Chi. One professor, Alexey Sozinov of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow, went further to produce a nine-minute Russian-language DVD describing Psi Chi in detail--its origin, growth, procedures, benefits. This DVD was posted on YouTube, <http://youtu.be/1t63fKZ1OPY>. Teams of Russian students and faculty began to participate in Psi Chi programs in the USA in the 2011 EPA in Cambridge, 2012 EPA in Pittsburgh, 2013 EPA in New York, 2014 EPA in Boston [1; 11].

In 2012, when I returned to Russia as a Visiting Professor at the Higher School of Economics (HSE), I could see changes within just two years. Students at a few Russian

schools had formed active psychology clubs. (One chapter application requirement is having had an active psychology club for at least one year.) Students were becoming more involved in co-curricular research and other activities [4]. The People's Friendship University of Russia (PFUR) hosted co-curricular activities for its 20,000 students from 140 nations (www.rudn.ru/en/). The Institute of Psychology at the Russian Academy of Sciences (IPRAS) hosted co-curricular activities that brought together students and faculty from diverse institutions, http://ipras.ru/cntnt/rus/novosti/rus_news1/n3468.html. Each of the four institutions I visited was pleased to receive a copy of President-elect Mercedes McCormick's personal invitation to the next Eastern Psychological Association meeting in New York City on 1—4 March 2013, and many came in 2013 in New York and 2014 in Boston.

Russia's land area of 6.6 million square miles makes it the “world's largest nation”, and one where Psi Chi may grow rapidly among Russia's 1,100 HEIs (higher education institutions). Hopefully, Psi Chi may use the internet and this Russian outreach model to develop culturally-appropriate DVDs in other languages (Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, French) to reach the countless students and faculty who do not yet know what awaits them in Psi Chi.

In 2013, history was made on October 11, when the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia installed the first chapter of the Society in Russia and mainland Europe [2; 3]. Details on-line: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggtdPVAPjJY. In that same week in October of 2013, PFUR appeared in the roster of “the world's top 500 universities” in the *QS World University Rankings* for 2013 (www.rudn.ru/?pagec=3372).

WHAT AN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE NEEDS TO KNOW TO APPLY TO BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL PSI CHI CHAPTER

(by Mercedes A. McCormick)

How does an international university/college start an international chapter in Psi Chi International Honor Society, and foster Psi Chi connection with APA Division 52, International Psychology? In the 21st century, it is fitting for Division 52 and Psi Chi to connect and collaborate on issues important to undergraduate and graduate students as they embark in careers in psychology [8]. It is clear that “the recent expansion of Psi Chi internationally promises to offer student members assistance on the path to academic excellence, exciting research possibilities, leadership opportunities, mentorship for career advancement, and opportunities to provide service to their communities” [9. P. 112].

Background. Psi Chi's international connections stretch back to its very formation on September of 1929, during the Ninth International Congress of Psychology in New Haven—the first world congress on U.S. soil [7].

In 1963, Psi Chi sent psychology textbooks overseas, published a special global issue of its *Psi Chi Newsletter*, and hosted overseas students at the APA meeting. In 1964, Executive Director Ruth Cousins joined a 20-person world tour with the International Council of psychologists (ICP), which later appointed an ICP liaison to Psi Chi. In 1984,

Psi Chi changed its bylaws to allow international chapters, and in 1990s, another push saw Psi Chi welcome applications from schools in Canada, though none completed the chapter process.

In 1994, Psi Chi formed an international committee with a liaison to APA's CIRP, and the committee's chair visited the ICP meeting in Lisbon, Portugal to inform colleagues in other nations about the “impact of a student honor society on a nation's psychology” [12]. Among other things, this committee also worked with APA's Joan Buchanan to conduct two surveys of 75 national psychology associations, to find which nations had student psychology groups like the USA; although no nation reported an independent student group. 15 (20%) permitted some students to affiliate with their national association.

In 1996, Psi Chi invited 50 Canadian schools to its first student mini-convention outside the USA (*Upward Bound*), hosted by the University of Toronto on the Thursday before the APA meetings, and a small cadre of Canadian students joined about 80 U.S. participants.

In 1999, past-President Slater Newman organized a session at APA exploring the formation of the first international student group, close on the heels of his 1998 article in the *International Journal of Psychology* detailing Psi Chi as a “model [that] might well be adapted by leaders in other nations to promote student excellence” [14. P. 367]. In Spring of 2000, *Eye on Psi Chi* published a special issue on international psychology edited by Kay Wilson and Dan Bockert, bringing together original articles by several key cross-cultural figures — Walter J. Lonner, John Davis, Leonore Loeb Adler--and launching the Eye's new International Notes column.

How can Psi Chi members become more involved in this growth of international psychology while still students? Let us see.

Psi Chi's International Connection. In 2012, APA's Division 52 of International Psychology marks its 15th anniversary. In 1997, APA approved this new Division. It quickly grew into a large and active force within US psychology and now internationally. It is important to note that Psi Chi members and Chapter Advisors have been so much at the forefront of this effort.

Several Division 52 Presidents also have been President of Psi Chi. These respected international psychologists include: Florence Denmark (Division 52 President in 1999, Psi Chi President in 1978—80), and Harold Takooshian (Division 52 President in 2003, Psi Chi President in 1998—1999.)

In 2009, Psi Chi went international. In Psi Chi bylaws, the name of the organization was changed to *Psi Chi International* with the mission to be a society in psychology to promote student excellence, leadership, research, and service learning internationally. Since 2009, Psi Chi International has encouraged international colleges and universities to petition to open a Psi Chi chapter. Already a dozen chapters started with the National University in Galway, Ireland; American University in Cairo, Egypt; University of West Indies; Peoples' Friendship University of Russia; and more--as Psi Chi expands globally.

The Psi Chi website has instructions to start a Psi Chi Chapter, www.psichi.org.

INTERNATIONALIZING PSI CHI

(by Florence L. Denmark)

Thank you to our esteemed panel of presenters who have spoken on the psychological and social issues that impinge on Psi Chi students in a world that is becoming increasingly more global.

In 2009 Psi Chi, the Honor Society in Psychology in the US became the *International Honor Society of Psychology*, an impressive accomplishment. This will truly help the next generation of psychologists create a cohesive field of psychology internationally.

The field of International Psychology is expanding as the world connects globally about issues regarding coping with psychological and social issues and learning about interventions that may help others in our global society.

Division 52 is the primary Division within APA with a focus on internationalization of Psychology, whereas Psi Chi is the biggest and newest “international” psychology organization with students, faculty, and other professionals comprising its membership worldwide.

Psi Chi and Division 52 were represented in the conference of the International Congress of Psychology and the International Council of Psychologists recently held in Cape Town, South Africa (July 22—27, 2012).

Going forward, it is our goal to build bridges between Psi Chi and Division 52. We can begin by focusing on the following.

1. Membership/Outreach

Assist each other in helping establish chapters during travels abroad.

Sharing resources with each other to help internationalize psychology and outreach for members (collaborative membership drive)

Division 52 members in institutions with Psi Chi Chapters can encourage students to join Division 52. Conversely, Psi Chi chapters can help Division 52 recruit Psi Chi students as student affiliates.

2. Meetings and events

Share a suite and collaborate on suite activities

Division 52 may give reports on its activities relevant to Psi Chi members through meetings (and vice-versa)

Having joint session such as this one in future APA meetings

Psi Chi programs can include Division 52 — featured events, talks (and vice-versa)

Speakers Network — focus on student-relevant matters

3. Mentorship opportunities

Division 52 members can mentor students

Psi Chi students may become involved in international research and internship opportunities with Division 52 members

4. Publications

Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research, International Psychology Bulletin, International Perspectives in Psychology: Research, Practice, Consultation — provide opportunities to publish collaborative international research

Division 52 President (and perhaps other leaders of Division 52) may write articles on *Eye on Psi Chi*. Conversely, Psi Chi leadership may publish in the *International Psychology Bulletin*.

5. Grants/Funding Opportunities for mutually beneficial projects

Collaborative research grants between Psi Chi students and Division 52 members
Division 52 and Psi Chi can pool resources to help fund projects between its members.

6. Awards

Recognition given by both Psi Chi and Division 52 to recognize collaboration on research work between students and international psychologists on topics that promote international psychology.

7. Governance

Encourage Psi Chi and Division 52 to have representatives/liaisons to attend their midwinter or annual meetings

BUILDING BRIDGES WITH TECHNOLOGY

(by Richard S. Velayo)

I thank our outstanding panel members for their informative presentations. Their information and recommendations will certainly strengthen the international reach of Psi Chi, contribute to building bridges between Psi Chi and Division 52 and more importantly, help promote the internationalization of psychology.

Psi Chi and APA Division 52 can benefit from each other in so many ways. In a way, we are meant for each other. We share an important goal of internationalizing psychology and providing opportunities for students, faculty, practitioners, researchers, and advocates for internationalization to be able to collaborate and share experiences and expertise with each other.

What I would like to emphasize here is how internet-based technologies may help build bridges between Psi Chi and Division 52, which, in turn, further the internationalization efforts of both organizations. In other words, we can go global by going virtual! Internationalization efforts by Psi Chi and Division 52 may continue to explore further innovative ways to collaborate and do outreach.

Many organizations effectively utilize social media in their attempt to reach out to other nations. Psi Chi and Division 52 are no exception. For example, as of March, 2012, both have Facebook group pages effectively establishes their web presence to the world. Facebook, the most popular social networking site, had over 835 million active users worldwide. Of the 835 million users, 233 million came from Europe, 196 million from Asia, 173 million from North America, 113 million from South America, 41 million from Central America, 40 million from Africa, 20 million from the Middle East, 40 million from Oceania and Australia, and about 6 million from the Caribbean (<http://www.internetworldstats.com/facebook.htm>).

Facebook is also accessible in more than 70 different languages. An average of 500 million people log on to use Facebook everyday. The percentage of users in various

countries who are on Facebook are astonishing: 80 percent of all Internet users in Chile, Turkey, and Venezuela, 60 percent of all Internet users in the U.S. and U.K., 20—30 percent of all Internet users in Brazil, Germany, and India, and 15 percent of all Internet users in Japan, Russia, and South Korea. Unsurprisingly, there is less than 0.1 percent in countries that restrict Facebook (like China) [17].

Nonetheless, the global usage and reach of Facebook, and many other Internet-based technologies, is tremendous. Its use by so many students and various academic, professional, and business organizations is indicative of the future of inter-organizational communications in a world that is increasingly global and interconnected.

Also note that there are various other forms of Internet-based technologies: teleconferencing (e. g., Skype), Twitter, Blogs, GoogleTalk and Google+, Wikis, YouTube, and even FaceTime (for Mac, iPhone and iPad users), all of which can facilitate internationalization efforts and outreach.

Bridges. Below are a variety of ways to build bridges between Psi Chi and Division 52 through shared objectives related to membership, meetings and events, mentorship opportunities, publications, grants and funding opportunities, awards, and governance. All of these objectives are feasible and may be efficiently and effectively facilitated, in part, through electronic communications. These are some practical recommendations on how the Internet may build bridges given the shared objectives of both organizations.

1. Membership and Outreach

Recruitment efforts may be shared and be done virtually through social media and other internet-based communications. Having membership application forms that encourage dual membership, can be created. Such forms may even be completed online and perhaps presented in different languages.

Division 52 members can send out information regarding Psi Chi activities and events, through their social media accounts and through departmental listservs/emails/and electronic newsletters. Psi Chi can do the same with Division 52 activities and events.

International Psi Chi chapters can regularly and efficiently keep in touch with the Psi Chi central office, mutually providing each other updates of news, events, and other activities. Selected news may be shared among various Psi Chi chapters and international psychology organizations.

2. Meetings and events

Members can participate (and perhaps even present) in activities through Skype, webinars, or even through blogs. Videos of collaborated events may even be posted on YouTube. Facilitating meetings, coordinating events and activities, can be conveniently and easily shared.

There may be times in which students abroad are unable to attend a conference or to be recognized for their leadership or scholarship. Perhaps Division 52 and Psi Chi may explore ways in which members can participate and even present their work through

online meetings, webinars, or even through Skype. Such sessions can be highly interactive between participants and presenters, wherever in the world they may be as long as they have internet access.

3. Mentoring. Division 52 members may be able to do their mentoring online.

4. Research and Grants

Division 52 and Psi Chi can collaborate on developing a web-based repository of reviewed projects and articles by students from various parts of the globe.

Use of wikis or Google docs to work on electronic documents and projects may be utilized in preparing publications or presentations.

Division 52 members and Psi Chi can work collaboratively on applying for and carrying out grant projects.

Students may help with creating online surveys and in data collection through social media sites.

5. Governance and Committee involvement. Members of both organizations may contribute their time and participate in meetings online, which may be an efficient and lower-cost alternative to meeting in person at conferences or midwinter meetings.

In spite of these recommendations, it is wise to keep in mind at least two anticipated difficulties that will likely be encountered. First is that access to the Internet may be limited in other countries, reducing their ability to communicate internationally. Second, language barriers can certainly be problematic between certain nations. Online translation software is becoming more sophisticated to help people to communicate, but it has not reached that level in which we can completely trust this technology to translate one language to another.

In conclusion, Psi Chi and Division 52 are a natural match. It is reassuring to know that a number of its leaders (including our esteemed panelists), continue to serve as important conduits to strengthen the bridges that have been built between our two organizations.

If there are those of you who are not yet members of Psi Chi or of Division 52, I urge you to join both, and to join now, to be part of this tandem force. Given this bridge that has been established, you can expect both our organizations to continue to be at the forefront in the effort to internationalize psychology.

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ПСИХОЛОГИЧЕСКОЕ ОБЩЕСТВО ПОЧЕТА PSI CHI И МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ПСИХОЛОГИЯ: УСТАНОВЛЕНИЕ КОНТАКТОВ

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Статья посвящена поиску ответа на вопрос о том, как партнерство с международными психологами может помочь интернализации Психологического общества почета Psi Chi. Этот вопрос стал актуальным начиная с 2009 г., когда 1100 отделений Psi Chi в США проголосовали за то, чтобы стать «международным» обществом. Статья представляет собой обновленный и расширенный отчет об уникальном симпозиуме, состоявшемся на 120-м съезде Американской психологической ассоциации (АПА) в Орlando (штат Флорида) в 2012 г. Это был первый симпозиум по предложенной Президентом АПА теме «Наведение мостов» между Psi Chi и международной психологией [8]. На симпозиуме выступили семь лидеров международной психологии из Северной и Южной Америки со своими предложениями о глобализации Psi Chi. Отчасти благодаря этому историческому симпозиуму в 2013 г. Гватемала первой из стран Латинской Америки, а Россия первой из стран континентальной Европы открыли свои первые отделения Psi Chi.

Ключевые слова: Международное психологическое общество почета Psi Chi, Американская психологическая ассоциация (АПА), международная психология, студенческое научное общество, научная работа студентов.