

SPRING 2014 NEWSLETTER

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Letter from the Chair

Ishbel McWha-Hermann

The new executive board took office in November and has begun working around 9 portfolios of work:

- Advocacy (Stu Carr)
- Blog and newsletter (Tara Behrend)
- Communication (Ashley Hoffman)
- Marketing (Ines Meyer)
- Membership (Doug Maynard)
- Organisational issues (Mary O'Neill Berry)
- Student issues (Alex Gloss)
- Value (Kristen Kirkland)
- Website (Doug Maynard)

Our key goals for the year are divided into three areas:



- First, to continue the structural development of the organisation through working on issues like the website, a code of ethics (which has just been posted on the web site), and registration.
- Second is a focus on outreach, to help spread the word about what GOHWP members are doing. This includes this blog and a semiannual newsletter, as well as advocacy, through collating information on the work currently being done by members as well as identifying areas where we have a contribution to make, and raising awareness of these through the media and conferences. Related to this is a focus on marketing – particularly to areas of the world where we have fewer members.
- Thirdly, we are developing information for members to be posted on the website like tip-sheets, FAQs, updated resources, and conference information.

Across all of these areas our student representative, Alex, is paying particular attention to the needs of students.

But we need your help! We would love to hear from anyone who is interested in helping in any of the above portfolio areas. Please let us know at info@gohwp.org which portfolio you're interested in, and we can let you know more information about what we're planning and how you might be able to get involved.

On top of what we've planned, if you have ideas of your own we'd like to support you to put them into action. So send us an email (info@gohwp.org) to let us know what you're thinking and how we can help, and we'll do our best to do so!

This year promises to be an important one for GOHWP, as we move our focus from the structural issues of getting the organisation established, to working on the visibility of HWP, and helping more people to get

involved through their study, work, research and teaching. There is so much to do in these exciting times, and I hope that many of you will join us in paving the way for HWP in the future!

Congratulations to Mac MacLachlan!



We are pleased to announce that one of our founding members, Dr. Malcolm MacLachlan, has been honored with the American Psychological Association's International Humanitarian Award. Dr. MacLachlan (Mac) has been instrumental in helping to establish the discipline of humanitarian work psychology and was one of the original members of our precursor organization – the Global Task Force. Throughout his career he has worked tirelessly to enhance the welfare of some of the world's most disadvantaged people – devoting his scholarship to the interlocking issues of disability, international aid, and culture. He is a quintessential example of the interdisciplinary nature of humanitarian work psychology – having worked as a clinical psychologist, management consultant, researcher, and practitioner in the field of global health.

Membership Update

Doug Maynard

Since its beginning in 2012, GOHWP has been an organisation that professionals and students could join without having to pay any annual membership dues. At the same time, there are regular costs associated with running the organisation (e.g., website domain registration and hosting costs, ensuring connectivity at our annual meeting so that members can join from across the globe, and marketing materials for conferences). During the March 2014 Executive Board meeting, the board discussed possible strategies for meeting these costs. After discussion, the Executive Board unanimously voted to adopt a donation model rather than a membership dues model to help defray organisational costs. This means that we have no plans to implement annual dues for being a member of GOHWP, which allows anyone with a professional interest in HWP to join us regardless of financial situation, something we all value highly. Instead, we will occasionally ask the membership to make donations to handle the costs of running our organisation, and explain

the kinds of costs that donations received will help with. In fact, we have already successfully used this approach to create and launch the website and forums over the past year.

HWP at the United Nations

Mary O'Neill Berry

HWP has had a major role in collaborating with the United Nations on issues we value. A few examples of this partnership are included below.

1. 7th Annual Psychology Day at the United Nations

Lori Foster Thompson (co-chair), Mary O'Neill Berry, Walter Reichman, and Ishbel McWha-Hermann have been involved with planning this important event. A video about Psychology Day at the UN, that shows how psychologists work with other stakeholders on global issues, is viewable at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrfcoWq7OfE>.

A greeting from the United Nations Deputy Secretary General, Jan Eliasson, on the occasion of the recent Psychology Day at the UN event notes the value of these contributions. He said, *"The growing involvement of your profession in the work of the international community is matched by the UN's rising appreciation for the role that psychology can play in responding to global challenges...We at the United Nations look forward to learning more about your work and finding scope for your expertise to be utilized."* The full text is at: www.apa.org/international/united-nations/welcome-message.pdf.

2. The Psychology Coalition at the United Nations (PCUN) has a membership of a number of NGOs accredited to ECOSOC and affiliated with DPI. It advocates with UN member states, agencies and other stakeholders about the contributions of psychology to issues on the global agenda at the UN and on behalf of issues in UN policy and programmes. Its work is cross-cutting, related to many of the focus areas of sustainable development. Some PCUN members have also co-developed, implemented and evaluated field projects in post-disaster areas like Haiti and Japan and have developed projects to combat poverty in countries in Africa.

Dr. Judy Kuriensky, Chair of PCUN, has been leading PCUN's recent advocacy efforts on the inclusion of mental health and psycho-social well-being in the work of

the UN Open Working Group on the post-2015 agenda and the development of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will be evolving from the current Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), due to expire in 2015. She has distributed materials on behalf of PCUN and held numerous meetings with UN Mission delegates, advocating for the inclusion of the concepts of mental health and psycho-social well-being in future documents, plans, and policies.

3. On April 9 and 10, 2014, a Joint Event of the United Nations General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council took place in New York City, with the theme of: "The Role of Partnerships in the Implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda." PCUN members were in attendance and advocating for psychology's contributions to the key questions guiding the event:

a. What incentives can be created to reinforce the implementation of MDG 8 (global partnerships)?

b. How can multi-stakeholder partnerships be a complement (to existing cooperation mechanisms) to achieving internationally agreed development goals, including in the context of the post-2015 development agenda?

c. How can Governments incentivize multi-stakeholder engagement for the implementation of sustainable development, especially from the private sector?

d. Which models or mechanisms can help ensure effective monitoring and accountability of the means of implementation of the post-2015 development agenda?

Member Spotlight!

Nicole Brewer

I first learned about GOHWP while researching humanitarian programs and networks on LinkedIn this past year. I'm currently transitioning from the field of ESL English as a Second Language teacher from the past several years abroad in countries such as South Korea and Oman. I'm interested in the non-profit field working with children in various capacities.

While researching International Humanitarian graduate programs, I came across the [Network on Humanitarian](#)

[Action \(NOHA\)](#) Erasmus Mundus program in Europe. The MA program is a joint masters program with 7 partner Universities across Europe from Dublin, Ireland to where I currently study in Bochum, Germany. What attracted me to the program was its practical and hands on approach field of study. We have had guest lecturers visit from within the field from organizations such as the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement and the European Commission ECHO. Additionally, just within the first semester of our program I've attended several seminars and workshops giving us the opportunity to learn from leaders in the Humanitarian Action field.

The NOHA program as well has partner Universities throughout the globe and I will be a visiting scholar this summer at our partner school in the Western Cape, South Africa researching about gender based violence in the region. As a globe trotter and travel writer of a wonderful blog entitled [I Luv 2 Globe Trot](#), this amazing program where I learn from various individuals and study with unique students from around the world was the best fit for me.

New Teaching Resources

Ashley Hoffman

The curriculum working group was established in early 2013 to focus on pulling together resources for members wanting to include HWP modules or courses in their offerings. One example of this type of module has been completed by GOHWP member, Herco Fonteijn. In his Master course on Work & Organizational Psychology, he incorporated a problem based learning project, in which students were asked to choose a problem that could be tackled in the realm of Humanitarian Work Psychology. From there, students defined learning objectives and pursued individual study, which culminated in a discussion of individual findings and outcomes. This process lead students to a greater understanding of some of the challenges faced in the HWP community, and made a wonderful addition to Herco's course!

As part of encouraging the exchange of such HWP-related resources, we have created a space on the GOHWP website (<http://gohwp.org/teaching-resources/>) where members can post their own syllabi, modules, and exercises, and get ideas from the work of other members. We hope that by building this space we can help support the integration of HWP related teaching into I-O courses, as well as the development of new HWP-focused courses. Please consider sharing your own resources with the community!

Upcoming Conferences

GOHWP members will be presenting at a number of scholarly conferences in upcoming months! A brief sample of symposia and talks:

- Rustin Meyer and Tara Behrend will host an invited symposium at the Association for Psychological Science convention in San Francisco CA on May 24
- The American Psychological Association convention in Washington DC from Aug 7-10 will feature invited talks from Lori Foster Thompson, Alex Gloss, Rustin Meyer, and Michael Gielnik
- The Society for Industrial-Organizational Psychology conference in Honolulu, HI is packed with HWP research. Of special note is a panel discussion on May 16 featuring John Scott, Deborah Rupp, Sean Cruse, David Jones, Drew Mallory, Lori Foster Thompson, and Sara Weiner, on the Science and Practice of CSR, Sustainability, and Humanitarian Work. Also be sure to check out a panel session on May 15, chaired by Walter Reichman and Mary O'Neill Berry, on careers in HWP, and an invited session discussing the alignment of I-O and the ILO Decent Work Agenda, chaired by John Scott!
- Also at SIOP, meet up with GOHWP members at an informal meet-and-greet for everyone to connect and mingle. The meetup will be from 6-8 PM on Thursday, May 15 at the pool bar of the Modern Honolulu Hotel at 1775 Ala Moana Boulevard - just a short walk from the conference's convention center and official hotel.
- Many GOHWP members will also be attending the International Congress of Applied Psychology conference in Paris from July 8-13. Stay tuned for more information about full membership meetings at this conference!



GOHWP Members present their work at the ICTD conference in Cape Town, December 2013

New Research

Our members have published several new articles in the past few months. You can find these articles and many more on the website. We encourage you all to post your own research in order to make it available to members.

Carr, S. C. & MacLachlan, M. (2014). Humanitarian work psychology. The Psychologist, 27, 160-163.

The global community, led by the United Nations, has helpfully focused aid effort on various key issues, such as halving extreme poverty by 2015, achieving universal primary education, reducing the spread of diseases like malaria, and protecting the environment. The breadth and interdisciplinary nature of psychology confers on us an opportunity, indeed obligation, to contribute to shaping international development policy over the next decade. How is psychology, in close conjunction with other social sciences, currently affecting policy and practice in international development? And in what ways can psychology make a stronger future contribution to interdisciplinary approaches to poverty reduction?

Mary O'Neill Berry, Judy Kuriansky, Megan C. Lytle, Bozhena Vistman, Mathato S. Mosisilli, Lieketse Hlothoane, ... Jane Pebane. Entrepreneurial training for girls empowerment in Lesotho: A process evaluation of a model programme. South African Journal of Psychology, 2013, 43, 445-458. A Girls Empowerment Programme held in 2010 in Lesotho, Sub-Saharan Africa, focused on HIV/AIDS risk reduction and prevention, life skills and entrepreneurial training (income-generating activities). Entrepreneurial training was a crucial part of equipping the camp attendees with basic skills to help them develop sustainable livelihoods. Such skills and financial independence are essential to enable rural girls to complete their secondary schooling (in a fee-based educational system) and to pursue a career, as well as to further help them be less susceptible to transactional sex and its significant risks. The results of a brief process evaluation with some nested supporting data showed considerable improvement in the girls' knowledge about income-generating activities. In addition, almost half of the camp attendees participated in further entrepreneurial training and about half of these girls went on to develop small businesses. Replication of this model of camp training is recommended and being explored in other African countries.

Connect with GOHWP!

In addition to the blog and forum, you can now follow us on Twitter at @GOHWP

