

World Gifted

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

VOL. 1, No. 1

APRIL 1980

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

To members of the World Council and other participants at the San Francisco and Jerusalem Conferences:

I am particularly happy to be the first to address you in our opening newsletter. Since the World Council was formed at the end of the London Conference in 1975, we have met some unexpected problems beyond our control which have slowed up our efforts and impaired any attempts at communication.

Now there is every opportunity for us to move forward, given the means. Due to the generosity of Teachers College, Columbia University, we have been able to establish a small secretariat which will coordinate and disseminate. We are most fortunate in having the expert guidance of Dr. Harry Passow, our Honorary Director, and the enthusiasm of Dr. Milton Gold as Executive Secretary (also perforce honorary at the moment). Their wealth of knowledge and experience make them an ideal pair to be at the heart of the World Council and to help it to beat a little faster.

We have several exciting international plans in mind which will begin to realise the Council's objectives (see membership form), such as discovering more underprivileged gifted children, bringing together gifted young people from very different countries and backgrounds, and perhaps investigating widely as to why in government schools there seem to be far fewer gifted girls than boys.

But, and this please is crucial and needs to be taken very seriously, we cannot progress further without money. A number of us have been strenuously engaged in fund raising, but so far with only meagre results. It is the old story of success breeding success and money bringing money; so we just must get off the mark. We ask you to do your utmost to get more members of the World Council, to encourage donations and to let us know at once when you have tracked down a likely Foundation or come across a millionaire who is just waiting to give something back for all that his gifts have brought to him in life. The

(Continued on page 2)

IT'S MONTREAL IN 1981

Report on the Fourth World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children

--Montreal, August 21-25, 1981

Conference plans are moving briskly. The introductory brochure will be mailed around the end of March, and the call for proposals with a complete registration package in September.

The theme, *Many Views of the Gifted for the Advantage of All Children*, will be strongly emphasized, and the program committee hopes to divide the conference content about equally between sessions it initiates and those proposed by participants. The complete convention facilities of the Queen Elizabeth Hotel include 20 meeting rooms, so there will be no shortage of opportunity to participate.

We urge members of the World Council and participants at the previous world conferences to begin planning their contributions to the program. If you have any questions, please write to the conference organizers at any time. The program committee will be especially interested in presentations which include demonstrations, examples of children's work (actual, photographed or otherwise recorded) and informed discussion among participants, in addition to familiar paper presentations. These alternatives will be explained in detail in the call for proposals.

If you are starting to make your travel plans now, please plan to arrive in Montreal no later than Thursday, August 20, 1981, and to leave no earlier than Wednesday, August 26.

(Continued on page 3)

MEMBERSHIP IN THE WORLD COUNCIL

Membership in the World Council is now available at a reduced price for the remainder of the biennium preceding the Fourth International Conference which will be held in Montreal, August 21-25, 1981. Membership, which includes the Newsletter (World Gifted) and the Journal (GATE), may be secured for \$15 US for the period ending June 30, 1981, by writing to Milton Gold at the Secretariat office, Box 218, Teachers College, New York, NY 10027.

* 1983 *

A warm invitation has been received from the Director General of Education for New South Wales to hold the Fifth World Conference in Sydney from 18 to 24 August, 1983.

Members of the Executive Committee were very much attracted by this offer both because Australia would take the conference to another continent and because the chairman was able to speak highly of the interest in giftedness which he found in NSW on his visit last year. The Department has a full-time Curriculum Consultant for the talented child and one of the Regions of Sydney has an Adviser.

By terms of the World Council Constitution (art. V., Sec. 1) the Executive Committee is empowered to fix the place and date of the Biennial Meetings which take place during World Conferences.

It would be helpful to the organization if a decision on 1983 could be taken well ahead. The decision will therefore be made at the next meeting of the Executive Committee in October. Consequently, it is important

that if any other country is to be considered notification must be received at the Secretariat by September 15 at the latest.

Full details need not be submitted at that time, but the Executive Committee will need a summary giving details of the budget, accommodations available, conference facilities, official support, and accessibility of the venue.

Long-term planning will facilitate conference organization. While commitments for 1985 are not expected at this time, countries are invited to give indications of interest in hosting the 1985 conference at this time.

Newsletter of the

WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

Published at Teachers College, Columbia University, Box 218, New York, New York 10027.

Editor - Milton J. Gold

Executive Committee

Mr. Henry Collis (United Kingdom)	Chairman
Dr. Dorothy Sisk (U.S.A.)	Vice-Chairperson
Mr. Ron Day (Australia)	Treasurer
Dr. Bruce Shore (Canada)	Secretary
Mr. Dan Bitan (Israel)	
Dra. Elena Konstat (Mexico)	
Dr. Klaus Urban (Federal Republic of Germany)	

Secretariat

Dr. A. Harry Passow	Honorary Director
Dr. Milton J. Gold	Executive Secretary

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE

LOOKING TO THEIR FUTURE

The printed proceedings of the First World Conference held in London in 1975 proved so popular that there has been a reprint. Copies are available at the much reduced price of £4, including surface postage for overseas. Order from NAGC, 1 So. Audley St. London W1V 5DQ.

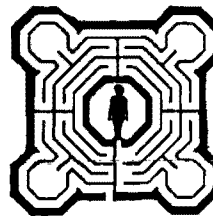
REACHING THEIR POTENTIAL

The printed proceedings of the San Francisco Conference (1977) were unfortunately delayed owing to the revolution in Iran. They were printed in Israel and are being sent to the USA for distribution. Those who participated in the Conference should receive their copies from Robert Swain, conference organizer. This book is in the same format as the first proceedings so as to enable the building up of an attractive series on the bookshelf. Its 440 pages are edited by James Gallagher and contain 26 presentations.

Persons other than conference participants should order copies at \$14 including postage. Order from Secretariat.

CHALLENGING THEIR POTENTIALS: NEW PERSPECTIVES AND ALTERNATIVES

It is hoped that proceedings of last year's Jerusalem Conference will be ready about November. Further details will be given in a later newsletter.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued from p. 1)

Council is listed as a non-profit, tax-exempt institution and its official number will appear on receipts.

An application for membership is enclosed with all these newsletters for readers. If you are already a member, we hope you will find somebody else to join.

May I send you my personal good wishes and ask for your full support--so that we may work together for the gifted and talented in many lands. In the next newsletter I will tell you something of what I found recently in a long speaking tour covering four countries.

--Henry Collis

JERUSALEM CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Over 450 persons attended the Third International Conference on Gifted and Talented Children, July 26-29, 1979, in Jerusalem. Dan Bitan of the Israel Ministry of Education served as chairman of the Conference Planning Committee which assembled a full program of professional sessions, cultural and social events. Dorothy Sisk, Acting Chairperson of the World Council, presided over the Conference.

The Conference featured presentations by 132 persons from 16 countries. Plenary sessions included:

Different Approaches to Giftedness

J. Getzels, E. Landau, S. Cohen

Nurturing Giftedness: Ways and Means

A.H. Passow, D. Bitan,

Multidimensional Approaches to Giftedness

D. Marjoram, W. Lett, J. Maker

Differentiated Curriculum for the Gifted

J. Gallagher, A. Tannenbaum

Parents and Counselors

V. Ehrlich, G. Armbruster, F. Sieghart

Research on Culturally Different and Deprived Gifted Children

M. Smilansky, A. Leichner, E. Landau,

Y. Goldberg, B. Burg, S. Marei, N. Butler,

I. Lanzar.

Dr. Sisk gave the final paper on The Challenge of Educating Minorities and the Poor, and the new Chairman, Henry Collis, presented the closing address, Where Do We Go from Here?

In addition to the plenary sessions, 23 Seminars covered a variety of subjects, including Moral and Leadership Aspects, Cognitive Aspects, Identification, Program Initiation, Enrichment, National Programs, Creativity, Curriculum Concerns, the Handicapped Gifted, Culturally Different, and Research.

Cultural events included a tour of the Israeli Museum and particularly its children's section organized for "hands on" learning; an evening of music featuring pianist Lorin Hollander, and a tour of Jerusalem's historical and religious sites sacred to three faiths. Conference hosts outdid themselves in three receptions and in special programs arranged for persons accompanying participants.

Publications Program

Other important business of the Executive Committee centers about the Council's publications: GATE, the World Council Journal; World Gifted, the Newsletter; and Proceedings of the International Conferences.

WORLD COUNCIL: ITS LIFE AND TIMES

Henry Collis (UK) was elected Chairman of the World Council in its business meeting during the Jerusalem Conference; Dorothy Sisk (US) was confirmed as Vice-Chairperson. Dr. Sisk had stepped into the breach to serve as Acting Chairperson when Iraj Broomand (Iran) was obliged to withdraw because of events in Iran. Ron Day (Australia) is the new treasurer. Four elections were made to the Executive Committee: Bruce Shore (Canada--since elected secretary), Dan Bitan (Israel), Elena Konstat (Mexico) and Klaus Urban (West Germany).

Spirited bids for the 1981 World Conference were made by Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal, and with gratitude expressed to all three, the Council selected Montreal as the site for the Fourth World Conference to be held in August, 1981, with Bruce Shore acting as Conference Chairman.

Secretariat Established

Need for an organization continuing between biennial conferences led to a decision to establish a permanent Secretariat. The World Council gratefully accepted the offer of President Lawrence Cremin of Teachers College, Columbia University, to provide office facilities. A. Harry Passow (USA) was named Honorary Director and Milton J. Gold (USA) Executive Secretary of the Secretariat. The Executive Committee, meeting in New York, March 8-9, 1980, adopted changes in the Constitution to formalize the Secretariat and define its functions with respect to membership services, stimulating and coordinating research, publication, dissemination, and liaison with conference planning committees and other World Council activities. This newsletter is the first outcome of the Secretariat visible to all members of the Council.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE (Continued from page 1)

Two items of input we need right now: First, we are in the process of preparing a film repertory on the gifted for continuous showing during the Conference. If you know of films or videotapes with possible relevance, please send information on them to us. Second, we hope to mount an ambitious exhibits area in three galleries. If you wish to contribute to the exhibits or wish to recommend an exhibitor, please send a note to Margot Bullot at the address below.

Further progress reports will be given in later newsletters. Address correspondence to:
Dr. Bruce Shore, Gifted Secretariat
772 Sherbrooke Street West
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 1G1

WORLD-WIDE GIFTED NOTES

(Readers are invited to submit news items of international interest.)

TEACHER TRAINING--BULGARIA

Levcho Zdravchev (Executive Committee member of WCGTC, 1977-79) will coordinate a teacher-training seminar in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, May 25-31, 1980. Professors Joseph Renzulli, Dorothy Sisk and Paul Torrance will make presentations. Video tapes and cassettes will be developed and shared.

CREATIVITY SEMINAR--VENEZUELA

Maria Paneyko De Schmidt (Executive Committee member, 1977-79) will coordinate a one-week seminar on creativity in Caracas this Spring. Staff will include Professors Dorothy Sisk and Wyman Ansky.

NEWS FROM WESTERN GERMANY

Two reports of the Third International Conference on Gifted and Talented Children were published by in Western Germany, both written by Klaus Urban, a member of the Executive Committee of the World Council: a shorter report in Psychologische Rundschau (1979) a longer one in Neue Sammlung (April 1980), which evoked a lot of mostly positive reactions.

The members of the advisory board of the German Gesellschaft zur Forderung Hochbegabter Kinder (Association for the Advance-

ment of Gifted Children) in teamwork with some colleagues from Hamburg University, will offer a two-day workshop in the first week of October at Hamburg University, entitled The Gifted Child: Pedagogical, Psychological, and Psychiatric Aspects, tying together all the endeavors of German scientists who are writing on giftedness, to make plans for further research, adhering to the international standard of practical and theoretical work on gifted and talented children.

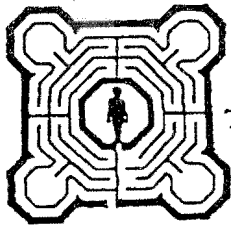
Visitors from other countries are cordially invited to present a paper or take part in a symposium session. Write to Prof. Dr. W. Wiczerkowski, Psychologisches Institut II, Universität Hamburg, Hamburg 13, W. Germany. or Dr. Klaus Urban, Universität Hannover, Bismarckstr. 2, 3000 Hannover, W. Germany.

NSSE YEARBOOK: GIFTED AND TALENTED

A. Harry Passow, Honorary Director of the Secretariat of the World Council, is editor of The Gifted and Talented: Their Education and Development, the 78th Yearbook (Part I) of the National Society for the Study of Education. Several of the chapters have been written by members of the World Council and participants at the biennial conferences. Copies may be ordered from the University of Chicago Press, 5801 Ellis Ave., Chicago, IL 60637.

World Council for the
Gifted and Talented, Inc.
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Columbia University
New York, NY 10027

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THE WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN, INC.

(a non-profit organization incorporated in the U.S.A.)

Application for Membership

Benefits:

A newsletter (World Gifted) two or three times a year.
A copy of GATE, the official Journal of the World Council (WCGTE).
Early notice of World Conferences of WCGTE.

The knowledge of being part of an international body with the common aim of enabling the gifted and talented to reach their full potential.

Fees:

The normal subscription is 30 US dollars for two years, renewable at the biennial World Conferences.

As the next Conference is in August 1981 (Montreal), the fee up to, but not including, the Conference is 15 US dollars.

Checks or drafts should be made payable to The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children.

Please detach the form below and forward it to the Secretariat, Box 218, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027.

To: Milton J. Gold, Executive Secretary, World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, Box 218, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027.

I enclose a check or draft for 15 US dollars to cover my subscription to the World Council up to, but not including, the World Conference in August 1981.

Name (printed or typed) _____

Address for mailing _____

Occupation and title: _____

Address: _____

