



World Gifted

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

VOL. 3, No. 2

OCTOBER, 1982

PROGRAM EMERGES FOR MANILA CONFERENCE

KEY SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED

Speakers from England, Korea, Israel, United States, United Kingdom, Germany and South Africa have already offered to address the Fifth World Conference on the Gifted and Talented when it meets in Manila, August 2-6, 1983. Dr. Aurora Roldan, Conference Coordinator has announced progress of program planning with scheduled presentations by Jean Houston (*What Lies Ahead in the 21st Century for G/T Children?*), James Gallagher (*Social & Cultural Significance and Role Implications to Policy-Makers*), Eleazer Shmueli (*Gifted among the Disadvantaged*), Harry Passow (*A Universal View of the Gifted and Talented Program*), and E. Paul Torrance (*Research Report on Traits and Characteristics of Giftedness*) in the general sessions. J.S. Neethling, Klaus Weinschenk, Chung Yun Tai, Stanley Bosworth, Neil O'Connor, and Beale Hermelin are among other well known persons who will give papers.

President's Corner

OUR NEED FOR GIFTED/TALENTED STUDENTS

One of the objectives of the World Council is "to create a climate of acceptance of gifted children not as a privileged elite, but as an invaluable global asset." There can hardly be a more important task, for these assets are sorely needed in the world today.

There appears to exist, especially in the young, a widespread pessimism about the future, a sense that we are all on a runaway train going down a mountainside, and that no one knows how to stop it. They see that many children in the world go to bed hungry, that the workings of our international economic system go awry despite the efforts of the most knowledgeable economists, and that our ability to solve disputes among nations, each with legitimate grievances, remains feeble.

We need answers to difficult questions, and the creation of new solutions, and it matters little from which corner of the world they come. What does it matter the nationality of the discoverer of hybrid grain to increase the world's food supply, or the statesman who solves national conflicts without humiliation, or the artist who lifts the human spirit through music or dance?

It would be self-destructive indeed if we denied ourselves the full benefits of our most gifted youth through misguided shadowy fears that some intellectual elite will take us over. We need to remind others and ourselves the high stakes for which we are playing and the consequences of losing. To provide the very best education and encouragement possible for our gifted and talented youth is one clear way to invest in the future for all of us.

--James J. Gallagher

A *Call for Papers* has gone out, and 150 persons have already responded. Papers should be submitted to Dr. Roldan (PO Box 639, Greenhills 3113, Metro Manila) no later than January 31, 1983. A volume of selected papers will be published as *Proceedings of the Conference*.

In addition to general and group sessions, the Conference will include a number of cultural



and social events, among which will be a special reception for members of the World Council.

The two convention hotels are the Manila Hotel and the Manila Hilton with all conference activities taking place in the Manila Hotel. Both hotels are magnificent establishments, and special rates are being offered to Conference participants.

The Conference organizers have also arranged a number of tours in the Far East for persons wishing to explore other countries following the Conference. Details will be found in the registration package now in the mails.

For further information, write Dr. Roldan.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS

Review of plans for the 1983 Manila Conference was the major item on the agenda of the World Council Executive Committee when it met in Manila, May 25-28, as guests of the Philippine Convention Bureau. Aurora Roldan, Conference Coordinator, presented program plans and conducted a tour of conference facilities and cultural attractions in Manila.

Other items on the agenda included a review of World Council publications, plans for research and service projects, organization of the Graduate Student Network, and plans for a consultant service.

Planning for the 1985 Hamburg Conference was also discussed, and a call for bids for the 1987 Conference which is tentatively scheduled for the Western Hemisphere. Bids to sponsor the 1987 Conference should be sent to the Secretariat in New York.

CONFERENCE ON EMOTIONAL NEEDS

"No problem here. . . or is there?" was the title of a National Conference on Supporting Emotional Needs of Gifted Children and Their Families at Wright State University, co-sponsored by the World Council in Dayton, OH August 19-21, 1982. Communicating feelings, Parenting techniques, Ways to teach emotional development, and Nurturing feelings through media were some of the major topics of the Conference. For more information, write Elizabeth Meckstroth, W.S.U., PO Box 1102, Dayton, OH 45401. Ms. Meckstroth is also co-author with J.T. Webb and S.S. Tolan of *Guiding the Gifted Child*, a new volume for parents and teachers which will be reviewed in the next issue of *World Gifted*.

Newsletter of the
WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED & TALENTED CHILDREN
 Published at
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 New York, NY 10027
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EDUCATING G/T IN AUSTRALIA

Ron Day writes:

Gifted education is perhaps the most exciting new field in Australian education. Apart from a handful of classes in New South Wales, where for many years children who tested highly on group tests received an academic extension during their last two years of primary education, and the few selective high schools in that state, programmes for the gifted have been unknown.

But due to the efforts of the handful of Australians who have managed to attend World Conferences since 1975, education of G/T is at

OPPORTUNITY IN BILINGUALISM

Eugene Lehman (Professor of Mathematics, John Abbott College, P.O. Box C.P. 2000, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec H9X 3L9, Canada) writes of happy experiences in hosting for six months two USA seventh graders who were interested in immersion in French language and culture. The youngsters entered boarding schools in "la belle province," and Prof. Lehman introduced them on weekends "to all the adventures Quebec kids have. . . ski and hiking and canoe trips (selon la saison), parti-de-sucre, kermesse, mechoui. . ." Prof. Lehman seeks additional children who would be interested.

last beginning to be accepted, and some innovative programmes are up and running.

The most significant event to date was a two-day workshop held in Melbourne last November, funded by the Federal Schools Commission and attended by top administrators and professors. The degree of commitment to the concept of gifted education by these leaders was all the more encouraging for being unexpected. Consequently, those working in the field finally feel supported.

The Australian solution to the problem of providing a relevant education for G/T youngsters will probably not include very many special schools for the gifted nor will it include very many full time classes. We are far more likely to employ ability grouping, in its many forms, withdrawal and mentoring.

We are unlikely to employ hard and fast cut-off points such as the top 2 percent. It is more likely that children with ability will be encouraged to choose from a range of acceleration and/or enrichment options. The key to this approach will lie in the thoroughness of teacher training, including the early identification of special gifts and talents, a widening in the knowledge of possible strategies backed up with appropriate resources.

THIRD UK-DES INVITATIONAL CONFERENCE

D.T.E. Marjoram, HMI, has reported on the third invitational G/T conference conducted by the Department of Education and Science in Bournemouth, England, which attracted 78 persons representing 42 Local Educational Authorities. "The Conference Programme," he writes, "included talks from invited speakers on provision and current research in giftedness, verbal reports of experience from delegates. . . examples of work of gifted pupils. . . and video sound tapes, slides, photographs and computer programs . . . to show more vividly what these pupils had achieved."

Special presentations featured Keith Jackson on the Bulmershe-Comino Problem-Solving Research Project, Alan Marshall on Craft Design and Problem Solving, George Robb on An International View of the Gifted, Peter Renshaw on the Yehudi Menuhin School and Musically Talented, Ethel Milroy on G/T in Comprehensive Schools, Keith Postlethwaite on

"A" IS FOR "ABLE" IN ARIZONA

The University of Arizona and Arizona State University serve as active centers for development of gifted programming and dissemination. In June, June Maker chaired a Gifted Minorities Conference at U/A. During the summer, the Project for the Study of Academic Precocity at ASU under Sanford Cohn operated a summer residential program for gifted children.

Chronicle, the Precocity program newsletter, reports on the effects of Arizona's legislatively mandated G/T program, carrying comprehensive and significant data on compliance with the mandate, program longevity, ages of students served, program funding, types of programs, policy on acceleration, options for enrichment, identification procedures, grouping, staffing and program evaluation

Of special note is legislative entry into identification policy via a bill in 1982 which requires tests "which shall provide for separate mathematical reasoning scores and separate verbal reasoning scores and shall be capable of providing reliable and valid scores at the highest ranges of the score distribution." Such testing is regarded as (1) enabling more specific matching of potential to program offering than is possible with global IQ scores, and (2) avoiding the "ceiling" problem when gifted children take tests intended for the average child of their age. Write: *Chronicle*, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287.

The More Able Pupil Project, Joan Freeman on Home and the Gifted, and Frieda Painter on Identification.

Mr. Marjoram noted progress since the first conference in 1977: More LEA's accept that a problem exists and more schools see a need to sharpen and broaden assessment and record-keeping. The interaction between identification and provision is more clearly perceived; progress is marked in providing challenging materials. Yet, "we need to do much more about encouraging creativity and innovation--not just for the ablest but for all. . . We need to do better at identifying the covert gifted child, the very able under-achiever. . . . There were also cases of great mismatch between home and school values and cultures. Very able children from culturally different or culturally deprived homes could present a great challenge to teachers. Finally, we were not good at recognising the gifts of handicapped children or the gifts of girls.

Three issues were identified for a future conference: semantics, political polarisation (over "elitism"), and moral aspects.

WORLD COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS

Orders for World Council publications continue to be encouraging. The first issue of the new journal, *Gifted International*, appeared in the Spring. The Autumn issue is currently in press with distribution anticipated in October. Articles will appear dealing with developments in England, New Zealand, Chile, Iran, Israel, Brazil and the United States. Members receive copies as part of their subscription. Other may order copies at \$7 each or \$12 for the two semi-annual issues.

Proceedings of the San Francisco Conference (J.J.Gallagher, ed.) are dwindling in number but may still be ordered, as may the following (Order directly from Trillium Press, P.O. Box 921, New York, NY 10159):

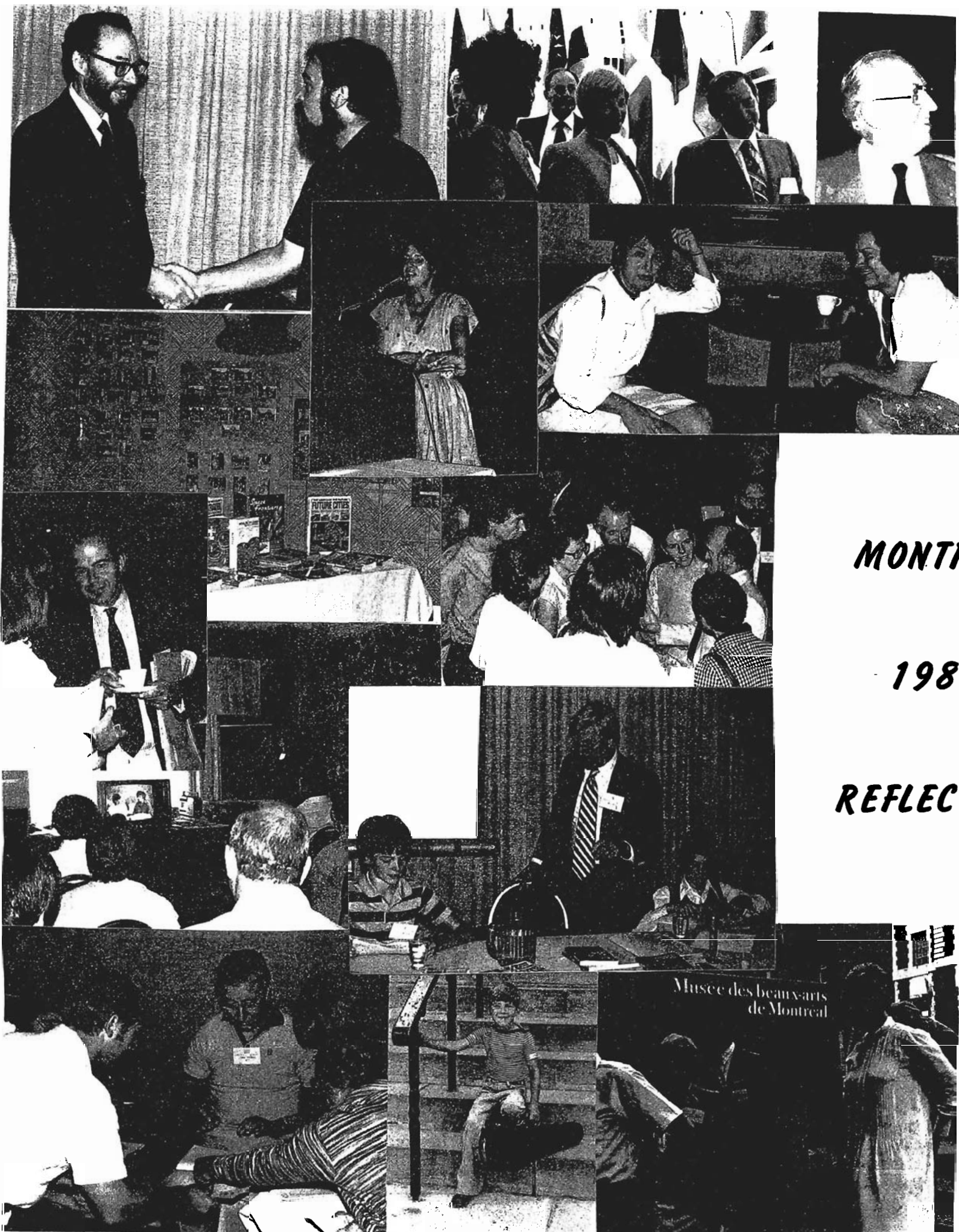
Challenging Their Potential, Proceedings of Jerusalem Conference, 1979, \$15.50.

Reaching Their Potential, Proceedings of San Francisco Conference, 1977, \$15.50.

GATE, Vol. 1, \$6.

Gifted International, \$7/issue; \$12/year.

Looking to Their Future, Proceedings of London Conference, 1975, may be ordered at 5 (Stirling draft drawn on a UK bank) from NAGC, 1 So. Audley St., London W1Y 5DQ.



MONTREAL

1980

REFLECTIONS



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INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR IN W.GERMANY

"The Gifted between Expectations of society and individual needs" was the theme of an International Seminar offered by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für das Hochbegabte Kind (German Assn for the Gifted Child) under the leadership of Klaus Weinschenk in Berlin from April 23 to 25.

In addition to plenary sessions, five working groups formed on the following topics: Giftedness: An international comparison of the concept and identification models; Political aspects in education of G/T; Providing for G/T in established and alternative systems (1) elementary, (2) secondary; Aspects of social and special education. Because the topic of "gifted children" is still relatively new in the Federal Republic, contribution foreign guests were especially helpful: N. Maier, Canada; J. Freeman, England; J.C. Terrassier, France; E. Landau, Israel; F. Monks, Netherlands, J. Feldhusen and A. Borders (USA), and B. de Manrique (Venezuela).

Reactions in press and radio were positive in general, and for the first time in West Germany, a minister of education, Dr. Hanna-Renate Laurien of Land Berlin gave a speech stressing the state's responsibility and the need as well as the right of gifted children for instruction in an appropriate way.

Proceedings are planned with the generous support of the Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung.

--Klaus K. Urban

NEW BRUNSWICK CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 13

University of New Brunswick (Canada). *"The Gifted at University."* Write Wayne Schreuer, Univ. of New Brunswick, Bag Service 4555, Fredericton, NB, Canada N3B 6E5.

NEWS FROM BELGIUM

Marcel Conradt has been good enough to report an address he made at a meeting sponsored by the Belgian Ministry of Education last year. Dr. Conradt pointed to the need to identify gifted children, ways to provide for their education, considerations of grouping and acceleration, and the need to avoid placing children in an educational Bed of Procrustes.

Dr. Conradt has recently been appointed as Conseiller du Ministère des Affaires Sociales where he works on policy for the handicapped. He assures us, however, that he will always give his attention to the problems of the gifted, and has sent an article which proves it, *"The Handicaps We Create,"* on the gifted, which appeared in a Brussels daily.

STUDY TOUR OF THE ORIENT

As an adjunct to the Manila Gifted Conference, Irving Sato, Director of National/State Leadership Training Institute, and James Gallagher, World Council President, have organized a special study tour to the Philippines, China, and Japan with a fascinating itinerary, July 29 through August 23, 1983. For information, write: I.D.E.A.S. Unlimited, P.O. Box 1015, South Pasadena, CA 91030.

KOREAN SCIENCE SUMMER CAMP

Biology, chemistry and physics projects featured the Science Summer Camp which Prof. Chung Yun Tai (Seoul National University) proposed for 9th Grade students to the Kyeonggi Province (Suwon, R.O.K.) Board of Education and which was conducted August 17-27, 1981. Each group of ten campers took one problem to solve: How to make use of solar energy, how to prevent water pollution, or how to increase food production. Field trips to science facilities were included. An excellent and informative report with detailed description of learning activities was published.

HELP WANTED

Dr. Trevor Vaughan (University of London, Dept. of Child Development, 24-27 Woburn Sq., London WC1H 0AA) is concerned with difficulty teachers find in recognising and accepting personal characteristics of potentially gifted pupils. In developing a course around this problem, he seeks the help of "anyone teaching courses with some similar content (e.g., the recognition and problems of non-conforming but not necessarily delinquent children; the application of knowledge about creative processes to teaching, learning or decision-taking."

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR STUDY OF G/T

South Australian College has established a Centre for the Study of the Gifted and Talented. The Centre is developing a directory of educational provisions for the more able students. It is providing a consultant service for schools and psychometric services for children. A data base on provisions for gifted children will be linked to a national network. Courses are offered for teachers, and a journal is being planned. Of special interest is a Mentor Contact Register to link mentors in the community with gifted children. Write Chris Hamilton at the College, Magill, S.A. 5072.

BOOKS IN REVIEW

Richert, E.S., Alvino, J.J., and McDonnell, R.C. *National report on identification*. Sewell, NJ: Educational Improvement Center, South, 1982. 451 pp., \$17.25.

Commissioned by the U.S. Office of Education to report on the current state of the art in identification of the gifted, Dr. Richert and her colleagues have gathered comprehensive information and secured the reaction of selected experts to produce, as the report subtitle indicates, *Assessment and recommendations for comprehensive identification of gifted and talented youth*. A section on research reveals discontinuity in identification practices, resulting from disparity between Federal guidelines on types of giftedness and existing programs which reflect local and varying definitions. An itemized assessment of currently used instruments and practices is included. A second section presents recommendations and cautions, and it analyzes major definitions in use and their implications. The final section is a comprehensive analysis of sixty tests and other instruments used for identification in the United States and suggests approaches for using and/or modifying existing resources and staff for appropriate programming.

Gowan, J.C., Khatena, J., & Torrance, E.P., eds. *Creativity: Its educational implications*, 2nd ed. Dubuque, IA, Kendall/Hunt, 1981, \$11.95 US.

After 14 years, this revision preserves the best of the original edition while introducing new writers and ideas representative of the rapid development in the discipline. The content now includes more on measurement and testing, a new chapter on imagery and hemisphericity, plus *transpersonal and sociological views of creativity*.

Urban, Klaus K. (ed.) *Hochbegabte kinder* [*Gifted children: Psychological, educational, psychiatric and sociological aspects*]. Heidelberg: Schindele Verlag, 1982, 29,80 DM.

This is the first book in German in which well-known authors from various countries write on programs and research in gifted education. Among them are Gallagher, Getzels, Karnes, Marjoram, Mira, Ponjaert-Kristoffersen, Quisenberry, Sisk, Terrassier, Torrance, Urban and Weinschenk. Six sections deal with history and concepts, identification, family and school socialization, school programs, gifted handicapped, culturally different and socio-economically disadvantaged.

Guides for Advocates, Administrators, Policymakers

Under the leadership of Patricia Bruce Mitchell, the US National Association of State Boards of Education (444 No. Capitol St., Washington, D.C. 20001) has published an outstanding trio of booklets: *An advocate's guide to building support for gifted and talented education* (Mitchell, P.B., ed.), *A Policymaker's guide to issues in gifted and talented education* (Mitchell, P.B., ed.) and *An Administrator's guide to the education of gifted and talented children* (by J. Van Tassel-Baska). \$7.50 US each). For advocates there is a well-organized presentation of information critical to successful lobbying for G/T programs to legislators, school board members and administrators. Policymakers can find help in determining the best course of action, and overviews are presented on current Federal and State efforts as well as outlines for analysis of critical issues and planning. The Administrator's guide provides a synthesis of relevant information to assist in both starting and keeping a program for gifted youngsters viable.

Folette, N. *3 R's for the gifted: Reading, writing and research*. Littleton, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 1982, \$18.50 prepaid.

A wealth of warm-up activities, exercises, and bibliographies is presented in 12 learning modules designed to help "the child become a producer rather than a consumer of knowledge." The learning activities move from basics into development of critical and imaginative thinking skills.

JOURNAL ARTICLES OF NOTE

In *Roeper Review* (Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013), the themes of two issues in Vol. 4 focus on often-neglected areas of gifted education: Art Education in Number 3, and Science and Mathematics in Number 4. . . . *Educational Leadership* offers an incisive look at the differences in Japanese, Soviet, and Chinese education compared to North American approaches in Vol. 39, No. 6. . . . *Matter: Gifted and Talented Information for the State of New Jersey* (P.O. Box 1106, Haddonfield, NJ 08033) is an example of a statewide vehicle to keep teachers informed on critical issues in the profession of education of the gifted. . . . *Gifted Education International* (P.O. Box 97, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2PX, England, \$29US) is a new journal to provide national and international communication. Contributing editors represent England, Australia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, USA, Wales, France, Eire, Israel and New Zealand.

W. EUROPE, VENEZUELA, KENYA FEATURED
IN INTERNATIONAL STRAND AT US-NAGC

Dr. Klaus Weinschenk of the University of Berlin will present the keynote address October 22 at the International Strand co-sponsored by the World Council at the US National Association for Gifted Children in New Orleans. Dr. Weinschenk will talk on personal observations of programs in Western Europe, Kenya, and the Venezuelan program for development of human intelligence. In addition to US members of the World Council, speakers from Canada and Europe will be leading workshops and seminars of international interest. The World Council will host a reception for members at 9 p.m. on Thursday, October 21

FREEBIES (COMPLIMENTARY ISSUES)

Complimentary copies of *World Gifted* have been distributed as a promotional feature to stimulate interest and membership in the World Council. This will be the last issue that will be mailed routinely to a very large mailing list.

Future issues will be sent to members only. Non-members are urged to take advantage of a special bonus offer for the remainder of the 1981-83 Biennium. Because the biennium is half over, new members will receive complimentary copies of the Jerusalem Conference Proceedings, a \$15 value, and the initial issue of *Gifted International*, published at \$7.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

I enclose a check for \$30 US to cover my subscription to the World Council for the Biennium ending June 30, 1983. Fee includes issues of *Gifted International* (Journal of the Council) and *World Gifted* (newsletter). Because Biennium is half over, complimentary copies of *Challenging Their Potential* and No. 1 of *Gifted International* will be included.

Name (printed or typed) _____

Occupation and title _____

Mailing address _____

Renewal ____; New membership ____



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