

# WORLD GIFTED

Newsletter of the  
World Council for Gifted and Talented  
Children

VOLUME 9, NUMBER 2

September 1988

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A. Harry Passow

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In early July, our Executive Administrator, Dorothy Sisk, and three Executive Committee members--Norah Maier, Belle Wallace and myself--travelled to Australia for the obligatory site visit for the forthcoming Eighth World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children to be held in Sydney July 3-7, 1989. Unfortunately, it was not possible to arrange air travel for Tom Marjoram, Franz Monks and Aurora

Roldan so that they did not attend. Ken Imison, the Executive Committee member from Australia, was there, of course, and so we did have an Executive Committee quorum to conduct World Council business. We spent three days with the 8th World Conference Organizing Group and the fourth day on the WCGT's agenda.

### Eighth World Conference

With Maureen Robinson, Ken Imison and their colleagues, we reviewed all of the plans for the Eighth World Conference, met with the staff from the International Convention Management Services Pty, Ltd. (the professional managers), and visited the sites where the sessions and exhibitions are to take place. We returned home buoyed by the feeling that the Eighth World Conference is moving along nicely and that we have an exciting experience ahead next July 3-7, 1989.

This issue of WORLD GIFTED includes the call for proposals for Sydney which I encourage you to duplicate as needed.

The conference theme is: "The Challenge of Excellence: 'A Vision Splendid.'" We know that you have been thinking about this conference ever since Salt Lake City and hope that you will deluge the Australians with a flood of proposals. As you will see from the registration materials, they are "wide open" to your suggestions for various kinds of sessions on various topics dealing with all aspects of giftedness, talent and creativity. Communicate your own creativity and giftedness in the proposals you submit. Share your programs, practices, research, issues and concerns with your colleagues around the world.

WORLD GIFTED is published three times a year as the official newsletter of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children and provides a means of sharing news and information of interest to WCGT's members. News items should be mailed to:

Hilda Rosselli,

HMS 414

University of South Florida  
Tampa, Florida 33620 USA

I suspect that most of you have not been to Australia before and think of it as remote. Having just returned from Sydney-- I had been there once before, five years ago--I can assure you that you have a treat in store for you. I won't give you the "Chamber of Commerce pitch" but simply want to assure you that Australia is an exciting, interesting, diverse country. You should plan on travel around Australia--which is, as you know, physically the size of the United States--either before or after the conference. You might also consider a stop in New Zealand on your way there or back. All of this is simply to urge you to act quickly on your decision to join us in Sydney for the Eighth World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children.

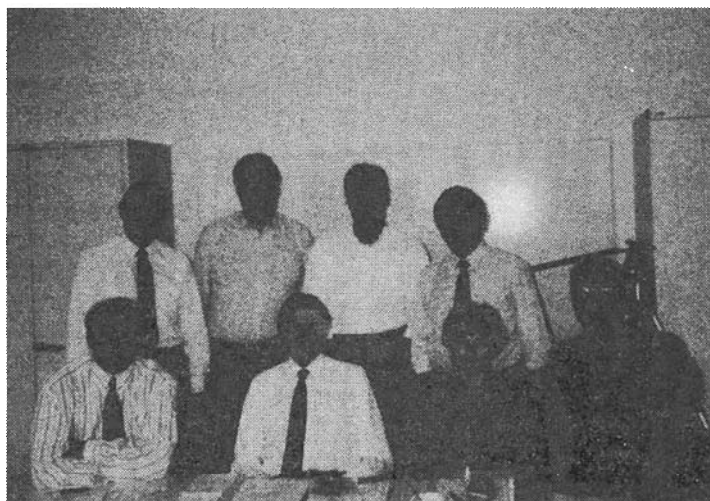
Further information can now be obtained from:  
**8th World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children**  
**Conference Secretariat**  
**GPO Box 2609 Sydney,**  
**N.S.W. 20**  
**Australia**

#### **Ninth World Conference**

On May 19-20, a two-day conference on "Research Problems in Developing Giftedness" was held at the Institute of Psychology of the University of Munich, chaired by Prof. Dr. Kurt A. Heller, the Institute's Director. Participants included psychologists from East and West Germany, The Netherlands, Austria, and the USA who reviewed development research

problems within the field of giftedness and explored possibilities of cooperative cross-national research in this area. I was privileged to give a paper at the opening session of this conference.

For the two days prior to the conference on May 17-18 at the University of Munich Institute of Educational Psychology, Franz Monks chaired a meeting



9th WCGT Conference Planning Meeting. L to R: Standing, Harry Passow, Gerhard Lehwald, Klaus Urban, Franz Monks; Seated, Gerhard Pusch, David George, Marijke Aten, Pieter Span.

of an International Planning/Program Committee for the Ninth World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children which will be held in The Hague in 1991. The seven members of the committee present (members from Italy, Belgium and Bulgaria were unable to join us) included persons from The Netherlands, West Germany, East Germany, Austria, England and myself from the United States. Under Franz Monks' leadership, we had two full days exercising our creative imaginations thinking about the 1991 World Conference. At the end of the two days, all of us had the feeling that we had made a good running start on planning

for The Hague World Conference.

#### **Assembly Delegates**

Earlier this spring, I wrote to the World Council Delegates seeking their wise counsel concerning various aspects of the World Council's programs, plans and structure. I asked for these suggestions by mid-June so that I could take them to the WCGT

Executive Committee meeting in Sydney.

I am pleased to say that I received responses from delegates from eight countries--all of them with thoughtful, helpful suggestions concerning the questions I had put to them. While this number represents responses from only about a quarter of the countries which elected delegates at Salt Lake City last year, it represented an increase in responses to my inquiries in the past

and is, therefore encouraging.

More important, the letters were full of good suggestions which we are now "sifting through" to determine how we can improve the work of the World Council and involve the delegates more actively and meaningfully. I will share some of these ideas with you in the near future. For those delegates who have not yet responded to my letter, it is not too late! And, for all World Council members, please write to me with your suggestions for programs and activities which we might undertake to further our goal of strengthening the identification and nurturing of gifted and talented children around the world.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)



## MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

**Dorothy A. Sisk**

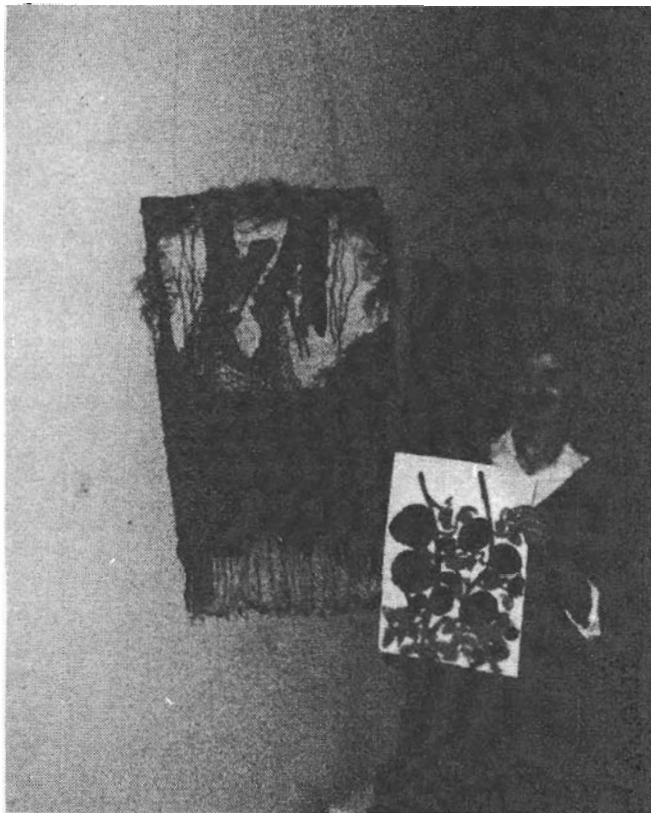
At the Secretariat, there is a growing anticipation of the Eighth World Conference in Sydney. This anticipation is building as we share various aspects of the recent site visit such as the magnificent canyons that were truly breathtaking; along with an evening at Sydney's Opera House and the exquisite bay where a sunset cruise is planned. Sydney will be a most

memorable opportunity for all of us to once again gather together to share ideas and research and to enjoy fellowship.

An exciting example of World Council Members networking with one another is the recent trip to Moscow made by Dorothy Sisk and Sandra Kaplan. In a week long training institute, Dorothy and Sandra worked with Alexis Matuschkin's Academy of Pedagogical Sciences to help build awareness on the part of educators and psychologists concerning gifted students needs and characteristics. A school in Moscow was selected for an intensive teacher training seminar and plans were formulated for cross cultural sharing of teaching strategies and curriculum.

In addition, there was much enthusiasm for future seminars, teacher student exchanges and cross cultural research. Individuals interested in participating in any of the above prospects can write to the Secretariat indicating their interest and willingness to be involved.

Lastly, Hilda Rosselli, Sandy Kaplan and Dorothy Sisk attended an international Peace Conference in Shannon, Ireland where over 200 participants were gathered from the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Speakers identified issues facing today's world and proposed peace activities. WCGT



Soviet Union... An art student in Tallinn displays her admittance project and her final project.



Sydney... Dorothy Sisk, Belle Wallace, Norah Maier preview some of the sights that will be enjoyed during the 8th WCGT World Conference.

## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

This section of the newsletter is designed to give our readers the latest news from your country related to gifted and talented programs & practices. We encourage you to submit news often by writing to:

Newsletter Editor  
WORLD GIFTED  
HMS 414 U.S.F.  
Tampa, FL USA 33620

### Pietermaritzburg....

Belle Wallace and Harvey B. Adams are the Co-Directors of the Curriculum Development Unit, at the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg. They are currently engaged in research in Kawzulu/Natal concerned with development of assessment procedures for the identification of pupils with high potential. They are using the "Test-teach-test" mode and data has been collected with groups of secondary Zulu pupils with the aim of evaluating the suitability of various non-verbal tests. This research will then extend into the development of skills and a curriculum for high potential students.

### Johannesburg...

The Schmerenbeck Educational Centre under the direction of Gillian Erikson has this year established a Psycho-educational Assessment Centre, that has the following objectives:

- \* Individual assessment of children to create profiles of

functioning of students and appropriate educational plan

- \* Parent conferences from the profiles

- \* Counseling of high potential students

- \* Creating special programmes for subgroups of very able or underachieving gifted students

- \* Parent effectiveness training with parent education programmes and group counseling

- \* Training for school guidance personnel and psychologists on gifted and talented children

The Centre is concerned with holistic development of the child's intellectual, socio-emotional, physical and motivational potentials. Giftedness is seen as a multifaceted process and the identification, development, and evaluation of gifted children is an ongoing process occurring within a multi-dimensional context.

A full assessment includes a battery of cognitive, affective and creativity tests: interviews, participation in activities; and counseling. Although ideally this assessment is for those students attending appropriate programs at the Centre; these services are also available to the general public.

*Excerpted from Gifted Education News,  
Edited by Gillian Eriksson.*

### Singapore....

The Gifted Education Programme (GEP) in Singapore, first implemented in 1984, seeks to provide opportunities for the

intellectually gifted to develop their potential to the fullest through an educational environment that is designed to stimulate intellectual growth, but of an equal concern is the development of social responsibility and good moral values in the pupils. The GEP courses are essentially enrichment courses designed to encourage pupil participation. Classes are kept small, averaging 25 in each class, so that teachers can give more individualized attention to the pupils. The subjects that are enriched at the Primary level are English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. At the Secondary level Literature, Mathematics, English, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, History and Geography.

The emphasis of the program is on the development of critical thinking, creativity, intellectual initiative, social awareness and leadership qualities and is differentiated through content, process and product. Two unique areas of the program include: Computer Appreciation in which students learn programming in BASIC and LOGO and Moral Education in which roleplaying, simulation games and discussions are used to explore themes centered on the awareness of self, of others and of social issues.

*Submitted by Dr. Tan Bee Geok, Ministry of Education, Singapore.*

### Rio de Janeiro...

The Brazilian Association for the Gifted organized the First

Brazilian Symposium on the Contribution of the Museum to the Education of the Gifted, in Rio de Janeiro in May, 1988.

Three main plenary sessions emphasized the use of the museum's resources in enrichment programs for the gifted, the museum as an agent to stimulate creativity and multiple talents, and the museum as an instrument to observe gifted children and their families in a social-cultural context. Moreover, small groups discussed issues relevant to artistic, historic, scientific, and ethnographic museums. More than 300 professionals from various fields including education and psychology attended this symposium. Persons interested in obtaining more information on this symposium or on the Brazilian Association for the Gifted are encouraged to write to Prof. Maria Helena Novaes whose address is:

Campus do Universidade  
Estadual do Rio de Janeiro  
Bloco D - Sala 3015  
Rua Sao Francisco Xavier, 524  
Maracana - Rio de Janeiro -  
20550 Brazil

*Submitted by Prof.*

*Eunice M.L. Soriano de Alencar*

**Nice, France...**

The French National Association for Gifted Children has worked for 15 years with the Ministry of Education and developed a project to create special classes for intellectually precocious children. The first class was established in Nice with children being selected on the basis of an IQ of 125 or higher as identified by a WPPSI test and a Raven PM 47 test. Pupils are admitted to grade 1 one year earlier than in usual classes and

in the fall of 1988 a new group of five year olds will be admitted. These classes are integrated into a normal elementary school where the teacher has been carefully selected.

A supervisory committee includes a pedagogical counselor, a school psychologist and WCGT delegate Jean-Charles Terrassier, local authorities, the Rector of the University and the Inspector of the Academy.

The purpose of the project is to avoid the percentage of failure found in the 55% of the gifted children coming from medium-low socio-cultural status. The project will be monitored to see if students in the special classes have a better chance of succeeding.

*Submitted by Dr. Jean Charles Terrassier.*

**Melbourne, Australia...**

*Senate Committee*

The Senate of the Commonwealth (Federal) Government set up a Committee to look into the education of children with an enhanced capacity to learn. In its report out on 20th May, 1988 it made a number of recommendations:

1. The Committee recommended that the Commonwealth Government make a clear statement that special educational strategies should be provided for gifted children throughout.
2. The Committee recommends to the Commonwealth Government that the professional development of all teachers in the areas of education currently accorded special assistance, namely the education of girls, Aborigines and disadvantaged children, include the identification and education of gifted children from those populations.

3. The Committee recommends that the Government expand its financial support of the various vacation schools, seminars and workshops designed to enhance the skills of gifted and talented children.

### *Chip Foundation*

A Foundation has been established in Australia to raise and manage donations which will be used to further the study of the education and development of Children of High Intellectual Potential (hence CHIP). The Foundation has achieved tax exempt status and will invest donations such that the income can be used partially to offset inflationary effect on the capital and partly to fund a CHIP Centre. The CHIP Centre will be a research and development Centre associated with the Education Faculty of an Australian University so that there will be crossfertilization of ideas and practices with preservice, inservice and graduate teacher education programmes.

Aims include:

- \* undertake research relevant to the study of the education of intellectually gifted children in the context of the full range of individual differences to be found in the mainstream classroom.
- \* evaluation of existing policies regarding the education of intellectually able children and suggest guidelines for the future.
- \* develop general and specialist teacher education courses to improve teaching and the learning of intellectually gifted children.
- \* develop curricula, teaching methods and school administrative structures to aid the teacher maximize the education of the intellectually able child alongside all others in the mainstream classroom.

*Continued on Page 11*



### Conferences of Interest to World Council Members

As was I, I suspect that many of you must be impressed by the number and variety of conferences of interest to World Council members which appeared in the last issue of the World Gifted Newsletter. The April issue had announcements of conferences to be held in places as far apart as Salzburg, Jerusalem, Zurich, Budapest, Northampton, Munich, Edmonton, Greeley, and Regina. Some have already taken place by now and I hope that many of you were in attendance. I am looking forward to participating in the First European Conference of the European Council for High Ability (ECHA) in Zurich in November. I hope that you will continue to share information about upcoming conferences of interest to the World Council members. Send the information to Hilda Rosselli at our Secretariat.

### Proposals for the Tenth World Conference

A reminder that proposals for hosting the Tenth World Conference scheduled for 1993 are due in the office of our Executive Administrator on or before December 31, 1988. While the conference is some time off, fewer than four months are left before proposals are due. Our Executive Administrator, Dorothy Sisk, will provide you with information about what must be included in a proposal to host the 1993 Tenth World Conference. (Tenth!! I am pleased to say that there are still a good number of us around who were at the First World Conference which Henry Collis organized in 1975.)

### Seventh World Conference Proceedings

In my last message, I thought that the Proceedings from the Seventh World Conference (Salt Lake City) would be published this summer. I am sorry to report that there has been a delay in completing the manuscript and the proceedings will not be ready until later this fall. For those of you who have already ordered it, Trillium Press will put your order on "Back Order" and send it to you as soon as it is published.

### Keep Those Letters Coming

Once again, I invite you to write to me telling me what the World Council can do to help you and your colleagues further the cause and practice of gifted education in your country and elsewhere and thus fulfill the World Council's Purposes. Please write to me at this address:

Prof. A. Harry Passow  
Teachers College  
Columbia University  
New York, NY 10027 USA

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Vienna, VA--

Linda J. Emerick, a doctoral candidate at the University of Connecticut, Storrs, has been awarded the 1988 Hollingworth Award, it was announced by Intertel Foundation, Inc. Through her project, "Academic

underachievement among the gifted: Students' perceptions of factors relating to the reversal of the academic underachievement pattern", Ms. Emerick will examine factors which may have contributed to the reversal of underachievement patterns among gifted individuals without planned intervention. The study will also examine the perceptions of these individuals related to this reversal. It is hoped that information obtained from this

study will be useful in developing effective strategies for reversing underachievement patterns in intellectually gifted children.

Prior to becoming a doctoral student, Ms. Emerick taught for 14 years. During her years in the classroom, Ms. Emerick observed that many bright and creative children could not or would not perform well in an academic setting.

This led to her interest in underachievement and gifted children.

Two Honorable Mentions were also awarded in this year's competition. One was presented to Johns Hopkins University researchers Ann Lupkowski and Linda Brody for their proposal, "A study of the academic and social adjustment of accelerated and typical-age college freshmen." Claire Eiselen and Mary M. Fox of Rochester, NY, were the recipients of the other honorable mention with a proposal entitled

"Investigating the limits: Online computer database searches with gifted elementary students."

The Hollingworth Award Competition is sponsored by Intertel Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization founded to encourage research studies of potential benefit to gifted and talented children and youth. Presented annually since 1980 for proposed research in the education or psychology of gifted children, the Award is named for Leta Stetter Hollingworth (1886-1939), a pioneer in the field of gifted education. Dr. Hollingworth's many significant works include "Gifted children: Their nature and nurture" and "Children above 180 IQ, Stanford-Binet: Origin and development." The Award includes a cash grant of \$2000.

For further information, contact:

Roxanne H. Cramer, Chairman  
Hollingworth Award P Committee  
P.O. Box 1145  
Vienna, Virginia

**Belgium...BEKINA**(Belgium Association for the Gifted) is organizing its second autumn camp for gifted children and adolescents (6 to 16 years), October 30 - November 4. Forty

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**SALZBURG, AUSTRIA****September 26-28, 1988****WORLD COUNCIL EUROPEAN CONFERENCE***New Thinking for the Future***Proposals accepted by:****Dr. Norah Maier  
University of Toronto  
371 Bloor Street W.  
Toronto, Canada M5S 2R8****Conference Information:****Gerhard Pusch  
World Council Delegate  
5010 Salzburg  
Mozartplatz 10, 530 Austria****REPORT FROM DR. NORAH MAIER (VICE PRESIDENT, WORLD COUNCIL)**

The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children can be justifiably proud for its full support and active involvement in the September 26-28, 1988 European Conference in Salzburg.

The Austrian organizers and sponsors of this venture have pushed the event to global proportions. Over 25 countries will be represented; many of these will be from Eastern Europe whose attendance will be subsidized by the host country. Over 80 papers will be presented and the present list of attendants exceeds 600.

President Gerhard Schaeffer of the Salzburg Ministry of Education has not only placed morale and financial energies behind the committee (Dr. Heubl, Mag. Pusch, Ms. Grillmayr); he has engaged the participation of those who can effect change: Minister of Education and Culture, Hilde Hawlicek, Minister of Science and Industry, Hans Tuppy; the Governor of the province of Salzburg, Wilfried Haslauer; the Minister of Economics, Robert Graf.

Keynote addresses will be made by Norah Maier (Canada), Franz Weinert (West Germany), Edward de Bono (Great Britain), Dan Keating (USA), June Scobee, director of the Challenger Center (USA), Tom Marjoram (Great Britain), Joan Freeman (Great Britain), Franx Monks (Netherlands), Ken Imison (Australia), Nava Butler-Por (Israel), and Gerhard Lehwald (East Germany).

A full report, more academic in content, will follow in the next issue. Conference proceedings will be available upon publication.

## WCGT CONFERENCE REPORTS

### ***"First International Conference on Leisure Time Activities and Non-Academic Accomplishments of Gifted Students"***

Researchers from seven different countries (Brazil, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Israel, Mexico, Hungary, USA) met June 29-July 2 at the University of Munich (FRG) to exchange information about research activities in the area of "Leisure Behavior of Gifted Students".

The host of this conference which was financed by the German Research Foundation was

Prof. Dr. K. Heller (Munich) who opened the conference with "Leisure Time Activities of Gifted Students: A Long Neglected Topic of Giftedness Research." Following this, the active participants presented their research results in lectures open to the public.

Prof. Dr. Eunice de Alencar (Universidade de Brasilia) presented her empirical findings on "Leisure Activities of Gifted Students in Brazil" while Prof. Dr. Roberta Milgram (Tel Aviv University) presented her model of "Cognitive and Personal-Social Predictors of Creative Performance in Gifted Children and Adolescents".

Prof. Dr. Hans Jellen (Southern Illinois University) and Dr. Klaus Urban (University of Hannover, BRD) reported their studies on the relationship between leisure and creativity in gifted adolescents.

Dipl. Psych. P. Noack (Berlin,

FRG) shared theoretical and empirical knowledge gained from the longitudinal study taking place in Berlin on "Youth Development and Drug Consumption.

Dr. E. Konstat-Birman (Mexico) presented results from a Californian questionnaire on "Leisure Time Activities of Gifted Children. Other papers presented included "Difference between Identified Gifted Students' Leisure Time Activities and Students who have not been Identified as Gifted" by R.E. Lange (USA) and "General Picture of Leisure Time Activities in Hungarian Adolescents" shared by three researchers from the Hungarian Academy of the Sciences in Budapest. Dr. H. Wagner (Hamburg) also added to the lecture series with a presentation on "The Role of Leisure Time Activities in Mathematically Talented Gymnasium Students."

Discussions on the models presented by Milgram and Hany demonstrated the importance of such conferences to exchange information, theories and concepts.

The Second International Conference should take place in 1990 at the Tel Aviv University (host: Prof. R. Milgram).

*Submitted by Dipl. Psych. Lilly Beerman (University of Munich).*

***International Workshop on "Research Problems in Developing Giftedness."***

An international group of experts met May 18-21 to discuss questions regarding research in giftedness from a developmental

psychological point of view at the Institute for Educational Psychology of the University of Munich. Two main goals were emphasized in the discussions: a) the review of development research questions within the field of giftedness, and b) concrete possibilities of cooperative research in this area.

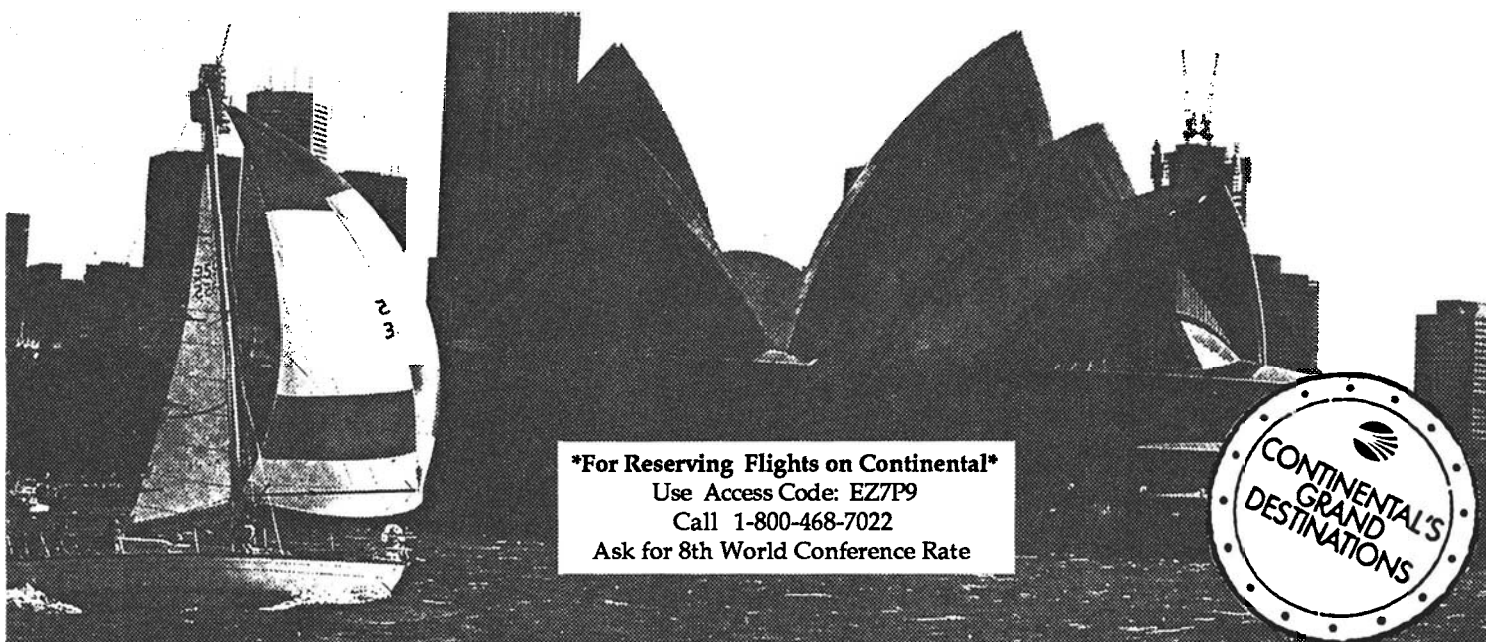
Prof. A. Harry Passow (USA) discussed the historical development of modern research into giftedness. Prof. Franz Monks (Netherlands) presented considerable research findings on the "Development of the Self-Concept in Gifted Adolescents."

Dr. Gerhard Lehwald (Leipzig) offered original research methods used for several years to study the early development of giftedness within the socialization context. Dr. Aiga Stapf (Tubingen) discussed "Influence of Socialization Conditions on the Development of Gifted Preschoolers" while Dr. Klaus Urban (Hannover) discussed "The Development of Creativity in Four to Eight-Year-Old Children."

Possibilities and practical considerations in the developmental research of giftedness were discussed in the workshops and the participants agreed that the Munich meeting had provided valuable information and recognitions and that the discussions should be continued. The next conference on developmental psychology in the fall of 1989 in Munich could provide the opportunity for this. The conference participants gratefully noted the pleasant work atmosphere of the discussions.

*More details on these conferences are available at the Secretariat.*





**\*For Reserving Flights on Continental\***

Use Access Code: EZ7P9

Call 1-800-468-7022

Ask for 8th World Conference Rate

CONTINENTAL'S  
GRAND  
DESTINATIONS

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

**Sunday, July 2nd**  
Registration  
Luncheon Hospitality in Private Homes  
**Monday, July 3rd**  
Opening Ceremony  
Concurrent Sessions  
Evening Reception  
**Tuesday, July 4th**  
Plenary Address  
Keynote Addresses and International Parade  
Concurrent Sessions  
Poster Sessions  
Exhibition Opening  
Evening--Gifted & Talented Children's Concert  
**Wednesday, July 5th**  
Tours of Educational Venues  
Evening--Opera Houses Performance  
**Thursday, July 6th**  
Plenary Address  
Keynote Addresses and International Parade  
Concurrent Sessions  
Australian Evening  
**Friday, July 7th**  
Concurrent Sessions  
Plenary Panel Session  
Closing Ceremony  
Farewell Sunset Cruise

## HOW TO REGISTER

Registration fees for the 8th WCGT  
Conference are as follow:

**Members: fee until November 30, 1988**

\$A 210.00 (\$168.00 U.S.D.)

**Non-Members: fee until November 30, 1988**

\$A 240.00 (\$192.00 U.S.D.)

**\*Until July 2, 1988\***

\$A 290.00 (\$ 232.00 U.S.D.)

**\*At Conference\***

\$A 350.00 (\$ 280.00 U.S.D.)

**Registration entitles delegates to:**

Workshops and Plenary Sessions

Opening Ceremony

Welcome Cocktail Reception

Gifted/Talented Children's Performing Arts Concert

Programme Book of Abstracts

Morning & Afternoon Tea

Book of Proceedings

**Accompanying Persons Registration Fee is**

\$A 75.00 (\$ 60.00 U.S.D.)

**This entitles accompanying persons to:**

Introducing Sydney Tour, on July 2nd

Opening Ceremony

Welcome Reception

Gifted/Talented Children's Performing Art Concert

**Please send all correspondence to:**

8th World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children

GPO Box 2608, Sydney NSW Australia: 2001

Telephone: (02) 241 1478; Fax: (02) 251 3552; Telex: AA744845 CONSEC

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

### CONFERENCE ON CREATIVITY

NOVEMBER 10-13TH

Presenting a variety of theoretical orientations such as Behavioral, Cognitive, Cross-Cultural, Developmental, Genetic, Historiometric, Personological, Psychometric, and Social-Industrial

Featuring:

Dr. Milahy Csikszentmihalyi  
Dr. Roberta Milgram  
Dr. David Feldman  
Dr. Robert Epstein  
Dr. David Harrington

For more information contact:

Dr. Mark A. Runco  
California State University  
EC 105  
Fullerton, California USA 92634  
or call  
(714) 773-3861

### The First European Conference of the European Council for High Ability

Zurich, Switzerland  
November 10-13, 1988

THEME: "High Ability - A European  
Perspective"

For more information:

Prof. Dr. Pieter Span  
Faculteit Sociale Wetenschappen  
RU Utrecht  
Heidelberglaan 1  
3584 CS Utrecht  
The Netherlands

### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED CHILDREN 35TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

Buena Vista Palace  
Orlando, Florida

NOVEMBER 7-11, 1988

Featuring:

Pre-Convention Workshops  
Over 200 workshops and presentations  
Program Visitation Tours  
Exhibition Area

For information contact:  
National Association for Gifted Children  
4175 Lovell Road, Suite 140  
Circle Pines, Minnesota 55014  
(612) 784-3475

### FIRST CONFERENCE OF SPECIAL, BILINGUAL, AND BICULTURAL EDUCATION

Tlaxcala, Mexico  
(2 hours from Mexico City)

NOVEMBER 24 - 26, 1988

Sponsored by:

The Autonomous University of Tlaxcala  
The University of the Americas/Mexico City  
The California Association of the Gifted  
The Fuad Abed Halabi Foundation

For further information contact:

Dr. Todd Fletcher  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85721 USA  
(602) 621-3214

Mr. Judd Perrine  
23684 Schoenborn St.  
Canoga Park, CA 91304  
USA  
(818) 888-8846

## News from Our Members

(Continued from Page 5)

\* provide information to educators and the community at large on the needs of intellectually gifted children, their teachers and parents.

\* act as an Australian resource centre for the collection and exchange of information on the education of intellectually able children.

\* promote national and international collaboration in research, the development of reaching methods and materials, staff exchanges and conference activities.

\* undertake commissions which further the Center's objectives.

*Submitted by K. B. Start  
Melbourne, Australia*

## Beijing, China...

In 1978, a special class was organized at the Chinese University of Science and Technology where students 11 - 15 could take university level course work. This "xiaonien ban" or Youth Class, the longest running in China, is a pioneer in supernormal children's education in China. Recently, Youth Classes have been set up in other key universities in China.

"Xiaonien ertong ban" or Early Youth Class at the elementary level and "xiaonien yubei ban" or Youth Preparation Class at middle school levels have also been established. All these are part of the nation's effort to provide a proper educational environment for supernormal children.

Presently there are over 10 universities and primary or middle schools offering special classes for the academically gifted. One of which is at the Beijing No. 8 Middle School. This class is for children who are 10 years of age or under, but who are academically on the senior middle school level (senior high in the U.S.).

These children complete the

middle school curriculum in four years, instead of five years. Students are selected based on examinations and from among the winners at nationwide competitions. Those who are selected go through a four week trial study period which usually takes place during vacation. About 30 students are chosen for the class.

This class accepts students once every two years, from applicants from all over Beijing. Dormitory facilities are available for those who live too far from the school to commute.

The class is still at an experimentation stage. In spite of the many hurdles, the class is another bold step that China is taking to meet the needs of the academically gifted.

*Excerpted from Prodigies Sinica  
Edited by Caroline M.Y. Kwok,  
Laie, Hawaii.*

**What will you submit for the  
next issue of WORLD GIFTED?**

**ANNOUNCING  
-A New Quarterly-**

**The Journal of  
Creativity Research**

**\*\*High quality, Scholarly  
Research with a focus on  
Creativity \*\***

*For subscription information and  
instructions to  
authors contact:*

Mark A. Runco, Editor  
The Journal of Creativity  
Research  
EC 105,  
California State University  
Fullerton, CA 92634

Gifted Education Press is interested in publishing manuscripts in content areas and problem of identifying and teaching gifted students. Interested readers should contact Maurice Fisher, Publisher at P.O. Box 1586, Manassas, Virginia 22110.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

(COTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

children can participate and like past years, they are welcoming children from France, the Netherlands, West Germany and Belgium. During the camp the children participate in activities such as Chinese culture & language, electronics, biology, music, computer-programming, and sports. There is also a visit to the expo of Chinese culture and historical events in Belgium. For information on this camp, please contact:

Monique Nicasi  
BEKINA--Secretary  
Eugeen Dierckxlaan 5  
B2230 Shilde Belgium

## Baltimore, Maryland...

The Center for the Advancement of Academically Talented Youth announces a new Advising and Advocacy Service offered to parents, students, and the educational community. A number of specialized bibliographies, case studies of programs, and curricular packages are available for a modest fee. Call (301) 338-0862 or write to:

Center for the Advancement of  
Academically Talented Youth  
The Johns Hopkins University  
N. Charles and 34th Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21218

**THE WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN, INC.**

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Early notice of World Conferences and Regional Conferences sponsored by WCGT

**FEES:** Membership fee is \$40 US dollars for two years  
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