



World Gifted

Newsletter of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

WU-TIEN WU ELECTED NEW PRESIDENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wu-Tien Wu, professor at National Taiwan Normal University, Republic of China, Taiwan, was elected President

of the Executive Committee of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, Inc. at the Tenth World Congress in Toronto, Canada, August 1993. Other Executive Committee



members includes Barbara Clark, USA, Vice-president; Maureen Robinson, Australia, Secretary; Janice Leroux, Canada, Treasurer; David George, United Kingdom; Cedric Taylor, Republic of South Africa; and Barbara Grillmayr, Austria. (See related story, page 5 and President's letter, page 3.)

HONG KONG TO HOST 11TH WORLD CONFERENCE IN 1995

The World Council on Gifted and Talented Children (WCGTC) has chosen Hong Kong for its forthcoming 11th World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children. The theme of this conference is "Maximizing Potential: Lengthening and Strengthening our Stride". The conference will be held from July 30 - August 4, 1995 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

In recent years Hong Kong has been actively carrying out programs for the gifted and talented. Activities are being sponsored by the government as well as professional organizations in the community. Hosting the World Conference is an example of the commitment and unity of Hong Kong in expediting the work.

The objectives of the conference are 1) to encourage and enhance public awareness and acceptance of the needs of gifted and talented children, not as a

privileged elite, but as valuable local and global assets, 2) to act as a forum for education specialists and professionals, 3) to broaden and expand local and international networking for the continual exchange of ideas, research and information, and 4) to promote gifted education to corporations and organizations who contribute to this cause.

The conference program includes keynote sessions with invited speakers, symposia, panels, workshops, individual paper sessions, round table discussions, school materials exhibits, and visits to schools.

Immediately following the confer-

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WORLD COUNCIL SPONSORS INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMA IN GIFTED EDUCATION

A Post Graduate Diploma in Gifted Education and a Master of Arts in Gifted Education have been developed at Worcester College of Higher Education (a University Sector College in England) in consultation with the World Council. The required study modules of this guided self study course are available worldwide by distance learning for suitably qualified educators.

The program is offered in two stages. Stage One is comprised of six study modules, each 75 to 100 study hours in length. Satisfactory completion of Stage One leads to the award of Post Graduate Diploma (Gifted Education). The modules comprise 1) giftedness: definition, identification, and diagnosis, 2) educational provision for the gifted: models

and approaches, 3) curriculum design and differentiation for gifted pupils, 4) more able and gifted children: affective and counseling needs, 5) the professional as learner in gifted education, and 6) orientation to professional enquiry. Each module is individually assessed by one piece of coursework which may be an essay, critical reviews of research, case studies, production of a policy document together with a reasoned justification, production of a plan for a sequence of curriculum activities together with an evaluation of its implementation, or a journal appraising the student's own professional development in gifted education. Each module assignment is weighted equally, and

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WORK PROCEEDING ON THE WORLD COUNCIL CONSTITUTION REVISIONS

Work is in progress to update the World Council Constitution Bylaws to more accurately reflect the growth and evolution of the organization over the last twenty years. The need for such an update was seen by the past Executive Committee and was begun with a draft distributed at the Assembly of Delegates in Toronto at the 1993 Biennial convention. An Ad Hoc Constitution Revision Committee was then formed by the delegates and approved by the current Executive Committee, composed of Chairperson Barbara Clark, (USA), Janice Leroux (Canada), Johanna Raffan (United Kingdom), and Klaus Urban (Germany).

A draft from this committee has been distributed to the Executive Committee members and immediate past and present delegates for their comments. A final amended version will be presented to the membership by the fall of 1994 for their consideration and ratification.



FROM THE EDITOR

What a wonderful gathering we had in Toronto. It was pure joy to see our friends from around the globe and to learn about all their exciting and productive activities in gifted education. We are really seeing tremendous growth of programs and services throughout the world.

Now, we need information from you about your projects, accomplishments, publications, conferences, honors, awards, research activity, etc. for the newsletter. We would be happy to get good pictures, too. We want to spread the word about the good things happening in gifted education.

We also need good manuscripts for *Gifted and Talented International*. Research reports, descriptions of innovative projects, thought pieces, etc. would all be welcome, but please be concise (12-16 double spaced pages, edit carefully, and send a disk if possible).

Finally, let us know if you need information on particular topics in gifted education. We don't know everything about all topics, but we do have abundant resources in our special gifted education library and will do our best to find something to meet your needs.

If you ever get near West Lafayette, Indiana be sure to stop by to visit us at Purdue University. We are only 65 miles from Indianapolis and about 125 miles from Chicago. We are fortunate in having visitors from many other countries each year. We can arrange visits to programs for the gifted in area schools.

World Gifted is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October, by the Secretariat of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children. The address of the editorial office is: Purdue University, School of Education, 1446 LAEB, West Lafayette, IN, 47907-1446, USA. Membership includes this newsletter.

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Editor: John Feldhusen,
Purdue University

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I feel impelled to respond to the article "GIFTED EDUCATION THRIVING IN AUSTRALIA" (July 1993), by saying that this seems to me to be grossly overstating the position of Gifted Education in Australia and particularly, in Victoria.

For some years now, the CHIP Foundation (Children of High Intellectual Potential) has been working diligently through a group of volunteers to promote the need for education of the 'intellectually gifted' in Victoria. It should be noted that the volunteers in the areas of Research, Counselling, Programmes and Assessment are fully qualified educators and hold a minimum of a Masters Degree in their appropriate areas.

In spite of our best efforts, we face daily frustration from politicians, both Labour and Conservative, as well as from bureaucrats and the Minister in the Education Ministry in Victoria.

The published article highlights conferences, speakers and affiliations at various locations, but what is not being done is concrete development and teaching of 'gifted' courses in classrooms.

Some individual schools are taking initiatives, but the main-stream Victorian government schools still refuse to recognise that there is a large number of intellectually gifted children who are turning off school and putting in a minimal effort which just keeps them out of 'trouble'. How often do we see school reports that "Johnny is not working to his full potential"? Recent research in Victoria shows that somewhere between 15% and 20% of CHIP children left school prior to Year 12 when they had the potential to proceed to tertiary education.

Is this a sign that gifted education is thriving in Australia?

We don't need reports of conferences and the like. We need to get into the classrooms and DO.

The AAEGT is to be commended for its efforts, but with so many Associations throughout the country, isn't it time for them to forget their differences, their need to be seen as THE leader in the field and for us all to come together for the benefit of those who need our services, the *CHIP Children*. Further, if all these 'gifted' agencies were to pull together to advance the cause of these children with our politicians, both State and Federal, then we might well be able to say Gifted Education IS Thriving in Australia.

Kevin McGuigan
CHIP Foundation
Melbourne

The information for the article "Gifted Education Thriving in Australia" was provided by Maureen Robinson. Ms. Robinson was invited to respond to the above letter.

Dear Dr. Feldhusen,

Australia like all other countries has struggled, even fought, to have the needs of gifted and talented children recognized and met. However, the overall development of interest and practical programmes has grown immensely over the last few years. This is evident in the wonderful university courses offered; the fact that they are filled; the vast number of schools which have G & T programmes and advisers; the money allotted to gifted education by the government this year.

In Victoria, the current government has a Party Committee investigating provisions for G & T. Tournament of Minds had 40,000 participants this year. There has been an increasing involvement of schools with a high proportion of State primary and secondary schools involved. At least two State secondary colleges are openly advertising acceleration-type courses. More and more State and Private schools are advertising their provisions for the gifted.

There has been valuable work carried out by State Associations, the C.H.I.P. and the AAEGT over the years. The Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted and Talented has not been led by theorists. They have been totally practical in

- organising state/national/world conferences.
- organising workshops for Gifted Children/Teachers/Parents in every state and territory.
- writing and publishing books, newsletters, journals,
- initiating awards and competitions.
- lobbying all Members of Parliament.

The AAEGT does see strength in fellowship and has just affiliated with the Associations in each State and Territory. It is the earnest hope of the Association that educationalists will walk together and in the same direction.

Maureen Robinson
President
Austalian Association for the
Education of the Gifted
and Talented (AAEGT)
Sydney
Australia

RESOURCES, CONTACT PERSONS, AND TRANSLATORS NEEDED

Each month the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children Publications Office receives requests from parents, educators, and gifted students for resource materials to help them better understand giftedness. These requests come from many nations. The World Council needs a ready file of free resource materials which can be shared with these individuals. We are looking for short articles on subjects such as acceleration, identification, talent development, curriculum writing, parenting gifted children, and special populations. Many of these individuals have little knowledge of giftedness. The pieces need to be clear of jargon, succinct, and easily understandable. If you have authored articles which the World Council may reproduce without charge, know of good references which would be available to us free of copyright fees, or are willing to submit original manuscripts (approximately 1,000 words or less) for review for possible distribution, please send them to the publications office at Purdue University. Original short manuscripts written expressly for this purpose are preferred.

The manuscript should be in English. However, we are also asking for members from every non-English speaking nation to volunteer to translate these pieces into their own languages so we

GIFTED INTERNATIONAL RENAMED

Gifted International, official journal of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, has been renamed *Gifted and Talented International*. The decision was reached at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, Inc., November, 1993.

The name change is an effort to help distinguish the World Council's journal from *Gifted Education International*, a South African journal edited by Belle Wallace. The strong similarity in the two titles has led to confusion for some time, even to the extent of authors submitting manuscripts to one journal thinking they were corresponding with the other.

This revised title also more closely resembles the organizational name, World Council for *Gifted and Talented Children*.

can send these resources around the world to anyone seeking assistance.

Additionally, we need representatives in each country to volunteer to act as contact persons to whom we may refer these individuals for assistance, in their own languages, in seeking local resources and programs.

Resources may be sent to the publications office at Purdue University. You may also contact us by phone (317) 494-7236 or fax (317) 496-1228 if you are willing to serve as a translator or local contact person. We will give credit to all who assist in this way in future issues of World Gifted.

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ence in Hong Kong there will be a satellite meeting in the People's Republic of China organized by the National Academy of Science. It will consist of a three day meeting in Beijing followed by optional study visits to Hefei, Shanghai, Tianjin, Wuhan and Xian.

For further information about registrations or proposal submission, contact the 11th World Conference Secretariat Office, International Conference Consultants Ltd., 16A and B, Casey Building, 38 Lok Ku Road, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong. Tel: (852) 544-3399, Fax: (852) 544-4679.

The deadline for submitting proposals is November 15, 1994. All presenters must register and pay before April 30, 1995 to be assigned a session for presentation. It is expected that any paper submitted for presentation will reflect how the potential of a child can be nourished and encouraged through 1) community support (including schools and parents), 2) professional development, 3) program development, 4) recognizing special populations, 5) research and theory development, and 6) facing new challenging issues.

Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria: 1) significance of the ideas presented, 2) clarity and organization of the proposal, 3) theoretical soundness of concepts to be presented, 4) appropriateness of presentation style for the audience and strand indicated, 5) appeal to the indicated audience, and 6) innovativeness of the topic and/or the approach to the topic.

MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT MADE EASIER

Joining the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children is easier than ever before. Members may now join or renew membership in the WCGTC by mail, phone, or fax, using their VISA, MasterCard, or American Express credit cards. Include card number, expiration date, and amount paid in US funds. Checks and bank notes are also accepted.

Membership rates are US\$40.00 per year or US\$25.00 for full-time graduate students (advisor's signature must accompany student payment).

We also offer a special institutional subscription for the *Gifted and Talented International* journal for US\$25.00. This does not include membership privileges and discounts, or delivery of the newsletter.

SUMMER PROGRAMS SURVEY

World Gifted will print a directory of summer programs for gifted children in an upcoming issue. If you would like your programs to be included in the directory please mail or fax the information to the World Council Publications Office as soon as possible. Please send the information in outline form in this order: 1) Name of program, 2) Location eg. a college campus, a camp site, a school, 3) Name and address of director, 4) Program emphases eg. science, literature, leadership, 5) Ages of children accepted, 6) Residential or commuter, 7) Dates, 8) Do you accept foreign students?, 8) Costs, 9) Deadline for application.

If you have several programs please send information as listed above for each program. Send the information to the address on the back of this issues of World Gifted, West Lafayette, IN.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Whether or not I ever anticipated it, I am the President of the WCGTC; whether or not you attended the Toronto Conference in August, 1993, you are now hearing a message from the new World Council President. This tells me one thing—I should accept the fact and start to play one of the most important roles in my whole professional career by making a commitment to the World Council and a contribution to the Gifted Globe.



While Dr. Norah Maier, the immediate past-president of the World Council, cannot serve the Executive Office for a constitutional reason, I would like to extend my appreciation for the efforts and contributions she made over the last four years. Her expertise and experiences will serve as part of the guideline for the future development of the Council.

A thoughtful plan takes the integration of the new with the old experiences, the maintenance of tradition, the originality of ideas, and perhaps most important of all, the teamwork in its implementation. As the Council is approaching 20 years of ages—and here I would like to make a sincere call for your attention—let's show our concern and offer our support to help our organization grow and progress.

It is my pleasure to tell you that we have a very strong Executive Committee, made up of both old and new members. It consists of the following individuals: Maureen Robinson (Australia), secretary; David George (UK); Cedric Taylor (South Africa); Barbara Clark (USA), vice-president; Janice Leroux (Canada), treasurer; and Barbara Grillmayr (Austria). In addition, we thank John Feldhusen for continuing to use resources at Purdue University for membership services and office publications; we also thank Jan Adams-Byers for her assistance as Membership Secretary and Editorial Assistant to Dr. Feldhusen. Unlike NAGC, which has a strong national management office, our Council needs to conquer many operational difficulties before the Constitution is amended.

For the past few years, the WCGTC has made many remarkable achievements. In the future, we will focus on constitutional change, financial control, publications upgrading, membership

APPRECIATION

In her four year term as the WCGTC president, Norah Maier put in splendid energy and expertise in an effort to make the Gifted Globe both a Thinking Globe and A Caring Globe (A Gifted Globe = A Thinking Globe + A Caring Globe). It is reassuring that she made a gigantic step forward and reached preset goals.

As the Conference Director of the Tenth World Conference on Gifted and Talented Education in Toronto, August 9-12, 1993, Norah Maier developed such a successful conference program that it attracted more than 1,200 participants and over 400 paper presentations. She also held the Youth Summit to help young people develop their wisdom and expand their experiences.

On behalf of the World Council, I would like to extend my respect and appreciation to Norah for her unselfish devotion to the Council and her significant contribution to the Gifted Globe.

We also thank Len Finkelstein, the past Executive member, for his kindness, wisdom, and endeavor in serving the Executive Office, especially when he served as the Acting Treasurer in a very difficult time.

Wu-Tien Wu

promotion, training programs development (in accordance with provisions of the WCGTC Diploma), increased communication with national delegates, and improved cooperation with regional organizations.

During this transition period I am grateful for hearing from the following senior and respected members through their phone calls, letters, and faxed messages in support and encouragement: Norah Maier, Harry Passow, James Gallagher, Calvin Taylor, Tom Marjoran, Iraj Broomand, John Feldhusen, Franz Møenks, Len Finkelstein, Joan Freeman, Pieter Span, Aurora Roldan, Georges Nicoleau, and Barbara Clark. Hopefully, with our joint efforts, you and me, we will create a fruitful future for WCGTC.

Finally, I welcome all your comments and suggestions concerning the Council. Let me hear from you. We need input from all members to assist us in placing for the future of the World Council.

Wu-Tien Wu

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS AT NAGC

Five members of the WCGTC Executive Committee met in November in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, during the 40th National Conference of the National Association for Gifted Children. They attended the opening and closing ceremonies of the conference and held extensive meetings between to follow up on business executed at the 10th World Congress in Toronto.

The following items of business were conducted:

- The revision of the WCGTC constitution was completed, with copies subsequently sent to delegates.
- The 11th World Conference to be held in Hong Kong in 1995 and the Asia-Pacific regional conference to meet in Korea in 1994 were discussed.
- Publications and Membership matters were discussed in a meeting with Editor John F. Feldhusen and Membership Secretary Jan Adams-Byers.
- The decision was made to change the title of the World Council journal. *Gifted International*, to *Gifted and Talented International*.
- Procedures for applications for future World Conferences was discussed.
- The Committee followed up on the 10th World Congress business.
- The World Council Diploma/MA was discussed.

The Executive Committee members reported enjoying their time together, calling it beneficial and productive. They felt they worked cohesively and enjoyed getting better acquainted in the relaxed atmosphere. Appreciation was voiced for President Wu-Tien Wu's acumen in arranging the meeting.

The meeting was also viewed as being extremely productive in that a smooth transition is being made between the tenure of the preceding Executive Committee and the new committee. Future developments for the World Council appear to be very positive in all respects.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS GUIDELINES

All presenters at the 10th World Congress at Toronto who wish to submit their papers for consideration to be included in the conference published proceedings may obtain manuscript guidelines from the University of Toronto by writing: Dr. Norah Maier, Proceedings Chair, University of Toronto, Faculty of Education, 371 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M6S 3R2; tel: 416-978-8029; fax: 416-978-6775.

Manuscripts cannot be published in both the Proceedings and the World Council journal. If you wish your manuscript to be considered for the journal, send four copies of it to the publications office at Purdue University. If it is not accepted for the journal it will be forwarded to the proceedings committee if you so request us to do so.

WANTED: MANUSCRIPTS FOR FUTURE ISSUES OF The WCGTC Journal

Manuscripts for future issues of the WC journal are invited from membership countries around the world reflecting diverse approaches to gifted education and talent development, and reporting research, cross cultural studies, grounded theory, and exemplary practices. Manuscripts should follow the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, be typed double spaced, and submitted in quadruplicate. If the manuscript is later accepted for publication a disk in ASCII format will be expected. Manuscripts should not exceed a total of 22 pages.

WC CONFERENCE PROPOSAL GUIDELINES REVISED

Recent revisions have been made to the *Guidelines for Developing a World Council Conference Proposal*. This booklet contains advice on content of the proposal, timeline considerations, budget, and ways to highlight local site advantages. Changes reflect a movement toward consistent organization, including increased support from the administration of the World Council in the operation of the biennial conferences. Organizational leadership will be coordinated by the Vice-President.

Countries making a proposal are expected to have knowledge of past conferences; to have gained cooperation and commitment from a local committee of interested individuals and agencies; to have investigated local facilities; and to have looked for local

financial support. It is anticipated that the World Council delegates in the country making the proposal will help develop and support the country's submission.

Submissions are typically received by the President of the World Council four years prior to the proposed conference date. The Executive Committee welcomes inquiries regarding conference proposals at any time. The yearly deadline for submitting proposals for consideration is May 31. Submissions for the 1997 conference should be mailed to Dr. Wu-Tien Wu, President of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, Inc. by May 31, 1994.

Copies of the *Guidelines for Development of a World Council Proposal* may be obtained by contacting the office of the president.



Miraca Gross, Elaine LeSueur, and John Feldhusen gathered to instruct gifted educators in New Zealand.

WORLD COUNCIL

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assessment is on a pass/fail basis. Upon successful completion of Stage One, students intending to complete the Master of Arts program proceed to Stage Two, an extended piece of personal research equivalent to four study modules. This research piece of up to 20,000 words will include a report of the enquiry for purposes of dissemination through the WCGTC.

Criteria for admission to the program are: 1) the applicant must be a graduate of a recognized university or college and provide documentation, 2) the applicant must be a qualified certified educator or hold an equivalent professional qualification, and 3) the applicant must be proficient in English.

Students wishing to pursue the diploma will normally have a minimum of two years and a maximum of four years to complete the Stage One program leading to the award of the Post Graduate Diploma (Gifted Education) and a minimum of three years and a maximum of six years to complete Stages One and Two leading to the award of Master of Arts (Gifted Education).

Interested persons should contact David George, Chairperson, providing 1) their name, address, telephone and fax numbers; 2) a two page summary of the current status of gifted education in the applicant's country or designated geographic area of study which would incorporate possible lists of opportunities and resources available for gifted students as well as educators of the gifted; include the applicant's own involvement in gifted education and opportunities/resources for personal research into professional practice in relation to gifted education; 3) a two page summary identifying whether the applicant wishes to pursue the Post Graduate Diploma or the Masters Degree, and the reasons why this program is considered to be suitable for the applicant; and 4) details of the applicant's qualifications.

Details of fees will be sent upon receipt of a formal enquiry.

A brochure giving more details about the Diploma Program is available from Dr. David George, Chairperson, World Council for Gifted and Talented Children Diploma Committee, Willow Mede, Back Lane, Holcot, Northampton NN6 9SL, United Kingdom; telephone 604-781-395; Fax: 604-781-089, or from Peter Tilsley, Worcester College of Higher Education, Henwick Grove, Worcester WR2 6AJ, England.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TENTH WORLD CONGRESS

A SPECIAL REPORT ON THE 10TH WORLD CONGRESS ON GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION

Barbara Clark

The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children held its biennial conference at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, August 8 - 12, 1993. The conference was co-sponsored by the University of Toronto.

The major program involved eminent speakers among whom was a truly gifted world citizen, Sir Peter Ustinov.



Sir Peter Ustinov

He presented an opening address that brought a message of concern for the waste of human potential embellished with his own special brand of humor and wit. Others of note were Michael Fullan whose focus on change forces within the educational reform movement was enlightening and dynamic; Paul MacCready, concerned with raising potential to achieve a balance between technology and nature; and Alvin Law, modeling a positive attitude developed from a most challenging experience as a person with a physical disability. Strands and panels running through the four conference days addressed at depth such issues as the interface between gifted and general education, the gifted handicapped, corporate world challenges to gifted education, economic and social challenges to educational paradigms, and the life, work, and legacy of K. Dabrowski. Symposia on gifted females, identification, leadership, assessment, development of talent, and self-concept

were presented. In addition, participants from more than 65 countries presented over 600 sessions on a wide variety of topics. It was truly a global involvement.

The business meetings of the conference began on Sunday as delegates met from some 35 countries in a working session to discuss changes proposed in the structure and constitution of the organization. Issues were raised that required additional meetings of the delegates, both in small groups and in an additional working session Tuesday evening. The major issues revolved around proposed changes in the Constitution, new election procedures, a proposed diploma sponsored by the World Council, and name changes for the journal and the organization.

On Wednesday, new delegates to the World Council were chosen for a two year term with their next working session to be held in Hong Kong in 1995. From the newly elected World Council delegates four persons were selected to fill vacant Executive Committee positions. Elected as new Executive Committee members were Wu-Tien Wu (Republic of China, Taiwan), Barbara Clark (USA), Janice Leroux (Canada), Barbara Grillmayr (Austria), and Cedric Taylor (South Africa). Alternate Richard Lange became the U.S. delegate, filling the vacancy left by Barbara Clark. Wu-Tien Wu was elected from the Executive Committee to serve as President. At the first meeting of the Executive

Committee on Friday morning the remaining officers were elected: Vice-President, Barbara Clark; Secretary, Marueen Robinson; and Treasurer, Janice Leroux.

Conference social events included a boat tour of the Harbor, a major league baseball game, an evening at the theatre, and a beautiful presentation of the culture of China with lovely costumes and dances.

A Youth Summit was held during the conference. It was a major success according to the students who attended. They worked, studied, and played together from Sunday through Thursday, at which time they presented the Conference participants with a list of five resolutions that will comprise a charter to be shared by the delegates with their world communities "to regulate educational opportunities and quality" for gifted students wherever they are found (see related story, Special Report on the International Youth Summit...). Resolution number five dealt with the students' desire to have representatives on the World Council. The World Council voted on Wednesday to strongly consider youth representation. As it would require a constitutional amendment, the membership was not able to select youth representatives this year. It is hoped there will be youth representation at the time of the 1995 World Conference to be held in Hong Kong. With the student presentation as a highlight of the closing session, the conference came to an end.



Kurt Heller, Wu-Tien Wu, John Feldhusen and Hazel Feldhusen

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TENTH WORLD CONGRESS

SPECIAL REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SUMMIT, TORONTO, 1993

Julian Kitchen and Paula Boon

"It has been wonderful getting to know you and it's an experience I'll cherish for the rest of my life," wrote a student from Hong Kong as the Youth Summit ended.

The Youth Summit was part of "A Gifted Globe", the 10th World Congress on Gifted and Talented Education held in Toronto August 8-12, 1993. The purpose of the summit was to provide its 73 participants from 15 countries with a forum in which to share their concerns about education and an opportunity to be heard by educators. It was also hoped that through this experience they would gain further understanding of themselves as individuals, as learners, and as part of a global community. This inaugural event was a hit of the conference and a tremendous success with the students, many of whom are hoping to attend the 1995 World Conference in Hong Kong.

Why was the Youth Summit such a success?

First, students enjoyed communicating with so many other gifted youth. They found they could be themselves by interacting with a peer group in which their gifts did not stigmatize them. They also felt it was truly a conference to meet their needs and they were not "intellectual freaks" put on display to amaze adult audiences.

Second, students became more aware of their own thinking and education backgrounds. A learning styles workshop helped participants recognize their own personal needs in a classroom setting and the diverse learning approaches of their peers. Also, speakers at the main conference, such as Alvin Law, Peter Ustinov, Gary Malkowski, and John Polanyi, inspired them to pursue their dreams with renewed vigor.

Third, the program was designed so that participants directed the exchange of ideas. They met in small groups to discuss education in their countries and share their experiences and concerns. The facilitators, university students in their early twenties, then met to condense the issues the students had raised into seven general categories: identification, funding, standardized testing, teaching methods, curriculum, evaluation methods and stereotypes. Finally,



Talented youth entertained World Congress participants in Toronto, Canada.

each participant chose an issue of personal interest and joined a group to share ideas with the goal of arriving at a common position.

Fourth, students were given the opportunity to share ideas with those attending the World Congress. The views presented by the panel of Youth Summit participants were warmly received by the crowd of four hundred educators, who gave them a standing ovation. Many, including World Council executive members, expressed their appreciation and supported the students' desire for a student voice in education.

At the closing ceremonies, the Youth Summit submitted the following five resolutions to the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children:

1. That all teachers be better trained and regularly updated in educational philosophies and practices.
2. That young people be grouped according to individual ability and needs.
3. That all countries advocate a broad-based identification policy so that no talent is wasted.
4. That all departments of education have student input into decision-making.

5. That students be given the opportunity to gain a voice by having representatives on the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children.

The students left the Youth Summit eager to carry their enthusiasm and new ideas back to their everyday lives. "I've grown so much so fast in so many ways that I almost wouldn't be surprised if no one at home recognized me. This conference has changed me and now I have to make use of all these changes," said one Canadian student.

"I believe that no one is better qualified to address educational issues than students themselves," stated an American student. "And it is up to us—the Gifted and Talented—to take a stand. It's time to make a change and it's up to us to make it!"

Julian Kitchen (University of Toronto Schools), Youth Summit Chair and Paula Boon (Trent University) Youth Summit facilitator, are involved in planning a Canadian Gifted and Talented National Youth Summit to be held in August, 1994. What with the great success of the program in Toronto, the future of such programs is certainly very promising. The future of gifted education may well lie in the hands of these talented youth.

WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN, INC. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Elected August 1993, Tenth World Congress, Toronto, Canada

President

Dr. Wu-Tien Wu



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Wu-Tien Wu is a professor at National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU) where he served as Director of the Special Education Center for 11 years. He created the Graduate Institute of Special Education of NTNU and has served as Director and Chair of the Department of Special Education. He was Taiwan's 1985 Distinguished Educator of the Year and received a Distinguished Research Award from the National Science Council, R.O.C., in 1988. He is a past-president of the Special Education Association, R.O.C., and is presently President of the Chinese Association for Psychological Testing.

Dr. Wu created and served as chief editor of *Special Education Quarterly*, *Gifted Education Quarterly*, and *Bulletin of Special Education* (Chinese publications) and has served on Editorial Boards of *Gifted International* and *Gifted Education International*. He has published 14 books, 50 scientific papers, and more than 150 articles.

He helped initiate the First Southeast Asian Conference on Giftedness in Manila in 1990 and helped to formulate the Asia-Pacific Federation of WCGTC. Dr. Wu has been a major leader of the gifted education movement in Asian countries.

Vice President

Dr. Barbara Clark



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Barbara Clark is a Professor in the Division of Special Education at Cali-

fornia State University, Los Angeles, where she is Coordinator for graduate programs in the area of Gifted Education. She is also Director of the Center for Educational Excellence for Gifted and Highly Able Learners and is Immediate Past President of the National Association for Gifted Children. She serves on the Board of Directors of the California Association for the Gifted and is a past president of that organization.

Dr. Clark authored the widely used text, *Growing Up Gifted*, now in its fourth edition (1992), and *Optimizing Learning* (1986). In addition, she has had many articles published in a variety of professional journals. She serves as a review editor for several journals including *The Gifted Child Quarterly*, *The Journal of Gifted Education*, *Roeper Review*, and *Gifted International*.

Among her awards, Dr. Clark was named California State University, Los Angeles Outstanding Professor of 1978-1979.

She has presented numerous addresses and workshops internationally and is widely recognized throughout the world as a leading authority on gifted and talented education.

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Ms. Maureen Robinson



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Maureen Robinson is President of the Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted and Talented and Head of Junior School, Sydney Church of England Co-Educational Grammar School. She has initiated an enrichment program for gifted children in 'Redlands', residential courses for gifted children, and inservice courses for teachers and parents in New South Wales.

Ms. Robinson was Director of the 8th World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children, sponsored by the Council of the Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted and Talented.

She is a founding member of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, initially as an Irish delegate and then as an Australian delegate.

She was born and educated in Northern Ireland where she founded the Northern Ireland branch of the National Association for Gifted Children in the United Kingdom. In her capacity as Honorary Secretary, then Chairman, she organized weekend inservice courses for teachers in Northern Ireland, as well as residential courses for gifted children from around the British Isles.

She has presented papers at most of the World Conferences and has a number of published articles.

Treasurer

Dr. Janice A. Leroux



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Dr. Janice Leroux, a former head mistress and teacher of the gifted, is an Associate Professor of Educational Studies at the University of Ottawa where her research and teaching focuses on gifted females, self-efficacy of gifted youth, and creativity.

She co-authored *Smart Teaching* with Edna McMillan and has published numerous articles on teaching gifted and talented individuals. As a result of her recent research on successful women in Canada, Dr. Leroux is now collaborating with Dr. Nava Butler-Por of Israel and Dr. Ludmilla Popova in Moscow who are working with similar research.

Dr. Leroux is active in Canadian associations for gifted and talented children and works directly with school systems and parent groups to improve the educational opportunities for gifted people. During her more than twenty years in the field of gifted and talented education, Dr. Leroux has consulted internationally and presented research in many countries. She is well known as a research scholar in the field of gifted and talented education.

WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN, INC. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Elected August 1993, Tenth World Congress, Toronto, Canada

Member
Dr. Cedric Taylor



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Cedric Taylor studied at the University of Cape Town where he obtained the B.Sc. degree in 1953 and the Secondary Teacher's Certificate cum laude in 1954. In 1962 he obtained the B.Ed. degree and in 1966 the M.Ed. degree cum laude from Stellenbosch University. He was awarded the D.Ed. degree in 1974 by the University of Port Elizabeth.

He served as a mathematics teacher and a principal before being appointed as Professor of Education at the University of Port Elizabeth in 1975. He is presently Head of the Department of Didactics and Dean of the Faculty of Education, a position he has held since 1986.

His research centers on curriculum development, gifted education, and the role of education in the promotion of positive human relations in South Africa.

Among the numerous awards he has received are the National Science Foundation Award from the United States Government in 1971 for study at Columbia University, New York, an Ernest Oppenheimer Travelling Fellowship in 1979, a senior researcher award from the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) in 1987 and an award for a greater research project from the HSRC for 1989-1991. In 1991 he received the Education Association of South Africa's medal for research and in 1993 the Citizen of the Year Award in the Education category from the city of Port Elizabeth.

He has more than 90 published articles, scientific reports and scientific papers, and has been invited on numerous occasions to deliver papers at international conferences. He is co-author of the first comprehensive book on gifted education published in Afrikaans and a contributor to the *International Handbook of Research and Development of Giftedness and Talent* published by Pergamon Press in 1993.

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Dr. David George



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Dr. David George was, until recently, Associate Director of Nene College of Higher Education in Northampton, United Kingdom. Prior to that he was Dean of the Faculty of Science. He has taught in schools and colleges throughout the United Kingdom and his first interest is in the education of teachers. He was founder and chairman of the National Association for Gifted Children and is now its president.

Dr. George has taken early retirement to pursue his many interests, especially that of working with gifted children and in setting up a Centre in Northampton for Complementary Medicine. He has written several books for children and numerous articles. His most recent book, *The Challenge of the Able Child*, sold over 1,000 copies in the first year.

Member
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Barbara Grillmayr is coordinator and evaluator for gifted education programs in the province of Salzburg. She is actively involved in teacher training seminars throughout Austria, focusing on teaching high-ability students in a mainstream setting. Her goal is to help teachers identify and foster gifted students' abilities in and out of the mainstream classroom.

She received her degree in geography and English from the University of Salzburg (Austria) and has taught at a Gymnasium and a vocational school. There she had much experience with students with varying gifts and talents. She served as an organizer of the 1988 Salzburg Regional World Conference, "Needed—the Gifted!"



The new Executive Committee for World Council of Gifted and Talented Children: (from left) Barbara Clark, David George, Maureen Robinson, Norah Maier (past president), Wu-Tien Wu, Janice Leroux, Cedric Taylor, and Barbara Grillmayr.

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REGIONAL NEWS

KOREA SITE OF 1994 ASIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE

The Asia-Pacific Federation of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children was conceived and established during the First Asian Conference in Manila, August 1990. During the Second Asian Conference in Taipei, July 1992, the formation, discussion, and election of the officials and members of the executive committee were established.

The Third Asia-Pacific Federation Conference will be held August 1-4,

1994, at the Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel, Seoul, Korea. It is co-sponsored by the Asia-Pacific Federation and the WCGTC and organized by the Korean Society for the Gifted.

The theme is "Creativity for the 21st Century". The program will cover characteristics and identification, program development, creative development, curriculum for the gifted, teacher training, science and technology, and policy making for gifted education. Presentation formats include plenary sessions, parallel sessions, symposia, paper presentations, workshops, poster sessions, and exhibitions of teaching materials.

The official language will be English.

The deadline for submitting proposals is March 1, 1994.

For further information about presenting papers contact the Conference Secretariat, The Korean Society for the Gifted, 2nd Floor, Hanho Building, 165-14, Samsung-dong, Kangnam-ku, Seoul 135-090, KOREA.

Registration fees are: before April 1, 1994 = US\$225, before May 1, 1994 = US\$250, after May 1, 1994 = US\$285. Registration includes a conference kit, conference proceedings, the reception dinner, and a souvenir.

This conference will be an excellent prelude experience for World Council members who are planning to attend the conference in Hong Kong in 1995.

KOREAN TELEVISION FEATURES ADULT CHILD PRODIGIES

"I Want to Know About It", a widely viewed weekly Korean television documentary produced by Seoul Broadcasting System (SBS), featured 30 former child prodigies in its August 22nd broadcast. The individuals studied were highly prominent in Korean news during their childhood because of their precocity, but never reached the levels of adult accomplishment which were predicted for them. SBS investi-

gated possible reasons for this discrepancy between potential and achievement.

To gather background on giftedness, Assistant Chief Producer Boo Chil Kang, associates, and film crew interviewed Seokee Cho, Director of the Korean Educational Development Institute, then spent a week in the United States taping interviews with leading American educators John Becker, Joseph Renzulli, and John F. Feldhusen. Gifted students participating in the residential summer gifted program at Purdue University were also filmed.

ABB HOSTS SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE IN GERMANY

"Furthering the Gifted—European Perspectives" was the major theme of the second annual scientific conference of the Arbeitskreis Begabungsforschung und Begabungsförderung e.V. (ABB), the association of German speaking professionals in gifted education. The conference met November 18-20 at the Rostock "Jugenddorf Christopherus-schule", one of the few special schools for gifted and talented in Germany. Members of the ECHA General Committee held a pre-conference meeting which contributed substantially to the conference via papers, statements, and discussions. ECHA President Franz Monks, delivering the opening keynote address, presented a European perspective on political, scientific, and pedagogical implications of furthering the highly able.

Due to the financial support of Germany's main research foundation, the DFG, the ABB was able to invite colleagues from Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Slovak Republic, Czech Republic, and the Ukraine to join participants from Belgium, Italy, and the The Netherlands, thus opening and broadening the perspective to and for Middle and Eastern Europe.

Topics discussed in longer group sessions were the promotion of gifts and talents during vocational training, and problems concerning the development and education of highly able handicapped pupils and university students.

CANADA TO HOST NATIONAL YOUTH SUMMIT

Canadian students attending the Gifted Globe Youth Summit at Toronto this August were so enthused about the experience they are going to have one of their own at the national level August 27-31, 1994. Organizers of the Gifted Globe Youth Summit, with the support of the Ontario Association for the Gifted (TAG), TAG Canada, Educators of the Gifted of Ontario (EGO) and the Association for Bright Children (ABC), are planning the "Gifted and Talented National Youth Summit" to be held at Rosseau Lake College, Muskoka, Ontario.

The purpose of this summit is to provide gifted youth from across Canada, ages 15 to 19, the opportunity to meet and discuss their education and their educational needs.

For further information or to register, call Edna McMillan, TAG Ontario, (905) 662-3225, or write Pete Bowen, 22 Brandon Crescent, Orillia, Ontario L3V 7P5, Canada.

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children delegate Klaus K. Urban was re-elected as Chairman of the ABB. He will be joined in a two-year term on the ABB Executive Committee by Horst Drewelow (University of Rostock), Otto Lange (University of Oldenburg), Fred Dosenback (IBM Stuttgart), and Regina Pauls (College for Music, Leipzig).

DELHI UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AND ACTIVITIES

Delhi University (India) is offering new creativity coursework at the predoctoral level. Developed by Dr. Krishna Maitra, "Creativity, Development, and Society" emphasizes global education and a self-actualized society. The course looks at new paradigms for comprehending creativity with research implications, examines cognitive styles and creativity, and explores new techniques for measuring creativity.

Maitra has developed a comprehensive tool for measuring creativity in elementary school children, and the University of Delhi Department of Education is involved with a number of innovative works for elementary school teachers.

Gifted adolescent girls and their problems have received renewed attention. Doctoral level studies are being conducted to develop models for helping gifted girls develop more instrumental traits of personality.

YOUNG ASTRONAUT KOREA

The Young Astronaut Korea (YAK) program was founded by Dr. Rhee Shang-Hi, the organization's President, in 1989. It is supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology, and is an affiliate of the Young Astronauts International (YAI). There are currently nearly 40,000 students, ages 9 to 17, involved in YAK. The program's goal is the realize "Peace Through Space" in the 21st century. Students participate in science and mathematics programs and camps and leadership training programs.

Korea hosted the 6th International Young Astronauts Conference during the TaeJeon Expo '93, August 11-14. Special features were the 'Space Olympiad' and a 'Satellite Communication with a Spaceman' performance.

Currently a three-year project of formative evaluation and program development is underway for the improvement and extension of the YAK program. At the end of the project a new program for children preschool through second grade children will be developed and implemented under the leadership of Professor Kyung-Jeon of the Kwang-Ju University Early Childhood Education Department.

A SPECIAL REPORT ON GIFTED EDUCATION IN THE NEW SOUTH AFRICA

Cedric Taylor, University of Port Elizabeth, Republic of South Africa

Notable developments took place in South Africa in the field of gifted education in the late 70's and in the 80's. Within the education system for whites various models were implemented to provide for the gifted. No significant provision was made for the gifted in the separate Departments of Education for coloured, blacks, and Indians.

Powerful socio-political forces, however, are currently at work in South Africa. Issues which emanate from this situation may impact negatively on gifted education. For many years under the system of apartheid the majority of the population was denied the benefit of a good education. Separate and unequal provision of education, preferential allocation of resources to white state schools, and undemocratic decision-making structures produced racial imbalances in education and gross social inequalities. These factors contributed to a very low level of basic education for black children. Restrictive economic conditions will prohibit a substantial increase in the education budget. Redistribution will therefore have to be sought within the budget, and programs which benefit the majority of learners will receive priority.

Within the near future South Africa will have a new government elected mainly by blacks. Such have been the injustices and indignities of apartheid that inequalities in education will be one of the first matters to be addressed. Merging white and black education departments into a unitary system of education will require massive funding. Problems which will have to be addressed by a new government include the provision of basic education for all black children, accommodating millions of school-age children who are presently not in primary school, providing for the lost generation of children and providing libraries and laboratories on a large scale. Against this background making provision for gifted pupils may be seen as unjustified allocation of re-

sources, benefiting a minority of mostly white pupils and reinforcing existing inequalities.

A National Education Policy Investigation (NEPI) conducted by the National Education Coordinating Committee (NECC) published discussion documents in 1992 and 1993 which give an indication of African National Congress (ANC) thinking on education in the future. Underlying the reports are strong socio-political views. Principles which are emphasized and which have significance for gifted education are equality and redress. Redress requires, according to the report, clearly defined measures to ensure equity, i.e. improved distribution of educational resources to disadvantaged communities. NEPI does point out that tension exists between the goals of equity and development. Education differentiation, however, is acknowledged as a mechanism to provide specialist skills which are essential for economic development although it tends to accentuate social inequalities. NEPI states further that by providing differentiated education experiences for children one runs the risk of offering an education that is better for some than for others, thus producing inequity. One can question the validity of equating gifted education with a "better" education.

The challenge in the new South Africa to educators involved in gifted education will be to convince policy makers and the majority of the public that what is at stake is not "better" education for some, but appropriate education of equal quality for all and that this implies a differentiated set of learning opportunities, accessible to all who are able to benefit from it. Secondly, education planners will have to find ways of managing differentiation so that the social program of education equity is not seriously compromised.

BRAZIL HOLDS CONFERENCE ON TALENT DEVELOPMENT AND CREATIVITY

Approximately 2,100 educators administrators, psychologists, university students, mathematicians, and experts from other fields attended the International Conference, "Education of the Future: Developing Talent and Creativity", in Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 4 to 8, 1993. Among the key speakers were Eleonora Masini (Italy), Ubiratan d'Ambrosio (Brazil), Marvin Minsky (USA), Peter Russel (England), Antonio Battro (Argentina), and Krishna Ahooja Patel (India).

The program included several symposia with topics such as "Education and Integration on a Planetary Scale", "Collective Learning and Society", "Advanced Technology and Education", "Telecommunication and Education", "Creativity and Intelligence", "Childhood, Youth and Family", "The Future Scenario and Challenge", and "The University and Education of the Future—Challenges and Responsibilities". Speakers came from Argentina, England, France, India, Italy, Israel, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Taiwan, and the USA. The major symposia were transmitted by television to 58 Brazilian cities and are available for purchase on video tape.

Brazilian and international sponsors of the conference included the Organization of American States; OEA; UNESCO; the IBM; Brazilian Corporation of Telecommunications; the Brazilian Ministry of Education; and the Brazilian Ministry of Science and Technology.

Inquiries about the conference and video tape purchases may be addressed to: Conferencia Internacional Educacao do Futuro, Estacao Especial Da Lapa, Guacurus, 1274, Lapa, Sao Paulo 05033-002 Brasil.

QUEENSLAND STATE CONFERENCE MARCH 12-13, 1994

The Fourth State Conference of the Queensland Association for Gifted and Talented Children (Australia) will be held March 12-13, 1994 at Griffith University Nathan Campus. The theme is "Gifted Education—Inclusion or Exclusion: Procedures for Parents and Teachers."

Registration deadline is February 25, 1994. For information contact Harry Milne, Convenor, Telephone 61-7-875-5630, or Vivien Gajzelski, Office Manager, Telephone: 61-7-341-9149 or Fax: 61-7-875-5910.



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West Lafayette, Indiana USA 47907-1446

Address Corrections Requested

FOURTH CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR HIGH ABILITY SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 1994

courtesy ECHA NEWS

The 4th Conference of the European Council for High Ability (ECHA) will be held at the University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands, October 8 - 11, 1994. The topic is "Nurturing Talent: Individual Needs and Social Ability."

Registration fees for the conference are NLG 330, before May 1, 1994 and NLG 375, after May 1, 1994. Payment may be made by Visa, Euro/Mastercard, certified cheques, or bank-to-bank transfer (account nr. 23.45.45.134 of Bank Credit Lyonnais, Nijmegen. Swiftner. of the bank is CRLYNL2R).

Deadline for proposal submission is February 1, 1994. Provide *two copies* which include your name and address, telephone, fax, and name of co-presenters, and title (12 words or less). Indicate your preferred format (poster, symposium, lecture, or workshop). Abstracts should be typed on a separate page, within a bounded area not to exceed 12.5 cm by 18 cm and should include title and author(s). Indicate topic (scientific, education, administration/policy), type of audience for presentation (general 1 2 3 4 5 specialized), and

special audio-visual requests (overhead, slides, video[PAL], or other).

To register or to submit a proposal, contact ECHA Conference Secretary, P.O. Box 463, 6500 AL Nijmegen, The Netherlands; Tel: +31-80-616146, Fax: +31-80-615480.

For further information contact Prof. Dr. Franz Monks, University of Nijmegen, Center for the Study of Giftedness, P.O. Box 9104, 6500 HE Nijmegen, The Netherlands; Tel.: + 31-80-616146, Fax: + 31-80-615480.

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Membership in the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children includes the *Gifted and Talented International Journal*, *World Gifted* newsletter, discounts on materials and reduced conference registration rates.

Mail to
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