



VOLUME 22, NUMBER 2, 2003

World Gifted

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN



A Message from the President

Dear Members, Colleagues, and Friends,
Another successful conference lies behind us and the preparations for the next one are under way. Thanks to the excellent organization, led by Ann Matison, Chair of the Local Conference Committee, Maria McCann, Chair of the Academic Program Committee, and Sue Urban, President of Gifted and Talented Children's Association of South Australia, more than 700 participants enjoyed the academic program as well as the South Australian hospitality at the Adelaide conference. I was very impressed by the richness and diversity of the contributions, especially the fresh approaches and the high quality of keynotes, featured speeches, papers, and posters. It was also impressive to see the participants so engaged and interested. Their active and passive contributions provided justification and reward for

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Executive Committee and Delegates Hold Meetings at 2003 Conference

Suggestions for change and improvement emerge during discussions

Numerous decisions and suggestions for change were made during meetings of the outgoing and incoming Executive Committee (EC) members and Delegates in Adelaide. Although the EC regularly holds discussions through electronic meetings throughout the year, elected Delegates have the opportunity to meet formally only at biennial conferences.

Election of EC Officers and Committee Chairs

In accordance with World Council bylaws,

Vice president—Den-Mo Tsai, Taiwan ROC,
Secretary—Maria McCann, Australia
Treasurer—Shirley Kokot, South Africa
Members
Sandra Kaplan, USA; Edna McMillan,
Canada; and Taisir Subhi Yamin, Jordan

Committee Chairs

Awards & Scholarships—Edna McMillan
Bylaws & Policies—Den-Mo Tsai
2005 Conference—Klaus Urban
Elections—Taisir Subhi Yamin
Finance—Shirley Kokot



2003–2005 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Taisir Subhi Yamin, Edna McMillan, Sandra Kaplan, Maria McCann, Shirley Kokot, Klaus Urban, Den-Mo Tsai

the EC held elections for 2003–2005 officers and committee chairs. (The president is elected for a 4-year term and is elected by a plurality of votes from elected delegates. The next election will be held in 2005.)

2003–2005 Executive Committee
President—Klaus Urban, Germany

Parents—Shirley Kokot
Publications—Maria McCann, Taisir Subhi Yamin
Research—Sandra Kaplan
Technology—Taisir Subhi Yamin

If you are interested in serving on a com-
continued on page 10

The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, Inc. (WCGTC) is a nonprofit international organization dedicated to the needs of gifted and talented children throughout the world. For membership information contact Headquarters:

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WORLD COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS

World Gifted is the newsletter of the World Council. Published three times a year, it contains the latest news and information concerning the organization, its membership, and the international gifted education community. Any article or portion thereof may be reprinted with credit given to the source. Send all news and articles to Barbara Clark, Editor, clarkbj@earthlink.net or to Headquarters.

Gifted and Talented International, refereed by an editorial review board of leading international gifted educators, is the official journal of the World Council. The purpose of the journal is to share current theory, research, and practice in gifted education with its audience of international educators, scholars, researchers, and parents and is published twice a year. Prospective authors are requested to submit manuscripts or queries to:

Joyce VanTassel-Baska, Editor, *Gifted and Talented International*
College of William and Mary
P.O. Box 8795
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Tel: 757-221-2185 Fax: 757-221-2184
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Calendar

March 19–21, 2004

AMEXPAS International Conference

"Educating Brilliant Minds to Improve the Future"

Acapulco, Mexico

For additional information, visit www.geocities.com/amexpas

July 26–30, 2004

8th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness

Rebirth of Giftedness in the Trans-Modern Society:

"Vision, Values and Leadership"

Korea

For information, contact Jenny Choi

Tel: +82-2-3462-2525

Fax: +82-2-3402-0589

giftedness@ioconvex.com

www.koreagifted.org

September 10–13, 2004

9th Conference of the European Council for High Ability (ECHA)

"Educational Technology for Gifted Education—From Information Edge to Knowledge Era"

Pamplona, Navarra, Spain

For information, visit www.ortra.com/echa/ or contact the Conference Secretariat

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Tel Aviv 61092, Israel

Tel: + 972-3-638-4444

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E-mail: echa@ortra.com

August 3–7, 2005

16th Biennial Conference

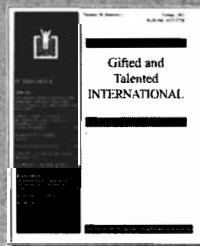
World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

"Celebrating Les Enfants Surdoués du Monde"

New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

For information, visit www.worldgifted.org

Share your ideas with the world...



Gifted and Talented International's purpose is to share current theory, research, and practice in gifted education with its audience of international educators and parents. Published twice a year, the peer-reviewed journal is included with memberships and offered on a subscription basis.

Submit manuscripts to
Joyce VanTassel-Baska, Editor
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P.O. Box 8795

Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-8795
Tel: 757-221-2185 Fax: 757-221-2184
jlvant@wm.edu

Update from Headquarters

Search for New Editor *Gifted and Talented International*

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska has served as editor of the World Council's peer-reviewed journal *Gifted and Talented International* for the past 7 years. Her term ends in 2005. The Executive Committee of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children is inviting applications from its membership for the position of editor of *Gifted and Talented International*. Interested individuals should submit a vita and letter describing their interest and qualifications as they relate to the following criteria:

1. Significant scholarly activity in gifted education as reflected in grants, publications, and presentations at conferences.
2. An established reputation in the field of gifted and talented education, preferably at the national and international level.
3. Active participation in the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children over a period of 5 or more years (e.g., regular attendance and presentations on conferences).
4. Experience in editing material for publication.
5. Ability to work with a team of editors in formulating and implementing journal policy.
6. Ability to write clearly, concisely, and correctly using APA format.
7. Appropriate institutional support.

Deadline for submissions: March 31, 2004

Send vita, proposed budget, letter of qualifications, and references to:
WCGTC, Editor Search
18401 Hiawatha St., Northridge, CA 91326 USA
worldgt@earthlink.net
Tel: 818-368-7501 Fax: 818-368-2163

Executive Committee Begins Search for New World Council Headquarters

By summer, 2005, the Los Angeles office of World Council Headquarters will no longer be available. The Executive Committee has begun the search for a permanent Headquarters office. All of the functions of administering the organization are handled at the Headquarters office including membership, budget and financial matters, publication of the World Council newsletter *World Gifted*, conference registration and other conference-related matters, correspondence, clerical support for the president and executive committee and all other tasks needed to accomplish the World Council's daily activities. For a more detailed description of the functions of the office and the office staff, contact:

World Council Headquarters
18401 Hiawatha St.
Northridge, CA 91326 USA
worldgt@earthlink.net
Tel: 818-368-7501
Fax: 818-368-2163

Details of the office budget and salaries will be negotiated by the president and executive committee.

THANK YOU!

ONE-YEAR SILVER MEMBERS

Michael Franz, Idstein, Germany
Jim Hagart, EIC - Gifted & Talented, Leeds, UK
John Potter, Istanbul, Turkey

TWO-YEAR SILVER MEMBERS

Jean-Christian Brunalt, Tours, France
Fathi A. Jarwan, The Center for Excellence in Education, Amman, Jordan
Chris Yoon, Los Angeles, CA USA



SPECIAL THANKS to Flinders University, Adelaide Australia and Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Anne Edwards for their generous contribution to the World Council general fund and Executive Committee conference accommodations.

And the winner is... Karen Reichenbacher!

From the evaluations turned in at the conclusion of the 2003 conference, one form was drawn entitling the winner to a free 2005 conference registration.

Congratulations to Karen Reichenbacher!

Thank you also to the hundreds of attendees who took the time to complete the forms and offer compliments and constructive comments that will assist the 2005 organizers in planning a productive conference.

News from Around the World

FROM JORDAN

Enrichment Programs Progress

After the success of the second summer enrichment program at the National Orthodox School, the third program for summer 2003 was conducted. Gardner's Multiple Intelligence Theory was the focus with six teachers and 24 children studying four topics: space, continents, countries, and cities. There was integration between language, arts, maths, science, computer, and drama. As an organizer, director, and supervisor of the enrichment program in my school, I hope that this 5-week activity, will succeed as the previous ones have.

Submitted by Janette Wakileh
Headmistress, Elementary Department
The National Orthodox School
WCGTC Elected-Delegate, Jordan

FROM USA

The Davidson Institute Seeks Applicants for 2004 Davidson Fellowships

The Davidson Institute for Talent Development is offering high achieving young people across the USA the opportunity to be named as a 2004 Davidson Fellows.

Individuals named as Davidson Fellows receive a \$50,000, \$25,000 or \$10,000 scholarship in recognition of their outstanding achievements in the areas of science, technology, mathematics, music, literature, and/or philosophy. Each submission must be an original piece of work recognized by experts in the field as "significant" and it must have the potential to make a positive contribution to society.

To be eligible, applicants must be under the age of 18 as of October 1, 2004, and a U.S. citizen or permanent U.S. resident. There is no minimum age for eligibility. The scholarship must be used at an accredited institute of learning.

The deadline to apply is March 26, 2004. Each year, the Davidson Fellows are honored at a September reception in Washington, D.C.

Each application is evaluated on its scope and quality, level of significance, and the applicant's depth of knowledge and understanding of the work and related domain area.

For more information on the Davidson Fellows, or to download an application, please visit www.davidsonfellows.org, or contact: Julie Dudley, Communications Manager/Program Manager
Davidson Institute for Talent Development

9665 Gateway Drive, Suite B
Reno, Nevada 89521
Tel: 775-852-3483 x424
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jdudley@ditd.org
www.davidson-institute.org

FROM EUROPE

ECHA to Hold 9th Conference in Pamplona

Hosted by the University of Navarra with the cooperation of Centro Para Jóvenes Con Talento, the 9th conference of the European Council for High Ability (ECHA) will be held in Pamplona, Spain on September 10-13, 2004. The conference will focus on the latest advances and possibilities in new technologies and will evaluate the ongoing research in this field with three keynote speakers, invited speakers, and other papers submitted. The keynoters are Henry Tirri, Finland; Patricia Wallace, USA; and Chris Yapp, UK.

Conference topics include early childhood, middle childhood, adolescence, gifted education in the regular classroom, teacher training programs, pros and cons of acceleration, underachievement, differentiation of curriculum and instruction, and more.

Please visit the conference website at www.ortra.com/echa for a list of topics, important deadlines, guidelines for submitting abstracts, and an online submission form. Abstracts are due by December 15, 2003.

FROM MEXICO

Call for Papers Announced

The Mexican Association for the Gifted (AM-EXPAS) announces a Call for Papers for its 5th International Conference.

Venue: Hotel Radisson, Acapulco, Mexico
Dates: March 19-21, 2004

It is suggested that participants arrive during the afternoon of March 18 and depart on Sunday afternoon, March 21.

The conference will feature major speakers from the United States, Mexico, and other countries. Additionally, attendees can participate in unique "Science Workshops on the Beach," a "Mexican Dinner" on Friday evening and a "Gala Dinner in White" on Saturday on the hotel's private beach.

Economical packages are available that include the conference, all meals, and room.

For further information, please visit www.geocities.com/amexpas or send a mes-

sage to Dr. Janet Saenz amexpas@prodigy.net.mx.

Submitted by Janet Saenz

President, AMEXPAS

World Council Elected-Delegate, Mexico

FROM DENMARK

Education for the Gifted Making

Progress in Denmark

Denmark is closer to the European understanding of giftedness than earlier and on our way to becoming more global in what it means to be a gifted or highly able student. This understanding is within the context of the Danish Act on the Folkeskole (Primary and lower Secondary School).

All over the country, schools are implementing the principle of differentiation and inclusion of special provision for gifted learners. They are being more and more flexible in their way of organizing the curriculum and timetable for students. A project orientation to facilitate the use of differentiation is growing. Schools are experimenting with open classroom units with different grades being taught together. Within the units, teachers coordinate the teaching in teams according to the curriculum and the needs of the children. There are small concrete, practical experiments being carried out by individual teachers. The students' mental capacity and social and emotional problems are acknowledged through small projects within the school organization. In general, there is greater awareness of the needs of gifted learners among teachers. A trend to include discussions on how to differentiate for the more able students can be seen.

Although Denmark has one of the most expensive educational systems in the world, and in many ways a qualitatively esteemed primary and secondary education, we are still in the starting phase of acknowledging inclusion of special provision for the gifted within the normal school. Following is a summary of various projects and activities in Denmark.

The Lyngby-Taarbæk Project. This was the first Danish pilot project on gifted education. It was presented at the World Conferences on Gifted and Talented in Barcelona in 2001 and in Adelaide in 2003. The project is well underway, and it is hoped that Denmark can participate in the debate regarding education for gifted learners with qualitatively based data. In the long run, the information gained from the project should help to diminish some of the unintended stress in schools due to lack of knowledge, traditional prejudice, and opinionated views that are sometimes more polit-

News from Around the World

ically correct than at other times.

In spring 2003 individual interviews were conducted with pupils in the project and their parents. The children's interviews, indicated, among other things, that they received a lot of attention from teachers during the implementation of the project, whereas they felt that in the long run they returned to normal classroom routines receiving less attention and special provisions. On the whole, however, the pupils were pleased to be part of the project.

It was also found that the parents had high expectations and ambitions on behalf of their children that were not fulfilled. In the year to come more attention will be given to the teachers and their way of dealing with the pupils. Training regarding how to differentiate for gifted learners more adequately within the classroom and the school (e.g., working with groups of children of various levels, age, and from various forms) will be provided.

Support for Gifted Programs. Johanna Raffan, director of the National Association for Able Children in Education (NACE), UK, was in Denmark in September 2003 to give presentations to both teachers and parents, including how to develop enrichment programs for the children. Next year a one-day conference is being planned for the teachers.

Twice a year a project consultant evaluates the teaching plan for each pupil. In this evaluation the child's active participation is emphasized, as well as the importance of keeping the parents up-to-date on what is going on in school.

On the whole, there is great media interest in the project with articles in newspapers and magazines. So far, due to parents' wishes, we have kept the media out of the schools in order to "protect" the children. In the past few years Mensa Denmark has organized a network of parents and children and is actively supporting parents through individual counseling and special programmes for children and parents in different parts of the country.

A documentary TV program on highly able pupils who encounter difficulties in school has just been developed. The program discusses the different views of parents and teachers about what it means for a child to be highly able, and how to cope with such children socially and academically. The author participated in the program.

Other Initiatives. A private school for gifted and talented children is being established and will open in August 2004. The school is called Mentiqa and will most likely be located in the Lyngby-Taarbæk municipality north of Copenhagen.

One continuation school (lower secondary boarding school) has shown interest in offering a special class for highly able pupils offering subjects such as mathematics and science.

A county in the western part of Denmark has offered extra resources for enrichment programs for students at a higher secondary level school ("gymnasium"), and in another county, a primary school (Folk School) has started a small project for five gifted pupils.

Danish educators are looking forward to the results of all these initiatives.

Submitted by Ole Kyed
World Council Elected-Delegate, Denmark

LOOKING FOR RESOURCES AND WORLD COUNCIL NEWS UPDATES? Check the World Council website at www.worldgifted.org. You will find conference information, the latest World Council news, direct links to dozens of organizations, publications, and even websites for kids.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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the tremendous efforts of the local organizing team, and the many others who helped in subcommittees and with various functions. While they worked very hard, it was obvious that it came from their hearts.

Special thanks go to Adelaide's Flinders University, for their generous financial support. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Anne Edwards, opened the conference.

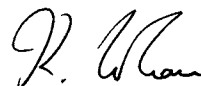
The success of the conference is especially remarkable in view of the threats of serious difficulties, such as the Iraq war and the SARS epidemic. All those who had the opportunity to go to Adelaide found a wonderful forum for communication and a starting point for international collaborations.

Communication and networking will be key issues for the future of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children. From various formal and informal meetings of delegates and members at the conference some very encouraging initiatives emerged and will hopefully continue long after. Be assured that the Executive Committee will work to keep the network open and working. However, don't forget that this is dependent on two-way communication. That means we need your input, which refers to more than your membership fee!

I really hope that your membership and support will be a long-lasting one. In order to reach and fulfill the aims and purposes written in the constitution of the World Council we urgently need your ongoing, continuous support. Taking up a former conference theme: Let's keep the gifted community connected! So, very practically I would like to ask you to

- renew your membership when the expiration date approaches;
- convince colleagues and friends to become members;
- stay in contact with your country's delegates and let them know what is happening in your area and field;
- develop or encourage the development of bids for hosting the 2007 or 2009 World Conference;
- share your research and experiences with the readers of our journal *Gifted and Talented International*;
- help in the search for a competent successor for Joyce Van-Tassel-Baska whose editorship will end after the next four issues of GTI;
- send your information and reports about activities, programs, and events in your country to our **headquarters** for publication in our newsletter;
- help find a new site for our headquarters, since our current headquarters staff, Sheila and Dennis, will complete their World Council management with the New Orleans conference 2005;
- and last, but not least, come and contribute to our next World Conference 2 years from now in New Orleans!

Sincerely yours,



Gifted 2003—A Celebration Down Under

August 1–5, 2003

By ANN MATISON, Chair, Local World Conference Committee, 2003



After two years of planning the 15th World Conference is over. Judging by the comments that participants have been kind enough to give me it was a great success.

Over 700 people attended from countries all around the world. On the third day 300 local teachers for the South Australian Special Interest Academic High School Program also joined us for the day.

The Planning Committee had worried that we would not reach break-even numbers after terrorism scares and SARS, but people remained confident enough to travel and thanks to large delegations from Australia

and New Zealand we were able to proceed as planned.

After a stimulating pre-conference in the morning, the Vice Chancellor of Flinders University, Prof. Anne Edwards, opened the conference on Friday afternoon, August 1. In her opening remarks Prof. Edwards referred to the benefits of meeting together as a world group. This became obvious as the conference progressed. World conferences give us such a wonderful opportunity to learn from each other and to exchange ideas at a global level.

Our first keynote address was from Adam Spencer, broadcaster and gifted mathematician. Adam is very popular among young Australians. Adam was chosen as the first keynoter to start us thinking and to make us challenge some of our entrenched ideas. For many he did just that.

After some initial confusion with the program codes and orientation around the circular Convention Centre, the conference began in earnest on Saturday morning with Dr. Katherine Hoekman's keynote address, "The Bridge to Self-Determination, Motivation, and Middle School."

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend many of the presentations. However, I did read every abstract, as it was submitted plus many of the papers. I was particularly impressed by the wide variety of topics. There were many papers reporting on a wide range of research projects. Hopefully the benefits of this work will have been noted by practitioners, who will in turn take it back to their school or university. Many practical ideas and methodologies were reported by practitioners. As a teacher, I found these papers particularly interesting and useful.

On the first day of the conference some local parents joined us. It was pleasing to have

Conference Images

Over 700 attendees from more than 30 nations participated in the 15th Biennial World Conference in Adelaide, Australia. Visit the World Council website at www.worldgifted for additional conference images



PLENARIES AND FEATURED SPEAKERS A variety of daily sessions provided attendees with new research, international program designs, ideas for differentiating the curriculum, and insights on what it is like to grow up gifted.

OPENING CEREMONY One of many student performances, a choral group from South Australia entertains during the opening ceremony.

such a range of presentations from which they could choose. I would also like to thank the presenters who came back to the Convention Centre on Monday evening so that local parents could hear some more of the excellent program. Our leynote speaker for the parents was Prof. Miraca Gross.

Many conference participants gathered at The Port Dock Railway Museum for the conference dinner. The cold atmospheric conditions certainly encouraged many people onto the dance floor to learn some Australian country dancing. Good wine and dancing helped many people to remain warm enough to wait for the train back to the city.

I did admire the 30 or so people who were able to force themselves out of bed to be at the Convention Centre by 7:30 a.m. on Sunday morning to participate in Joyce Van-Tassel-Baska and Chwee Geok Quek's Meet the Editor session. Hopefully many of the eager participants will submit papers for future editions of *Gifted and Talented International*.

We were privileged to have two keynote speakers on Sunday. Prof. Diane Montgomery Middlesex University, London spoke about Gifted Learning Disabled students in the morn-

ing. These children are so often overlooked and Prof. Montgomery's remarks were welcomed and very well received. In the afternoon, Dr. Barbara Clark presented the A. Harry Passow Lecture entitled "Critical Issues in Gifted Education Using New Knowledge Now." Barbara is the Immediate Past President of WCGTC. Just prior to her address, Prof. Klaus Urban, President of the World Council, presented Dr. Clark with the World Council Distinguished Service Award. What an appropriate person to be the recipient of such an award.

There was a very busy program on Monday to accommodate the extra participants. The principle theme of curriculum was introduced in the keynote session presented by Dr. Sandra Kaplan. Judging by the many comments heard afterwards, Dr. Kaplan was a popular choice. Her ideas, developed out of research, are always so practical and appealed to the many teachers in the audience.

There seemed to be people everywhere on Monday, but somehow the Convention Centre staff managed to feed them all in time and participants still had time to watch and listen to the student performances as well as catch up with old friends and meet with colleagues during the breaks. In the afternoon a group of

dedicated people interested in ICT managed to get to The School of the Future to listen to and watch some local teachers demonstrate their ideas and methods for extending gifted students' education using technology.

Our final day started with a keynote address by two musically gifted brothers, James and Graeme Koehne. We hope that giving participants the opportunity to hear the story behind people who have achieved within their area of expertise may help and inspire those who are working with children who have similar gifts. This message was followed up when we were able to hear the young and very talented American musician and composer Jake Heggie. Jake was in Australia for the Australian premier of his opera, *Dead Man Walking*.

The general response of the participants in their evaluation of the conference was "great." There were criticisms of course, but some beyond our control. It is a World Conference and the Academic Committee wanted that to be reflected in the program. The abstracts were judged on their content. It is impossible to judge how a paper will be presented and inevitably some people will be difficult to understand; however, those who persevered were able to learn much from our colleagues who were



HANDS ON Using snails, participants in this session learn to incorporate science content and the teaching of inquiry skills.



NETWORKING
Johanna Raffan, right, elected-delegate for the UK, exchanges ideas with a colleague at the conference dinner.



STUDENT INVOLVEMENT
Interwoven throughout the five-day conference were student performances, demonstrations, and exhibits; the Immanuel College Chamber Group entertains during lunch.

brave enough to present their work in English.

Unfortunately, it was impossible for the committee to ensure that every presenter would turn up at the appointed time and place with such a large program, which occurred on a number of occasions and attendees were disappointed. The committee apologizes for the inconvenience.

We were fortunate to have a very strong and varied group of featured speakers. These included Michael O'Boyle, Miraca Gross, and Paul Jewel from Australia; François Gagné from Canada; June Maker from USA; Franz Mönks from the Netherlands; and Tim Dracup from the UK.

All presenters were invited to contribute a paper for the conference CD. Approximately 100 of the 300 did so. We wanted to ensure that participants could take the CD home with them while the information was fresh and new. This meant that the papers could not be edited or peer reviewed. A few latecomers and two of the keynote addresses are now on the website as well.

I would particularly like to compliment the students who took a very active part throughout the conference. We were delighted by the varied performances during the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. We were entertained by an award-winning cartoon video, individual student performers took to the stage like seasoned veterans, and even the little gymnasts from the local Special Interest Primary School put on a remarkable show. Our one big regret was not being able to include students from other Australian states or overseas. In many ways it was an advantage having the conference during term time, but it did limit the number of people who were available to help or supervise. We also regret that we had to cancel the International Youth Forum during the SARS scare.

The Closing Ceremony seemed to come around so quickly. It was the culmination of 5 days of hard work, friendships made, ideas exchanged, new information learned, and fun. The challenge has now been handed on to Bob Seney and his committee as they prepare for the next conference in New Orleans, USA. The Local Conference Committee of the 15th World Conference hopes that they enjoy a similar sense of challenge, enjoyment, and satisfaction as they prepare for August 2005.

Finally, I would like to thank our sponsors: The South Australian Department of Education and Children's Services, Flinders University of South Australia, Catholic Education, South Australia, Wilderness School, The Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted, ETSA Utilities, Satisfac Credit Union and QANTAS Airlines. ■

World Council Awards Presented at Conference

Barbara Clark and E. Paul Torrance named 2003 recipients

Prior to each Biennial World Conference, members are invited to nominate individuals for World Council awards. Nominations are reviewed by the Awards Committee with final selections determined by a vote of the Executive Committee. The 2003 awards were presented during the World Conference in Adelaide.

Distinguished Service Award—Barbara Clark

Outstanding contribution to gifted education as reflected in service to the World Council and the furtherance of its purpose over 10 years or more.

Barbara Clark, Professor Emeritus, California State University at Los Angeles, has been an advocate and tireless worker for the World Council since 1987. In 2001, the Barbara Clark Scholarship Fund was created to commemorate her years of dedication to the World Council (see article on page 9).

Renowned worldwide by parents and educators for her classic book *Growing Up Gifted*, now in its 6th revision, Dr. Clark has held numerous World Council elected positions: US delegate for 6 years, vice-president for 4 years, and president for 4 years. Among her many accomplishments for the World Council, she was instrumental, as chair, in revising the Bylaws and Policies, expanded the presence of the World Council at local and national conferences, promoted the addition of affiliated organizations, proposed and developed the International Creativity Award, and established a new format for biennial conferences by revising and expanding the *World Council Conference Planning Guide*.

As president, she oversaw the transition of the headquarters office from the Belin Center in Iowa City, Iowa to Los Angeles, California, the development of an infrastructure for the organization, the reestablishment of the journal from Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana to the University of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. During her presidency she also took on the job of editor of the newsletter *World Gifted* ensuring that 3 issues per year were delivered to members.

For the last 2 years Dr. Clark has served as distinguished advisor to the Executive Committee—her experience, fiscal advice, and knowledge of the council's history has been of invaluable assistance in honing policies to ensure an enduring future for the World Council.

International Creativity Award—E. Paul Torrance

International recognition as a researcher in creativity; significant contribution in promoting creativity in education

E. Paul Torrance, Professor Emeritus, University of Georgia (UGA), Department of Educational Psychology, devoted his career to research in creativity. Author of dozens of books and over 2,000 articles, Torrance influenced researchers, teachers, and students worldwide. In 1997 Dr. Torrance was the recipient of the World Council A. Harry Passow Leadership Award.

His bold concept that determining real intelligence needed more than IQ tests led to the development of the Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking, which confirmed that creativity could be scaled and increased through practice. The test has been translated into over 50 languages. In 1974, Torrance developed the Future Problem Solving program—an academic activity for gifted students at Clarke Central High School in Athens, Ga. By 1977, the activities had grown into a year-long program with interscholastic competitions and became international in scope. Today, an estimated 300,000 students in grades K-12 in 41 states and several foreign countries participate in the futures studies and creative problem-solving activities.

E. Paul Torrance died July 12, 2003, but his legacy will continue—the Torrance Center for Creative Studies at the University of Georgia will continue his scholarly inquiry into the study, development, and evaluation of gifted and creative abilities in individuals from diverse age-groups, cultures, and economic backgrounds.

The World Council's International Creativity Award was accepted for Dr. Torrance by Bonnie Cramond, Professor of Educational Psychology and Director of UGA's Gifted and Creative Education Program.

Barbara Clark Scholarship Fund Realizes a Significant Boost

Proceeds from fund will assist members with conference expenses

Established in 2001, the Barbara Clark Scholarship Fund provides partial financial support to be used toward WCGTC World Conference expenses, such as registration fees, housing, or transportation for World Council members who could otherwise not attend. The fund is supported through cash contributions, 10% of dues from silver, gold, and platinum memberships, and from raffle and silent auction proceeds collected during the biennial World Conference.

During the 2003 conference, hundreds of items from individuals, publishers, foundations, and institutions—books, educational toys, arts, crafts, and items indigenous to various countries around the world—were auctioned and raffled for the fund resulting in an increase of over US\$4,500.

We wish to thank the donors for their generous contributions (see box). If you are interested in contributing to the Barbara Clark Scholarship Fund with a charitable donation or item for the 2005 raffle and silent auction, contact World Council Headquarters or visit www.worldgifted.org. If you wish to apply for a scholarship, application forms can be obtained from Headquarters as well as from the web. ■



**SILENT AUCTION
WINNER** Glenda Pearce from Northland, New Zealand had the winning bid for a "southern" basket of goodies donated by the Louisiana Convention and Tourist Bureau

ON DISPLAY Hundreds of donated items were available for the raffle and auction



BARBARA CLARK SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONORS

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Wu-Tien Wu, Taiwan ROC

MEETINGS

continued from 1

mittee, please contact the chair. Addresses are listed on page 2.

Improvement of Communication

With members in over 50 nations, communication is vital to the effectiveness of the council's efforts on behalf of gifted and talented youth. *World Gifted* and the World Council website provide news and other valuable resources; however to further improve communication, a realignment of regions to EC members has been implemented to ensure that EC updates are disseminated, and members' needs are met in a timely manner. See box.

Revision and Update of the Conference Guidelines Handbook

The *Biennial Conference Planning Guide* provides potential conference bidders with guidelines for hosting a World Conference. Included are feasibility issues to consider before deciding to bid, steps for developing a proposal, budget and program templates, and a list of criteria that will be used in evaluating and selecting a proposal. The handbook has been revised for clarity, expanded, and is now available from headquarters.

Expansion of Website Contents

Delegates requested that the website include many more resources and listings. Several new items have already been added by Web Administrator Dennis Freitas. This ongoing task needs input from all members. Send suggested additions to Headquarters at worldgt@earthlink.net.

Development of New Membership Options

In response to requests at the Delegates' meeting, two new membership options are being explored and discussed by the Executive Committee:

- 1) *Mentor Membership* to provide memberships for parents and colleagues who are unable to join or renew due to financial hardships.
- 2) *Organization Membership* to provide various fee structures for multiple memberships.

When approved, policies and procedures regarding these options will be posted on the website and in the next newsletter.

Search for GTI Editor and Permanent Headquarters Site

The World Council Executive Committee has

begun the search for a new editor for the World Council journal, *Gifted and Talented International*. The new editor would begin his or her work with the edition following the 2005 World Conference. In addition, a search is underway for a permanent World Council Headquarters site. The Los Angeles office staff will be finishing their tenure with the 2005 World Conference and it is important to have a new site ready to make the transition by that time. See page 3 for more information on how you can apply for either of these important positions.

Executive Committee Assigned New Country Contacts

To quickly receive and disseminate information, Executive Committee members have been reassigned countries for which they are responsible through the Delegates. Elected Delegates will be informed of activities and coming events by their EC contacts. It is the duty of Delegates to pass on this information to members in the country they represent. Members are also encouraged to contact their Delegates for information and to report news and events that can be published in the newsletter.

Sandra Kaplan
Bermuda, Jamaica, Mexico, USA

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Brazil, Nigeria, Portugal, South Africa, Sudan

Maria McCann
Australia, India, Indonesia, New Zealand, Philippines, Thailand

Edna McMillan
Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Peru, Spain

Den-Mo Tsai
China, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan ROC

Klaus Urban
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Taisir Subhi Yamin
Bahrain, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, UAE

World Council International Curriculum Project

Sandra Kaplan, Project Director



Introduction

The World Council Executive Committee has approved an international curriculum project that will allow teachers and students worldwide to become engaged in and contribute to the understanding of diverse cultures. The project will show the work done by teachers and students from several countries to carry out curriculum tasks from the point of view of the local culture. The World Council community will share the material produced.

Method

- Participants - Gifted students taught by members and elected delegates of the World Council are the participants in this project.
- Instruments - A set of curriculum tasks that illustrate the study of culture from the perspective of gifted students in different countries will be created for the use of the participants.
- Procedure - Each 6 weeks the same curriculum task will be sent to all teachers of the project participants. The teacher will develop a lesson to teach the curriculum task to the class. The teachers' lessons and students' work will be collected to provide examples of how different teachers teach each task and how different groups of gifted students respond to the curriculum.

Expected Outcomes

- The linking of gifted students, teachers of the gifted, and gifted programs is one of the major outcomes defined for the World Council International Curriculum Project.
- A gain in understanding of the impact of culture on a variety of curriculum tasks will be an important outcome.
- The final product from this project will be a compilation of the curriculum tasks, teachers' lessons, and students' work that will serve as the basis for a publication.
- It is anticipated that the publication will be made available at the New Orleans World Council Conference in 2005.

16th Biennial World Conference

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FOR UPDATED CONFERENCE INFORMATION AND CALL FOR PAPERS, VISIT WWW.WORLDTALENTED.ORG

Dr. E. Paul Torrance

October 8, 1915 – July 12, 2003



There is an ancient Chinese proverb that says, "Whenever you go to the well to fetch water, take a moment to say a prayer for the person who dug the well." Paul Torrance is indeed the person who dug the well when it comes to the development of creativity as a major goal of education in the United States and numerous overseas nations, and his work has had an inestimable impact on thousands of educators and millions of young people around the world.

~~Everything we know about creative productivity is a metaphor for Dr. Torrance's life work.~~ He wasn't afraid to challenge the system and in so doing he has truly set a standard as both one of the most innovative scholars in education and psychology, and as a great humanitarian who has improved the school lives of countless young people. Dr. Torrance's groundbreaking work on creativity assessment is a milestone in the history of psychology that parallels the work of other innovators such as Alfred Binet, David Wechsler, Lewis Terman, and only a handful of others whose names will be permanently chronicled in the archives of psychological science. When people study psychological assessment a hundred or even a thousand years from now, Dr. Torrance will stand among the giants of human assessment. And his vision for the International Future Problem Solving program points out his theories are paralleled by practical actions that put theory to work in very practical but consequential ways.

Dr. Torrance never gave up his dream of making the pursuit of creativity the right of every student and the responsibility of every teacher. There is more creativity in the world today because this innovative and persistent person had a dream and was willing to devote his life to realizing this dream for all of mankind. It is my very good fortune to be influenced by this remarkable and very kind person and to call him my friend. He is always in my thoughts and prayers because he is the person who dug the well.

Joseph S. Renzulli

"I'm very sad to hear that Paul Torrance has passed away. He was an inspiring, creative spirit who gave us all so much to ponder and reach for, and explore. His passion for understanding the nature of creativity—and applying this knowledge to help realize human potential—was most exceptional. Dr. Torrance will be dearly missed."

Todd Siler, USA

"I am so sorry about the death of Paul Torrance, a leader and teacher to all of us. We all owe him a lot and we must go on teaching and conveying creativity, thus making him unforgettable."

Erika Landau, Israel

"E. Paul Torrance was an eminent man. He has influenced creative thinking and thinking about creativity worldwide. His instruments for assessing creativity are well known all over the world and broadly used. Thanks to Paul Torrance's ideas many thousands, if not millions of children have received a better education, an education towards creative thinking and doing, open for change and ready for coping with the challenges of the future."

Klaus Urban, Germany

"Dear Dr. Torrance, You will always be in our hearts, we learned from you the importance of not being afraid of falling in love with something and pursuing it with intensity. You were a wonderful mentor and a great friend!"

Rosa Aurora & Ulises Rosa Aurora
Chávez, students, Mexico City

1999 and 2001 Biennial World Conference Proceedings

The World of Information Opportunities and Challenges for the Gifted and Talented

Proceedings of the 14th Biennial World Conference

Edited by Juan A. Alonso & Yolanda Benito

Barcelona Spain • July 31–August 4, 2001

576 pp, Online Download US\$5, CD ROM US\$15

With papers representing over 25 nations, this volume of proceedings provides a global view of practices, issues, and policies related to the gifted and talented. Divided into three sections, a variety of topics are discussed: definition and identification, social and emotional development, policies, programs, creativity, teacher training, and the present and future of gifted and talented education

Authors include:

Eunice Soriano de Alencar, Juan Alonso, Yolanda Benito, Jean Christian Brunault, Hsin-Jan Chang, Ho-Joung Choi, Christina Cupertino, Paule Eckhaus, Ivan Ferbezer, Denise de Souza Fleith, Paulo Braga Fernandes, Joan Freeman, Mary Carmen Galea, John Geake, Kay Gibson, Maria Conceição Gomes, Astrid Heinze, Miriam Hume, Myoung Hwan Kim, Erika Landau, Lynne Mackenzie-Sykes, Netta Maoz, Mercé Martinez, Ken McCluskey, Marsyl Bulkool Mettrau, Linda Mitchell, Jesus Moro, Carole Peters, Ainhoa Manzano, Sally Reis, Joseph Renzulli, Ann Robinson, Janet Saenz, Raquel Pardo de Santayana, Todd Siler, Rosemary Starr, Leopoldo Carreras Truño, Wilma Vialle, Wu-Tien Wu, Fei Xu, and others

Gifted Education— A Challenge for the New Millennium

Proceedings of the 13th Biennial World Conference

Compiled and edited by
Barbara Clark

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children
Istanbul Turkey • August 2–6, 1999

230 pp, CD ROM US\$8

Authors include:

Fusun Akarsu, Deniz Albayrak-Kaymak, Eunice M. L. Soriano de Alencar, Aysegul Ataman, Alexinia Y. Baldwin, Michael Breland, Eileen E. Cooper, Ümit Davasligil, Paule Eckhaus, Mary Carmen Galea, Tugba Gurcanlar, Patricia A. Haensly, Clare Henderson, Bruce E. Kline, Weichang Li, Lynne MacKenzie-Sykes, Ken W. McCluskey, Diane Montgomery, Bernadette M. Pierce, He Rui, Alper Sahin, Dorothy Sisk, Ming-Fu Tsai, Lorraine Wilgosh, Kuen-Shouh Wu, Chen Xiaping, Daheng Zhao, Xu Zuchun

Connecting the Gifted Community Worldwide

Proceedings of the 12th Biennial World Conference

Edited by Janice Leroux

Seattle Washington • August 2–6, 1999

319 pp, paperback US\$15

Limited copies of this classic edition are available.

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