



WorldGifted

Newsletter of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children
www.WorldGifted.ca

QUALITY MATTERS FOR GIFTED EDUCATION

Deborah Eyre
Director, NAGTY, University of Warwick
Executive Committee Member, WCGTC

As the English education agenda moves firmly towards securing *personalised learning* for every child, attention is becoming more firmly focused on how schools and colleges are meeting the needs of their gifted students.

The Education White Paper, published by government in October 2005, asked schools and colleges to identify their gifted cohort in order to produce a national register of gifted and talented students and to "tailor education to address the needs of the most gifted and talented."

This move to formalise the identification of, and provision for, the most able is one of the many signs of the government's dedication to providing a strong support framework for gifted and talented education.

Part of this framework includes a series of nationally recognised Quality Standards which have been developed jointly by government and the National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth (NAGTY).

The Quality Standards, which work at an institutional level, are a self-evaluation tool for schools and colleges, enabling them to pinpoint strengths and weaknesses in their provision for their gifted and talented pupils and allowing them to implement an action plan for overall improvement.

Using recommendations from experts in gifted and talented education alongside best practice from schools and colleges, the Quality Standards provide an in-depth analysis of provision via a framework that is designed to dovetail with whole school self-evaluation processes and to inform priorities in the School Improvement Plan. Outcomes can then be used as a vehicle for improving the quality of learning and teaching, whilst also securing

continued on page 6



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

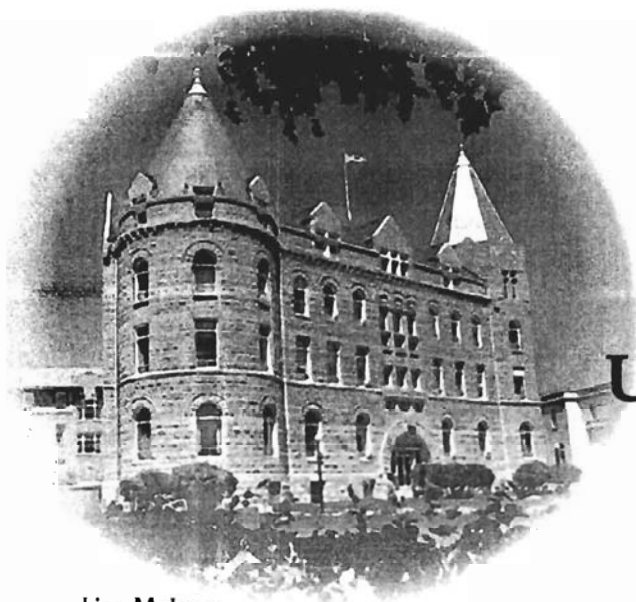
Den-Mo Tsai

It has been a long time since the 16th Biennial Conference in New Orleans. Hope you are all well and successful. I want to express my sincere appreciation to you all for being with us. It is because of your commitment to the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children that the organization continues to grow. Please allow me to report to you on the events of the past few months.

Our new Headquarters is now at the University of Winnipeg, Canada, with Lisa McLean as the Executive Administrator. I want to express my sincere appreciation for the strong support coming from the University of Winnipeg. Dr. Ken McCluskey, the Dean of Education, and Mike Bergsgaard (Education) have been very supportive of the operation of Headquarters. Also thanks to Karen Press for stepping in to help during an important period of time. With the support of Dr. McCluskey and his team and with the hard work of Lisa, the new Headquarters is operating successfully.

For many years our Headquarters was located in California. Sheila Madsen and Dennis Stevens made great contributions working as Executive Administrators, and Dennis Freitag, as the website master. (Many of us will remember their

continued on page 10



Lisa McLean
Executive Administrator
WCGTC

In this my first report from Headquarters, there are several people I need to thank for their assistance in the transition of Headquarters from California to Winnipeg, and in our first few months in Winnipeg.

- a. First, I would like to thank Barbara Clark and John Gould for so kindly taking on the last issue of the newsletter. This enabled us to focus on other matters when we were still getting the new Headquarters up and running. Thank you as well to John for all the time he took getting me oriented with the business of Headquarters, and especially for taking the time to fly here to Winnipeg to do so. I can't say enough how much I appreciated his help!
- b. Second, thank you to Janice Leroux for agreeing to be the guest editor for this issue of the newsletter. Janice is a longstanding WCGTC member and, as a former member of the Executive Committee of the WCGTC, held positions as both Vice-President and Treasurer. She is widely known in the gifted community, and indeed we are very grateful to have her working with us in this capacity.
- c. Finally, I want to thank Karen Press, who filled in for me so admirably during my absence in the fall. Karen had interviewed for the position as my maternity leave replacement to start November 2005. Unfortunately, I lost the baby just prior to my due date. Karen agreed to take the position anyway, even though it was for a shorter period than advertised, and made significant progress in setting up Headquarters during her time with us. My thanks as well to Den-Mo Tsai and the members of the Executive Committee, and to Ken

McCluskey and Mike Bergsgaard here at the University of Winnipeg for their patience and support during this difficult time.

Membership Renewal

In early 2006, we sent out notices to all those whose memberships expired during 2005, asking if they'd like to renew. If your membership expired and you haven't yet renewed, please do so as soon as possible.

To renew, simply tear off, or copy, the form on the back

UPDATE FROM HEADQUARTERS

page of the newsletter and return it to us with your payment. The cost of an annual membership has been held at \$50 (\$40 for graduate students) again for the next two years.

Conference 2009

The Executive Committee is currently evaluating bids from four countries to host the 18th Biennial Conference to be held in 2009. These countries are as follows: Canada, Korea, Singapore, and Thailand. We look forward to bringing you the result of this competition soon.

On-Line Newsletter

We're going on-line with the next issue of the newsletter (see also Den-Mo Tsai's "Message from the President")! In order to make this transition as smooth as possible, please ensure we have your current e-mail address. To do this, you can simply send me an e-mail at Headquarters and I'll confirm your e-mail address in our database. If you would prefer to continue to receive a hard copy of the newsletter, please fill out and return the form on page 11 to us. Thanks for your assistance in this regard!

I look forward to hearing from you with your questions, comments, reports on events, etc. Please contact me at:

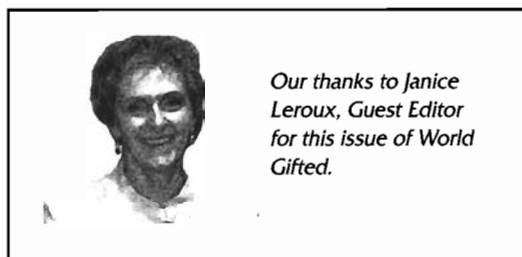
World Council Headquarters
c/o The University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3B 2E9

phone 204.789.1421
fax 204.783.1188

worldgt@uwinnipeg.ca
www.WorldGifted.ca



*Our thanks to Janice
Leroux, Guest Editor
for this issue of World
Gifted.*



COUNTDOWN TO WARWICK



Deborah Eyre
Director, NAGTY, University of Warwick
Executive Committee Member, WCGTC

Preparations are gathering pace for the 17th Biennial WCGTC Conference taking place from 5-10th August in England next year, organised by the National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth (NAGTY). We look forward to welcoming delegates from across the globe to share learning and

debate issues surrounding gifted and talented education.

The programme team is working hard to secure a programme which is both leading edge and truly international. Do also keep an eye out for the call for papers which will be issued by the end of August on the website. Additional features of this conference will be an International Youth Conference for students and a daily programme of activities for spouses and guests.

The Conference will be based in the heart of beautiful and historic Shakespeare country, using the University of Warwick's modern and spacious 500 acre campus with its Arts Centre, sports centre, cinema, and hotel facilities.

The campus itself enjoys easy transport links, with London a one hour train journey away and Birmingham International Airport 15 minutes. A range of accommodation will be available for this conference from 4* hotels to less expensive 2* rooms.

Conference delegates will be able to participate in a range of social activities including a medieval dinner at historic Warwick Castle and a performance from the internationally renowned Royal Shakespeare Company. Excursions will be organised to nearby Stratford Upon Avon, Warwick Castle, London, Birmingham, and National Trust Heritage centres.

We will be adding more information to the website as the organisation process continues. Do bookmark and visit <http://www.worldgifted2007.com/> to keep up-to-date with all the latest developments.

Looking forward to welcoming you to England in August 2007.

REPORTS ON EVENTS

It has always been our practice to highlight the experiences of our members who attend regional conferences. Please submit your report to our Headquarters after you attend any conference on issues relating to the gifted and talented, so that our readers may share your enjoyment and learning. Thank you. The Editor.

The 50th Anniversary Conference for Nebraska Association for the Gifted

Think Outside the Box was the theme for this year's Nebraska Association for the Gifted Conference held February 23-24 in Lincoln. The association's Golden Anniversary had keynote speakers Linda Silverman to educate attendees about our native daughter, Leta Stetter Hollingworth, and Bob Seney who stimulated the crowd to "Think Outside the Box." Other special guests were Allie Golon for the association's parent night, as well as Kathi Kearney and Willard White to speak about Leta Stetter Hollingworth.

Conference co-chair Sue Bauerly reported there were 350 attendees who came with interest to learn new strategies and ideas for providing a quality education to high-ability learners in Nebraska.

Jennifer Selting Bauer, President, Nebraska Association for the Gifted



The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

The World Council is a nonprofit international organization dedicated to the needs of gifted and talented children all over the world.

For more information, please contact us at World Council Headquarters:

c/o The University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3B 2E9

phone 204.789.1421
fax 204.783.1188
worldgt@uwinnipeg.ca
www.WorldGifted.ca

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

July 31–August 4, 2006

9th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness
Taipei, Taiwan
<http://APFgifted.spc.ntnu.edu.tw>

August 5–10, 2007

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children's 17th Biennial Conference
Warwick, England, United Kingdom
www.worldgifted2007.com



REVOLUTION IN GIFTED EDUCATION IN THE SUDAN

Omar Khaleefa, WCGTC Delegate, Sudan

In 2002, an ambitious project regarding the identification and promotion of gifted children was initiated in Khartoum, for the first time in the history of education and psychology in the Sudan. The project is named the "Al-Simbir Project" after the Sudan's famous Al-Simbir bird (the bird is a good omen, marking the arrival of autumn and the beginning of the planting season). We believe that the gifted children of this program are a good omen for our country, marking the birth of a new era in our educational history. The project is guided by international contemporary efforts in the field and by regional efforts, such as those of the Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented and the Jubilee School for gifted children in Jordan.

The program's first advanced workshop on identification and promotion of talented children took place in Khartoum from January 27 to February 3, 2003. It was attended by 43 teachers. Twelve theoretical and practical lectures covering different topics were delivered. The topics included how to identify gifted children, mathematical, visual and musical talent, characteristics of gifted children, enrichment programs for gifted children, and the role of the supportive family in promoting giftedness. As a result of this workshop, the first survey for identification of gifted children was carried out in Khartoum. Thirty gifted students were identified (21 females and 9 males). These children represent 6% of 480 children surveyed. The first summer enrichment program was held in Khartoum, from April 7 to May 7, 2003. Professors from the University of Khartoum presented on a variety of topics.

In the second year of the project, 2004, a group of 55 gifted children were identified, representing 5% of the total number of children in a private school in Khartoum. The survey depended on a matrix that included five parameters: IQ, creativity scores, academic achievement, checklists, and mathematics grades. The Sudanese matrices for the identification of gifted children is called the "Sudanese Power 350." The project was financially supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology, and the survey was conducted under the supervision of Salah Eldin Atta Alla, an enthusiastic Ph.D. student from the University of Khartoum. This 2004 survey identified an eight-year-old child prodigy in astronomy.

The second enrichment program for gifted children, on the theme of "promotion of multiple intelligences," was held from March 15 to April 4, 2004. Families of gifted

children were highly enthusiastic about the Al-Simbir Project, and they provided the financial and moral support for the summer enrichment program. Many gifted Sudanese people – in science, politics, poetry, criticism, and visual and musical arts – shared their rich experiences with the gifted children.

In 2005, the Ministry of Education in Khartoum State initiated a huge program for the identification and promotion of gifted children. A special workshop regarding gifted education in the Sudan was held under the auspices of the Minister of Science and Technology as well as the Minister of Education in Khartoum State. A consultant committee of the gifted program was organized, and it held a two-hour meeting each week for one year. The committee is headed by Mariam Omer, a teacher who has dedicated herself to the issue of gifted education in Sudan. Her role is, perhaps, similar to that of Hollingworth in the USA. A training workshop for teachers of the gifted was organized in Khartoum. In May 2005, Prof. Fathi Jarwan, the President of the Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented, designed and applied a comprehensive program for training of teachers of gifted children in Sudan. A careful indigenous enrichment program for the promotion of giftedness was designed by Sudanese educators and psychologists.

Some gifted teachers, counselors, and members of the consulting committee participated in the four regional conferences on gifted children which were held in Jordan in July 2005. A Sudanese child prodigy in geography, only four years and two months old, was identified in 2005. The child, together with his family, was invited by the President of the Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented to recite verses from the holy Koran in the opening ceremony of the regional conference of gifted children. Prof. Robert Sternberg gave a stimulating presentation regarding his fascinating theory of "successful intelligence." A group of 150 gifted children, both males (75) and females (75), were identified in Greater Khartoum. Three special schools for gifted children were established and opened in Khartoum in November 2005, supported financially by Khartoum State. Under my supervision, Madina Dosa, from Darfur region in the Western part of the country, endeavored to establish a gifted program in her city, Niyala. In future, the experiences of the new schools for gifted children will be applied in the rest of the country, following the evaluation of the first private and the government efforts in Khartoum.

GIFTEDNESS IN CANADA: A PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Michael C. Pyryt, University of Calgary
Delegate for Canada, WCGTC, mpyryt@ucalgary.ca

Canada is divided into ten provinces and three territories. In Canada, education at the primary and secondary levels is the responsibility of the provincial or territorial government. In contrast to the Chinese government, which spends \$50 billion to educate its gifted children, the Canadian federal government invests the equivalent of \$0 in the education of any of its gifted children. Given this lack of federal support and regulations, there is a great deal of variability in conceptions of giftedness, identification requirements, extent of programming services available, and accountability requirements. For example, a school jurisdiction might have a program for gifted students in grades four to nine, even though addressing the educational needs of gifted students is implicitly or explicitly part of provincial and territorial law.

Advocacy groups play a critical role in encouraging governments to enact legislative support of gifted students and encourage school jurisdictions to implement practices for gifted students that are consistent with government policy. The most important advocacy groups are parent associations such as the Action for Bright Children Society of Ontario. Teachers' organizations such as the Gifted and Talented Education Council (GTEC) of the Alberta Teachers' Association promote gifted education through publications such as *AGATE: Journal of the Gifted and Talented Education Council of the Alberta Teachers' Association*, the only journal dedicated solely to gifted education in Canada. The Centre for Gifted Education at the University of Calgary has an extensive collection of professional and instructional resources that support the use of evidence-based practices in gifted education. The Centre for Gifted Education has become a partner with the Alberta Associations for Bright Children (AABC) and GTEC in sponsoring an annual conference on gifted education called SAGE (Society for the Advancement of Gifted Education).

Although it's clear that gifted individuals do not constitute a homogeneous group, the diversity surrounding giftedness is enormous. Under the heading, "Special Populations," textbooks devote chapters that emphasize the unique needs of highly gifted, young gifted, gifted adolescents, gifted females, gifted males, culturally diverse gifted, gifted underachievers, gifted children with special needs, and gifted children in rural schools. These categories are not mutually exclusive. Canadian researchers have conducted important research regarding some of these special groups. Lupart and Cannon (2002) have begun an important longitudinal study to understand the factors that impact achievement and career choices of gifted adolescent males and females. Lupart and Pyryt (1996) have estimated that approximately 20% of gifted

students demonstrate a substantial discrepancy between their aptitude and academic achievement. Canadian researchers have also focused on gifted students with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (McCluskey & McCluskey, 2003) and learning disabilities (Lupart, 1990; Yewchuk, 1984). McCluskey and colleagues have studied a wide variety of gifted students at risk (McCluskey, Baker, O'Hagan, & Treffinger, 1995).

One challenge in Canada is the general lack of additional teacher certification requirements for teachers of the gifted. Many classroom teachers lack the skills to differentiate instruction for gifted students since coursework in gifted education, if available, is not required of teacher training programs. The typical preparation in fifteen universities across Canada regarding gifted education coursework in teacher education preparation programs was a module in gifted education as part of an introductory special education course (Leroux, 2000). Effective teachers of the gifted need specialized knowledge related to curriculum differentiation and sensitivity to the affective needs of gifted students (Croft, 2003; Feldhusen, 1997; Frank 2003; Hansen & Feldhusen, 1994).

References

- Croft, L. J. (2003). Teachers of the gifted: Gifted teachers. In N. Colangelo & G. A. Davis (Eds.), *Handbook of gifted education* (3rd ed., pp. 558-571). Needham Heights, MA: Allyn and Bacon.
- Feldhusen, J. F. (1997). Educating teachers to work with talented youth. N. Colangelo & G. A. Davis (Eds.), *Handbook of gifted education* (2nd ed., pp. 547-552). Needham Heights, MA: Allyn and Bacon.
- Frank, J. (2003). Teachers of the gifted: A literature review. *AGATE*, 16(1), 17-31.
- Hansen, J.B., & Feldhusen, J.F. (1994). Comparison of trained and untrained teachers of the gifted. *Gifted Child Quarterly*, 38, 115-123.
- Leroux, J. (2000). A study of the education of high ability students in Canada. In K. A. Heller, F. J. Möns, R. J. Sternberg, & R. F. Subotnik (Eds.), *International handbook of giftedness and talent* (pp. 695-702). Oxford, UK: Elsevier.
- Lupart, J. L. (1990). An in-depth assessment model for gifted/learning disabled students. *Canadian Journal of Special Education*, 6, 79-87.
- Lupart, J. L., & Cannon, M. E. (2002). Computers and career choices: Gender differences in Grades 7 and 10. *Gender, Technology, and Development*, 6, 233-248.
- Lupart, J. L., & Pyryt, M. C. (1996). "Hidden gifted" students: Underachiever prevalence and profiles. *Journal for the Education of the Gifted*, 20, 36-53.
- McCluskey, K. W., Baker, P. A., O' Hagan, S. C., & Treffinger, D. J. (Eds.). (1995). *Lost prizes: Talent development and problem solving with at-risk students*. Sarasota, FL: Center for Creative Learning.
- McCluskey, K. W., & McCluskey, A. L. A. (2003). ADHD: Disorder or gift? *AGATE (Journal of the Gifted and Talented Education Council of the Alberta Teachers' Association)*, 16(1), 32-42.
- Yewchuk, C. R. (1984). Learning disabilities among gifted children. *Special Education in Canada*, 58, 95-96.

Quality Matters

continued from page 1

personalised education for gifted and talented students.

Designed to reflect the national consensus on what schools and colleges should be aiming to achieve for their gifted and talented students, the Standards have been aimed at school/college expert teachers in gifted and talented education, gifted and talented co-ordinators, and Head teachers/principals, also allowing for engagement by subject managers and classroom teachers.

The purpose of the Standards is to assure at least a baseline of provision (i.e., 'Entry' level) and is set to encompass the needs of the gifted and talented in education across the country.

The Standards have been divided into three separate levels:

- **Entry:** This indicates a baseline standard of practice, with scope for continuous improvement.
- **Developing:** This indicates that the school is effective in meeting pupils' needs and has scope within its practice for reinforcement, development, and further improvement.
- **Exemplary:** This indicates exceptional and sustained practice with the scope for dissemination beyond the school/college and for continuous improvement as best practice evolves nationally.

Each Institutional Quality Standard is structured around five key headings (which are the components of personalised learning): (i) Effective teaching and learning strategies (ii) Enabling curriculum entitlement and choice (iii) Assessment for learning (iv) School organisation (v) Strong partnership beyond the school.

It is expected that schools may well find they have achieved different levels in different aspects of their gifted and talented provision. For example, when institutions

evaluate their practice, they may find they are very good at identification of their gifted and talented pupils, but less good at ensuring effective provision for their talented pupils. Using the Institutional Quality Standard as a tool for whole school evaluation, schools and colleges can develop areas they wish to focus on over the next academic period. It is possible to progress through the Standards, ensuring good baseline provision across the board ('Entry' level) or to work on specific areas in more detail at Developing and Exemplary levels.

The Quality Standards have been designed to provide clear outcome measures, to help develop action plans, and highlight continuing professional development requirements in order to drive forward whole school improvement in gifted and talented education. This sits comfortably alongside the government's drive to ensure that every teacher is able to tailor provision to each individual student.

This aspect of national level strategy is central to the work that NAGTY undertakes on behalf of the government, and is a positive move towards embedding the English Model for gifted education in all schools and colleges countrywide. Early adoption of the Institutional Quality Standards is currently being undertaken by two major groups of English schools nationwide.

The Quality Standards are due to be introduced to larger groups of schools as the year progresses and will continue to be re-assessed and developed as best practice and expert advice are gathered. NAGTY is now playing a key role in developing approaches to assist with the national roll-out of the Standards.

A useful PowerPoint presentation on the Quality Standards, together with full details of the Quality Standards, can be found on the NAGTY website at:

www.nagty.ac.uk/professional_academy/special_projects/quality_standards.



Deborah Eyre, far right, with the other members of the Executive Committee at the 16th Biennial Conference last summer in New Orleans

JOHN GOULD: PRESIDENT'S AWARD 2005

Barbara Clark

Past President, WCGTC

The transition from the Los Angeles Headquarter Office of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children was to take place soon after the end of the World Council Conference in New Orleans, in the fall of 2005. The 8-year tenure of the Executive Administrator, Sheila Madsen and the Finance Officer, Dennis Stevens was to be completed and the move was to be made at the beginning of the new presidency of Den-Mo Tsai of Taiwan. However, quite suddenly these plans changed. A very aggressive cancer took Sheila and left Dennis unable to continue alone. As the Immediate Past President and the only member of the organization that was in the area, it fell to me to find a way to bridge the gap between March and the planned move to Canada in the fall. It was then that I met the super-hero who was to save the day for the organization and for the conference, John Gould.

I had known John casually from previous World Council conferences when he worked with Headquarters to staff exhibit booths and generally provide support for our

Headquarters operations. John and his family were very close friends of Sheila and he had stepped in to provide extra help to the office in the past as needed. Now I was to learn a great deal more of his abilities and amazing talents. John operates a business of his own that publishes and distributes educational books and materials. He helps organize conferences and has connections to writers, printers, distributors, and others who are involved with successful businesses.

At the first sign of problems, John set aside his affairs and began filling in to ensure that the World Council continued to operate efficiently. As it became apparent that an immediate shift in control of the Headquarters was necessary, I turned to John. He assumed the duties seamlessly and with unbounded energy took over the operations of the organization. There were pressures from the conference, from membership, and the myriad daily tasks of an international organization. John managed them all. There were long hours each day filled with finding a designer for the conference program and the newsletter, registering and responding to those who were planning

to attend the conference, working with the hotel, the exhibitors, the speakers, and all the other matters that the Headquarters needed to accomplish. In addition were the transition tasks, from the former Headquarters administration to the interim administration to the coming Canadian Headquarters. Banking, organizing, packing, finalizing, all while making sure the conference moved ahead. Many of us helped, but John was the center, the connector that made it work.



John Gould (left) receives his award from then President Klaus Urban

While the months before the conference were over-full, the days of the conference were non-stop for John. All of the normal problems that the organization Headquarters would expect were magnified by the abrupt manner in which the interim Headquarters had had to prepare, and the lack of history with World Council Conference administration. He handled problems competently and even cheerfully. He provided the Executive Board and the President

with the support and data they needed to complete their responsibilities. He finalized the fiscal and logistic matters with the hotel. He greeted and welcomed the participants, managing their concerns graciously and with expertise that met their needs.

The new Canadian Headquarters is now in operation. In October 2005, John flew to Winnipeg to make sure the staff there had a good overview of what had come before, and the procedures and the organization that had been previously used. He wished them well and made sure that they knew they could call upon him if he was needed. John recently married and is back running his own business with new projects and creative plans for the future. Now, as the World Council begins a new era with a new Headquarters staff, let us pause to reflect on just a moment in time when we participated in a miracle. A time when a man named John Gould contributed importantly to the welfare of our organization and, as a result, became one of the Presidential Award recipients and a true super-hero in our day.

9TH ASIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON GIFTEDNESS

Ching-chih Kuo

Chairperson, Organizing Committee, 9th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness

Vice-President, Asia-Pacific Federation of the WCGTC

kaykuo@ntnu.edu.tw



It is a great pleasure for me to have the opportunity to announce the 9th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness, which is scheduled to take place in Taipei from July 31 to August 4, 2006. The theme of the Conference is "Beyond Equality and Diversity." During the Conference, we will probe into methods to stimulate the gifted to be creative and socially active, as well as looking at solutions to assist groups from diverse cultures to uncover and develop their capabilities.

This 9th APCG encompasses two parts, the main Conference at the Grand Hotel and the Children and Youth Creativity Olympia Camp at Chien Tan Overseas Youth Activity Center. Programs at the Conference include a variety of activities, such as keynote and invited speeches, symposia, paper/poster presentations, teachers/parents forums, round table discussions, school/cultural visits, social activities, and an optional post-conference tour.

Prof. Howard Gardner, Prof. Enid Zimmerman, Prof. Ovid J. L. Tzeng, Prof. Robert Fisher, and Dr. Linda Silverman are invited to delivery keynote addresses, while other well-known scholars are also invited to deliver invited speeches or workshops, including: Dr.

Seokhee Cho, Prof. June Maker, Dr. Belle Wallace, Prof. Ellen Winner, Prof. Den-Mo Tsai, Dr. Maria McCann, Dr. Usanee Anuruthwong, Prof. He Shuman, and Dr. Alexandra Golon. During the Conference, there will also be a special award for Prof. Wu-tien Wu, who has made a great contribution to the international academic exchanges in gifted education. Topics of the keynote addresses are:

Prof. Howard Gardner—A Multiple Intelligences Approach to Human Gifts and Talents

Prof. Enid Zimmerman—Current Issues in the Education of Talented Art Students

Prof. Ovid J. L. Tzeng—From Gene to Culture: Seeking Balance between Linguistic Universality and Disparity

Prof. Robert Fisher—Creative Minds: Educating Creative Future

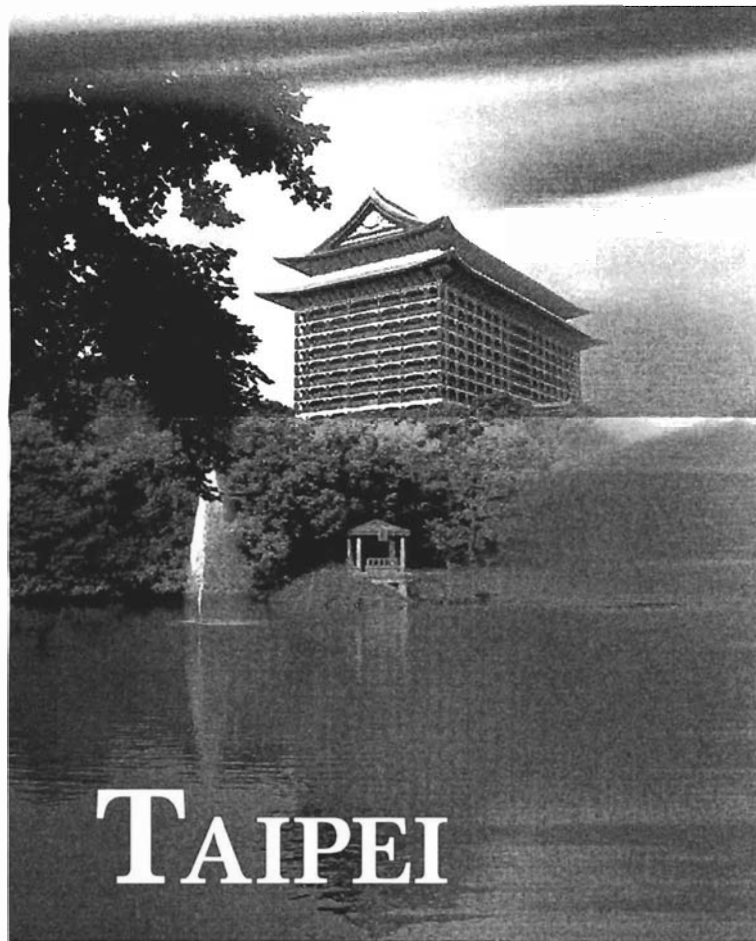
Dr. Linda Silverman—The Emotional Development of Gifted Children.

Regarding the Children and Youth Creativity Olympia Camp, "Imagination, Ingenuity, and Innovation" is the main focus. The program for the Camp includes keynote/invited speeches, courses, group activities, cultural visits, social activities, and a campfire party. Prof. Howard Gardner and Prof. Jing-ji Wu will be honorary keynote speakers. During the Camp, we aim to cultivate the creative, problem-solving, and communication abilities of gifted students, and provide opportunities to further students' development by learning from each other.

We encourage all professors, teachers, parents, and students to come to join our meeting,

and to have further discussion on the relevant issues and an enjoyable stay in Taipei. For detailed information, please visit our website at: APFgifted.spc.ntnu.edu.tw; or please contact the Conference Secretariat by phone: 886-2-23419492 or 886-2-23631734 ext. 339, 314, 330 or via e-mail: 9thapcg@deps.ntnu.edu.tw.

We look forward to meeting you at the Conference this summer in Taipei.



YOUR WORLD COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

In an effort to familiarize you with the members of our Executive Committee, we will be featuring the biographies of members of the Executive in each issue. This issue we start with our President, Prof. Den-Mo Tsai, and the newest member of the Executive, Prof. Deborah Eyre.

Professor Den-Mo Tsai

Professor Den-Mo Tsai is a professor in the Department of Special Education at National Kaohsiung Normal University and Principal of the Affiliated Senior High School of Kaohsiung Normal University in Taiwan, and was formerly the Chairman of the Department of Special Education and the Dean of General Affairs at National Kaohsiung Normal University. He has also been the President of the Special Education Association in Taiwan. Den-Mo earned his doctorate from Professor Joseph S. Renzulli, Director of the National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented at the University of Connecticut, U.S.A.

Den-Mo's publications include over 100 articles in Chinese or English journals as well as two popular books in Chinese: *Help Your Child Exceed and Help Your Child Reverse from Failure*. He is frequently invited to give lectures and consultations to educators and parents of gifted children and is always willing to help.

Den-Mo's commitment to the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children started in 1993 with the 10th World Conference in Toronto, Canada. Since then, as part of Taiwan's group, he has participated and presented papers at each World Conference. From 1999-2003, Den-Mo served the WCGTC as one of the Executive Committee members and Chair of the Awards Committee. From 2003-2005, Den-Mo was Vice-President of the WCGTC. He has been the current president since 2005. His term as president will last until 2009.

Den-Mo has demonstrated his commitment to serve the WCGTC by spending a lot of time working

for the WC, by recruiting conference participants, by traveling at his own cost to attend the EC meetings, by recruiting donations, and by giving donations himself. He values the development of our gifted world and loves continuing his service.

Professor Deborah Eyre

Professor Deborah Eyre is the Director of the National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth (NAGTY). The Academy, created by government in 2002 and based at the University of Warwick, England, has a mandate to lead improvements in education for gifted and talented children up to the age of 19 years.

An ex-teacher, Local Authority advisor and university academic, her current role combines advising and shaping the gifted dimension of national education initiatives, as well as directing NAGTY's work with schools, students and parents.

Deborah has had a long-standing interest in the education of able/gifted pupils and has worked in this field for over twenty-five years. She is a leading academic researcher with a particular interest in classroom pedagogy for gifted and talented children. Her academic work includes models for helping teachers improve their practice in schools (Structured Tinkering) and for integrating gifted education into general education structures (The English Model). She is the author of many books and articles, including the seminal text *Able Children in Ordinary Schools*, a guidance handbook for teachers and headteachers.

Before being appointed NAGTY Director, she established the Oxford Brookes Research Centre for Able Pupils, designed the government's National Training Programme for Co-ordinators of Gifted and Talented Pupils in urban schools (EiC), and served as a specialist advisor to the UK Parliament Education Select Committee.

Deborah is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, a Professor of Education at the University of Warwick, and a Trustee of the National Primary Trust.

WORLD COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Den-Mo Tsai, President
Kaohsiung Normal University
Department of Special Education
116 Ho-Ping 1st Rd.
Kaohsiung 802, Taiwan
denmo@nknuc.nknu.edu.tw

Maria McCann, Vice-President
School of Education, Flinders
University of South Australia
GPO Box 2100
Adelaide 5001, Australia
Maria.McCann@flinders.edu.au

Talsir Subhl Yamln, Secretary
College of Graduate Studies
Giftedness and Talent
P.O. Box 26671, Manama, Bahrain
talsir@rocketmail.com
or talsir@yahoo.com

Edna McMillan, Treasurer
Stoney Creek, Ontario
Canada L8E 3M6
ednamcmillan@hotmail.com

Shirley Kokot, Member
Faculty of Education
University of South Africa
PO Box 92
Pretoria, 0003 South Africa
kokotsj@unisa.ac.za

Sandra Kaplan, Member
University of Southern California
School of Education
Waite/Phillips Hall 1004
Los Angeles CA 90089-0031 USA
snk6@aol.com

Deborah Eyre, Member
The National Academy for Gifted
and Talented Youth
The University of Warwick
Coventry, West Midlands
United Kingdom CV4 7AL
Deborah.Eyre@warwick.ac.uk

President's Message

continued from page 1

work.) I want to express my sincere appreciation to John Gould who played a critical role in the successful transition of the Headquarters from California to Winnipeg. When Sheila sadly passed away, John Gould stepped in and helped out with the operation of Headquarters. After the New Orleans Conference, John hunted down missing records, boxes and materials, and shipped everything to Winnipeg. He also flew to Winnipeg and stayed there for a few days to help with the transition. We are grateful that John stepped in at this critical time.

Our journal *Gifted and Talented International* now has Dr. Maria McCann as the new editor. The costs of printing and publishing the first issue edited by Dr. McCann were covered by Flinders University, Adelaide, South Australia. I would like to extend my thanks to Dr. McCann for her hard work, to all of the authors who contributed papers, and to all the scholars on the editorial review board. And a special thanks for the tremendous support from Flinders University. I also want to express my sincere appreciation to Dr. Joyce van Tassel-Baska for her seven years of professional work as the former editor. To all members of the WCGTC,

I encourage you to submit your papers for publication in our journal.

Recently, the Executive Committee decided to have the newsletter go "on-line." Benefits of an on-line newsletter include that it is easily accessible, cost effective, and that it has the potential to be a more effective means of communication between members. On the other hand, we recognize that some members may not have convenient access to the internet. If you would still prefer to receive a hard copy of the newsletter, please fill out the form on page 11 and return it to Headquarters. We would appreciate your response so we can serve you better.

On April 14, 2006, the Seoul Office for Gifted Education Programs was opened. The official title of the office is: World Council for Gifted and Talented Children Seoul Office for Gifted Education Training/Gifted Children Program. I made a speech during the opening ceremony on behalf of the WC. After the ceremony, there was a symposium for gifted children organized by the Seoul Office in which many educators and parents participated. The Seoul Office will work together with the WCGTC to implement teacher training workshops and programs for gifted students. The opening of the Seoul Office is a milestone for the WCGTC and the

development of gifted education in Korea. I personally want to express my sincere appreciation to those who have made the project a reality. Thank you to Dr. Chris Yoon and Dr. Suk-Un Jin, the Co-Directors of the Office, for their commitment to serving the WCGTC, for establishing this office, and for ensuring that it is run successfully. Thank you to Dr. Barbara Clark, Dr. Klaus Urban, and all of the Executive Committee members, as it is with their support and approval that the Seoul Office has opened. And, finally, thanks to Konkuk University and Choog-Kook Lee, as with their support the Seoul Office has a home. In the future, we would hope to see more training programs of this nature, (i.e., collaborations between the WCGTC and members in other countries).

The WCGTC is a nonprofit organization that belongs to you all. Please continue to give your support by enhancing the awareness of the special needs of gifted children, by renewing your memberships, by giving information on recent developments in gifted education in your region for the newsletter, by sending your research papers for the journal, by recruiting new members and by giving your thoughts to make this global organization better. Thank you all and I wish you the best.

MEMBERSHIP OPTION: SPONSOR MEMBER

Any member of the World Council may become a Sponsor Member by providing the membership fee for an individual who is financially unable to pay the fee, but who could benefit from a membership in the World Council. The benefiting member may be selected by the member, or at the request of the member, by the WC Membership Committee from applicants for sponsorship.

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.

We continue to invite all members to contribute! Please report on anything that you think would interest other members, such as events or initiatives in your area or country, news about regional organizations, profiles of individual members, or announcements of upcoming events.

Please forward your submissions to World Council Headquarters c/o The University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg MB Canada R3B 2E9.

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. It is published twice a year. Prospective authors are requested to submit manuscripts or queries to:

Maria McCann, Editor
School of Education, Flinders University of South Australia
GPO Box 2100, Adelaide 5001, Australia
Maria.McCann@flinders.edu.au

WORLD COUNCIL RECEIVES DONATIONS

The World Council is pleased to acknowledge the following donors who have made generous contributions to the work of our organization in 2006:

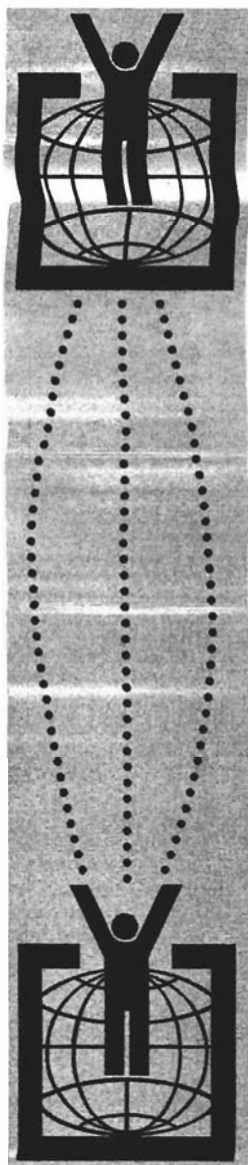
Dr. Den-Mo Tsai
Mr. Chien-Hua Chang
Mr. Rong-Chun Chuang
Mr. Ming-Tyan Jwo
Mr. Chi-Sheng Lee
Mr. Kao-Hung Lin.

We thank each of you for your support of the World Council. Your gifts lay the foundation for the World Council's future programs, with the goal of improving the communication and collaboration between those interested in gifted children around the world. Together we work toward the ultimate goal of making positive contributions to the lives of gifted and talented children everywhere.

Silver and Gold Memberships

We encourage you to consider renewing your membership in one of the following categories and also to contact community members and leaders, businesses, and organizations who are interested in supporting gifted education. The additional contributions help ensure ongoing member services. Ten percent of these special category fees are contributed to the Barbara Clark Scholarship Fund. These funds assist educators and gifted youth with registration and travel expenses for World Conference attendance.

Silver	1-year US\$100	2-year US\$190
Gold	1-year US\$250	2-year US\$475
Platinum	1-year US\$500	2-year US\$950
Lifetime Membership	US\$1250	



WORLD GIFTED IS GOING ON-LINE!

Starting with the next issue, the newsletter *World Gifted* will be available on-line.

To ensure you receive it, please make sure that we have your current e-mail address. You may do so simply by sending an e-mail to Headquarters at: worldgt@uwinnipeg.ca. We will confirm your e-mail address in our database.

When the next issue is available, you will receive an e-mail from Headquarters with a link to the newsletter as well as the user name and password you will need to access it.

Still prefer to receive a hard copy of the newsletter?

Please fill out the form below and return it to Headquarters by fax or mail at:

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children
c/o The University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3B 2E9

fax 204.783.1188

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

Newsletter *World Gifted*

I would like to continue to receive the newsletter *World Gifted* in hard copy.

Please continue to send the newsletter to me at:

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Initial _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Country _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

We look forward to hearing from you and welcome your comments below.

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail your completed form with payment, in U.S. funds only, to:
World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, c/o The University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3B 2E9 Or fax to: 204.783.1188

If you are sponsoring a membership, please give the contact information for the person you are sponsoring.

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Initial _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Country _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Tel (work) _____ Tel (home) _____ Fax _____

e-mail _____

Name of person who referred you to the WCGTC _____

Membership category (All members receive subscriptions to the journal *Gifted and Talented International* and the newsletter *World Gifted*.)

☐ 1-year individual (US\$50) ☐ 2-year individual (US\$95) ☐ 1-year full-time graduate student (US\$40).
Graduate student members must provide their advisor's signature.

Advisor's Name/University _____ Signature _____

☐ *Gifted and Talented International* subscription only (2 issues/year – no membership) (US\$40)

Or, choose one of the following categories. Your additional contribution helps support the ongoing work of the WCGTC. Ten per cent of these membership fees go to the Barbara Clark Scholarship Fund.

☐ 1-year Silver (US\$100) ☐ 2-year Silver (US\$190) ☐ 1-year Gold (US\$250) ☐ 2-year Gold (US\$475)
☐ 1-year Platinum (US\$500) ☐ 2-year Platinum (US\$950) ☐ Lifetime membership (US\$1250)

.....



World Gifted

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, Inc.
c/o The University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3B 2E9

Who are you? (Circle all that apply. If you are sponsoring a membership, please reflect the role of the person being sponsored.)

Professor Educator Researcher Counselor
Psychologist Consultant Parent
Other _____

Special Interests _____

Sponsor (if applicable)

Sponsor name: _____

Sponsor is WCGTC member? Yes/No

Sponsor phone number _____

Sponsor e-mail address _____

Payment

Amount \$ _____

☐ Check/bank draft/money order (payable to WCGTC, US funds only)

Credit card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard (Choose one)

Card number _____

Expiry date _____

Name of cardholder _____

Signature _____

☐ Please keep my credit card information on file and bill me \$50 each year for my annual membership fee. I can stop payments at any time by contacting the WCGTC Headquarters.

World Gifted is going on-line!

If you would still prefer to receive a hard copy of the newsletter, please fill out and return the form on page 11 to Headquarters.