

International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology

www.iaccp.org/drupal/conf\_sponsored

Search

Log in

**IACCP** International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology

Search

Home  
Recent posts

**The Association**  
About IACCP  
Membership  
Executive Council  
Awards

**Conferences**  
About IACCP  
Conferences  
IACCP

**Sponsored**  
Non-IACCP  
Witkin-Okonji Award  
Application

**Publications**  
JCCP  
Bulletin  
eBooks, Online  
Resources  
Congress books

**Active**  
**Caribbean Regional Conference of Psychology**  
15-18 November, 2011  
Nassau, Bahamas

**Completed**  
**International Conference on Becoming a European: Cultural Adaptation and Culture Learning of Erasmus Program Exchange Students**  
Warsaw, Poland

**Southeast European Regional Conference of Psychology (SEERCP2009)**  
Sofia, Bulgaria

Erasmus Conference - Central European (ISO)

File Edit View Tools Message Help

Reply Reply All Forward Print Delete Previous Next Addresses

This message is High Priority.

**From:** Pawel Boski  
**Date:** Πορσρσρσρσρ, 17 Οκτσρσρσρσρ 2008 2:11 μσρ  
**To:** Heidi Keller; David Sam; IACCP2008; martafutop@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Erasmus Conference  
**Attach:** [FIRSTannouncement\\_ERASMUS.doc \(56,4 KB\)](#)

Dear President and European EC Members,  
Attached is the First announcement for the conference whose project you discussed some weeks ago. I wish to thank you for the positive decision, so it becomes an IACCP event. I have sent it out to Bill for further distribution.

You are on the list of the scientific committee and we would be searching your advice. I hope, you will find time and interest to be active participants of this event too. We all have experience with international students, don't we?

I will keep you informed of any further development. Please do not hesitate to contact me/us as well. Conference mail-address and website will be opened shortly.

Thank you,  
Pawel

**International Conference  
on  
Becoming a European:  
Cultural adaptation and culture learning  
of Erasmus Program exchange students**

**[Program mission, research findings and applications  
of inter-cultural psychology]**

**Warsaw, September 25 - 27, 2009**

First Announcement and First Call for Papers

## **Organizers:**

- Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities
- Foundation for the Development of Educational System
- International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology

## **Committees**

### **A. Honorary Committee:**

- Representative of the European Commission (to be announced later)
- Director Beata Skibińska, Polish National Coordinator of Erasmus Program
- Minister Barbara Kudrycka, Government of Poland
- Prof. Heidi Keller, President IACCP
- Prof. Andrzej Elias, Rector Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities

### **B. Scientific Committee:**

- Prof. Paweł Boski, Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities
- Prof. Colleen Ward, University of Wellington, New Zealand
- Prof. Jan Pieter van Oudenhoven, University of Groningen, Netherlands
- Prof. Halina Grzymała-Moszczyńska, University of Krakow
- Prof. Mohamed Lahlou, Université-Lumière, Lyon
- Prof. Marta Fülöp, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, IACCP Deputy Secretary General
- Dr. David Sam, University of Bergen, Europe Regional Representative IACCP
- Dr. Kostas Mylonas, University of Athens, Europe Regional Representative IACCP

### **C. Local Organizing Committee:**

- Mrs Beata Skibińska, head. Foundation for the Development of Education

At the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities:

- Prof. Paweł Boski
- Prof. Anna Kwiatkowska
- Monika Biłas-Henne, Ph.D. candidate
- Karolina Mazurowska, Ph.D. candidate
- Joanna Więckowska, Ph.D. candidate
- Ela Kielak, MA, Erasmus Coordinator, Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities

### **Background and Rationale:**

International students are one of the largest and fastest growing categories in the global mobility of the world today. Technically called sojourners, they are among migrants undergoing psycho-cultural adaptation. In Europe alone, over 1,5 mln. students have participated in Erasmus exchange program over its 20 years of successful implementation; 150,000 last year only.

Although the official aim of **E**uropean **R**egion **A**ction **S**cheme for the **M**obility of **U**niversity **S**tudents is to “encourage and support [academic mobility](#) of [higher education](#) students and teachers within the European Union”, we can give it less technical but more psycho-cultural sense. It can be defined as facilitation of creation of a new European identity among the youth from EU’s member states, through the process of academic and experiential culture learning as well as interpersonal bonding. This is a noble goal, carried by idealistic values but also very practical in terms of its implementation via the leading institutions of higher education.

After almost a quarter century of experience and fast growth, it is the time to ask the program evaluation questions: How well has the

reality of ERASMUS program met the goal for which it was created? What are the consequences of participation in the program for acquisition of cultural knowledge, better understanding, linguistic competence, cooperation, non-prejudicial and amiable relations among young Europeans? Have there been any impediments on the road to meet these objectives? How can the specialists of inter-cultural relations help in making the program even more effective and attractive?

These are the questions posed by cross-cultural psychologists to our colleagues: researchers and practitioners around Europe, and more broadly, around the world. To answer them we need an international conference, and hence our initiative.

### **Conference goals**

The conference has a triple goal:

- To examine the assumptions laid down for Erasmus by the program founders and possibly modified by the leaders of today. This is the question about philosophy and policies which we are addressing to European and national administrators and coordinators;
- What evidence emerges from empirical studies investigating participants' process of adaptation to the host cultures and learning outcomes measured in terms of new competencies, attitudes, etc?. Are there any phenomena which escaped imagination of the planners, and which have been discovered by the researchers? – These questions are directed to experts working in the domain of acculturation and intercultural psychology.
- Professional *know – how* in helping the process of psycho-cultural adaptation at individual, group, and institutional levels. What have intercultural psychologists done to facilitate the process? What kind of institutional innovations have been introduced at the level of receiving universities? As

organizers, we will provide a forum for discussion and information sharing about adaptation in the format of workshops, integration activities, and round table discussions. *Meet the- students- and -Work- with- them* sessions will be organized.

### **Conference Participants: "To whom it may concern"**

1. Erasmus central, country- and university level administrators/coordinators;
2. Research scientists in acculturation and intercultural contact;
3. Professional practitioners in the field of intercultural psychology; Erasmus students.

### **The venue and the organizing institution**

The conference will be hosted at The Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities (<http://www.swps.edu.pl>).

The School was established in 1996. The School takes pride for being of the best non-profit and non-public higher education institutions in Poland. According to various rankings and the opinion of University Accreditation Commission (a governmental accreditation body), we offer the best psychology program in Poland. It is also the largest, housing over 8,000 psychology students in three cities: Warsaw, Wrocław, and Gdańsk.

Many of the IACCP members still keep vivid memories of XV Congress of our association which was organized by the Warsaw School in Pultusk in 2000.

Since the academic year 2001/2002 Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities has participated in the **Erasmus Program**. Now it cooperates with 49 academic institutions within the European Union.

SWPS provides specialisations and courses in cross-cultural psychology, cross-cultural research programmes are conducted. Psycho-cultural adaptation workshops are organized for incoming and outgoing students and administrative staff as well as scientific research in the field of students mobility. Our motto at the Warsaw School is to integrate theoretically oriented research with applied psychology.

### **Dates and Tentative program:**

The date of the conference has been planned for the last week-end of September, just before a new academic year 2009/10. This will allow us to have uninterrupted access to all lecture halls at the School; at the same time a new batch of Erasmus students will be available for workshop demonstrations.

The conference is intended to be a three day event.

Day Zero: Participants arrive (September 24, Thursday)

Registration, evening reception

**Day One: IDEAS** (September 25, Friday)

General overview of the Erasmus Program and students mobility. Relevant theoretical perspectives to study the phenomena of international student cultural adaptation and learning.

Invited speakers:

- Mr Ralf Rahders, Head of the Erasmus, Jean Monnet Study Centres Unit, Executive Agency in Brussels
- Dr Paweł Poszytek, Head of the Life Long Learning Program, Foundation for the Development of Education, Warsaw
- Mrs Beata Skibińska, Head of the Erasmus Program, Foundation for the Development of Education, Warsaw
- Prof. Barbara Kudrycka, Minister of Science and Higher Education, Government of Poland;

- Prof. Heidi Keller, President of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology and Head of the Culture & Development Unit University of Osnabrück
- Prof. Paweł Boski, Warsaw School of Social Psychology
- Prof. Colleen Ward, University of Wellington.

**Day Two: Research FACTS (September 26, Saturday)**

Symposia, paper sessions and discussions about scientific studies on psycho-cultural adaptation process, culture learning and outcomes.

**Day Three: APPLICATIONS (September 27, Sunday)**

Presentation of workshops for Erasmus coordinators, orientation and adaptation programmes for students.

**Abstract Submission:**

Interested researchers in inter-/cross-cultural psychology and professional practitioners in the field of psycho-cultural adaptation are invited to submit their proposals for: symposia, workshops, panel discussions individual paper contributions, and posters. Symposia (group submissions), based on pre-organized research programs, preferably in international cooperation, are particularly encouraged.

**Symposia** should have 4-5 research contributors from more than one country and will be allocated a 2hr slot.

**Workshops** are presentations of professional *know-how* in the domain of conference interests. Activities fostering psycho-cultural adaptation and learning will be given priority. Workshops can last up to 3 hrs.



Workshop groups will consist of Erasmus students starting their sojourn in Warsaw and conference participants to enable transfer of skills in conditions of a real workshop work.

**Poster sessions** will consist of presentations of adaptation programmes (i.e. workshops, orientation programmes) and will be organized in parallel with workshops.

**Submission Forms** will be available as from November 15, when the website will be opened. Submissions should be written in English, which will be the conference official language.

Abstract Submission Deadline: 1st of February, 2009

Acceptance decisions will be announced on April 15, 2009.

**Conference publication:**

A post-conference book, covering the three themes of its program, is planned by the organizers; to be published in 2010.

**Accommodation**

Student residences at the price of 10-15 Euro per night

Hotels at broad range of standards in the City (the list will be given by the organizers)

**Conference fee:**

150 Euro (including registration fees, reception, lunches and coffee breaks and a cultural evening)

**Registration** through website will be available from March 1, 2009.