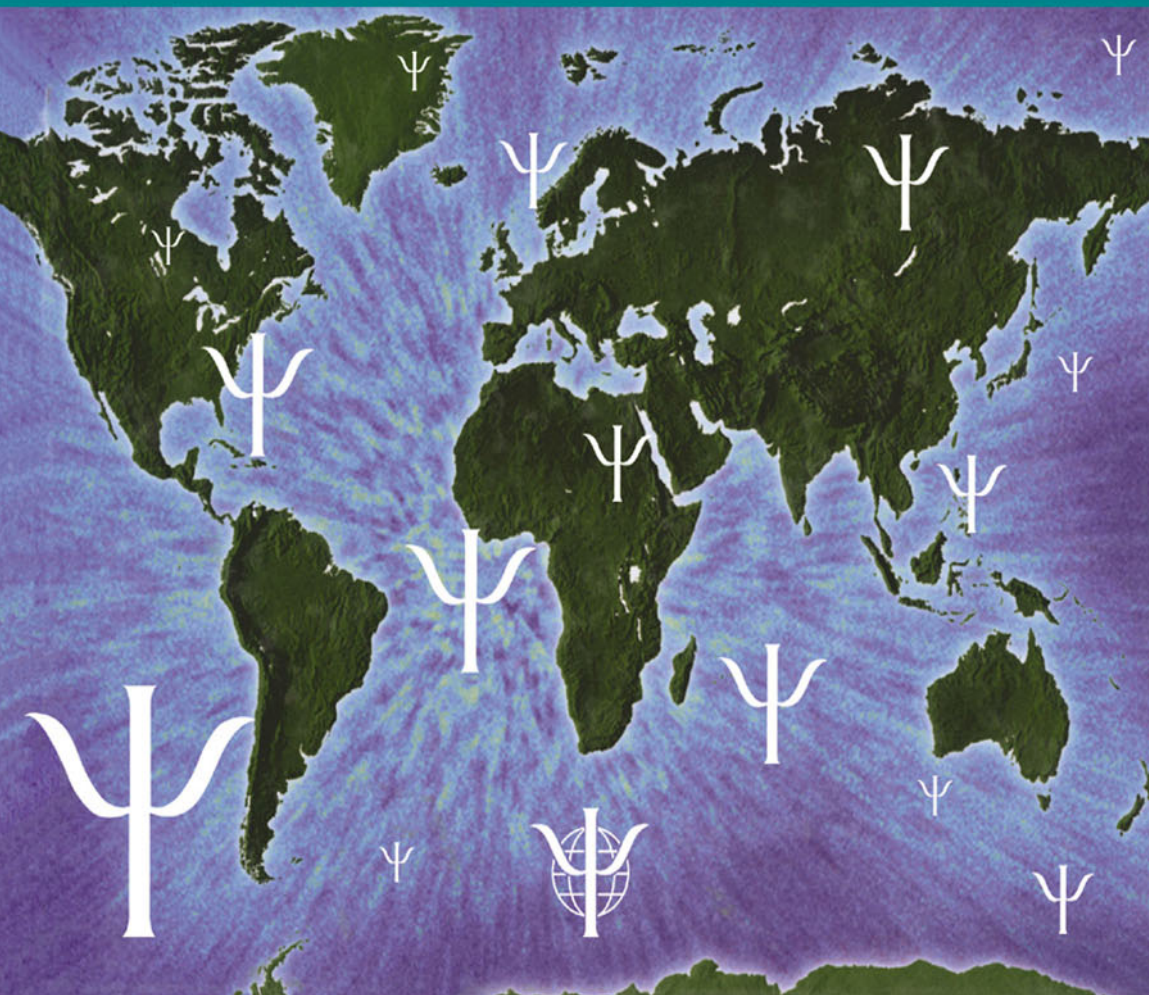


HISTORY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF
PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE
(IUPsYS)

MARK R. ROSENZWEIG, WAYNE H. HOLTZMAN,
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HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION
OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE (IUPSYS)

History of the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS)

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Foreword

This book aims to trace the development of the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS), not only since its founding at the 14th International Congress of Psychology at Stockholm, 1951, but going back to 1881 when a young Polish psychologist first proposed the ideas of an international congress and of an international association of psychological societies. These ideas soon bore fruit in the 1st International Congress of Psychology in 1889 and the formation of the International Congress Committee. These, in turn, led to the long series of international congresses which continue today and, eventually, to formation of the Union.

To trace this history, we have consulted the published proceedings of every International Congress of Psychology to date, and also the extensive archives of minutes of the Assemblies and meetings of the Executive Committees of the IUPsyS. Reports of some of these meetings have been published by the Secretaries-General of the IUPsyS, but the majority are available only in the archives, so this book reveals much information that has previously been unavailable to the public.

We regret that this historical project started only in 1998 when it was no longer possible to obtain first-hand accounts from the first generation of officers and members of the Executive Committee of the IUPsyS. We hope that current and future officers and members of the Executive Committee will contribute pertinent accounts and correspondence to the archives, and that officers of national psychological organizations will also preserve records of future historical value.

As a first step of organizing this history, David Bélanger, Wayne H. Holtzman, and Mark R. Rosenzweig met together at Berkeley in August 1998 and also in San Francisco with members of the Executive Committee. Later David Bélanger had to reduce the time he had hoped to devote to the project, and Michel Sabourin joined the authors. First drafts of [Chapters 1–6](#) were prepared by Rosenzweig, [Chapters 7–9](#) by Sabourin, [Chapters 10–14](#) by Holtzman, and [Chapter 15](#) by Pierre Ritchie, Secretary-General of the IUPsyS. All chapters were reviewed by all authors and by officers of the IUPsyS. We are indebted especially to Géry d'Ydewalle, President of the IUPsyS, and to Pierre Ritchie, for help at many points during preparation of the manuscript. We also thank

some members of the Executive Committee—Bruce Overmier, Cigdem Kagitcibasi, and John Adair—for contributing draft paragraphs on topics of their expertise. We would also like to thank Luis Montoro González (1982) and Maria José González Solaz (1998) for providing us with copies of their informative unpublished doctoral theses from the University of Valencia on the International Congresses of Psychology (1889–1960 and 1963–1984, respectively). Thanks are due to all those who provided photographs of psychologists and participants at the international congresses. Finally, we thank colleagues at Psychology Press for their help and cooperation in the rapid and expert preparation of the book in time for the Stockholm Congress.

We would enjoy hearing from those who may have additional records or information about the history of the IUPsyS and the international congresses of psychology, both to supplement our own knowledge and so that the archives of the IUPsyS may be as complete as possible.

Mark R. Rosenzweig
Wayne H. Holtzman
Michel Sabourin
David Bélanger

Preface

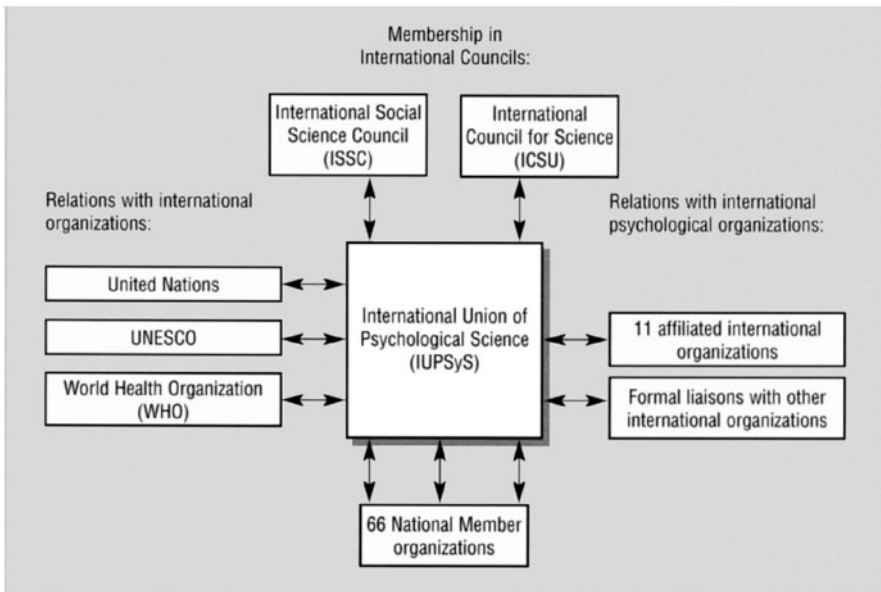
A the annual meeting of the Executive Committee of the A International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) in Stockholm in 1997, we considered various ways to commemorate the 50th anniversary of IUPsyS, which is to be celebrated at the occasion of the 27th International Congress of Psychology in Stockholm in July 2000. At that time, the archives of IUPsyS were being transferred from Leuven (Belgium) to Montreal (Canada); while packing, we realized how rich the history of IUPsyS is. Admittedly, going through the minutes of the Executive Committee and Assembly meetings over the almost 50 years of its existence is a rather boring exercise; still, they do contain immensely valuable information from the past and important lessons to be drawn for future activities of IUPsyS. The critical problem was to find colleagues willing to process the available information and to transform it into a text which could be both read enjoyably as the history of IUPsyS and also contain sufficient detail for archival purposes. The idea emerged to invite a few Honorary Life Members of the IUPsyS Executive Committee as authors. It was a nice way to get them involved once again in the activities of IUPsyS; also, we could profit from their extended past experience with the Union. We contacted Mark R. Rosenzweig and Wayne Holtzman (both Past-Presidents), and David Bélanger (past Treasurer); they all immediately accepted the invitation. Michel Sabourin (current Treasurer) joined the authors. We do realize how much time and work were involved in order to get the book ready for the Stockholm congress. On behalf of the whole IUPsyS Executive Committee, I wholeheartedly thank them. I also wish to convey our thanks to Psychology Press, who were willing to publish a book appealing mainly to readers interested in international psychology and in the history of psychology.

Leuven, February 29, 2000
Géry van Outryve d'Ydewalle
IUPsyS President

1

The International Union of Psychological Science today

FIGURE 1.1 Relations of the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) with other organizations



The International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) is the main international body of psychology. As indicated in [Figure 1.1](#), it groups together organizations that represent psychology in 66 countries (as of early 2000), and the memberships in these national organizations total more than 500,000 psychologists. The IUPsyS represents psychology in such organizations as the International Social Science Council (ISSC) and the International Council for Science (ICSU); it also has consultative relations with the Economic and Social Council and the Department of Public Information of the United Nations and with the World Health Organization (WHO). The IUPsyS aims to represent

psychology in all the countries in which it is developed and to foster the development of psychology as a science and a profession around the world.

The Assembly of IUPsyS is its legislative body and final authority. The Assembly consists of the members of the Executive Committee and one or two delegates per national member. It meets every 2 years, at the site of an international congress of the IUPsyS or at the site of an international congress of the International Association for Applied Psychology (IAAP). As is the rule for most international scientific unions, the IUPsyS is composed of national member organizations, not more than one national member per country. Since 1951, IUPsyS has grown steadily to a membership of 66 national members (as of May 2000). A detailed history of the IUPsyS and of the international congresses of psychology is given in later chapters of this book.

Changes in name and acronym of the IUPsyS

Over its history, the Union has changed its name and its acronym. The original name, from 1951 to 1965, was the International Union of Scientific Psychology (IUSP). The name was changed to the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPS) in 1965. Most members of the Executive Committee preferred the change because they wanted to avoid the implication that some psychology is not scientific. French-speaking members, however, preferred to retain the original name, so the French name remained unchanged (Union Internationale de Psychologie Scientifique). The change of acronym to IUPsyS occurred in 1982, when IUPsyS assumed membership in the International Council for Science (ICSU). The International Union of Physiological Sciences, founded in 1952, had been a member of ICSU since 1955 and also used the acronym IUPS. When psychology posed its candidacy for full membership in ICSU, a condition required for the election was that the psychological union choose a different acronym from that already used in ICSU by the physiological union. Various alternatives were considered, including changing the name back to the International Union of Scientific Psychology. Finally it was agreed to use IUPsyS, and that acronym has now become familiar.

Participation of the IUPsyS in major international organizations

An important function of IUPsyS for the promotion and application of psychological science is participation in major international scientific organizations, especially the International Council for Science (ICSU), which is the major international scientific organization, and the International Social Science Council (ISSC), of which IUPsyS is a founding member. As a member of ICSU, IUPsyS receives grants for some research projects, and it collaborates with the ICSU Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA). IUPsyS is also developing cooperative relations with other scientific unions in

ICSU, such as the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) and the International Geographical Union (IGU). IUPsyS and IBRO recently received a major grant from ICSU to organize a Brain Imaging Workshop in conjunction with the International Congress of Psychology in 2000 in Stockholm, and it will hold a joint symposium with IGU at the Stockholm Congress.

IUPsyS cooperates with ISSC and its member organizations in several research programs and International Issue Groups, in the program on Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change, in Working Groups, and in a number of UNESCO-sponsored projects, particularly those involving developing countries. ISSC provides IUPsyS grants for certain projects. IUPsyS has also cooperated with UNESCO on several projects of mutual interest.

Organizations affiliated with the IUPsyS

The IUPsyS maintains relations with several other international or regional psychological organizations. Its affiliates include the following organizations: the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP), the Interamerican Society of Psychology/Sociedad Interamericana de Psicología (SIP), Association de Psychologie Scientifique de Langue Française (APSLF), International Council of Psychologists (ICP), International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP), European Association of Experimental Social Psychology (EAESP), International Society of Comparative Psychology (ISCP), International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD), European Association of Personality Psychology (EAPA), European Association of Psychological Assessment (EAPP), and the International Neurological Society (INS). In addition to these affiliates, the IUPsyS maintains special liaison exchanges with the European Association of Professional Psychologists' Associations (EFPPA) and the International Test Commission (ITC).

Current activities of the IUPsyS

As well as assuring the regular succession of international congresses of psychology, representing psychology in international organizations, maintaining relations with other international or regional psychological organizations, publishing the *International Journal of Psychology* and sponsoring other publications, the IUPsyS engages in several other important current activities, some of which the following paragraphs will describe.

Regional conferences and congresses

The IUPsyS sponsors regional international congresses designed to assist and promote psychology within low-income countries (developing countries and countries in transition). This program addresses the problem that few psychologists from developing countries participate in the major international

congresses. Even though the range of countries represented among registrants has increased with each international congress, the difficulties and costs of travel, accommodation, and congress registration fees pose significant obstacles to the attendance of psychologists from developing countries. To address these problems, the IUPsyS in 1995 creatively began the practice of sponsoring international regional congresses within developing countries. This IUPsyS initiative has become a joint venture with the IAAP. Both associations contribute to the support of each regional congress with the primary sponsorship alternating in successive odd-numbered years. IUPsyS sponsored the first regional congress in Guangzhou, China (1995) and the African regional congress held in Durban, South Africa (1999). The IAAP was the primary sponsor for the Latin American regional congress in Mexico City (1997).

Codes of ethics

Although the IUPsyS had long encouraged its national members to adopt codes of ethics, a survey by the Secretary-General in the 1970s revealed that only a small number of national members had actually adopted codes and were enforcing them. A special symposium on ethics at the 1976 International Congress in Paris gave further impetus to this effort. (For more on this, see [Chapter 11](#).)

In 1993 the Union Executive Committee instructed the then Deputy Secretary-General, Bruce Overmier, to survey the membership once again, to see whether or not each country had adopted a set of ethical guidelines or code to govern activities by psychologists. The president or executive officer of each national member was contacted to determine whether or not a formal “ethics code” had been officially adopted in their country, and, if so, was asked to provide a copy to the Union. Twenty-four countries reported having such a code and submitted copies. Four Scandinavian countries shared a single code, yielding 20 different codes. Interestingly, many of the codes were submitted in English; those that were not were translated into English to allow comparisons among the codes. (It was recognized that such English translations performed without a back-translation check may not be fully accurate representations of the original code.) Mark M. Leach and Judd J. Harbin of the University of Mississippi undertook a systematic comparison of these 20 codes for the Union. The result was published in the *International Journal of Psychology* (Leach & Harbin, 1997), highlighting similarities and differences. This paper also put their review into a context of prior smaller surveys of national codes of ethics for psychologists.

Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS)

Going back to the 1988 International Congress of Psychology in Australia, where the participation of psychologists from low-income countries was very poor, the idea emerged among some psychologists of the need for sponsored research/

training seminars for psychologists from low-income countries that would also enable their participation in international congresses. This idea materialized in 1992 under the auspices of IUPsyS when the first Advanced Research Training Seminars (ARTS) were held in conjunction with the 25th International Congress of Psychology in Brussels. The coordinator was Ype Poortinga, and the two ARTS were organized in Tilburg and Berlin by Fons v.d.Vijver and Ute Schönplflug, respectively. The International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP) also collaborated in sponsoring ARTS.

Since then ARTS have been organized every 2 years in conjunction with the international congresses of psychology and of applied psychology under the auspices of IUPsyS, in collaboration with IAAP and IACCP. For two terms, in 1994 and 1996, Cigdem Kagitcibasi was the ARTS coordinator. In 1994 two ARTS were organized in conjunction with the Madrid IAAP Congress, one in Saarbrücken by Lutz Eckensberger on "Eco-Ethical Thinking from a Cross-Cultural Perspective" and the other in Istanbul by Sevda Bekman, Banu Oney and Cigdem Kagitcibasi on "Human Development and Assessment." In 1996 two more ARTS were organized in Canada, in conjunction with the 26th International Congress of Psychology, one in Ottawa by Alastair Ager, assisted by Martha Young, on "Qualitative Research Methods" and the other in Sherbrooke by Pnina Klein and Michael Boivin on "Early Intervention in Families and Other Settings for Infants and Young Children." In 1998 John Adair served as the ARTS coordinator. In conjunction with the San Francisco IAAP Congress three ARTS were organized, by Robert Serpell and Abdeljalil Akkari in Baltimore on "Qualitative Approaches in Cultural Psychology," by Martin Fishbein in Bellingham on "Developing Effective Health Behavior Interventions," and by Peter Graf in San Francisco on "Advances in Cognitive Psychology."

John Adair continues as the ARTS Coordinator for 2000. In conjunction with the 27th International Congress of Psychology in Stockholm, three ARTS are being planned by Jarl Risberg in Lund on "Imaging the Structure and Function of the Brain," by Thomas Oakland and Walter Lonner in Stockholm on "Psychological Test Adaptations to Diverse Cultures and Measuring Personality Cross-Culturally," and by Heidi Keller in Stockholm on "Pathways across Development: Cross-Cultural Perspectives."

ARTS have been very successful in fulfilling their mission, that is, providing research/training to psychologists from developing countries and from Eastern Europe, as well as supporting their participation in international congresses. Greater participation of psychologists from low-income countries in international congresses is crucial for increased internationalization of psychology. ARTS is serving this worthwhile purpose.

Publications

The IUPsyS has developed an extensive program of publications to foster communication with and among psychologists around the world. Starting with the first International Congress of Psychology in 1889, the practice arose of publishing the proceedings of each congress, often including texts of some of the main papers and abstracts of the others. When the International Union was formally organized in 1951, its statutes included the provision that proceedings of the congresses be published in a uniform manner, and the practice has been maintained to a large extent. The proceedings of the 26th International Congress of Psychology, Montreal, 1996, and of the 25th Congress, Brussels, 1992, are available from Psychology Press, UK.

In 1966 the Union founded its journal, the *International Journal of Psychology*. The *Journal* publishes scientific and theoretical papers in all fields of psychological research. Most issues of the *Journal* include a second part, the *International Platform*, which gives news of the Union and its national members, provides an opportunity to exchange views and opinions of psychological topics, and lists the *International Meeting Calendar*. The *Journal* is widely distributed to the national member organizations, to libraries, and to individual subscribers throughout the world.

To aid in contacting psychologists around the world, many in countries that do not publish directories of psychologists, the Union has published a series of volumes entitled *International Directory of Psychologists*. They appeared in 1958, 1966, 1980, and 1985. The most recent of these volumes (Pawlik, 1985) presented information on more than 32,000 psychologists from 43 countries. The international directories did not include psychologists from the USA because the American Psychological Association regularly publishes directories of its members.

The increasing number of psychologists around the world made it impractical to continue publishing directories of individual psychologists beyond 1985. The Union then tried a new form of publication, the *IUPsyS Directory of Major Research Institutes and Departments of Psychology* (d'Ydewalle, 1993). This volume listed contact information for psychological organizations in 171 countries.

A new "publication" initiative of the Union is the CD-ROM global resource file, *Psychology: IUPsyS Global Resource*, to appear in 2000. This electronically based publication is described in the *Global resource file* section, following.

Subscriptions to the *International Journal of Psychology*, the *IUPsyS Directory of Major Research Institutes and Departments of Psychology*, and to the proceedings of the 25th and 26th International Congresses of Psychology are available from

Psychology Press
27 Church Road
Hove, East Sussex

BN3 2FA, UK

(Fax: 44 1273 205612; Tel: 44 1273 207411.)

The Union has sponsored or given its auspices to a number of books intended to increase information about psychology and/or to promote communication among psychologists around the world. A complete listing will appear in the CD-ROM global resource file, *Psychology: IUPsyS Global Resource*. Some recent publications are: Jing (1991), *Chinese Concise Encyclopaedia of Psychology*, Rosenzweig (1992, 1994), *International Psychological Science: Progress, Problems and Prospects*; and Pawlik and Rosenzweig (2000), *International Handbook of Psychology*.

Global resource file

As the Union moves into the new millennium, it is launching a new “publication,” *Psychology: IUPsyS Global Resource*, which is congruent with the electronic computer capabilities coming on line throughout the world. This new product is a “resource guide” in CD-ROM format. This publication product follows the tradition of—yet extends in scope and media—the Union’s previous publication of the *International Directory of Psychologists* (editions published in 1958, 1966, 1980, 1985) and the *IUPsyS Directory* (published in 1993). The first issue of the CD-ROM, which will be published in 2000, will be distributed to all subscribers to the *International Journal of Psychology* and also marketed by Psychology Press as a free-standing reference tool. The *Psychology: IUPsyS Global Resource* CD-ROM will include several resource tools as separate searchable files using proprietary integrated software. These resource tools will be diverse. Among them will be brief descriptions and histories of the state of psychology in 84 countries, contact information for national psychological societies, a directory of international psychological societies, an international directory with postal and electronic addresses for scholarly institutions in 147 countries, a coded bibliography of published papers about psychology in each country, materials related to the structure, function, and members of the Union itself, and, importantly, the abstracts of all papers presented at the quadrennial International Congresses of Psychology—beginning with 1996 and continuing into the future. Links will allow the user to search from country in one resource file to research institute in a second file to a congress author from that institution in a third. The Union’s new electronic resource guide will make information about psychological science and its worldwide context more readily available and will be especially helpful to those seeking international collaborations or wishing to trace the development of psychology in a country or region.

Sources of current information about the IUPsyS

For current information about the IUPsyS, see its website (<http://www.IUPsyS.org>) and its journal, the *International Journal of Psychology*. The *International Journal of Psychology* publishes not only research reports but also news about IUPsyS and its national members and affiliates and lists forthcoming meetings in all fields of scientific and professional psychology.

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2

The origins of scientific Historical context organizations:

The formation of the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) is part of a larger history of development of formal scientific organizations that began in the 17th century. In this chapter, as well as sketching the history of the IUPsyS, we will relate it to the development of scientific associations, especially those with which the IUPsyS has active relations, as shown in [Figure 1.1](#). Because each of these kinds of organization interacts with each of the others, information about each helps to understand the others. The story shows increasing communication and cooperation among psychologists at national, regional, and international levels, and also among the different scientific disciplines. After presenting this background, we will proceed in the next chapter to a more detailed account of the 1st International Congress of Psychology, held in Paris in 1889, and the creation there of the standing International Congress of Psychology Committee, which evolved after 62 years into the IUPsyS.

A brief sketch of the origins of the International Union of Psychological Science

At the Paris International Congress of Psychology in 1889, a permanent international congress committee was formed to assure the succession of International Congresses of Psychology and to provide organization for international psychology. The IUPsyS was foreshadowed in a project adopted in principle at the 1889 Paris Congress to form an international association of psychological societies.

Once formed, the international committee was called the International Congress of Psychology; it functioned effectively and organized congresses over a 60-year period through the 12th International Congress of Psychology in Edinburgh (1948) and the 13th International Congress of Psychology in Stockholm (1951). From its start the committee grew in size and in number of countries represented. At the 5th International Congress of Psychology (Rome, 1905), the membership of the committee had grown to 76, with 16 countries represented. At the 10th congress (Copenhagen, 1932) the congress committee established an Executive Committee of seven members and chose Swiss psychologist Edouard Claparède as its Executive Secretary. After Claparède's

death in 1940, American psychologist Herbert S. Langfeld became Executive Secretary of the International Committee.

At the 12th congress (Edinburgh, 1948) it was finally decided to accomplish the long-desired goal and establish an international union of psychology. Langfeld played the major role in organizing the formation of the International Union of Psychological Science, as reported by Henri Piéron, the first President of IUPsyS (Piéron, 1954, p. 404). The Union was originally named the International Union of Scientific Psychology (IUSP); changes in the name and acronym have been described in [Chapter 1](#). The planning for the Union coincided with an initiative of UNESCO in the late 1940s to promote the establishment of international unions in sciences which did not already have such a formal organization. With the encouragement of UNESCO, the International Union of Psychological Science was established formally at the Stockholm Congress on July 15, 1951. National psychological associations from 11 countries were charter members, and psychological associations from 9 other countries promptly joined the Union, for a total of 20 national members in 1951.

Continuity between the International Committee and IUPsyS was maintained by their overlapping personnel: Langfeld was the last Secretary-General of the committee and the first Secretary-General of IUPsyS; Piéron and other officers and members of the first Executive Committee of IUPsyS had been members of the committee.

*Some background: Formation of scientific associations;
organization of scientific congresses*

Now let us sketch some of the broader background of the formation of the IUPsyS. Formation of scientific associations proceeded historically in several stages: (1) formation of national academies of science, beginning in the 17th century; (2) organization of the early international scientific congresses, beginning in the 19th century; (3) formation of national organizations devoted to specific fields of science, also beginning in the 19th century; (4) formation of international unions devoted to specific fields of science, and founding of umbrella councils to group together international scientific unions and other international organizations, mainly in the 20th century.

Formation of scientific academies

The word academy, and its equivalents in modern languages, came from the Greek name of the garden where Plato gathered friends to discuss common philosophical interests. This term became a label for gatherings in which groups of people with enquiring minds began to form around many centers in Europe from the Middle Ages on. As well as local academies, in some larger countries national academies developed in the 17th century, such as the Accademia des Lincei (those who were as keen-sighted as a lynx) in Rome, dating from 1603.

Although the Accademia dei Lincei later dissolved, to be reestablished in the 19th century, some national academies founded in the 17th century continue to this day, such as the Royal Society of London (1660) and the Académie des Sciences in France (1666), and they have served as models for other national societies. Whereas some of these academies are devoted strictly to the sciences, others are learned societies that include the arts and letters as well as the sciences; examples of such inclusive academies are the Académie Royale des Sciences et des Beaux Arts de Belgique (1772), the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters (1742), and the Royal Irish Academy (1785).

Organization of international congresses

The middle of the 19th century saw the development of scientific congresses, some being meetings of groups devoted to a particular field of study and some being devoted to a particular problem. As Montoro González (1982, pp. 23–24) points out, several international congresses were held in conjunction with the Universal Expositions in London, 1851, and in Paris, 1855. The 1st International Congress of Statistics was held in 1853, and the 1st International Congress of Medicine in 1867. The 1st International Congress of Criminal Anthropology took place in Rome, 1885; several psychologists participated in the congress of anthropology and some were encouraged to plan a similar international congress for psychology.

Some international congresses were organized by existing groups, whereas other groups grew out of congresses. Thus in 1862 some German states organized the *Mittleuropäische Gradmessung* (Central European Geodetic Association), whose first conference attracted participants from 13 countries, most of which were German. (Germany had not yet united at that time.) The growing European character of the geodetic association was reflected by the change of name in 1867 to the European Geodetic Association. A still wider scope was indicated by invitations to scientists from Great Britain and the United States to participate in the 1883 meeting. In 1886 the name was changed to the International Geodetic Association. Finally, this led to the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, founded in 1919.

The 1st International Congress of Psychology took place in Paris in 1889, in the context of congresses of other sciences. This occurred just 10 years after the first formal laboratory of psychology was founded by Wilhelm Wundt at the University of Leipzig. The International Congress of Psychology was held in conjunction with the Paris International Exposition, as was the first International Congress of Physiology. Both congresses fostered further development of their fields. As mentioned earlier, a permanent international committee was formed at the Paris International Congress of Psychology to assure the succession of International Congresses of Psychology and to provide organization for international psychology. The IUPsyS was foreshadowed in a project adopted in principle at the 1889 Paris Congress to form an international association of

psychological societies, and the IUPsyS was founded in 1951. In the case of physiology, a permanent committee was established in 1929 to organize the International Congresses of Physiology, and this evolved into the International Union of Physiological Sciences in 1952.

The 1st International Congress of Psychology clearly met a need, and successive congresses were held every 3 to 5 years, with gaps caused by the two World Wars. A history of the first 16 International Congresses of Psychology (1889–1960) was prepared by Montoro González (1982); a history of the 14th–23rd congresses (1963–1984) was presented in a dissertation by González Solaz (1998).

*Formation of national and international organizations devoted
to specific fields of science*

A side effect of the 1st International Congress of Psychology in 1889 was to encourage the formation of the American Psychological Association (APA) in 1892. The APA is the world's oldest continuously existing national psychological association. When European psychologists who were organizing the International Congress tried to identify a national organization of psychologists in the United States, they could find only the American Society for Psychical Research (ASPR). Two Americans who attended the 1st International Congress of Psychology, William James and Joseph Jastrow, disparaged the ASPR and its interests, and they probably reported these events to their American colleagues, including G. Stanley Hall who led the movement to found the APA. Some historians claim that a major factor in the establishment of the APA was G. Stanley Hall's strong ambition to be the leader of American psychology (Cadwallader, 1992). Perhaps Hall's drive hastened the founding of the APA by a few years, but conditions were clearly ripe for the APA. When other psychologists reacted to Hall's authoritarian leadership and effectively sidetracked him in the 1890s, the APA continued well without Hall.

By 1910, a few other national psychological associations had been formed—in France and in the United Kingdom, in 1901; Germany, 1904; Argentina, 1908; and Italy, 1910.

The founding of the APA in 1892 was part of the movement to establish disciplinary societies in the USA, starting with the American Chemical Society in 1876. A major influence that favored the founding of the APA was the policy of the American Society of Naturalists, established in 1883, to encourage and foster the formation of disciplinary societies. One of the resultant societies was the American Physiological Society (APS), founded in 1887. Psychologists G. Stanley Hall and Joseph Jastrow were among the original members of the APS, and some physiologists were among the original members of the APA.

The psychologists at the Paris Congress in 1889 adopted in principle a project to form an international association of psychological societies, but this was clearly premature because no national psychological societies yet existed, and

there were only a few local societies, in London, Moscow, Munich, New York, and Paris. By 1948, at least 19 national psychological societies had been formed, and at the 12th International Congress at Edinburgh that year, an ad hoc committee was appointed to draw up the statutes for an international union of psychology.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), founded in 1946, also fostered the formation of the IUPsyS and of other international scientific unions. UNESCO wanted to have international scientific organizations with which to deal, and it offered financial subventions to such organizations. The end of World War II saw renewed scientific communication among the former foes, and this also favored the formation of new international unions. Among those formed at that time were the International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (1946), International Union of Crystallography (1947), International Union of the History of Science (1947), International Union of Anthropological and Ethnographical Societies (1948), International Union of the Philosophy of Science (1949), International Union of Psychological Science (1951), and the International Union of Physiological Sciences (1952). Brief histories and descriptions of the international scientific unions that are either scientific union members or scientific associates of ICSU are found in the *ICSU Year Book* (International Council for Science, 2000).

*From the International Association of Academies to the
International Council for Science*

From the start, national academies of science corresponded with each other, and many elected foreign associates, so it was natural to institute an international organization that would group together the national academies to facilitate communication and joint activities. In 1900 the first meeting of the Council of the International Association of Academies (IAA) took place in Paris. At the start, the IAA included mainly European academies of science but also the Royal Society of London and the National Academy of Sciences, USA (Greenaway, 1996, pp. 8 et seq.). The main purpose of the IAA was stated as follows:

The object of the Association shall be to initiate and otherwise to promote scientific undertakings of general interest, proposed by one or more of the associated Academies, and to facilitate scientific intercourse between different countries.

Regular meetings of the General Assembly of the IAA continued through 1913, but the coming of the World War interrupted its activities.

After the war a successor organization was established in 1919, the International Research Council (IRC), Conseil International de Recherches (Greenaway, 1996, pp. 21 et seq.). The initial members were all national

academies of science, but in the first year of the IRC a few international scientific unions were also created and made members of the IRC. (Table 2.1 lists the scientific unions now in the ICSU, the date of founding of each, and the year in which each joined the IRC or ICSU.) The IRC remained chiefly a body of national members; the few scientific unions that became associated with it had only limited powers in the IRC and were not represented on its Executive Committee.

TABLE 2.1

Scientific Unions in ICSU		
<i>Scientific Unions in order of founding</i>	<i>Year Founded</i>	<i>Year admitted to IRC/ICSU</i>
International Astronomical Union	1919	1919
International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry	1919	1919
International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics	1919	1919
International Union of Biological Sciences	1919	1923
Union Radio Scientifique Internationale	1919	1919
International Union of Pure and Applied Physics	1922	1922
International Geographical Union	1922	1923
International Society of Soil Science	1924	1993
International Mathematical Union	1925	1925
International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics	1946	1947
International Union of Crystallography	1947	1947
International Union of the History and Philosophy of Science		
International Union of the History of Science	1947	1947
International Union of the Philosophy of Science	1949	1956
International Union of Anthropological and Ethnographical Societies	1948	1993
International Union of Nutritional Sciences	1948	1968
International Union of Psychological Science	1951	1982
International Union of Physiological Sciences	1952	1955
International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	1955	1955
International Brain Research Organization	1960	1993

 Scientific Unions in ICSU

<i>Scientific Unions in order of founding</i>	<i>Year Founded</i>	<i>Year admitted to IRC/ICSU</i>
International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics	1961	1966
International Union of Geological Sciences	1961	1961
International Union of Pharmacology (Separated from International Union of Physiological Sciences in 1965)	1965	1972
International Union of Immunological Societies	1969	1976
International Union of Food Science and Technology	1970	1996
International Union of Microbiological Societies (Founded 1927, but a division of IUPS until 1980)	1980	1982
International Union of Toxicology	1980	1996

In 1931 the 5th General Assembly of the IRC converted itself into the 5th General Assembly of a new body, the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU). The membership of the ICSU was dual, in that scientific unions had equal status with the national members. Nevertheless, no new scientific union members were added until after the end of World War II. Some of the new scientific unions that entered the ICSU in the 1940s-1960s represented new sciences (e.g., the International Union of Crystallography, 1947); some were initiated by fractionation of the biological sciences (e.g., the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, formed in 1955 and admitted to ICSU the same year; the International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics, formed in 1961 and admitted to ICSU in 1966).

Although the IUPsyS was founded in 1951, it was admitted to ICSU only in 1982, whereas the International Union of Physiological Sciences, founded in 1952, was promptly admitted to ICSU in 1955. The IUPsyS had applied shortly after its formation for membership in ICSU, but was told repeatedly that the time was not appropriate for consideration of its application. A 30year delay occurred before its application was accepted. Similarly, the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnographical Societies (IUAES), founded in 1948, was admitted to ICSU only in 1993. ICSU was reluctant for many years to admit international unions such as the IUPsyS and the IUAES, whose discipline was in part in the social sciences. That does not, however, explain other delays: The International Brain Research Organization was founded in 1960 but admitted as a Scientific Union Member of ICSU only in 1993, after having been a Scientific

Associate since 1976; the International Union of Food Science and Technology was founded in 1970 but admitted as a Scientific Union Member only in 1996.

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3

The 1 st International Congress of Psychology: Assuring the continuity of congresses



Julian Ochorowicz Revue (1850–1917): *First to suggest holding International Congress of Psychology and forming international organization of psychological societies.*
(Courtesy of Archiwum Ilustracji Wydawnictwa Naukowego PWN S.A., Warsaw)

The 1st International Congress of Psychology was immediately recognized as such a great success that the participants drew up plans for the 2nd congress and for a standing committee to assure the succession of congresses. In view of the success, it is puzzling to consider in retrospect the doubts that preceded the initial meeting.

The initial proposal for an international congress of psychology was published in 1881 by a visionary young Polish psychologist who also called for an international organization of psychologists. This imaginative psychologist was Julian Ochorowicz (1850–1917), Privatdocent in psychology at the Polish University of Lemberg. (Lemberg was then in the Austro-Hungarian empire and is now the Ukrainian city of Lvov.) Ochorowicz convinced the French psychologist Théodule Ribot to publish in his journal, the *Philosophique*, an article entitled “Projet pour un congrès international de psychologie” (Ochorowicz, 1881). Ribot (1890, pp. 29–30), in his presidential address at the 1st congress, confessed that when he received Ochorowicz’s manuscript he found the project attractive but fanciful and published it in the hope that it might



Théodule A. Ribot (1839-1916): Acting President of the 1st International Congress of Psychology, Paris 1889, and later President of the 4th International Congress of Psychology, Paris 1900.

bear fruit in the distant future, never expecting Ochorowicz's vision to be realized so rapidly.

As a contemporary visionary, engineer Gustave Eiffel promised the French authorities in 1886 that he could build the tallest structure in the world and have it ready in time for the celebrations of the centenary of the French revolution. In spite of widespread skepticism, Eiffel carried out his promise. The project for the international congress of psychology and the completion of the Eiffel Tower converged in 1889, when the psychologists who attended the 1st congress held their closing banquet on the Tower.

The full name of the 1st congress was the International Congress of Physiological Psychology, and it was organized by the French Society of Physiological Psychology. This society was founded in 1885, on the initiative of professor of medicine Charles Richet; it lasted only a few years, but long enough to organize the 1st International Congress of Physiological Psychology (Piéron, 1938, p. 508. "Physiological" was used in the sense of "scientific," just as Wundt entitled his text of 1873–74 *Grundzüge der physiologische Psychologie*, meaning a psychology intended to be as scientific as physiology.

The 1st International Congress of Psychology

Organizers, sponsors, registrants, and participants

The International Congress of Physiological Psychology took place on August 6-10, 1889, during the Universal Exposition in Paris. It was Ribot who took the initiative to organize the congress on behalf of the French Society of