

International Section Newsletter

APA SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY

SUMMER 2009



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International Section of
Counseling Psychology
Division 17, American
Psychological Association

ICP is a section dedicated to encouraging, promoting, and facilitating a scientist-professional model of counseling psychology in international contexts in the U.S.A. and around the Globe.

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Are you a member? How to Join

Please download [here](#) (.doc) for instructions

The membership fee for U.S. professionals is \$10.00 dollars per year. The membership is free for students and professionals who are not residing in the United States. Proceeds will be used for activities, such as operating expenses, section projects, and annual student and professional awards for best research/theory presentation on international issues. Please make the check payable to Division 17- International Section, and mail it together with a copy of the membership form to:

Teresa (Tes) Tuason, Ph.D.
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ttuason@unf.edu

Message from the Tri-Chairs

Dear International Section Colleagues,
Friends, and Students,

Summers Greetings!

As the APA Convention is getting closer and closer, we are becoming more and more excited that we will be seeing many of you in Toronto between August 5th and August 9th! We want to wish you a safe trip in advance.

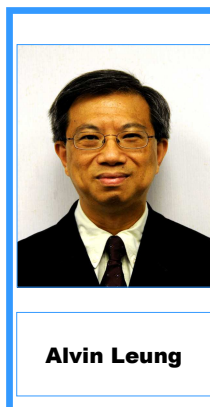
We want to highlight a few important events that our section is organizing at APA and hope you can attend:

Our section program will be featured with the achievements of Dr. Paul Pedersen, the 2009 section Lifetime Achievement Award winner. A round table discussion will follow the feature presentation. This will be a good opportunity for everyone who has ideas to share in the general topic area of internationalization of counseling psychology. The event is scheduled on **Saturday (8/8) 9:00-10:00am**, at 206B Metro Toronto. Please join us!



Our Section Business meeting will be held on **Friday (8/7) 9:00-10:00am** in the Div. 17 Hospitality Suite (St. Andrew's Hall, St. Andrews Conference Center, 150 King Street West at University, 27th floor, Toronto). In addition to taking care of some section business, we will issue our section Outstanding Graduate Student Research Awards, and allow time for members to share their thoughts and ideas about our section's further development and growth. Please join us! The hospital-

ity suite is about a 10-15 minute walk from the Convention Center.



The International Mentoring and Orientation Committee (IMOC) is hosting an **orientation meeting** on Friday (8/7) 2:00-4:00pm, at the Division 17 Hospitality Suite (Edinburg Room, St. Andrews Conference Center, 150 King Street West at University, 27th floor, Toronto). We want to strongly encourage all our international students to attend this orientation. Additionally, we also want to encourage everyone who is interested in mentoring international students to attend and get involved with IMOC. Again, the hospitality suite is about a 10-15 minute walk from the Convention Center.

International Scholars Welcome and Orientation Breakfast - Friday 7:30-9:00am.

If you are a conference attendee from an institution outside of the US, you are invited! This event is designed for our international colleagues to be greeted by the leaders of the Society of Counseling Psychology (SCP), to meet other international colleagues and to obtain information about SCP and its International Section of Counseling Psychology (ICP). In past years, SCP president, president elect, and past president would all attend. There will be no set agenda for the event, except that the SCP and ICP leaders would give welcoming remarks. The event would allow international colleagues to introduce themselves and mingle with others.

Message from the Tri-Chairs



Mark Leach

Please be reminded that everyone will need a passport to travel to Canada. Depending on your country of origin for this trip, you may need a visa too. Please make sure that you check out specific information concerning international traveling for yourself beforehand.

Finally, *if you are traveling to APA from any country other than United States, could you let us know by sending an e-mail to changming at duanc@umkc.edu*? We want to make sure that we can personally welcome you and offer any assistance needed.

Thank you all and see you if you are going to Toronto!

Changming, Alvin, & Mark
Tri-Chairs of International Section

Announcement: Facebook Group



Attention Facebook users! The International Section now has our own group. Do a search for Division 17 International Section. This group will be focused on building connections between student counseling psychologists around the globe.

Counseling Developments Worldwide

Brief Report on Taiwan

Counseling Psychology Association

Josh Chia Hsin Lin, Ph.D

The Taiwan Counseling Psychology Association (TWCPA) is a scientific and professional organization that represents more than 1,000 counseling psychologists in Taiwan. TWCPA was officially established on December 13, 2008. It was outgrown from the Division of Counseling Psychology within Taiwan Guidance and Counseling Association after six years of operation. Currently the association has a total of 132 members.

The association creates the following organization structure according to its bylaws: 15-person board of directors, 5-person board of supervisors, and six committees. The committees carry out a wide variety of tasks as indicated by their titles: ethics, education, internship, accreditation, continuing education, and scientific development.

As an organized professional association, the following tasks are emphasized for the preliminary stage: member service, organization development, profession practice, and academic development. The association strives to serve its members through many forms of service. A monthly newsletter is issued to keep members posted regarding events and activities provided by the association and the field. A website is maintained to provide members counseling psychology related information. All counseling psychologists, faculty and graduate students of counseling psychology department are welcome to join the association.

Since the psychology licensure act took effect in 2001 in Taiwan, there are still some rooms for improvement. It is our professional obligation to monitor the revision of laws and regulations related to counseling psychologists' training program, licensure examination, and internship. The association will maintain a close relationship with the Department of Health and the Ministry of Examination to assure the high quality of professional training, licensure examination, and ethical practice of counseling psychologists.

The association proposes to organize annual conference, continuing education courses, and hopefully a professional journal in the coming years. Counseling psychologists need a professional platform for scholarly exchange and dialogue. Continuing dialogue and collaboration between scholars and practitioners are encouraged in this association. The association also has a strong interest in international collaboration and cooperation in academic and professional activities.

E-mail: twcpa.twcpa@msa.hinet.net

Vote in October!
Dr. Melba J. T. Vasquez
President of APA!

Please visit Melba's website at
www.melbavasquezforapapresident.com



Congratulations to Dr. Melba Vasquez on her nomination for APA President! Thank you to everyone who contributed to making her nomination a huge success. In the President-elect nominations, Melba received an overwhelming majority of nomination votes. Your continued support is needed to assure Melba's success!

Announcement Division 17

Call for Membership: Recruiting International Counseling Psychologists

As evidenced by the recent International Counseling Psychology Conference, The Society of Counseling Psychology - Division 17 is deeply committed to expanding the boundaries of international dialogue and collaboration within the discipline of Counseling Psychology. As such the membership committee is actively seeking to increase international membership within the division. To this end, the membership committee is inviting members of the International Section to disseminate information on divisional membership and actively encourage your international colleagues to consider joining the Society

For International Counseling Psychologists there are two options available for membership within Division 17. Those with membership in APA can join the Division for an additional \$37 (US). For those who are not members of APA, the category of international affiliate is available for dues of \$17 (US). Both categories include access to divisional listservs and subscriptions to the Division 17 newsletter and The Counseling Psychologist, the official journal of Division 17. In addition to these benefits are the more intangible benefits associated with being part of a professional community dedicated to improving the psychological well being of all people. Additional information on the joining the Division can be found at www.div17.org/about_membership.html

Counseling in Warring Kashmir

Marty Wong, Ph.D.

Abstract

The author describes the setting up and running of the first counseling center in Kashmir by Medecins Sans Frontieres during the ongoing declared war and insurgency operations. A building is built. Counselors are trained in the local language. Daily operations go on despite the ongoing strife. The author describes the difficulties and some of the successes.

In Indian controlled Kashmir, every village and practically every person knows someone, a relative or friend, who has been killed by the ongoing war between India and Pakistan or by the undeclared war between the many insurgency organizations and the Indian government. Every village in the area has gold star mothers and gold star fathers, and practically every village has been visited by the Indian army which comes, often in the night, to take away its sons, frequently never to be seen again.

Medecins Sans Frontieres, in its usual avant mode, saw that something could be done to help alleviate the psychological problems that assuredly had come about as a result of the many years of conflict—most obviously, post traumatic stress disorder, and depression. A counseling center to serve Kashmiris was envisioned and in 2002 a team sent to set it up.

After much negotiation, the state of Kashmir gave over a building—a wing of the state Psychiatric Hospital in the capital city, Srinagar—for use as a Counseling Center. The building first had to be rebuilt as it had been the site of a fire which had rendered it unusable. In time, a reception area, four counseling rooms, and a kitchen emerged from the ruins.

In addition to the difficulties with the building, other problems faced the new organization. The first was that psychological ideas were to a great degree unknown to this population, 98 per-

cent of whom were of the Muslim faith. The idea of sitting in a room and telling a stranger your problems was unheard of, especially for women.

The second was that there were no counseling psychologists in Srinagar.

The third was that the Kashmiri language is difficult to learn and master quickly. Intelligent, skilled speakers of the language were needed who could be quickly trained and put into service.

To solve the personnel problem, ads were placed in local publications announcing training for jobs to work as counselors. Three women and two men were selected from the many responses to the ads. They were all young college graduates, and proved to be quick learners, adept at listening and interviewing.

These first recruits were put through a basic course in counseling procedures which had as an emphasis practice in “Rogerian” patient-centered active listening. Later, more training was given in the basics of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.

I was among the second wave of people to work on the establishment and continuation of this center. By the time I got there, the most auspicious notices of war were the occasional IED explosions usually meant for passing army trucks, and the infrequent gunshots taken at local dignitaries known to collude with the Indian government. We almost never went out at night as there were vehicle checkpoints every half mile. During the day, Indian army sentries manned sand-bagged intersections in town and stood every quarter mile on the road with loaded AK-47s. Nonetheless the MSF Counseling Center was up and running.

It was our job as expatriate psychologists, to provide consultation, supervision and training, and to extend the reach of the counseling center. We sat with the new counselors after client sessions and held twice weekly trainings which were used for instruction and case presentations. The actual “sitting in” on counseling sessions was a cumbersome process since it involved not only the supervisor but also a Kashmiri translator. Translating, even in a low voice, drastically changed the tenor of any session. Nevertheless since the ideas

of focus on emotions and feedback to the client were relatively new to these intelligent, college trained people, direct observation was valuable and necessary. We had neither one-way mirrors nor speaker systems.

Finding people who needed counseling and who were willing to come to the center posed greater problems. Three predictable difficulties emerged. The counseling center had unwisely been placed on the grounds of the Psychiatric Hospital which was a relatively run-down housing place for the most disturbed members of the Kashmiri community; the stigma of “crazy house” was great. Most Srinagarians went out of their way to stay away from the walled compound. Secondly, to admit to psychological or mental problems by going to a “counseling center” was unheard of and socially awkward. Thirdly many women were constrained from going out alone, and for many it was forbidden to be alone in a room with a man. By design, the majority of our newly trained counselors were women.

In order to attract more clients to the center, we sent out teams to the many local villages within 100 kilometers of Srinagar to put on a “Psychological Program about Reducing Tension and Stress.” After advance preparation with the local authorities, we set up our banners, and gave presentations about psychological techniques, (relaxation, meditation, stimulus control, etc.) in town centers, on mosque yards, and in various other venues. We frequently drew large crowds, sometimes only men, frequently mixed between women and men and sometimes only women. At the conclusion of the formal presentation, we often divided the crowds into small groups and even spoke individually to people for long post-presentation “sessions.” On some occasions, the counselors returned the next week to the local village to see people individually. The primary idea of the program was to publicize our center in Srinagar and to attract clients from these nearby villages. Many talked extensively; many promised to come, but few actually came. The long bus ride, a lack of money, and perhaps foremost, pressure from the family to not take part in such a potentially embarrassing enterprise, were obvious reasons.

Nevertheless the center slowly gained cli-

ents. Many came on foot; some came in cars usually brought by someone else; some came in taxis. A few women came in Burkas—some out of necessity, but at least one took off her Burka immediately upon entering our building. It was clear that she did not want anyone to see her coming to the Psychiatric Hospital.

The first thing we learned from the relatively intimate contact with everyday Kashmiris was that PTSD was not to be our major diagnosis. The war had been going on for a long time; people were inured to the continual conflict. The day-to-day struggle and the occasional loss of a family member was the enemy; depression was the most common diagnosis by a factor of four to one. One other small surprise was that in this Islamic culture, we had more male than female participants.

From a psychological view, it was, occasionally like stepping back to the time when Freud had based part of his theory on hysteria and its complications. In all my years of training and practice, (over fifteen years with combat veteran clients) I had never seen a client with classic Freudian signs of hysteria. In Srinagar I saw at least two patients with outright hysterical symptoms. One was a woman with globus hystericus who declared that there was something in her throat that was keeping her from swallowing. Medical examination by MDs found nothing. In a few short weeks of talk therapy and the kind ministrations of one of our female counselors the problem was cured. Another case of a young boy with involuntary mutism was “cured” by one of our counselors. I told her that if she never did anything else in her life, she had proved the value of her service.

Since we were connected to the Kashmir Psychiatric Hospital, we had access to the director and the staff. Some attempt was made to try to improve conditions which were, by most western measures, horrible. Visiting the grounds was like going to the set of the 1940s movie “The Snake Pit”. The most difficult cases were kept in a large room with barred windows and a barred door which looked out the central compound. Patients inside were like prisoners staring out through the bars eager for conversation with any passerby. Food was distributed a few times a day but there were almost no indoor tables and chairs. Lunch

was usually eaten on one's lap, frequently outside in the courtyard. In winter this sometimes involved snow.

Licensed Psychiatrists, freshly out of medical school, did a rotation in the Psychiatric Hospital, but rarely did anyone stay to work there. One exception was a female P.A. level person who, according to strict Islamic custom, kept her head covered and would not allow any male to touch her, even to shake her hand. Most of the patients were male.

It could be said that the hospital was run by an orderly who was the president of the worker's union. He got anything he wanted—the threat of strike was always real. On one particular day, when a strike was called, we attempted to keep our little clinic operating although the rest of the hospital was locked with padlocks. After a few hours the orderly came to our door with two of his lieutenants and a padlock in his hand. He told us we could be locked in or locked out; it was our choice. We went home for an enforced holiday which lasted only another day since his union quickly got what they wanted.

MSF often starts demonstration projects, running them for a few years, stepping back, attempting to get the local people or the government to take over operations. This was the first and only counseling center in Kashmir. As a former university person, I thought that the The University of Kashmir, located on the border of Srinager, was a good prospect. They had a new MA psychology program with a faculty of about five Ph.D. psychologists. The students were in their first year of a two year program. It seemed to me that a good first step would be to set up an adjunct counseling center at the university and so a number of discussions to this end ensued with the faculty. It would have been an opportunity for their students to gain experience in practical, applied psychology. MSF could have initially staffed the adjunct center with one or two of our people. There were two problems that emerged: no one on the faculty had clinical psychological experience or a license; and, it was not the MSF way to do something so normal as to establish a counseling center at a university.

We wanted to increase the number of

women coming to the clinic, thus a women's initiative was needed to help with the clinic's credibility. It was decided to hold an "MSF Women's Day" in coordination with the various elements of the civil society in Srinagar. Several planning sessions were held and within several weeks, "MSF Women's Day" was scheduled and held.

The local Medical School provided the facilities. The cost to MSF was relatively minimal. About 95 women responded that they would come; about 65 took part. The local television station came and taped some of the events. There was a plenary session and several break-out sessions with intriguing titles like: "Women and Society" and "Women and Work". It was the first of its kind and thus by any measure had to be considered a success.

"MSF Women's Day" was on a Saturday. On Tuesday morning at about 8:15, the phone rang at the MSF Offices. The man on the other end did not give his name but said he was from the LeT—Lashkar-e-Toiba. He said that the LeT didn't like what we were doing. The timing of the call and its implication about Women's Day was obvious. In addition he said that MSF needed more male counselors—we had too large a proportion of females—and that they didn't like the sometimes too cozy relationships among the males and females on the staff. He said they would be watching us.

According to the local Srinagar newspaper, of the 27 separatist groups operating in Kashmir, LeT, Lashkar-e-Toiba, is by far the largest. It was been implicated in the recent bombings of luxury hotels in Mumbai. They do not make idle talk. There was no second annual MSF Women's Day.

The roadside IED killing of a local reporter known to all of the staff, and the later machine-gunning in Afghanistan of a clearly marked MSF car killing all five people inside, caused a pall, but perhaps spurred a realization of the continuing need. The counseling program went on. There are now, in 2009, several MSF counseling centers in Srinagar and in other cities in Kashmir dealing with the psychological problems caused by ongoing war.

Award Announcements

Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Paul Pedersen



Graduate Student Research Award Winners



**Daniel Hess, Ph.D.
Post-Doctoral Fellow
University of Minnesota**

Dissertation Title:

The Mental Health Sequelae and Treatment of
Massive Community Violence in West Africa

Advisor:

Dr. Michael P. Goh

**Huan Jacqueline Ye, M.A.
Counseling Psychology Doctoral Candidate
University of Florida**

Dissertation Title:

Maximization and
Perfectionism

Advisor:

Dr. Kenneth G. Rice



**Congratulations
to the Award Winners!**

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Call for Research Participation

Dear international trainees,

I am a doctoral student at Lehigh University. Under the supervision of Arpana G. Inman, Ph.D., I am investigating international trainees' clinical supervision experiences in clinical, counseling, family therapy, school counseling, social work, and related fields. I am seeking international students' participation in our study.

If you have already participated in this study, please disregard. If you are an international student or know international students in counseling psychology or other related fields, please consider participating in the study or forwarding this request.

The purpose of the study is to increase understanding on what influences international trainees' behaviors during supervision. The current study will fill gaps in the literature on multicultural supervision, in particular, supervision with international trainees.

You will be able to access the online survey from the following hyperlink:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2fLZSKL3h5rDoSugmJ8gsqg_3d_3d

The online survey contains informed consent, measures on supervision, demographic sheet, and a hyperlink to a separate survey to enter a raffle for a \$25 gift card at Barnes and Noble. Students will be asked to respond to questions regarding their clinical supervision experience with their most recent supervisor.

The eligibility for participation in this study includes being an international graduate student (with a student visa, e.g., F-1, J-1) in clinical psychology, counseling psychology, or related fields who has received clinical supervision.

The current study is anonymous and students' identifiable information will not be asked as a part of the study. The length of the survey is approximately 20 to 30 minutes. Students' participation in the current study is voluntary and they are free to withdraw from the study at any time.

Furthermore, any information collected through this study will be kept confidential.

If you have any questions regarding this study, please do not hesitate to contact Yoko Mori (yom3@lehigh.edu) or Arpana G. Inman, Ph.D. (agi2@lehigh.edu). Furthermore, this study has been approved by the Institutional Review Board at Lehigh University. If you have questions or concerns regarding your or your students' participation in this study, you may contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Lehigh University, (610)758 3021. All reports or correspondence will be kept confidential.

I thank you in advance for your time and support.

Sincerely,

Yoko Mori, M.S.
Arpana G. Inman, Ph.D.
Counseling Psychology Program
Lehigh University

Yom3@lehigh.edu
Ag12@lehigh.edu

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Request for Information

Dear colleagues:

I am in the process of preparing a book chapter on how group counseling, including psychoeducational and therapy groups are used in international contexts. I am especially interested in two areas: 1.) How professionals in countries other than the US have applied and adapted group approaches developed in North America? 2.) What group approaches, theories, and practices have developed and emerged in other countries?

Please send any article reprints, reference citations, working papers, research studies and/ or comments to:

J. Jeffries McWhirter Ph.D., ABPP
Professor Emeritus
Arizona State University

110 E. Fremont Drive
Tempe, Arizona
(e-mail) mcwhirter@asu.edu

The 7th Conference of the International Test Commission

July 19-21, 2010

(July 18, 2010 Pre-conference workshops)

Hong Kong



CALL FOR PAPERS

Submission: <http://www.itc2010hk.com>

Theme: Challenges and Opportunities in Testing and Assessment in a Globalized Economy

Sub-Themes

- * **Developments in psychometrics and test theory for international testing**
- * **Indigenous, second language, and cross national test development**
- * **Geotrends in testing: making use of technology advances in test administration and data management**
- * **Issues of policy, ethics, professionalism and training in multinational testing**
- * **Test security and privacy concerns when testing internationally**

Important Dates

Call for papers and symposia: [1 January, 2009](#)
Closing deadline for proposals: [1 December, 2009](#)
Notification to authors: [15 February, 2010](#)
Early bird registration: [1 April, 2010](#)

State-of the-Art Lecture

John Hattie (University of Auckland, New Zealand)

Global testing, global opportunities, global challenges, and a global future for assessment

Robert Roe (University of Maastricht, The Netherlands)

Testing for travelers: Past and future

Keynote Address

Fanny M. Cheung (The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China)

From indigenous to cross-cultural personality assessment: The usefulness of the combined emic-etic approach

David Foster (KRYTERION, USA)

International high-stakes online testing: Best practices for test security and data privacy

Thomas Oakland (University of Florida, USA)

Ethical and other professional issues: What to do when working in the absence of local standards

Neal Schmitt (Michigan State University, USA)

Validation support for selection procedures

Fons van de Vijver (Tilburg University, The Netherlands)

Recent developments in international testing



Workshop Presenters and Topics

Avi Allalouf (National Institute for Testing and Evaluation, Israel)

Establishing the ITC guidelines on quality control in scoring, analysis and reporting of test scores

David Bartram (SHL, UK)

Applying IRT models to personality assessment

Barbara Byrne (University of Ottawa, Canada)

Testing basic structural equation models: Overview and hands-on application using the EQS Approach

Wai Chan (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Introduction to structural equation modeling

Kurt Geisinger (Buros Center on Testing & University of Nebraska, USA)

Evaluating test quality as users and writing manuals as authors: Two sides of a coin

Ronald Hambleton (University of Massachusetts, USA)

Item Response Theory: Introduction to concepts, models, parameter estimation and fit, and several applications

Kwok Leung (City University of Hong Kong)

Methods and designs for enhancing cross-cultural invariance

Bruno Zumbo (University of British Columbia, Canada)

Psychometric methods for investigating differential item functioning (DIF) and test bias: Concepts, methods and applications

Other Information

International Test Commission (ITC) website

<http://www.intestcom.org>

Department of Psychology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) website

<http://www.psy.cuhk.edu.hk>

Organizing Committee

Email: itc2010@psy.cuhk.edu.hk

The 7th ITC Conference is a satellite meeting of the 27th International Congress of Applied Psychology, 11-16 July 2010, Melbourne, Australia

<http://www.icap2010.com>

International Section APA Events

Thursday, August 6

Location: MTCC

9-9:50 (RM 206F) International Forum-Successful Publishing in U.S. Counseling Psychology Journals by International Scholars

10-10:50 (RM 711) International Women In US Psychology—A Career Development Exploration

11-11:50 (RM 206E) Counseling Chinese— Empirical Studies and Cultural Adaptation (CEU's)

12-12:50 (RM 705) Cross-Cultural Understandings

Friday, August 7

Location: MTCC

2-2:50 (RM 709) - Career Counseling for Chinese University Students – International and Local Issues

Saturday, August 8

Location: MTCC

8-8:50 (RM 206A) - Model Curriculum for Internationalizing Counseling Psychology

9-9:50 (RM 206B) - Internationalization of Counseling Psychology –Lessons Learned and the Future Envisioned

11-11:50 (Exhibit Halls D and E) - International and Assessment Poster Session

Sunday, August 9

Location: MTCC

8-8:50 (RM 803A) - 2008 International Counseling Psychology Conference— What's Next? (CEU's)

International Section APA Events

Thursday, August
6th

4:00-5:00

International
Section Board
Meeting

Friday, August 7th

7:30-9:00 International Scholars and
Welcome Breakfast

9:00-10:00 International Section
Business Meeting

2:00-4:00 International Mentoring
Orientation Program

Saturday, August 8th

9:00-10:00 International Section
Program (Celebrating Pedersen
conversation hour) in Metro
Toronto 206B

* All events except Inter-
national Section Program
will be in the Division
Hospitality Suite. Please
join us!

27th International Conference of

APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

11-16 July 2010, MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

International Association of Applied Psychology • Australian Psychological Society



Key Dates

- Call for Symposia opens
February 2009
 - Call for Panel Discussions, Individual Oral Papers, Brief Oral Presentations & Electronic Posters Opens
1 July 2009
 - Call for Symposia, Panel Discussions, Individual Oral Papers, Brief Oral Presentations & Electronic Posters Closes
1 December 2009
 - Authors Notified of Acceptance
End of February 2010
 - Registrations Open
July 2009
 - Early Bird Registration deadline
March 2010
- * Please note that dates are subject to change at the discretion of the Organizing Committee.

For more information, visit the conference website at <http://www.icap2010.com/index.php>