



ISCAR NEWS

Vol. 6, No. 1

January 2008

ISCAR MEMBERSHIP NEWS

1. ISCAR Membership Contribution for 2008
2. Membership Status
3. Background Information Concerning Membership Contribution

FROM THE PRESIDENT

4. Reflections on ISCAR's Financial Policy

SECTION NEWS

5. Italia ISCAR Section

ANNOUNCEMENTS

6. From the Editors of *Mind, Culture, and Activity*— Online Submission of Manuscripts

PUBLICATIONS

7. New Books by ISCAR Members

ISCAR NEWS

8. 28% Discount on Subscriptions to *Mind, Culture, & Activity* for ISCAR members
9. ISCAR Congress News

ISCAR MEMBERSHIP NEWS

1. ISCAR Membership Contribution for 2008

The ISCAR membership contribution for 2008 is \$25 USD. All persons who want to be members of ISCAR are asked to make this contribution. If this amount is problematic, then write to ISCAR's president, Seth Chaiklin <seth@iscar.org>

Preferred methods for making this contribution are by credit card, bank trans-

fer or Paypal. It is not a problem if several persons want to send their contribution together in a single payment, simply inform: treasurer@iscar.org

We can also receive checks in some currencies. Detailed information at: <http://www.iscar.org/membership.html>

2. Background Information Concerning Membership Contribution

When ISCAR started in 2002, the Executive Committee decided to make two possibilities for membership contribution (\$50 USD or \$25 USD). Furthermore, it was decided that all persons were full members of ISCAR, regardless of the amount they contributed. Recognizing variations both in individual life circumstances and interest to support ISCAR, the Executive Committee wanted each individual to decide the amount they wanted to contribute, rather than treat its members in categories (such as employment status or country of resi-

dence). The two values were chosen as being possible for all persons to pay, regardless of their individual situation, and allowed ISCAR to avoid classifying persons categorically.

Since 2002, it has been possible for ISCAR to develop some financial resources, as well as have sufficient funds for its minimal operating costs. Therefore the Executive Committee has decided to simplify matters even further and use only a single amount for the membership contribution.

3. Membership Status

If you are curious or uncertain about your membership status (i.e., are you up-to-date? Do we have the right address for you?), then you use:

<http://www.iscar.org/quickreg.html>

After entering your name and email address, you will receive an automatic email reply with information about your status. (Do not worry if it looks like you are registering as a new member.)

From the President

Reflections on ISCAR's Financial Policy

Dear ISCAR Member,

In my last communication [ISCAR News, Vol. 5, No. 1], I explained the heterogeneous nature of the scientific interests that come together within ISCAR, and some of its implications for ISCAR's organisational form. In this communication, I discuss ISCAR's financial policy and its implications for ISCAR's activities.

So far ISCAR's operating costs have been minimal. The webserver and its content has been produced and run on a voluntary basis. The same for the newsletter. We will continue to try to use minimal resources, but it is likely that in the near future we will need to use some of our financial resources to insure the stability and quality of the website and the newsletter. The budget for the Congress is supported entirely by participant fees. ISCAR funds have been used, if necessary, as a loan to help Congress organisers with initial expenses. Executive Committee meetings have been financed by individual members of the Executive Committee. I hope this will continue to be possible in the future. In short, ISCAR has not had an extensive (or expensive) central bureaucracy — not even a part-time secretary for that matter! Its Executive Committee has not been enjoying luxury hotels and first-class travel. As President, I paid the costs of my participation in Sevilla, and will have to make applications to get the resources to come to San Diego.

The main function of ISCAR is to support scientific communication (as seen in the Society's Articles 3 and 4). Such activities could, in principle, be initiated and managed centrally in ISCAR. One is familiar with other scientific organisations that have extensive publication activities, organise symposia, and so forth.

However, at its last meeting, the Executive Committee decided not to use ISCAR's financial resources to support, for example, travel to its international Congress, projects to publish relevant manuscripts, operating costs for regional and local meetings. Rather the Executive Committee chose a minimalist form, where activities within ISCAR should be initiated and supported by its members, not as 'official' ISCAR activities, but as activities initiated by ISCAR members.

I believe the main reasons for this policy choice were (a) the diversity within ISCAR, in combination with limited resources, which makes it difficult to choose particular projects to support, and (b) an interest to maintain a minimal membership contribution so that everyone who wants to participate in the scientific communication found within ISCAR will have the possibility to do so. The recent decision to set a minimal annual ISCAR contribution for 2008 can be understood in relation to this policy.

Clearly there is an interaction between having financial resources and initiating/supporting scientific activities. Many ISCAR members can (and would be willing to) give a larger annual contribution. However, the minimalist financial policy can be understood in relation to the idea that ISCAR's diversity should be served by member-initiated activities, rather than centrally-organised projects — as explained in my previous communication.

ISCAR's 'wealth' lies among its members and their efforts and abilities to organise useful activities. In this spirit, ISCAR tries to encourage the development of local and regional activities that support scientific communication, with

the ISCAR organisation providing some practical support in terms of its website and mailing lists. Where possible, ISCAR can also provide letters of support and/or other forms of coordination that might make it easier for indi-

viduals and groups to seek financial or practical support in relation to ISCAR activities.

Seth Chaiklin <seth@iscar.org>

Section News

5. Italia ISCAR Section

At the end of 2005, a request from some Italian ISCAR members led to the start of an ISCAR mailing list for people in Italy who were interested in the theoretical perspectives found within ISCAR. At present there are about 60 members on the list, which is used primarily for its members to send announcements about conferences and new publications, and to organize joint symposia and other academic activities. Communication proceeds in Italian, but all are

welcome to be members of the list. To be added write to: Beatrice Ligorio <bealigorio@hotmail.com>

In May 2007, the section started its website at: <http://www.iscar.org/it/>

The section is now working towards holding its first section meeting on the theme 'Metodi di ricerca nella Psicologia Culturale'.

Announcements

6. From the Editors of *Mind, Culture, and Activity* Online Submission of Manuscripts

Those of you who have submitted articles to *Mind, Culture, and Activity* in the past know that until about 2 years ago, the journal had a paper-only submission system, which required you to submit three printed versions of your manuscript. To speed up the process of reviewing and to serve authors better, we went electronic about 2 years ago, but our system was based entirely on email, with a database that we kept on personal computers and the university server. Beginning on January 2, 2008, all of our edito-

rial work will be handled entirely through online submissions.

Submit articles directly through:

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/mca/>

Do not send articles to the editor via email. Most readers should be familiar with submitting and reviewing manuscripts online, because other journals have been using online submission for some time. We, the editors of *Mind, Culture, and Activity*, look forward to receiving manuscripts from you through this new system.

Publications

7. New Books by ISCAR Members

Psychotherapy in everyday life

Ole Dreier

2007, Cambridge University Press, 344 pages

ISBN: 13: 9780521880176 (hb), \$85 USD

ISBN: 13: 9780521706131 (pb), \$34.99 USD

Description

Shows how clients employ therapy in their daily lives. The varied and extensive efforts involved in this are systematically overlooked in therapy research. The book shines important new light on processes of personal change and learning in practice. More generally speaking, it launches a theory of personhood based on how persons conduct their everyday lives in social practice. This approach and many of the book's findings are of immediate relevance for understanding other fields of expert practice.

Table of Contents

Introduction; 1. Researching psychotherapy as a social practice; 2. Theorizing persons in structures of social practice; 3. A study: its design and conduct; 4. Clients' ordinary lives plus sessions; 5. Therapy in clients' social practice across places; 6. Changes in clients' practice across places; 7. Changing problems across places; 8. The conduct of everyday life and the life trajectory; 9. The childrens' changing conducts of everyday life and life trajectories; 10. The parents' changing conducts of everyday life and life trajectories; 11. The changing conduct of everyday family life and family trajectory; 12. Research in social practice.

Transgressões convergentes – Vigotski, Bakhtin, Bateson

João Wanderley Geraldi, Bernd Fichtner & Maria Benites

2007, Campinas, Mercado de Letras, 200 pp

ISBN: 85-7591-056-6

R\$ 42,00

O conjunto de textos desse livro visita variados temas com uma preocupação constante: enxergar o verso das questões para nele tecer, com categorias encontradas nos pensamentos de Bakhtin, Vigotski e Bateson, elementos de respostas que sustentem uma prática de relações educativas. Nossos temas, aparentemente aleatórios, resultam de provocações ora trazidas pela participação em eventos de formação de professores, seminários, congressos e assemelhados, ora levantadas por nossos alunos e posteriormente discutidas pelos autores, de diferentes maneiras. Cada texto guarda marcas de seu processo de produção e o estilo varia segundo a

maior ou menor contribuição de cada um de nós em sua elaboração. Nós assinamos a todos, como produto de um trabalho coletivo, mas sabemos cada um de nós – e o leitor poderá detectar isso até mesmo nas remessas bibliográficas – que mantivemos nossas especialidades e contribuimos de forma distinta para a versão final deste livro.

Esperamos, com a reunião destes textos, colaborar com a discussão sobre as questões de desenvolvimento, sobre a centralidade da linguagem nos processos de constituição das subjetividades, sobre a importância de ultrapassar os quadros propostos se fazendo acompanhar pelas manifestações artísticas, sobre a imperiosa relação com a alteridade e sobre as disponibilidades que as novas tecnologias estão aportando e que nos provocam pelas práticas que a partir delas estão em construção.

ISCAR News

8. 28% Discount on subscriptions to *Mind, Culture, and Activity* for ISCAR members

A 28% discount is offered to ISCAR members for new and renewed subscriptions to the quarterly journal *Mind, Culture, and Activity*, published by Taylor and Francis. (This offer does NOT apply to persons who have already paid for a 2008 subscription.)

Rates for year 2008:

43 USD (normally: 60 USD)
25 GBP (normally 36 GBP)
34 EUR (normally 48 EUR)

You may order from the publisher by telephone, fax, post, or email. To receive detailed instructions about how to get the discount, send an empty email to: mca-request@iscar.org

Information about the journal:

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/1074-9039>

9. ISCAR Congress News

15 February 2008 — Deadline for Abstracts

Information about the Second ISCAR Congress (9-13 September 2008) is available at the Congress website: <http://iscar2008.com/>

Deadline for submitting abstracts is: 15 February 2008.

Abstracts should be submitted using the simple web interface found at: <http://iscar.ucsd.edu/>

You can look at the submission form without having to submit an abstract.

Other news

- Anyone interested in participating in a digital ethnography course before and during the Congress should contact Antonieta Mercado: amercado@ucsd.edu
- Individuals interested in organizing a webcast center to receive some of the presentations at the Congress should contact Olga Vasquez: ovasquez@weber.ucsd.edu
- Congress brochures and poster at: http://iscar2008.com/Contact_Us.html

You are welcome to submit news items to: news@iscar.org
Send short abstracts of recently completed ph.d theses to: news@iscar.org
Copies of previous newsletters are available from: news@iscar.org
Send email and postal address changes to: new-address@iscar.org

Design and Layout: Seth Chaiklin
Editor: Seth Chaiklin

ISCAR is an association, whose purpose is the promotion and development of multidisciplinary theoretical and empirical research on societal, cultural and historical dimensions of human practices.

<http://www.iscar.org>
info@iscar.org