

SIETAR | USA

Society for Intercultural Education
Training and Research

SUSANews: The SIETAR-USA Newsletter

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SIETAR USA Officers

President: Heather Robinson

President-elect: Esther Louie

Secretary: Monica Mumford

Treasurer: Hap Sermol

Executive Director: Margaret D. Pusch

1. Letter from the President

As we look back over the last year, we are grateful for the hard work on the part of many volunteers but especially the 2004 Conference Chairs, Tatyana Fertelmeyster and Thiagi. Looking forward to the 2005 conference, the memories of outstanding sessions and workshops, the charm of the IU Union and its wonderfully supportive staff, and the delight of collegial conversation and learning linger on. We are also grateful to our generous sponsors whose logos, with links, can now be found on the SIETAR USA web site.

My unexpected departure from the conference due to the death of my beloved mother-in-law did not permit me to offer congratulations and appreciation to all those responsible for the conference at its closing. The meaning of what we do took on a new dimension as wonderful intercultural friends took care of all the arrangements for my departure and continued to be supportive long-distance. I have many reasons to be appreciative of all of you, the members of SIETAR, who become a circle of caring when needed and are

always good colleagues and friends.

With warm good wishes from Bangalore for the new year.

Heather Robinson
President

2. Letter from the Executive Director

I would like to add my appreciation for the outstanding work of the 2004 Conference Committee. This successful 5th Annual Conference will be a model for planning the 6th. The planning has begun as you will discover from several items below and the 2005 Committee is not only hard at work but finding ways to have fun in the process.

The year 2004 ended on a tragic note with the news from South Asia of the tsunami. This massive disaster has caused much discussion among SIETARIans about how best to respond. Realizing that the need for rebuilding societies, as well as the physical infra-structure, will go on for some time, we are slowly searching for a way to help that fits our mission. If you have an idea about how SIETAR USA could make a difference in that region, let us know.

We are saddened by the news that two colleagues have been taken from us. Later in the newsletter, there will be a tribute to Popie Mohring and Bill Gudykunst. Popie will be unknown to many younger members but her lively mind and enthusiastic support will be remembered by some of us who are older. Bill was a prolific writer and will live on through his books.

On a Society note, we look forward to a new year anticipating the implementation of a new structure that has been created for the Society. There are ways for members to be involved and we urge you to contact committee chairs if you wish to serve in some capacity.

With my best wishes for a grand Year of the Rooster,

Peggy Pusch

3. Sixth Annual Conference News Nov 9-12, 2005

The Call for Proposals has just been issued. Here are the highlights.

SIETAR-USA SIXTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Blending Cultures, Building Strength

November 9-12, 2005
Jersey City Hyatt
Jersey City, New Jersey

SIETAR-USA (Society for Intercultural Education, Training and Research) invites you to submit proposals to present at its Sixth Annual International Conference in Jersey City, New Jersey.

This year's conference is being held in the Jersey City Hyatt where you are treated to spectacular views of and easy access to New York City. Flanked by the Hudson River, it offers an incredible view of the Manhattan skyline and is very close to New York/New Jersey historical and cultural landmarks. New York is a well-known entry point for numerous immigrants and their rich and diverse contributions have made this city one of the most cosmopolitan in the world. We

will draw on these resources to make the conference a reflection of the diversity that exists in our world.

New York is also home to the United Nations, and SIETAR is planning to take full advantage of this conference to strengthen and enhance its partnership with the UN and its members. Please come share and celebrate with us the planetary diversity and creativity this region has offer to us!

One of the missions of the intercultural field is to discover and champion the opportunities created when cultures come in contact. Our call is not only to help others function effectively in different environments, but to help realize the unique life-enriching opportunities that take place when people from different cultures interact with one another. We want to emerge from these encounters as stronger human beings, with fresh outlooks on life and new perspectives on current challenges. In addition, we want to be invigorated spiritually in ways that would not be possible if we remained within our own cultural boundaries.

In Blending Cultures, Building Strength we recognize the concept of 'the whole being greater than the sum of its parts' as one of the most powerful concepts in the intercultural field, and a driving inspiration for educators, researchers, and practitioners. When cultures come together, greater understanding, connectedness, and a truly dynamic cultural synergy can be achieved. We are enriched if these diverse views surface in an environment of positive communication, and when differences are addressed in

truly creative ways. New levels of awareness can emerge when those differences are integrated.

Infinite strengths are gained when people from different disciplines exchange ideas and perspectives on today's intercultural challenges within the context of SIETAR, where interdisciplinary blending is encouraged. We invite presenters at the SIETAR USA/6th annual conference to showcase and share the experiences through which they have gained new insights while crossing disciplines in the intercultural field. SIETAR-USA welcomes educators, trainers, researchers, professionals working with refugees and immigrants, diversity specialists, relocation consultants, international student advisors, business people and anyone interested in a dialogue on Blending Cultures Building Strength.

Please submit your proposal via email to:
Louis Alejandro Lima
Program Chair
Louis.Lima@Prudential.com
and
Oona Burke
Program Chair
Oona.Burke@Prudential.com

The deadline for priority consideration of received proposals is April 15, 2005. Final deadline is May 15, 2005. SIETAR-USA Conference Committee is a group of SIETAR members who are volunteering their efforts to organize the conference. The quality of their work in reading and choosing proposals depends upon having sufficient amount of time. Sending your proposal in earlier rather than later will help us to make our important and highly demanding task more efficient and less stressful.

The conference committee is looking forward to receiving your proposal in a timely fashion and enjoying your presentation and your company at the SIETAR-USA Sixth Annual International Conference in Jersey City, New Jersey in November of 2005.

If you have any questions or need any clarifications, please contact

Louis Lima at
Louis.Lima@Prudential.Com Please state on the e-mail subject line: *SIETAR 2005 Proposal Question*

For those who plan their travel early, Newark is the most convenient airport.

4. Local Group News

SIETAR Metro New York (SIMNY)

SIMNY recently elected new officers and board members. With an almost total turnover of the board, they began the year with a community building workshop led by Gilles Asselin and continued with a planning retreat. The new officers are:

President: Diane Nersesian
Program Directors: Louis Lima & Karen Eng
Treasurer: Rory Hayden
Director of Membership: Lourdes Tango

SIETAR Rocky Mountain

SIETAR Austin

SIETAR DC

SIETAR Houston

Some local groups are more active than others. One of the busiest is the SIETAR Houston group. Here is what is happening at SIETAR HOUSTON.

At our monthly meetings, held every second Saturday September through June, we have seen a constant attendance of about 35 people per meeting. Two recent topics included: Archie Bunker's Neighborhood, a look at the dynamics that impact the development of ethnic communities. This interactive exercise was facilitated by our own Kelli Schingen' McCloud. She has since been approached by a number of people to facilitate this for their organizations. Just last month we heard from Ms. Cindy Wigglesworth on the topic of Spiral Dynamics; this was a discussion about the evolution of the human consciousness through out the eons and the necessary stages of growth and conflict that accompany that evolution. Along with the presentation schedule, the SIETAR Houston Steering committee has been working on a plan for donating to the Tsunami victims. They have also been refining their use of the Run My Club\software that they installed last fall to help with the administrative tasks of the group. This month, the Run My Club system announced an upgrade that allows for members bios and pictures to be posted to the SITAR Houston web site. This is a significant benefit that everyone is very excited to implement.

SIETAR Baltimore

SIETAR PORTLAND OR

While there has been a significant group of inter-culturalists in Portland that

work on SIETAR USA conferences and SIIC and see each other occasionally, regular "group" meetings ended some time ago when Nessa Loewenthal left the area. This is about to change as folks in Portland consider ways to meet on a regular basis. If you are interested in being part of this group, and live in the area, email Susanne Taylor susannetaylor@myfastmail.com

Susanne Taylor and Antimo Cimino are conducting a workshop in Portland at Friendly House Community Center, February 19, 2005, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact xingcultures@yahoo.com.

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Committee News

Mentoring and Careers

Glen Sebera reports that the Mentoring and Careers committee has received the final preliminary questionnaire from all interested mentees and are now in the process of selecting and introducing possible matches. They hope to have some substantial matches and activity to report in the next newsletter.

Public Relations/Marketing Committee

Candice Hughes, Chair of this committee would like to invite members to join her committee. The tasks of this committee are to develop a marketing plan and materials that will help position SIETAR-USA as a leading and highly respected inter-cultural professional association. The goal is to bring SIETAR-USA to the attention of and involvement with other professional, governmental and non-governmental organizations whose mission and/or functions involve inter-cultural work. A secondary goal

is to bring intercultural knowledge and skills into the lives of individuals. Candice can be reached at BridgingCultures@aol.com or via her mobile number (847-226-3435). Please let her know by February 28th if you would like to be on this committee.

SUSA 2005 Conference Committee

On January 19, in the midst of a small snow storm, Diane McGreal and Tara Nielsen, Chairs of the Sixth Annual SIETAR USA Conference, Louis Lima and Oona Burke, Conference Program Chairs, Gilles Asselin, SIETAR representative to the United Nations, and Peggy Pusch, Executive Director of SIETAR-USA met at the Hyatt Regency in Jersey City, NJ to explore the venue and discuss the next steps in planning for the 2005 conference. It was the usual exploration of tasks, ideas, timelines, wishes, and people who might be willing to contribute their talent to this event. Diane and Tara are still looking for help with the auction and other jobs. Please let them know if you are willing to be part of this creative group. One concrete result of this meeting is the Call for Proposals found elsewhere in this newsletter. Set aside the dates, write a proposal, and plan to be almost in New York for the 2005 conference.

Local Groups Committee

The Local Groups committee has begun its work to encourage and promote the development of the local groups throughout the US, Canada and Mexico. There was significant interest expressed at the SIETAR USA conference in strengthening the communication between existing and nascent

groups. To this end a distribution list has been set up for the group and a quarterly conference call will be held for all interested parties. If you would like to be involved with the Local Groups Committee, please contact Beverly Zimmerman at Bevzman@houston.rr.com

SIETAR USA COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

Careers and Mentoring: Glen Sebera
Conference Oversight: Tatyana Fertelmeyster
Ethics: Andy Reynolds
Local Groups: Beverly Zimmerman and Ursula Leitzman
Membership Outreach : Kelli McLoud-Schingen
Professional Development: Sue Shinomiya
Public Relations/Marketing: Candice Hughes
Publications/Communication: Jan O'Brien
Special Interest Groups: Susan Dyer
Volunteer Coordinator: Basma Ibrahim DeVries

6. Conference Announcements

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3. [International Families in Global Transition Conference](#)
4. [ISAGA Conference](#)
5. [IMI Conference](#)
6. [IAIR Conference](#)

Announcement #1:

CALL FOR PROPOSALS for the 20th ANNUAL CONFERENCE of SIETAR JAPAN

Theme: "Constructing Multicultural Spaces: Being Ourselves Together"

SIETAR Japan will hold its 20th Annual Conference on Saturday,

June 25th and Sunday, June 26th 2005, at Rikkyo University, Ikebukuro Campus.

Our theme is intended to celebrate the process of communicating in an inclusive way that honors both self and other. We are particularly interested to explore this in relation to the world of intercultural studies in Japan today.

Please obtain and follow the guidelines and be sure to submit your proposal by the deadline. We look forward to hearing from you.

Conference Co-Chairs:
Adair Linn Nagata (Rikkyo University) & Kiyoko Sueda (Aoyama Gakuin University)

To receive Guidelines for Proposals, please contact:

E-mail: conference@sietar-japan.org
Regular mail: Kiyoko Sueda
Aoyama Gakuin University
School of International Politics and Economics
4-4-5, Shibuya
Shibuya-ku
Tokyo 150-8366

Deadline: Thursday, March 24, 2005

(Please note that the deadline will be strictly adhered to.)
Attention: Those wishing to propose a presentation for the conference must be a member of SIETAR Japan or another SIETAR organization. Presenters are also expected to pay the full conference fee.

Announcement #2

SIETAR EUROPA is planning a conference for September 21-25, 2005 in La Colle sur Loup, Nice, France

The theme is "Your Culture, My Culture, Our Opportunity: Intercultural Theories, Tools and Best Practices for Education, Society and Business in a Polarized World." Watch www.sietar-europa.org for more details.

Announcement #3

2005 INTERNATIONAL FAMILIES IN GLOBAL TRANSITION CONFERENCE
HOUSTON MARRIOTT WESTCHASE --
HOUSTON, TEXAS
15-17 SEPTEMBER 2005

Families in Global Transition (FIGT) is delighted to announce that Houston, Texas has been chosen as the site for its 7th International Families in Global Transition Conference to be held 15-17 September 2005. Houston's reputation as a vibrant international city with a thriving global community was a key factor in our selection.

The 2005 Families in Global Transition conference will be a forum where members of internationally mobile families gather with those who assist them -- human resource personnel, relocation experts, educators, and counselors. Representatives from the government, missions, military, corporate, and education sectors will share their perspectives on their common goal of helping families make smooth intercultural transitions. Together we will discuss the special dynamics encountered in the internationally mobile lifestyle, and explore practical ways to optimize the potential of this experience. Go to www.figt.org for more details.

Announcement #4

ISAGA05 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The International Simulation and Gaming Society (ISAGA) will hold

its 2005 conference in Atlanta, Georgia, USA and it is closer than you may think. It will begin on 27 June and it will end on 1 July, 2005, less than 10 months after ISAGA2004. The theme of the conference will be: SERIOUS PLAY.

Proposals and abstracts received after 1 January will be notified of your acceptance on or before 15 February, 2005. Again, include your choice of paper or workshop format and your needed time duration with the submission of the proposal or abstract. Proposals or abstracts received after 15 February will be accepted on a "space available" basis. All final drafts of documents and papers must be submitted before 15 May to be included in the CD-Rom based proceedings. All proposals, abstracts final documents and papers need to be submitted via E-mail as an attachment formatted in MSWORD format and sent to: ISAGA05@mgt.gatech.edu

Hotel reservations: Reservations at the Georgia Tech Hotel need to be made on or before 19 February, 2005. Reservation made after 28 February will not receive the conference rate.

Please feel free to contact me regarding the format for proposals or anything about ISAGA05. You may E-mail me at: ISAGA05@mgt.gatech.edu
Or call me at: 1+404-894-4355 My office phone. You may call me at home, but I will have few documents at my residence. My home telephone number is 1+770-396-5851. Or write to me at:
Richard Teach,
College of Management
Georgia Institute of Technology
800 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, GA 30332-0520 USA

Announcement #5:

You are invited to attend the 6th Annual INTERCULTURAL MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE Conference at American University, Washington DC:

Enhancing Cross-Cultural Effectiveness: Strategies and Skills for International Business, Education, Training and Development Professionals March 10-11, 2005

Keynote Speakers:

Clarence Page, Pulitzer Prize Winning Journalist, The Chicago Tribune
Harriet Mayor Fulbright, Chairman, Fulbright International Center
Dr. Akbar Ahmed, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, American University and 2004 Professor of the Year, District of Columbia
J. Douglas Holladay, General Partner, Park Avenue Equity Partners, L.P.

For complete information on conference schedule and rates: www.imi.american.edu/conferences
Contact: Anna Lee, 202-885-6439, annalee@american.edu

Announcement #6

The International Academy for Intercultural Research (IAIR) conference takes place May 4-7, 2005 at Kent State University in Kent, OH. The theme is "Conflict, Negotiation, and Mediation Across Cultures." For more information, go to <http://www.interculturalacademy.org/kent--2005.html>

7. Events Calendar

Sue Shinomiya, Chair of the Professional Development Committee, compiled this list of

events and will continue to provide information about professional development opportunities for SUSANews.

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- 1. Practitioner Certification in Workplace Diversity
- 2. IDI Qualifying Seminar
- 3. Practicing Personal Leadership
- 4. Diversity in Practice/Amsterdam
- 5. Intercultural Conflict Styles Inventory Workshop

Event #1

February 19-May 21: NEW (Beta program)- Practitioner Certification in Workplace Diversity and Ethical Pluralism, Global Diversity Institute, Long Beach, CA - 70+ hour program which offers a rigorous and integrative approach to train diversity practitioners in the new sciences and in the advances in diversity theory and practice. Explores and educates participants in multiple disciplines to become internal diversity/intercultural champions and/or external diversity/intercultural consultants and change agents. In partnership with California State University at Long Beach, Center for Ethical Leadership, Long Beach, California (Gary Adkins)
www.globaldiversityinstitute.org ("Certification")

Event #2

February 25-27: Intercultural Development Index (IDI) Qualifying Seminar: A statistically reliable, valid measure of intercultural sensitivity, based on Milton Bennet's Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity. Intercultural Communication Institute, Portland, Oregon
<http://www.intercultural.org/idi/idi.html>

Event #3

March 17-22: Living Wisdom: Practicing Personal Leadership retreat. The March 2005 seminar is inspired by the belief that each of us has the capacity to remain open and inspired in the face of cultural difference. It will afford you the opportunity to consider current and innovative thinking about leadership and the full spectrum of choices one can draw upon when living and leading among cultures. Crestone Institute, Colorado (Barbara Schaetti, Gordon Watanabe and Sheila Ramsey)

Contact: bfschaetti@transition-dynamics.com

Event #4

April 11-16: Intercultural Communication: Diversity in Practice - a professional development seminar. Consultants Intercultural Communication, Amsterdam

<http://www.cic-amsterdam.com>
("seminar")

Event #5

April 14-16: Intercultural Conflict Styles (ICS) Inventory Workshop, the ICS is the premier assessment and training tool for identifying fundamental approaches for resolving conflict across cultural and ethnic differences.

Intercultural Communication Institute, Portland, Oregon
<http://www.intercultural.org/ics.html>

8. Obituaries

The intercultural community has lost two long-time members.

Kalliope Marinou Mohring (1926-2004) was an active member of SIETAR International. The following was sent to SIETAR : "Against every indication of

her immortality, Popie Mohring has left us. She died in Minneapolis on Monday, February 9, as a result of esophageal cancer and its many complications, after eight long months in the devoted care of her husband of fifty years. In 1926 she was born Kalliope Marinou named for the muse of epic poetry-in Schimatari, Greece. At the time, educating a girl was thought to be like throwing money into the sea. But she was a smart one, and won a Fulbright scholarship to study in the U.S. She got on a boat in Pireaus and set off for a year abroad. What a long year that year has been. During it, Popie shared what came to be known, quite cheerfully, as five decades of incompatibility with her husband Herb Mohring. They raised three boys together in their house on East River Road. Herb taught economics at the University of Minnesota until his retirement. Popie put her studies on hold to raise her kids, as did so many resourceful women of her day, and in 1985 finished her Ph.D. in social psychology. Lately, they'd escaped Minnesota for winters in Irvine, California, where they both taught until she fell ill.

In the later years of her year abroad, Popie was possessed of a maniacal gardening spirit. In its eventual glory her garden looked as if it were sprung from a paradise myth.

Those who loved Popie never could quite decipher her with satisfaction, or account for all of her passions and quirks, her accent and her illusions, and, finally, her silence at the end. For all of her complexity, she was, simply put, a force of nature. Kalliope Marinou Mohring endures in the lives of her

husband and her sons' families, all in Minneapolis."

Our other loss is William Gudykunst (1947-2005) Bill is best known as an intercultural communication scholar and his research and writing has earned him the deepest respect from his colleagues. In the 2004 Handbook of Intercultural Training, edited by Janet Bennett, Milton Bennett, and Dan Landis, Gudykunst is described as one among others who "pioneered theory and research about interpersonal interaction across cultures, and formalized the use of systems theory in the study of intercultural relations" (page 1).

Sandy Fowler knew him several decades ago when he was in the US Navy, stationed in Japan. It was there that he became intrigued by the challenges of communicating across cultures. Bill has long been regarded as a giant in the field. She knew him as a gentle giant who was always ready to help Navy members and their families, make sense of the bewildering culture into which they were immersed.

SUSA Board member, Glen Sebera wrote: "Bill's text, *Communicating with Strangers*, was the first time I heard the term "intercultural communication". This was during my senior year of college. His book, and that intercultural course, obviously, had a profound effect on my career path. I appreciate his contribution to the field."

All the SUSA Board members express their sorrow at losing such a major contributor to the intercultural field.

What the Editor needs:

The Newsletter Editor would like to enlarge the editorial and writing staff of SUSANews.

The Newsletter Editor is searching for some S-USA members who would enjoy being in charge of a portion of the newsletter for each issue. Do you have a yen to write for a larger audience than your friends and family? This may be your chance. Is there a column you would like to contribute on a topic especially important to you? Contact Sandy Fowler at <sfowler@apa.org.>

The Newsletter Editor is also asking for suggestions. What would you like added to the Newsletter? Tell Sandy Fowler at sfowler@apa.org

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9. How to Reach Us