

Indian Association of Clinical Psychologists
(Registered as per Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860, Reg.No.3694/1968)

Annual Report-2008

(Presented at the 35th Annual General Body Meeting held on 17 January, 09 at Sweekar Academy of Rehabilitation Sciences, Secunderabad)

I have great pleasure in presenting before you the annual report of the Indian Association of Clinical Psychologists for the year 2008.

Elections of IACP for the year 2008-2009 and the New Executive Council

Dr. Tej Bahadur Singh, Prof and Head, Department of Clinical Psychology, IHBAS, Delhi, President-Elect of IACP 2005-2007 took over as the President from the outgoing President Dr. N. Nathawat on 08.01.08, at the Annual General body meeting held at Kolkata. The elections conducted by the returning officer Dr. K. Gireesh the outgoing secretary to the EC for the term 2008-2009 was declared null and void by the General Body. The returning officer, Dr. Tej Bahadur Singh, President of IACP in May 2008, successfully conducted the re-election for the term 2008-2009. In the Executive Council that was held on June 22, 2008 the newly elected office bearers took charge and approved the nominated members for the vacant posts in the EC.

The newly constituted Executive council is as follows: President- Dr. Tej Bahadur Singh, New Delhi, President-Elect- Dr. Malavika Kapur, Bangalore (Elected), Immediate Past President- Dr. S. S. Nathawat, Jaipur (ex-officio), Honorary General Secretary- Dr. L. S. S. Manickam, Mysore (Elected), Immediate Past Secretary- Dr. K. Gireesh, Trivandrum, Joint Secretary- Dr. Naveen Grover, Bangalore, (Nominated) Treasurer -Dr. G. S. Kaloiya, Delhi, (Elected Unopposed), Editor -Dr. S. P. K. Jena, Delhi, (Nominated), All India Council Member- Dr. Lata Hemchand, Bangalore and Dr. Sujatha D Sharma, Delhi (Both Elected), Council Members-East Region- Dr. Kaptan Singh Sengar, Ranchi (Elected Unopposed) and Mr. Prasanta Kumar Roy, Kolkata (Nominated), North Region-Dr. Shalini Anant Delhi and Dr. Surender Kumar Dhalwal Dehra Dun (Elected), South Region- Dr. Poornima Bhola, Bangalore, and Dr. Sharada Mohan, Kozhikkodu (Both Elected), West Region -Dr. Kalpana Srivastava, Pune (Elected Unopposed) and Dr. V. C. George, Miraj (Nominated), and President's Nominees-Dr. K.B. Kumar, Manipal and Dr. Ruchi Varma, Delhi.

Membership Committee and Address of Members:

Membership committee has been functioning with Dr. Sujatha as the chairperson and Dr. Naveen as the convener. The membership committee has been constituted with one faculty member from each of the training institutes in order to recruit new members and the alumni to IACP. We have tried to update the membership directory to the best possible manner.

This year we had 85 new applications for membership. We have admitted 81 members, 50 as Professional Life members, 1 Professional Annual Member, 22 Life Associate members and 8 Annual Associate Members. I congratulate all the membership committee members for reaching towards the target of 100 that we set for the year 2008.

Constitution Amendment: The constitution Revision committee was constituted with Dr. E.D. Joseph as Chairperson and Dr. Basavarajappa as the convener. Dr. G.G. Prabhu and Dr. Manoranjan Sahay were the consultants and the committee submitted its first draft by the first week of October 2008. The third draft that has 32 pages was emailed to the iacpmember egrou. Some of the clauses that were missing in the printed version of the 1995 amendments were added along with language corrections apart from other proposed amendments. The third draft with modifications is presented to the GB for approval.

Our Journal – Indian Journal of Clinical Psychology

Dr. S.P.K. Jena, Editor of IJCP has brought the pending issue of the Journal of the year 2007 in December. We are optimistic that we will be able to catch up with the publication deadlines of the Journal by the year 2009. In order to get citation index, online publication of our journal was thought of, but priority is given for publication the journal on time.

Award Committee of IACP for the year 2008-2009 was constituted in July 2008 to submit a report within 3 month's time, so that the rules for the award could be announced to the members well in advance before the annual conference in January 2009. However the committee did not function since the nominated members declined to be in the committee. The committee was reconstituted with Dr. Kalpana Srivastava, Pune Convener and Dr Rakesh Jain, Agra as member.

The current Status of the Awards- The amount given as award is very meagre and steps need to be taken to increase the amount. It was decided to contact the donors who have instituted the award to increase the principal amount. If not successful, to present the award once in two or three years. The paper that gets the N.N. Sen award –selected based on the papers published in the Indian Journal of Clinical Psychology -to be given at the time of inaugural ceremony of the annual conference and not to have a session on it during the annual conference. The feasibility of constituting new awards including 1. Student Dissertation Award- M. Phil level 2. Lifetime Achievement Award 3. Clinical Psychologist of the Year Award 3. Clinical Psychology Mentoring Award 4. Clinical Psychology Service to the Public of the Year Award. Awards from 2-5 will be citations by the IACP, does not involve presentations during the conference and will be awarded during the inaugural session of the annual conference. This is to be decided by the new award committee being constituted.

Awards 2008: This year's award presentations are as follows: Kang Oration- Dr. Kaliappan, Chennai, H.N. Murthy Oration- Dr. Basavanna, Bangalore, Asha Nigam Award -Dr. Adarsh Kohli, Chandigarh, and Psycho Oration- Dr. Venkatesan, Mysore.

IACP Task Forces: The IACP has constituted Three Task Forces on Practice Guidelines. **1. Anxiety Related Disorders -Dr. K.B.Kumar** –(Coordinator). **2 Learning Disability-Dr. Annie John** (Coordinator) **3. Management guidelines for children with special needs** (excluding learning disability)- **Dr. T.B. Singh** (Coordinator). We are hoping to bring out the practice guidelines on Learning Disability in the year 2009. Those who are interested in the related areas and would like to contribute are requested to contact the respective coordinators.

Task force on Disaster Preparedness was constituted with Dr. K. B. Kumar as the chairperson and Mr. Prasanta as the convener. On its behalf, a need assessment was conducted in some of the flood-affected areas of Bihar in September, 2008. Following the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack and in the background of increasing number of young people being recruited for terrorist activities from various parts of our country, the relevance for the task force has increased. Dr. Sobhana Sonpar, who had worked in this area, has volunteered to steer the activities of this task force further. We are thinking of having at least one representative from each state in this task force to coordinate the activities more effectively across the country.

IACP member egroup- An egroup of IACP members was formed. It is meant only for the members of IACP. Those members whose email was available with the membership was included. As of now 276 are part of this egroup.

News and Views- It was decided to revive News and Views as e- newsletter. We hope to bring it out in January 2009.

Settling of Accounts of IACP 2004-2005: Steps were taken to settle the accounts during the tenure of Dr. Anil Kumar, previous treasurer and Dr. K. Gireesh, past secretary. The details will be provided in the treasurer's report.

NACIACP-2009, our Annual conference is being held January, 16-18, 2009 at Secunderabad and the theme of the conference is 'Enabling the Disabled'. On behalf of the IACP, I thank Dr. Hanumantha Rao, of Sweekar Academy of Rehabilitation Sciences, the Chairman of the organizing committee Dr. Rangaswamy the lead organizing secretary, Dr. Niranjana Reddy and Dr. Bhaskar Naidu the other organizing secretaries and the team including Mr. Vijayaragavan for organizing the conference. The conference has 241 registered delegates including students.

Grievances of Members: One of the EC Members brought to notice the disciplinary action taken by the State Government against Mr. Raj Kumar, Professional Life Member of our association. Though there was no request from the member, when the association contacted him, he refused to take any help from the association.

I conclude this report with thanks to the President, the President-Elect, the Treasurer, the Editor and all the members of the Executive Council for their constant support and for working together as a team. I also thank all the Chairpersons and Convenors of the sub-committees especially the Constitution Amendment Committee and its consultants and the different Task Forces in helping the organization to make a mark in the activities of our Association. I request the cooperation of all members to achieve the targets that we have set for year-2009.

For and on behalf of the Executive Council

Sd/-

L.S.S. Manickam

Hon. General Secretary, IACP.