

ECP Milano 2015

Invited symposium, an EFPA sponsored event

1. Title

Culture and Ethnic Diversity – Current Issues for the Psychologists' Profession

2. List of authors

Convenor:

Ludek Kolman

Presenters:

Alexander Thomas

Ulrike de Ponte

Carla Moleiro

Sylvie Graf

Discussant:

Ulrike de Ponte

3. Macro Area and topics:

Area: C – Culture and Society

Topics: P - Other

4. Introduction & Objectives (2000 characters, spaces included)

The symposium focuses on subject matter closely connected to the current task of the Taskforce for Culture and Ethnic Diversity. The most pressing undertaking the members of the Taskforce address their efforts to concerns preparation of guidelines for the incorporation of knowledge on (the implications of) Cultural and Ethnic Diversity in the education and professional work of psychologists in various areas. Part of this effort involves proposing ways of the development of curriculum components on Cultural and Ethnic Diversity at the bachelor and master levels in the study of psychology students. As it could be evidenced in the symposium program, all the presentations deal with the topics connected or closely related to the stated purpose. Alexander Thomas' presentation and workshop deal with ways of achieving intercultural competence. Carla Moleiro adds concern for ethical standards in the field and my own presentation tries to find a way to a less complex and because of it less costly training in the same area. The presentation of Graf and Zingora brings new knowledge on a rather theoretical, but at the same time exceedingly practical task of benefits of ethnic diversity.

It might be asserted without doubt that the intercultural encounters are very frequent nowadays, as is the frequent mingling of diverse ethnicities. The same holds for claims on the necessity to understand people who are different from us and finding ways how to establish mutual understanding and cooperation. The Taskforce for Culture and Ethnic Diversity tries to establish ways and procedures by which professional psychologists might be able to contribute substantially, ethically, and in really professional ways just to these ends. This, of course, involves care and involvement in curricula of psychology students and research efforts on cross-cultural matters.

5. Speakers presentations

Convenor:

Ludek Kolman, PhDr., CSc.

Associate Professor of Psychology

Department of Psychology

Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague

16521 Prague 6 – Suchbátka, Kamycka Str. 129, Czech Republic

Email: kolman@pef.czu.cz

Presenters:

Alexander Thomas, i. R., Dr. phil. Dr. h.c.

Professor of Psychology, Universität Regensburg

Classen-Kappelmann-Str.28, 50931 Köln-Lindenthal

Email: alexander.thomas@psychologie.uni-regensburg.de

Sylvie Graf, PhD

Research Fellow

Institute of Psychology

Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Veveri 97, 602 00 Brno, Czech Republic

sylvie.graf@psu.cas.cz

Carla Moleiro, PhD

Assistant Professor of Psychology, Department of social and organizational Psychology

Lisbon University Institute ISCTE-IUL

Avenida Forças Armadas, Ed. ISCTE, 1649-026 Lisbon, Portugal

Email: Carla.moleiro@iscte.pt

Ulrike de Ponte, Dipl.-Psych.

Executive Director of the Additional Study Programme "International Competence", Research Fellow

Department of General Science and Microsystems Engineering

University of Applied Science Regensburg

Galgenbergstr. 30, 93050 Regensburg, Germany

Email: ulrike.de_ponte@oth-regensburg.de

6. Abstracts of presentations (350 characters, spaces included, each)

Intercultural Competence is Psychology

Alexander Thomas & Ulrike de Ponte

Intercultural Competence presupposes processes of development and learning of a special sort.

Psychology can offer systematic and theory-based training to enable experiential learning. This presentation will show some contributions that psychology and psychological theories can offer to this field of learning and experience, and to the development of intercultural competence.

Ethical standards for psychologists working with culturally and ethnically diverse populations: The interplay between ethical principles and ethical virtues

Carla Moleiro

In an increasingly diverse European context psychologists need to be able to work with people who are culturally different from themselves. The present presentation will explore the development of

ethical standards for psychologists working with culturally and ethnically diverse populations. A set of specific standards will be explored and discussed.

Ethical and cultural diversity – workshop

Alexander Thomas & Ulrike de Ponte

Intercultural competence can be understood as a key competence. As fundamental assumptions it is claimed (i) that there exist specific methods to achieve this competence; and (ii) there are established methods that result in a life-long learning processes concerning this end. This workshop will be focused on developing a curriculum of intercultural competence for BA and MA programs of psychology students.

Benefits of Ethnic Diversity: Secondary Transfer Effect from Intergroup Contact with Vietnamese to Prejudice against Roma

Sylvie Graf & Tibor Zingora

Prejudice solidifies existing boundaries between groups and segregation perpetuates distrust and animosities between their members. One of the most effective ways to reduce prejudice is by having members of different groups engage in contact with each other. Intergroup contact does not only reduce prejudice against the encountered outgroup, but also against other less frequently encountered groups.

Intercultural sensibility training

Ludek Kolman

The paper deals with the development of intercultural sensibility training for psychologists, and demonstrates techniques which might be employed to accomplish the training objectives. The training course discussed aims to help understanding and getting experience of the trainees concerning the differences of individualist and collectivist cultures which seems to be rather important in communication.