

## Reports

### Conference of the International Society for the Study of Individual Differences ISSID 2017

Warsaw, July 24-28, 2017

On July 24–28, 2017 a Conference of the International Society for the Study of Individual Differences was held in Warsaw. Among the Polish co-organizers of the event were the Institute of Psychology of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Department of Psychology of the University of Warsaw. ISSID conferences have a long tradition and have been held in different parts of the world for over thirty years now. In Poland, ISSID last hosted a meeting twenty two years ago, also in Warsaw. The last edition of the event, aimed at exchanging knowledge and experiences in the field of research on individual differences, attracted about 400 attendees from over 30 countries. The conference program included four keynote lectures, four invited symposia, two panel sessions, 16 symposia, over 100 individual papers, and about 160 posters. The Conference opening ceremony took place at the Copernicus Science Centre. The members of the Scientific Committee and the Organizing Committee welcomed the audience and a welcome address was delivered by the chairman of the International Society for the Study of Individual Differences, Philip Corr. After the opening ceremony and an introduction to the problems of research on individual differences, the participants of the Conference took part in a recital.

The second day of the conference began in the Auditorium Maximum of the University of Warsaw with an inaugural lecture entitled *People differ from each other in three ways—as actors, agents, and authors* delivered by D. McAdams. The next item on the agenda was an invited symposium led by C. DeYoung, dedicated to personality issues, and inspired by McAdams' conception. As part of the symposium, a discussion was held on the approach to examining and explaining personality at three levels: the integration of traits, characteristic adaptations, and narrative identity. At the same time, three *paper sessions* were held, devoted to temperamental traits in various areas of functioning, personality structure, and the biological foundations of individual differences. Next on the Conference schedule were the following symposia: *Peering into the darkness: Life history work on the Dark Triad traits* (P. Jonason), *Emotional intelligence* (A. Di Fabio), *Computational approaches to personality research* (A. Pickering, A. Brown), and *Building the Future: The Neuroscience of Cognitive Ability* (A. Chuderski). On that day, the first panel session, organized by M. Kosiński and L. Smillie, was also held. The title of the sessions was *Facing the future of personality psychology*. During this session, six scientists representing various environments dealing with personality psychology participated in a discussion, sharing their experiences and thoughts on key issues regarding the future of this area of knowledge. Among others issues, the following topics were touched upon: research methods and tools, preparation of young scientists to conduct research, and applicability of research in the context of social and political changes and in the occupational area. On the second day of the Conference, attendees participated in *Young Minds' Festival* hosted by G. Matthews. As part of the *Festival*, young researchers presented the results of their studies in the

psychology of individual differences. The second day of the Conference concluded with a poster session held in the University Library. During the meeting, over 70 scientific posters were presented, whose topics concerned personality traits, their mechanisms, correlates and functions, emotions and their regulation, mood, the dark triad of personality (Machiavellianism, narcissism and psychopathy), as well as individual differences in the context of health and clinical problems. After the poster session, the Board of the International Society for the Study of Individual Differences had its meeting.

The third day of the Conference kicked off with a lecture by D. Buss. He devoted his speech to the evolution of sexual morality, including issues such as monogamy/polygamy, incest, age of sexual initiation, homosexuality, loyalty, prostitution, and various forms of sexual betrayal. The next item on that day's schedule was a symposium led by A. Wytykowska, entitled *Self-regulation and emotion-regulation: Personality, cognitive, and biological processes*. The symposium was divided into two parts. In the first part, the authors of the presentations focused on the issue of emotion regulation, and in the second, papers on the role of cognitive processes in the effectiveness of self-regulation were delivered. At the same time, *paper sessions* were held on intelligence, giftedness and creativity; personality, affect, motivation and cognitive functions, and the dark triad of personality. In the next part of the Conference program, the attendees participated in the following symposia: *Advances in research on emotional intelligence* (E. Austin and D. Saklofske), *Personality and health: Effects and integrations* (S. Kreitler), *Multimethodological brain imaging approaches to the understanding of individual differences in human behavior* (E. Duke and C. Montag), and *Advances in behavior genetic research* (R. Riemann). The last scientific item on the Conference agenda planned for the third day of the conference was a lecture by P. Vernon entitled *Beyond the Big 5*. Apart from presenting the history of five-, six- and multi-factor personality theories and the extent to which they explained the variance in human behaviour, Vernon raised the issue of the construct, similar to those included in the Dark Triad—of the self-destructive interpersonal style.

M. Eysenck gave a lecture commencing the debate on the fourth day of the Conference. In his speech, he discussed the theoretical approaches useful for understanding the construct of trait anxiety. Then, an *invited symposium* by S. Kreitler and M. Fajkowska on *Anxiety from cognitive and differential perspective* and three *paper sessions* were held in parallel. During the symposium, the attendees had the opportunity to listen to speeches and participate in discussions about the impact of anxiety on executive functions and performance, a meaning-based approach to anxiety, the dynamics of affect in anxiety, and the distinction between state and trait components of anxiety and depression. Conference attendees interested in problems of personality in the context of social functioning, work and education or political processes could take part in one of the three sessions held at that time. Next on the conference schedule were four symposia: In one of them, organized by M. Zajenkowski, the issue of relations between intelligence and personality was raised. During this symposium, the participants listened to papers on various theoretical approaches to and results of research on the relationship between intellect and personality traits. The participants of the symposium also raised the issue of an integrated model of individual differences in which intelligence can be considered as one of the aspects of personality. A second symposium, organized by B. Zawadzki, concerned the problems of temperament and the post-traumatic stress disorder. The speakers discussed the relationship between temperament traits and PTSD symptoms, taking into account early maladaptive patterns, mood, cognitive strategies, and emotional reactivity. A symposium entitled *Chronotype* was organized by K. Jankowski and A. Putilov. The chronotype is defined

as being related to individual differences in the preferred time of sleep and activity during the day. As part of this symposium, a multidimensional classification of sleep and wakefulness patterns was discussed, also taking into account the measurement of the variable understood in this way. Mention was also made of the genetic background of the chronotype and psychological functioning of people with specific sleep and wakefulness preferences. The last symposium scheduled for the fourth day of the Conference and organized by I. Skoczeń was entitled *Attachment and psychological adjustment during adolescence and adulthood*. The issues of attachment and psychological adaptation were discussed, among others in reference to the regulation of emotions, pro-social behaviour, internalization and externalization of problems and, post-traumatic growth. On that day, Conference attendees also took part in a second panel session led by J. Denissen, entitled *Personality development across the lifespan: Findings, mechanisms, and debates*, and enjoyed a presentation by a laureate of the *Early Career Development Award*, G. Lewisa, entitled *Is prejudice in your genes?* The fourth day of the conference concluded with a poster session, during which over eighty posters were presented, with the research problems discussed classified into three categories: (1) intelligence, cognition and achievement; (2) individual differences in social psychology; and 3) problems of methodology and measurement.

A lecture entitled *Towards a science of personality dynamics: Explaining human behaviour in the 21st century*, opening the fifth day of the meeting, was given by M. Quirin. The next item on the agenda was the *invited symposium* of W. Pisula, devoted to the evolution of individual differences. At the same time, *paper sessions* on *Personality and the social world* and *Methodological issues and measurements* were held. Symposia were also scheduled for the last day of the conference. The first of these, organized by D. Kobylińska, concerned personality traits and the effectiveness of regulation of emotions. The organizers of the next symposium, entitled *Shifting the focus from students to teachers: Individual differences in prospective and practising teachers in high school and tertiary education* were C. Wahle and L. Kim. During the symposium, which was chaired by D. Hughes, the "dark", maladaptive traits were viewed both from a theoretical perspective as well as in the context of measurement and consequences for the functioning of individuals. The organizer and chairman of the last symposium of the Conference was M. Reuter. The symposium was devoted to the biological foundations of personality, with particular emphasis on the role of neurotransmitters and hormones. The last event of the conference was the closing ceremony, during which prizes were awarded to the distinguished participants of the conference, and the meeting was also summarized.

Conference of the International Society for the Study of Individual Differences ISSID 2017 is undoubtedly one of the most important scientific events integrating the psychologists of individual differences. The next ISSID meeting, aimed at the exchange of knowledge and experiences among scientists representing various scientific centres will be held in 2019 in Florence.

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