Committee on International Cooperation

2021–2022 Membership

Anat Biletzki, chair (2022)

Martin Pickave, associate chair (2022; chair 2022–2025)

Rebecca Bamford (2022)
Anjan Chakravartty (2022)
Martin Pickave (2022)
Etienne Brown (2023)
Michael J. Cholbi (2023)
Krishna M. Pathak (2023)
Maria Baghramian (2024)
Aaron R. Meskin (2024)
Bence Nanay (2024)
Ricardo Friaz, GSC Liaison (2022)
REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION 2021-2022

Submitted by Anat Biletzki, Chair
Annual Report, September 2022

General
Some plans from the previous year – such as the all-Americas collaboration, the articulation of clear committee procedures in decision making, and more active engagement with Scholars at Risk – have not yet been actively pursued. Others – such as connections with UNESCO on World Philosophy Day and FISP’s World Philosophy Congress, have matured significantly while some new projects – such as information gathering and distribution regarding international visitors to and from the USA, taking off strongly. Let me repeat that this year has been, as we were hoping, pivotal in the APA’s engagement in international cooperation. Additionally, however, the overload of events, conferences, world crises, and a general unease have made the committee’s work both stimulating, yet unpredictable. Future plans are, consequently, in flux.

These general comments in the 2021-2022 annual report would not be doing justice to the CIC’s comprehensive work without explicitly noting the help, cooperation, and outstanding initiative of the Associate Chair, Martin Pickave, who joined us this year as, for all intents and purposes, an active Co-Chair. Pickave’s hands-on organizational initiatives, constant contact (zoom and email) with members of the committee and others, and relentless attention to current needs of the philosophical community at home and abroad lent a novel character to the CIC. He is to be thanked and wished a hearty good-luck going forward this year as Chair of the CIC.

The following is an itemized list of activities and topics attended to by the CIC in 2021-22:

Fund for Assistance to Overseas Philosophers
Decisions upon applications for funds from the Fund for Assistance to Overseas Philosophers are considered by the Executive Director with the recommendations of the Chair of the CIC. In 2021-2022 seven applications were received from the UK, Austria, Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, Egypt, and the U.S. (originally from Kenya), with requests for complimentary membership in the APA or registration/technological/travel assistance to the 2022 APA divisional meetings. Four were approved, with the applications from the U.S., Austria, and the U.K. not meeting the (somewhat limiting) criteria of the Fund.

Slightly related (though certainly different) to this Fund was a request made for “partnership” with the APA by a philosopher from Saudi Arabia, who is involved with an organization for philosophical education (in primary and secondary schools) in Saudi Arabia. Despite several attempts to connect and speak beyond the preliminary emails, this contact did not materialize. If it does carry on in the future, there would have to be a conversation concerning the relationship being pursued.
Review of Small Grant Funding
Due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic, there were no grants considered in the summer of 2020. In Summer 2021 we returned to “old times”, and the CIC reviewed eight proposals for the APA’s Small Grant funding (provided by the APA Eastern Division).

Review of Request for Donor Grant Funding
The CIC Chair was approached (along with the chair for Inclusiveness in the Profession) for review of a request for a grant from the APA’s Diversity and Inclusiveness donor fund. The request was for a project not substantively related to international issues but involved support for international graduate students. It was subsequently denied.

Baumgardt Memorial Fellowship – The Baumgardt Memorial Fellowship is awarded every third year. Since it was awarded in April 2020, this was an off-year.

APA Virtual Program Committee
World Philosophy Day 2021
The CIC’s representative to the APAVP Committee is Rebecca Bamford (as of 2020). The CIC has been authorized to conduct an annual webinar on World Philosophy Day. The CIC engaged in lively discussion concerning the topic and panel discussion for WPD 2021 (November 18, 2021). The webinar "Global Perspectives: African Philosophy and History of Philosophy" featured Yoko Arisaka (University of Hildesheim), Bruce Janz (University of Central Florida), and Bernard Matolino (University of KwaZulu-Natal), and was chaired by CIC member Bamford (Queen's University Belfast).

Engagement with APA Live
Rebecca Bamford was a very active member of APA Live as the CIC’s representative. She has noted detailed plans of APA Live for webinars (staples and individual events) on all things CIC related (including international fellowships, international research projects, job market, etc.) Since Bamford’s three-year service ends on June 30, 2022, it is urgent that CIC appoint a new APA Live CIC representative.

World Congress of Philosophy
Reminder: As a consequence of the corona pandemic, the 2023 World Congress, which was planned to take place in Melbourne, Australia, has been cancelled and will be replaced by the World Congress in Rome, Italy, in 2024. The World Philosophy Congress is organized by FISP, the International Federation of Philosophical Societies.

Maria Baghramian and Anat Biletzki, both members of the CIC in 2021-22, are also members of the FISP steering committee, and Maria is a member of the Program Committee for the World Congress, so both can be very active and effectual in the planning of the WCP (and definitely while there). Collaboration with panel/topic chairs and cooperation with the representatives of the APA at the WCP will be enthusiastically discharged. The theme of the 2024 WPC is “Philosophy Across Borders,” which is appropriate for engagement by the CIC.
Documents endorsed and signed by the APA

The public documents articulated and signed by the APA, after consideration by the Board and the Committee on Public Statements, often have to do with international issues. Although the official discussion is conducted among Board members, the members of the CIC are committed to such APA involvement and activism. Indeed, the Board has turned to the CIC for its opinion and guidance in some of these issues. Most obvious this past year were the following:

*The Barcelona Principles* – In September 2021, philosophers around the world received (usually by email) an invitation to sign “The Barcelona Principles for a Globally Inclusive Philosophy” ([https://contesi.wordpress.com/bp/](https://contesi.wordpress.com/bp/)). In January 2022, the APA received an invitation to institutionally endorse the *Principles*. The CIC, along with the governing committee of the Journal of the APA, was asked to discuss and provide the board with an assessment and opinion of the significance of signing the document. Unsurprisingly, the views on such a controversial document were greatly varied. Of the ten explicit opinions tendered, only three were unequivocally supportive of signing; three others were more hesitant, yet, in the final analysis negative; and four were unambiguously against.

At the APA Board meeting on Feb. 15, the Chair of the CIC presented the details and consequences of such signing and the Board accepted the spirit of the Principles for individuals, but not the status of institutional signing.

*Ukraine and Russia* – In February 2022, the Chair and Co-Chair of the CIC were approached regarding a statement by the APA on the crisis in Ukraine. Subsequently, after a draft of a statement was formulated, and in the interests of less duplication, the APA board endorsed the SAR statement in Solidarity with the people of Ukraine. ([https://www.apaonline.org/news/597783/APA-board-endorses-SAR-statement-in-solidarity-with-the-people-of-Ukraine.htm](https://www.apaonline.org/news/597783/APA-board-endorses-SAR-statement-in-solidarity-with-the-people-of-Ukraine.htm))

Furthermore, in the CIC meeting (zoom, May 23rd), the question of the APA’s policy on engagement with Russian/Ukrainian philosophers was discussed. It will continue to be on the committee’s table going forward into 2023.

**Visiting Professors**

Martin Pickave has set in motion a service to be provided to the philosophical community – listing visiting professors in PhilJobs and PhilPeople. Working with David Bourget and David Chalmers, they have begun to set up a testing feature on both sites that will supply information on professors having visitor status in different departments. Fine tuning is still needed, as is a conversation at CIC about the data that will be appropriate for this project to be beneficial to the APA’s readership.

**Scholars at Risk Network**

The APA is an SAR Affiliate Organization with the Chair of the CIC functioning as the SAR representative. See above for APA endorsement of SAR statement of Solidarity.
Sessions at 2021 APA Divisional Meetings organized by the CIC

Eastern: The CIC did not organize a meeting at the January 5-8 Eastern Division meeting in Baltimore.

Central: The CIC did not organize a meeting at the February 23-26 Central Division meeting in Chicago.

Pacific: April 13-16, Vancouver

Japanese Perspectives on Virtues and Vices
Arranged by the APA Committee on International Cooperation
Chair: Heather Muraviov (University of Connecticut)
Speakers:
Rie Iizuka (Kansai University) “The Virtue of Intellectual Humility and Japan”
Seisuke Hayakawa (University of Tokyo) “Time, Receptivity, and Empathic Knowing”
Kunimasa Sato (Ibaraki University) “Transformative Injustice as a Thick Relational Vice”
Commentators:
Jason Baehr (Loyola Marymount University), Heather Battaly (University of Connecticut), Amy Coplan (California State University, Fullerton)