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WELCOME

On behalf of CIRRIE and the conference co-sponsors, thank you for your participation in this event. The perspectives and experience you bring to it will enrich our discussions of approaches to meeting the needs of a growing and under-served population. It is our sincere hope that all of us will return to our work with increased understanding of disability service provision in a cross-cultural context. We hope that you will find the conference a unique opportunity to meet other persons who share your interests in meeting the needs of persons from other cultures.

We extend a special welcome to the many participants who have traveled to this conference from other countries and whom we might not have otherwise had an opportunity to meet. You represent 16 countries and are over 25% of the total registration, making this a truly international conference. We look forward to the sharing of perspectives in the coming days, as well as to the possibility of increased collaboration in the coming years.

John Stone
CIRRIE Director

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2002

4:00 - 6:00 pm Conference Registration check-in New Hampshire foyer

MONDAY, MAY 6, 2002

8:00 am - 6:00 pm Conference Registration check in New Hampshire foyer

8:00 - 9:00 am Continental Breakfast
(for workshop participants) Potomac Room

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Culture Brokering –
optional Pre-Conference Workshop Potomac Room

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2002

7:30 am - 5:00 pm Conference Registration check-in New Hampshire foyer

7:30 - 9:00 am Continental Breakfast New Hampshire Room

9:00 - 9:30 am Welcome and Overview New Hampshire Room

9:30 - 10:15 am Keynote Address New Hampshire Room

10:30 am – 12:00 pm International Panel New Hampshire Room

12:00 - 1:30 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:30 - 2:45 pm Panel: Latino cultures New Hampshire Room

3:00 - 5:30 pm Concurrent Sessions Dupont Room

Monticello Room

Mount Vernon Room

New Hampshire Room

6:00 - 7:30 pm Reception City Center Ballroom

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2002

8:00 am - 2:00 pm Conference Registration check-in New Hampshire foyer

7:30 - 9:00 am Continental Breakfast New Hampshire Room

9:00 - 10:15 am Asian/PI Panel New Hampshire Room

10:30 am - 12:00 pm Immigrant Consumer Panel New Hampshire Room

11:45 - 1:15 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:15 - 5:00 pm Concurrent Sessions Dupont Room

Monticello Room

Mount Vernon Room

New Hampshire Room

5:00 - 5:15 pm Closing New Hampshire Room

SPECIAL GUEST

Steven James Tingus is the Director of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), a component of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services within the U.S. Department of Education. Prior to his appointment to NIDRR, Tingus was the Director of Resource Development and Public Policy for the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers, Inc. (CFILC) and its nonprofit project, the Assistive Technology “AT” Network. During his oversight of the AT Network, Tingus was recognized as a strong voice for the disability community, fighting for equal access to education, health care, employment, housing, transportation, and opportunities for all persons, regardless of disability.

In his work for CFILC and its AT Network, Tingus developed successful and diverse media, public outreach and fundraising efforts, working with such organizations as the National Council on Independent Living, the American Association of People with Disabilities and the National Organization on Disability.

Born with a rare form of muscular dystrophy, Tingus was predicted not to live beyond the age of 3. Yet, taking advantage of assistive technologies such as an electric wheelchair and a ventilator that he uses at night, he went on to become the first disabled child to be mainstreamed into the public school system in Davis, California. In an era in which most children with disabilities, regardless of their condition or aptitude, were placed in so-called “special education” classes with all the other children with disabilities, Tingus fought to have access to education alongside able-bodied students and receive an equal opportunity to learn.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Nora Ellen Groce, PhD, is a medical anthropologist focused on international health and development, particularly cross-cultural systems of health care, and health as a human rights issue. Her research includes issues of disability in global health and development, violence as a universal public health problem, and health care equity in ethnic and minority communities.

She is a founding member of the Society for Disability Studies, and the author of many publications in the field of disability, including *The History of International Rehabilitation*, (1992). Others include *Everyone Here Spoke Sign Language* (1985), a book about the high incidence of deafness on Martha’s Vineyard, a community where people with disability are regarded as “normal”. It was featured on the BBC and NPR Radio.

She was awarded her Ph.D. in Medical and Socio-Cultural Anthropology at Brown University, and was a Post-Doctoral Fellow at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Groce is Associate Professor, Yale University School of Public Health, Global Health Division, and has consulted for the World Health Organization, Boston Children’s Hospital, Rehabilitation International, and Harvard University and UNICEF.

PLENARY SESSIONS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY MAY 7

9:00 - 9:15	Welcome and overview	John Stone
9:15 - 9:30	Opening remarks	Steven Tingus, NIDRR Director
9:30 - 10:15	Keynote address	Nora Groce
10:15 - 10:30	Break	
10:30 - 12:00	International panel	John Stone, Chair Waqar Ahmad, <i>UK</i> Trevor Parmenter, <i>Australia</i> Wim J.A. van den Heuvel, <i>The Netherlands</i> Denise Naon, <i>Israel</i> Tomas Lagerwall, <i>Sweden</i> Kathy Martinez, <i>USA</i> Robert Stodden, <i>USA</i>
12:00 - 1:30	Lunch	
1:30 - 2:45	Latino panel	Kathy Martinez, Chair Horacio Esparza Margaret McLeod Nila Salgado

WEDNESDAY MAY 8

9:00 - 10:15	Asian panel	Robert Stodden, Chair Gloria Liu, <i>Chinese culture</i> Maya Kalyanpur, <i>Indian culture</i> Weol Soon Kim-Rupnow, <i>Korean culture</i> Venus Ilagan, <i>Filipino culture</i>
10:15 - 10:30	Break	
10:30 - 11:45	Immigrant consumer panel	Kathy Martinez, Chair Jorge Peneda, <i>Mexican perspective</i> Nan Zhang Hampton, <i>Chinese perspective</i> Karen Saba, <i>Egyptian perspective</i> Fernando Botelho, <i>Brazilian perspective</i>
5:00 - 5:15	Closing	

ABSTRACTS: PLENARY SESSIONS

International Panel

PROVIDING CULTURALLY COMPETENT DISABILITY SERVICES TO RECENT IMMIGRANTS: CHALLENGES AND BEST PRACTICES IN SIX COUNTRIES

Date: May 7

Time: 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Location: New Hampshire Room

Abstract:

In countries with high rates of immigration, providers of disability services often serve persons whose culture may be very different from their own. Panel members will discuss immigration trends in their country, challenges encountered by service providers, and approaches to the provision of culturally competent services.

John Stone, Chair

Waqar Ahmad, *UK*

Minority ethnic people with disabilities in Britain: An overview

Trevor Parmenter, *Australia*

Services to people with disabilities from diverse backgrounds in the Australian context

Wim J.A. van den Heuvel, *The Netherlands*

Intercultural rehabilitation in the Netherlands: Which models fit?

Denise Naon, *Israel*

Providing services to immigrants with disabilities in Israel

Tomas Lagerwall, *Sweden*

Immigrants with disabilities in the Nordic Countries

Kathy Martinez, *USA*

Proyecto Vision: National Technical Assistance Center for Latinos and Hispanics with Disabilities

Robert Stodden, *USA*

National Technical Assistance Center for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities

ABSTRACTS: PLENARY SESSIONS

Latino Panel

LATINO PERSPECTIVES ON DISABILITY AND DISABILITY SERVICES

Date: May 7
Time: 1:30 - 2:45 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

Abstract:

This panel will present points of view on the approaches to independent living and disability service delivery from representatives of a number of Latino cultures. Panelists will include consumers, service providers and program administrators.

Kathy Martinez, Chair

Horacio Esparza, *Mexico*
Margaret McLeod, *Puerto Rico*
Nila Salgado, *Dominican Republic*

Asian Panel

ASIAN CULTURE AND DISABILITIES

Date: May 8
Time: 9:00 - 10:15 am
Location: New Hampshire Room

Abstract:

This panel session, composed of representatives from China, India, Korea, and the Philippines, will give an overview of each panelist's culture pertaining to the provision of rehabilitation services for Asian immigrants in the United States. The topics to be addressed cover a broad range of rehabilitation services including special education, health-related services, and vocational rehabilitation in the U.S. rehabilitation system. Participants will offer recommendations for providing effective services to persons with disabilities from Asian cultures as they prepare for meaningful careers and independent living in the U.S.

Robert Stodden, Ph.D. *Chair*
Gloria Liu, *China*
Maya Kalyanpur, Ph.D., *India*
Weol Soon Kim-Rupnow, Ph.D., *Korea*
Venus M. Ilagan, *Philippines*

ABSTRACTS: PLENARY SESSIONS

Immigrant Consumer Panel

FOREIGN-BORN AND FIRST-GENERATION CONSUMERS:
HOW DO WE UTILIZE DISABILITY SERVICES?

Date: May 8

Time: 10:30 - 11:45 am

Location: New Hampshire Room

Abstract:

Consumers from a variety of cultural backgrounds will identify both problems and best practices through the presentation of their experiences with disability services in the U.S. Panelists will provide information about making services more culturally responsive, and present suggestions about developing cultural competence on a system-wide/organizational level.

Kathy Martinez, Chair

Jorge Peneda, *Mexican perspective*

Nan Zhang Hampton, *Chinese perspective*

Karen Saba, *Egyptian perspective*

Fernando Botelho, *Brazilian perspective*

CONCURRENT SESSIONS SCHEDULE

	New Hampshire	Mt. Vernon	Monticello	Dupont
MAY 7 3:00- 3:30	Miles, M. (UK) <i>Refurbishing religious texts on disability for modern sensitivities: an old game continues</i>	Naon, D. (Israel) <i>Immigrants with Disability in Israel: Services provided</i>	Fancott, C. (Canada) <i>Cultural values, beliefs and attitudes of immigrant Chinese</i>	Hara, T. (Japan) <i>Wooden wheelchair for the Japanese elderly</i>
3:30- 4:00	Miles, C. (UK) <i>Our children are special. South Asian children with special needs in a British city</i>	Parmenter, T. (Australia). <i>Specific provisions for people with disabilities from culturally diverse backgrounds in Australia</i>	Schaller, J. (USA) <i>Disability in China and Taiwan: Similarities and differences with implications for vocational rehabilitation counselors</i>	Parashar, D. (USA) <i>Multiculturalism and empowerment: Bridging the client-counselor gap</i>
4:00- 4:30	Moureaux, G. (USA) <i>From where do refugees with disabilities come?</i>	Moffat, M. (USA) <i>Increasing outreach effectiveness to foreign-born consumers through culture brokering</i>	Hampton, N. (USA) <i>Yin and Yang of Chinese views of disability and rehabilitation: A dialectical analysis of the impact of Chinese culture on attitudes toward disability</i>	Kendall, E. (Australia) <i>Culturally Safe Models of Rehabilitation for Indigenous Australians</i>
4:30- 5:00	Frey, R. (Australia) <i>The intersection of culture, disability and child care: a view from "down under"</i>	Ahmad, W. (UK) <i>Britain's ethnic minority people with disabilities and their families: observations from a research career</i>	Christie, N. (Canada) <i>Understanding disability issues in the Chinese community: A resource handbook</i>	Dunleavy, K. (USA) <i>Effects of international volunteer work on provision of culturally competent physical therapy services</i>

CONCURRENT SESSIONS SCHEDULE

	New Hampshire	Mt. Vernon	Monticello	Dupont
MAY 7 5:00- 5:30	Mulholland, S. (Canada) <i>Self care activities – does culture make a difference?</i>	Getz, D. (USA) <i>Key competencies in multicultural education for entry level therapeutic professionals</i>	Liu, G. (USA) <i>Cross-cultural rehabilitation from the perspective of family structure</i>	Yousafzai, A. (U.K.) <i>Knowledge, skills and attitudes of families living in Dharavi, Mumbai toward disability, feeding practices and nutrition</i>
MAY 8 1:15- 1:45	Sockalingam, S. and Williams, E. (USA) <i>Culturally competent negotiation: Creating consensus between provider and consumer</i>	Cabrera, D. et al. (USA) <i>One hour roundtable Multidisciplinary case studies of rehabilitation for persons born in other countries</i>	Anderson, et al. (USA) <i>New Perspectives on the deaf international student</i>	Mwachofi, A. (USA) <i>Developing a rehabilitation service delivery model for minority farmers with disabilities: The research phase</i>
1:45- 2:15	Mulholland, S. (Canada) <i>Culture and research: Seeking a happy medium</i>	Cabrera, et al., continued	Raphael, R. (USA) <i>Bridging the cultural gaps in services for Haitians with disabilities</i>	Kekeson, C (Nigeria) <i>Managing problems of disabled Africans – cultural impact</i>
2:15- 2:45	Stodden, R., et al. (USA). <i>One hour roundtable on the National Technical Assistance Center for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities</i>	Esparza, H. (USA) <i>Coalition-building and networking to increase services to the Latino community</i>	Milorin, E. (USA) <i>A Haitian mother's journey</i>	Matthew, S. (Nigeria) <i>Developing positive rehabilitation techniques: an African perspective</i>
2:45- 3:15	(Stodden, continued)	van den Heuvel, W. (The Netherlands) <i>Rehabilitation for ethnic minorities and immigrants in The Netherlands</i>	Doe, T. (USA) <i>Including extended families in cross-cultural rehabilitation</i>	Denis, M. (Rwanda) <i>Provision of rehabilitation services to refugees in central Africa</i>
Break				

CONCURRENT SESSIONS SCHEDULE

	New Hampshire	Mt. Vernon	Monticello	Dupont
MAY 8 3:30- 4:00	Chesnut, et. al. (USA). One hour roundtable on <i>Traumatic brain injury – The Argentina Project</i>	Borstad, A. (USA) <i>Pacific Rim tele-rehabilitation project: cultural lessons learned in American Samoa</i>	Reddy, S. (USA) <i>Meeting the early intervention needs of diverse families: Georgia’s journey</i>	Johnstone, C. (USA) <i>General systems thinking and its applications for community based rehabilitation</i>
4:00- 4:30	Chesnut, continued	Cornwell, L. (Canada) <i>Working with people with disabilities from ethno racial communities: a Canadian experience</i>	Given, B., et al (USA) One hour roundtable on <i>Ramifications of traditional vs. differentiated instruction on culturally different students</i>	Jou, M. (USA) <i>Refugee School-Based Services</i>
4:30- 5:00	Hino, D. (USA) Employment barriers faced by AAPI with Disabilities in the U.S. and Legal Provisions Addressing these Barriers	Strickland, T. (USA) <i>Cultural considerations in the assessment and treatment of neurobehavioral disorders</i>	Given, continued	Stensrud, R. (USA) <i>Not citizens by choice: Serving people with disabilities who were international special needs adoptees as infants</i>

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

REFURBISHING RELIGIOUS TEXTS ON DISABILITY FOR MODERN SENSITIVITIES: AN OLD GAME CONTINUES

M. Miles
United Kingdom

Date: May 7
Time: 3:00 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

Cultural variations in views about disability are often associated with different religious beliefs, which in turn are derived from interpretations of texts and stories from the ancient scriptures of the major world religions. The available texts, even in conventional interpretation, often provide more room for maneuvering the meaning than might be expected. Ambiguities, adjustments and reinterpretations are traceable over many centuries, because apparently, some scholars, editors and lawyers with an inclusive mentality have long battled to find more space for people with disabilities in legal, social and religious life. Examples are given from several Asian and Middle Eastern religious traditions. The struggles and finessing continue, as modernizing thinkers, advocates and web users in each religion attempt to update textual hermeneutics, to interpret religious scriptures without provoking traditionalists.

SERVICES PROVIDED IN ISRAEL FOR IMMIGRANTS WITH DISABILITY

Denise Naon, Ph.D.
Director, Research Program on Disability
JDC-Brookdale Institute of Gerontology and
Human Development
Jerusalem, Israel

Date: May 7
Time: 3:00 pm
Location: Mount Vernon Room

Israel, a country of immigrants from many nations, has absorbed one million immigrants from the former Soviet Union, and approximately 40,000 from Ethiopia in the last decade. The population increased 20%, from five million to six million, in ten years. Recent immigrants are older, on average, than adult Israelis, and often come from countries where the health system is poorer than Israel's, making the disability rate among immigrants higher than in the general population. Upon arrival, immigrants are entitled to health insurance, services and disability benefits equivalent to that of indigenous Israelis. However, the trauma of immigration, including a new language and culture and limited personal resources make access to appropriate rehabilitation difficult. Other factors include unfamiliarity with the service system and eligibility requirements, being unaware of childhood developmental problems, a shortage of providers who speak the new resident's language and fewer services in areas where they live. Challenges and new developments in disability rehabilitation to immigrants will be explored.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CULTURAL VALUES, BELIEFS AND ATTITUDES OF IMMIGRANT CHINESE WOMEN TOWARD PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND EXERCISE

Carol Fancott, B.Sc.(PT), M.Sc.
Sunnybrook & Women's Health Sciences Centre
Toronto, Ontario Canada

Date: May 7
Time: 3:00 pm
Location: Monticello Room

This qualitative study has explored cultural values, beliefs, and attitudes of immigrant Chinese women (aged 50 - 70 years) toward physical activity and exercise. Symbolic interaction within a cultural model provided a theoretical framework in which to understand the findings of this study. For these women, the meaning of physical activity and exercise were subsumed under the broader rubric of health, which may be viewed through a Chinese cultural lens related to values of family and longevity. These women see health as increasingly important as they age. At this life stage, they are receptive to messages about health, particularly in regard to diet and exercise, elements they have identified to be within their control and responsibility. Exploring underlying cultural meanings may help to direct appropriate interventions and strategies by health care professionals to promote and enhance health and well being in diverse, multicultural populations in Canada, the United States, and elsewhere.

WOODEN WHEELCHAIR FOR THE JAPANESE ELDERLY

Tetsuya Hara, Professor
Tohoku Fukushi University
Japan

Date: May 7
Time: 3:00 pm
Location: Dupont Room

Japan has two cultural issues concerning the design of wheelchairs for the elderly. The different needs for this type of assistive technology are as follows:

1. People who have spent their lives deeply immersed in the traditional wood culture long for a return to the "good old days" in the last stage of their lives. A wheelchair, which is converted from the conventional metal frame to one where a wooden chair is assembled on top of a metal cart, would satisfy the demand for the soft touch of wooden furniture.
2. Those who have not lost their traditional habits, even after 100 years since the Meiji Restoration, continue to exalt personal cleanliness. Getting their hands and sleeves dirty from the use of wheelchair hand rims would be thought disgusting. The design of the wooden wheelchair excludes the hand rim mechanism and provides power from disk motors on both wheel axles.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

OUR CHILDREN ARE SPECIAL. SOUTH ASIAN CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS IN A BRITISH CITY

Christine Miles
United Kingdom

Date: May 7
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

This paper is based on the author's 24 years of work with South Asian families who have children with disabilities, and of giving in-service training to frontline workers and managers, in Pakistan and in a British Midlands city. Lack of awareness of cultural differences often results in service providers failing to meet the needs of or answer families' concerns. Often families are not enabled to understand or participate in the assessment of their children's needs and in decision-making about their children's future use of education and welfare services. Professionals' lack of awareness about cultural patterns of child raising can result in inappropriate advice being given, thereby losing a family's trust, affecting support networks within the family, and sometimes damaging natural patterns of interaction with their child. Suggestions are made for ways of enhancing professional knowledge and skill so as to make services more effective.

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES FROM CULTURALLY DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS IN AUSTRALIA

Trevor R. Parmenter
Centre for Developmental Disability Studies
The University of Sydney
Australia

Date: May 7
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: Mount Vernon Room

Specific disability services to people from culturally diverse backgrounds in Australia will be examined, especially the Commonwealth State Disability Agreement, the framework for employment, community living, advocacy and respite programs for people with disabilities, the majority of whom have an intellectual or related developmental disability. Drawing upon government reports and independent research, the barriers to disability services for this population will be highlighted, including attitudes towards disability within specific cultural groups and the general population, the cultural inappropriateness of some services, and difficulties in accessing information owing to language barriers and a lack of meaningful consultation amongst policymakers, providers, consumers and their families. Good practice models will be presented. What national strategies need to be implemented to assist in breaking down barriers to access will be discussed. How relevant the growing self-determination and self-empowerment movements in the general disability population are to those from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds will be explored.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

DISABILITY IN CHINA AND TAIWAN: SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES, WITH IMPLICATIONS FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELORS

James Schaller, Ph.D.
Rehabilitation Counselor Education
The University of Texas at Austin

Nancy K. Yang, Ph.D.
Educational and Research Consultant
Austin, Texas USA

Date: May 7
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: Monticello Room

Professionals may treat Chinese cultural groups as a whole entity, and not consider influences of systems differences in China and Taiwan. Similarities or differences in services for individuals with disabilities in China and Taiwan have implications for vocational rehabilitation (VR) counselors. For example, each country has special education for children and young adults with disabilities. China, in general, has placed higher status on people with disabilities since the Cultural Revolution than Taiwan has, although Taiwan has more services than China. However, adult services for people with disabilities are lacking in each country. For example, the first sheltered workshop for individuals with autism opened in Kaoshiung, the second largest city in Taiwan, in 2000. Accessibility issues in each country will be discussed. In addition, there are current issues between the two countries that are relevant for vocational rehabilitation practitioners. Finally, suggestions for practitioners will be provided, based on these issues.

MULTICULTURALISM AND EMPOWERMENT: BRIDGING THE CLIENT-COUNSELOR GAP

Divya Parashar, MA
University of Wisconsin- Madison
Madison, Wisconsin USA

Date: May 7
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: Dupont Room

In America, rehabilitation of people with disabilities has come a long way in 30 years, initiated by federal legislation. The value of enhanced participatory relationships with clients, built on informed choice, is recognized. As multicultural America becomes mainstream, and increasingly multiethnic, there is a timely opportunity for rehabilitation counselors to forge working alliances with people from diverse cultures. The Americans with Disabilities Act promises full participation in the society, but for an increasing number of racial/ethnic minorities, it remains an unfulfilled promise. How do we recognize clients' individuality and honor their cultural values? This paper will address the effects of a congruent client-counselor value system. Empowerment values, and their internalization will be discussed, with special attention to multiculturalism, spirituality, and the extent that client/counselor collaboration opens informed choices to the consumer. Recommendations include how to enhance the cultural sensitivity of counselors, "empower" the client-counselor relationship and provide rehabilitation services to clients from diverse backgrounds, to improve rehabilitation and its effectiveness.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

FROM WHERE DO REFUGEES WITH DISABILITIES COME?

Ghislain Moureaux
Consultant to the World Rehabilitation Fund
New Rochelle, New York USA

Date: May 7
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

This paper describes the triage of refugees with disabilities (and their families) in the processing of their applications for admission to asylum countries. The methods of disability classification are discussed, as well as individual asylum countries' health and abilities requirements for acceptance. The triages were based upon the refugees' impairment, consequent disabilities, and the impact of the handicap, from the perspective of both the original culture and the culture (and available services) of the prospective asylum countries. The paper will consider whether there are measurable elements of intercultural compatibility or incompatibility, and will look at the universalism of disability, across cultures.

INCREASING OUTREACH EFFECTIVENESS TO FOREIGN-BORN CONSUMERS THROUGH CULTURE BROKERING

Maureen L. Moffat
Rehabilitation Research & Training Center
on Independent Living Management
Buffalo, New York USA

Date: May 7
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Mount Vernon Room

Independent Living Centers (ILCs) are faced with the challenge of outreach to un-served or underserved populations within their communities, which include minorities and foreign-born individuals with disabilities. Research has shown that foreign-born persons from various cultures view disability differently from one another as well as from American born minorities. ILC staff function as brokers, linking consumers with community services. The independent living philosophy, the basis for ILC staff interaction with their participants and the community, can be a barrier to providing services to foreign-born individuals. Differences between the independent living values and belief systems, and those of foreign-born individuals with disabilities, can create a culture gap that must be overcome for successful outreach to be achieved. Culture Brokering is a tool for bridging that gap. Through partnership between the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Independent Living Management and C.I.R.R.I.E., the Culture Brokering model has been adapted to the independent living setting. This session will highlight those differences, and present a tutorial in Culture Brokering for independent living center staff.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

YIN AND YANG OF CHINESE VIEWS OF DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION: DIALECTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE CHINESE CULTURE ON ATTITUDES TOWARD DISABILITY

Nan Zhang Hampton, Ph.D. CRC.
Department of Counseling and School Psychology, GCOE
University of Massachusetts-Boston
Boston, Massachusetts USA

Date: May 7
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Monticello Room

The literature has indicated consistently that people in China tend to have a negative view of disability. This view is derived from the belief that having a disability is punishment for past-life sins. When Chinese people emigrate to Western countries such as the United States, they tend to maintain similar beliefs and have more negative attitudes toward disability, compared with their Caucasian counterparts. Little is discussed in the literature about the positive perspectives of the Chinese culture with regard to disability and rehabilitation. I will explore Chinese views of disability and rehabilitation, using a dialectical analysis approach. Positive and negative perspectives of the Chinese culture with regard to disability and rehabilitation will be discussed. Specifically, I will elaborate on the strengths of the Chinese culture in fostering resilience that helps Chinese people with disabilities and their families dealing with difficulties imposed by a physical/mental disability and societal prejudices. I will explore implications for American rehabilitation professionals in terms of how to empower recent Chinese immigrants with disabilities, and how to improve rehabilitation services for these individuals.

CULTURALLY SAFE MODELS OF REHABILITATION FOR INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Dr. Elizabeth Kendall
Associate Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Griffith University, Logan Campus
Meadowbrook, Australia

Date: May 7
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Dupont Room

Recent research has identified three principles that define the culture of Aboriginal people as it pertains to disability service provision and rehabilitation. First, families are central to the delivery of care. Second, vital importance is attached to social networks, and third, there is a significant distance between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. Most traditional urban disability and rehabilitation services tend to exclude families, isolate people from their social networks and are delivered almost exclusively by non-Aboriginal people. Thus, existing services are fundamentally inappropriate for Aboriginal culture, accounting for the poor utilization of rehabilitation and health services by Aboriginal people with disabilities. Sadly, poor utilization of services can lead to blaming the consumer and closure of services rather than inspiring a search for meaningful alternatives. This paper will explore the meaning of disability and rehabilitation in an urban Aboriginal population, and will examine the utility of a community-based model of rehabilitation.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

THE INTERSECTION OF CULTURE, DISABILITY AND CHILD CARE: A VIEW FROM "DOWN-UNDER" ON WHAT HAS BEEN UNDER DONE

Ron Frey, Consultant
Statewide Training and Resourcing Program
University of Queensland
Australia

Date: May 7
Time: 4:30 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

The STTAR program in Brisbane, Australia has undertaken to help children with disabilities from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds have greater access to Anglo-Australian childcare services. The goals are to facilitate mutual understanding between CALD groups and childcare providers, and to help parents understand the childcare services and system. Each group received specifically designed written materials. This paper raises issues found in presenting the topic to caregivers and to parents, and is based in part on our survey of international disability literature which is relatively unknown in the child care field. The issues include: how to inform parents most effectively, the impact of a family's culture upon understanding "Western" services, how caregivers' cultural expectations affect the childcare services they provide, the challenge of finding unbiased cultural profiles, to build sensitivity and coping with negative cultural perceptions of children with disabilities.

BRITAIN'S ETHNIC MINORITY PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES: OBSERVATIONS FROM A RESEARCH CAREER

Professor Waqar Ahmad, Ph.D.
Chief Research Officer/Head of Social Research
Department of Transport,
Local Government and Regions
London, England

Date: May 7
Time: 4:30 pm
Location: Mount Vernon Room

Until recently, I headed a research program focused on chronic illness, young people with disabilities, family-based care and the interface between users, caregivers and service provider, relating to Britain's minority ethnic groups, especially South Asians and African Caribbeans. The 15 year work included largely qualitative and some quantitative surveys. Knowledge developed through the program has contributed to theory, methods, policy and practice. This data and experience will be used to discuss a range of issues:

- A profile of ethnicity and impairments, access to services etc.
- The role of the family in providing care, changing attitudes toward family obligations
- Factors unique to particular ethnic groups
- Factors from aspects of personal identity, social relationships, economic circumstances, age etc., irrespective of ethnicity
- Common coping strategies used by people with impairments and their families
- Components of a good service

The presentation will be based largely on my group's work but reference to other research and policy publications will be made as appropriate. This work was undertaken at the Universities of York, Bradford and Leeds.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

UNDERSTANDING DISABILITY ISSUES IN THE CHINESE COMMUNITY: A RESOURCE HANDBOOK

Nancy Christie
International Society for Augmentative
and Alternative Communication
Toronto, Canada

KY Liu
Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care
Toronto, Canada

Date: May 7
Time: 4:30 pm
Location: Monticello Room

Prior to 1997, the year Hong Kong was returned to China, there was a large exodus of Chinese people from the former British colony. Many came to Canada, and settled in and around Toronto. Hospital and health care providers realized that their Chinese clients/patients were often uncomfortable in North American health care settings. Language was an issue, as well as culture. Non-Chinese providers especially, did not understand why patients did not comply with the advice and instructions that were given. Under the auspices of the Yee Hong Centre and the International Centre for Community Based Rehabilitation (ICACBR), a committee of health professionals created a resource manual for rehabilitation and health workers. The presentation will discuss how the handbook was prepared, and explore some of the basics of Chinese culture, the impact of immigration and using case examples from the handbook, offer some explanations for behaviors which affect compliance.

THE EFFECTS OF INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER WORK ON PROVISION OF CULTURALLY COMPETENT PHYSICAL THERAPY SERVICES

Kim Dunleavy PT, MS, OCS
Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan
Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan USA

Elizabeth Kay PT, Ph.D.
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois USA

Date: May 7
Time: 4:30 pm
Location: Dupont Room

International volunteer work provides opportunities for health care providers to develop an understanding of specific cultures and the unique manifestations of culture on provision of services. The immersion into another culture as an outsider also provides a personal experience of the psychosocial impact of not being part of the predominant culture. This presentation will discuss the impact of short-term international volunteer efforts on the knowledge, attitudes and practices used with rehabilitation clients on return to the United States. Methods of interaction and physical therapy management specific to certain cultures, (South Africa, Vietnam, El Salvador, Bhutan, Surinam), as well as general views, will be discussed.

ABSTRACTS CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SELF CARE ACTIVITIES – DOES CULTURE MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Susan Mulholland, M.Sc. Rehabilitation
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta Canada

Date: May 7
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

Culture influences not only what daily activities people perform, but also how they are performed. Of particular importance is the performance of self-care activities such as bathing, toileting, and dressing. When using a client-centered approach to rehabilitation, one must take these cultural preferences into consideration, and ensure they are addressed in rehabilitation goals and treatment strategies. This presentation will outline current information available in the literature, documenting differences in the performance of these self-care activities. The focus will be on Eastern populations and will include India, Japan, China and Islamic cultures. Attention will be given to the posture and positioning traditionally used by these cultures (i.e., squatting, kneeling, cross legged) and the subsequent range of motion and environmental adaptations that should be considered. The goal of this presentation is to increase awareness regarding potential differences in self-care activities, and therefore increase appropriateness of rehabilitation service delivery.

KEY COMPETENCIES IN MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION FOR ENTRY LEVEL THERAPEUTIC RECREATION PROFESSIONALS

Deborah Getz, Re.D., CTRS
Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands
Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana USA

Date: May 7
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Mount Vernon Room

As the United States becomes more culturally diverse, it will be increasingly important for therapeutic recreation professionals to understand the critical role that culture plays in the lives of their clients. This study employed a modified Delphi technique implemented through the use of an Internet site to identify 42 competencies crucial to the clinical realm of the therapeutic recreation professional. The competencies that were evaluated originated from the kindred professions of counseling, nursing, and social work. The competencies identified were then placed into a theoretical framework that can be integrated into professional preparation curricula. This framework was initially designed for the therapeutic recreation profession, but can easily be integrated across the clinical spectrum. The development and integration of these key competencies into university curricula provides an initial step for the development of more culturally aware practitioners. The potential result is a more effective clinician.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CROSS-CULTURAL REHABILITATION FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF FAMILY STRUCTURE

Gloria Liu, M.S.
Director of TBI Special Projects
AHRC-TBI Services
New York, New York USA

Date: May 7
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Monticello Room

More and more literature supports the fact that families should be involved in the rehabilitation process. However, the level of family involvement can be influenced by the way a family is structured. Changes in family structure have occurred in American families, as well as in those from different cultural backgrounds, such as the Chinese. Traditional family structure can be perceived as having father, mother and children living together, to having three or four generations living under one roof. This presentation will give an overview of the role of families in the rehabilitation process, from the perspective of the Chinese culture. Comparison between the dominant American culture and the Chinese culture will be made to help professionals better understand and serve individuals and families with a Chinese background.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ATTITUDES OF FAMILIES LIVING IN DHARAVI, MUMBAI TOWARD DISABILITY, FEEDING PRACTICES AND NUTRITION

Aisha K. Yousafzai
Institute of Child Health
London, England

Date: May 7
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Dupont Room

Attitudes arise from specific experiences and emotions, driven by cultural beliefs. Understanding societal constructs regarding disability in a culture contributes to strategies for meeting the needs of children with disabilities. In 1999, a series of focus groups were conducted with families in a low-income community in Mumbai, India, to collect qualitative information on knowledge, skills and attitudes regarding disability, as well as feeding and nutrition. The information facilitated development of an intervention program to manage feeding and drinking difficulties in children. The objectives were: 1) To describe experiences of local families with young disabled children 2) To identify nutritional and feeding needs of children with disabilities 3) To identify service, environmental or attitudinal barriers to acquiring an adequate nutrition. Analysis of the group concepts identified four emerging topics: 1) Acceptance of disability, 2) Services and Needs, 3) Future 4) Food and Nutrition. The findings enabled broader understanding of attitudes towards disability within this population, provided insight into intervention to help local families, incorporating an understanding of the cultural background of the local community.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CULTURALLY COMPETENT NEGOTIATION: CREATING CONSENSUS BETWEEN PROVIDER AND CONSUMER

Suganya Sockalingam, PhD, Associate Director
National Center for Cultural Competence
Georgetown University
Washington, DC

Elizabeth Z. Williams, JD, Director
Conflict Management Program
Georgetown University Child
Development Center

Date: May 8
Time: 1:15 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

Diversity is the recognition of a plurality of views and experiences that exist in society, currently. Within this context, understanding each other in order to make decisions and solve problems is increasingly complex and crucial. Given that we seem to have less time for decision making and problem solving, it is important that we have a conscious understanding of different cultural perspectives and value systems. Cultural competence goes beyond race, and provides a framework for inclusion of cultural values, beliefs and practices around communication and service delivery. It moves us beyond a problem-centered framework, which tends to portray people primarily as victims, while ignoring their independent views of themselves, their society, and the strengths and resources they bring to it. This presentation will explore cultural perspectives and how they affect our ability to achieve mutually acceptable resolutions.

DEVELOPING A REHABILITATION SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL FOR MINORITY FARMERS WITH DISABILITY: THE RESEARCH PHASE

Ari K. Mwachofi
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
Pine Bluff, Arkansas USA

Date: May 8
Time: 1:15 pm
Location: Dupont Room

This is a presentation of the findings of a NIDRR-funded research project, **Developing a Rehabilitation Service Delivery Model for Minority Farmers with Disabilities**. The aim of the project is to build a model of service delivery, based on research findings in the Lower Mississippi Delta states: Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. The project is justified by cultural and communication difficulties encountered serving minority farmers with disabilities. The following points will be discussed:

- Historical background of minority farmers, showing their fast decline
- The research process, including sampling, the challenges of locating and interviewing minority farmers, and survey methods used with farmers and service providers
- Preliminary results from the surveys of farmers and service providers on the population's needs, perceptions and the most effective methods of communicating with them
- The perceptions and experiences of current service providers, obstacles to service delivery and suggestions for more effective service delivery

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

MULTIDISCIPLINARY EXPLORATION OF ISSUES IN REHABILITATION FOR PATIENTS BORN IN OTHER COUNTRIES

Date: May 8
Time: 1:15 - 2:15 pm
Location: Mount Vernon Room

Round Table Discussion

This round table will focus on discussion of multi-disciplinary cases. It will help participants learn to identify and to manage cultural issues as they relate to rehabilitation. Cases will highlight culturally relevant factors that practitioners need to consider when developing and providing effective rehabilitation services for people born in other countries. Communication, goals of treatment, patient compliance, as well as intergenerational and other family issues will be included.

Presenters:

Daniel Cabrera, MSPH, PhD

School of Allied Health and Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center,
Northern Illinois University (NIU); DeKalb, IL

Elizabeth Kay, PT, PhD

School of Allied Health, NIU; DeKalb, IL

Shi-Ruei Fang, PhD

School of Family, Consumer & Nutrition Sciences, NIU; DeKalb, IL

Sue Ouellette, PhD, CRC, LMFT

Dept. Communicative Disorders; NIU; DeKalb, IL

Judith Popovich, DNSc, RN, CRRN

School of Nursing; NIU; DeKalb, IL

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE DEAF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

Timothy Anderson, Ph.D.
English Language Institute
Gallaudet University

Robert Mobley, Ph.D.
Director
Center for Global Education
Gallaudet University

Amy Wilson, Ph.D.
Department of Educational
Foundations
Gallaudet University
Washington, DC

Date: May 8
Time: 1:15 - 1:45 pm
Location: Monticello Room

As the only liberal arts college for deaf students in the world, Gallaudet University has become the beacon of hope for fulfilling the dream of a higher education for international students for many years. Upon arriving at Gallaudet, these students are not only encountering a new American culture, but they will also be encountering a new American Deaf Culture. This presentation will briefly describe: a) American Deaf Culture; b) challenges faced by recently arriving international students when facing American Deaf Culture; c) two programs at Gallaudet University, the English Language Institute and the Center for Global Education, which help the acculturation of these students; and d) recommendations for other programs in the U.S. working with new immigrant Deaf adults.

CULTURE AND RESEARCH – SEEKING A HAPPY MEDIUM

Susan Mulholland, M.Sc. Rehab.
Department of Occupational Therapy
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta Canada

Date: May 8
Time: 1:45 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

Conducting research within a different cultural context presents many interesting challenges. For example, differing perceptions of privacy, authority, and intellectual property can challenge the basic essence and assumptions of research as we know it in Western cultures. When conducting cross-cultural research, one is forced to question basic assumptions, and strive to find a research approach that will blend the cultural expectations appropriately. This presentation will be a review of the literature focusing on differences that may be encountered during cross-cultural research. Various strategies for blending cultural expectations will be discussed. These points will be illustrated with anecdotes and examples from research projects conducted in India and other countries.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

BRIDGING THE CULTURAL GAPS IN SERVICES FOR HAITIANS WITH DISABILITIES

Dr. Renald Raphael
Haitian American Public Health Initiative
Mattapan, Massachusetts USA

Date: May 8
Time: 1:45 pm
Location: Monticello Room

How to address the needs of Haitians with disabilities, and those of their families, within the US service system, will be examined from the perspective of the Haitian Family Support Program at the Haitian American Public Health Initiative (HAPHI). HAPHI is a community-based organization, founded in 1989 as a health service agency. Its primary focus is to bridge the gaps in access to services in the health care system for non-English speaking and the low-income Haitian population. In 1994, HAPHI's focus expanded to include people with disabilities at all levels. In this presentation, participants will be provided an overview of the services and programs offered to the Haitian community and gain an understanding of cross-cultural issues as they relate to service delivery and outreach to the disability community. In addition, we will explore lessons HAPHI has learned throughout this process, as we attempt to provide culturally competent disability services.

MANAGING THE PROBLEM OF AFRICANS WITH DISABILITIES: CULTURAL IMPACT

Cyril Kekeson
Sammino Internationals, on Disability and Exchange (SIDE)
Ibadan, Nigeria

Date: May 8
Time: 1:45 pm
Location: Dupont Room

Every year, thousands of people in Africa suffer the tragedy of becoming disabled. Land mines, diabetes, trauma, tumors, birth defects, religious conflict and natural disasters are major causes. What possibility do people with disabilities have of happy, productive lives? What is the fate of disabled Africans? They lack training, and are often misrepresented. Social workers lack adequate funding, mobility and interest in providing equipment for rehabilitation, despite the fact that doing so would reduce associated social problems, and ensure that consumers were adequately reoriented to participate in the work force or in other socio-economic development within their society. This presentation will evaluate the effect of culture on the disabled community and analyze the impact of culture upon beliefs, behavior, treatment, the survival or recovery of consumers, and the mechanism of social building. To determine and confirm how these problems could be solved, Sammino Internationals is visiting charity homes and Directors of Rehabilitation, distributing questionnaires and collating data, which will also enhance communication among national and international disability rehabilitation groups.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER FOR ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS WITH DISABILITIES

Date: May 8
Time: 2:15 - 3:15 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

Round Table Discussion

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) are one of the fastest growing minorities in the United States. According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, this group has experienced a 57 percent increase in population from 1990 to 1999, proportionately more than any other minority group in the U.S. In addition, a current projection portends the total number of AAPIs to be 34 million by the year 2050-nine percent of the total U.S. population. However, AAPIs with disabilities have experienced patterns of inequitable treatment within the U.S. vocational rehabilitation process due to its minority and disability status. Responding to the diverse needs of this group, the Rehabilitation Services Administration funded the University of Hawaii to establish the National Technical Assistance Center for AAPIs with disabilities. This presentation provides an overview of the Center's objectives and activities designed to improve employment outcomes and the quality of life for AAPIs with disabilities.

Presenters:

Robert Stodden, Ph.D.
Center on Disability Studies
University of Hawaii at Manoa

Diane Hino

National Technical Assistance Center for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
with Disabilities
University of Hawaii, Manoa

Weol Soon Kim-Rupnow, Ph.D.

National Technical Assistance Center for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
with Disabilities
University of Hawaii, Manoa

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

COALITION BUILDING AND NETWORKING TO INCREASE SERVICES TO THE LATINO COMMUNITY

Horacio Esparza
Progress Center for Independent Living
Forest Park, Illinois USA

Date: May 8
Time: 2:15 pm
Location: Mount Vernon Room

In order to expand the range of services offered to consumers, it is important for all organizations to work together and share information. Each group has strengths and weaknesses; working cooperatively becomes particularly important when there are more factors that make service delivery difficult. Typically, organizations working to provide services to the Latino community are not aware of disability factors, and organizations providing services to the disability community are not aware of culturally sensitive issues. Approaches to outreach and collaboration will be discussed. Progress Center for Independent Living is the only CIL in Illinois to have a Latino Personal Assistant Program funded through the Department of Human Services/ Office of Rehabilitation Services, and one of the first CILs to conduct a Latino Outreach Program in Illinois. Mr. Esparza has been a consumer both in Mexico and in the United States and is the Independent Living Coordinator at the Progress Center.

A HAITIAN MOTHER'S JOURNEY

Evelyne Milorin
HAPHI Haitian Family Support
Medford, Massachusetts USA

Date: May 8
Time: 2:15 pm
Location: Monticello Room

As a Haitian parent, I propose to share my personal and professional experiences of raising my young adult son with autism. I will begin the presentation with a chronology of my son's life from his early childhood years to his current situation. More specifically, I will talk about my role as an advocate, and how I overcame cultural barriers in this country. I learned to navigate the US educational and adult system and now teach others to do the same. I will also describe some of the challenges and the rewards of this on-going journey. For example, I will reflect upon the perception and attitudes of disability within the Haitian culture, as experienced in Haiti and the United States. I will provide specific examples of ways to achieve success for other children.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

DEVELOPING POSITIVE REHABILITATION TECHNIQUES: AN AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

Samuel O. Matthew
Sammino Internationals,
on Disability and Exchange (SIDE)
Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria

Date: May 8
Time: 2:15 pm
Location: Dupont Room

Rehabilitation and development are integral partners in our search for progress; without them, institutions and civilization would be in chaos. Policymakers, service providers, researchers, donors and experts need to adopt positive rehabilitation and development techniques, to support goals with genuine objectives. Various development and rehabilitation programs, introduced in Africa to serve people with disabilities, have failed to achieve the desired goals. The establishment of manufacturing and industries, and its role in properly addressing the actual needs of Africans- affirmation of their socio-economic credibility- will be discussed. It is imperative to review past and present rehabilitation and development policies in Africa; the example of Nigeria, in particular, will be described. To encourage the adoption of positive and stable rehabilitation techniques that will address the needs of African disabled community in its perspectives, Sammino Internationals on Disability and Exchange is engaged in collecting data on rehabilitation experiences, visiting key associations dedicated to serving people with disabilities, and interviewing the "street disabled".

REHABILITATION CARE FOR ETHNIC MINORITIES AND IMMIGRANTS IN THE NETHERLANDS

Prof. Dr. Wim J.A. van den Heuvel
Institute of Rehabilitation Research (iRv) Hoensbroeck
University Maastricht, The Netherlands

Date: May 8
Time: 2:45 pm
Location: Mount Vernon Room

Minority groups and immigrants have long been part of Dutch society, owing to its colonial past and immigration/ refugee policy. One tenth of the population belongs to an ethnic minority group, an expanding percentage. Ethnic minority groups are Dutch residents born outside the Netherlands and "non-Dutch", or born in the Netherlands, having at least one parent born elsewhere. Growth of the elderly population is more rapid within minority groups than amongst native-born Dutch, leading to increased health problems, functional limitations and dependency. Recently, health care delivery for minority groups - especially home care and rehabilitation - has become a more significant issue. Problems include communication and language, cultural beliefs about illness, differences in values and expectations and "new" morbidity patterns. Specific rehabilitation needs of minority patients are being recognized; several programs are developing to define and meet them, and the first qualitative inventory is published. As needs are recognized, innovation in care delivery is proposed. Basic knowledge is lacking, however; more research is urgently needed.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

INCLUDING EXTENDED FAMILIES IN CROSS-CULTURAL REHABILITATION

Tanis Doe, PhD Fulbright Scholar
Seattle, Washington USA

Date: May 8
Time: 2:45 pm
Location: Monticello Room

In many communities, decision-making is a family process and not done by one member or the head of household. People with disabilities from cultural minorities may need to be served in different ways that include their families for successful cross-cultural rehabilitation and independent living. After a focus group with representatives from several minority and immigrant people with disabilities, research was conducted with residents of other countries about how they are served in regard to independent living services and cross-cultural rehabilitation. This paper will discuss suggestions developed from both in-country and international research. These recommendations focus around the inclusion of extended families in service provision. This includes not only siblings and parents, but also extended families and household members of people with disabilities.

PROVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES TO REFUGEES IN CENTRAL AFRICA

Dr. Muhoza Bakunzi Denis
Medical Action in Africa (HURUMA)
Rwanda

Date: May 8
Time: 2:45 pm
Location: Dupont Room

Central Africa, a region characterized by greed, power hunger and dictatorship has clung to rulers of member states ever since the era of independence started. Repeatedly, wars, demonstrations and other military/political forces have organized to oust them from power. Consequently, a history has emerged of repetitive emigration of people from their homeland, to find safety. They become refugees; many of their children are born refugees, as well, and all require rehabilitation, usually in three phases:

1. Providing basic needs
2. Determining and managing the causes of displacement and refugee status
3. Helping to establish refugees in a foreign land or to repatriate those who will return to their native country

These services are provided through humanitarian organizations and governments in host countries. Success is usually achieved, but challenges are numerous. Although causes of displacement are mainly political, there are others, including natural disasters like the current volcanic eruptions in Congo, which require a different approach to rehabilitation.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

PACIFIC RIM TELEREHABILITATION PROJECT: CULTURAL LESSONS LEARNED IN AMERICAN SAMOA

Alexandra Borstad PT, NCS
Sister Kenny Rehabilitation Services
Minneapolis, Minnesota USA

Date: May 8
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: Mount Vernon Room

American Samoa is a seven-island chain with a total land area of 76 square miles located some 2,300 miles southwest of Hawaii, and over 4,100 miles southwest of San Francisco. Rehabilitation professionals from National Rehabilitation Hospital and Sister Kenny Institute conduct bi-monthly teleclinics with patients and their caregivers at LBJ Tropical Medical Center in Pago Pago, American Samoa. Currently one physical therapist is the only trained rehabilitation professional working there. To date, 58 individual patient visits have taken place during 22 Teleclinics. The intent of this presentation will be to inform the rehabilitation community about the cultural lessons learned during the delivery of rehabilitation services to individuals living in American Samoa, via video teleconferencing. Examples include: improvisations made to substitute locally available commodities for rehabilitation equipment commonly used on the mainland and conceptual changes made to survey instruments to render them meaningful to the community in they intend to describe.

MEETING THE EARLY INTERVENTION NEEDS OF DIVERSE FAMILIES: GEORGIA'S JOURNEY

Sarita Reddy, Ph. D.
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia USA

Date: May 8
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: Monticello Room

The Institute on Human Development and Disability at UGA has provided technical assistance on cultural competence issues to Georgia's Office of Children with Special Needs since 1995. The Institute began with a small project to develop a statewide network of cultural liaisons: individuals and organizations that would serve as resources to agency staff and help them serve families from other countries more effectively. The work expanded to include a variety of projects such as developing a Protocol for Translation and a Guide for Interpreters, translation of federally mandated documents and informational materials into Spanish, Korean and Vietnamese, cultural competence training, public awareness efforts targeted towards minority populations and minority recruitment. In addition, the Multicultural Collaborative was established to serve as an advisory arm to the state on issues related to the provision of culturally and linguistically appropriate services. The group meets quarterly and is made up of agency staff, family members, and representatives of community organizations that serve minority populations.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY - THE ARGENTINA PROJECT

Date: May 8
Time: 3:30 - 4:30 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

Roundtable Discussion

Cross-cultural research is important in developing culturally competent disability services. Research findings direct service providers to the most effective methods for amelioration of disability. Such research must include treatment and recovery as well as rehabilitation and service provision. In August of 2000, NIDRR funded a study to compare outcomes from traumatic brain injury (TBI) between the United States and Argentina. In this roundtable we will present challenges unique to cross-cultural research, and their potential solutions. Specific topics will be:

- Comparability of care in the initial treatment of TBI, and how that effects evaluation of subsequent disability.
- Calibration of socio-economic status in measuring disability.
- The role of family in the introduction of alternative methods for provision of disability services.

Our goal is to illustrate how the specific experiences of this team of American and Argentine investigators can be usefully applied to other cultural settings and mechanisms of disability.

Presenters

Randall Chesnut, MD, FACS, FCCM
Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon USA

Gustavo Petroni, MD
Hospital de Emergencias "Dr. Clemente Alvarez"
Rosario, Santa Fe Argentina

Nancy Carney, PhD
Department of Medical Informatics and Outcomes Research
Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon USA

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GENERAL SYSTEMS THINKING AND ITS APPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION

Christopher J. Johnstone
National Center on Educational Outcomes
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota USA

Date: May 8
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: Dupont Room

This paper is a theory-generating discussion on an innovative way to reconstruct rehabilitation schemes for persons with disabilities in developing nations. Currently, Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) is the methodology of choice for national and international governmental agencies. CBR is an improvement over institutionalized services, (or no services at all), but still offers limited choices for people with disabilities. Using a literature review of General Systems Thinking and disability resources, a new organizational structure for Community Based Rehabilitation is proposed. This structure is organic in nature, and takes the shape of a biological cell, rather than a top-down approach. The structure uses available resources, cultural/identity generation, and futures planning to promote full societal inclusion of people with disabilities.

WORKING WITH PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES FROM ETHNO-RACIAL COMMUNITIES: A CANADIAN EXPERIENCE

Linda Cornwell
Women's Health in Women's Hands
Community Health Centre
Toronto, Ontario Canada

Date: May 8
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Mount Vernon Room

This presentation will discuss barriers to integration for ethno-racial people with disabilities and strategies adopted by Women's Health in Women's Hands, (WHIWH), a community health center in Toronto, Canada. WHIWH has developed a unique model of care, taking into account the impact of the intersections of gender, race, class, ability, sexual orientation, age and immigration status. These factors, combined with the social determinants of health and societal barriers, affect access to services for newcomers with disabilities. To deliver appropriate, culturally competent and accessible services for women with disabilities, WHIWH has worked in collaborative partnerships with Ethno-racial People with Disabilities of Ontario (ERDCO) and other organizations. ERDCO is a community-based organization dedicated to promoting the unique issues of ethnic and racial minority persons with disabilities. Issues of immigration, settlement, violence and access to health and social services will be highlighted. Strategies developed to overcome barriers, research projects and resources developed in Canada, will be shared.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

RAMIFICATIONS OF TRADITIONAL VS. DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION ON CULTURALLY DIFFERENT STUDENTS

Date: May 8
Time: 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Location: Monticello Room

Roundtable Discussion

Native peoples of Alaska's interior are held accountable for academic standards commensurate with those in the lower 48 states, yet cultural conflicts between the village world and the school world create loss of identity, lack of leadership, low self-esteem, alcohol and drug addictions, and high rates of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in students. Marshall reports on learning style research from eight villages, (195 students, grades 6 – 12), and emphasizes the importance of culture for instruction. Haggert reports on several California schools where approximately 40% of the enrollees are English as a Second Language (ESL) students. The learning style profiles of entire school populations have determined specific instructional interventions. The results are fascinating, and provide direction for further intervention and research.

Presenters

Barbara K. Given, Ph.D., Moderator
Director, Adolescent Learning Research Center
George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

Carol Marshall
Education Consultant and Director
Quality Education Systems, Dallas, TX

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

REFUGEE SCHOOL-BASED SERVICES

Mary Kay Jou, CSW
School Liaison
International Institute of Buffalo
Buffalo, New York USA

Date: May 8
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Dupont Room

School 45 is The International School in Buffalo, New York, and serves children who speak over 52 different languages. Bilingual classes are offered in Arabic, Cambodian, Lao, Russian, Somali and Vietnamese. Forty percent of the students are English Language Learners (ELL). Through a partnership with The International Institute of Buffalo, (a local refugee resettlement agency), the school has been able to offer many services to their students. One of the greatest challenges at the school is meeting the needs of Bilingual Special Education students. How to differentiate between language proficiency and learning disability, using the bilingual special education assessment process, will be described, as well as the cultural barriers that slow the process. Many of our students are refugees who have never attended school before; their special needs will be discussed, also. Information will be provided about how to overcome obstacles that arise when so many different languages and cultures are present in a school, and will highlight strategies that have proved most successful.

EMPLOYMENT BARRIERS FACED BY AAPI WITH DISABILITIES, AND LEGAL PROVISIONS ADDRESSING

Diane Hino
National Technical Assistance Center for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities
University of Hawaii, Manoa, Hawaii USA

Date: May 8
Time: 4:30 pm
Location: New Hampshire Room

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) are the fastest growing minority group in the United States. A subgroup, AAPIs with disabilities, faces many challenges and barriers to employment, including cultural, religious and workplace attitudes toward disability. This discussion will focus on legal provisions and individual strategies to create an organizational culture and "corporate manners" that may prove useful in overcoming barriers to employment. Some legal provisions to be covered are: The Americans with Disabilities Act, Social Security benefits and work incentives, SSI work incentives, Medicare coverage, PASS (Plan for Achieving Self Support), 1997 Balanced Budget Act, 1998 Workforce Investment Act, Ticket to Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act of 1999, SGA Increase to \$700, SSA and RSA Partnerships Initiatives, and the SSA Demonstration on Treatment of Affective Disorders.

ABSTRACTS: CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS IN THE ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT OF NEUROBEHAVIORAL DISORDERS

Tony L. Strickland, Ph.D.

Director, Behavioral Neuroscience Research Center

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine & Science

Los Angeles, California

Date: May 8

Time: 4:30 pm

Location: Mount Vernon Room

Historically, clinical practice has focused only modest attention on the significance of cultural factors in the evaluation and treatment of neurobehavioral disorders. Significantly more attention has been focused on traditional clinical issues associated with the assessment and treatment of brain pathology. Thus, methods associated with how to address cultural and ethnic variables that include the beliefs, customs, values, language and history of groups from similar ethnic backgrounds have not been systematically integrated into the process of neurobehavioral evaluation and treatment. Providing culturally competent services to facilitate accurate cross-cultural evaluations of neurobehavioral disorders has become increasingly clinically relevant. This presentation will address the importance of cultural factors in the assessment, rehabilitation and pharmacotherapy of neurobehavioral disorders. The presenter will speak to issues related to evaluation and treatment of underrepresented minority populations with brain injury, and examine the influence of migration, special needs of the elderly, and ethnobiologic variations in pharmacotherapy.

NOT CITIZENS BY CHOICE: SERVING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES WHO WERE INTERNATIONAL SPECIAL NEEDS ADOPTEES AS INFANTS

Robert Stensrud, Ed.D., CRC

Counseling, Leadership, and Adult Development

Drake University

Des Moines, Iowa USA

Date: May 8

Time: 4:30 pm

Location: Dupont Room

This presentation will cover my experiences as a father of two infants with special needs, whom we adopted from Korea. Several issues are unique to this group of immigrants. Primary among these is the lack of information on the birth parents. This lack of knowledge affects much of the medical care decision making the adoptees face. The other major issue involves the identity they develop as infants in multi-racial families, and how that affects their attachments as they age. Finally, this affects rehabilitation service providers who seek to be culturally sensitive. The adopted individuals take the cultural identity of their adoptive parents, primarily, until they become adults, at which time their reaction that identity varies tremendously. The perspectives introduced into the presentation will include those of my children, my own as an adoptive parent, and as a rehabilitation professional.

ABOUT CIRRIE

CIRRIE, The Center for International Rehabilitation Research Information and Exchange, was established with support from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. CIRRIE's goal is to facilitate the sharing of information and expertise in rehabilitation research between the U.S. and other countries.

CIRRIE's principal activities to accomplish this goal include:

- The development of an international database of rehabilitation research (<http://cirrie.buffalo.edu/search/>).
- An international exchange program conducted through CIRRIE travel grants.
- Dissemination of information on the cultural perspectives of foreign-born persons in the U.S. to rehabilitation service providers.

For further information about CIRRIE, visit <http://cirrie.buffalo.edu/>

