

International Journal for Behavioural Development

Editor's Report (July 1997 to May 1998)

Table of Contents

International Journal for Behavioural Development—Editor's Report	1
Minutes of the <i>ISSBD</i> Executive Committee and General Business Meetings	4
First Announcement and Call for Abstracts for the XVIth <i>ISSBD</i>	
Biennial Meetings in Beijing	9
Notes from the President	11
Call for Nominations for 2000 ISSBD Elections	12

Editors

Jutta Heckhausen Correspondence Address: ISSBD Newsletter Max Planck Institute for Human Development Lentzeallee 94 14195 Berlin, Germany

Production and Distribution: Max Planck Institute for Human Development

Distribution within North America: Sherry Willis The Pennsylvania State University 110 Henderson Building South University Park, Pennsylvania 16802 **Editorial Policy:** The main aim of Editorial Policy has been to encourage submissions from authors in the newly-emerging associated fields of research, such as behavioral genetics, neuroscience and developmental psychopathology, and to extend *IJBD*'s scope whilst maintaining a world-wide platform for researchers on human development. In addition, although it has long been a corner-stone of the Journal's rationale to take a life-span view of behavioral development, increasing the realization of this aim has been a particular feature of editorial policy during the period of this report. In pursuit of both these aims, Special Sections have been utilized, which have taken the Journal either into areas previously not widely covered or which have a life-span perspective, or both. Maintaining the excellent lead-times reported last year has also been a central feature of Journal policy, as has continuing with the regular revision of Editorial Board membership, in order to broaden outreach and ensure a healthy diversity of specialist representation.

Manuscript Submissions: Since starting operations in July 1995, the team has now handled some 272 manuscripts submitted directly to the Jena office, plus 27 Special Section manuscripts, giving a total of 299 to date. In the period from July 1, to 1997 to April 27, 1998, 83 new manuscripts were submitted to and processed by the Editorial Office (not including Special Section submissions), which is a slight decrease (5.7%) compared to the 88 submitted during the same 10 months of the previous reporting period. Of the 83 submitted during this reporting period, 6 (7%) have been accepted, 31 (37%) have been rejected and 46 (55%) are still pending a final decision. However, the overall accept/reject percentage rate for *IJBD* editorial decision made during this reporting period (in total: 90) has been 40% accept, 60% reject. Of the manuscripts submitted during this period, 21 have been handled by Associate Editors.

The Journal remains truly international. The 83 manuscripts submitted during this reporting period have come from across the world: in all, from 24 different countries. As was the case last year, submissions from North America and Western Europe (61) form the bulk of *IJBD*'s manuscripts, just over 74% of all submissions. In particular, it is good to be able to report that submissions from Eastern Europe have increased. However, combined submissions from countries in Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America account for only 10% of all submissions, which still falls short of editorial aims.

Lead Times: Lead times to first decision have improved again. In 1995/96, the average lead time to a reject decision was 91 days, this improved to 72 days last year

page 2 ISSBD NEWSLETTER 2/98

and to 60 during this reporting period. Time taken for manuscripts first offered Revise and Resubmit (r & r) during this period show an average of 70 days. Lead times to final editorial decision "accept" have shown a slight increase from an average of 168 days last year to 176 this year. However, this is still an improvement on the 242 days reported for 1995/96. This improvement has neither been at the expense of the number of reviewers per manuscript, nor the number of times a manuscript may be sent back for revision, nor has *IJBD* reduced its commitment to providing authors with the fullest possible written feedback from reviewers and the Editor. This is seen as a valuable service, particularly for up-and-coming young scientists, who *IJBD* is pledged to support.

Impact Factor: In 1996, *IJBD* was ranked 22 out of 39 in the Journal Citation Report for the Social Sciences with an impact factor of 0.604. This is an improvement of IJBD's rank position in comparison to the previous year, when it was ranked 22 out of 36, but a worsening of its actual impact factor, which was 0.713 in 1995. However, it should be remembered that the impact factor is calculated on the number of references citing IJBD papers which were published in the previous two years. This means that the figures for 1996 reflect a much earlier period. This figure thus represents the number of citations of IJBD papers which were submitted and accepted in the early 1990s and published in 1994 and 1995. As papers accepted under the present Editor could not be published before June 1996, it is expected that IJBD's impact factor will improve as a consequence of the new Editorial Policy and the much shorter lead times.

Special Sections: Editorial Policy concerning Special Sections has meant that all issues of *IJBD* published during the reporting period have included a Special Section. Guest Editors, in collaboration with the Editor, have overseen their production. Papers were solicited by Calls for Papers placed in *IJBD* and the *ISSBD Newsletter*, and occasionally by individual invitations to scholars working within the given field. However, all papers, were subjected to the same peer review process as other *IJBD* manuscripts, whether invited or submitted.

Book Reviews: *IJBD* continues to publish book reviews whereby experts in relevant fields are invited to review books, which are considered to be of importance and outstanding interest to the readership. Since the decision was taken to recommence publishing book reviews in *IJBD*, some 80 books have been received for possible review and thanks go to all those who have acted as book reviewers for *IJBD* in the past year.

Associate Editors: At the beginning of the new Editorship it was decided that a policy of a "rolling" two year membership would be introduced for Associate Editors and Members of the Editorial Board. In January 1998, the term of two of IJBD's Associate Editors, namely Kathleen Bloom, Canada, and Philip Hwang, Sweden, came to an end. Both had also served under the previous Editorship of Linda Siegel, and *IJBD* owes them a very great deal for their punctilious hard work and generous support over such a length of time. Following an announcement placed in *IJBD* and the Newsletter, several applications were received forming a wide and diverse pool of candidates. After consultation with members of the Steering Committee and the Chair of the Publication Committee, Marcel van Aken, The Netherlands, and Lynne Vernan-Feagans, USA, were invited to join IJBD's editorial team. Both accepted and commenced their term on January 1, 1998. We would like to thank

Christopher Hertzog, USA, for his work as Associate Editor with the *IJBD* during the past year.

Editorial Board: As was mentioned earlier, a policy of "rolling" membership has been introduced whereby some members leave after two years and new members join. This allows the Board to benefit from the experience of established members, yet also involve new members. It also enables people to accept membership without having to fear an endless commitment and allows new ideas to enter into the system. As a result of this procedure, several members who had completed their two-year term at the end of 1997 have left the Board. Our thanks go to the following members for their sterling work over several years on behalf of *IJBD*: Heidelise Als, Michael J. Boulton, William Carey, Graeme Halford, Giovanna Axia, Anders G. Broberg, Patricia East, Mark Blades, Alain Brossard, and Allen Gottfried.

Reviewers: Our thanks are again due to all those who have acted as reviewers for IJBD. Without their unwavering conscientious approach to this time consuming task, the Journal could not function. IJBD has also been fortunate in experiencing an improvement in the number of reviewers assisting its work and in a reduction in the number of reviewers declining to review. Of the 372 requests to review made during the period of this report, 60 did not result in a review. This represents 16% of all first review requests, a clear improvement on the 28% stated in last year's report. While some reviewers declined others simply did not reply; of these, 4 refused on more than one occasion. There were some incidences of reviewers having moved or having been temporarily relocated so that manuscripts for review did not reach them. However, this means that 84% of all first review contacts returned reviews. We are proud of this achievement which is not least due to Katrin Müller's unstinting efforts in the Editorial Office chasing the more recalcitrant of our reviewers. (For a list of reviewers for 1997, see IJBD, Vol. 22, 1)

Number of Issues: Extending the reporting period to the end of June, 4 issues of *IJBD* will have been published (Vol. 21, Issue 3 & 4; Vol. 22, Issues 1 & 2) comprising altogether some 45 manuscripts and 3 Special Sections (for details, see section on Special Sections and Table 10). Also included in Issue 2 (Vol. 22) is a commentary by Karen Bartsch on a paper in the same issue, "False Belief Understanding in Young Children: Explanations Do Not Develop Before Predictions," from Heinz Wimmer and Heinz Mayringer. A response to the commentary by the paper's authors is also included. It is hoped that this interesting exchange will encourage others, especially readers, to contribute in the same vein.

Backlog: The backlog of manuscripts awaiting publication has been reduced by the double issue of the *Newsletter* in 1997. This means that we have sufficient papers in hand to ensure publication of the Journal, and also to allow a good selection for each issue without authors having to wait years for publication. In fact, a calculation based on the two most recent issues shows that the average times from submission to publication were as follows.¹

From first submission to publication 17.9 months and from receipt of final version (after acceptance) 8.3 months.

Calculations are based on manuscripts handled by the Editorial Office and sent out for review. Not included are manuscripts rejected by the Editor without review, or those handled by Associate Editors.

Future Developments: The success of the Journal as just described (with steady submissions, reductions in lead times, many special sections to make it more attractive and raise the impact factor, etc.) could possibly lead to a recurrence of the previous backlog situation, which, if not resolved, would be problematic, especially in terms of lead times. IJBD could become a victim of its own success. Therefore, a significant increase in the size of IJBD is planned. This will enable IJBD not just to maintain but also to increase its quality standards. Thus, as a result of successful and productive talks with the publishers, it is planned to increase each volume by 192 pages, that is, from 896 per year to 1088, starting with Issue 1, Volume 23 (1999). Starting with Issue 1, Volume 24 (2000), we are also proposing to change the format of IJBD to a larger, two-column layout with an improved cover design. Such a change of format had already been considered but was not implemented until it was certain that enough submissions were available to fill the larger format. It is important to note that the increase in size comes at no additional cost to the Society or its members. Additional costs would be borne by institutional subscriptions, and it is not expected that this will cause any problems as IJBD received increased subscriptions when it published a double volume in 1997. The change in format will mean that the increase in royalties will cancel out costs normally paid by the Society to the publishers to cover publication and distribution costs, and it will also result in an increase in the funds for the editorial stipend. As negotiations are still underway, it would be unwise to mention specific figures at this time.

Finances: The Editorial Office has been supported by two sources of funding: one indirect, in the form of the provision of accommodation, technical, secretarial and assistant support by the University of Jena, the other direct, from ISSBD in the form of the Editor's stipend. This is currently US\$ 7,000. In terms of actual costs, fax and postage alone consume the bulk of the Editorial stipend. Costs can vary considerably from month to month, particularly depending on the number of manuscripts received—in the past year approximately US\$ 6,200 was spent on postage and fax. The University has maintained its support since operations began in Jena but in the current climate of shrinking academic funding, this can no longer be guaranteed. At any rate, it is my duty as Editor to ask the Society for extra support in the region of US\$ 2,500. Please note that this is approximately 50% of the overall expected costs of upgrading the Editorial Office which, it is hoped, the University can be persuaded to match.

IJBD: 2000 and beyond: Firstly, in view of both the special nature of the year 2000 and the fact that the *ISSBD* Biennial Meetings of that year will be held in Beijing, it is planned to publish a Special Section on developmental research in China. Secondly, Willard Hartup has very kindly agreed to act as Guest Editor for a symposium on the Retrospect and Prospect of Developmental Science. Starting with an Introduction in Issue 1, March 2000, and concluding with a Summary in Issue 4, December 2000, papers will appear throughout the year.

IJBD Web site locations:

Taylor and Francis:

http://www.tandf.co.uk/psypress/jnlfiles/ijbehdev.htm Catchword:

http://www.tandf.co.uk/psypress/psychonline.htm *ISSBD*:

http://www.aifs.org.au/external/issbd/journal.htm

FSII Iena

http://www.uni-jena.de/svw/devpsy/ijbd/ijbd.html

Prof. Rainer K. Silbereisen

Friedrich Schiller University of Jena Department of Developmental Psychology Am Steiger 3/1 D-07743 Jena Germany

Tel.: +49 3641 9 45201 Fax: +49 3641 9 45202 E-mail: SII@rz.uni-jena.de

Internet: http://www.uni-jena.de/svw/devpsy/frameset_e.html

Call for Submissions of Reports on

Developmental Psychology in South Africa since Mandela

In the Fall 1999 issue we are planning a Special Section on this topic.

Please submit reports to:

Jutta Heckhausen

ISSBD Newsletter
Max Planck Institute for Human Development
Lentzeallee 94
14195 Berlin
Germany

Minutes of the ISSBD Executive Committee and General Business Meetings

in Bern, Switzerland, July 1998

Dates: Executive Committee (EC): July 1 and 4, 1998; General Business Meeting (GBM): July 3, 1998

Members of the EC present: Anna S. Bombi, Roger Dixon^{b,c}, Willem Koops (Secretary), Brett Laursen (Treasurer and Membership Secretary), David Magnusson^a, Jari Erik Nurmi^b, Jesus Palacios^a, Anne Petersen, Robert Plomin, Lea Pulkkinen (Past-President/Acting President), Anik de Ribaupierre, Kenneth Rubin^b (President), Rainer K. Silbereisen^a, Jacqui Smith, Richard Tremblay.

Editors present: Rainer K. Silbereisen (*IJBD*), Rohays Perry and Allison Muddit (for item 14 present, representatives of the publisher of *IJBD*), Verona Christmas (editorial assistant), Jutta Heckhausen^c (*Newsletter*).

Ad hoc advisors: Hideo Kojima, Qi Dong, Suman Verma.

Guests: August Flammer and Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello (item 15), Peter Noack^c (item 11), Meng Zhaolan (item 15), Jan de Wit^c (item 17).

Apologies for absence received from: Lothar Krappmann (Editor, Newsletter).

Approximately 45 members attended the GBM.

- ^a Retiring members present for July 1 meeting.
- b Newly elected members, without vote at the July 1 meeting.
- ^c Only present at the July 3 meeting.

The written annual reports of the officers of *ISSBD* that were discussed in the EC meeting will not be included in these Minutes; only the main issues, discussed during the meetings will be referred to. Members interested in the full reports should contact the Secretary General, Willem Koops (Dept. of Developmental Psychology, Van der Boechorststraat 1; 1081 BT Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Tel. 31 20 444 8740, Fax 20444 8745, E-mail w.koops@psy.vu.nl).

1. Remembrance Minute

On Friday, April 17, 1998, Harry McGurk, President of *ISSBD*, passed away at Cabrini Hospital, Melbourne. Past-President, Lea Pulkkinen, described Harry McGurk's various activities within the Society and proposed a remembrance minute in his memory.

2. Chair of the Meeting

According to the Bye-Laws (Article II.7) "In the absence of the President, the Past-President or the President-Elect shall chair all meetings of the Society and the Executive Committee." Therefore, Lea Pulkkinen, Past-President of the Society, chaired the meeting of the Executive Committee and the General Business Meeting.

3. Minutes of the EC Meeting in 1997

The Minutes of the EC Meeting in Rennes, France, September 6, 1997, published in the *Newsletter* 2/97, Serial No. 32, pages 12–16 were approved unanimously.

4. President's Report

The office of the President of *ISSBD* was established at the premises of the Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne, Australia. The President's Executive Assistant, Ms. Narda Sowter had assumed responsibility for the administration of the office and assisted the President with day-to-day management of the affairs of the Society. Lea Pulkkinen expressed the gratitude of the Society to Ms. Sowter as well as to the late President's supportive home institution, The Australian Institute of Family Studies in Melbourne, Australia. After Harry McGurk's death, the office of the President moved back to the University of Jyväskylä, Finland.

The activities of the Presidents have included: (1) representation of the Society at the *ISSBD* supported Workshop on "Dynamics of Parenting," Amsterdam, October 15–18, 1998 (Lea Pulkkinen) and the Ninth Asian Workshop on Child and Adolescent Development, Brunei, Darussalam, 22–25,

1998 (Harry McGurk and Lea Pulkkinen); (2) involvement, as an ex-officio member of ISSBD Committees, in the organization of the Biennial Meetings (Bern, 1998 and Beijing, 2000) and the Fourth African Workshop of ISSBD in Namibia, July 18–25, 1998, and maintaining close contacts with the chairs of these meetings. (3) The Presidents were in regular contact with other members of the Steering Committee, the Chair of the Nominations Committee (Jacqui Smith), and with representatives of both SRCD (for ISSBD/ SRCD collaboration) and CODESRIA, the Pan-African nongovernmental organization for promoting research and publishing. Harry McGurk worked actively for the organization of an ISSBD workshop on day care in Hungary after the Bern meetings. This workshop had to be cancelled because of his death. The two months after Harry McGurk's death demanded a lot of work and effort from Lea Pulkkinen who had to take over the President's office and become actively involved in the Society's business.

Lea Pulkkinen reviewed the decisions made by the Executive Committee in its meeting in Rennes in 1997 according to the Minutes approved above. She found several unfinished tasks, partly because of Harry McGurk's illness and sudden death. They will be transferred to the future Executive Committee. (Lea Pulkkinen noted that the following decisions had not yet been actioned: the preparation of the standardized information brochures for public relations and a poster with general information on ISSBD; the investigation of the publishing arrangements for the Newsletter with budget details; there was no report available on the effectiveness of the internet presence in disseminating information about the Society to members and to the world at large; Harry McGurk had proposed maintaining the Internet presence until the Bern Meetings; the EC will now have to make alternative arrangements for the maintenance of the internet presence; there is no report available to the EC Meeting on possibilities of funding from the Kellogg Foundation for the program on Human Development in Community Context and the EC asked the Steering Committee to explore these possibilities; amendments to Bye-Laws have not been prepared. Awards for young scholars from developing countries [Canadian\$4,000 per biennial meeting of ISSBD] from the "Quebec 1996 ISSBD

Meeting Foundation" had not been announced by March 1, 1998 as promised. Concerning the latter, Richard Tremblay, the Chair of the Meetings in Quebec City, 1996, noted that his University had not yet made the final decisions about how to use the award money.)

The EC approved the President's report and expressed its gratitude for the time and energy that both Presidents had devoted to the Society.

5. The Secretary's Report

Since the EC meeting in Rennes, France, the secretary had engaged in the following activities: he composed the Minutes of the previous meeting; prepared and executed the Election process (see below); completed a number of tasks resulting from Harry McGurk's death (e.g., informing officers and members of the Society, sending letters of condolence to relatives and friends of the late President, attending the funeral ceremony in Scotland as the representative of the Society). In addition, the Secretary received many requests for information regarding the Society and its activities, and maintained regular contact with several international organizations and societies.

According to the Bye-Laws, the President-Elect, other officers, and the members of the EC shall be elected directly by the members of *ISSBD*. To this end, members received a ballot form and short biographical sketches of two candidates for President-Elect (one only to be elected) and six candidates for the EC (three to be elected) in the Spring. The Secretary was responsible for the electoral process. His activities built on the much appreciated work from Jacqui Smith, Chair of the Nominations Committee. Of the 227 ballots returned, 12 were invalid because of missing signatures. In order to make sure that each member's vote continued to influence the election even if his or her first choice had already lost, the so-called "Rules for counting ballots in private elections under the Hare system of proportional representation," as adopted by the APA, were used. The results of the election were as follows: Kenneth H. Rubin (USA) was elected President-Elect; Candida Peterson (Australia), Jari Erik Nurmi (Finland), and Roger Dixon (Canada) were elected to the EC (1998-2004). All elected members were welcomed by the EC.

The report of the Secretary was approved unanimously by the EC. It was once again suggested that the Secretary should prepare standardized information brochures for public relations as soon as possible. Also requested was the printing of additional copies of the constitution and Bye-Laws. A completion date of October 1998 was requested. The Secretary promised to give high priority to this task. The GBM approved the report on the elections unanimously. The Secretary reported to the GBM on the organization and activities of the Executive Committee and the Society, as is required in the Bye-Laws (Article II.4) The report was approved.

6. President and Past-President for 1998-2000

As a consequence of Harry McGurk's death, it was necessary to nominate a person who could serve as President. The EC suggested that, given the results of the election, Ken Rubin would become President of *ISSBD* from 1998 to 2002 should the general membership approve of this at the Business Meeting. Further, the EC decided to extend the period of office of the Past-President, Lea Pulkkinen, by two years until 2000. In addition, it was proposed by the EC, that

a President-Elect would then be elected in the year 2000. The EC expressed its gratitude to both Ken Rubin and Lea Pulkkinen, who agree to serve in the capacity of President and Past-President respectively. *The GBM unanimously approved this proposal.*

7. Election of the Chair of the Nominations Committee

Lea Pulkkinen, Past-President, was selected as Chair of the Nominations Committee. The retiring Chair, Jacqui Smith, was thanked for her work.

8. Liaison Officer to the World Health Organization (WHO)

Harry McGurk was the Liaison Officer to the World Health Organization. Suman Verma (India), ad hoc member representing Asia, was invited to represent the Society in interactions with the WHO. She kindly accepted.

9. Ad hoc Advisors 1998-2000

The terms of Hideo Kojima (advisor for Asia), Adam Niemczynski (for Eastern Europe), and David Skuse (for Pediatric Psychiatry) ended in 1998. The EC thanked these officers for their valued contributions to the Society. Four new ad hoc advisors (for the period 1998–2000) were nominated and welcomed: Qi Dong (ad hoc advisor for Asia), Andry I. Podol'sky (for Eastern Europe), Suman Verma (for India), and Bame Nsamenang (for Africa).

10. Report from the Treasurer/Membership Secretary

The report of the Membership Secretary, Brett Laursen, was approved by the EC and by the GBM. The EC expressed gratitude to the Florida Atlantic University for continued financial and staff support. In particular, the Society owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Charles White (Dean, College of Liberal Arts) and Dr. Mary McBride (Vice-President, Broward Campuses). Special thanks to Ms. Margaret Ferreira for her efforts as Administrative Assistant, and to Ms. Virginia Caracciolo for record keeping and assistance with the preparation of reports.

The 1998 *ISSBD* Membership Directory will be mailed in June to members who pay 1998 dues.

In 1997, ISSBD had a total of 1,010 paid members (see Tab. 1). This represents a decrease of 19.8% (n = 250) in comparison to 1996 total membership, but an increase of 25.5% (n = 205) in comparison to 1995 total membership. ISSBD membership fluctuates from conference to nonconference years, so 1995 is a better point of comparison for 1997 membership rolls than 1996, the year of the last biennial meetings. In 1997, total paid membership included 659 full members, a 20.7% (n = 172) decrease in full membership in comparison to 1996 but a 52.9% (n = 228) increase in comparison to 1995. In 1997, total paid membership included 266 regional members. This represents a 1.5% (n = 4) increase in comparison to 1996 but a 9.5% (n = 28) decrease in comparison to 1995. In 1997, total paid membership included 35 Student members: 28 received the journal and 7 did not. Taken together, this represents a 68.8% (n = 77) decrease in student membership in comparison to 1996 but a 29.6% (n = 8) increase in student membership in comparison to 1995. In 1997, total paid membership included 21 spouse members. This represents an 8.7% (n = 2) decrease in spouse membership in comparison to 1996, and a 16%

Table 1: 1994–1997 Paid Membership

Category	1994	1995	1996	1997
Full	669	431	831	659
Regional	287	294	262	266
Student	28	27	112	35
Spouse	32	25	23	21
Emeritus	44	28	32	29
Total	1,060	805	1,260	1,010

(n = 4) decrease in comparison to 1995. In 1997, total paid mem-bership included 29 Emeritus members, a 9.4% (n = 3) decrease in Emeritus membership in comparison to 1996 but a 3.6% (n = 1) increase in comparison to 1995.

ISSBD welcomed two new Regional Coordinators during 1997: Dr. Tatiana Yermolova (Coordinator of the Regional Office in Russia) and Dr. Suman Verma, who assumed the position of Coordinator of the Regional Office in India, following the death of Dr. Rajalakshmi Muralidharan. The EC extends special thanks to the previous Coordinator of the Regional Office in Russia, Dr. Alexander Poddiakov, and we would like to expresses condolences to our colleagues in India.

In 1996, the EC directed the Membership Secretary to begin a periodic review of Regional Offices. In February 1997, letters were mailed to Regional Coordinators in four countries (Brazil, Hungary, Poland, and South Africa) with improving economies or inactive offices, proposing that regional operations be discontinued. It was decided in Rennes in 1997, on the basis of the responses, to shift operations from these locations to the office of the Membership Secretary in 1998. As a consequence, these four Regional Offices have been closed. Special thanks are due to their coordinators for their efforts on behalf of ISSBD: Dr. Maria Clothilde Rossetti-Ferreira (Brazil), Dr. Andy Gilbert (South Africa), Dr. Magda Kalmar (Hungary), and Dr. Adam Niemczynski (Poland). The EC continued its review of regional offices and decided to close the office in Cameroon as of the end of 1998. The EC thanked the outgoing regional director of the Cameroon office, Bame Nsamenang, for his work.

The Membership Secretary made some proposals intended to limit the fluctuation in membership across conference and nonconference years. After ample discussion, the EC decided to adopt the following strategy: Members will be offered the choice of one- or two-year memberships. A choice for a one-year membership includes a \$10 dues increase for full members (from \$75 to \$85), a \$7 dues increase for students receiving the Journal (from \$40 to \$47), a \$7 dues increase for students not receiving the Journal (from \$23 to \$30), and a \$7 dues increase for spouse and Emeritus members (from \$23 to \$30). These increases will be waived for those who pay biennial dues. Annual dues for regional members will remain at \$10. Biennial dues are not recommended for regional membership since some offices lack the infrastructure necessary to track membership over time. These proposals were unanimously approved by the EC and the GBM.

To improve the accuracy of *ISSBD* membership records, the EC authorized the Membership Secretary to spend up to \$500 to prepare personalized membership renewal forms. At the present time, renewals consist of blank applications with a space for members to provide a current listing of their professional affiliations and contacts. Personalized membership renewals would contain a printout of current member infor-

mation and a space for corrections. This will facilitate publication of the *ISSBD* Membership Directory and minimize difficulties with distribution of the Journal, *Newsletter*, and official correspondence.

Finally, the EC authorized the Membership Secretary to revise membership applications and renewals to include a category of gifts to *ISSBD*. This will encourage members to consider donating money above and beyond their membership dues. These funds would be applied to long term investments and would not be used for operating expenses.

The report of the Treasurer was approved unanimously by the EC and by the GBM. Table 2 indicates 1995–1997 finances. Figures for 1995 and 1996 were approved at the 1997 EC Meeting in Rennes and published in the ISSBD Newsletter (1997, No. 2, Serial No. 32). The same report contained an interim financial summary for January through July 1997; this account has been amended by the treasurer and approved by the EC. The following summary contrasts 1997 finances with each of the previous two years. Since finances vary considerably from conference to nonconference years, 1995 provides a better point of comparison for 1997 finances than 1996, the year of the last biennial meeting.

Total revenues for 1997 were \$93,726.79, a decrease of 35.9 % (\$52,510.65) on 1996 but an increase of 8.8% (\$7,607.80) on 1995 revenues. Total disbursements for 1997 were \$65,461.00, a decrease of 41.8% (\$47,045.11) on 1996 disbursements, and a decrease of 11.9% (\$8,859.94) on 1995 disbursements. The 1997 opening balance was \$137,734.24, an increase of 32.4% (\$33,731.33) on the 1996 opening balance. The 1997 closing balance was \$166,000.63, an increase of 20.5% (\$28,265.79) on the 1997 opening balance. The closing balance was distributed across four types of accounts: \$11,278.25 was held in an interest-free checking account, \$43,529.66 was held in two interest bearing money market accounts, \$50,921.75 was invested in corporate bonds, and \$60,270.37 was invested in mutual fund stock accounts.

According to the American standards, the Treasurer filed tax returns for 1996 and 1997.

It may be concluded that *ISSBD* finances are as sound as they have ever been in the organization's history. The EC congratulated the Treasurer on his successful work and again affirmed support for the policy of increasing long-term investments.

Table 2: 1994–1997 Summary Financial Report (in US\$)

	1994	1995	1996	1997
Opening Balance	55,249.24	77,921.01	104,002.91	137,734.24
Revenue	156,820.43	86,118.99	146,237.44	93,726.79
	212,069.67	164,040.00	250,240.35	231,461.03
Disburse- ments	145,164.91	74,320.94	112,506.11	65,461.00
Closing Balance	66,904.76	89,719.06	137,734.24	166,000.03

11. Membership Committee

Peter Noack reported on the activities of the Membership Committee. His report was approved by the EC and he was thanked for the important work of the Committee.

12. Harry McGurk Award/Lecture

It was suggested by several EC members that Harry McGurk be commemorated by the establishment of a prize or accolade to be awarded every two years during the biennial meetings. A number of proposals were made including: designating a regular keynote address as the Harry McGurk lecture; creating a Harry McGurk award to be awarded to a young scholar for exceptional research; awarding a Harry McGurk prize for the best conference poster. At the next meeting of the EC, plans will be further developed and discussed.

13. Insurance Policy

Liability insurance was purchased by the Treasurer at an annual cost of \$1,800. This policy will cover all *ISSBD* officers, Editors, and EC members against indemnity for activities undertaken on behalf of the Society.

14. Publications

Report from the Editor of IJBD

The extended, informative, and detailed report of the Editor, Rainer K. Silbereisen, was approved unanimously by the EC. The EC again congratulated Rainer Silbereisen for his successful work for the Society's *Journal* and expressed its gratitude to the University of Jena for providing accommodation, technical, secretarial, and assistant support for the Editor

In the period July 1, 1997 to April 27, 1998, 83 new manuscripts were submitted and processed by the Editorial Office (not including Special Section submissions), which is a slight decrease (5.7%) compared to the 88 submitted during the same ten months of the previous report. The percentage accept/reject of all editorial decisions made during this period was 40% accept, 60% reject.

The *Journal* remains truly international. The 83 manuscripts submitted during this period came from 24 different countries. The majority of manuscripts, however, were submitted by North American- and Western European-based researchers (74% of all submissions). Submissions from Eastern Europe have increased, but combined submissions from countries in Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America still only account for 10% of total submissions, which is less than that aspired to by the Editor.

Lead times to first decision have improved, from an average of 91 days taken to reach a reject decision in 1995/96, to 72 days last year, and to 60 days during this reporting period. Lead times to final editorial decision "accept" have shown a slight increase from an average of 168 last year to 176 this year; this is, however, still an improvement on the 242 days reported for 1995/96.

IJBD manuscripts, including Special Section manuscripts, submitted in this reporting period show that *IJBD* has begun to cover the whole lifespan in a more balanced way, for example, of all manuscripts categorized with regard to the age group of the research sample (65), 39% concerned childhood, 26% adolescence, 14% adulthood and aging, and 22% development across the lifespan.

In 1996, *IJBD* was ranked 22 out of 39 in the Journal Citation Report for the Social Sciences with an impact factor of 0.604. This is an improvement of *IJBD*'s rank position in comparison to the previous year, when it was ranked 22 out of 36, but a lowering of its actual impact factor, which

was 0.713 in 1995. However, the impact factor is calculated on the number of references citing *IJBD* papers which were published in the previous two years. This means that the figures for 1996 reflect a much earlier period. As papers accepted under the present editor could not be published before June 1996, it is expected that, as the effects of new editorial policies and shorter lag-times are felt, *IJBD*'s impact factor will improve.

Editorial policy concerning Special Sections has meant that all issues of *IJBD* published during the reporting period have included a Special Section. The following sections have been published during the reporting period: Close Relationships Across the Lifespan (Action Editor, Brett Laursen), Career Development: A Lifespan Perspective (Fred Vondracek), and Coping and Development Across the Lifespan (Ellen Skinner).

IJBD continues to publish book reviews whereby experts in relevant fields are invited to provide reviews. This is considered to be of importance and interest to the readership. During the reporting period, *IJBD* has published 12 book reviews, with another 9 pending publication.

In January 1998, the terms of two of *IJBD*'s Associate Editors, Kathleen Bloom and Philip Hwang, came to an end. *IJBD* owes them gratitude for their work and generous support over their editorial terms of office. After a careful selection process, Marcel van Aken (The Netherlands) and Lynne Vernan-Feagans (USA) were invited to join *IJBD*'s Editorial team as Associate Editors. Both accepted, and commenced their term on January 1, 1998. It is appropriate here to offer thanks to Christopher Herzog (USA), who joined *IJBD* as Associate Editor in January 1997, for his work during the past year.

Ten members of the Editorial Board, who had completed their two-year term at the end of 1997, left the Board. Many thanks go to them for their efforts over several years on behalf of *IJBD*. Concurrently, 22 new members were accepted onto the Editorial Board. This has enhanced the diversity and balance of the Board, especially with regard to phases of the lifespan represented by the Editorial Board members' interests.

IJBD has also been fortunate in experiencing an improvement in the number of reviewers assisting its work and in a reduction in the number of reviewers declining to review. Of the 372 requests to review made during the period of this report, 60 did not result in a review. This represents 16% of all first review requests, a definite improvement on the 28% given in last year's report. Once again, thanks go to all reviewers who have supported *IJBD* so admirably this year (for a list of reviewers for 1997, see *IJBD*, Vol. 22, 1).

A calculation based on the two most recent issues shows that the average time from submission to publication was 7.9 months.

IJBD is now included in the electronic journal database "Psychology Online," provided by Psychology Press, as well as being featured on the Psychology Press' Home Page in the internet. *IJBD* also features on the *ISSBD* web site and on the Institute's website in Jena (the home institution of the Editor).

IJBD website locations:

Taylor and Francis:

http://www.tandf.co.uk/psypress/jnlfiles/ijbehdev.htm Catchword:

http://www.tandf.co.uk/psypress/psychonline.htm *ISSRD*:

page 8

http://www.aifs.org.au/external/issbd/journal.htm FSU Jena:

http://www.uni-jena.de/svw/devpsy/ijbd/ijbd.html

The Editor currently receives a stipend of \$7,000. Fax and postage alone consume the bulk of the Editorial stipend (in the past year: US\$6,200). The Editor asked the Society for extra support of US\$2,500—approximately 50% of the overall expected costs of upgrading the Editorial Office. It is hoped that the home university of the Editor will match this figure. The EC agreed to offer the extra support of \$2,500.

It was discussed that the journal length should be increased by 20% and the number of words per issue could be increased by using a two-column format. The publisher will consider these recommended changes. The EC supported the Editor's efforts in negotiating with the publisher on increasing page limits, royalties and editorial stipend.

The start of the new millennium will be celebrated across the world. *IJBD* is planning not to be left out. First, in view of the fact that the *ISSBD* Biennial Meetings will be held in Beijing in the year 2000, a Special Section in the last issue of 1999 is planned on developmental research in China. Second, Willard Hartup has very kindly agreed to act as Guest Editor for a symposium on the Retrospect and Prospect of Developmental Science. Starting with an Introduction in Issue 1, March 2000, and concluding with a summary in Issue 4, December 2000, papers will appear throughout the year. Third, a general "Call for Papers" will be published for short papers (ca. 5 pages) which set out, from a personal but informed point of view, what developments can be envisaged in a researcher's own particular field of expertise.

The report on the *Newsletter* from Jutta Heckhausen was approved. The EC expressed its gratitude for the long-standing support offered by the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin (MPI). Special thanks were expressed for the work of the retiring Editor, Lothar Krappmann. A discussion ensued about the possibility of having the *Newsletter* produced and distributed by the publisher of *IJBD*. Jutta Heckhausen will remain Editor of the *Newsletter* until her term of office expires in 2000. She was informed that she should feel free to invite a colleague from the MPI to support her in her work. In the meantime, the President will explore possibilities of making the *Newsletter* independent of institutional support. These possibilities will be discussed at the next EC Meeting in 1999.

ISSBD on the Internet

The current internet presence of *ISSBD* was developed and is maintained by the home institution of the late President Harry McGurk. The President and the Secretary will explore the possibility of moving the website either to the university of the Secretary or to the publisher of *IJBD*. Alternatives will be discussed at the next EC Meeting in 1999.

Publications Committee

The Publications Committee Chair (1994–1998), Nancy Eisenberg, had submitted a copy of an earlier report rather than offering a new one. The proposed policy for selection of an *IJBD* Editor was approved by the EC. The EC thanked Nancy Eisenberg *in absentia*, and the other members of the Committee for their valued advisory work on publication policies of *ISSBD*. The President will conveve a new Publications Committee, according to the Bye-Laws, after the next Biennial Meetings.

15. Biennial Meetings

Bern 1998. August Flammer (General Chair) and Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello (Local Arrangements Chair) indicated that over 1,200 participants were expected in Bern. Budgeting had been based on 1,000 (plus or minus 200) participants, thus it appears that the meetings will be financially sound. It was noted that Switzerland is not a country where it is easy to get financial support for conferences; happily, the Johann Jacobs Foundation (JJF) was an extremely generous sponsor once again. The highly appreciated contributions of JJF were supplemented by the National Science Foundation (USA). The scientific program, as well as the social program, comprised a varied, broad, and interesting offer for the membership. The EC and the GBM congratulated August Flammer, Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello and their collaborators for the excellent program and organization of the Meetings. They were thanked for their well appreciated work.

Beijing 2000. Meng Zhaolan reported on the progress with the preparations for the XVIth Biennial Meetings of *ISSBD* in Beijing, which will take place in the year 2000. The Program Committee, the Local Arrangement Committee, as well as the chosen location (The Beijing International Conference Center) were described. A budget and a detailed timetable were presented to the EC and discussed. It is the intention of the organizers to devote some special attention to the policy and service for children and families in current China. The EC approved the report, was impressed by the progress made by the organizers, congratulated Meng Zhaolan for her work and wished her and her collaborators the best of luck.

Proposals for 2002. No proposals have been submitted to date. The *ISSBD* President will solicit proposals for future discussion.

16. Workshop Program

- Professor Pulkkinen will attend the Fourth African Workshop in Namibia, July 20–23, 1998. African workshop participants will be encouraged to join *ISSBD*.
- The Budapest workshop, to have been coordinated by Harry McGurk, has been cancelled.
- Co-chairs were found for a potential workshop in Latin America in the year 2000. A final proposal will be submitted for the EC meetings in April 1999.
- A proposal for a summer workshop in Jyväskylä in 1999, submitted by Professors Nurmi and Laursen, was approved; a \$3,000 advance was approved for this purpose.

17. Archives Committee

Jan de Wit, Chair of the Archives Committee, indicated that it was essential for past officers of the Society to submit their official records and correspondence to the archives. The EC responded positively to his recommendations.

18. Other Relevant Business

Representatives for IAAP and IUPS meetings to be held in San Francisco need to be found. The President of *ISSBD* will arrange for representation. The next EC meeting was scheduled for April 13, 1999 in Albuquerque, New Mexico (USA).

First Announcement and Call for Abstracts XVIth ISSBD Biennial Meetings

July 11–14, 2000, Beijing, China

Dates

The XVIth Biennial Meetings of the *International Society for Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD)* will be held in Beijing, China, from July 11 to 14, 2000. The conference will begin with a reception on July 11 at the Beijing International Convention Center (BICC) in the Asian Games Village. Pre-conference workshops and post-conference tours will be arranged.

The Organizers

The General Chair of the Meetings is Meng Zhaolan (Peking University, China). The Local Arrangement Committee is chaired by Lei Wang (Peking University, China).

International Program Committee: Qi Dong (China), August Flammer (Switzerland), Qicheng Jing (China), Henry S. R. Kao (Hong Kong, China), Willem Koops (The Netherlands), Qiwei Li (China), Anne Petersen (USA), Lea Pulkkinen (Finland), Ken Rubin (USA), T. S. Saraswathi (India), Jacqui Smith (Germany), Harold Stevenson (USA), Hiroshi Usui (Japan), Yufeng Wang (China).

Scientific Program

The official language of the meetings will be English. Simultaneous translation will not be provided. The scientific program, starting on July 12, will consist of: (a) Keynote addresses by speakers from interdisciplinary fields of inquiry; (b) invited lectures on important recent theoretical and empirical advances in developmental research; (c) Reviews on new developments in selected fields; (d) symposia on specific issues to be organized by two convenors from different countries; (e) individual poster and poster workshops to discuss clusters of related posters.

Submission of Proposals

Proposals for symposia should include a description of the issue to be discussed (250 words), the names and affiliations of the convenors, at least four speakers and a discussant, as well as titles and 200 word abstract of each speaker's presentation. Review proposals should be submitted with a 500 word abstract.

Proposals should be sent to: Lei Wang

Department of Psychology

Peking University Beijing 100871

People's Republic of China

or submitted via e-mail to: leiwang@pku.edu.cn

Tel. & Fax: +86-10-62757551

Deadline

For symposia and reviews: March 1, 1999.

For posters and poster workshops: September 1, 1999.

Decisions on the acceptance of proposals will be announced in August 1999 for symposia and reviews, and in December 1999 for posters and poster workshops.

Accommodation

Beijing has 240 hotels open to foreign guests, among which 199 are star-rated hotels, with more than 50,000 rooms (or suites) and 100,000 beds. Close to the BICC, there are several hotels such as Beijing Continental Grand Hotel and Cadic Plaza Hotel with a range of room standards and tariffs from luxurious to standard. The BICC is located in the Asian Games Village in northeastern Beijing. It only takes about 20 minutes to get to the BICC from the airport. The transport connections to the Summer Palace, the Great Wall, the Ming Tombs, and the main commercial areas in eastern Beijing are also very convenient.

Travel

Nearly 3,000 international flights every week connect Beijing directly with all major world cities. There are also international rail connections to the other Asian countries and Europe. Within the city, transportation is most convenient via subway, public bus, and taxi all forming a network that links all parts of the city. A cultural and recreational post-conference tour is planned to nearby sites of interest, such as the city of Xian with its terra-cotta army in the Qin Tomb, the city of Guilinon at the River Lee, Solitary Beauty Peak, Whirlpool Hill, Reed Flute Cave, and Seven Star Park, as well as to Suzhou and Hangzhou in eastern China which the Chinese refer to as 'Earthly Heaven.' It is hoped that the stanning natural landscapes and fascinating ancient cultures of China will make the conference a memorable and productive experience.

Second Announcement

The second announcement will be mailed on October 1, 1999. It will contain a registration form and further details of the program and arrangements.

Information

Meng Zhaolan General Chair Department of Psychology Peking University Beijing 100871

People's Republic of China Tel. + Fax: +86-10-62757551 E-mail: psymeng@pku.edu.cn Lei Wang Local Chair

Department of Psychology Peking University Beijing 100871

People's Republic of China Tel + Fax: +86-10-62757551 E-mail: leiwang@pku.edu.cn

Correspondence

Please fill out the form below and send it to Wang Lei by e-mail or fax as your registration of interest. We will send out the second announcement to the addresses given on this reply form.

Family Name	_ First Name	Title
Instituition		
Mailing Address		
City	_ Zip Code	_ Country
Fax	E-mail	
I am interested in attending the CI have internet access to the confeI am interested in taking part in tlI want to organize a symposiumI want to present a paper. The pro-	erence Web page to obtain the 2nd A he post-conference tour. The proposed subject is	Announcement.

page 11 ISSBD NEWSLETTER 2/98

Notes from the President

In these notes, I detail the activities of the office of the President for the period since the General Business Meeting in Bern (July 1998). It was during this meeting that the General Membership approved the Executive Committee's suggestion that the President-Elect become President of the *Society* for the period 1998–2002. This approval was necessitated by the untimely passing of my predecessor, Harry McGurk.

Becoming President of *ISSBD* at a time of rapid growth brings with it many challenges. At the first meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) that I chaired (July 4, 1998), several decisions were made and several new directions proposed. Among the decisions made were the following: (a) the Past-President Lea Pulkkinen was asked to serve as Chair of the Nominations Committee. It will be the responsibility of the Committee to call for nominations for the President-Elect and three EC Committee members effective in the year 2000. (b) Peter Noack, current Chair of the Membership Committee was asked to continue in that capacity. Secretary Willem Koops was asked to prepare copies of a new *ISSBD* brochure as well as additional copies of the Constitution and Bye-Laws for distribution by the Membership Committee and the Membership Secretary, Brett Laursen. The suggested date for preparation of these documents was October/November 1998. (c) Suman Verma, the newly appointed ad hoc EC representative for Asia (India) was asked to carry on Harry McGurk's fine work as *ISSBD* representative to the World Health Organization (WHO). She kindly agreed to do so.

During the EC meeting, I informed the committee that I intend to continue several of Harry McGurk's initiatives. These include the possibility of moving the responsibilities of publishing the *ISSBD Newsletter* from the very generous Max Planck Institute for Human Development (Berlin) to the *Society* at large and negotiating a new agreement with regard to the publication of the *International Journal of Behavioural Development (IJBD)*. Since the EC meeting, I have been in contact with the current publisher of *IJBD*, Taylor & Francis, as well as with another potential publishing house. These communications have centered around the following goals: (a) achieving financial profitability for *IJBD*; (b) providing adequate support for the editorial offices of both the Journal and the *Newsletter*; (c) publication and distribution of the *Newsletter* at little or no cost to the Society; (d) establishing, maintaining, and housing the *ISSBD* web-page at no cost, on which the *Newsletter* would appear, with password access to the Membership Directory and the Journal. I am pleased to report that negotiations are proceeding well and that I am confident that I will be able to bring a renegotiated or new publication offer to the next meeting of the Executive Committee, which achieves each of these goals.

Other activities I have engaged in since the Bern EC meeting include having: (a) filed *ISSBD* activity reports to the meetings of the International Union of Psychology and the International Association of Applied Psychology; (b) sought and found a new Chair of the Publications Committee; and (c) hosted Meng Zhaolan, the Chair of the Beijing Program Committee for the year 2000 at the Center for Children, Relationships, and Culture (University of Maryland).

The new Chair of the Publications Committee (1998–2000) is Carolyn Zahn-Waxler of the National Institute of Mental Health. Zahn-Waxler was most recently Editor of *Developmental Psychology* and President of the Developmental Division of the American Psychological Association. The responsibility of her Committee will be to identify a new editor of *IJBD* when Rainer Silbereisen's term of office has ended. The Committee's immediate task will be to identify a new Editor of the *Newsletter* to replace Jutta Heckhausen, whose term of office ends in 2000.

The meetings with Meng Zhaolan, the Chair of the Beijing Program Committee, were productive; the Beijing meetings of the Society appear to be well in hand. The Society has once again received very generous travel support for young scholars from the Johann Jacobs Foundation (JJF). Additionally, it is likely that support will be provided by the Kellogg Foundation. With this in mind, it is important to note that the society is presently seeking a host for the Biennial Meetings in the year 2002. Requests for information pertaining to the hosting of the 2002 meetings should be directed to me by the end of February 1999. Currently, I know of one potential organizational group that is proposing to host the meetings in the eastern USA. However, all proposals will be examined carefully prior to the finalizing of any decisions by the Executive Committee.

Other news from the President's Office includes the continuance of the *ISSBD* schedule of workshop sponsorships. Reed Larsen and I have discussed the possibility of sponsoring a workshop on 'Adolescence in the 21st Century' together with the Society for Research in Adolescence. In addition, *ISSBD* will host a meeting of young scholars in Jyväskylä, Finland, in the summer of 1999, on the topic of 'Personality and developmental science'. In 2000, associated with the Biennial Meetings in Beijing, there will be a workshop on developmental science for young scholars. A training workshop is also proposed for the year 2000, to be held in Latin America.

In summary, *ISSBD* continues to have an active presence in the human development scientific community. Membership is growing; the biennial meetings are highly popular venues amongst the international research community; our journal, the *International Journal of Behavioural Development (IJBD)*, is becoming increasingly influential as a research outlet; our regional meetings are proving most productive for our constituents in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe. This is truly a society to feel proud of and I am honored to stand at its helm for the next four years.

Kenneth H. Rubin

Center for Children, Relationships, and Culture, University of Maryland, 3304 Benjamin Building, College Park, MD, USA 20742 (E-mail: krubin@rubinlab.umd.edu).

Call For Nominations 2000 ISSBD Elections

There will be an election for the President-Elect and three members of the Executive Committee of *ISSBD* in the Spring of 2000. Their terms of office will begin in 2000 at the XVIth Biennial Meetings to be held in Beijing.

Please list colleagues that you wish to nominate for the election below. In light of the objectives of *ISSBD*, we encourage diversity (in terms of nationality, discipline, gender, race, and ethnicity) in your nominations.

Please print your full name on the upper left corner of the **envelope** and add your signature. Return this nomination form to the following address by February 1, 1999:

Willem Koops

Secretary *ISSBD*Department of Developmental Psychology van der Boechorststraat 1
1081 BT Amsterdam
The Netherlands

President (2000–2008; 2 years President-Elect, 4 years President, 2 years Past-President):	
Members of the Executive Committee (2000–2006):	

Note. For your information, the present members of the Executive Committee are listed below: Kenneth H. Rubin (President until 2002), Lea Pulkkinen (Past-President until 2000), Willem Koops (Secretary General until 2002), Brett Laursen (Treasurer and Membership Secretary until 2002), Anna Silvia Bombi (until 2002), Roger Dixon (until 2004), Jari-Erik Nurmi (until 2004), Anne C. Petersen (until 2000), Candida Peterson (until 2004), Robert Plomin (until 2002), Anik de Ribeaupierre (until 2000), Jacqui Smith (until 2002), and Richard Tremblay (until 2000).