

(Approved) Minutes, PCUN meeting
Thursday, 17 September 2015, 10:30 am
NGO Resource Room, 801 First Ave + East 45 St, New York City

Present: Judy Kuriansky (Chair), Isreal Adganju, Massoma Alam, Tamara Alaryan, Mary O'Neill Berry, Ariel Blum, Catherine Bonet, Niki Davis, Florence L. Denmark, Suchun Dong, Ayorkor Gaba, Amanda Gooden, Sonia Javani, Ani Kalayjian, David P. Marcotte, Mahroo Moshari, Teresa Ober Corann Okorodudu, Brianda Quinones, Rachel Ravich, Sonia Suchday, William Szilagyi, Harold Takooshian (acting secretary)

Excused: John Scott, Miriam Vega

1. Judy opened the PCUN at 10:41 am, with a warm welcome back to an exciting new year, celebrating the 70th anniversary of the UN. Judy invited a round-robin of continuing and new representatives.
2. **PCUN.** Judy distributed the agenda, with the 5-page PCUN bylaws, and a sheet listing the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Corann offered a brief history of the PCUN Coalition since 2013. We must now change the official name of PCUN to "Psychology Coalition of Psychology Non-Governmental Organizations affiliated with the United Nations.
3. **NGOs.** Judy encouraged new interns to "get involved" and, for background, invited a round-robin of the NGOs in the room. Corann described how she helped draft the APA team petition in 1999, as well as the SPSSI team in 1987. Florence described the International Council of Psychologists (ICP) work since 1981. Sonia described IUPsyS (the Intl Union of Psychological Sciences) and her US National Committee for Psychology. Mahroo described her youth program with IUAES, the Intl Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences. Rachel described her work with SPSSI and several NGOs, like the Health and Mental Health Committees. Mary (and her colleague Walter Reichmann) are I-O psychologists involved in measuring the impact of SDG goals. Ani described her work since 1988, forming several committees with ATOP, the Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention. Harold described his Los Angeles-based IMCES, Institute for Multicultural Counseling & Education Services. Judy described IAAP, the Intl Assoc for Applied Psychology, which has representatives in many regions, including NY and Vienna. The U.N. SDGs emphasize the "5 Ps:" People Planet Peace Prosperity Partnership.
4. **News.** (a) On Dec 17, 2014, Corann chaired an ebola forum which involved UN missions. Some ebola policy papers will be part of a book to appear in January 2016. (b) PCUN appointed a TF to help the IEG (Interagency Expert Group) to develop indicators to measure the 17 SDGs. Corann suggested publicizing these goals widely. Ani suggested the measures should be "SMART:" Specific Measurable Attainable Realistic Timely, both positive and negative. Mary suggested goals that are regional as well. Social media are useful, so PCUN has a Facebook page, and website. (c) Florence noted the International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) is 15 October 2015. (d) Harold distributed a sheet describing a popular 75-minute workshop in 2008 on "Publishing our international work," and suggested that PCUN could invite a few publishers (Oxford, D52, Praeger) to repeat this for interested PCUN members and others right after the November 19 PCUN meeting. Reaction was positive, so Harold will work with Judy and others to have a draft for the PCUN October meeting.
5. **Treasury.** By report, Treasurer John Scott noted the current PCUN balance as of today is \$2,007. He is still collecting dues from at least three psychology NGOs.

6. **Elections.** Corann reported upcoming elections for PCUN Chair, Chair-elect, Secretary. Nominations to date are Ani as Chair, Rashmi as Chair-elect, and Harold as Secretary. John Scott remains Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee. Mahroo chairs the Publicity Committee

7. **PCUN meeting time.** PCUN normally meets monthly on the third Thursday at 10:30-noon. Since many of us had to rush to reach the noon meetings for UN Psychology Day or other groups, should PCUN meet earlier, at 10:15-11:20 am, and its PCUN task forces could meet 11:20-11:45 am. We will consider this for the next PCUN meeting.

8. **Task Forces.** PCUN needs volunteers for 4 Task Forces: Publicity, Programs, Advocacy, Best practices. One of these is Advocacy, to develop statements for at least four upcoming Commissions: (a) 3-5 Feb 2016, CSD, Committee on Social Development. (b) 14-24 March 2016, CSW, Commission on the Status of Women. (c) 11-15 April 2016, Commission on Population and Soc Development. (d) in July, the new High Level meeting, every 4 years.

9. **Volunteers** are welcome for these 4 PCUN Task Forces, which are now in process:

- a. **ADVOCACY:** Mary O'Neill Berry, Ariel Blum (for students), Catherine Bonet (for students), Corann Okorodudu, Brianda Quinones, Sonia Suchday...
- b. **PROGRAM:** Florence Denmark, Ani Kalayjian, Corann Okorodudu, Rachel Ravitch...
- c. **PUBLICITY:** Mahroo Moshari (updating social media), Masooma Alam, William Szilagyi...
- d. **BEST PRACTICES:** Mary O'Neill Berry, Judy Kuriansky, Mahroo Moshari, Walter Reichmann, Corann Okordudu...
- e. **CSW-March 2016 Commission on the Status of Women:** _____

10. The meeting adjourned at 11:59 am. Many PCUN members rushed to the UN Psychology Day meeting at noon in the DC-1 cafeteria.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold Takooshian & Judy Kuriansky

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