

International Society for the Study of Human Development

March 26, 1968

Present: Dr. Walcher  
U.C. - Drs. Bayley, Eichron, and Mussen  
Stanford - Drs. Bernfield, Doherty, Dornbusch, Freeman,  
Greenberg, Hess, Kretchmer, Levine, Maccoby,  
Page, Schimke, Schwartz, Siegel, and Wessells

A number of international organizations which were formed in the past few years were discussed, e.g. the Developmental Physiology Club met in Prague in 1965 and its major purpose was to establish communication between East and West via a Translation Center for scientific papers; a Neonatology Club was initiated at the International Association of Pediatrics in Tokyo; an International Society of Human Development, planned by Dr. Havighurst for the purpose of organizing a group interested in development who were oriented particularly toward behavioral sciences and education; and the International Society for Developmental Biology and International Association of Human Biologists.

Dr. Walcher gave a brief statement of his attitudes concerning the purpose of the proposed Society and its goal: Would hope to integrate the concepts of all the above societies. NICHD wants to foster international communication between biological sciences and behavioral sciences.

It was suggested that a "holding company" be organized with the concept that the organization would encompass those disciplines concerned with human development. It is imperative that there should be communication between molecular development and individual or social development.

The group agreed that a definite sectional organization of sectional interests should wait until there is a discussion of purposes and goals of the Society.

Dr. Greenberg could see the value of having access to material from other countries, which is difficult to obtain at present. Dr. Walcher said that he would hope that this Society would be inovative and was capable of breaking down the traditional insularity.

Dr. Dornbusch said that the emphasis should be on clarity so as to insure communication effectively. Dr. Maccoby felt that research

Kretchmer

endeavor was an essential aspect of such a Society and would be the basis for exchange.

Dr. Eichorn thought that grouping research papers of sub-disciplines offers source for interested outsiders. She also cited the advantage of taking a specific interdisciplinary topic and preparing it for those areas outside the specific disciplines. It is possible that the format of sections inclines toward separation and cuts off communication within disciplines also.

The group agreed that the concept of such an International Society for the Study of Human Development was worthwhile. There was general agreement of the need for a general format which would guarantee communication. It was discussed that it was possible to select a general topic, such as malnutrition, which would be interesting for everyone. The Society should insure intercommunication through planned symposia of general interest, not excluding specialities; it could have one theme for a whole meeting, insuring interdisciplinary participation.

The possibilities of a journal for the Society was discussed. The group was informed of Mr. Karger's journal called "Human Development" which the Society could take over and have a free hand. Dr. Kretchmer suggested that this not be a journal of original articles, but would be effective if it contained articles which were of general interest and also speculative in nature.

Dr. Kretchmer outlined the construct of organization, i.e. chairmen of each section would become members of the Executive Board.

Some people believed that it was not a good idea to start out with sections at first, but that the fractionation could wait until the sections form naturally. Dr. Mussen said he would rather aim toward a fresh approach and not include those people from existing and traditional societies. Dr. Kretchmer felt that the sections should indicate the scope of the Society and this would be an asset in encouraging membership from many disciplines. Dr. Hess saw more of an advantage to starting out with three or four very general sections and then enlarging as membership grew.

Dr. Dornbusch saw the need for the Society to express a diversity of backgrounds. He favored a few general groupings, under which should be included every conceivable area, thereby this could express aspirations for inclusion of many interests.

Dr. Wessells questioned whether there was really a need for a membership, a formal organization should not really be necessary since many belong to their own individual groups. Dr. Levine answered that there was a need for some kind of integrated organization, since everyone does not have his own society. Dr. Schinke saw a need not for a society but merely symposia with a publication readily available. Dr. Kretchmer queried whether a group of this size (present group) should constitute the International Society, with no sections. The group would be responsible for meetings and journal. Dr. Bayley cited psychology societies of this type where there is a minimal organization, whose function is to meet only once a year and where the work load is carried by a few people.

Dr. Mussen saw the International Society as simplifying a tremendous chore, that of data collection, since it is possible that data collection would be facilitated. He saw the practical aspects of a large society facilitating the acquisition of scientific information. Dr. Dornbusch said that a small executive group could stimulate exciting journal articles and programs.

It was announced there would be a founding fathers meeting in Bethesda, which would have international representation. Dr. Kretchmer asked for suggestions of international and national representatives from particular fields. The group agreed to send him a list of recommended people, both national and international.

Dr. Walcher requested that members of this group send the names of the individuals best suited to chair each section. He would like one recommendation from within the United States, and one for the rest of the world exclusive of the United States for each of the eleven sections. He also requested that the group suggest other significant sections which were not represented on the present list, and which they felt should be recognized. Dr. Walcher reiterated that the desire of the NICHD was to advance the science base through a Society of Human Development.

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Stanford Planning Meeting, September 24, 1968

Dr. Henry L. Barnett  
Secretary, Medical Advisory Board  
Foundation for International Child  
Health  
New York City

Dr. Sanford Dornbusch  
Professor of Sociology  
Stanford University

Dr. Frank Falkner  
Director, Perinatal Biology and  
Infant Mortality Branch  
National Institute of Child Health  
and Human Development  
Bethesda, Maryland

Dr. Robert Greenberg  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
and Human Development  
Stanford University School of  
Medicine

Dr. Clifford Grobstein  
Vice Chancellor for Medicine and  
the Biological Sciences  
Dean, School of Medicine  
University of California, San Diego  
La Jolla, California

Dr. David Hamburg  
Professor and Executive Head  
Department of Psychiatry  
Stanford University

Dr. Norman Kretchmer  
Professor and Executive Head  
Department of Pediatrics and Human  
Development  
Stanford University School of  
Medicine

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Executive Head and Professor of  
Genetics  
Professor of Biology  
Stanford University School of  
Medicine

Miss Betty Barton  
NICHD

Dr. Charles Lowe  
Scientific Director  
National Institute of Child Health  
and Human Development  
Bethesda, Maryland

Dr. Eleanor Maccoby  
Professor of Psychology  
Director of Laboratory of Human  
Development  
Stanford University

Dr. Guy McKhann  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
and Human Development  
Stanford University School of  
Medicine  
to be: Kennedy Professor of  
Neurology and Executive Head  
Department of Neurology  
Johns Hopkins University  
College of Medicine  
Baltimore, Maryland

Mr. Clifton Metzner  
Fogarty International Center  
Bethesda, Maryland

Dr. Bernice Neugarten  
Professor of Human Development  
University of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Dr. Robert Slater  
President, Association for the  
Aid of Crippled Children  
New York City

Dr. Dwain Walcher  
Associate Director for Planning  
and Evaluation  
National Institute of Child Health  
and Human Development  
Bethesda, Maryland

Dr. Otakar Koldovsky  
Visiting Professor  
Stanford University School of Medicine

Dr. William Greulich  
Consultant, NIH

Dr. Paul Mussen  
University of California, Berkeley

## AGENDA

### INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Stanford Planning Meeting, September 24, 1968

#### I. Background Information

a) History of International Society for Study of Human Development.

- 1) Prague - Kretchmer
- 2) Germany - Neugarten
- 3) Child Development - Falkner

Objectives: To bring together diverse groups so that there may be communication as well as awareness of diverse efforts in human development.

- b) Interest of NICHD - Walcher.
- c) Interest of AACC & FICH - Barnett.
- d) Interest of Fogarty Center - Metzner.
- e) General Overall Plan - U.S., Europe, U.S., Bethesda.

#### II. Suggestions for Organization of Society

- a) Federation of various subsections which could meet separately and also together.
- b) "Holding Company" of people from different disciplines who would plan symposia, maybe publish a newsletter; an abstracting service or a journal.
- c) Conclusion, with a statement concerning the formation of the Society.

#### III. Consideration of Program for Meeting in Bethesda

- a) Outline of purpose - Walcher.
- b) Development of Program - Kretchmer.
  - 1) Delineation of specific areas of interest
  - 2) Delineation of specific topics
  - 3) Determination of potential participants

#### IV. Conclusions and Adjournment