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creation of this newsletter and our goal of more efficiently and strategically communicating our progress to STR members.

Future Mission

As President of STR, there are several goals I am committed to during my tenure to further the mission of the organization. At the forefront, and for purposes of building another platform from which to disseminate new science in these areas, a major focus will be on publishing the first issue of our peer-reviewed journal, **Terrorism Research**. All articles will be housed on the STR website in PDF form, and will reflect multidisciplinary (empirical and theoretical) analyses in the areas of terrorism research. All articles undergo a rigorous peer-review process, and incorporate an Editorial Board of roughly 80 experts representing 14 countries and 4 continents. Currently, the Editorial Board is actively reviewing manuscripts for the inaugural issue, and we hope to publish this issue in the first half of 2008.

A second major goal will be the further development of our website as a tool to disseminate and integrate information and science in these areas. Discussions are underway to create a science section, which will provide a forum in which researchers and STR members can interactively present and discuss ongoing research and ideas. In addition to this, discussions are also underway to create a system of disseminating relevant news being released by various media outlets. The goal of all of this is to: 1) promote interactive debate and discussion; and 2) disseminate information, ideas, and research that leads to a furthering of this science.

Third, the STR board will be focused on building membership within the organization, and developing other sources of revenue to support STR functions. We have seen a progressive increase in STR memberships over the past year, and our hope is that this number will increase with the launching of other projects, such as our peer-refereed journal. Increased revenues are essential in supporting staff to those organizing the conference and journal. These functions fall outside the work of regular STR Governing Board and Editorial Board members, all of whom graciously provide their services for free.

Finally, and on a more idealistic level, I hope to develop this organization further in such a way as to foster creative and innovative contributions to both the organization and area of science that has become our focus. The recent addition of board members, as well as the extent to which others have given of themselves in this process is evidence of this contribution. As new people become involved, they bring with them rich experience and unique skills that, if brought together in a systematic way, has the potential to fuel the development of STR and evolution of this field. I am very excited about this, and cannot wait to get rolling. I look forward to this next year, and to working with all of you on this worthwhile endeavor!

Samuel Justin Sinclair, Ph.D.

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Message from the Editor

In these exciting and busy times for the Society for Terrorism Research, with the first Annual Conference recently having been completed in Spain, the inaugural issue of STR's flagship journal *Terrorism Research* being prepared for publication, and a new President taking over the responsibility of directing STR towards its' intrinsic objective of becoming a leading multidisciplinary organization that aims to enhance the knowledge and understanding of terrorism, I am pleased to introduce the Organization's latest addition: the Society for Terrorism Research *Newsletter*.

One of the primary goals of the *Newsletter* is to serve as a medium that facilitates communication between all STR members. So far in STR's short existence, there have been limited ways for the Governing Board and the Advisory Board to communicate with other STR members about events and meetings taking place or being planned, as well as developments occurring within the organization, and other important announcements. The *Newsletter* aims to fill this void by providing an opportunity for both members and non-members to get information about STR events that are either in the planning stages or have already taken place. For example, in this first issue of the *Newsletter*, readers get a chance to hear from both STR's inaugural president, Dr. LoCicero, and the succeeding and new STR President, Dr. Sinclair. In their articles, they both reflect on their experiences as members of a fledgling organization, and they also discuss their visions for the future of STR. The recently completed STR Conference in Spain is also well-represented in this issue of the *Newsletter*, with two articles written by the Conference co-Planning Director, Dr. Walters, in which she discusses the success of the conference proceedings with particular emphasis on certain events.

Through facilitating communication, the hope is that the *Newsletter* will grow into a circular that provides an opportunity for all STR members, and other scholars and scientists interested in terrorism research, to discuss and reflect on what is happening within the organization, as well as report on events, studies, and other terrorism research-related occurrences taking place elsewhere. Moreover, over the next year, we plan on expanding the *Newsletter* to include sections on the latest publications/studies within terrorism research, information about non-STR conferences, meetings, and events, and other areas that might be of interest.

For now, the *Newsletter* will be published twice a year, once in the Spring and once in the Fall. The *Newsletter* will primarily be an electronic publication that can be accessed through the STR website (www.societyforterrorismresearch.org). However, for people interested, we also plan to have a limited number of paper copies available.

I hope you will enjoy reading the articles in this first issue of the *Newsletter*, and I look forward to your comments, suggestions, articles, letters, etc, which can be emailed to me at antod105@newschool.edu.

Best,
Daniel Antonius
Editor



Natividad Carpintero-Santamaría



Miraflores de la Sierra mayor welcomes participants.



Conference participants taking a break.



Pugwash Symposium.

First Annual STR Conference on Interdisciplinary Analyses of Aggression and Terrorism

By Tali K. Walters, Ph.D.

Terrorism, aggression, violence. Every day we encounter these concepts in the media, in our work lives, in the classroom, in our discussions with colleagues and friends, sometimes even in our nightmares. Members of the Society for Terrorism Research (STR) are particularly focused on understanding these complex issues.

On September 27, 2007, almost 100 top thinkers and researchers in the study of terrorism, aggression, and violence, from a wide range of disciplines – psychologists and psychiatrists, nuclear scientists, judges and attorneys, criminologists, political scientists, professional communicators, educators, specialists in international relations, political scientists and policy makers – gathered in Miraflores de la Sierra, Spain to share their ideas and their findings, and to learn from each other. STR, along with Coloquios Internacionales sobre Cerebro y Agresión (CICA, based in Madrid), hosted a three day conference on the Interdisciplinary Analyses of Aggression and Terrorism.

Participants in the conference started to arrive to La Cristalera, the mountain conference center for Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, in the mountains north of Madrid, Thursday morning. Early arrivals spent the day wandering the beautiful grounds, walking down the road to Miraflores, enjoying the crisp autumn air. By dinner at 9pm, the majority of participants gathered for a welcoming meal with an energy and excitement that set the tone for the next three days. During opening ceremonies at 9:30am Friday morning, J. Martin Ramirez, MD launched a full schedule of key note speeches, paper presentations, symposium, and posters with an opening address - in Latin!

Spanish scientist Natividad Carpintero-Santamaría, in her keynote address, spoke on the Characteristics of Global Terrorism.

Francesco Calogero, the distinguished Former Secretary General of the Pugwash Movement, addressed the conference on The Risk of a Nuclear Catastrophe. STR Advisory Board member Tom Pyszczynski led a symposium and discussion of his theory on Terror Management with colleagues from Iran, France, and the United Kingdom. Brian Mullan gathered a group of Northern Irish colleagues to discuss their Ulster experiences in their symposium “Societal and Personal Reactions to Terrorism.” Each member of his panel gave a moving account of their upbringing during The Troubles in Northern Ireland, their own struggles with choices (i.e., whether to join or not join the violent struggles), and how they emerged into current roles as emotional and societal healers in their country.

CICA Director and conference co-chair Martin Ramirez, MD, hosted a symposium to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Nobel Prize winning movement Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs. Just back from a fact gathering and diplomacy trip to North Korea, Mark Suh showed photos of the countryside where the North Koreans launched their nuclear tests in 2006.

Brien Mullen, of the Northern Ireland Community Relations Council, led a very hopeful symposium, where he and his colleagues presented their own life stories in relation to The Troubles, Northern Ireland’s thirty years of conflict and terrorist action. Each presenter had a story of how his/her life could have taken a trajectory to terrorism, but for a small event or seemingly unimportant circumstance that led in a different direction. Now, as peace has settled over Northern Ireland, this group works with both victims of the violence and those who perpetrated it. No one on the symposium panel was willing to call their countrymen, which ever side they were on, terrorists. Each panel member understood too well how it could so easily have been them. This discussion lent an important ray of hope to post-terrorism life.

The conference was well represented by STR members, including three esteemed members of the STR Advisory Board - Tom Pyszczynski, Art Kendall, and James N. Breckenridge, Ph.D. (who, at the last minute, was unable to make the flight). Also representing STR in Miraflores were Adam Brown, Steven Stein, Robin Goodwin, Alice LoCicero, Sara Nora Ross, and Tali Walters. (Samuel Justin Sinclair and Karl Roberts planned to attend but at the last minute, were unable to).

On Sunday, as the conference came to a close, at least 75% of participants attended the closing ceremonies. Alice LoCicero, outgoing STR Governing Board President, identified themes and questions that emerged during the conference for which participants could contemplate as they return home and carry on with their research and theory development.

There is little doubt that the work represented by conference presenters can positively influence worldwide policy regarding terrorism and other aggressions. Based on the overwhelmingly positive feedback, STR and CICA plan to provide another opportunity for us to learn, share and influence, next July in Berlin.



Collaborating at La Cristalera.



Postor session.

Symposium at STR Conference Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Pugwash Movement

By Tali K. Walters, Ph.D.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Pugwash Movement, Francesco Calogero came to the Conference on Interdisciplinary Analyses of Aggression and Terrorism from Italy. Mark Suh arrived from South Korea, via Germany. Adam Breasley came the farthest, from Australia. Spain was well represented by Jesus Martin Ramirez, Guillermo Velarde and Antonio Fernandez Reñada. These men, devoted to a nuclear weapons free world, had good reason to celebrate. Since Bertrand Russell and Albert Einstein issued the original manifesto in 1955, they and their colleagues throughout the world, independent from their government positions, have worked tirelessly to prevent the use of nuclear and scientific technology as weapons of mass destruction.

The 1955 Russell-Einstein Manifesto “called upon scientists of all political persuasions to assemble to discuss the threat posed to civilization by the advent of thermonuclear weapons”



Pugwash Symposium - (from left) Adam Breasley, Mark Suh, Francesco Calogero, J. Martin Ramirez, Guillermo Velarde, and Antonio Fernandez Renada.

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(www.pugwash.org). The first Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs took place in Pugwash, Nova Scotia, and was attended by 22 eminent scientists from 10 countries. That was only the beginning of a 50 year effort to “to bring scientific insight and reason to bear on threats to human security arising from science and technology in general, and above all from the catastrophic threat posed to humanity by nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.” Over the years, Pugwash has also tried to find “ways of alleviating the conditions of economic deprivation, environmental deterioration and resource scarcity and unequal access, which are deplorable in themselves and which give rise to resentment, hostility and violence throughout the world.” In 1995, the Pugwash Movement shared the Nobel Peace Prize with Joseph Rotblat, one of the eleven scientists behind the Russell-Einstein Manifesto. Today, there are over 3500 people who identify themselves as “Pugwashites.” These influential scholars and public figures represent themselves as individuals, rather than as government officials, at Pugwash conferences.

On Saturday evening of the Conference on Interdisciplinary Analyses of Aggression and Terrorism, held in Miraflores de la Sierra, Spain in late September 2007, Dr. J. Martin Ramirez led one of the most crucial symposiums of the conference, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Pugwash Movement. Dr. Ramirez pointed out how the “social responsibility of scientists” is practiced through the Pugwash Movement. At their conferences in this year alone, the Movement addressed issues that involve weapons of mass destruction, nuclear proliferation in North Korea, the Middle East Conflict, the role of religious inspiration in political movements, and non-military threats to security. Last year Pugwash convened a meeting in Islamabad with leaders from Pakistan, India and local leaders of Kashmir. This gathering led to a meeting with President Mushariff of Pakistan who made “conciliatory statements” that strongly suggested a “breakthrough” in the conflict.

Francisco Calogero, former Secretary General of Pugwash and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the Pugwash Movement, gave an historical summary of the movement. The original rules of involvement were that everyone at the meetings talk for themselves, not for their countries or governments. The meetings were private, although not secret, and positions that emerged from the movement would not be attributed to any specific member. These rules supported open discussion from scientists from both sides of a conflict (originally from both sides of the Iron Curtain) and led to the organizations ability to hold influence over decision makers in high levels of government.

Antonio Fernandez Reñada, President of the Spanish Physicists society, noted that nuclear weapons were the “terrible result of their beloved science.” Fifty years ago, nuclear science was the great danger. Now there are “many small dangers” from this technology. He advocated for a “cosmic perspective” on the issue of nuclear proliferation. He continued, “We all belong to the same humanity.” We should “establish a peaceful life at the local level” because “if you care very much about the local details, everything will be okay.” He based this position on his understanding of atoms. “At the molecular level, you can understand the rules of larger masses.”

Mark Suh, as a representative of Pugwash, returned in September 2007 from a trip to North Korea where he met with government officials to discuss a reduction in nuclear weapons use. He had been asked to “develop dialogue” between Germany and North Korea. This was only possible after North Koreans came to a Pugwash conference and were able to talk in such a non-partisan environment. Dr. Suh showed photos of his most recent trip to North Korea. Particularly fascinating were the photos of bunkers in the mountains where the nuclear weapons were kept.

Adam Breasley, representative from Young Pugwash, emphasized the need to focus on non-violence in the world.

The Pugwash Movement, through meetings and projects that bring together scientists, scholars and individuals experienced in government, diplomacy and the military, focuses on those problems that lie at the intersection of science and world affairs. Pugwash has been working on issues of terrorism and aggression for the past 50 years. Their symposium at the Conference on Interdisciplinary Analyses of Aggression and Terrorism highlighted the need for dialogue to reduce the threat of nuclear terrorism and world violence, and the role scientists can play towards this goal.

Five Hundred Days

by Alice LoCicero, PhD, ABPP, MBA

Two doctoral students: One who wanted to understand Osama bin Laden and the long term effects of terrorism; another who was applying developmental approaches to complex issues including democratization. A professor who was bewildered by the inadequacy of efforts underway to understand why people become terrorists. A forensic psychologist who wanted to contribute to the efforts to fight terrorism for humanitarian reasons. A theorist who had the best approach to understanding terrorist leaders. These five collaborated with many others who supported their work in various ways, to establish a research society, present their work at national and international organizations, hold an international conference, establish a website and list serve, and establish the groundwork for a new interdisciplinary, international journal. And, the two who were, at the outset, doctoral students, received their doctoral degrees. All in 500 days.

My identity in the list above is as the professor, and I have had the good fortune to serve as the first President of the Society for Terrorism Research. However, the name that everyone correctly associates with the organization, and to whom we correctly attribute credit for the organization is Samuel Justin Sinclair, who was then the student who wanted to understand both perpetrators of terrorism and its long term effects. Over the course of those 500 days, Dr. Sinclair has been the driving force, moving the organization into the many areas described above, recruiting new people for the board, establishing the Governing Board, the Advisory Board, and the Editorial Board, writing his doctoral dissertation and several journal articles on these topics, and supporting everyone's efforts. It is therefore fitting that Dr. Sinclair is the new President of the organization.

Among the people Dr. Sinclair initially recruited (besides me) were Dr. Tali Walters, the forensic psychologist who became Director of Education and Conferences; Dr. Michael Commons, the theorist whose perspective helped to unlock some terrorism puzzles, and who supported the organization in its earliest days by bringing it under the umbrella organization, DARE, from which it recently emerged, and Dr. Sara Ross, who was then a doctoral student working with Dr. Commons and extending his theory to her work on complex issues.. Dr. Ross has served in various roles supporting the development of the website and journal. More recently, Dr. Sinclair has also recruited Adam Brown and Daniel Antonius, now completing their doctoral work at The New School for Social Research. Dr. Walters also did some recruiting for the organization, bringing Edward Wayland into the governing board. Mr. Wayland is an attorney with a humanitarian interest in reducing terrorism.

The Society is just beginning its work. There is a great need for contributions of time and work by many more individuals. A few examples of endeavors needing continued and expanded attention are further conferences and collaborations, various aspects of the journal, and various aspects of the day to day functioning of the organization. We would like to hear from you if you believe you may want to be included in our efforts. Please write to the newsletter editor, Daniel Antonius, and he will forward your email to the correct board member.

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