

**Where have we come from and where are we heading?  
An examination of ISPP as a diverse and international Society.  
May 2018**

Katherine J. Reynolds (ISPP President 2016-2017), The Australian National University  
Chuah Jim Leon Yeow, Deakin University

Presented to the ISPP Governing Council July Meeting 2018, San Antonio, USA

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report was commissioned by the Governing Council of the International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) in June 2017. It is an extension of Kate Reynolds' presidential opening address in Edinburgh, Scotland in 2017, which focused on the state of the Society at its 40<sup>th</sup> conference (1978-2017).

The analyses focused on three key aspects: 1) The state of membership and conference participants' diversity within ISPP, 2) The content themes that define the field as reflected in ISPP's annual meetings, and 3) The dissemination of conference material to a wider audience through the publication rate of papers that were presented at the annual meetings.

The analysis into the state of diversity addressed two diversity criteria: Gender and geographical representation for the following individuals connected to ISPP: a) All members in 2017, b) Presenters in ISPP's annual meetings in the years 1978, 1987, 1998, 1999, 2007, 2012, 2016 and 2017, c) The leadership positions of the Society including president, vice-president and treasurer throughout ISPP's history, and d) Award recipients throughout ISPP's history.

The analyses for themes and publication rate were conducted using data provided by the conference program documents on the ISPP website. The analysis was conducted on a sample of nine years: 1978, 1979, 1987, 1988, 1998, 1999, 2007, 2016 and 2017. The analysis into publication rate was conducted on a sample of five years: 1978, 1988, 1998, 2007 and 2015.

The key findings from these analyses are as follows:

- *Gender*
  - The gender gap in the once male-dominated academia and ISPP, has been steadily closing.
  - The proportion of male and female members in 2017 is almost equal.
  - The proportion of male and female presenters in annual ISPP conference meetings has been almost equal since 2016.
  - The proportion of male and female presidents and vice-presidents elected per decade since the late 2000s is almost equal.
  - There is still work to be done: The majority of presidents, vice-presidents and award recipients are still male, but this can be attributed to the relatively recent push for gender equality within academic and the associated academic societies.
- *Geographical representation*
  - There is a shift from US dominance in geographical representation to an increase in representation from other regions overall, though the largest improvements are concentrated in Europe.
  - The location of where an annual meeting is held has a major influence on geographical representation of attendees.

- In 2012, representation from the US and Europe is almost equal even though the annual meeting was held in the US. This observation suggests that representation that is not simply a reflection of geographical location may be increasing and that ISPP's internalization efforts may be a success.
- More work needs to be done to hold annual meetings in regions beyond the US and Europe to encourage representation from these regions and further internationalise ISPP.
- *Themes*
  - There are strong thematic currents to the research showcased by ISPP's at its annual meetings. Based on the section theme categories of 2017, there are recurring themes throughout ISPP's 40 years of annual meetings. The most frequent recurring themes which have appeared since ISPP's first meeting in 1978 are *Conflict, Violence and Terrorism, Leadership and Political Personalities, Political Behaviour, Participation and Civic Engagement, Public Opinion and Political Communication* and *New Theoretical and Methodological Developments*.
  - The major topic at the 2017 conference was the US Presidential Election, followed by Refugees. This dominance reflects that geopolitical events impact on ISPP-related theory and research and the relevance of ISPP to understanding contemporary events.
- *Publication*
  - There is an upward trend in the publication of research presented at the ISPP annual meeting in academic databases and journals, thus indicating a wider audience for ISPP's work.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	6
Method.....	6
Area of Analysis: Diversity .....	7
Area of Analysis: Themes .....	9
Area of Analysis: Publication.....	9
Analysis.....	10
Leadership: Presidents.....	10
Leadership: Vice Presidents.....	11
Leadership: Treasurer.....	12
Awards: Harold Laswell Award.....	13
Awards: Newitt Sanford Award.....	14
Awards: Erik Erikson Early Career Award.....	15
Awards: Jeanne Knutson Award.....	16
Awards: Roberta Sigel Award.....	17
Awards: Alexander George Book Award.....	18
Awards: Best Dissertation Award.....	19
Awards: David O’ Sears Book Award.....	20
Overall Awards.....	21
ISPP Presenters Across Years .....	22
Membership in 2017.....	27
Themes.....	29
Publication.....	36
Discussion.....	37
Appendix A.....	42
Appendix B.....	43

## INTRODUCTION

We are living in politically complex times. In an era where tyranny and threats to academic freedom are on the rise, ISPP's role in bringing together scientific minds from all regions across the world is now more important than ever. This core mission has endured over the years, as reflected by ISPP's implementation of internationalisation initiatives, which include efforts to increase diversity in all levels of ISPP.

To mark its 40<sup>th</sup> annual conference in 2017, the Governing Council funded a project to showcase ISPP's past, to celebrate its present, and to build its future. This report presents an overview of the state of diversity in ISPP (gender and geographic), content themes that define its annual meetings across time, as well as publication rates of the scholarship presented at its conference. The report is an extension of the findings presented by Kate Reynolds, ISPP President of 2016-2017, as part of her opening presidential address in Edinburgh, Scotland in 2017.

It is important to highlight that the report only offers a preliminary insight and is not a systematic review. It is hoped that even just a broad overview of trends across ISPP's 40-year history would create an appreciation for how far ISPP has come, as well as stimulate ideas and discussion about where it should be going. In addition, while the report does highlight areas of concern and where targeted efforts should be focused, it does not suggest that the efforts made by ISPP thus far has been lacking. In fact, the findings point towards a positive outlook for ISPP's future, and thus this report presents an opportunity to celebrate its success.

## ANALYSIS (for detailed information about methods see Appendix A)

The analysis is divided into two sections: The first section focuses on diversity (gender and geographical representation) within various aspects of ISPP (Leadership, Awards, Presenters in the years 1978, 1987, 1998, 1999, 2007, 2012, 2016 and 2017 and 2017 Membership). In each case we look at proportions of gender and geographical representation, and where appropriate, we use graphs to look at trends over time.

### Leadership: Presidents

**Gender.** Over ISPP's 41-year history, there has been a total of 41 presidents. 28 (68.3%) presidents have been male, while 13 (31.7%) have been female (Figure 1). The first female President was elected in 1987.

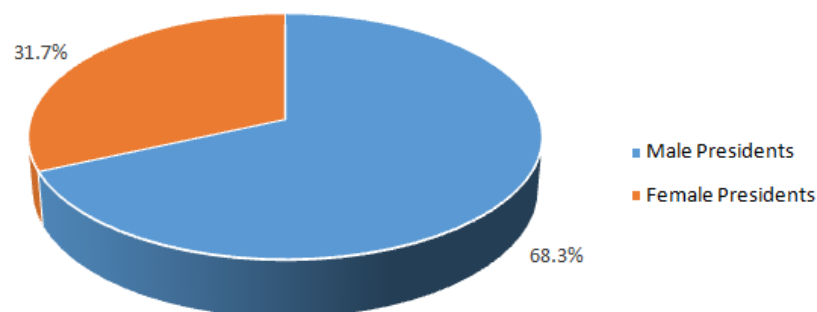


Figure 1. Proportion of male and female presidents over 41 years.

The following graph is a comparison of male and female presidents broken down by decade, from the years 1978 to 2017. It is promising to note that the gap between the number of male and female presidents has been closing over the years.

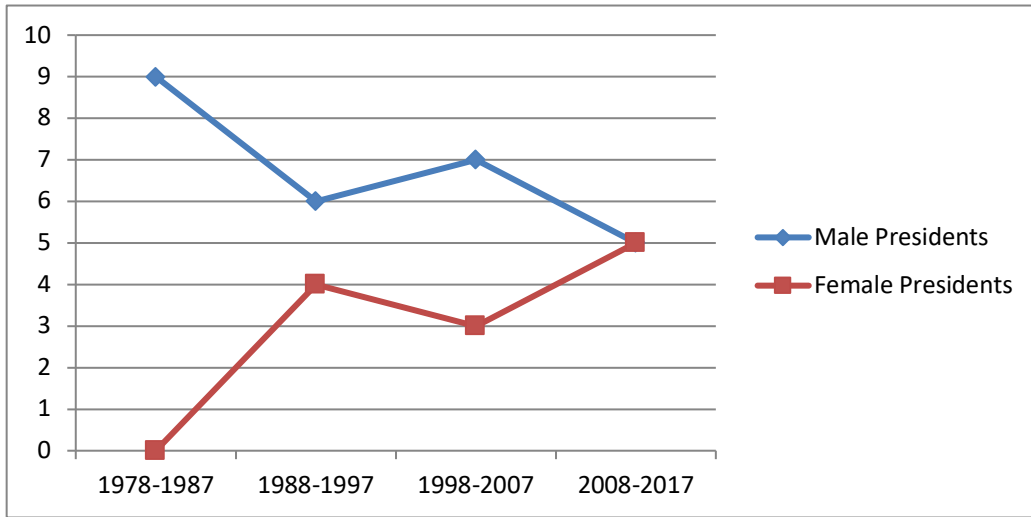


Figure 2. Comparison of male and female presidents by decade.

For the years 2018 and 2019, there has been one male president and one female president for each year thus far.

**Geographical representation.** The majority of presidents have been from institutions in the US (31 out of 41 presidents; 75.6%) (Figure 3). 10 (24.2%) were from institutions outside the US, with the majority being from Europe (6 out of 10 presidents).

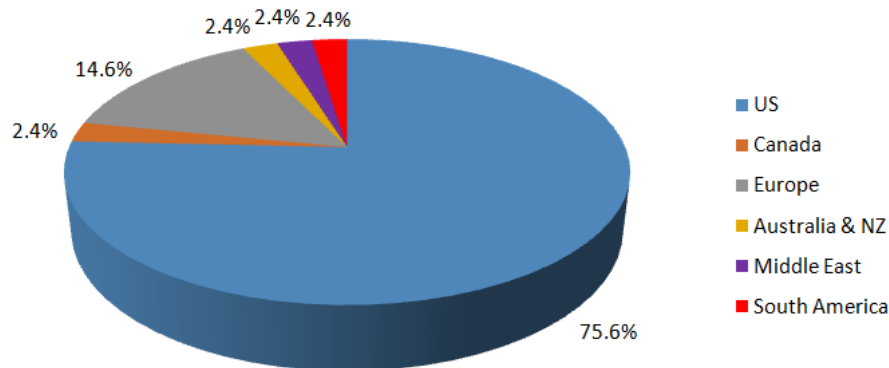


Figure 3. Proportion of presidents by geographical representation.

**Leadership: Vice Presidents**

**Gender.** Over ISPP’s 41-year history, there has been a total of 62 vice presidents. 40 (64.5%) vice presidents have been male, while 22 (35.5%) have been female (Figure 4). The first female president was elected in ISPP's very first year, 1978.

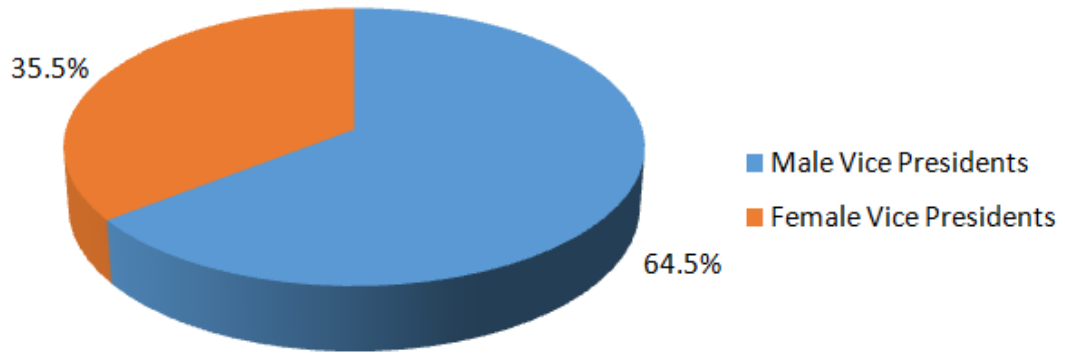


Figure 4. Proportion of male and female vice presidents over 41 years.

The following graph is a comparison of male and female vice presidents broken down by decade, from the years 1978 to 2017. It is promising to note that the gap between the number of male and female vice presidents has been closing over the years.

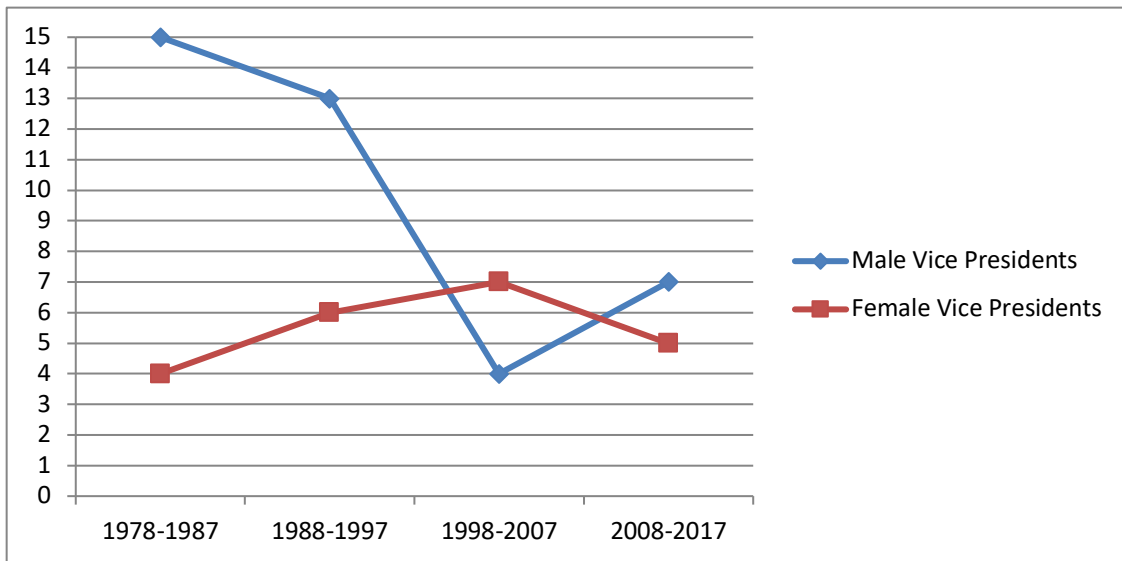


Figure 5. Comparison of male and female vice presidents by decade.

**Geographical representation.** The majority of vice presidents have been from institutions in the US (41 out of 62 presidents; 66.1%) (Figure 6). 21 were from institutions outside the US (33.9%), with the majority being from Europe (9 out of 21 vice presidents; 14.5%).

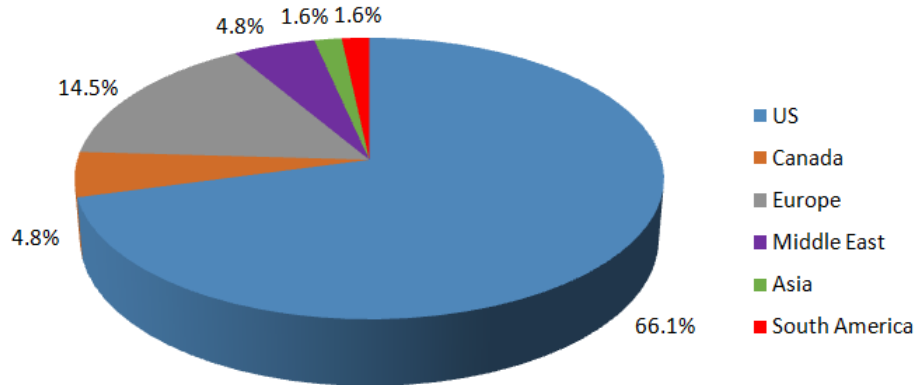


Figure 6. Proportion of vice presidents by geographical representation.

### Leadership: Treasurer

**Gender.** Over ISPP's 41-year history, there has been 7 treasurers, of which 4 have been male, and 3 have been female. The first treasurer was elected in 1981, while the first female treasurer was elected in 2008. It is noteworthy that all treasurers elected before 2008 have been male, and all treasurers elected after 2008 have been female.

**Geographical representation.** All treasurers were affiliated with institutions in the US which is related to ISPP being registers in the US but further information is needed on the viability of a non-US-based treasure.

### Awards: Harold Lasswell Award

The Harold Lasswell Award was first awarded in 1979. It is given for distinguished scientific contribution in the field of political psychology. Over the course of 39 years from 1979 to 2017, there have been 39 recipients.

**Gender.** 35 (89.7%) of the 39 recipients were males, and 4 (10.3%) were females (Figure 7). In relation to this and other like-awards, given academia has been dominated by males until recently the male-dominance of this award may reflect the time necessary to achieve scientific distinction and a larger pool of male candidates.



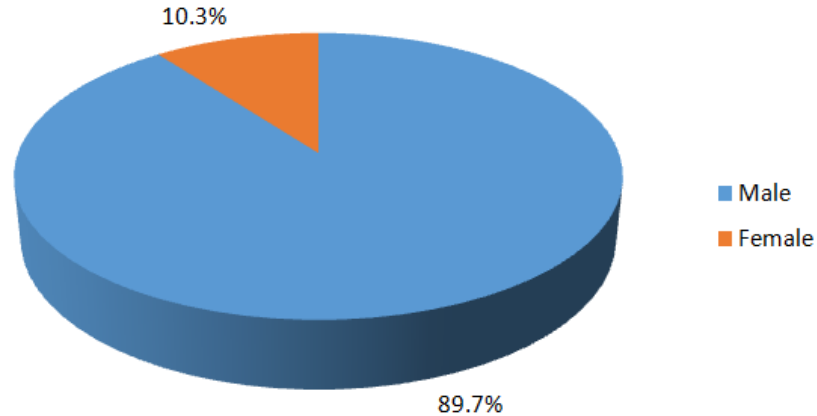


Figure 7. Proportion of male and female recipients of the Harold Lasswell Award.

**Geographical representation.** Of the 39 recipients, 34 (87.2%) were from institutions in the US, and 5 (12.8%) were from institutions outside the US (Figure 8). Of the five non-US institutions, 2 were from Canada, 1 was from the UK, 1 was from Israel and 1 was from the Netherlands.

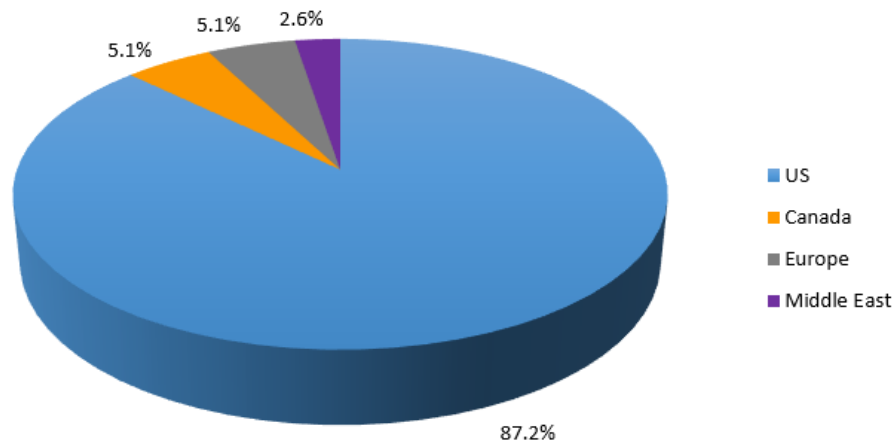


Figure 8. Proportion of Harold Lasswell award winners by geographical representation.

### Awards: Newitt Sanford Award

The Newitt Sanford Award was first awarded in 1979. This award is given yearly to someone deemed by the ISPP committee to be 1) engaged in the practical application of political psychological principles, or 2) creating knowledge that is accessible and used by practitioners to make a positive difference in the way politics is carried out. Over the course of 39 years from 1979 to 2017, there have been 38 recipients.

**Gender.** 28 (73.7%) of the 38 recipients were males, and 10 (26.3%) were females (Figure 9).

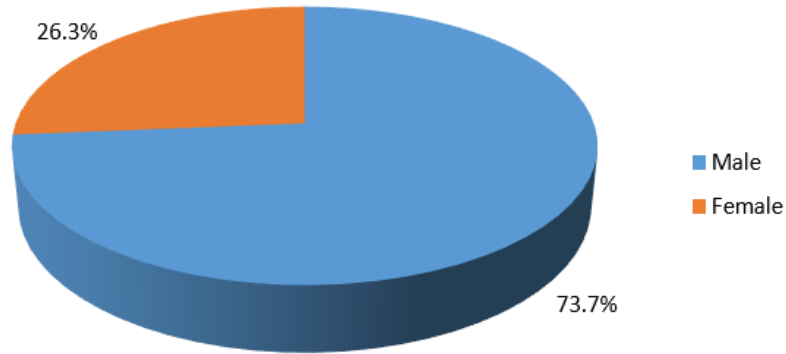


Figure 9. Proportion of male and female recipients of the Newitt Sanford Award.

**Geographical representation.** Of the 38 recipients, 29 (76.3%) were from institutions in the US, and 8 (21.0%) were from institutions outside the US (Figure 10). Of these eight, 4 were from the UK, 1 was from Poland, 1 was from the Netherlands, 1 was from Australia and 1 was from Israel. The university of 1 recipient (2.6%) could not be identified.

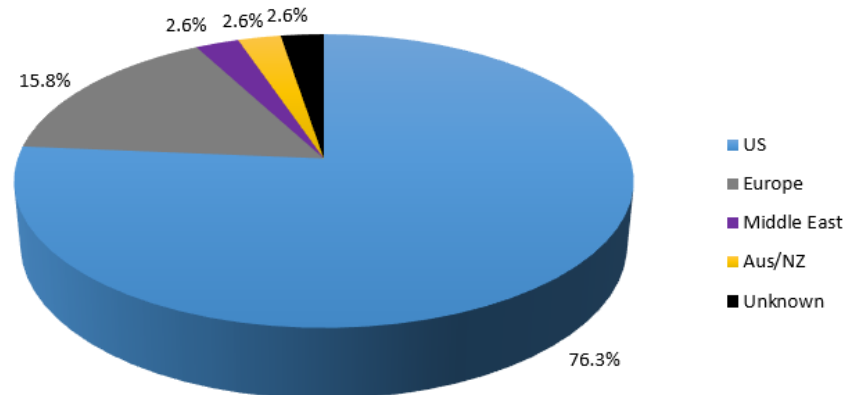


Figure 10. Proportion of Newitt Sanford award winners by geographical representation.

#### Awards: Erik Erikson Early Career Award

The Erik Erikson Early Career Award was first awarded in 1982. It celebrates the exceptional achievement of a member of ISPP and within a decade of receiving their PhD. Over the course of 36 years from 1982 to 2017, there have been 41 award recipients.

**Gender.** 28 (68.3%) of the 41 recipients were males, and 13 (31.7%) were females (Figure 11).

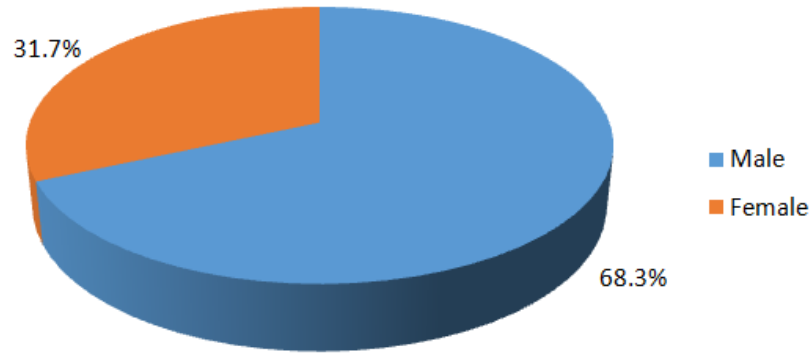


Figure 11. Proportion of male and female recipients of the Erik Erikson Early Career Award.

**Geographical representation.** Of the 41 recipients, 29 (70.7%) were from institutions in the US and 12 (29.3%) were from institutions outside the US (Figure 12). Of these twelve, 3 were from the UK, 2 were from Denmark, 1 was from Germany, 1 was from the Netherlands, 3 were from Israel, 1 was from Japan, and 1 was from New Zealand.

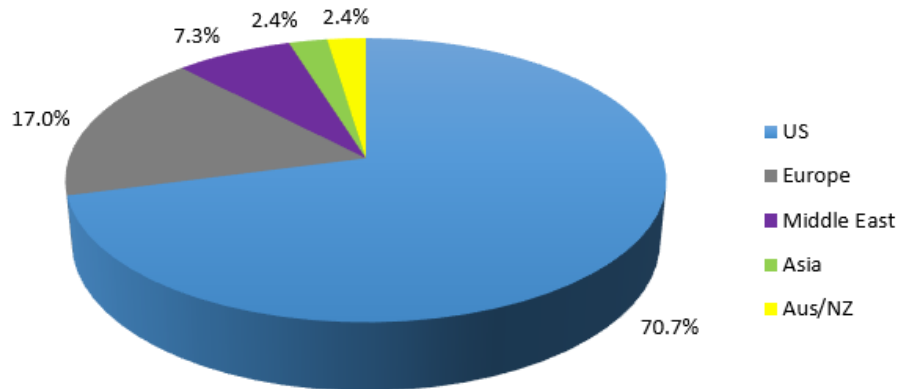


Figure 12. Proportion of Erik Erikson Early Career award winners by geographical representation.

#### **Award: Jeanne Knutson Award**

The Jeanne Knutson Award was first awarded in 1987. It is given to an ISPP member for long-standing service to the society. Over the course of 31 years from 1987 to 2017, there have been 25 recipients.

**Gender.** 16 (64%) of the 25 recipients were males, and 9 (36%) were females (Figure 13).

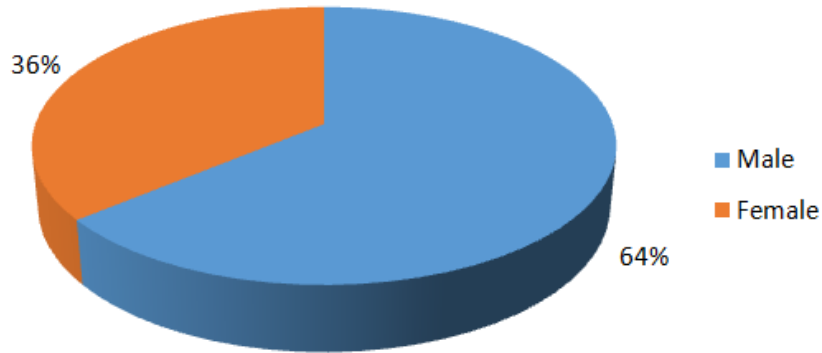


Figure 13. Proportion of male and female recipients of the Erik Erikson Early Career Award.

**Geographical representation.** Of the 25 recipients, 20 (80%) were from institutions in the US and 3 (12%) were from institutions outside the US (Figure 14). Of these three, 2 were from the UK, and 1 was from Poland. The affiliated institutions of two recipients could not be identified.

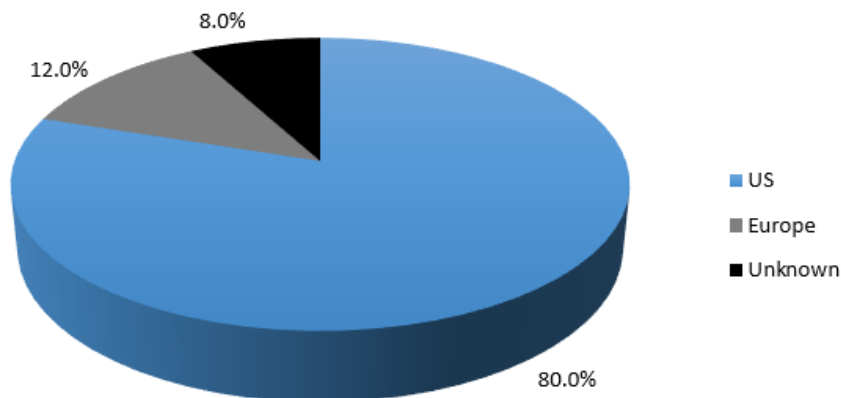


Figure 14. Proportion of Jeanne Knutson award winners by geographical representation.

#### Awards: Roberta Sigel Award

The Roberta Sigel Award was first awarded in 1996 and is given to two recipients: The first award is given to the best paper written by authors who are all Early Career Scholars, while the second award is given to the best paper with an Early Career Scholar as its first author only. Over the course of 20 years from 1998 to 2017, there have been 46 recipients.

**Gender.** 28 (60.9%) of the 46 recipients were males, and 18 (39.1%) were females (Figure 15).

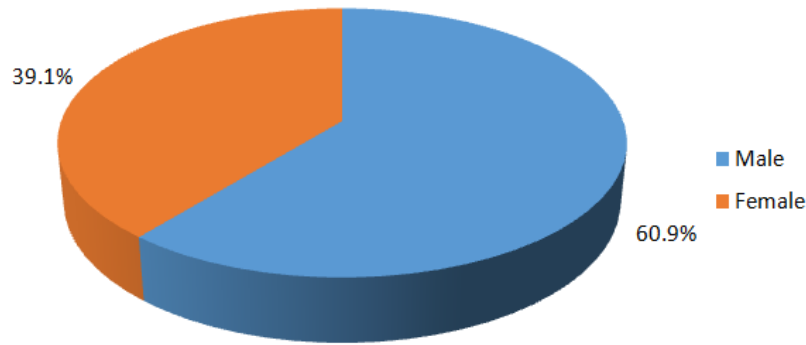


Figure 15. Proportion of male and female recipients of the Roberta Sigel Award.

**Geographical representation.** Of the 46 recipients, 31 (67.4%) were from institutions in the US and 15 (32.6%) were from institutions outside the US (Figure 16). Of these 15, 2 were from Canada, 1 was from Belgium, 3 were from Denmark, 2 were from the UK, 2 were from Switzerland, 2 were from the Netherlands, 2 were from Israel and 1 was from Hong Kong

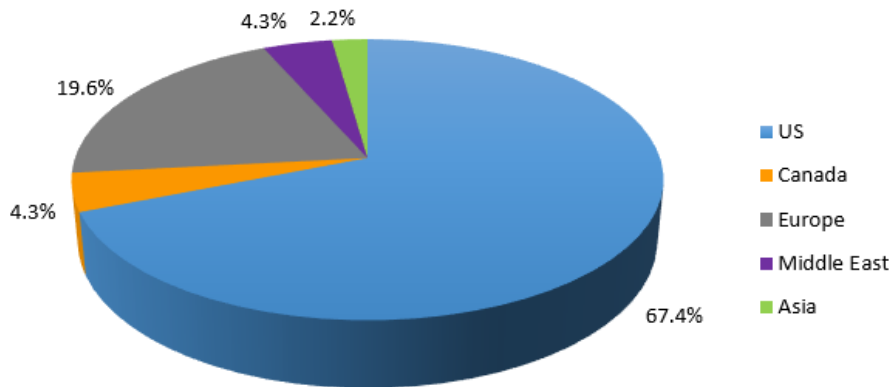


Figure 16. Proportion of Roberta Sigel award winners by geographical representation.

#### Awards: Alexander George Book Award

The Alexander George Book Award was first awarded in 2004 and honours the best book-length contribution to the field of political psychology during the previous calendar year. Over the course of 14 years from 2004 to 2017, there have been 22 award recipients.

**Gender.** 16 (72.7%) of the 22 recipients were males, and 6 (27.3%) were females (Figure 17).

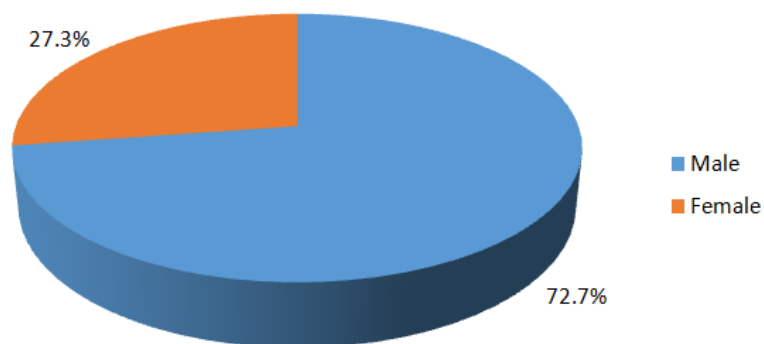


Figure 17. Proportion of male and female recipients of the Alexander George Book Award.

**Geographical representation.** Of the 22 recipients, 17 (77.3%) were from institutions in the US and 5 (22.7%) were from institutions outside the US (Figure 18). Of these five, 2 were from Israel, 1 was from New Zealand, 1 was from South Africa and 1 was from Germany.

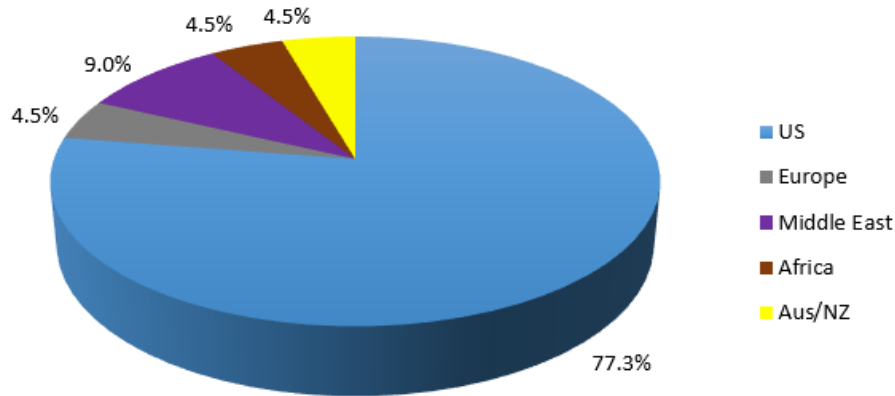


Figure 18. Proportion of Alexander George Book award winners by geographical representation.

#### Awards: Best Dissertation Award

The Best Dissertation Award was first awarded in 2008 and honours the best Ph.D. dissertations within the field of political psychology. Over the course of 10 years from 2008 to 2017, there have been 17 award recipients, with 10 being winners and 7 being honourable mentions.

**Gender.** Of the 17 recipients, 13 (76.5%) were male, and 4 (23.5%) were female (Figure 19).

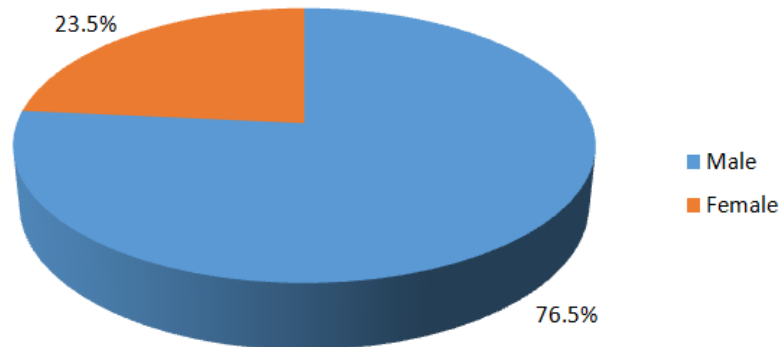


Figure 19. Proportion of male and female recipients of the Best Dissertation Award.

**Geographical representation.** Of the 17 recipients, 10 (58.8%) were from institutions in the US and 7 (41.2%) were from institutions outside the US (Figure 20). Of these seven, 3 were from the UK, 2 were from Germany, 1 was from Australia and 1 was from South Africa.

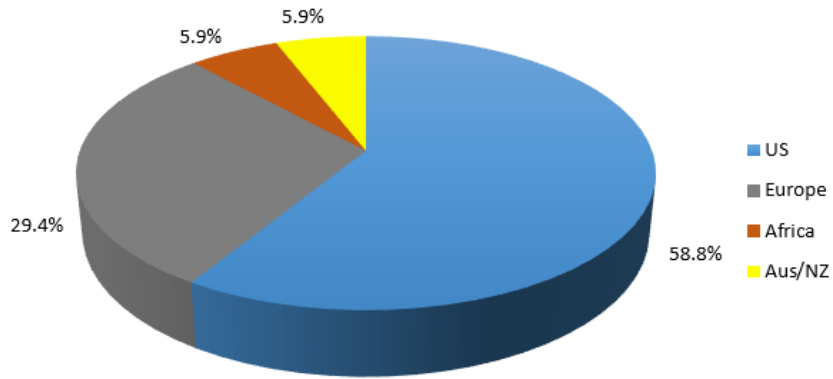


Figure 20.: Proportion of Best Dissertation award winners by geographical representation.

**Awards: David O. Sears Book Award**

The David O. Sears Book Award was first awarded in 2012 and honours the best book published in the field of political psychology during the previous calendar year. Over the course of six years from 2012 to 2017, there have been 11 award recipients.

**Gender.** 7 (63.6%) of the 11 recipients were males, and 4 (36.4%) were females (Figure 21).

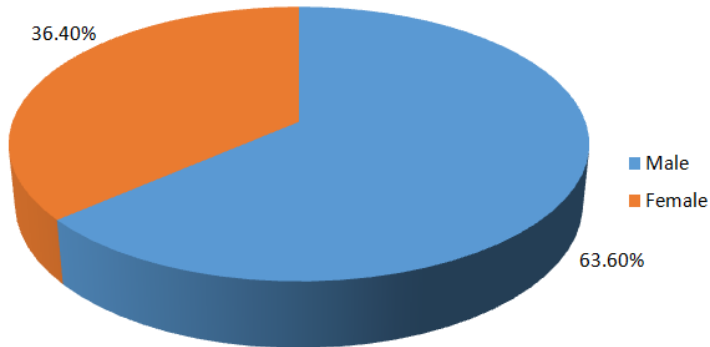


Figure 21. Proportion of male and female recipients of the David O. Sears Book Award.

**Geographical representation.** All 11 (100%) recipients were from universities in the US (Figure 22).

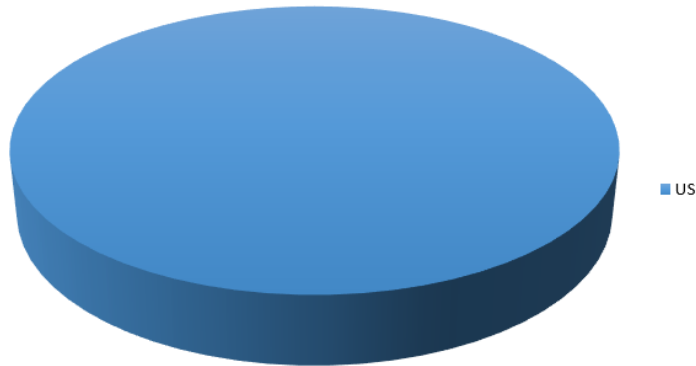


Figure 22. Proportion of David O' Sears Book award winners by geographical representation.

## Summary across Awards

**Gender.** Based on the above award categories, there has been a total of 239 award recipients overall throughout ISPP's history. 171 (71.6%) were males, and 68 (28.5%) were females (Figure 23).

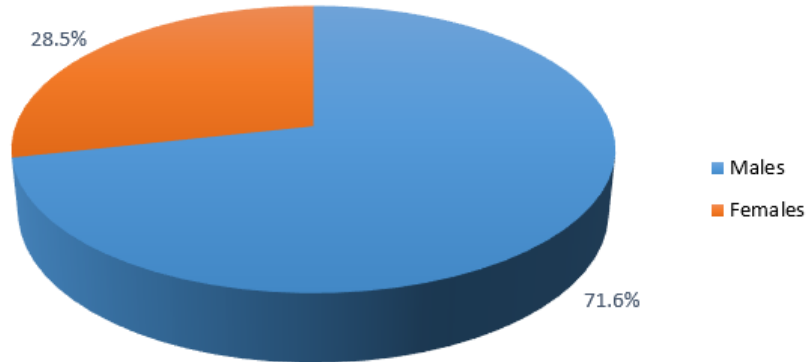


Figure 23. Proportion of male and female award recipients overall.

**Geographical representation.** Of the 239 recipients, 181 (75.7%) were from institutions in the US, while 53 (24.3%) were institutions outside the US. Of these 53, 4 (1.7%) were from Canada, 34 (14.2%) were from Europe, 7 (2.9%) were from the Middle East, 2 (0.8%) were from Africa, 2 (0.8%) were from Asia and 4 (1.7%) were from Australia/New Zealand. The institutions of three recipients could not be identified (1.2%); Figure 24).

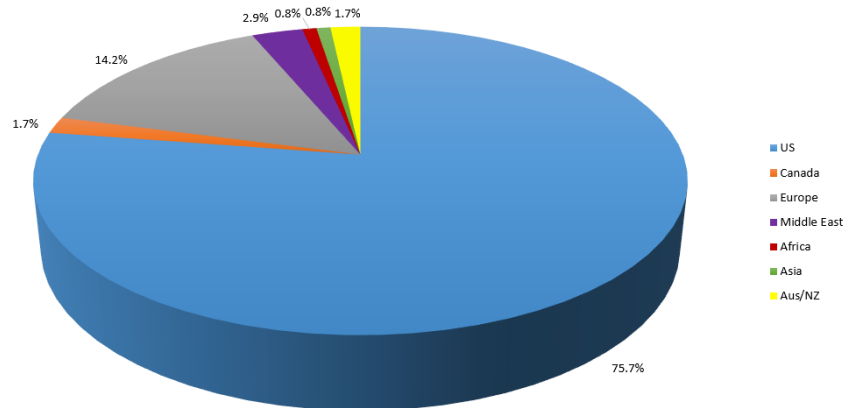


Figure 24. Proportion of award winners overall by geographical representation.

## ISPP Presenters Across Years

**Gender.** There has been a gradual but ultimately successful shift in the gender balance of the ISPP presenters over the years. The analysis was largely conducted a decade apart. In 1978, of the 185 presenters whose gender could be identified, 149 were male (87.1%) and 22 were female (12.9%). The gender of 14 presenters could not be determined. By 2017, the gender divide has become almost balanced. Of the 1111 presenters whose gender could be identified, 561 were male (50.5%), and 550



were female (49.5%). The gender of 65 presenters could not be determined. The following graph shows the gradual closing of the gender gap in ISPP presenters over four decades.

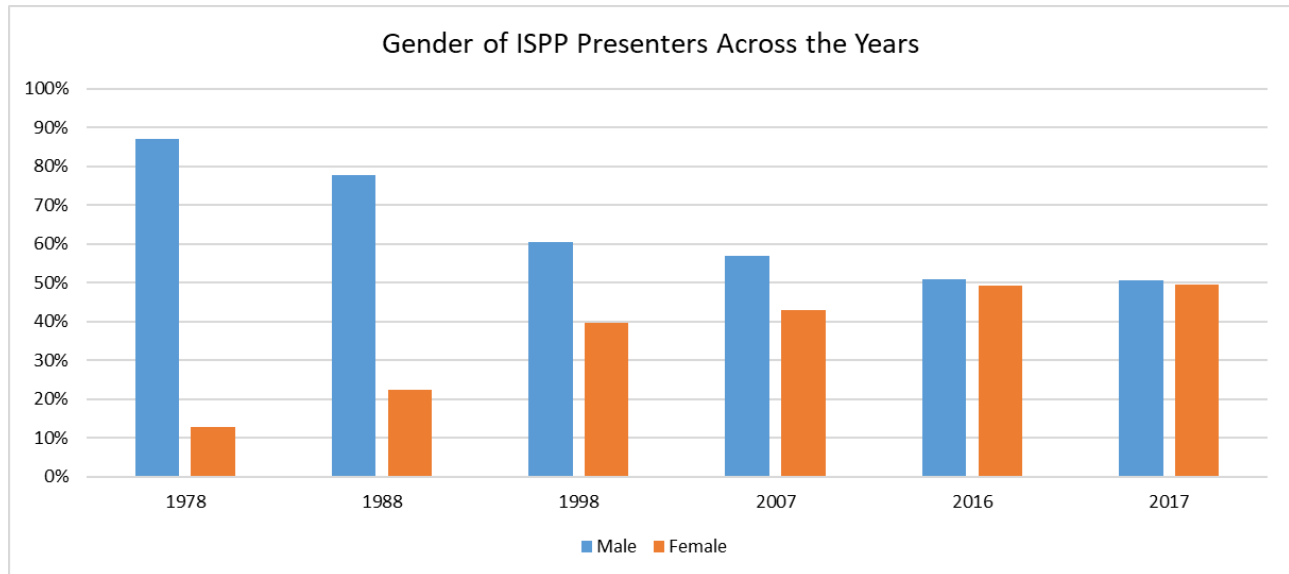


Figure 25. Gender of ISPP presenters across the years

**Geographical representation.** 17 (42.5%) of the 40 annual meetings thus far have been held in the US, while 24 (60%) were held outside the US. Figure 26 shows the proportion of annual meetings that have been held in each geographical region.

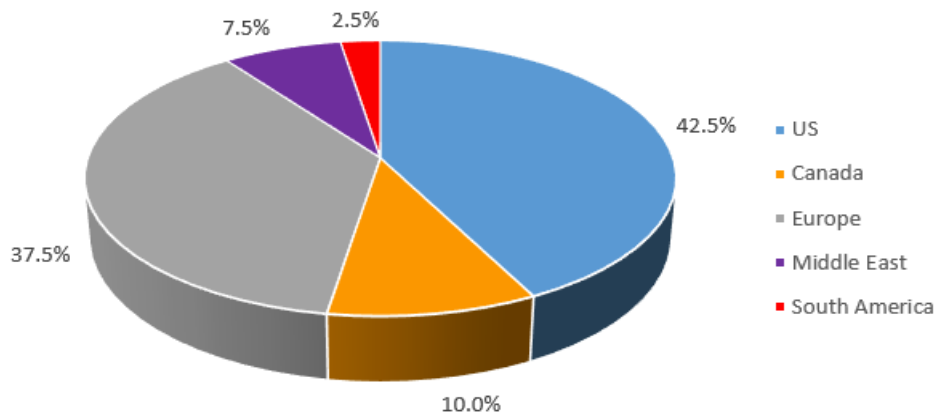


Figure 26. Proportion of annual meetings held in each geographic region.

Figures 27 to 34 show the proportion of geographical representation for ISPP presenters in their respective years. The findings show that broadly, the location of the annual meeting has an influence on the geographical representation of that year. The proportion of presenters from institutions in Europe and the Middle East increase significantly when annual meetings are held in Europe, while

the proportion of presenters from institutions in the USA decrease when meetings are held outside North America.

In addition, the findings demonstrate an increase in the diversity of geographical representation over the 41-year history of ISPP. In 1978, ISPP's first year of existence, North American representation was at an overwhelming majority, with the USA at 85.1% and Canada at 3.5% (see Figure 27). In the year 2012, the geographical representation has become more balanced, with the USA at 47.3% and Canada at 2.7%, while Europe sits at 35.7% (see Figure 32). This pattern is evident despite the 2012 meeting being held in Chicago, USA, and suggests that the increase in diversity may exist to some extent independent of the location in which the meeting is held. By 2016, there has been a massive shift in geographical representation, with 75.2% of representation coming from outside North America, and representation from Australia/New Zealand, the Middle East and Asia at their highest at 4.0%, 2.6% and 2.2% respectively (see Figure 33). The trend continues in 2017, where even though there is less representation from outside North America (68%), representation continues to rise for South America (4.2%).

### *1978: New York, USA*

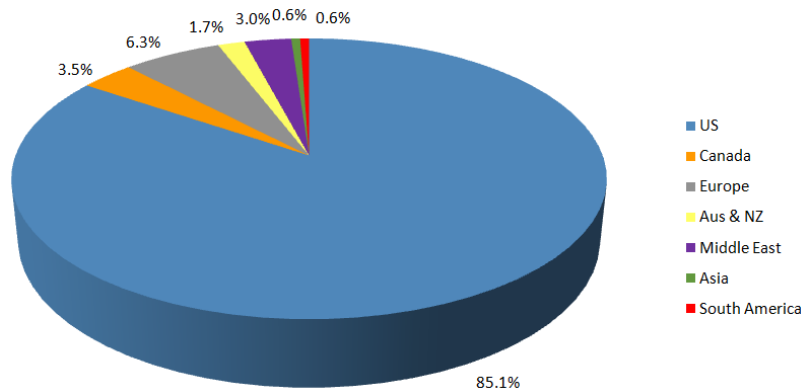


Figure 27. Proportion of geographical location for presenters in 1978.

### *1987: San Francisco, USA*

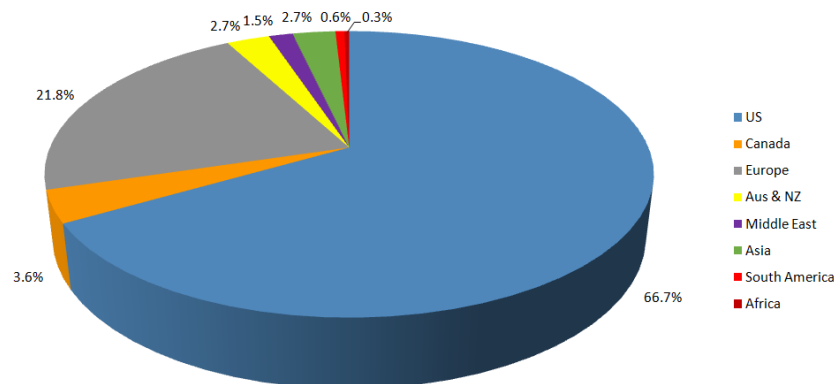


Figure 28. Proportion of geographical location for presenters in 1987.

**1998: Montreal, Canada**

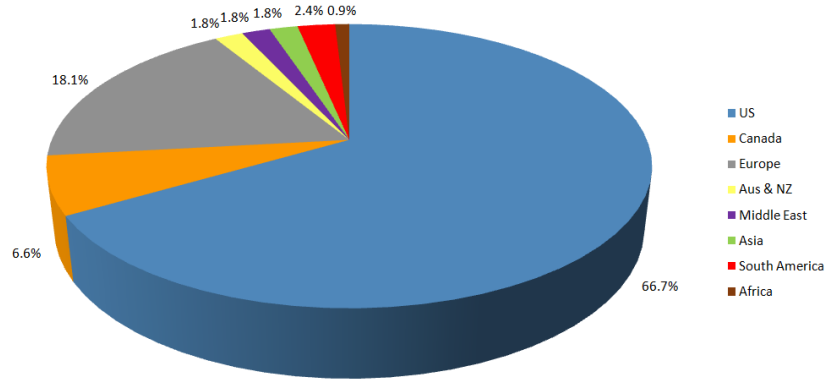


Figure 29. Proportion of geographical location for presenters in 1998.

**1999: Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

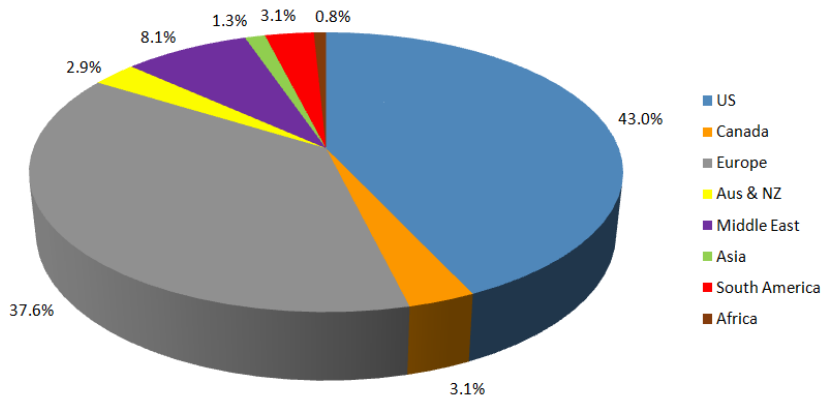


Figure 30. Proportion of geographical location for presenters in 1999.

**2007: Oregon, USA**

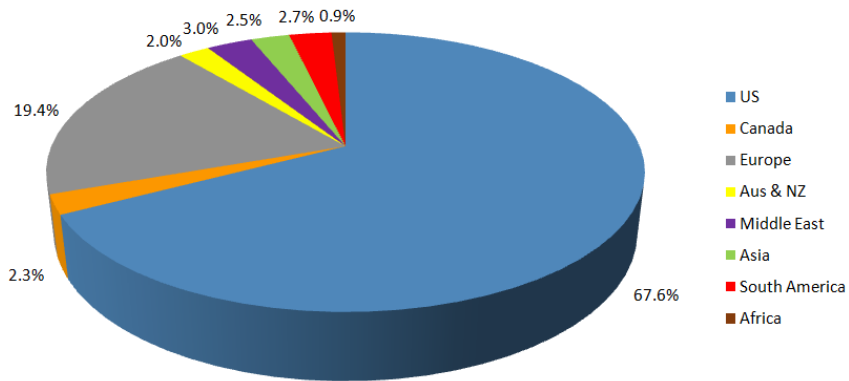


Figure 31. Proportion of geographical location for presenters in 2007.

**2012: Chicago, USA**

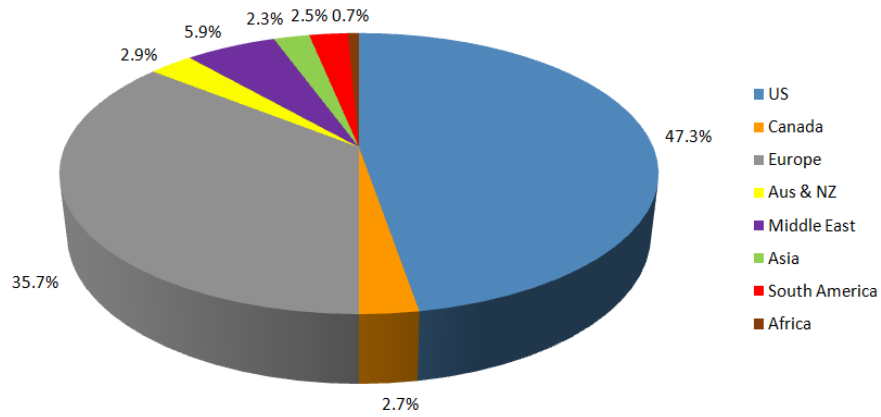


Figure 32. Proportion of geographical location for presenters in 2012.

**2016: Warsaw, Poland**

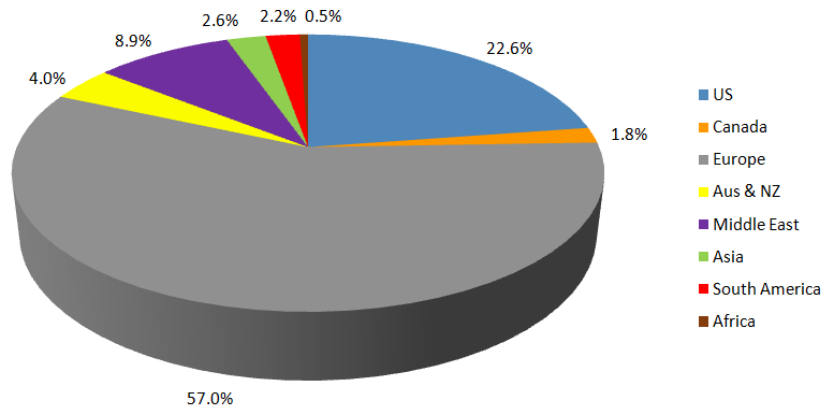


Figure 33. Proportion of geographical location for presenters in 2016.

**2017: Edinburgh, Scotland**

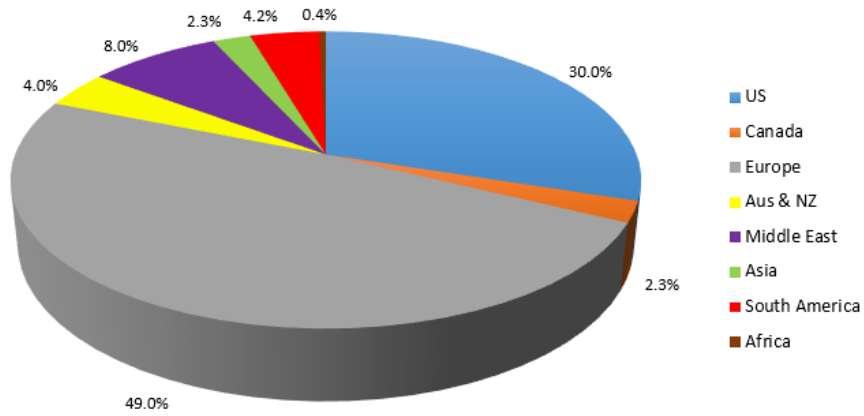


Figure 34. Proportion of geographical location for presenters in 2017.

## Membership in 2017

**Gender.** Of the 958 members in 2017, 421 (46.5%) were female and 484 (53.5%) were male. It is promising to note that the gender balance for ISPP members in 2017 was almost equal. The gender of 53 members could not be identified.

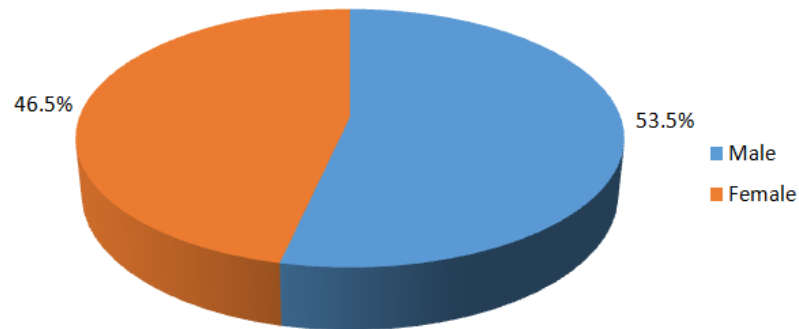


Figure 35. Proportion of male and female ISPP members in 2017.

**Area of training.** The area of training for the majority of the members in 2017 was Psychology (443 out of 958; 57.09%), followed by Political Science (279 out of 958; 35.9%).

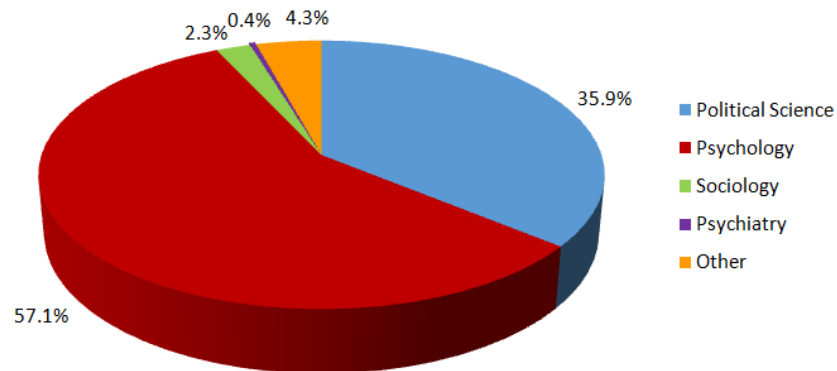


Figure 36. Proportion of area of training for ISPP members in 2017.

**Geographical representation.** The majority of members in 2017 were from the US (394 out of 958; 41.1%), with 423 out of 958 (40.6%) members coming from North America overall. This was followed closely by Europe (360 out of 958; 37.6%). The least represented ISPP members were from Africa (6 out of 958; 0.6%) and South America (20 out of 958; 2.1%) (Figure 36).

Figure 37 shows a map distribution of members' affiliated institutions in 2017. It clearly shows the high concentration of members from North America and Europe, and the work that still needs to be done in regions such as South America, Asia and Africa.

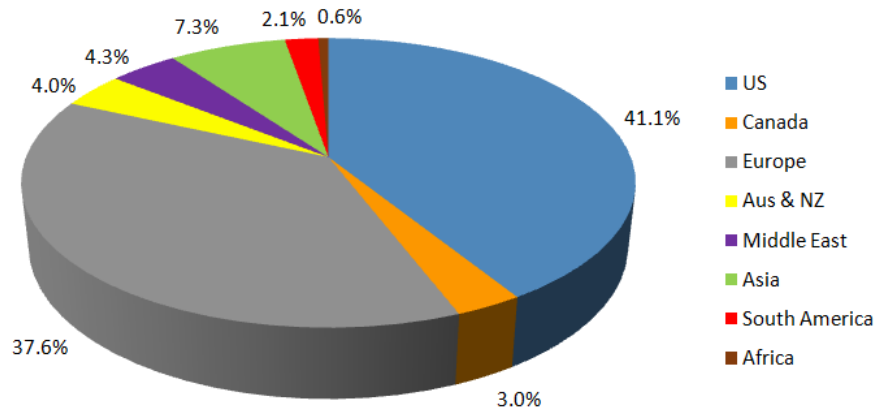


Figure 37. Proportion of geographical representation for ISPP members in 2017.



Figure 37. Map distribution of ISPP members' affiliated institutions in 2017.

### Content Themes Across the Years

**Themes as the core identity of ISPP.** A thematic analysis of annual meetings before 2006 (based on a sample of nine years: 1978, 1979, 1987, 1988, 1998, 1999, 2007, 2016 and 2017) has confirmed that there are recurring themes that have had a major presence in annual meetings throughout ISPP’s 40-years. Thus, these themes can be seen to be the ‘core identity’ of ISPP. This pattern was validated by ISPP, who since 2006, had begun organising the presentation topics into broad section theme categories. Through the years, the themes have remained broadly consistent, and have only become more clearly defined as ISPP works to refine them.

The section theme categories in this report were taken from the 2017 conference program document found on the ISPP website. The following lists the 2017 section theme categories, and the type of topics they might include.

- *Conflict, Violence and Terrorism*  
This category includes political violence in all countries, post-conflict trauma and reconciliations, radicalism and terrorism.
- *Intergroup Relations*  
This category includes ingroup and outgroup behaviours, majority and minority group dynamics, social dominance, prejudice, and issues relating to refugees and immigration.
- *Leadership and Political Personalities*  
This category includes case studies on political leaders, and analyses of leadership personalities, leadership decision making and leadership approaches.
- *Political Behaviour, Participation and Civic Engagement*  
This category includes case studies of political movements, revolutions and protests, and attempts to explain the factors behind political actions such as voting and the processes behind mobilisation. Political socialisation is a major topic in this category, particularly in the early years of ISPP.
- *Public Opinion and Political Communication*  
This category examines how the media communicates political messages and how this communication can influence public opinion.
- *Political Culture, Identity and Language*  
This category includes topics on national and political identities, nationalism, citizenship and values.
- *Social Inequality, Social Change and Civic Development*  
This category includes topics on the democratic process, social justice and inequalities, and socioeconomic-related issues.
- *International Relations, Globalisation and Macropolitical Issues*  
This category includes topics on international relations (including international alliances and tensions), and geopolitical events which affect all countries such as international security and climate change.
- *Biology, Genetics and Neuroscience*  
This category approaches political psychology from a biological perspective. Topics include understanding the neurological processes behind political decision making, and genetic/evolutionary explanations of political attitudes and behaviour.
- *Race, Gender, Ethnicity and Religion*  
This category includes all topics related to race, gender, ethnicity and religion, with particular focus on prejudices and intolerances against these minority groups.
- *New Theoretical and Methodological Developments*  
This category explores the latest theoretical and methodological developments which furthers the science of political psychology, typically involving multi-disciplinary perspectives. It also involves the study and training of political psychology.

- *State of ISPP*

Not formally recognised as a category on its own, however topics within this category occur frequently enough to warrant a mention. It reflects on the past, present and future of ISPP, and includes celebrations of its achievements, discussions of its challenges, as well as tributes to prominent ISPP members.

**Change in section themes from 2006 to 2017.** It is important to note that these theme categories can overlap. For example, in the 2017 conference program, the session ‘*Violent responses to outgroups*’ was placed under the *Race, Gender, Ethnicity and Religion* section theme, despite sharing similar content with the *Intergroup Relations* section theme. Similarly, the session ‘*Subjective factors shaping street protest: The importance of emotions and perceptions*’ which was categorised as being under the *Intergroup Relations* section theme but could theoretically be considered to be part of the *Political Behaviour, Participation and Civic Engagement* section theme. As mentioned previously, these themes were only consistently used by ISPP after 2006 and as a result, the section theme categories have undergone revisions over the years. For example, in 2008, the theme *Public Opinion* was grouped together with *Electoral Behaviour and, Participation* to form the category *Electoral Behaviour, Participation and Public Opinion*. However, in 2017 *Public Opinion* was grouped together with *Political Communication* in the same category to form the section theme *Public Opinion and Political Communication*. This indicates that the section themes are in constant evolution as ISPP itself changes in response to the geopolitical events of the time. Despite these changes however, the themes have remained broadly consistent from 2007 onwards.

Table 1 is a comparison of the section themes as they appear in 2006, 2007, 2011 and 2017, tracking the evolution of the themes as we know them today.

2006	2007	2011	2017
Political Violence	Conflict and Violence	Political Conflict, Violence, Crisis	Conflict, Violence and Terrorism
Conflict Analysis and Resolutions			
Prejudice and Intergroup Relations	Ideology, Legitimacy, and Intergroup Relations	Intergroup Relations	Intergroup Relations
Political Psychology of Leadership	Leadership	Leadership and Political Personality	Leadership and Political Personality
Political Imaginaries, Social Movements	Mass Behavior and Public Opinion	Electoral Behavior and Public Opinion	Political Behaviour, Participation and Civic Engagement
Cognition, Public Opinion and Voting Behaviour	Political Communication and Socialization	Political Communication	Public Opinion and Political Communication



Political Socialization			
		Political Culture, Identity, and Language	Political Culture, Identity and Language
Democracy and Governability	Citizenship and Democratic Values	Civic Engagement and Civic Development	Social Inequality, Social Change and Civic Development
International Relations and Globalization		International Relations, Globalization, Macropolitical Issues	International Relations, Globalisation and Macropolitical Issues
	Neuroscience and Emotion		Biology, Genetics and Neuroscience
Gender and Political Psychology			Race, Gender, Ethnicity and Religion
Liberation Psychology			New Theoretical and Methodological Developments
Political Decision Making		Political Decision Making	
Oppression and Authoritarianism			
Open/Miscellaneous	Other		

Table 1. Section theme categories in 2006, 2007, 2011, 2017.

**Comparison of themes in 1978 and 2017.** The themes in ISPP's first annual meeting in 1978 were compared against its latest meeting in 2017 in order to gain insight into the themes that have remained constant since ISPP's inception. The comparison shows that even in its first annual meeting, ISPP was concerned with topics involving themes of *Conflict, Violence and Terrorism, Leadership and Political Personalities, Political Behaviour, Participation and Civic Engagement, Public Opinion and Political Communication* and *New Theoretical and Methodological Developments*. It is notable that themes that are typically associated with political psychology today, such as *Intergroup Relations* and *International Relations, Globalisation and Macropolitical Issues*, were given very little focus in the first meeting. The themes have expanded and evolved as ISPP itself grew in membership and grew beyond the USA.

Table 2 below shows the comparison in more detail. As section themes were not in use in 1978, the titles of the presentations in 1978 were matched to the section themes in 2017 based on thematic relevance. Keywords from the 1978 presentation titles were included to present an almost comprehensive overview of presentation topics in ISPP's first annual meeting.

<i>1978</i>	<i>2017</i>
	<i>ISPP at 40: Revisiting Core Themes of Tyranny, Intergroup Relations and Leadership</i>
Conflict and Terrorism (Arab-Israeli Conflict, Trauma and Psychological Destruction)	Conflict, Violence and Terrorism
	Intergroup Relations
Leadership and Political Personalities (Birth order of US presidents as predictor of affiliation with predecessor, California party leaders 1964-1976, irrationality in decision making)	Leadership and Political Personalities
Political Behaviour, Socialisation and Action (Contemporary youth movements, political integration and alienation, revolutions, values in political behaviour)	Political Behaviour, Participation and Civic Engagement
Television and Political Learning (Television's influence on civic attitudes and perceptions)	Public Opinion and Political Communication
	Political Culture, Identity and Language
	Social Inequality, Social Change, and Civic Development
Data Dissemination and Utilisation, Environmental Beliefs and Perceptions for Public Policy	International Relations, Globalization, and Macropolitical Issues
Biology and Human Ethology	Biology, Genetics and Neuroscience
Gender (Women's consciousness and the political process: New approaches in theory and methodology)	Race, Gender, Ethnicity and Religion
Multidisciplinary Perspectives (Dialectics, transpersonal psychologies, case approach, psychotherapy, sociology, anthropology, literature, interdisciplinary training)	New Theoretical and Methodological Developments
Organisations (Business, managers and work)	

<b>Personality</b> (Role complexity in family, middle class authoritarianism, erikson's ego theory, determinants of individual behavior in political activity)	
<b>Psychological Processes</b> (Mirror image phenomenon in international conflict, impact of structural behaviours on political behavior, psychological hurdles of nuclear energy issues)	
<b>State of ISPP</b> (Ethics)	<b>State of ISPP</b> (Achievements, challenges and future directions)

Table 2. Comparison of themes in 1978 against 2017.

**Major presentation topic by year.** Table 3 shows the major theme of each year of analysis, determined by the highest number of presentations. The presentations include roundtables but not posters because poster sessions were absent from the early years of ISPP.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Theme of the year</b>	<b>Total number of sessions</b>	<b>Total number of presentations</b>	<b>Keyword</b>	<b>Number of presentations</b>
<b>1978</b>	<i>No theme</i>	41 sessions	96 presentations	Personality	9 presentations
<b>1979</b>	<i>No theme</i>	60 sessions	163 presentations	Biopolitics	16 presentations
<b>1987</b>	<i>No theme</i>	76 sessions	263 presentations	Gender	19 presentations
<b>1988</b>	<i>Values, Ideologies, and Beliefs: Political Cognition and Decision Making</i>	80 sessions	228 presentations	Beliefs and Perceptions	18 presentations
<b>1998</b>	<i>Identities and Interest at the Close of the Century: The Contribution of Political Psychology</i>	74 sessions	237 presentations	Public Opinion	31 presentations

<b>1999</b>	<i>Global Century/Local Century: Conflict, Communication, Civility</i>	79 sessions	266 presentations	Metaphors in Politics	30 presentations
<b>2007</b>	<i>Political Psychology: Then, Now, and Hereafter</i>	91 sessions	319 presentations	Emotion	19 presentations
<b>2016</b>	<i>The Good Society: Prospects for Reason, Communication, and Well-being</i>	134 sessions	482 presentations	Intergroup Contact	15 presentations
<b>2017</b>	<i>ISPP at 40: Revisiting Core Themes of Tyranny, Intergroup Relations and Leadership</i>	152 sessions	510 presentations	US Presidential Election & Refugees	19 presentations each

Table 3. Most popular themes in each year by number of presentations.

### Publication

This analysis shows the rate of presentations for each of the years 1978, 1988, 1998, 2007 and 2015. The publication rate was calculated in terms of the number of papers that have been published in academic journals, as well as the proportion out of the total number of presentations which could be published as academic papers. The decision was made to have the last year of analysis be 2015 due to the long revise and resubmit process. Presentations before and up to 2015 have a higher likelihood of being accessible on online databases at the time of analysis as compared to presentations from the years 2016 and 2017.

The findings show that there is a general upward trend in terms of rate of publication. In 1978, only 10 (11.76%) out of 85 presentations were published as papers, however by 2007, 144 out of 294 papers (48.98%) have been published. Though the rate of publication in 2015 is lower than in 2007, this may not necessarily indicate a downward trend as papers may have been accepted by journals but have not been published yet. It is also possible that presenters are more likely to showcase published work at the conference.

Year	Number of published papers	Rate of publication
1978	10 out of 85	11.76%

1988	30 out of 204	14.71%
1998	43 out of 214	20.09%
2007	144 out of 294	48.98%
2015	135 out of 341	39.59%

Table 4. Publication rate for years 1978, 1988, 1998, 2007, 2015.

## DISCUSSION

The analysis reveals four key findings with regards to the state of ISPP at its 41-year mark:

- There has been much progress with regards to ISPP’s gender diversity.
- Geographical representation of presenters in ISPP’s annual meetings has shifted from a US dominance to one that is almost equal in representation to Europe.
- There are recurring themes in the topics presented at annual meetings and these form the ‘core identity’ of ISPP.
- There is an upward trend in the publication of ISPP’s work in academic journals and databases.

Each of these points are elaborated on below.

### *The closing of the gender gap*

Despite being founded by a woman, ISPP in its early days was predominantly male. This gender imbalance was reflected by its leadership, where the first female president was only elected in 1987, nine years after ISPP was founded. Even now in 2017, male presidents, vice presidents and treasurers continue to remain a majority. This male dominance was also reflected in the gender of the presenters at the annual conference which in 1978 was at 85%.

However, changes in the demographics of academic life and ISPP’s gender policies and ‘internationalisation’ initiatives, where efforts are made to ensure gender and geographic diversity in all levels of the Society, has started to show a different pattern. The gender proportion of presenters is now approximately equal in 2017, and the number of male and female presidents and vice presidents elected per decade is almost equal. The gender proportion of membership in 2017 is also about equal.

Despite these great strides in gender equality, there is still room for improvement. Notably, males remain the majority in terms of being recipients for all award categories, even though some award categories were created in the late 1990s and 2000s. Overall, while ISPP has taken efforts to elect female leaders, males continue to remain a majority. However, this can be attributed to ISPP’s long history of male dominance, and the shift to gender equality only taking place relatively recently. Sustained efforts to promote gender diversity should be taken to ensure the continued increase in female representation.

### *The shift from the USA to Europe*

ISPP was founded in the US, and this was reflected by the geographical representation of its presenters, where in 1978 85.1% presenters came from institutions in the US. Thanks to ISPP’s ‘internationalism’ initiatives, annual meetings have been held in locations outside North America consistently since as early as 1981, particularly in Europe. Less than half (17 out of 41; 42.5%) of

annual meetings were actually held in the US, with 15 out of 41 (37.5%) held in Europe. Despite this, US representation continued to be the majority until 2016 in our sample.

The analysis showed that when annual meetings are held in Europe, the percentage of European presenters become almost equal to the percentage of US presenters. This pattern was most clearly exhibited by the 1998 meeting held in Montreal, Canada, where North American attendance (US and Canada) was at 73.3% against European attendance at 18.1%. In contrast, the 1999 meeting held just the next year in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, had North American (US and Canada) attendance at 46.1% against Europe's at 37.6%. This makes sense as when meetings are held in a specific country, academics from that country are more likely to find it accessible both in terms of travel distance and cost of travel, and thus are more likely to attend the meeting compared to academics outside of that country.

While the location of the annual meeting has a significant impact on geographical representation of attendees, in 2012, despite the meeting being held in Chicago, USA, the percentage of presenters from Europe was at 35.7%, while the percentage of presenters from the US was 47.3%. These proportions are noteworthy because of the significantly high percentage of Europeans for a meeting that was held outside Europe and may indicate true geographical representation that is not influenced by conference proximity. By 2016, 75.2% of presenter representation comes from outside North America, and representation from Australia/New Zealand, the Middle East and Asia were at their highest. Representation continued to rise for South America in 2017. It is important to note however that the 2016 and 2017 meetings were held in Europe. It will be interesting to see whether the trend still holds when the location of the meeting is moved back to the US.

This report has found that ISPP's internationalisation efforts have paid off, leading to a significant increase in representation from Europe regardless of conference proximity. This indicates that the next step for ISPP's journey towards full internationalisation would be to consider holding annual meetings in locations beyond US and Europe. It is significant that representation from regions such as South America, Asia and Australia/New Zealand in particular has been consistently low and raises the question of whether there is important knowledge that is not being showcased, either due to the lack of opportunity offered by ISPP, geographical distances or language barriers. ISPP continues to look into how it can further build networks and linkages across centres in political psychology worldwide.

Since 2008, ISPP's internalisation efforts have included small grant awards that have enabled groups to come together to advance political psychology, with approximately 80% being hosted outside of North America in places such as India, Brazil, Turkey, Poland, Armenia, Hungary and Australia. The next steps may be to align ISPP's annual meetings to reflect the diversity of efforts along the same lines as the grant awards.

### ***The thematic identity of ISPP***

The analysis of presentation topics shows that recurring themes occur throughout ISPP's 40-year history of annual meetings. Since 2006, section themes have been introduced to organise presentation topics and have been continuously refined over the years. While the categories can be subjective due to the potential for overlapping content between the presentation topics (for example, '*Violent responses to outgroups*' can be categorised as both '*Race, Gender, Ethnicity and Religion*' and

*'Intergroup Relations'*), and while categories have been dropped and reintroduced, or have undergone name changes, some categories have remained broadly consistent.

When matching the theme categories of 2017 to 1978, we can see specific themes have always been at the forefront of discussion for ISPP presenters. Themes of *Conflict, Violence and Terrorism, Political Behaviour, Participation and Action, Leadership and Political Personalities, Public Opinion and Political Learning, Biology, Neuroscience and Genetics, Gender and New Theoretical and Methodological Developments* made their first appearance at ISPP's first annual meeting, and this has carried through to the latest annual meeting in 2017.

As ISPP grows in membership, becomes more diverse and as it responds to geopolitical events of the times, its themes have evolved and expanded. An analysis of previous years' annual meetings has found that all of these themes have reoccurred frequently and consistently over the years, suggesting that ISPP's refinement and evolution of the thematic categories has managed to distil ISPP's core identity to these key themes defining and reaffirming who 'we' are.

### ***The reach of ISPP's work***

An increasing number of the presentations at annual meetings have been found to be published in academic journals, growing from 11.76% in 1978 to 39.59% in 2015. This suggests that there is an upward trend in terms of communicating ISPP's work in a greater number of forums, thus increasing the likelihood that scientific work reaches a wider political audience.

### ***Limitations***

It is important to acknowledge the limitations in the analyses. As mentioned previously, the data was limited by the use of conference programs already available on the ISPP website as datasets. This limitation necessitated the bulk of the analyses to be conducted on presenters rather than membership. While the conference programs contained information on presenters, their affiliated institutions and their presentation topics, most lacked information for a more in-depth analysis such as presentation abstracts and gender. This meant that a lot of the analysis in terms of gender and publication rate of presentations was done based on what could be found on the Internet and in other public-search forums. In addition, the title of presentation may differ from the title of paper actually published thus, the analysis is not exhaustive.

The coding analysis on presentation themes can be subjective, as evidenced by ISPP's own revision and expansion of the themes on a yearly basis. As there were limited resources available to ensure inter-rater reliability, caution should be taken when interpreting the findings.

### ***Final Word***

At ISPP's 40-year mark, it is important to take stock of where we have come from. It is clear that ISPP has been making huge strides towards being an inclusive and international Society. This shift is not possible without the contribution of every member in ISPP, and the values and dedication of many Governing Council members thus this is a milestone worth celebrating.

## APPENDICES

### Appendix A: Methods

#### METHOD

The project was overseen by Kate Reynolds and conducted by Chuah Jim Leon Yeow. While the demographic data on ISPP membership in 2017 was supplied directly by ISPP, access to previous years' records were more limited. Thus, aside from ISPP membership in 2017, all other information was based on information available in the public domain, primarily from the ISPP website. The analyses also had to be selective instead of exhaustive due to the limited time and resources available for this project, though effort was made to focus on areas of most interested to ISPP.

The report will first outline the areas of information that were analysed, and then the method in which the information in each of these areas is obtained.

#### Area of Analysis: Diversity

The diversity analysis was conducted on the following individuals within ISPP.

**Members in 2017.** First, the gender, geographical representation and area of training for all ISPP members (including EC Scholars, students, lifetime and retired) in 2017 were analysed. The data was supplied directly from ISPP.

**Presenters.** The bulk of the analysis on diversity in ISPP across years was focused on presenters rather than members. This was due to two reasons: 1) As mentioned before, access to previous years' records on membership was restricted, whereas access to records on the presenters in every ISPP annual meeting for the past 40 years was readily available on the ISPP website. Specifically, the records were found in the archived conference program documents. Each conference program included a list of presenters, the institutions they were affiliated with in that specific year, their presentation topics, and the themes those topics had been organised into according to ISPP. 2) The decision was made to focus on presenters because they are the key deliverers of ideas and content at meetings. For example, even if the membership and audience was diverse, the ideas communicated in an annual meeting would not truly be international if the presenters were primarily from the US and their topics largely focused on a US-context. It must be acknowledged that though the analysis was based on ISPP presenters, there is significant overlap between members and presenters.

The analysis focused on specific years in each decade since ISPP's founding in 1978, approximately nine to eleven years apart. Four of the five years in the initial set that was chosen (1978, 1987, 1998, 2007, 2017) had annual meetings in North America (US and Canada), thus limiting the conclusions that could be drawn in terms of geographic representation. As a result, the analysis was expanded to include three additional years where annual meetings were held outside the US. The final set of years of analysis were 1978, 1987, 1998, 1999, 2007, 2012, 2016 and 2017.

**Leadership: Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Treasurers.** The gender and geographical representation of all presidents, vice presidents and treasurers over ISPP's 41-year history was included (41 years due to information on ISPP leadership for the years 2017-2018 being recently included on the ISPP website). The data was obtained from the ISPP Leadership page on the ISPP website.

**Awards recipients.** The gender and geographical representation of the recipients in most of ISPP's award categories were analysed. The exceptions were the Alfred M. Freeman Award, which ended in 1999, and the Noel Markwell Media Award, which is awarded to an external media source



and does not necessarily involve members nor presenters at ISPP. The data was obtained from the ISPP Awards page on the ISPP website.

The diversity criteria are as follows:

**Gender.** The gender for ISPP members in 2017 was supplied by ISPP. The gender of presenters however was not recorded in the conference programs and had to be determined by using their names and affiliated institutions to either search for a photo of them online, or to find a textual confirmation of their gender (e.g. use of gender pronouns in the presenters' staff page or use of gender pronouns in online/newspaper articles). Where neither could be found, the gender of the presenter was designated as 'Unknown' and excluded from the analysis.

**Geographical representation.** Geographical representation refers to the location of the members/presenters' affiliated institution, and not their country of birth. This criteria was used because the only available records listed institutional affiliation. However, this was helpful for the analysis, as the content of a presenter's work is often the product of their affiliated institution. This report acknowledges however that due to the geographical mobility of members, their affiliated institution may differ across different years. The analysis took this into account by only focusing on the institution the members/presenters were in for the year of analysis. The findings also indicate that most member/presenters tend to stay long-term in their institutions. This, combined with online searches, made it easy to track members/participants across different years and different institutions.

The geographical locations of affiliated institutions were categorized into the following: US, Canada, Europe, Aus/NZ, (Australia and New Zealand), Middle East, Asia, South America, and Africa. These categories were largely inspired by the 'About ISPP' description of the ISPP website, which states that 'The Society is also international, with members from all regions of the world: the Americas, Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Africa'.

**Area of training.** The area of training for ISPP members in 2017 was supplied by ISPP and thus is only included in the 'Membership in 2017' section. Area of training refers to the academic discipline the member was educated in and provides insight into the state of ISPP's interdisciplinary diversity.

#### **Area of Analysis: Themes**

A thematic content analysis was undertaken using keywords or key phrases in the session titles of presentations in the years 1978, 1979, 1987, 1988, 1998, 1999, 2007, 2016 and 2017. Session titles refer to the title of a specific timeslot which contains presentations of a similar thematic content as recorded in ISPP's conference programs. For example, two presentations in 2017, '*Coping with Wave of Terror: A Longitudinal Study*' and '*Which Peace with Whom for What? A Corpus Based Discourse Analysis of the Failed Peace Process in Turkey.*' were both in the session titled '*Peace, Reconciliation and Terror*'. The analysis was also guided by section themes, which are broad categories of all sessions that were first introduced by ISPP in 2006. For example, in 2017, the sessions '*Peace, Reconciliation and Terror*' and '*Representations of Violence: Media and Policy Perspectives*' are grouped under the section theme category '*Conflict, Violence and Terrorism*'. The analysis in this report is based on the section theme categories of the year 2017.

Major themes of each year of analysis were identified by coding the session themes according to their keywords, then conducting a count of the most frequent codes.

#### **Area of Analysis: Publication**

Presentation topics for the years 1978, 1988, 1998, 2007 and 2015 were obtained from the conference programs on the ISPP website. In order to determine if these presentations were published, an online search was conducted using the online journal databases EBSCOHost (PsycINFO and Political Science Complete) and Google Scholar. In most cases, search results did not completely match the presentation topics as recorded in the conference programs. In these situations, the papers were read to determine whether they share similar content to the presentations. The authors of the paper were also cross-referenced with the names of the presenters. If the content and authors of the paper were similar to the presentations and their presenters, the work is considered to have been published. It is important to note that the findings from this analysis are cautionary due to the possibility that some of the published work may only be available on certain databases inaccessible to the writer of this report, thus the findings shown here may not be exhaustive.

**Appendix B: Sources of information used in this report**

Type of Information	Source
2017 Membership Information (Gender, Area of training, Geographical representation of affiliated institution)	ISPP
Presenters and their affiliated institutions (1978, 1987, 1998, 1999, 2007, 2012, 2016, 2017)	<a href="http://www.ispp.org/meetings/past">http://www.ispp.org/meetings/past</a>
Leadership (Presidents, Vice Presidents Treasurers; 1978 - 2018)	<a href="http://www.ispp.org/about/officers">http://www.ispp.org/about/officers</a>
Award recipients (1978 – 2018)	<a href="http://www.ispp.org/awards/award-winners">http://www.ispp.org/awards/award-winners</a>
Annual meeting details and presentation topics (1978, 1979, 1987, 1988, 1998, 1999, 2007, 2015, 2016 and 2017)	<a href="http://www.ispp.org/meetings/past">http://www.ispp.org/meetings/past</a>
Gender of presenters, leadership, award recipients	Google
Geographical location of presenters', leadership and award recipients' affiliated institution	
Publication of papers	EBSCOHOST (PsycINFO, Political Science Complete); Google Scholar

**Appendix B:**

Categorisation of countries into regions (based on countries of presenters' affiliated institutions in 1978, 1987, 1998, 1999, 2007, 2012, 2016, 2017).

US	United States of America, Hawaii, Guam
Canada	Canada
Europe	Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia/Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus,

---

	Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland Portugal, Malta, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, The Netherlands, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Scotland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, Ukraine, Yugoslavia
Aus & NZ	Australia, New Zealand
Middle East	Afghanistan, Egypt, Israel, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Palestine, Turkey, United Arab Emirates
Asia	Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, The Philippines
South America	Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Dominica, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela
Africa	Nigeria, South Africa

---