



AME Forum

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Call for Papers

International Conference on Moral Education

Association for Moral Education, 37th Annual Conference
Journal of Moral Education, 40th Anniversary Conference
Asia Pacific Network for Moral Education, 6th Annual Conference

October 24 - 28, 2011

Nanjing International Conference Centre
Nanjing, China

Conference Theme

"Cultivating Morality: Human Beings, Nature and the World"

Submissions are welcome from scholars across the many disciplines that contribute to the study and practice of moral education and development, including psychology, education, philosophy, sociology, criminology, and cultural and childhood studies, among others. Plenary sessions and invited symposia will explicitly address the conference theme. We encourage individuals to submit proposals that address the theme or on any topic related to moral development and cultivation.

EXTENDED Submission deadline: April 30, 2011

For submission format details and to submit (and to register for the conference), please go to the conference website:

<http://www.nanjing2011.org>.

AME CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR

Monica Taylor, Journal of Moral Education

China Travel Tips from AME President Sharon Lamb

Nanjing 2011 is shaping up to be one of our most memorable conferences ever. While the conference organizers for Nanjing 2011 will continue to put important travel information on their website, I thought I might take a few moments to address some possible concerns of U.S. members who have never traveled to China by giving some impressions and information based on a recent trip I made to Xiamen, Fuzhao, and Beijing. My husband and I went to China in June of 2010 at the invitation of his piano student Xiudan Lin. She told us from the start that there would be different prices for American tourists than there would be for Chinese and for Mandarin-speaking Chinese-Americans. Thus, she helped us to buy our plane tickets through a travel agency in which had better prices than the internet sites. Our plane tickets cost about \$1400 each and we used www.uschinatrip.com. If you have a Chinese friend or colleague, ask where he or she buys airline tickets when returning home.

The hotels may have different prices for tourists. For example, Xiudan's father booked us a hotel room in Beijing and when we got there the prices were posted on the wall. We were paying half the price posted in English on the walls. My recommendation? Again, if you plan to travel before or after the conference, have a Chinese friend book the hotel room for you and barter for a better price.

You may have inferred by this time that it is good to know someone Chinese! This is especially good when in China because not very many people, in my opinion, speak English. We have Chinese AME members who are willing to travel with you or meet you in Shanghai or in Beijing before the conference if you want company and help. You can also have someone write down for you things you would like to communicate to taxi drivers. Take these note cards with you. Also, when leaving a hotel by taxi, have the concierge negotiate with the taxi driver a reasonable price for the trip.

Xiudan also let us know that it takes some time to get a VISA to visit China. A few months ahead of our travel plans we needed to send our passports and VISA applications to the Chinese embassy in a different state to request our VISAS. You might be able to simply go to one if there is one in your city. Again, we used www.uschinatrip.com and the travel agent did this for us. Kaye tells me that VISAS are good for a limited amount of time and should be applied for in mid-to late August. You need to enter the country before the 3 months on the VISA is up or you will need a new VISA. With regard to passports, make sure your passport is good through May 1, 2012 (6 months after the conference.)

Food. My experience last year in China leads me to say you can be as adventurous or conservative as you wish. I had some of the best food I've had in my life. For breakfast there will ordinarily be some warm rice in water (like a porridge), a mild vegetable like bok choy in a broth, hard boiled eggs, or, my favorite, egg pancake with scallions. For lunch and dinner we were mainly served banquet style. There is always rice. There are also always noodle dishes, at least where I stayed. There will be meat and vegetarian options at all the meals most likely. You will see familiar dishes if you've ever eaten at a Chinese restaurant in the U.S., e.g., sautéed eggplant in a sauce. And there will be unfamiliar dishes like duck tongues! Many restaurants will include English translations or photos. Dim sum is available at many restaurants too so if you have a picky eater you're bringing with you, he or she can live on dumplings!

China Travel Tips (continued):

You can't drink the tap water but there is bottled water for you everywhere. I brushed my teeth with tap water and didn't get sick but the guidebooks say not to. I've also been told you shouldn't eat fresh fruit that you buy on the street.

Presents. If you are visiting anyone there, it is customary to bring some presents. They don't have to be big presents but something like a paperback book of photos of your state. We were going to bring chocolates but Xiudan told us that most Chinese won't like these. We did bring some arts and crafts items from Vermont, but I don't believe these went over so well as the book of photos.

I hope this letter excites you and helps you to become interested in making this amazing trip. And I hope that those of you young scholars who applied for funding got it. By early summer, we should start making travel plans. If you'd like to join others in a pre or post-conference trip, let me know then and I'll try to match people up so that you will have travel buddies if you want them.

Feel free to email me with any questions and I'll help you to find an answer.

Best wishes -- 祝你好运！ Sharon

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Recap of the 2010 AME Conference

The 36th Annual Conference of the Association for Moral Education attracted 217 participants from 24 countries and five continents to the classy Chase Park Plaza in St. Louis, Missouri (USA), thus highlighting – again – how international AME has become. With its combination of theoreticians and practitioners, and approximately one-quarter of our attendees who were students, it proved to be a rich mix of people concerned about moral education. The conference's global theme was "Gateway to Justice: Meeting the Moral Challenges of Inequality," and invited speakers and symposia, paper sessions, and posters developed the theme in ways too numerous to explore here. James P. Comer (Yale School of Medicine Child Study Center) delivered the Lawrence Kohlberg Memorial Lecture, summarizing perspectives and practice of the noted *Comer School Development Program* that was founded in 1968 and has pioneered the transformation of some 500 schools since then ("Morality and Social Justice: The Strategic Location and Function of School"). In his opening plenary lecture, Bill Puka (Rensselaer Institute of Technology) articulated a provocative plea for moral activism and against "The Cult of Civility". Other program highlights included Four Arrows' (aka Don Jacobs, Fielding University) reflections on moral education from a Native American/First People perspective ("Questioning Anthropocentrism: An Indigenous Perspective on Authentic "Moral" Education") and an Invited Symposium on "Social Justice and Responsible Citizenship", organized by Daniel Hart (Rutgers University), with further contributions from Robert Selman and Connie Flanagan. Remembrances of Ben Spiecker and Bob Howard were delivered and their work was again honored. Thanks for your contributions to this conference!



Helen Haste and Sharon Lamb at the 36th Annual Conference, St. Louis

Kuhmerker Career Award

Call for Nominations 2011

The **Kuhmerker Career Award** recognizes individuals who have made outstanding, long-term contributions to both the Association for Moral Education, in particular, and to the field of moral development, more broadly. Areas of consideration include, but are not restricted to:

1. Scholarly contribution to the field of moral development and/or education. This could consist of: a) long-standing contributions to ethical theory and philosophy; b) substantial and cumulative empirical contributions to the research literatures in psychology, sociology, anthropology, etc.; c) the development of an assessment instrument or strategy adopted by a significant number of researchers; d) the publication of resource material and critical analyses helpful to researchers and/or practitioners; and/or, e) an innovative educational program adopted by a significant number of practitioners;
2. Service to AME, such as acting as a board member, office holder, program planner, or major presenter at conferences;
3. Excellence in teaching and mentoring, including doctoral student supervision, course development and teaching, conceptualization, realization or supervision of educational interventions; and
4. Special/innovative service to the public, workplace, or education.

This award is not limited to AME members, although involvement in the association is given serious consideration as one of the criteria.

Further details regarding this award, including a list of past recipients and Lisa Kuhmerker's lasting commitment to the AME, can be found at:

http://www.amenetwork.org/award_career.html

Please contact Larry Walker (lwalker@psych.ubc.ca) with questions and nominations. The deadline for submission of nominations for the award is **May 1, 2011**.

The test of the morality of a society is what it does for its children. – *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*



Fei Jiang and Jim Conroy at the 36th Annual Conference, St. Louis



Scenes from Nanjing, waiting for AME faces!



Recipient of the 2010 Kuhmerker Dissertation Award: Scott Seider

The winner of the 2010 AME Kuhmerker Dissertation Award was Scott Seider, from Harvard Graduate School of Education, for his thesis on *Engaging adolescents from privileged groups in social action*. Scott analyzed the responses of high school seniors in an affluent Boston suburb who were randomly assigned to a course on social justice issues (entitled Literature and Justice) and another group who were randomly assigned to a control group. Using mixed methods, he investigated the impact of learning about social justice issues upon student belief, attitudes, behaviors, and worldview. Although a small minority of the participants experienced a deepened commitment to social action, a significant group of students offered resistance to the ideas raised in the course and a decreased commitment to addressing issues of injustice. In his dissertation, he explored how two groups of students can come away from the same learning experience with such divergent perspectives. Scott is now on the faculty of Boston University. He has already published extensively on his dissertation work, and has been widely cited.

Recipient of the 2010 Kuhmerker Career Award: Robert Selman

Robert (Bob) Selman received the Kuhmerker Award for his groundbreaking research on the development of children's perspective-taking and interpersonal understanding; for his leadership and service to the children, parents, and teachers of the Judge Baker Children's Center, and greater Boston area schools; for his promotion of the field of prevention science; and for his personal commitment and work to improve the education of children and of schooling nationally and internationally. Selman's work on role-taking stages and interpersonal understanding influenced Lawrence Kohlberg's articulation of the conceptual core of his own theory and had a profound influence on the wider field of socio-moral development.

Bob pioneered the pair therapy approach for children experiencing socio-emotional challenges and, in 1992, founded the Prevention Science and Practice Program at Harvard School of Education. He continues to devise programs using language arts and social studies curricula to develop interpersonal awareness and moral decision-making in children and early adolescents.

Now the Roy Edward Larsen Professor of Education and Human Development and Professor of Psychology in Medicine, Bob has been an inspirational teacher and wise mentor since joining the Harvard faculty in 1971. His book, *The Promotion of Social Awareness*, received the Moral Development and Education Book award from the American Education Research Association.

At the 2010 AME conference, several of his students, including Sigrun Adalbjarnardottir, Clark Power, Ann Higgins-D'Alessandro, and Fritz Oser gave reminiscences. Bob has been active in AME from its earliest days at Harvard, often attending and presenting papers, and has served as conference chair and as a member of the Executive Board. In his forty years of service to the organization and in academics, he epitomizes what it means to turn scholarship into service.

Recent Books by AME Members

Bergman, R. (2011). *Catholic social learning: Educating the faith that does justice*. Fordham Univ. Press.

Bulach, C.R., Lunenberg, F.C., & Potter, L. (forthcoming). *Creating a culture for higher performing schools: A comprehensive approach to school reform and dropout prevention* (2nd ed.). Rowman & Littlefield.

Lind, G., Hartmann, H.A. & Wakenhut, R., Eds. (2010). *Moral judgment and social education: Studies in the psychology and philosophy of moral judgment and education*. Transaction.

Seider, S. (2010). *Shelter: Where Harvard meets the homeless*. Continuum.

To let us know of your new book, please contact Eric Marx, eric.marx@acu.edu.au

Recipient of the 2010 Good Work Award:

Marvin Berkowitz

During the banquet of the 36th Annual Conference of AME, the Good Work Award was presented to Marvin Berkowitz, the Sanford N. McDonnell Professor of Character Education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, for his work in the Leadership Academy in Character Education (LACE). The Good Work Award is given to recognize outstanding examples of moral educational practice.

LACE is a professional development resource for school leaders that focuses on the design and implementation of an effective, comprehensive character education initiative, primarily at the school level. LACE focuses on school transformation in service of students' moral development and is therefore a fine example of a practice that fosters the link between moral theory and educational practice. LACE is well received and has helped to transform schools into caring communities. Marvin's own leadership has contributed extensively to its success, which may be illustrated by the following testimonial: "Thanks Marvin. (..) You and your cohorts are why Francis Howell Middle School is a National School of Character. The L.A.C.E. academy, your mentoring, the support of the Characterplus survey all guided us down a path that changed our school. (...) Thanks to everyone who showed us how to become a better school and sticking with us along the way!"

Since the late 1990s, Marvin has written numerous articles, book chapters, and reports on character education in general and LACE in particular. His quality research in the field of character education does not only feed into academic publications, but also the LACE program and practical books for parents. His columns on parenting and character (see www.cjonline.com and search for Marvin Berkowitz) are a wonderful read and illustrate not only his sense of humor but also his wisdom and humility. Qualities like these make him a fine example of a leader of character and therefore a great exemplar for LACE participants.

In Memoriam

Bob Wallace

Bob (Robert Wallace) Howard passed away on April 11, 2010. Bob was a Kohlberg student known to many of us and, while at Harvard, was a respected member of the Center for Moral Education. Upon graduation in 1986, he founded the Kenny-Howard Associates in Lexington, MA, an educational consulting firm that specialized in helping schools, clinics and foundations implement Kohlbergian principles. Among other leadership positions, he was co-founder of the New England Conference of Democratic Schools and influential in developing the adolescent pregnancy program *Community of Caring*, and was nominated by Kohlberg as an "Associate in Education" at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. An excellent teacher and mentor, he believed that teachers need to honor the children they teach and serve as exemplars of justice. His books on moral education have been donated to the Alexandre de Rhodes Library in Saigon, Vietnam, in honor of his contributions to the Vietnamese people. He will be greatly missed.

Good Work Award

Call for Nominations 2011

The Good Work Award is a non-monetary award that is designed to bring recognition and honor to those who foster links between moral theory and educational practice. Any AME member in good standing may nominate any person, team, practice, or organization. Selection criteria are below. The nomination shall consist of (1) a substantial narrative or description of the project or program being nominated, (2) an explanation as to why the project or program merits recognition by the AME according to the selection criteria, and (3) highlights of the curriculum vitae of the person(s) primarily responsible for the project or program, OR a history of the organization or sponsoring institution, as appropriate.

Please submit nominations via email to Doret de Ruyter (dj.de.ruyter@psy.vu.nl) by **April 30, 2011**. Awardees will receive a plaque and recognition in the AME newsletter and on its website and through other channels of communication such as press releases to the home institution.

Selection criteria:

1. The practice, intervention or research project shall aim at promoting a moral benefit for a community or group beyond that inherent in conducting research. This benefit will have a primarily moral cast—a contribution to the well-being or flourishing of the target group, for instance, by increasing liberty, opportunity, equality, safety, fairness or mutual respect and concern.
2. The practice, which can be a one-time or ongoing program, shall exhibit moral excellence. This would be demonstrated in credible testimony from participants, practitioners, or observers, or by research on the practice by the practitioner(s) or others.
3. The award may be given to a single practitioner, a team of practitioners, the project or practice itself, or a sponsoring institution, as the selection committee deems appropriate.
4. Although the practice need not be replicable beyond its own circumstances, it should be exemplary within those circumstances, and of significant interest to moral educators in other circumstances.
5. As this award is meant to recognize achievement in moral practices, outstanding scholarly achievements are not also required. However, scholarship by the practitioner(s) about the project or program can be a decisive reason if it proves impossible to decide between two practices.
6. The awardee(s) need not hold membership in the AME.

"In the little world in which children have their existence, there is nothing so finely perceived and finely felt, as injustice." -- Pip, in *Great Expectations*

Executive Board Activity

There are three annual meetings of the organization: the pre-conference Board meeting, the Community meeting, and the post-conference Board meeting. In addition, the Board held an on-line meeting on January 27, the first of its kind, to address further initiatives introduced at the post-conference meeting. Highlights from these meetings will be summarized here. We hope within the next year to implement a proposed plan to put meeting minutes online.

At the pre-conference board meeting, Wolfgang and Bryan, as co-chairs of the 2010 conference, reported on the upcoming conference; Daan gave a final budget from the Utrecht conference; and Jim as President encouraged everyone to attend the 2011 conference in Nanjing, China. He has been investigating closer integration between JME and AME and recommended that the two organizations think more about joint activities. He also proposed a procedure for filling vacancies created by midterm resignations that was moved and approved. The recipients of the three awards (Good Work, Kuhmerker Career, and Kuhmerker Dissertation Awards) were announced, as was the new Communications Coordinator, Eric Marx, who took office at the post-Conference meeting.

At the Community Meeting, Jim was thanked for his service as outgoing President and the incoming President, Sharon Lamb, was recognized. The 2010 conference organizers Wolfgang Althof and Bryan Sokol were thanked and the members of the community gave excellent feedback and made suggestions for future conferences. The new members of the board were recognized: Andrew Garrod, Tobias Krettenauer, Jeremy Frimer, and Sharlene Swartz (in absentia). The community lost two excellent people in the last year, Ben Spiecker and Bob Howard, and their contributions in the field of moral education were recognized and honored. The meeting ended with extensive discussion of the 2011 conference to be held in Nanjing and which will be jointly sponsored by AME, APNME (Asia Pacific Association of Moral Education), and JME. The Nanjing2011 conference coordinators also showed a short film of China. The location of the 2012 conference was announced: San Antonio, Texas, to be held on November 8-10, 2012.

The highlights of the Post-Conference meeting included the nomination of Larry Blum and Bill Puka to the Board as presidential appointees (Bill has since resigned). A slate of nominations for new board members was developed; voting on these members, who will take office in the Post-Conference Meeting in China, has begun. Proposals are solicited for the 2013 (American) and 2014 (international) conferences. The Board agreed that an attempt should be made to have the 2014 conference in a Latin American or South American country. The Board also decided, in the face of changing economic challenges, to increase by a small amount the cost of AME membership, effective October 1, 2011 (later changed to July 1, 2011). Several initiatives that had begun were shared with the Board, e.g., the update and revisions of the By-Laws and Policy Manual. AME archivist John Snarey presented his work on the Manual to Kaye Cook and Nancy Nordmann, who worked on further revisions. Other initiatives that were begun include: brainstorming ways to actively encourage first-timers to return to the conference and ways of reaching out to former members who have dropped out; advertising AME in organizations with similar mission statements; developing special interest groups within the organization; and developing an Op-Ed blog for the organization. Discussion began about changing the way the web page portrays AME so that it more accurately represents the vibrant and multidisciplinary group we are today.

Executive Board (continued):

Although the board meetings had never been held online, the January 27th meeting was a success, with almost all board members participating. The various initiatives mentioned above were discussed and developed further. Our goal is for even greater transparency in our activities, and more effective collaboration in furthering the cause of moral education.

Announcements/Notes

From Japan: Nobumichi Iwasa, who is at the Reitaku University in Kashiwa (a suburb of Tokyo), wrote to say that he and his family are fine. He adds: "I want to express my heartfelt thanks to AME members for their condolences to the victims of the tsunami and enquiries about our safety by e-mails, phones and Skype. One week after the unprecedented tragedy of this kind, I am deeply realizing that we are living, in fact, as members of the global network of interdependence."

We echo his concern for the conditions of the victims of the Japanese earthquake and tsunami, and for the nuclear power plant crisis. Our good wishes go out also to our other Japanese members: Takenori Inose (Hiroshima University, Aomori), Kohtaro Kamizono (Nagasaki University), Makoto Kobayashi (Tamagawa University, Tokyo), Yasushi Maruyama (Hiroshima University, Kawasaki), Naohiro Matsuo (Tokyo Gakugei University), Takashi Naito (Ochanomiu University, Kawasaki), Fumiyuki Ohnishi (Yokohama City University, Kawasaki), and Jeong-Ma Yang (Kyoto). You are in our thoughts in these difficult days.

2012 AME Conference. Our 38th Annual Conference will be in San Antonio, Texas, November 8 – 10, 2012. Hang on to your Stetsons for further details coming soon!

5th International Symposium on Moral Competence and Education. Konstanz, Germany, July 21 - 22. This year's symposium title is "Moral Competence and the Brain." The symposium is organized by Prof. Georg Lind, University of Konstanz, and Prof. Ewa Nowak, University of Poznan. Proposals for contributions can be submitted until May 1 (prolonged date). See <http://www.uni-konstanz.de/ag-moral/> for further information and registration for the Symposium.

American Anthropological Association (AAA). The AAA is holding its annual meeting in Montreal, Canada on 16-20 November 2011, with the theme of "Traces, Tidemarks, and Legacies." Abstracts (250 words) are submitted online; the deadline is April 15. Further information is available at: www.aaanet.org/meetings.

Announcements/Notes (continued)

The International Society for Justice Research (ISJR), <http://www.isjr.org/>, fosters productive discussions of new ideas, research, and theories relevant to justice phenomena. They are a group of scholars who encourage international and interdisciplinary cooperation in developing justice theory and research. The exchange and dissemination of this scientific information and creation of scientific networks is allowed by the conduct of biennial ISJR scientific conferences, publication of articles and book reviews in the *Social Justice Research journal*, publication of announcements and updates of interest in the ISJR Newsletter and informal discussions (by means of a listserv) among eminent justice scholars from around the world and representing different disciplines.

They invite all scholars who are interested in justice-related issues, or some other related area of research, to join the International Society for Justice Research and get involved in the Society's activities.

The Character Education Partnership, www.character.org, will be hosting its 18th National Forum on Character Education in San Francisco, CA, October 19 – 22, 2011. This is the largest conference on character education in the nation. Bringing together educators, researchers, practitioners, and community leaders in character education, the Forum promises outstanding keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and hot topic discussions devoted to implementing or continuing character education in the school and community.

AME Discussion Page. The Executive Board recently decided to establish a Discussion Page on the AME Website, for the posting of position/editorial pieces on issues relating to moral cultivation and education, and for the posting of real-time responses (unlimited length) to these pieces to encourage discussion of and (civilized) debate on the issues. You will get more information soon about this!

To let us know about an event or organization, please contact Eric Marx, eric.marx@acu.edu.au

Referees and Reviewers Needed for the *Journal of Moral Education* (JME)

The JME has an international Editorial Board, part of whose function is to referee papers submitted for consideration for the Journal. In addition, a wider range of scholars in the field are called upon to review and comment on the suitability of articles for publication. Their names and institutional affiliations are published annually in the second issue of the Journal each year. The Book Review Editors also invite scholars to undertake book reviews and review articles of books and curriculum materials, which are published in each issue of the Journal.

The Editor-Elect is seeking to augment the international pool of academic and professional associates in response to the increasing diversity of submissions (geographically, by discipline, topic and so on). We are keen to include additional AME members in the review process, especially since the JME forms part of the AME subscription. Junior scholars may also see this as a way of gaining expertise in the publication process. There is no payment for the work. Referees' reports are sent anonymously to the article submitter.

If you would be interested in being considered as a JME referee and contributing to the peer review process and helping to uphold the JME's standards, please send a one-page curriculum vitae of your qualifications, interests and experience; your email; address; phone and fax numbers to the Editor-Elect, Dr Darcia Narvaez (dnarvaez@nd.edu). If you would be interested to review or suggest books or curriculum materials to be reviewed for publication in JME please contact Dr. Gerhard Minnameier (minnameier@lbw.rwth-aachen.de).

Please Note: If you notice mistakes or inaccuracies or missing information on the AME Website, please contact Eric Marx, eric.marx@acu.edu.au, so that we can make a correction. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2011

IMPORTANT

If you attended the November AME conference in St. Louis, your dues are automatically paid for the year 2011. If you did not attend the 2010 conference, and have not renewed online, you may use this form and mail your dues to renew your membership for 2011.

Your membership includes a subscription to the quarterly the *Journal of Moral Education* and to the *AME Forum*, published twice a year.

To renew your AME membership, please complete the following:

Name _____

Institution _____

Business phone _____ Home phone _____

FAX _____ E-mail _____

Mailing Label:

Line 1 (name) _____

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

Line 4 _____

Mark as appropriate:

_____ Regular dues: \$75.00 (includes 4 issues of *The Journal of Moral Education*)

_____ Student dues: \$60.00 (includes 4 issues of *The Journal of Moral Education*)

_____ Donation to the Kohlberg Memorial Fund: \$_____.00

_____ Total enclosed. Make your check (or money order for those outside the U.S. or Canada) payable in **US dollars** to **Association for Moral Education**. Mail this form and your payment to:

AME c/o Phyllis Curtis-Tweed

Medgar Evers College, Department of Psychology

1650 Bedford Ave

Brooklyn, New York 11225 USA

(ptweed@mec.cuny.edu)

Those who prefer to pay by credit card may renew their memberships online, using Paypal, at http://www.amenetwork.org/membership_dues.html. NOTE: AME dues increase on July 1, 2011.