

A Quarterly Review of Social Reports and Research on Social Indicators, Social Trends, and the Quality-of-Life.  
News Included of Research Committee 55 on Social Indicators and Social Reporting of the International Sociological Association.

## Measuring Well-Being in the Netherlands

Jeroen Boelhouwer is the author of this report, which is based on his doctoral dissertation. Jeroen is well-known to members of ISQOLS due to his participation in a number of the Society's conferences and service on its Board of Directors. Since 1996, he has been responsible for activities related to the development of the "well-being standard" in the SCP (the Netherlands Institute for Social Research). This book tells the story of the evolution, development, measurement, and analysis of the Life Situation Index produced by the Institute.

Boelhouwer, Jeroen. 2010. *Well-being in the Netherlands: The SCP Life Situation Index Since 1974*. The Hague: The Netherlands Institute for Social Research (SCP). Distribution in the USA & Canada, Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers.

### The Conceptual Framework

Boelhouwer begins (p. 7) with the questions: "How can we tell whether people in the Netherlands are enjoying good levels of prosperity? Does it depend on national incomes rising or higher share prices? Or perhaps on the standard of education or whether or not they live in properly insulated homes? Or when they become happier? I have always found these questions intriguing and still do, after ten years' involvement with the life situation index."

The life situation index developed out of the work dating back to 1974 at the Netherlands Institute for Social Research on the "well-being standard." The overriding goal (p. 10) of the life situation index is "... to identify and describe social developments for the purpose of policy, more specifically social policy, aimed at preventing social disadvantages, and where they

exist, to overcome them." The guiding principles for the life situation index (p. 11) are that the index must be policy-relevant, show trends not only for the Netherlands as a whole, but also for various social groups in Dutch society, and describe the life situation in a broader framework of background information on *individual sociodemographic characteristics* (such as age and household composition), *resources* (educational attainment, work, health, and income), and the *physical and social environment*.

These sets of variables are interconnected conceptually in Figure 1.1 (p. 24) reproduced nearby. This figure shows the eight domains of the life situation index—health, housing, mobility (transportation), holidays, ownership of durable consumer goods, socio-cultural activities, social participation/isolation, and sports—in the interior box. As can be seen from the diagram, the framework specifies that the life situation of individuals and groups of individuals are affected by the resources and individual characteristics they have, public services provided by the government, and the physical and social environments in which they live. Subjective well-being, defined in terms of happiness or life satisfaction outcomes, then is specified to be affected by public services and the environment in addition to individual's life situations. The book includes a discussion of how this conceptual framework relates to, and builds on, prior social indicators work in European countries, including the living conditions work in Sweden, Eurostat, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the European system of social indicators. Most quality-of-life and social indicators scholars likely would agree that this is a sensible conceptual model.

### The Structure of the Book

The book is organized as follows. It commences with a description of the historical and international contexts in which the life situation index was developed. Then the choices made for operationalization of the life situation concept are described—its domains,

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#### Editor's Note:

*This issue commences with reviews of a report on the measurement of well-being and trends therein in The Netherlands and an edited volume of comments on keys to happiness from 100 experts from around the world. Next up are news items on the 10th ISQOLS Conference recently held in Bangkok by Don Rahtz, a message from ISQOLS President Heinz-Herbert Noll, and a new doctoral program in Quality of Life in Argentina by Graciela Tonon.*

# SINET

Social Indicators Network News

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indicators, the conceptual framework, and the relationship of the index to happiness. This is followed by a chapter summarizing findings from the calculation of 30 years of values of the index. A chapter on the stability and sensitivity of the index is next. The book concludes with a final chapter in which a critical evaluation of the index and its conceptual framework is presented, with recommendations for the future of the index.

## Data and Methods

Data for the indicators within each of the eight domains of the life situation index are taken from periodic sample surveys (with one to three year intervals) representative of the Dutch population. Each of the life situation domains is measured by a number of outcome indicators derived from written questionnaires given in the sample surveys. Since 2004, the eight domains have been measured by 19 indicators (pp. 188-189): four indicators for housing, two for health, two for ownership of consumer goods, three for socio-cultural leisure activities, two for mobility, two for social participation, two for sports, and two for holidays. In turn, information for each of the 19 indicators is obtained from a total of 52 variables or items in the questionnaires. For instance, information for the two indicators in the health domain is obtained from answers to two questions pertaining to whether sample respondents are "hindered in carrying out household activities" or "hindered in carrying out leisure-time activities."

The method of composite index construction used is based on a nonlinear canonical correlation analysis of all indicators. This method, which is a variant of principal component analysis, calculates weights for the indicators in such a way that the item total correlation is maximized. One advantage of this statistical procedure is that it can accommodate indicators at different levels of measurement: interval, ordinal, and nominal. The chapter on stability and sensitivity analyses of the life situation index contains results of exercises that show that the empirical findings are not affected very much by the weights, and,

indeed, similar findings are obtained from equal weighting procedures. This is consistent with other methodological studies of composite well-being indices and with statistical models and analyses that Mike Hagerty and I have conducted.

## The Findings

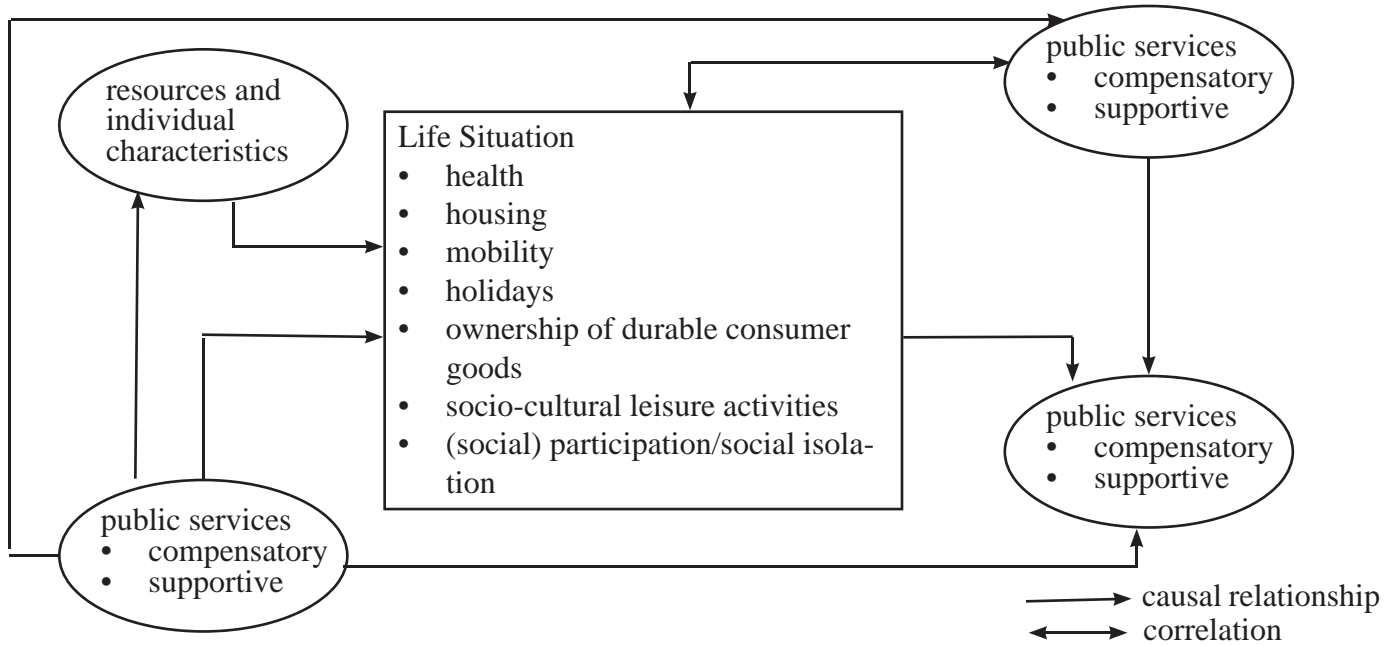
The book reports a number of findings. To begin with, over the past 30 years, the life situation of the Dutch population, as measured by the overall life situation index, as improved. Figure 7.1 reproduced nearby is one of several figures contained in the book that show the ups and downs, but generally increasing, of the index from the mid-1970s to 2006. The figure shows the life situation index for the total Dutch population as well as for men and women separately. It can be seen that there is convergence of the sex-specific indices across the decades.

Other analyses reported in the book show that improvement has occurred in the life situation index for a number of groups studied, but not to the same extent for all. For example, groups for whom the life situation index improved more than the population average include people aged 55 to 74 years, higher-educated people, single people, and couples without children. Groups for whom the index improved less than the population average include 25-34 year-olds, the lowest educated, and single-parents. Generally, the life situation of people with more resources improved more than average, i.e., those who are employed, have a higher education, or a high income. And the disparities in life situation between the employed and unemployed, between the highest and lowest educated, and between those with the highest and lowest incomes were greater in 2006 than in 1974.

## Comment

Overall, this is a fine study of the conceptual and methodological foundations of the life situation index in the Netherlands. One thing we have learned over the years with respect to social indicators, measurements of well-being, and composite indices is

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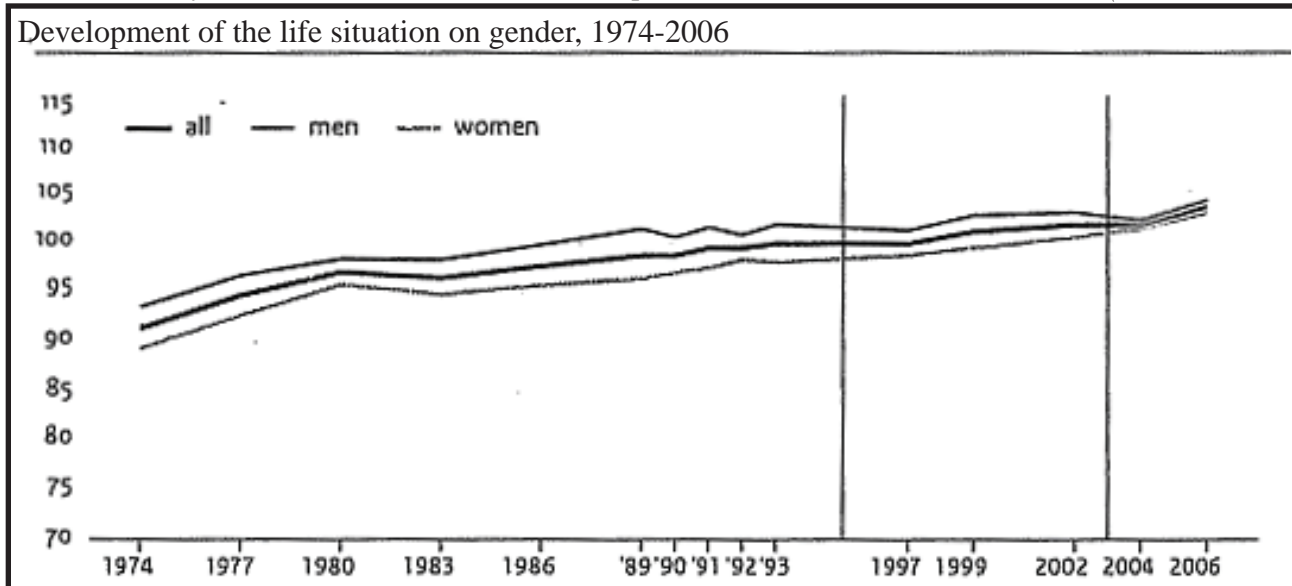
that, while there are some commonalities across countries, one size does not fit all. Each society's context has an impact on the history of choices made in the construction and measurement of well-being indices. Those made in the development of the Netherlands life situation index generally are sensible and more or less consistent with those made in a number of other countries.

A couple of observations: First, while it may not be noticed except with keen observation of Figure 7.1 reproduced above, the base year of the life situation index charts in the book is 1997, for which year the overall index for the total population is given an index value of 100. Index values for population subgroups, such as those for males and females, for this base year are calculated relative to their average deviations from this all population index value. The values of the index for each year are calculated on the basis of the nonlinear canonical correlation analyses cited above, which then are transformed linearly to yield the index score of 100 for the base year 1997 and a standard deviation of 15. This is okay, but, if I had advised Jeroen on the pre-

sentation of the charts, I would have suggested one more linear transformation to assign 100 to the first year of the series, 1974, from which one then could calculate changes in index values across the decades. The results would be the same as those presented in the book, but would yield a quicker calculation of numerical changes.

Second, given the importance of happiness scales and measurements in recent studies of national well-being and changes therein over time, more attention could have been given to the tracking of changes in levels of Dutch happiness over the years 1974 to 2006 and comparisons with those of the life situation index. The book reports on p. 137 the results of an analysis of variance of survey responses to a happiness question as a function of individual's life situation index values. The table shows that the life situation index explains 4% of the variation in happiness responses. The explained variance in happiness increases to 24% when, in addition to the life situation index, certain sociodemographic covariates (employment status, age,

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household composition) as well as measures of levels of satisfaction with various domains of well-being) are controlled. Okay. But, apart from its explanatory power at the individual level in cross-sectional survey data, the question remains as to whether the trend in levels of happiness of the Dutch population (this could be quantified in several ways from simply assuming an equal-interval scale for the happiness responses to a sophisticated latent probit model that allows for unequal intervals) over the years 1974 to 2006 are consistent with those in the life situation index. If the two time series trend together to some extent, then that would tell us that ups and downs in the average life situations of the Dutch population are indicative of ups and downs in their average levels of happiness. If the covariation of trends in these two time series is null, then that tells us that, regardless of how well the average life situation of the Dutch improves, it will not affect their levels of happiness. And, if the covariation of the two series is negative, then that would be a puzzle for even deeper thinking about what is going on in the Netherlands.

Finally, recall the findings from the study noted above pertaining to the groups of the Dutch population with life situation index values that improved more than the population average and those that improved less than the average and the growth of disparities over time. While the main purpose of social indicators and quality-of-life reports is just that, to report on what is happening, it bears noting that these findings are similar to those experienced in a number of developed societies since about 1970. And they are consistent with the transition of these societies from industrial to post-industrial forms. Compared to the late industrial societal structures of the post-World War II mid-twentieth century, post-industrial societies are much more dominated by globalized corporate structures and economies, service sector and high technology-based employment, and the elongation of the period of transition from childhood to adulthood. These societal forms reward higher education, which leads to employment in professional and technical jobs and higher incomes. At the same time, there are fewer employment opportunities for the less well educated, leading to higher unemployment rates, lower incomes, and less beneficent life situations. The years of schooling and training necessary to launch professional and technical careers also extend well into young adulthood.

Taken together, and including the implications of post-industrial forms for family structures (e.g., the higher incomes of dual-earner professional/technical couples and the challenges to single parenthood for achieving similar life situation levels), these characteristics account for many of the trends and disparities in the life situation index noted above. Is there any hope? Possibly, if the past four decades are part of a "transition" period from one societal form (industrial society) to another (post-industrial society), and if the rewards to various social groups begin to equalize as the transition becomes more fully completed and institutions adapt thereto. On the other hand, the trends of the past few decades may continue, or at least not reverse, well into the future, and we may come to realize that the relatively lower levels of disparities of life situations of 50 years ago were a transient characteristic of late industrial society.

~ Kenneth C. Land

## Message from ISQOLS President Heinz-Herbert Noll

Dear Readers of SINET and Members of ISQOLS, As the new President of ISQOLS, let me first of all thank the outgoing president Bob Cummins for his efforts and good work to keep ISQOLS successfully on track during the past two years. With a view to our future work, it is my great pleasure to welcome and congratulate all the recently elected members of the new Board of Directors and Executive Committee for the period 2011-2012 and not least Filomena Maggino, ISQOLS' new President elect!

The Members of the Board of Directors 2011-2012, elected by the general membership of ISQOLS are:

- Jeroen Boelhouwer
- Ferran Casas
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The seven new ISQOLS Vice Presidents for the period 2011-2012 are:

- Laura Camfield (Publications)
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- Rhonda Phillips (Programs)
- Mariano Rojas (External Affairs)
- Peggy Schyns (Academic Affairs)
- Graciela Tonon (Publicity/Member-

During the past one and a half decades ISQOLS has seen an impressive development and has written a true success story. By now, ISQOLS publishes its own journal and diverse book series, the society has organized ten major international conferences and turns out to be a prime Internet address in quality of life issues, well known all over the globe. These are good reasons to be proud of, but we are also facing new challenges. Our research fields – quality of life, happiness, social indicators of well-being and social progress – have attracted an enormous and unprecedented interest in recent years, not only in the academic world, but also in the sphere of policy making. The recent recommendations of the so-called Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Commission on the measurement of well-being and social progress have moved quality of life issues to the policy agenda of many nation states as well as supranational organizations. It will be a great opportunity, but also

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## KEYS TO HAPPINESS FROM 100 PROMINENT EXPERTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

In the Introduction to this book, Leo Bormans states that his friends tell him that he is a life-expert in optimism. He previously did the research for and wrote a book about it: *100% Positivo*. In the course of writing this book, he discovered that thousands of studies had already been done on optimism and happiness and that new ones are being conducted every day. This motivated him to edit this book, for which he contacted "... 100 of the most prominent experts in the field [of positive psychology] and asked them to sum up their work in a maximum of 1,000 words as a message for the world." Bormans objective was to find specialist from 50 different countries. He discovered that "... positive psychologists are also nice people in real life" as almost all were happy to agree to his request. His commission to the experts was four-fold: 1) that their statements contains insights founded on research-based knowledge, not spiritual philosophy, 2) that they not only concentrate on individual happiness, but also on the happiness of groups, 3) that these conclusions should enable a cross-fertilization of ideas within a global vision, and 4) be written in a language that ordinary people can understand. Bormans states that the experts contacted rose to the challenge brilliantly and succeeded in transforming information into knowledge and knowledge into wisdom.

Bormans, Leo. Editor. 2010. *The WORDL BOOK of HAPPINESS: The knowledge and wisdom of one hundred happiness professors from around the world.* Tielt, Belgium: Lannoo Uitgeverij. 349pp

### The Experts

The list of names of the 100 experts with entries in this volume is large and diverse. I cannot list all of them, but will give some examples, with apologies to those not named. To begin with, there are entries by a number of persons who have made defining contributions to the field of positive psychology who likely are well-known to members of ISQOLS such as Christopher Peterson, Robert Biswas-Diener, David G. Myers, and

Sonja Lyubomirsky. Next, there are entries by a number of persons who are active in ISQOLS and well-known to its members, including Robert A. Cummins, Wolfgang Glatzer, Michael Hagerty, Andrew Clark, Daniel T. L. Shek, Doh C. Shin, Mariano Rojas, Joar Vitterso, Valerie Moller, Ruut Veenhoven, and Graciela Tonon de Toscano. In addition, however, there are many entries by other contributors to the positive psychology and well-being research literature whose names may not be so well-known in ISQOLS, including Stavros Drakopoulos, Michael Eid, Paolo Verme, Yew-Kwang Ng, Xing Zhanjun, Dov Shmotkin, Eunkook M. Suh, Claire Beazeley, and Hein Zegers. It is this last set of contributors who demonstrate Bormans' extensive research on contributions to research on positive psychology, happiness, and well-being around the world. The representation of authors from 50 countries is impressive and helps to give credence to the title of this book. [Full Disclosure: I have an entry in the volume based on our work on the development of child and youth well-being indices, and I am honored to be present in a volume with so many distinguished scholars.]

### The Research-Based Insights

It is impossible to give a full accounting of the many contributions to this volume. I will have to settle for a sampling. A good place to start is David G. Myers's "The Ten Commandments of Happiness." This entry elaborates on the following list: "Realize that enduring happiness doesn't come from success." "Give priority to close relationships." "Seek work and leisure that engage your skills." "Take control of your time." "Act happy." "Join the [physical exercise] 'movement' movement." "Give your body the sleep it wants." "Focus beyond the self." "Nurture your spiritual self." "Keep a gratitude journal." Many of the other entries in this volume contain themes that pick up on one or more of these commandments.

The biological and psychological

roots of our levels of happiness are highlighted in some entries. For instance, Sonja Lyubomirsky reports on research with identical and fraternal twins, which indicates that each person is born with a particular "happiness set point." Based on this research, she reports estimates that 50% of our capacity for happiness is determined by our starting set point, 10% can be attributed to our life circumstances, and 40% can be influenced by things we do, such as following Myers's Ten Commandments just cited. Within ISQOLS, set point theory and subjective well-being homeostasis has been most vigorously and consistently advanced by Bob Cummins. His entry states that it is important to distinguish a fleeting emotion attached to a nice experience from our more stable moods that represent deep feeling states that are constantly present. The keys to happiness Bob advances are to concentrate on moods rather than feelings, look for someone you can confide in, recognize the diminishing marginal returns to happiness of higher incomes, and remember that, like body temperature, sometimes your feeling of happiness goes up and sometimes it goes down, but usually it returns to its normal level.

Many of the other entries in the volume pick up on these themes, providing specific suggestions for actions that individuals can take to increase their happiness, life satisfaction, and well-being. For instance, Mariano Rojas states that time is our most valuable resource and should be managed wisely, and he recommends that individuals should live their lives as if they were major works of art. Daniel Shek suggests that we need a "paradigm shift" in the conception of happiness to make the wisdom contained in Chinese philosophies and religions relevant to non-Chinese people. Wolfgang Glatzer reminds us that increasing your positive well-being is not the same as decreasing your negative well-being and that happiness depends on future prospects as well as present conditions.



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## Comment

I could go on and on, but then you would not be enticed to read the book. Suffice it to say that Leo Bormans has done the quality-of-life and positive psychology communities a favor by editing this volume. It should appeal to non-specialists and thus can serve as a vehicle for conveying messages to a broader public about the results of our research.

In closing, even though I know that Bob Cummins would caution me to distinguish my temporary feelings from my longer-term mood, I know a thing or two about the fabulous Belgian cuisine and beers and thus, Leo, I am sure that the fine consumption thereof would raise my momentary feelings of happiness and well-being substantially—and that the memories and thoughts of such an experience would linger on and could influence my set point mood, at least a little bit, for a long time. More seriously, perhaps in addition to the many well documented themes of the importance of personal relationships and such (see David Myers's list above) for happiness that are stated in various ways in this volume, the sensual stimulation of such life experiences as eating and drinking and the contribution of memories thereof to happiness should be on the list of things we study. Leo, can we meet to explore this the next time I am in Brussels in a restaurant/tavern of your choice in the Grand Place?

~ Kenneth C. Land



## Report on the 10<sup>th</sup> ISQOLS Conference in Bangkok, Thailand “Understanding Quality of Life and Building a Happier Tomorrow” 8-11 December 2010

ISQOLS made its first conference foray into Asia with the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference this past December. It was a wonderful time to be in Thailand. This, after the conference had to be delayed from earlier in July 2010 due to political turmoil in Bangkok. Co-Sponsors of the conference were The National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA), and the International Research Associates for Happy Societies (IRAH). The conference brought together a mix of academics, public policy officials, and practitioners to offer attendees a real look at the increasing recognition and influence of our field of research in both the public policy and private sectors. The conference was held at the Imperial Queen's Park, Hotel in the heart of Bangkok, Thailand. Over one hundred and twenty participants from over twenty countries spent three conference days presenting and learning about how Quality of Life (QOL) research has made great strides around the globe from both a social and public policy perspective.



For many of us, it was a great chance to leave the cold and snow of the farther reaches of the Northern Hemisphere and journey to the much more pleasant temperatures of the Thai capital. The conference began with a day of workshops attended by both full conference attendees and local audiences who had a particular interest in the Quality of Life topic being covered. Some of the workshop attendees were treated to a look at how QOL has made it into the mainstream of the private sector. Young researchers in the QOL field spent the day learning how to develop their research and get it published in the appropriate journals and other high quality outlets. Still others learned how to apply QOL Community Indicators

in shaping public policy in their communities. A final group learned how the Prosperity Index can be used.

The full conference opened with a welcoming speech by Chirayu Isarangkun Na Ayuthaya, the Chairman of the NIDA Council. This was followed by a panel discussion on Global Well-Being in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Jeni Klugman of the UNDP and Mike Salvaris of the OECD as well Paiboon Wattanasiritham, a former deputy PM of the Thai government gave their views of the challenges facing us all in achieving optimal QOL. The attendees then enjoyed an opening reception prepared for the full days ahead. Those days included a variety of plenary sessions and breakouts for more intimate discussions regarding specific QOL topics.

This conference was also designed to reach out to the private and public sector to build awareness regarding the value of QOL in decision making and policy. To that end a special banquet was held Thursday night for people from the private and public sectors to attend and gain some insight as to how QOL research can be applied in their strategic thinking and actions. President of ISQOLS, Robert Cummins spoke to a full house about how the Thai King's "Sufficiency Economy" perspectives embraced much of what QOL researchers have advocated for public policy decision makers for years. The audience was also reminded by Chanwit Wasanthanarat, and medical doctor (MD) of how QOL has a direct impact on medical well-being for us all.



Our Awards Banquet on Friday night began with a reception that included a performance of Traditional Thai Dancing by a Thai dance troupe. At-

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tendeers had a great time having their pictures taken with the ornately dressed dancers following their performance. Awards were given to a variety of individuals for their work in advancing Quality of Life around the world. Transparency International (Berlin) was awarded the Betterment of the Human Condition Award for its work in pushing forward in its commitment to pursuing an open and transparent world in both the public and private sectors. Kenneth Land was awarded the Distinguished QOL Researcher Award for achievement and advancement of the QOL field over his career. Peggy Schyns, David Webb, and Bruno Zumbo, were given ISQOLS Research Fellow Awards for their significant contributions to research in the QOL field. Don Rahtz received the Service Award for his years of service as Vice-President of Programs. All track chairs, the life blood of any conference, and the conference committee were recognized for their hard work in making this conference a success.

The conference concluded on Saturday with more concurrent sessions and then a final plenary that focused on the Quality of Life in Cities and Nations. The session, chaired by Dr. Sombat Kusumavalee was comprised on high level Thai government members. Dr. Khunying Kalaya Sophonpanich, (Member of the House of Representatives), Khun Sirirat Ayuathna (Ministry of Social Development and Human Security), and Khun Suwanee Khamman (Office of the national Economics and Social Development Board). Their insights on how QOL research and theory has been applied in the public sector of Thailand were much appreciated by the academic researchers who were in attendance. The conference concluded with a closing



ceremony and speech by Dr. Khunying Kalaya Sophonpanich, (Member of the House of Representatives). The attendees all went home with a rejuvenated commitment to their pursuits after seeing how the public, private, and academic communities can come together to promote the study and application Quality of Life across all societies on the planet.

A few photos from the conference are reproduced nearby. These and a number of other conference photos are available at: <http://www.happysociety.org/EN/photo.html>

We would certainly hope to see you at the 11<sup>th</sup> International Society for Quality of Life Studies Conference to be held in the Summer of 2012. Please join the new President Heinz-Herbert Noll and your fellow researchers in continuing the tradition of coming together so that we may again learn from each other and follow our passion of promoting and contributing to a better QOL for the world. The location of the conference will be announced soon. Watch for the upcoming announcement soon.

~ Don Rahtz

## New Doctoral Course and Research in Quality of Life in Argentina

Since 2009, Dr. Graciela Tonon has taught a doctoral course: *Research in quality of life*, in the Psychology Doctoral Program of the Faculty of Social Sciences of Universidad de Palermo, Buenos Aires, Argentina. The course is dedicated to the study of quality of life theory and associated research methods and techniques. It is focused on the study of community quality of life, its relation to public policies, and the use of qualitative methods for quality of life research.

A new research program has commenced this year dedicated to community quality of life. In this program, Dr. Tonon will work with students who are doing their doctoral thesis and students of Psychology from different parts of the region—Argentina, Peru and Venezuela—trying to develop studies dedicated to quality of life in South American countries. The objectives are: measure people's quality of life in these countries, discover and construct new community indicators of quality of life, and identify differences in life satisfaction of people that live in urban and rural areas, and between genders.

The Psychology Doctoral Program of Universidad de Palermo was created in the last decade and is directed by Dr. Alejandro Castro Solano, author of the first book on Positive Psychology in Argentina (*Fundamentos de Psicología Positiva*, 2010, Buenos Aires, Paidós). In this book, Dr. Tonon has a chapter dedicated to quality of life and its relation to positive psychology.

For more information, contact [gracielatonon@hotmail.com](mailto:gracielatonon@hotmail.com), and access the website: [www.palermo.edu](http://www.palermo.edu)



(Heinz-Herbert Noll ...continued from page 4.)

an important challenge for ISQOLS to take advantage of this momentum and to take these issues further in years to come. To this end, I'd like to encourage all our current and future members to bring in their valued expertise, energy and enthusiasm and to participate actively in ISQOLS' matters and activities. Currently, we are in the process of exploring bids and potential locations concerning the next ISQOLS international conference, which presumably will take place in mid-2012, and I hope that we soon will be able to announce when and where exactly we will convene again next year. Since our international conferences continue to be the major events of our society and the most important showcase for the results of our quality of life research, we will certainly do our very best to make the 11th ISQOLS' conference a great success again. Much looking forward to work with you in the next two years!

~Heinz-Herbert Noll, President of ISQOLS

**Call For Papers**  
*Applied Research in Quality of Life*  
*The Official Journal of the International*  
*Society for Quality-of-Life Studies*

The aim of this journal is to publish conceptual, methodological and empirical papers dealing with quality-of-life studies in the applied areas of the natural and social sciences. As the official journal of ISQOLS, it is designed to attract papers that have some direct implications for or impact on practical applications of research on the quality-of-life. We welcome papers crafted from inter-disciplinary, inter-professional and international perspectives. This research should guide decision making in a variety of professions, industries, nonprofit, and government sectors such as health-care, travel and tourism, marketing, corporate management, community planning, social work, public administration, human resource management, among others. The goal is to help decision makers apply performance measures and outcome assessment techniques based on concepts such as well-being, human satisfaction, human development, happiness, wellness and quality of life. The Editorial Review Board is divided into specific sections indicating the broad scope of practice covered by the journal, and the section editors are distinguished scholars from many countries across the globe.

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