



# SINET

## SOCIAL INDICATORS NETWORK NEWS

*The official newsletter of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies*

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**International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies**

office@isqols.org  
 PO Box 118, Gilbert, AZ USA  
 isqols.org



## Key Actors in Public Policy-making for Quality of Life

by Graciela Tonon

The idea of transferring the results of quality of life research to the field of policy making is a proposal that would facilitate decision-making and improve the quality of life of the population. In this scenario, the role of the actors in the process becomes particularly important.

Considering institutions and public policies it is necessary to point out that public policies have been traditionally designed as an external activity provided by the state, but a change has recently been promoted focus on human rights.

*cont'd p.2*

### *Key Actors in Public Policy-making for Quality-of-Life (continued)*

The conception of public policies has seen an evolution in the past few years, from the traditional perspective according to which decisions flowed from the top downwards—with the designs dominating and determining the results—to the inclusion of the influence of other actors—not only the government— in the definition of problems and the formulation of alternatives (Iguiñiz Echeverría & Tonon, 2014). Today quality of life offers the possibility of a new theoretical outlook which aims at working on people's potentialities that includes the analysis of the socio-political context (Tonon, 2003), thus we can state, that quality of life is a theoretical proposal necessary to be considered for policy making.

The production of quality of life knowledge is commonly developed inside the universities, and the science system has been formulated through basic research which allows the development of knowledge, while highlighting the utility and social relevance of science. It ought first to be pointed out that, in the academic field, power mechanisms have been observed, which have traditionally institutionalized certain topics and certain actors, making others invisible during the process. To study the possible ways in which research results may be reflected in the arena of policy making it is necessary to identify the obstacles and facilitators of this process, and then propose options to bridge the gap. (*cont'd on pg 3.*)

Social Indicators Network News

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## Applied Research in Quality of Life

The Official Journal of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies

Applied Research in Quality of Life (the official journal of ISQOLS) presents conceptual, methodological and empirical papers dealing with quality-of-life studies in the applied areas of the natural and social sciences. It aims to publish papers that have direct implications for, or impact on practical applications of research on the quality of life. The articles are crafted from interdisciplinary, inter-professional and international perspectives. ARQOL guides decision making in a variety of professions, industries, nonprofit, and government sectors, including healthcare, travel and tourism, marketing, corporate management, community planning, social work, public administration, and human resource management. It helps decision makers apply performance measures and outcome assessment techniques based on such concepts as well-being, human satisfaction, human development, happiness, wellness and quality-of-life. Learn more at <https://www.springer.com/journal/11482/>



### *Key Actors in Public Policy-making for Quality-of-Life (continued)*

The main actors of the process of the transmission of research results to the circle of public policies are the researchers and the policy makers. To enhance research utilization in the orbit of public policy, it is necessary to achieve a two-way exchange between both professional groups in order to integrate research findings with the policy making process. First of all, we stop to wonder about researchers' actual possibilities and, most importantly, the degree of freedom they may enjoy when deciding upon their research topics (Tonon, 2007). But there is a considerable difference between what scientists and policy makers consider as knowledge, as well as the difference between how that knowledge has been developed or obtained. Social scientists generally regard knowledge as something that is theoretically and methodologically sound and/or defensible. Policy makers see knowledge as the result of experience (Nielsen, 2001). As regards the relationship between researchers and policy makers, Crewe & Young (2002) stated that when both have close personal links, with appropriate chains of legitimacy to those whom they represent, researchers should have a higher influence, and policy makers could make better use of research.

The other actors are the citizens, and reflecting on the issue of whether people are actor or passive recipients of public policies, leads us first to study fundamental concepts

for understanding it. Already in 1983 Jones, Brown & Bradshaw had proposed to analyze the potential of social policies to increase social justice considering certain requirements: that they safeguard basic freedoms, that they provide equal opportunities, that they reach all human beings without exception, that they include social services such as social goods, that they cover economic, social and political aspects and that they are socially cohesive. For Sen (2000), the process promoted by social policies is a recipe for rapidly improving the quality of life, and this is of great importance from the point of view of economic policy, although it requires continue working for the comprehensive achievement of people's quality of life. As in current democracies people have the expectation of enjoying both political and social rights, thus emerging the concept of social citizenship that requires that security and opportunities be shared by all (Przeworski, 1998). Public Policies today requires characterization by an attempt to construct a reflective capacity oriented to the development of a type of citizenship not merely involved in political-state recognition but also in a socio-cultural kind.

It is also important to study the relationship between aid and quality of life, as every day more and more people and

*(cont'd on pg 4)*

*Key Actors in Public Policy-making for Quality-of-Life (continued)*

organizations are getting involved in actions dedicated to social welfare. In this way and although the state has traditionally been the provider of responses to the needs of the population, the last decades have shown progress in the number of other types of responses, which are provided by non-governmental organizations, religious associations, market, as well as citizens, whether individually, as a family or as an informal social groups. Likewise, the action of helping other people showed that this action not only influences the well-being of the people who receive it, but also influences the well-being of the people who give it.

Another item that need to be considered is the quality of the research that often determines the credibility of the organization that either conducts or financially supports the research and, as such, may also determine the credibility and/or integrity of the research field itself as a source of useable knowledge, the concept of research quality, regard rigorousness as a primary quality or characteristic which may help to determine the quality of the research. Considering the characteristics of current societies, the use of the theoretical proposal of quality of life is necessary for policy making.

Finally, and to consider the contribution of quality of life research for policy making we need to remember that the relation and the impact of research in public policies has been

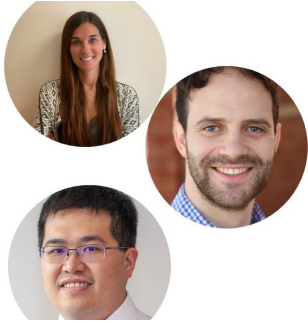
studied since the late 70 when Weiss (1979) pointed out that importance must be given, not only to an increase in the utilization of research results applied to political decision making, but also to the increase and improvement of research contributions with political knowledge. Since then other authors have been dedicating themselves to the study of the topic. Considering the characteristics of current societies, today to share the results of quality of life findings with policy makers, has become an urgent need for the building of good societies.

Author: Graciela Tonon [1] Phd. Political Science and Social Worker. Director Master Program in Social Sciences and CICS-UP, Universidad de Palermo, Argentina. Director UNICOM, Universidad Nacional de Lomas de Zamora, Argentina. Series Editor International Handbooks of Quality of Life. ISQOLS Co-Vice-President of Publications. gtonon1@palermo.edu

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## 2020 ISQOLS AWARDS



### 2020 Best PhD Dissertation Award

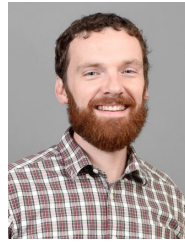
First Prize: Mariana Filipa da Silva Amorim, "Quality of life in parents of very preterm infants: insights from family integrated care"  
 Second Prize: David B. Newman, "The Dynamics of Well-Being in Daily Life: A Multilevel Perspective"  
 Honorable Mention: Yu Heng Kwan, "Quality of Life of Patients with Spondyloarthritis"



### 2019 Best Annual Applied Research in Quality of Life (ARQOL) Paper Award:

"Consume More, Work Longer, and Be Unhappy: Possible Social Roots of Economic Crisis?"

Authors: Francesco Sarracino, Małgorzata Mikucka



### 2020 Young Scholar Award: Scott Cloutier

Scott has published a number of peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and popular press articles focused on enhancing opportunities for happiness via sustainable approaches to living. Learn more at: [isqols.org/YoungScholarAward](https://isqols.org/YoungScholarAward)

### 2020 Research Fellow Award: Peter Krause

Peter is Senior Researcher at the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin) | German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) Learn more at [isqols.org/researchfellow/](https://isqols.org/researchfellow/)



### 2020 Research Fellow Award: Christian Suter

Dr. phil. (Ph.D.), University of Zurich, Switzerland, Full Professor of Sociology, University of Neuchâtel, Learn more at [isqols.org/researchfellow/](https://isqols.org/researchfellow/)



### 2020 Distinguished QOL Researcher Award: Richard Layard

Sir Richard Layard is a labour economist who worked for most of his life on how to reduce unemployment and inequality. He is also one of the first economists to work on happiness, and his main current interest is how better mental health could improve our social and economic life. Learn more at [isqols.org/DistinguishedQOLaward](https://isqols.org/DistinguishedQOLaward)

### 2020 Award for the Betterment of the Human Condition: Centre for the Study of Living Standards

The Centre for the Study of Living Standards (CSLS) is a national, independent, non-profit research organization dedicated to studying the trends and determinants of productivity, living standards and economic well-being. CSLS was founded in August 1995 by Dr. Andrew Sharpe. Learn more: <https://isqols.org/Award-for-the-Betterment-of-the-Human-Condition>



Centre for the  
Study of Living Standards  
Centre d'étude des  
niveaux de vie



WATCH THE 2020 AWARDS CEREMONY ON OUR ISQOLS YOUTUBE CHANNEL!!

## Farewell letter from ISQOLS 2019-2020 President, Ming-Chang Tsai

Dear Members,

It has been a great pleasure and a real honor to have served as president of the ISQOLS for the past two years. In 2021 I will hand over my role to Professor Carol Graham. She will serve the next two years in leadership. This is my last message as president and my expression of gratitude to many colleagues with whom I have been working with to promote and strengthen our Society.

I will begin with my thanks to Jill Johnson, our executive director for years. She is an indispensable part of management and administration. She has done terrific jobs in an enthusiastic spirit with many innovative ideas. I also thank Jorge Guardiola and Martijn Burger (and their teams of course). They both helped organized the conferences for 2019 and 2020. There is no need to detail how much time and effort a conference coordinator has to give for accomplishing a major mission for a large international academic organization like us. But I have to say that Jorge and Martijn have to be recognized for what they had devoted to the Society. For the future meetings we already have organized strong teams. I am really glad that we are so well prepared for years to come. Besides, there were many board members who had been very willing to assist and serve on various tasks and committees. Their contribution to the Society also has to be highlighted.

On the other hand, I fully understand how disappointed you have been for not being able to attend a regular annual meeting for 2020, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic which has impacted health and quality of life at the global scale. For 2021, we have to hold a virtual conference like 2020. This is a decision which the executive board made only reluctantly. I understand a regular conference has been very much craved for among all members. That is the way we prefer for sharing our knowledge and research outcomes. Still, I encourage all members to participate online in the coming virtual conference before we resume physical co-presence through which we can greet each other face-to-face and exchange warm greetings in our big crowd. In 2022, we should be able to do so when we gather at University of Vermont, the USA.

Many people are increasingly falling short of resources and protections to brave out the increased risks in health. As a leading academic community of quality of life studies, we feel that our knowledge as well as technical know-hows are more on demand by the larger global society. This means at the same time that we are having more challenges. We need more innovative research ideas and high-quality research outcomes. We have to offer evidence-based policy suggestions. We may advocate a certain direction for human betterment. All these mean we have to mobilize more colleagues, especially the young scholars, to join us. We have to generate more official outlets to make their research outcomes known. In the years ahead I hope these new goals can be realized by having your devotion, contribution and participation in ISQOLS.

With warm regards,

Ming-Chang Tsai  
President 2020/10/20.



## Welcome letter from ISQOLS 2021-2022 President, Carol Graham

Dear Colleagues,

I look forward to assuming the presidency of ISQOLS in 2021 with great pleasure. ISQOLS is a unique academic society, both in its focus on quality of life and well-being and in its reach across disciplines, countries, and regions. It is a pleasure to play at least some role in its future.

ISQOLS has grown a great deal since the early days when I became involved with it, both in terms of numbers and in terms of the depth, breadth, and quality of the research covered by its members. This is due to the efforts of its past leaders and board, and, most recently, Ming-Chang Tai, the current president. In addition, Jill Johnson, our executive director, has taken the administration and organization to an entire new level since taking on the job. I very much look forward to working with them both - and with the board - in the coming two years.

One issue that is critical to our future is recruiting new young members who are making a difference in their own disciplines and academic communities with novel ideas and robust research. I hope to build and prioritize existing efforts to advance recruitment and retention of new members. While not being able to host an in-person conference this year is disappointing, the up-side is that attending virtual conferences is less expensive and may facilitate our getting new attendees and exposing them to what ISQOLS has to offer. We already have some new rising academic stars on our board, and their presence was evident in the quality of the panels and papers at this year's conference. I will do my best to support these efforts in any way that I can, but also hope that existing members will keep ISQOLS in mind when they meet and/or mentor promising young scholars.

I look forward to getting feedback from any or all of you on ideas for both preserving what we have and for increasing the membership of ISQOLS and for supporting the great research of our scholarly community. Please feel free to email me at [cgraham@brookings.edu](mailto:cgraham@brookings.edu) with your thoughts. I look forward to working with all of you.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Graham  
Leo Pasvolsky Senior Fellow  
The Brookings Institution/College Park Professor  
University of Maryland



## 25 YEARS OF QUALITY-OF-LIFE STUDIES

The International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS) was established in 1995, making 2020 our 25th year anniversary! Our success and longevity as an organization would not be possible without the generous support, time, and work done by all of our members and community.

In the last 25 years, ISQOLS has had many incredible accomplishments. Our organization has successfully hosted and facilitated eighteen international conferences, with thousands of presentations on topics ranging from gender and quality-of-life, wellbeing around the world, consumption economic issues, adolescent quality-of-life, life-span, happiness and sustainable development, well-being and policy, health, human suffering alleviation, education, job satisfaction and work. Our official journal, Applied Research in Quality of Life Studies, has produced over 15 volumes and has reached an impact factor of 1.528 (2018). Our membership has spanned the globe, representing many countries and from six continents. Our Society is comprised of researchers, practitioners, professionals, students, retirees, statisticians, faculty, and people of all ages from all parts of the world, with an interest in exploring quality-of-life, happiness, and wellbeing.



### Send Us Your ISQOLS Memories & Photos:

We invite EVERYONE (members, non-members, veterans, newcomers, etc.) to write any and all special memories and photos of ISQOLS to be published on our ISQOLS 25th Anniversary Virtual Memory Wall. Please send memories via email to [office@isqols.org](mailto:office@isqols.org).



### Anniversary T-Shirts Now Available!

ISQOLS Anniversary T-Shirts are now available! Make a donation of \$25 USD or more to our "Education Grants" travel scholarship and you'll be entitled to a special anniversary shirt. The Education Grant Travel Scholarships provide funds to students from developing countries to travel to our ISQOLS Annual Conferences

.To make your contribution, please visit [isqols.org/donate](https://isqols.org/donate) and select "Education Travel Grant" as your choice for your donation. A confirmation email and details will be sent to you upon receipt of your donation.





## **ISQOLS – Springer Book Series**

### **International Handbooks of Quality-of-Life**

Series Ed.: Graciela Tonon Chair of the Editorial Board, Universidad Nacional de Lomas de Zamora and Universidad de Palermo, Argentina

Editorial Board: Alex Michalos, University of Northern British Columbia, Canada; Rhonda Phillips, Purdue University, USA; Don Rahtz, College of William & Mary, USA; Carol Graham, University of Maryland, USA; Wolfgang Glatzer, Goethe University, Germany; Daniel Shek, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong

The International Handbooks of Quality of Life Research offer extensive bibliographic resources. They present literature reviews of the many sub-disciplines and areas of study within the growing field of quality of life research. Handbooks in the series focus on capturing and reviewing the quality of life research literature in specific life domains, on specific populations, or in relation to specific disciplines or sectors of industry. In addition, the Handbooks cover measures of quality of life and well-being, providing annotated bibliographies of well-established measures, methods, and scales.



### **Community Quality-of-Life and Well-Being Series**

Ed.: Phillips, Rhonda

The Community Quality of Life and Well-being book series is a collection of volumes related to community level research, providing community planners and quality of life researchers involved in community and regional well-being innovative research and application. Formerly entitled, Community Quality of Life Indicators: Best Practices, the series reflects a broad scope of well-being. Next to best practices of community quality-of-life indicators projects the series welcomes a variety of research and practice topics as related to overall community well-being and quality of life dimensions, whether relating to policy, application, research, and/or practice. Research on issues such as societal happiness, quality of life domains in the policy construct, measuring and gauging progress, dimensions of planning and community development, and related topics are anticipated. This series is published by Springer in partnership with the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies, a global society with the purpose of promoting and encouraging research and collaboration in quality of life and well-being theory and applications.



### **Applying Quality of Life Research: Best Practices**

Series Ed.: Alves, Helena ISSN: 2213-994X

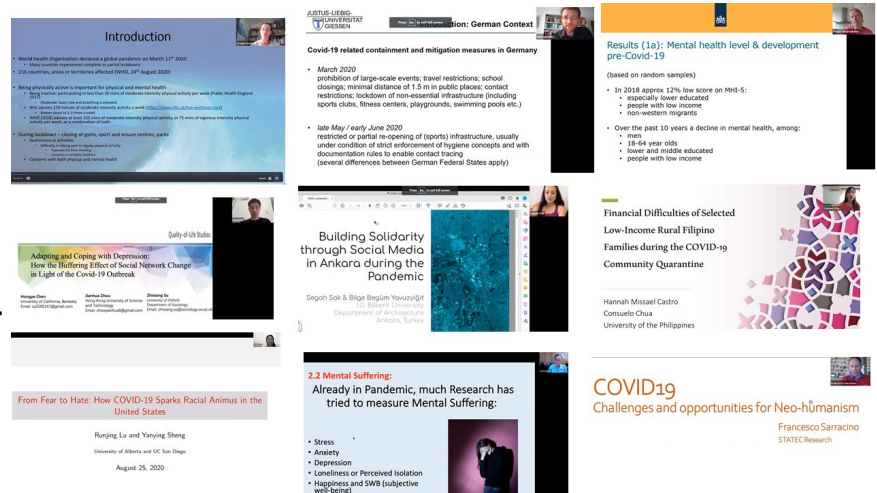
This book series focuses on best practices in specialty areas of Quality of Life research, including among others potentially: community development, quality of work life, marketing, healthcare and public sector management. In today's world, governments, organizations and individuals alike are paying increasingly more attention to how their activities impact on quality of life at the regional, national and global levels. Whether as a way to tackle global resource shortages, changing environmental circumstances, political conditions, competition, technology or otherwise, the far-reaching impact of decisions made in these and other areas can have a significant impact on populations regardless of their level of development. Many lessons have been learned; yet many are still to be realized. Across a number of volumes on diverse themes, this book series will address key issues that are of significant importance to decision makers and participants across all sectors.





# International Society for Quality-of- Life Studies (ISQOLS) 18th Annual Conference (August 25 – 28, 2020)

Our 2020 ISQOLS Virtual Conference held over 22 sessions with 76 presentations between August 25-28. Thank you to all of our participants! Special thanks to Martijn Burger and colleagues at EHERO Erasmus for their organization and moderation.

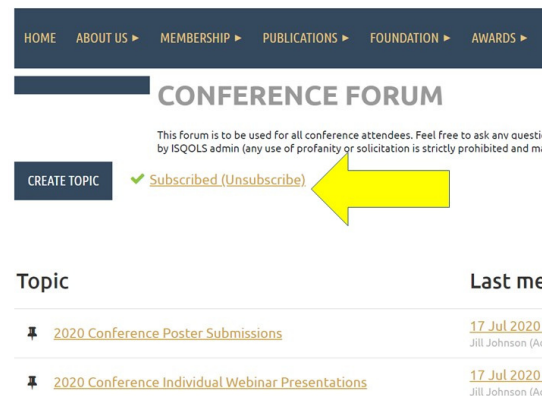


## Watch the Live Session Recordings

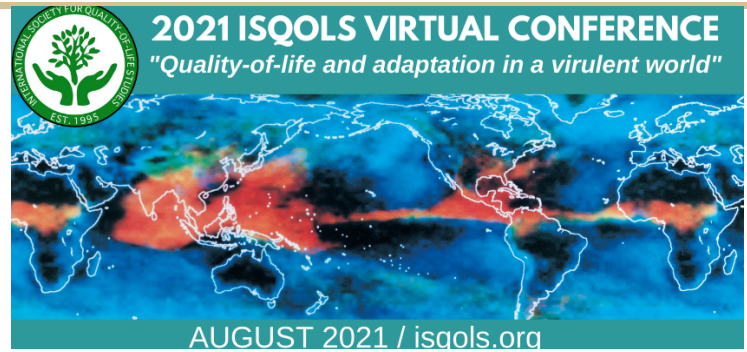
Did you miss any of the live sessions? View all of the session recordings on our conference forum. Please visit our online ISQOLS Conference Forum: <https://isqols.org/Conference-Forums/>

## Review Author Submissions

In addition to our live sessions, many authors have submitted their research to our online conference forum in the form of: paper summaries, powerpoint presentations, pre-recorded presentations, posters, and individual webinar presentations. All of these submissions are available and accessible to all of our members at any time. Please visit our online ISQOLS Conference Forum: <https://isqols.org/Conference-Forums/>



**ISQOLS 2021 CONFERENCE**  
*"Quality-of-life and Adaptation  
 in a Virulent World"*  
**VIRTUAL EVENT**  
**AUGUST 2021**



Given the uncertainty of the current global pandemic, travel restrictions, and planning challenges the 2021 ISQOLS Annual Conference will be held virtually in August 2021 (specific dates to be announced). The ISQOLS 2021 Conference will offer a forum for discussion of the research findings concerning quality of life, well-being, and happiness, similar to all of our past, in-person conferences.

The theme of the Conference is "quality-of-life and adaptation in a virulent world". The world has changed dramatically in the past year. How do we now examine quality-of-life, wellbeing, and happiness? What are the challenges and opportunities for well-being research and policy in the face of a global pandemic? What important work is being carried out to encourage personal, communal, environmental, and social resiliency in a Covid-19 world? We invite researchers, practitioners, students, professionals, faculty, retirees, experts and novices to participate and engage in this virtual event. Please visit the conference website to access abstract submission site and for more details: <https://isqols.org/2021Conference>

ISQOLS MEMBERS: receive early info and registration discounts! Not a member? Join us at <https://isqols.org/join>

Conference Paper Submission Details:

Paper abstract submissions will open December 1, 2020. The deadline for abstracts is February 15, 2021. All abstracts must be in English and no more than 350 words. Topics are typically used for assigning submissions to reviewers and for conference analytics. Authors must select from the following topics:

Abstract type: Poster Session at ISQOLS 2021 or Online Paper Session

Topics/Tracks – select any of the following that apply to your paper:

Endowed Tracks

Ronald E. Anderson Endowed Track on the Alleviation of Human Suffering

Elizabeth Eckermann Endowed Track on Gender and Quality of Life

Takashi Inoguchi Endowed Track on Quality of Life and Well-being in East Asia

Kenneth C. Land Endowed Track on the Advancement of Quality of Life and Well-Being of Children

Mahar Mangahas Endowed Track for the Advancement of Quality of Life and Well-Being in Southeast Asia

Rhonda G. Phillips Endowed Track for the Promotion of Community Development and Community Well-Being

Daniel Shek-Wofoo Foundation Track for the Advancement of Adolescent Quality of Life Research

M. Joseph Sirgy Endowed Track on Well-Being and Policy

Topics

(1) Cultures and the History of Well-being; (2) Well-Being in the World and in Regions; (3) Well-Being in Different Populations; (4) Methodological Issues in the Study of Quality-of-life, Happiness and Well-Being; (5) Applied Research in Well-Being; (6) Disciplinary Approaches to Well-Being, Happiness and Quality-of-life; (7) Promoting Well-Being: Public Policy and Development; (8) Beyond GDP. New Understandings and Measures of Progress; (9) Philanthropy. Volunteerism and Well-being! (A) Economics of Happiness; (B) Consumer Finance and Well-being Symposium  
 COVID-19 and Well-being; GLO/EHERO Sessions on Happiness Economics

**[isqols.org/2021Conference](https://isqols.org/2021Conference)**



**Public sector employee's emotional well-being in challenging time  
by Dr. Lihi Lahat**

The work of many people around the world is at stake – with the Corona pandemic, some people are temporarily laid off, and others have lost their jobs altogether. For those who still have jobs, the ways of working are changing. During these challenging times, it is especially interesting to examine the factors affecting employees' well-being. Can we do things, even now, to improve well-being?

While the interest in the topic of well-being in the workplace is not new, few researchers have examined public sector employees' well-being, especially in a comparative perspective. A study I conducted with Dr. Dganit Ofek, recently published in the *Review of Public Personnel Administration*, explored factors affecting the emotional well-being of public sector employees in seven countries: Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Spain, France, and Italy. These countries have diverse administrative cultures, so one might expect differences in the drivers of well-being.

The findings revealed that the country context and the work surroundings were more influential than the fact of belonging to the public sector. Another interesting finding was that soft features of work environment, such as discretion over the workday, a good

work-life balance, and social interactions, were more important to emotional well-being than hard features, such as the type of contract or position (e.g., managerial). Moreover, these variables had a different effect in different countries. For example, the French administrative culture involves bureaucrats in policy decisions; consequently, in France, participation in decision making had a more profound effect on public employees' well-being. In Spain, characterized as a culture of strong family and social ties, social relationships were more important.

The findings are interesting, especially given the current demand for human resource divisions around the world to find new ways to better their employees' well-being. The study raises our awareness of the important connection between the administrative culture, work surroundings, and well-being. It seems that when HR departments attempt to improve public sector employees' well-being, they should focus on the soft features of the work surroundings. For example, during the Covid-19 pandemic, involving employees in organizational decision making on what changes and flexibilities to implement in the work routine may support their well-being. Another example could be to create interactive forums so workers can share their experiences and ways of operating in this challenging period. When implementing different steps, however, it is important to consider the unique features of the country's administrative culture and not automatically embrace HR strategies from another country. Finding strategies attuned to the features of a specific country may better address public sector employees' emotional well-being.

*(continued page 9)*

(continued from pg 8)

For the full paper see: Lahat, L., & Ofek, D. (2020). Emotional well-being among public employees: A comparative perspective. *Review of Public Personnel Administration* <https://doi.org/10.1177/0734371X20939642> [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Lihi\\_Lahat](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Lihi_Lahat) An early version of this post was published in Hebrew on the Espanet Israel website. Lihi Lahat (Ph.D., Tel Aviv University, Israel) is a senior lecturer in the Department of Administration & Public Policy at Sapir Academic College and Affiliate Associate Professor, Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies, Concordia University, Montreal. Her papers have been published in journals such as *Policy Sciences, Social Policy & Administration, International Review of Administrative Sciences, Journal of Management and Governance and Poverty & Public Policy.*

**UPCOMING CONFERENCES**

AUGUST 2021: VIRTUAL  
CONFERENCE

2022: BURLINGTON, VERMONT, USA

2023: ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

2024: BORNEO, MALAYSIA



Why YOU should consider hosting a future ISQOLS conference:

- ✓ ISQOLS conferences bring global attention and attendees to your university, college, department
- ✓ ISQOLS conferences bring extra revenue and additional funds to your university, college and department
- ✓ ISQOLS conferences help galvanize quality-of-life, happiness, and well-being research at your university, college, and department

**Call for Proposals To Host ISQOLS Conference: 2025, 2026**

The Conference Committee of the International Society for Quality of Life Studies (ISQOLS) invites interested organizations to submit a proposal for hosting future ISQOLS Conferences. Hosting the conference can provide considerable exposure regarding quality of life in the area. Further, holding the conference can provide an economic stimulus to the area as well as opportunities to gain recognition for the sponsoring organization.

Application Deadline for proposals to host conferences for 2025-2026 is June 30th, 2021. Applications will be reviewed at the 2021 conference by the Board of Directors/Executive Committee. Decisions will be announced by September 2021

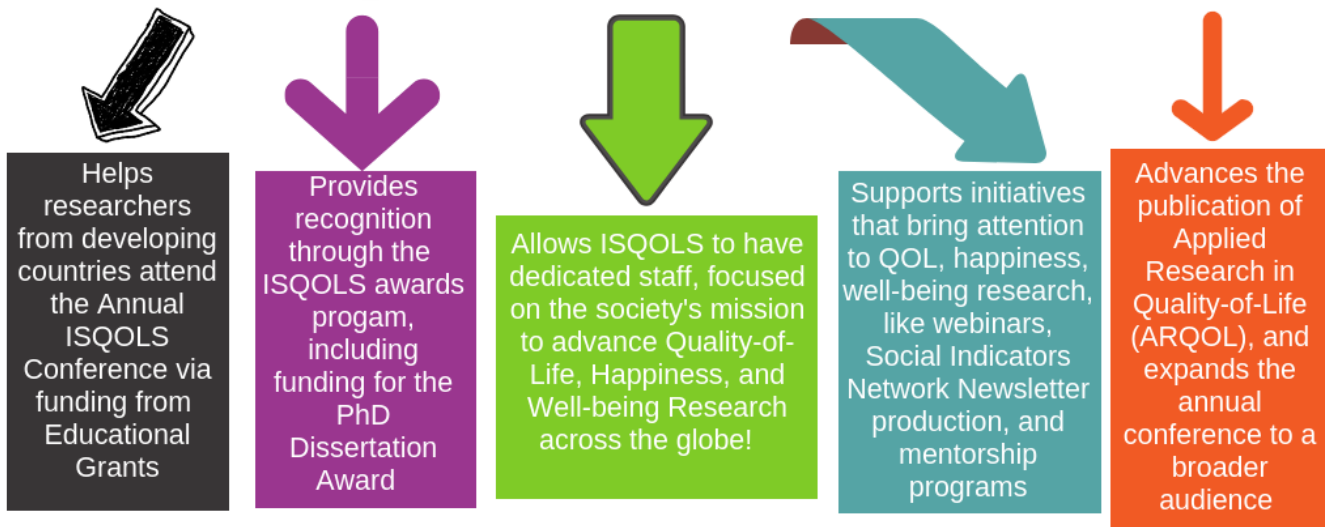
Learn more at: <https://isqols.org/futureconferences>

# ISQOLS MEMBERS CORNER



ISQOLS now provides our members with opportunities to post requests for both career and research support through our new "Career and Research Support Forum". Log-in to your membership profile and visit: <https://isqols.org/career>

## YOUR ISQOLS MEMBERSHIP DUES



### Member Benefits

learn more at [isqols.org/benefits](https://isqols.org/benefits)

The collage includes:

- SINET (Social Indicators Network News) magazine covers.
- Applied Research in Quality of Life journal cover.
- A world map showing global research locations.
- Social Indicators Research journal cover.
- Journal of Happiness Studies journal cover.
- Community Indicators Research journal cover.
- ISQOLS Webinar announcement: "Let's Link Community Driven Happiness Data and the Happiness Policy in Government" (April 18, 10 AM Pacific Standard Time).
- ISQOLS Online Research Database interface.
- ISQOLS 2017 Annual Conference materials, including the theme "Quality of Life: Towards a Better Society" and the location "Manila, Philippines".
- A large group photo of ISQOLS members.

## PLEASE SHARE YOUR RESEARCH!

As an international organization, we especially feel the far reaching effects of this unprecedented health crisis, as many of our members are impacted worldwide. In these uncertain times, it is crucial that our society comes together to support one another. One of the ways we can stay connected, is by sharing our personal experiences via our membership forums (<https://isqols.org/forums>) and sharing our current research with one another.



This is a crucial time for us as professionals, academics, researchers, and students to galvanize our work in the field of quality-of-life, well-being, and happiness. One of the ways you can personally contribute during this time is by considering sharing your research through any of the following ways:

### 1) Webinar Research Presentation:

Our webinars are posted to youtube, shared on our social media, and sent out to our nearly 8,000 email subscribers. We will make all of our upcoming webinars free and available to the general public. All you have to do is prepare a powerpoint presentation (as you would do for any regular conference session), have a computer with a webcam, and pick a time that works with your schedule. Our webinars can range anywhere from 10-30 minutes--- you pick your topic, create your presentation, pick a time --- and we will take care of the rest. Please send your webinar description to [office@isqols.org](mailto:office@isqols.org) Looking for examples? Check out our past webinars here: <https://isqols.org/Webinars>

### 2) Summarize Your Research for our SINET issues:

ISQOLS is seeking long-form essays submissions for SINET. Long-form essays are meant to report news of their social indicator activity, research, policy development, etc. as it relates to quality-of-life, wellbeing, and happiness research. Essays must be no more than 4,000 words in length. Please send essay submissions to [office@isqols.org](mailto:office@isqols.org). Examples of past issues can be found at: <https://isqols.org/SINET/>

### 3) Write a Blog:

We are seeking guest bloggers for the ISQOLS website. Blogs can be on any QOL, happiness, well-being topic; no more than 500 words in length. Blogs will be posted on our website, social media, and E-news and will be useful in helping ISQOLS spread our mission around the globe. Please send your blog submission to [office@isqols.org](mailto:office@isqols.org)

In the midst of social distancing and isolation, these "quality-of-life, happiness, and wellbeing" webinars are a fantastic opportunity for us as a society to help bolster connectivity and inspire positivity. Thank you for your consideration. Please send all questions to [office@isqols.org](mailto:office@isqols.org).



## International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies

*"exploring wellbeing and happiness"*

Established, in 1995, the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS) is a global organization with a mission to promote and encourage research in the field of quality-of-life (OOL), happiness, and wellbeing studies. In the last 20 years, ISQOLS has become a globally-recognized professional organization, with its own publications, journals, conferences, and identity.

ISQOLS mission focuses on creating a paradigm shift within traditional academic disciplines and to transform "Quality-of-Life" studies into an academic discipline in its own right. Our goal is to establish academic degree programs, departments, and schools within institutions of higher education worldwide, all focused on the science of well-being. The ultimate goal is to help with the creation, dissemination, and utilization of knowledge of the science of wellbeing across all walks of life.

Our Society is comprised of researchers, practitioners, professionals, students, retirees, statisticians, faculty, and people of all ages from all parts of the world, with an interest in exploring quality-of-life, happiness, and wellbeing.

[isqols.org](https://isqols.org)

International Society for  
Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS)

<https://isqols.org/>

PO Box 118 Gilbert, AZ, USA 85299

Email: [office@isqols.org](mailto:office@isqols.org)