



THE INTERNATIONAL TEST COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

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ITC Newsletter

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FROM THE EDITORS...

Anita M. Hublely and
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CANADA

Welcome to the first issue of the
ITC Newsletter for the year
2000.

We hope that many of you will
attend the XXVII International
Congress in Stockholm,
Sweden this July. The ITC will
hold its General Meeting during
the Congress. Two important
events that will also occur
during the Congress are the
official launch of the
International Guidelines for Test
Use and the ARTS seminar on
Psychological Test Adaptations
to Diverse Cultures.

Following the ITC General
Meeting in July, Tom Oakland
will take on the role of Past-
President and David Bartram
will become President. We
would like to take this
opportunity to thank Tom for his
enthusiasm and his vision for
the ITC. He has worked hard to
strengthen the ITC and has
provided great leadership. He
has also been a strong
supporter of the *ITC Newsletter*
and has provided much
encouragement and many
ideas. We would also like to
welcome David Bartram in his

new role and we look
forward to working with him.

In this issue, Tom Oakland
describes the activities of
the ITC during his term as
President, Micheline
Chalhoub-Deville introduces
the LTRC's theme of
language testing and
technology for the 2001
conference, and Kadriye
Ercikan describes the
mandate of the NCME's
Committee on International
Testing Issues.

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In addition, information is provided about a variety of testing and assessment resources available from the American Psychological Association and from John Wiley and Sons. We hope that other national or international organizations will make similar lists of resources available to readers via the ITC Newsletter. The Notice Board provides information about ITC membership and the ITC General Meeting, and makes note of the death of Fred Lord and the establishment of the Frederic M. Lord Chair in Measurement and Statistics in his honour.

Finally, please note the change of address and e-mail for the *ITC Newsletter* as both of us are moving from the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George, BC to the University of British Columbia in beautiful Vancouver, BC (Canada) this summer.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Thomas Oakland
University of Florida
USA

Dear Members and Affiliate Members,

This is my last letter to you as ITC President. I have had the privilege of serving in this post for two years. My goal as President was to work with other members of Council to maintain ITC's traditional services, add new services, improve its infrastructure, improve its financial status, and help insure continued strong executive leadership. I believe we have been successful in meeting these goals.

Maintain ITC's Traditional Services

The numbers of people who receive the ITC Newsletter continues to expand. Anita Hubley and Bruno Zumbo, the newsletter editors, continue to seek ways to further improve its content and quality.

The ITC Bulletin, currently a section within the European Journal of Psychological Assessment, has been the major vehicle for promoting archival scholarship. Fons van de Vijver has served well as the Bulletin's editor. He also serves as our Website master.

The ITC Directory, prepared and distributed yearly by ITC Secretary, Jacques Gregoire, provides current information on ITC membership, its constitution and by-laws.

Add New Services

We have provided various new services during the last two years. The creation of ITC's International Journal of Testing (IJT) is the year's most exciting event. The IJT further enables the ITC to take a commanding lead in promoting scholarship associated with test development and use internationally. Additionally, the journal provides a needed revenue addition. The first issue will be distributed in 2001. Norbert Tanzer serves as its first editor.

We also have provided leadership through various international and regional conferences. The International Conference on Adapting Tests for Use in Multiple Languages and Cultures was held in Washington DC in June 1999. The conference centered around the important work of Ron Hambleton and his colleagues on issues important to test adaptations. This theme also was evident in two additional conferences. One was held during July 1999 in Graz, Austria on Cultural Diversity and European Integration. Norbert Tanzer and Catherine Sim served as the conference organizers. A second conference will be held this July in Stockholm as part of the Advanced Research and Training Seminars (ARTS) Conference on Test Adaptations.

President-elect David Bartram has provided outstanding leadership in spearheading the development of the International Guidelines on Core Standards for Test Use. These Guidelines were featured in a workshop in Rome and will be featured in a workshop during the forthcoming International Congress of Psychology. He also is developing Guidelines for Computer-based and Computer-delivered tests

Improve ITC's Infrastructure

The ITC became legally incorporated in Florida, USA as a non-profit corporation. Legal status is needed to sign contracts, open bank accounts, and to conduct other business. In addition, members will be asked to approve changes in ITC's Constitution and By-laws during its forthcoming meeting on July 24th in Stockholm. Membership changes are being proposed that, if approved, expand the forms of membership and enable more members to participate actively in the ITC.

Improve Finances

Barbara Byrne was appointed Treasurer by the Council in July 1999. She has completed an exhaustive review of policies and practices related to her office and has made a number of important changes designed to improve its efficiency. For example, members may use credit cards to pay their annual dues. I am pleased to report the ITC has a comfortable financial cushion.

Insure Continued Strong Executive Leadership.

I leave the office of President knowing ITC's leadership is strong and growing stronger. New Council Members bring considerable expertise and enthusiasm to the ITC. They include John Adair (IUPsyS Representative), Bruce Bracken, Eugene

Burke, Ron Hambleton (IAAP Representative), Barry McGaw, Jac Zaal, and Bruno Zumbo. Two existing Council Members, Jose Muniz, and Fons van de Vijver, continue to bring their expertise while adding stability.

Some roles change on the Executive Committee following our July meeting. David Bartram becomes President. He has served as President-elect in an untiring fashion and can be expected to continue the ITC's momentum. Bruce Bracken is the President-elect nominee. Few people in the world have more experience in test development and use. His leadership was instrumental in forming the IJT. I am delighted he agreed to stand for election to this important office. Barbara Byrne has immersed herself in ITC's financial affairs and has a commanding understanding of methods to improve ITC's financial policies and practices. Her keen attention to detail is greatly needed at this time. I have the pleasure of continuing on the Executive Committee as Past President.

Some roles continue. I am delighted Jacques Gregoire continues to serve ably as Secretary.

Professor John Keats steps down from the Executive Committee after serving the ITC for more than one decade, including his important roles in the three presidential chairs. We wish him well.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation to each of you who assisted us in our collective effort to further strengthen the ITC infrastructure as well as to engage in activities that promote sound practices for test development and use internationally. This is our common and abiding mission.

I look forward to seeing you at our General Meeting on July 24th.

Continued best wishes,
Thomas Oakland
President

Language Testing And Technology- LTRC 2001

Micheline Chalhoub-Deville
University of Iowa
USA

The theme for the 2001 meeting of the Language Testing Research Colloquium (LTRC) is Language Testing and Technology. (For a description of LTRC, see the December 1999 issue of the ITC Newsletter.) This is not the first time that LTRC, founded in 1979, has been organized around this theme. The April 1985 LTRC conference also focused on technology issues. Given the recurring theme, it is appropriate to reflect on what has transpired in the second language (L2) field related to this topic. The purpose of this report is to give a brief account of the language testing activities - - meetings and publications -- that have had technology as their focus. The report focuses on computer-related technology issues.

The proceedings of the 1985 LTRC conference have been published under the title *Technology and Language Testing* (Stansfield, 1986). The proceedings indicate that several papers presented at the conference dealt with computer based-testing (CBT) and the application of latent trait models to examine a variety of issues related to item bank construction, item selection, test bias, and computer adaptive testing (CAT). The Stansfield volume is the first publication to include a collection of papers on the topic of L2 CBT.

The measurement profession has been working with CBT and, more specifically, with CAT since the early 70s (the first CAT conference was held in 1975, see Weiss, 1978). The L2 field, however, has only

recently begun to deal with CAT development and validation research. Perhaps the main reason for the delay is that the L2 field has long promoted performance-based assessment, whereas general measurement researchers, especially those who have focused on CAT, have concerned themselves more with selected-response item types (Chalhoub-Deville and Deville, 1999). The second section of the Stansfield volume, entitled "Using Technology To Develop New Measures Of Speaking, Reading, And Writing", deals primarily with performance-based assessment, a form of assessment that continues to be a challenge with CBT even today.

Following the Stansfield (1986) publication, a few articles were published on language testing and technology; the most significant of which is an edited volume by Dunkel (1991). The volume is devoted entirely to research on computer-assisted language instruction and learning and CAT. The section on CAT includes various studies that explore the design and effectiveness of this assessment mode for measuring L2 proficiency. The studies examine a range of technical and logistical considerations for the development, maintenance and use of CATs, describe various L2 CATs for assessing students' L2 proficiency in schools as well as at universities, and discuss a range of issues that impact CAT research validation agendas.

Since the mid-1990s, the L2 field has produced a steady flow of publications on CBT and CAT. These publications include those by Brown and Iwashita (1996, 1998), Shermis, Brutton and Perkins (1996), Burstein, Frase, Ginther and Grant (1997), Brown (1997), Dunkel (1997), Gruba & Corbel (1997), Chalhoub-Deville, Alcaya, and Lozier (1997), Chalhoub-Deville and Deville (1999). An important publication in this period is the book edited by Chalhoub-Deville (1999). A number of the chapters included in this volume were

presented at the invitational conference, "Issues in Computer Adaptive Testing of L2 Reading Proficiency," organized by the editor and held in Minnesota in March, 1995. The conference was the first formal meeting to focus wholly on L2 CAT development and research issues.

The Chalhoub-Deville (1999) volume addresses the development of, and research on, CAT for assessing the L2 receptive skills, mainly reading. Given that L2 CAT projects are typically interdisciplinary in nature, experts from both the L2 and general measurement fields were invited to share their research knowledge and experience in three major areas: the L2 reading construct (Bernhardt & Grabe), L2 CAT applications and considerations (Dunkel, Larson, Laurier, & McNamara), and measurement issues (Eignor, Leucht, & Linacre). The book also includes discussion chapters (Alderson, Chapelle, and Zumbo & MacMillan) that highlight the challenges facing experts in their respective research areas and elucidating ways to enhance the lines of communication among the various specialists to advance CBT/CAT development.

L2 researchers have made great strides in the area of CBT. Nevertheless, more work is still needed. Chalhoub-Deville (in press) argues that apart from the adaptive innovation, which allows a more accurate assessment of test takers' L2 ability, CBT has been utilized mainly to facilitate test delivery and administration. What is needed is to explore how the computer technology can lead to innovations in fundamental aspects of L2 testing such as the representation of the L2 construct, overall test design and measurement issues, item/task construction, and test purpose.

Fifteen years have passed since LTRC first focused on technology. As we revisit this theme at the upcoming LTRC meeting, it is hoped that the conference

will include papers that examine and utilize technology not only to help make assessment more efficient and serviceable but also to help move the field beyond the dominant paper-and-pencil thinking of assessment. It is hoped that researchers will contemplate the technology to accomplish something that previously had not been considered plausible in L2 testing.

This is an invitation for the readers of the International Test Commission Newsletter who are working on projects related to language testing and technology to consider submitting proposals for the 2001 meeting of LTRC in St. Louis. It is through collaborative and interdisciplinary efforts that significant advances can be made.

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Missouri, USA. For more information on the conference contact Micheline Chalhoub-Deville:

m-chalhoub-deville@uiowa.edu

National Council On Measurement In Education (NCME) Committee On International Testing Issues

Kadriye Ercikan
University of British Columbia
CANADA

The mandate for the NCME Committee on International Testing Issues is to educate NCME members about international testing issues, serve its international membership and communicate with other organizations and individuals regarding international testing issues. To this effect, the committee, in the past, has surveyed its international NCME members, organized symposia focusing on international issues, and solicited reports from individuals in testing organizations throughout the world. During the last couple of years, in addition to these efforts, the committee has initiated and created an international news section in Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice (EM:IP), one of the NCME publications. This section has been edited by one of the committee members, Dr. Anthony J. Nitko. Dr. Nitko has recruited and edited articles from individuals involved in testing in many different countries. These articles have been published in EM:IP during the last couple of years. The committee on international testing issues and the editors of EM:IP are interested in continuing to invite articles from international measurement specialists and organizations involved in testing in different countries. The articles in this section are short news statements (1,000 – 1,200 words including references, tables and figures) about testing in a particular country. The topics could include range of testing in other countries, testing in distance education,

The Language Testing Research Colloquium (LTRC) 2001 conference will be held February 19-23 in St. Louis,

application of professional testing standards, and uses of test results.

One of the goals of our committee is to increase relations and communication with international measurement specialists and organizations such as the ITC. Therefore, it is important for us to hear from ITC members about ideas for collaboration and cooperation. As the committee, one of the efforts we will be involved in this upcoming year is a comparison of APA/NCME/AERA professional testing standards to standards in other countries. This effort can benefit a great deal from collaboration among the committee members and measurement specialists who are familiar with standards in other countries.

Individuals interested in submitting articles for the international news section of EM:IP can submit their articles directly to the EM:IP editor, currently Jeffrey K. Smith, School of Education, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08903 or could contact Kadriye Ercikan at the University of British Columbia. The ITC members who are interested in collaborating in the professional standards comparison effort should contact Kadriye Ercikan (kadriye.ercikan@ubc.ca).

Kadriye Ercikan is the Chair, NCME Committee on International Testing Issues

TESTING AND ASSESSMENT RESOURCES

APA Resources

The following is a list of testing and assessment resources available from the American Psychological Association (APA) that may be of interest to readers. We encourage other national (or international) organizations to submit to

the ITC Newsletter similar lists of resources that may be of interest to readers.

The ABC's of School Testing

This videotape, which was developed by the Joint Committee on Testing Practices (JCTP)* in collaboration with other testing organizations, is designed to help parents understand the many uses of testing in schools today. Included with the videotape are two publications: *Leader's Guide* and the *Code of Fair Testing Practices*. To order this videotape, contact the Science Directorate at 202-336-6000 or at testing@apa.org, or contact the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME) at 202-223-9318.

Assessment of Individuals with Disabilities Sourcebook

The *Assessment of Individuals with Disabilities Sourcebook* is expected to be published in mid-2000. Developed by the Assessment of Individuals with Disabilities Working Group (Disabilities) of the Joint Committee on Testing Practices (JCTP)*, this book will provide guidance and assistance for testing persons with disabilities.

Code of Fair Testing Practices in Education

The *Code of Fair Testing Practices in Education* was developed by the Joint Committee on Testing Practices (JCTP)* to provide guidance to professionals who develop or use educational tests. A revision of the *Code*, to ensure it remains consistent with the 1999 *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing*, is expected in early 2001. To obtain a printed color copy of the *Code*, which may be reproduced and/or disseminated, contact the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME), 1230 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC, U.S.A. 20036 or you can download a copy of

the *Code* from
<http://www.apa.org/science/fairtestcode.html>.

Psychological Test Usage in Professional Psychology: Report to the APA Practice and Science Directorates

This report provides information on current psychological assessment instruments used by clinical psychologists and neuropsychologists. To obtain a copy of this report, contact the APA Testing Office at 202-336-6000 or at testing@apa.org.

Questionnaires Used in the Prediction of Trustworthiness in Pre-Employment Selection Decisions: An APA Task Force Report

This report, which was developed by a joint task force of APA Division 14 (Society for Industrial Organizational Psychology (SIOP)) and Division 5 (Evaluation, Measurement and Statistics), examines pre-employment integrity tests and related instruments. To obtain a copy, contact the APA Testing Office at 202-336-6000 or at testing@apa.org.

Responsible Test Use: Case Studies for Assessing Human Behavior

A Joint Committee on Testing Practices (JCTP)* working group produced this book to help train professionals to use tests wisely. Using case studies, the group provides an analysis of the misuse of test data and shows how such misuse can occur. To order a copy of *Responsible Test Use*, contact the APA Order Department at 1-800-374-2721 or at order@apa.org.

Rights and Responsibilities of Test Takers: Guidelines and Expectations

The Test Taker Rights and Responsibilities Working Group (TTRR) of the Joint Committee on Testing Practices

(JCTP)* has developed a statement on the *Rights and Responsibilities of Test Takers*, which can be downloaded from <http://www.apa.org/science/ttrr.html>. The purpose of this document is to clarify both the expectations that test takers may reasonably have about the testing process and the expectations that test developers and users may have of test takers.

Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing

The 1999 *Standards*, a significant revision of the 1985 *Standards*, was produced jointly by the American Educational Research Association (AERA), the American Psychological Association (APA), and the National Council of Measurement in Education (NCME). The 1999 *Standards* consists of fifteen chapters organized into three sections: Part I: Test Construction, Evaluation, and Documentation, Part II: Fairness in Testing, and Part III: Testing Applications. For more information about the *Standards*, see

<http://www.apa.org/science/standards.html>
 To order the *Standards*, call 1 (800) 628-4094 (within the U.S.) or call (717) 632-3535, Ext. 8087 (if outside the U.S.).

Statement on the Disclosure of Test Data

The *Statement on the Disclosure of Test Data* was developed by APA's Committee on Psychological Tests and Assessment (CPTA) to help psychologists who develop, validate, and use tests address concerns regarding the disclosure of test data. A copy of this report can be downloaded from
<http://www.apa.org/science/disclosu.html>.

Statement on the Use of Secure Psychological Tests in the Education of Graduate and Undergraduate Psychology Students

APA's Committee on Psychological Tests and Assessment (CPTA) produced this

document to address the issue of test security when teaching and training graduate and undergraduate students in psychology. A copy of this document can be downloaded from <http://www.apa.org/science/securetests.html>.

Test User Qualifications: A Data-Based Approach to Promoting Good Test Use

A Joint Committee on Testing Practices (JCTP)* working group produced this report which examines models for screening qualifications for test users. To obtain a copy of Test User Qualifications, contact the APA Order Department at 1-800-374-2721 or at order@apa.org.

* The Joint Committee on Testing Practices (JCTP) is comprised of the American Counseling Association (ACA), the American Educational Research Association (AERA), the American Psychological Association (APA), the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), and the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME).

Source: <http://www.apa.org/>

**Update on John Wiley & Sons'
Monograph Series**

In the June 1999 ITC Newsletter, then-editor Barbara Byrne noted a new series by publisher John Wiley & Sons entitled "Essentials of Psychological Assessment". As an update to that piece, the following lists the books that currently are available as well as the books that are forthcoming. For further information, write to: John Wiley & Sons, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY, U.S.A. 10158, or see <http://www.wiley.com/products/subject/psychology/essentials>.

Currently Available:

- Essentials of Bayley Scales of Infant Development II Assessment (Black & Matula, 1999)
- Essentials of CAS Assessment (Naglieri, 1999)
- Essentials of Forensic Psychological Assessment (Ackerman, 1999)
- Essentials of Millon Inventories Assessment (Strack, 1999)
- Essentials of Myers-Briggs Type Indicator Assessment (Quenk, 1999)
- Essentials of WAIS-III Assessment (Kaufman & Lichtenberger, 1999)
- Essentials of WISC-III and WPPSI-R Assessment (Kaufman & Lichtenberger, 1999)

Forthcoming Titles:

- Essentials of Behavioral Assessment (Reynolds)
expected Nov, 2000
- Essentials of Career Assessment (Prince)
expected July, 2000
- Essentials of Cognitive Assessment with KAIT and other Kaufman Tests (Lichtenberger & Kaufman)
expected July, 2000
- Essentials of Cross-Battery Assessment (Flanagan)
expected Aug, 2000
- Essentials of Individual Achievement (Smith)
expected June, 2000
- Essentials of MMPI-2 Assessment (Nichols)

expected July, 2000

- Essentials of NEPSY Assessment (Kemp)
expected July, 2000
- Essentials of Non-verbal Assessment (McCallum)
expected Sept, 2000
- Essentials of Rorschach Assessment (Rose, Maloney, & Kasser-Boyd)
expected Aug, 2000

THE NOTICE BOARD

ITC Membership List

The complete list of current ITC members is now available on the ITC Web page.

The address is: http://cwis.kub.nl/~fsw_1/itc/. This list includes the name and address of every full or affiliate member.

ITC General Meeting

An ITC General meeting occurs every two years. This year the meeting will be held during the XXVII International Congress in Stockholm, Sweden. The General meeting will be on the 24th of July from 5.00 to 7.00 at the Congress venue (Stockholmsmässan). The exact location will be announced at the venue. This meeting will provide members with the opportunity to meet colleagues who are involved in the work of the ITC, to learn more about ITC activities, and perhaps to identify ways in which organizations can become more active in the ITC. All members are welcome, but only Full members who have paid their membership dues will be entitled to vote at the President-elect election.

A Note On The Passing Of Fred Lord And The Announcement Of The New Frederic M. Lord Chair In Measurement And Statistics

We are very sad to share with you that, in February 2000, Frederic M. Lord, one of the pioneers of statistical models of test theory and measurement, died of pneumonia. He was 87 years old.

We do not typically announce such passings in the ITC Newsletter but we think that each of you would agree that Fred Lord is in a class of his own and is much deserving of our special recognition. We agree with Drew Gitomer, Vice President of Research at Educational Testing Service (ETS), that Lord's contribution to measurement theory and practice cannot be overstated. In 1968, Lord's pioneering work with Mel Novick resulted in the formal statement of much of what was known at the time in mental test theory. Until that point many results in test theory were loosely interconnected and not formalized in a mathematical and statistical sense. Lord later worked extensively and very productively on problems in item response theory, computer adaptive testing, test bias, and statistical problems in educational and behavioral research.

Recently, ETS, where Lord spent his entire career since 1944 in various roles including head of statistical analysis and later research scientist, established the Frederic M. Lord Chair in Measurement and Statistics to celebrate and acknowledge the achievements and contributions of Lord both nationally and internationally.

In establishing this new Chair, ETS announced that Paul Holland, a Professor in the Graduate School of Education and Department of Statistics at the University of California, Berkeley, and formerly Distinguished Research Scientist at ETS, was named to be the first holder

of the Chair. As an outstanding statistician and measurement specialist, Holland is certainly a wonderful choice to hold the first Frederic M. Lord Chair Measurement and Statistics at ETS.

**UPCOMING CONFERENCES ON
TESTING & ASSESSMENT**

Models of Intelligence for the Next Millennium

June 14-18, 2000

New Haven, CT, U.S.A.

For Information:

Robert J. Sternberg, Department of Psychology, Yale University, P.O. Box 208205, 2 Hillhouse Ave., New Haven, CT, U.S.A. 06520-8205

e-mail: robert.sternberg@yale.edu

Webpage:

<http://www.yale.edu/rjsternberg/conference.htm>

International Outcomes Measurement Conference (IOMC3)

June 16-17, 2000

Chicago, IL, U.S.A.

For Information:

Benjamin D. Wright, Ph.D.

e-mail: bd-wright@uchicago.edu

Second International Congress of Licensure, Certification and Credentialing of Psychologists

July 18-20, 2000

Oslo, Norway

For Information:

Sverre L. Nielsen, c/o Norwegian Psychological Association, P.O. 8733 - Youngstorget, N-0028 Oslo Norway

e-mail: npfpost@psykol.no

Measuring Behaviour 2000 - 3rd International Conference on Methods and Techniques in Behavioural Research

August 15-18, 2000

Nijmegen, The Netherlands

For Information:

Conference Secretariat, Measuring Behaviour 2000, P.O. Box 268, 6700 AG Wageningen, The Netherlands
e-mail: mb2000@noldus.nl

September 2000 Research Institute: The Role of Non-Cognitive Skills in Adult Attainments

August 28-29, 2000

Chicago, IL, U.S.A.

For Information:

Gina LiCavoli, Joint Center for Poverty Research, University of Chicago, 1155 East 60th Street, Chicago, IL, U.S.A. 60637

e-mail: gmlicavo@midway.uchicago.edu

Webpage:

http://www.jcpr.org/conferences/SRI_2000_call.htm

Research on Research Integrity

November 18-20, 2000

Washington, DC, U.S.A.

For Information:

Webpage: <http://ori.dhhs.gov/page1.htm>

Language Testing Research Colloquium (LTRC)

February 19-23, 2001

St. Louis, MO, U.S.A.

For Information:

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**Submission deadline for the December
2000 Newsletter is November 1, 2000.**

Please submit all articles to:

**Dr. Anita Hubley, ITC Newsletter Co-Editor
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(Measurement, Evaluation, and Research
Methodology Program)
2125 Main Mall
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Vancouver, B.C.
CANADA, V6T 1Z4**

or via e-mail at anita.hubley@ubc.ca

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at the address shown here.**