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IAAP HANDBOOKS OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

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Edited by Paul R. Martin | Fanny M. Cheung | Michael Kyrios
Lyn Littlefield | Michael Knowles | J. Bruce Overmier and José M. Prieto



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IAAP Handbook of Applied Psychology

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Preface

The origins of this Handbook go back to the successful bid by the Australian Psychological Society (APS) to host the 27th International Congress of Applied Psychology (ICAP) on behalf of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP), in Melbourne in July, 2010. The bid was led by the APS President at that time (Paul Martin) and the APS Executive Director (Lyn Littlefield), and they wanted the 27th ICAP to stand out and to have an impact beyond the event itself. This led to discussions with publishers with respect to bringing out a volume in association with the Congress. Agreement was reached with Blackwell (subsequently Wiley-Blackwell) to produce an international handbook that would cover the whole spectrum of applied psychology. The goal was to track down leading authorities in each of the domains of applied psychology, and invite them to complete two complementary tasks: write chapters for the Handbook; and deliver state-of-the-art addresses at the Congress.

The link between IAAP and the Handbook was there from the beginning as ICAP is the Congress of IAAP. As the project progressed, however, the Handbook evolved into the *IAAP Handbook of Applied Psychology*. Distinguished psychologists from different continents were invited to join the original Australian editors to ensure that the editorial group was international and had the range of expertise and knowledge necessary for successful completion of this wide-ranging task.

The Handbook was designed to provide a critical overview of applied psychology. Each chapter would focus on one field of applied psychology, and the goal was to provide the reader with a stimulating overview of the field highlighting key research findings. The chapters would be a combination of historical overview, practical examples, and state-of-the-art findings. The chapters would adopt an international perspective, and would include topics such as:

- Defining the field, scope of the field (e.g., speciality areas), what do academics/practitioners do in this field, and where do they do it?
- Trends in the field and key developments.
- Challenges on the one hand and opportunities on the other, for applied psychology in this field.