In her poster presentation at ICPS 2023, Allegra Skye Anderson (left, Vanderbilt University) discussed her research on associations between parents’ depression symptoms and physiological reactivity with their children’s internalizing and externalizing problems.

It seemed the rain would never stop outside, but the conversations inside SQUARE Brussels Convention Centre March 9–11 brimmed with psychological science’s blue-sky possibilities during APS’s 2023 International Convention of Psychological Science. Nearly 1,500 researchers, students, and others came to the heart of the Belgian capital from more than 70 countries and six continents, exploring issues ranging from encouraging pro-environmental behaviors to evaluating psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy, from structural bias to lifespan development, and from heuristics to ontologies—while also sharing integrative research from multiple fields aimed at advancing scientific progress and societal well-being.
The Teaching Institute, held just prior to ICPS, began with a keynote from Manu Kapur (ETH Zürich) on how, when, and why “productive failure” outperforms direct instruction in helping students learn novel concepts.
With her poster presentation, Krischanda (Krissy) Bemister-Bourret (Toronto Metropolitan University) shared results of her study about experiences with compassion fatigue among animal care professionals.
In the opening keynote address, Susan Michie (University College London and the Human Behaviour Change Project) discussed how the Behaviour Change Intervention Ontology will use ontologies to integrate behavioral intervention science.

Built in 1958 for the Brussels Worlds' Fair, SQUARE Brussels Convention Centre maintains its vintage Arc auditorium, a relic of midcentury design and social norms—down to the built-in ashtrays at each station.

In The Underlying Effects of Group-Based Dominance and Power on Pro-Environmental Behaviour, Lisa Jans (University of Groningen) discussed how pro-environmental minorities can motivate behavior change within groups.
Fun fact about Belgian beers: They’re brewed using four fermentation methods and often associated with an abbey, making them unique in the world. Shown, left to right: Pauline Gripa, Paul Bertin, Johanna Löloff, Luca Fehér.
The keynote address by Ernst Fehr (University of Zurich) explored The Human Quest for Fairness and Equality – Evolutionary Origins and Socio-Political Consequences.
Outside of the Gold Hall at SQUARE Brussels Convention Centre sits René Magritte’s "The Mysterious Barricades"—a massive oil on canvas mural that the artist created in 1961.
In a session on bystander intervention in social aggression, Laura Reid Marks (Florida State University) discussed her research examining predictors of bystander intervention involving racial microaggressions in racially diverse college students.

ICPS 2023 attendees traveled to Brussels from at least 70 countries and 6 continents, indicated in blue.

ICPS 2023 was the fourth “biennial” ICPS—and the first in four years, thanks to the disruptions caused by COVID-19—following previous international conventions in Amsterdam in 2015, Vienna in 2017, and Paris in 2019. In all, the Brussels event comprised three keynote addresses, six integrated science symposia, and dozens of workshops, symposia, and poster presentations across multiple subdisciplines, along with opportunities to network professionally, learn new research methods, and build practical skills.

**Breakthroughs in Brussels: Researchers Share New Integrative Science at ICPS 2023**

Attendees also made connections and shared updates on Twitter. “We had a great first day at #ICPS23be!” tweeted Krischanda (Krissy) Beminster-Bourret, of Toronto Metropolitan University. “So much amazing research being done by scholars around the world. Thank you to all who stopped by my poster about #compassionfatigue in ACPs.”

APS’s next in-person conference will be the 2023 APS Annual Convention in Washington, D.C., May 25–28. Early-bird registration rates are available until April 5.

See the ICPS twitter feed (#icps23be) for attendees’ convention updates, and stay tuned to APS for more coverage.