

## THE FUTURE OF THE HISTORY OF PSYCHOLOGY IN ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL

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This article analyzes the development of the history of psychology in Argentina and Brazil, beginning with the emergence of the history of psychology at the beginning of the 20th century. The paper analyzes that such old historical reconstructions were written by the same authors or institutions that were introducing Psychology in the two countries. That is, the older historical productions in the field of psychology were *Whig* biased. An analysis of the last 30 years of history of psychology is also provided. The article describes institutional developments, including archives, journals, scientific meetings, and teaching of history of psychology in academic settings. Main groups devoted to history of psychology, both in Argentina and Brazil are described. Finally, it offers some thoughts on the future of history of psychology in the 2 countries. A comparative study between Argentina and Brazil allows to understand strengths and weakness related to institutionalization of History of Psychology.

*Keywords:* psychology, Argentina, Brazil, polycentric history, Danziger

We analyzes separately history of historiography and current trends for Argentina and Brazil.

### Historiography of Psychology in Argentina: From Its Beginnings to the Present

The first articles in Argentina that included historical information were published in the first decades of 20th century. Horacio Piñero (1869–1919), Professor of Physiology and Psychology at the University of Buenos Aires, was the first to

offer a historical account of Argentinean psychology. His report sought to establish the “precursors” of his own psychology. In his view, the psychology that he introduced in Argentina was a version of the psychology that was developing in Europe and the United States (Piñero, 1902, 1903). Thus, he sought to validate his own psychological approach, arguing that it was a national adaptation of the international *new psychology*. Thus, the history of experimental psychology in Argentina was the history of the experimental laboratories that Horacio Piñero had established, first at the National High School (*Colegio Nacional Central*) in Buenos Aires in 1899, and then at the Department of Humanities (*Facultad de Filosofía y Letras*) in Buenos Aires University (Piñero, 1903). In spite of this, it has been shown that both the objectives of these laboratories and their theoretical perspectives were radically different from those in Germany. Like the laboratories of French psychology, their aim was not to *produce new* psychological knowledge but to *reproduce* psychological knowledge for pedagogical purposes (Klappenbach, 2013).

José Ingenieros (1877–1925) was another case. He could be regarded as one of the pioneers of psychology, along with Wundt, Freud,

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Piaget, Watson, Piéron, or Skinner (Ardila, 1971). Ingenieros viewed psychology as a natural science and adopted an evolutionary perspective (Papini, 1988). Ingenieros was interested not only in psychology but also in psychiatry and criminology, philosophy, sociology and history. He examined the antecedents of psychological ideas in Spanish colonial times and after the installation of the first independent government in 1810 (Ingenieros, 1919). His book, *La locura en la Argentina* [Madness in Argentina], was, in his own words, “a true history of psychiatry in the country” (Ingenieros, 1920, p. 5; our translation).

The historical works of Piñero and Ingenieros had a similar intellectual and political function within early Argentinean Psychology to Ribot’s *Psychologie anglaise contemporaine* [Contemporary English psychology] (Ribot, 1901) and *Psychologie allemande contemporaine* [Contemporary German psychology] (Ribot, 1879) in France, in that they presented a *model* of what was to be counted as *scientific* psychology. Also, like Ribot’s works, they were “generally considered to be one of the first manifestos of the new psychology” (Nicolas & Murray, 1999, p. 281).

The first attempt to write a general history of psychology in Argentina was made by Italo-Americo Foradori (1905–1968), who published a series of articles and books on the history of psychology in Argentina from 1935 to 1954 (Foradori, 1935, 1944, 1954). His historiographic approach was similar to the classic Whig perspective. Writing at a time when experimental psychology had declined in Argentina, he became the Whig narrator of this tradition. If such comparison would be possible, Foradori became the E. G. Boring of Argentine Psychology. He occupies a similar role in Argentinean psychology to the one occupied by Boring in American psychology. Also, just as Boring was active in the field of experimental psychology, Foradori conducted experimental research (Jachesky & Foradori, 1935). Foradori was member of the Socialist Party and promoted unification of the countries of the Americas. This was the background to his work on the history of psychology in these countries (Foradori, 1938, 1954).

Contemporary to Foradori’s works are three reports that were published in the United States on the state of psychology in South America, and these contained historical information from

countries like Argentina and Brazil (Beebe-Center & McFarland, 1941; Hall, 1946; Murchison, 1932). Much of the content of these reports would nowadays be considered history of psychiatry rather than history of psychology, and that was also the case with the work of Henrique Roxo in Brazil and Osvaldo Loudet in Argentina (Murchison, 1932). Beebe-Center and McFarland (1941) and Margaret Hall (1946) all criticized the French influence on South American psychology and proposed a rapprochement between the psychologies of North and South America.

A distinctive historiographic approach was introduced by René Gotthelf of the National University of Cuyo in the second half of the 1960s. In only two or three works, Gotthelf analyzed the history of Argentine psychology as a whole (Gotthelf, 1969). Gotthelf tried to understand the complete development of psychology in Argentina, beginning with colonial times, centering on the Course of Ideology established in 1819. He also stressed the influence of positivism at the end of 19th century. His encyclopedic knowledge and evident erudition, as well as his ample use of documentary sources, have made his work an important secondary source on the history of Argentinean psychology.

Also during the 1960s, Plácido Horas (1916–1990) published some historical works. He promoted the organization of undergraduate psychology programs throughout Argentina, which began after 1954. His historical interests were centered on the history of psychology education, especially after the organization of the new psychology programs throughout the country (Horas, 1961).

In the 1970s, Mauricio Papini published historical works that were similar to those of Foradori (Papini, 1976, 1988). After those publications, Papini became internationally well known. He was editor of the *International Journal of Comparative Psychology* (2000–2005), President of the International Society for the Comparative Psychology (2008–2010), and President of the Division 6 of the American Psychological Association, which is devoted to Behavioral Neuroscience and Comparative Psychology (2011–2012). Papini’s historical work was published when he was Professor at the University of Buenos Aires. He later moved to the Texas Christian University in 1990. In his historical works, Papini portrayed Argentinean psychology as having moved away from experimentation after 1930, and this was part of the reactionary

tendencies that characterized Argentinean psychology from 1930 to the time when he produced his historical work (Papini, 1978).

### Main Current Research Groups and Academic Positions in Argentina

In December 1983, the military dictatorship in Argentina ended. This marked the end of the military administration in the public universities. Many scientists, professors, and professionals who had been living in exile returned to the country and its institutions of higher education. There were many psychologists among them. Of all the professionals who lived in exile in Mexico during the military dictatorship, psychologists were the most numerous (Jensen & Yankelevich, 2007). Following the end of the dictatorship, the “social sciences have become more diversified in terms of institutions and orientations. Public universities have regained their autonomy, and their authorities are once more elected by professors, graduates and students” (Murmis, 2005, p. 267).

Within this context, the history of psychology slowly became an important field and led to both quantitative and qualitative research. The diversity of the research topics and the diversity of perspectives make it difficult to summarize the research. Nevertheless, it is possible to highlight some general characteristics of the historiography of psychology in the last 30 years.

The first characteristic is that most research in the field is supported by documents and texts, archival sources, or primary testimonies. Many articles and books have compared primary and secondary sources as well. A second characteristic concerns the disciplinary affiliations of the scholars who do research on the history of psychology. Apart from a few exceptions (Jonathan Ablard, Jorge Balán, René Gotthelf, or Mariano Plotkin), the majority of those devoted to history of psychology come from psychology rather than history. Despite this, most researchers have acquired education and training in the field of history, often within the history department. Thus, the same trend toward the professionalization of history of psychology has occurred, as it has in other parts of the world. A third characteristic is that the field has moved away from ceremonial history and more toward critical history. The fourth characteristic is that research has been devoted, with few exceptions,

to psychology, psychoanalysis, or mental health in Argentina, including psychology in particular regions of the country. The advantages, as well as the limitations, of a national, regional, or local historiography have been analyzed by Antonio Caparrós (1993), based on the history of the psychology in Berlin by Lothar Sprung and Wolfgang Schönpflug. In particular, Caparrós highlighted the risks of *provincialism* (without broader perspective) and of *hagiography*. However, Caparrós also recognized the importance of regional histories to contrast with general histories, particularly in the field of applied psychology. This tendency may be related to one of the other tendencies that has been mentioned, namely, the emphasis on primary sources.

At most public universities, there are research groups devoted to the history of psychology. We begin with groups in Buenos Aires, given that Buenos Aires is the largest city in the country. The principal research group was the *Programa de Estudios Históricos de la Psicología* [Program in Historical Studies on Psychology] at University of Buenos Aires, which was created by Hugo Vezzetti in 1988. Since those years, three characteristics of this group can be noted. The first is Vezzetti's emphasis on education and training in the field of history. Several members of this group obtained their doctorates not in psychology but in history, including Ana María Talak, Alejandro Dagfal, Luciano García, and Hugo Klappenbach. A second characteristic is that this group was influenced by international trends in the new history of psychology and, in particular, the critical history of psychology. Thus, the work of figures like Kurt Danziger, Laurel Furumoto, Benjamin Harris, Jill Morawski, Roger Smith, and William Woodward was well known. In addition, considering the strong intellectual links that Argentina has had with France since the 19th century, the new critical history of psychology was studied in parallel with the work of well-known French social scientists like Michel Foucault and Pierre Bourdieu. The research topics of this group included the history of the professionalization of psychology (Dagfal, 2009; Vezzetti, 2004), the early history of psychology in Argentina at the beginning of the 20th century (Talak, 2005a), the history of psychotherapy (Dagfal, 2005; Macchioli, 2003), the history of psychoanalysis (Dagfal, 2009; del Cueto & Scholten, 2005; Vezzetti, 2003), eugenics and

mental hygiene (Borinsky, 2005; Talak, 2005b, 2010), and the history of psychology related to leftist political thought (del Cueto & Scholten, 2005; García, 2014; Scholten, 2001; Vezzetti, 2006). A third characteristic of this group was the close relationship between research and teaching in the field. This group was responsible for one of the two undergraduate courses in the history of psychology.

At the University of Buenos Aires, undergraduate students must take only one course on the history of psychology, but they can choose from two different courses. The first was offered by the group mentioned above. It was originally led by Hugo Vezzetti, then by Ana María Talak, and currently by Alejandro Dagal. The other course is offered by a different research group that is led by Lucia Rossi. This group has done research on the early days of the professionalization of psychology (Miceli, 2007; Rossi, 1997; Rossi et al., 2005), the history of early psychotherapies (Falcone, 2004; Navarlaz, 2009; Rodriguez-Sturla & Luque, 2005), and the history of psychology journals (Falcone & Amil, 2005; Jardón, 2006; Rossi, 2005). This second group is also responsible of the virtual archive in the home page of the *Facultad de Psicología* [Department of Psychology] at the University of Buenos Aires.

At the National University of San Luis, a research group has produced work on the history of psychology education at both public and private universities (González, 2012, 2015; Klappenbach, 2003; Mariñelarena-Dondena, 2012; Piñeda, 2007, 2012; Polanco, 2009; Vázquez-Ferrero, 2009); the history of journals, mainly using bibliometric methods (González, 2015; Klappenbach & Arrigoni, 2011); and the early history of psychology and its professionalization in the country (Klappenbach, 2006; Piñeda, 2004). This group is in charge of the sole undergraduate course in history of psychology at the National University of San Luis. The group is also responsible for the Center of Documentation and Historical Archive in History on Psychology and the Museum in History of Psychology.

At the National University of Cordoba, there is no undergraduate course with the title "History of Psychology," but there is a course with the title "Schools, Perspectives and Systems in Contemporary Psychology," and almost all the syllabi use historical material.

The group is focused on the history of psychology in Cordoba, especially the history of psychology education at its own university (Scherman, 2013), but also related to history of applied psychology and history of psychotherapy and psychoanalysis (Ferrari, 2010, 2014; Ferrero & Altamirano, 2009). This group is also in charge of the archives and museum, which we discuss below.

Within the undergraduate program in psychology at the National University of La Plata, there is no course on the history of psychology, but there are three courses that are strongly related to the subject: Psychology I, Psychology II, and Current Perspectives in Psychology. The first two are led by Ana Maria Talak, who obtained her doctoral degree in history at the University of Buenos Aires, and the third is led by Ariel Viguera. These research groups were only formed in recent years, but they are very productive. They have done work on the earliest academic developments of psychology in Argentina (Talak, 2005a, 2009, 2010); the history of childhood, family, and sexuality (Briolotti & Benitez, 2014; García, Macchioli, & Talak, 2014; Macchioli, 2014); and the history of psychoanalysis (Viguera, 2013).

Another important group is at the University of Mar del Plata. It was originally led by Alberto Vilanova, and is currently led by Cristina di Doménico and Ana Ostrovsky. Its main research topic has been the history of undergraduate programs in psychology (di Doménico et al., 2008; di Doménico, Ostrovsky, Moya, Giuliani, & Visca, 2007; Diez, 1999; Vilanova, 2003; Vilanova & di Doménico, 1999) and gender issues in psychology (Ostrovsky, 2011; Ostrovsky & Moya, 2014).

At the National University of Rosario, original research has been conducted on the history of psychology education and the history of psychoanalysis (Gallegos, 2005, 2010; Gentile, 2000). The newest research group is at the National University of Tucuman, where it is responsible for a course on the history of psychology within the undergraduate psychology program. The professor and leader of the group is Pablo Vallejo, who works on history of psychoanalysis in Tucuman and the work of Mariela Ventura (Vallejo, 2010; Ventura, 2009).

## Institutional Advances in History of Psychology

Archival organization in the history of psychology is in its earliest stages in Argentina. The first initiative, the *Archivo Histórico de la Facultad de Psicología* [Historical Archive of the Department of Psychology], was organized in 2006 by the Department of Psychology at the National University of Córdoba. The National University of Córdoba is the oldest higher education institution in the country, and it is no coincidence that the Organization of American States established the *Centro Interamericano de Desarrollo de Archivos* [Interamerican Center for the Development of Archives] from 1972 to 1988 in what was then the School of Archivists of that university (Tanodi, 1985). The Historical Archive of the Department of Psychology contains “course syllabi, legislation, notes, letters and any demonstrative element of active development at an institutional level” (Altamirano & Scherman, 2009, p. 9).

The *Archivo y Centro de Documentación en Historia de la Psicología* [Archives and Documentation Center in History of Psychology] was organized in the *Facultad de Ciencias Humanas* [Department of Human Sciences] at the National University of San Luis in 2009, and, since 2014, it has been located in the *Facultad de Psicología* [Department of Psychology]. The archive contains course syllabi, personnel files, and dissertations since 1964.

The holdings of both archives are quite modest not only in comparison with the well-established Archives of the History of American Psychology at the University of Akron in Ohio but also in comparison with the Archives in History of Psychology established in Brazil (Freitas-Campos, Brozek, Guedes, Massimi, & Makino-Antunes, 1996).

At the University of Buenos Aires, the *Archivo Histórico Virtual de la Facultad de Psicología* [Virtual Historical Archives of the Department of Psychology] was established in 2010, and it incorporated the older “Archive of Previous Course Syllabi.”

The Library of the *Facultad de Humanidades y Ciencias de la Educación* [Department of Humanities and Sciences of Education] at the National University of La Plata has preserved course syllabi and has over 500 course syllabi in psychology, dating back to 1936.

There are other new archives on subjects that are related to psychology. In the *Centro de Estudios Avanzados* [Center of Advanced Studies] at the National University of Córdoba, Fernando Ferrari led a team that organized the Archive Gregorio Bermann. Bermann (1874–1972) was a psychiatrist who was one of the founders of the Latin American Psychiatric Association. Although he was interested in psychoanalysis, he never joined the Argentinean Association for Psychoanalysis. He was member of the Communist Party of Argentina and joined the International Brigades, fighting on the side of the Second Spanish Republic during the Spanish Civil War from 1936 to 1939 (Ferrari, 2010). The Bermann Archive contains more than 8,000 documents in 57 boxes, and because of Bermann’s international profile, many of them are of international interest.

Many psychiatric hospitals have organized other archives in recent years. In the town of Oliva, in the province of Córdoba, the local psychiatric hospital has organized the *Archivo del Hospital Emilio Vidal Abal* [Archive of the Hospital Emilia Vidal]. Between 1914 and 1983, the hospital was under the federal administration, and it received patients from all over—the center, the west, and the north of the country. In the industrial city of Rosario, the *Boletín del Instituto Psiquiátrico* [Bulletin of the Psychiatric Institute] has microfilmed and digitized its entire collection. Although not an archive in the strict sense of the term, the preservation process was carried out by professional archivists and the documents were uploaded to a blog.

Finally, it should be mentioned that there is important documentary material related to history of psychology in the General Archives of the Nation. There, one can recover, for example, the case histories of patients at the *Hospital Nacional de Alienadas* [National Hospital of Mentally Ill Women]. The different provincial governments also have archives, in which it is possible to find a wealth of documentary information.

With regard to professional organizations, several specialists on the history of psychology are members of the Task Force on the History of Psychology within the Interamerican Society of Psychology. Another important development is the *Encuentros Argentinos de Historia de la Psiquiatría, Psicología, Psicoanálisis* [Argentinean Meetings for the History of Psychiatry, Psychology and Psicoanálisis]. The first meet-

ing was organized by the historian of psychiatry, Juan Carlos Stagnaro, and the well-known historian of psychology, Alberto Vilanova in Mar del Plata, in 1999. The most recent meeting in 2015 was held again in Mar del Plata. Such meetings reflect the clinical orientation of psychology in Argentina, as well as its close relationships with the fields of psychiatry and psychoanalysis (Pickren, 2009).

Journals have been less successful, although in 2008, the situation began to change. In 1995, scholars at the National University of San Luis began the *Cuadernos Argentinos de Historia de la Psicología* [Argentine Journal of History of Psychology], which was described as “Argentina’s major contribution to the history of psychology” (Brozek, 1997, p. 29). The journal published only three volumes—in 1995, 1996 and 1997—but was discontinued after that date.

Another journal suffered a similar fate. The first issue of *Thesis: Revista de Historia de la Psicología* [Thesis: Journal of the History of Psychology] was published in 1995. It was followed by a second in 1996, and a third and final one in 1999. It was edited by Ricardo Ruiz from the National University of La Plata and was characterized by articles on epistemological and other philosophical perspectives.

In 2007, the Proceedings of the *Encuentros Argentino de Historia de la Psiquiatría, la Psicología, y el Psicoanálisis* [Argentinean Meetings for the History of Psychiatry, Psychology and Psicoanálisis] began to be published in an electronic format. Nine volumes have been published to date.

In 2008, Lucía Rossi of the University of Buenos Aires began an electronic journal, the *Revista de Historia de la Psicología en Argentina* [Journal of History of Psychology in Argentina]. Six issues have been published to date; the first was published in 2008 and was devoted to the history of Argentinean psychological journals. The second one was published in 2009. All of the articles are by different members of the research group directed by Lucía Rossi. Another characteristic of the journal is that it does not publish only original articles—it also includes work that has already been published elsewhere.

Also in 2008, the same group began to publish the *Catalogos de Historia de la Psicología* [Catalogues for the History of Psychology]. Six catalogs have been produced so far—the first

one in 2008 on Argentinean journals related to psychology, and the most recent one in 2013 on subjectivity in the days of the Viceroy of River Plate (1776–1810) and subsequent years. Both publications are part of a project to store and digitalize the primary sources that are held by the group directed by Lucía Rossi.

### **Historiography of Psychology in Brazil: From the Beginnings to the Present**

The history of the history of psychology in Brazil indicates that the earliest works on this topic appear in the 1940s and 1950s. These were mainly reminiscences produced by distinguished psychologists of the time. The works that were not based on memories sought to respond to requests that had been made to some of the same distinguished individuals, for example, to produce a text on the “history of psychology in the world” or the “history of science in Brazil.” Some of the information and the accounts provided by these texts can also be found also in Murchison (1932), Beebe-Center and McFarland (1941), and Hall (1946). Some of these early works were organized into a book and reprinted by the Federal Council of Psychology (Antunes, 2004).

Beginning in the 1990s, a different kind of history appeared after several researchers became interested in the history of psychology in Brazil. They are psychologists who are specialists in the area, but not officially historians, and this has caused all kinds of difficulties from an institutional point of view. Many of the first generation of researchers in the history of psychology come from a background in social psychology, as did Kurt Danziger (Brock, 2006). This development was the result of psychology turning to social psychology in Brazil in the late 1970s and early 1980s, when understanding the inequalities in Brazilian society and the ways in which psychologists could help to reduce these inequalities became important issues (Bomfim, 2004; Lane, 1984). The need to understand these issues historically found its justification and support in Gergen’s (1973) seminal text on the historical character of social psychology itself.

Those early historians, who included Marina Massimi, Maria do Carmo Guedes, and Regina Campos, received strong support from the well-known historian of psychology, Josef Brozek. Brozek played an important role in establishing

the history of psychology in Brazil. He proposed the creation of a Working Group on the History of Psychology in the National Association of Research and Post-Graduation in Psychology (ANPEPP), and it was founded during ANPEPP's VI Symposium of Research and Scientific Exchange in 1996. Brozek participated in this symposium and coedited the Brazilian version of the book, *Historiography of Modern Psychology* (Brozek & Massimi, 1998).

What kind of research do the new historians of psychology carry out and what is their orientation? The focus of these new historical works is Brazilian psychology. Researchers seek to understand how it adopted concepts, theories, and methods that originated elsewhere, and how they were modified in Brazil. It is assumed that they were not reproduced exactly, because being exposed to other ways of thinking and other social circumstances led to them being changed.

The concepts of reception and appropriation that are a common feature of the history of science have been incorporated into the history of Brazilian psychology after the text of a renowned literary critic, Robert Schwarz. In his analysis of the work of Machado de Assis,<sup>1</sup> Schwarz discusses the assimilation of liberal ideology in 19th-century Brazil, showing how the results were very different from those produced by original European thought. According to Schwarz, this is because these ideas are *misplaced*; that is, they are ideas that come into being in a particular place, and when they are moved to another space, they are "translated" in the new territory, taking on a new meaning that is more relevant to this new reality. What occurs is not therefore a "reproduction," but rather an appropriation. When analyzing the Brazilian *habit* of importing ideas from other places, Schwarz suggests that these ideas are *misplaced* because they do not match our economic, political and cultural conditions (Schwarz, 1977/2000).

### Main Current Research Groups and Academic Positions in Brazil

Much of the historiography of psychology carried out in Brazil is concerned with appropriation—the ways in which psychological knowledge becomes native, related to local conditions that are peculiar to the country. Countless examples can be provided. Some work has been concerned with assistance to poor, aban-

doned children, which is blended with the history of the appropriation of the child by the state and by the legal system, and also with the history of the distinction between types of children, such as "normal" children who "need support" and those who are deemed "dangerous" (Arantes, 1999; Rizzini & Pilotti, 2009). It is not, of course, a historiography that is developed by academics to boast erudition, but rather one that seeks to understand a contemporary problem (Certeau, 1975/1992)—that of the "street child," the child who lives in the public spaces of large Brazilian cities—in order to seek and propose better solutions.

This focus also permeates research centers in Brazilian institutions, some of which will be mentioned below, starting with the centers coordinated by the historians who, along with Brozek, created the Working Group on the History of Psychology (*Grupo de Trabajo en Historia de la Psicología*) within ANPEPP.

At the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo, Professor Maria do Carmo Guedes is recognized as the first person to have promoted research into the history of psychology in Brazil. She is the head of its Center for the History of Psychology, linked to the Graduate Programs in Social Psychology, Educational Psychology, and Experimental Psychology. This center conducts research on various themes, predominantly in the field of education. Other research in the center has involved psychological knowledge of the 19th century and its correlation with the social needs of the time. This was the focus of Nadia Rocha's work in the state of Bahia. She also helped with the conservation of the thesis bank—classified as rare works—of the Medical School of Bahia. Most of the center's production is in the form of doctoral theses. One of its participants, Mitsuko Antunes, however, has published a well-known book on the history of psychology in Brazil, which is now in its second edition (Antunes, 1999).

<sup>1</sup> Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis (1839–1908) is considered by many to be the most important Brazilian literary author. He was a chronicler of daily life in Rio de Janeiro, a location that also features in his short stories. A novelist, playwright, poet, critic, and essay writer, he created the Brazilian Academy of Letters and was its first president. Because he was considered to be of mixed race, that is, a *mulatto*, in a country where there was slavery, he only had access to basic reading in the formal school system.

It was also Professor Maria do Carmo Guedes who proposed the creation of the “Inter-institutional Meeting of Researchers in the History of Psychology,” which meets practically every year. Her interest in creating this meeting was because ANPEPP’s Working Groups do not meet on a regular basis. A new proposal must be presented every 2 years. The idea was thus to provide another meeting space for researchers in case their Working Group no longer existed in ANPEPP.

At the University of São Paulo in Ribeirão Preto, there has been research on the history of psychology in colonial Brazil. It is focused on the psychological ideas developed by the Jesuits in their contact with the Indians, and the dissemination of these ideas among the first settlers. It is research that belongs to the field of intellectual history. Many students have completed their doctoral work in this line of research. The head of this research group on the history of psychology and the human sciences—history and memory—is Professor Marina Massimi. She is in close contact with Thomist historians, both in Portugal and Italy, and her books (Massimi, 2005, 2010) and articles (Massimi, 2001, 2015) follow this theoretical orientation. Massimi also created the journal *Memorandum – memória e história da psicologia* [Memory and History of Psychology], in 2001, of which she is a coeditor along with Miguel Mafhoud.

Professor Regina Helena Freitas Campos was one of the earliest researchers on the history of psychology in Brazil. She is the head of the “Helena Antipoff” Laboratory of the History of Educational Psychology at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG). Campos’s doctoral work was on Helena Antipoff’s work on mental abilities, and she compared Antipoff’s views with those of another important name in Brazilian education, Lourenço Filho. Because of Campos’s interest in Antipoff’s work, she has been in contact with Antipoff’s family and with other people who knew her. This has resulted in her other role as the coordinator of the Helena Antipoff Documentation Center, which is housed in the Helena Antipoff Hall of UFMG’s General Library. The group organizes the “Helena Antipoff Meetings,” in which the main points of interests are education, Antipoff’s work, and the history of psychology. This proximity to Helena Antipoff’s collection favors and promotes certain issues. The main interests of the research center at UFMG are the

relationship between psychology and education, especially in connection with Antipoff’s work. The research center is housed in UFMG’s School of Education and has three other professors. It has connections with education scholars in Geneva and psychology researchers in France. Its production is sizable, ranging from the annual organization of the Helena Antipoff Meeting to publishing the proceedings of the meetings, as well as many articles (see Borges & Campos, 2013; Campos, 2014; Campos & Borges, 2014; Vieira & Campos, 2011).

At Rio de Janeiro State University, there is a research group involving researchers from other institutions, such as the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, the Federal Fluminense University, and the Federal Center for Technical Education. These researchers and their students make up the Clio-Psyché Laboratory of History and Memory of Psychology, led by Professor Ana Maria Jacó-Vilela. The group investigates several objects, such as the topic of gender and madness, the relationship between psychology and religion, the emergence of educational psychology in the early 20th century, and psychology’s uses in the armed forces. Its temporal focus are the 19th and 20th centuries, with the date of the law that has regulated the profession of psychologist and psychology courses in Brazil (Lei n° 4.119, 1962) being the end of its period of investigation. The research is based in Rio de Janeiro, where there is easy access to documentary sources, as it was the capital of Brazil for 200 years. The group collaborates with historians and, more specifically, historians of science, as well as with professionals and researchers in social psychology. In 2014, the Laboratory acquired Professor Emilio Mira y López’s<sup>2</sup> library

<sup>2</sup> Emilio Mira y López (1896–1946) was a Catalan psychiatrist who made an important contribution to psychology. He organized the II International Congress of Psychotechnics in Barcelona. He joined in the Spanish Civil War as Chief of Psychiatric Services of the Republican Army. Exiled after Franco’s victory, he visited many countries, including France, England, the United States, Cuba, Venezuela, Guatemala, Argentina, and Uruguay, until he was invited to become head of the Institute for Professional Selection and Counseling in Rio de Janeiro. He lived in Brazil until his death. He had great influence among the professionals who were starting their careers in Brazil, as well as on the legislation concerning the profession of psychologist and psychology courses (Jacó-Vilela, 2014).

and an extensive collection of his documents. The members of the Laboratory used to participate in ANPEPP's Working Group on the History of Psychology, but 2 years ago decided to create a new group, entitled "Social History of Psychology." Every 2 years, the laboratory organizes the "Clio-Psyché Meeting," in which not only Brazilian researchers and students participate, but also those from various Latin American countries, as well as Spain and Portugal. These meetings have resulted in the publication of the presentations and discussions in book form. The group's publications are organized mainly in books, but there are also articles (see A. C. Castro, 2014, 2015; A. C. Castro, Portugal, & Jacó-Vilela, 2011; R. D. Castro & Facchinetti, 2015; Degani-Carneiro & Jacó-Vilela, 2012; Facchinetti, 2012; Facchinetti & De Castro, 2015; Jabert & Facchinetti, 2011; Jacó-Vilela, 2014; Jacó-Vilela & Rocha, 2014; Vargas & Castro, 2015).

Other research groups in Brazil include the Group of Historiographic and Phenomenological Studies in Psychology, led by William Barbosa Gomes, at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (Campos, Jacó-Vilela, & Massimi, 2010), and the Group of Studies and Research on Hygienism and Eugenics at the State University of Maringá, coordinated by Professor Dr. Maria Lúcia Boarini.

And finally, a newer group, based at the Federal University of Juiz de Fora and led by Professor Saulo Freitas de Araújo, is the Wilhelm Wundt Center of History and Philosophy of Psychology. This center is dedicated both to the history and epistemology of psychology and differs from the ones already mentioned, in that it focuses on studying the thought systems of the founders of the discipline, such as Wundt, James, and Ribot, without specifically being concerned with Brazil. Thus, their contribution to the field is in other aspects, such as arousing interest in new interpretations of such distinguished individuals. Their contribution is recognized internationally. In 2013, Saulo Araújo received the Early Career Award from Division 26 of the American Psychological Association for his work on William James. His output is massive and, in recent years, has been published mainly in English-language journals. Thus, the group has a consistent line of research and has produced a significant number of productions (see Araújo, 2012, 2014; Araújo, Caropreso,

Simanke, & Castañón, 2013; Moreira-Almeida & Araújo, 2015; Sech Junior, Araujo, & Moreira-Almeida, 2013). In addition to his international publications, Araújo has published work in Portuguese (e.g., Araújo, 2010).

The centers listed above function in state universities, with the exception of the first group, which is at Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo (PUC-SP). In Brazil, there is a large difference between state and private universities. With very few exceptions—and these are mainly private religious universities such as the abovementioned PUC-SP—research is carried out only in state universities.

These centers are made up almost entirely by historians of psychology who are also psychologists (Danziger, 1994). Recently, the profession of historian was regulated in Brazil. In its first version, the law stated that only holders of degrees in history were allowed to do research and teach in the area. The Brazilian Society for the History of Science and the Brazilian Society for the Progress of Science lobbied for legislation to admit historians of different disciplines, trained in their own field. That was the final version of the law that was passed: Those who hold a graduate degree from graduate programs in which there are lines of research in history have the right to fulfill the role of historian in their field.<sup>3</sup>

### **Institutional Advances in Historiography of Psychology in Brazil**

In addition to being an area of research, the history of psychology is an area of teaching. It is not a compulsory subject at the undergraduate level according to the relevant legislation. However, it is present in a high percentage of psychology curricula, sometimes as an elective but almost always as a compulsory course. In that sense, it is well placed in relation to other areas of psychology. The problem is that its teaching

<sup>3</sup> We do not know to what extent the legal issue is relevant in other countries. In Brazil, however, there is a very large corporate concern regarding defending the legal rights of professionals. Accordingly, in the case of psychology, the relevant legislation was passed in 1962, after heated debates with doctors, pedagogues, and other professionals. The same occurred with the profession of historian, but mainly with historians of science, as the historiography of science is made by professionals in the area.

is usually done by professors who are not researchers in the area, many of whom need to supplement their hourly workload. It is only recently that universities have had an interest in hiring professors with research experience in the history of psychology. The graduate programs of two institutions (Universidade Federal do Maranhão and Dom Bosco Catholic University) have created lines of research in the history of psychology after acquiring qualified faculty members in this area.

Another incentive to study and conduct research on the history of psychology has come from the Federal Council of Psychology (CFP). This institution is linked to the Ministry of Labor and has the task of supervising and overseeing the practice of professional psychologists. In the last 20 years, the CFP has created and maintained the Brazilian Psychology Memory project, which is significant because of its support for conferences and for the publications it has financed. These include biographical and institutional dictionaries (Campos, 2001; Jacó-Vilela, 2011). The CFP has also been in communication with the Working Groups of ANPEPP.

This partnership has been helpful because of the exposure and support that CFP's name has given the area. However, it must be pointed out that the main agencies of recognition of areas of knowledge in Brazil—the CFP itself, the National Council of Technological and Scientific Development (CNPq), and the Coordination of Higher Level Personnel Training (CAPES)—have given their support to history of psychology. The CNPq has made numerous financial contributions to researchers in this area and at least seven of these receive CNPq research grants. This is out of a total of only 321 psychology researchers who have been awarded CNPq grants. On top of this, CAPES, the agency that authorizes graduate courses in Brazil, has recognized two graduate programs with lines of research on the history of psychology. In other words, the area has received recognition from the main professional associations and from the two main government agencies that subsidize research and graduate programs. All this points to the formal recognition of the area by the institutions of Brazilian academia.

This institutional presence contributed to the creation of the Brazilian Society for the History of Psychology in 2013. However, this society

needs more time for consolidation, as it continues to be closely linked to only one of the ANPEPP's two Working Groups, the one devoted to the history of psychology.

The creation of new areas of knowledge should follow up on the creation of devices that allow the dissemination of their field of knowledge (Vidal, 2013). One of the area's main tasks, since the establishment of the first Working Group, has been to promote the history of psychology in Brazil through concentrating on theories and research methods. This production and circulation has been done by means of participation in events, publications (books, mainly collective works like dictionaries, as mentioned above), and the publication of articles. Virtually, all the well-regarded Brazilian journals accept historical articles. There are already two journals devoted exclusively to the history of psychology, *Memorandum*, which is a joint publication of UFMG and Universidade de São Paulo - Ribeirão Preto, edited by Miguel Mafhoud and Marina Massimi, and *Mnemosyne*, edited by Heliana Conde, Rio de Janeiro State University. Likewise, the Clio-Psyché Section of the journal *Estudos e Pesquisas em História da Psicologia* [Studies and Research on the History of Psychology] publishes articles on the history of psychology in every issue of the journal.

There is another important means of promoting the area, which is by participating in one of CNPq's programs: Women in Science. One of the branches of this program aims to provide profiles of women scientists. Since the third edition of the "Pioneiras da Ciência" [Women Pioneers of Science] project, the Clio-Psyché Laboratory has published profiles of women psychologists who form part of the history of psychology in Brazil (see <http://cnpq.br/web/guest/pioneiras-da-ciencia-do-brasil>). The authors are either laboratory members or guests who are asked to produce a profile. Contact with the Pioneers of Science Program is made through the coordinators of the Clio-Psyché Laboratory.

The area-specific conferences (Helena Antipoff and Clio-Psyché) have already been mentioned. In addition, work on the history of psychology is accepted by the various professional associations for presentation at their conferences. The Brazilian Association of Social Psychology (Abrapso) is particularly receptive to

historical work. Its conferences include workshops, symposia, and posters, and there is always a workshop on the history of psychology.

Many articles and books in this field have been published. Two of them are noteworthy, considering their many print runs and the influence they have had. The first is by Antunes (1999), who presents a summary of the history of psychology in Brazil until 1930. The second is a manual, organized by Jacó-Vilela, Ferreira, and Portugal, which is now in its third edition (Jacó-Vilela, Ferreira, & Portugal, 2013). It is unique in that its different chapters are written by different authors. Nonetheless, it is a history of psychology in its most important countries, and each chapter is supplemented with an account of the history of psychology in that field in Brazil. It thus takes a Brazilian perspective as its starting point, and this has made the work popular in undergraduate courses and in a few graduate courses. Its popularity can be attributed not only to an interest in the history of psychology in Brazil but also to a shortage of literature on this subject.

### Comparison of the Two Countries

Based on the account of current developments in the history of psychology in Argentina, as well as the challenges identified by Danziger (1994), what is expected for the future of the field in Argentina?

On the one hand, it is necessary to take into account the standards for the accreditation of undergraduate programs in psychology. The standards were approved in 2009 by the Ministry of Education. They set out the contents of all undergraduate programs, including courses in the history of psychology. Courses on the history of psychology should include at least four topics: (a) the historical origins of psychology, (b) the beginnings of the scientific psychology, (c) the development of the contemporary perspectives in psychology, and (d) psychology in Argentina (Ministerio de Educación, 2009, p. 8; our translation).

What are the implications of these standards? First of all, undergraduate programs are not obliged to offer a course on the history of psychology. It is possible to incorporate the historical material into other courses. Second, even when courses in history of psychology are offered, they might be offered from a celebratory

rather than a critical perspective (Bhatt & Tonks, 2002; Danziger, 1994). Third, even if those courses incorporated critical approaches, they might not be taught by specialists who do research in the field, as also the case in the United States and Canada (Fuchs & Viney, 2002; Thomas, 2007; Vaughn-Blount, Rutherford, Baker, & Johnson, 2009).

In any case, federal standards led to history of psychology courses becoming more common. There are 70 undergraduate programs in psychology in the country: 12 at public universities and 58 at private universities. Since the introduction of the federal standards, eight of the public universities offer courses on the history of Psychology, and another three offer courses in Current Systems. In the private universities, there are now 38 History of Psychology courses and 16 courses in current systems.

These figures are similar to the ones Barnes and Greer (2014) reported for Canada: 96% of Canadian psychology departments offered a History of Psychology course. In Argentina, 92% offer a history or a current systems course.

There are also similar problems to the ones reported in Canada and the United States (Fuchs & Viney, 2002). Most of the professors in the private universities are not specialists in the history of psychology. They are rarely tenured and they are only paid for the hours they teach. This situation began to change after the introduction of federal standards in 2009 since the requirements for undergraduate programs cover not only teaching but also research and related activities. The standards state that “the undergraduate program must have both qualified teachers and an adequate amount of them in order to achieve its mission and objectives in the different areas of their work” (Ministerio de Educación, 2009, p. 9; our translation).

Despite these developments, there are not enough specialists in the history of psychology to cover all the courses throughout the country. One of the consequences of this situation is that most history of psychology courses have been unaffected by the new critical history of psychology. On the contrary, most courses focus on the “progress” of psychological science from the past to the present. Similarly, topics like the roles played by women and minorities (Scarborough, 1988), African Americans or Hispanic Americans (Woodward, 1995), and indigenous or polycentric psychology (Brock, 2006, 2014;

Danziger, 1996, 2006) are rarely covered. Teaching in the history of psychology at undergraduate level is therefore strongly linked to ceremonial and pedagogical objectives.

The area of the history of psychology in Brazil has advanced remarkably in the last 30 years, and this is reflected in research, teaching, publications, and the number of specialists. The researchers regularly take part in South American conferences and international conferences, such as the International Congress of Psychology and area-specific conferences such as those of the European Society for the History of Human Sciences and Cheiron (the International Society for the History of Behavioral and Social Sciences).

With regard to the future of the history of psychology in Brazil and Argentina, there is a significant institutionalization of the area in both countries. Despite this, there are some differences. The teaching of history of psychology in Argentina is more common because of the federal standards that require history of psychology as a basic component of undergraduate education. In Brazil, the undergraduate history of psychology course is optional and students are not always interested in taking the course. On the other hand, graduate-level courses in Argentina are rare, whereas they are much more common in Brazil. We believe that graduate courses contribute to a researcher's education, and that undergraduate courses help to interest students in the history of psychology. They must take a course in the subject for this to happen, and it will not happen if they decide that they do not want to take the course.

In Argentina, the publishing industry is bigger than that of Brazil. This has resulted in a situation in which books on psychology tend to have a wide readership. In Brazil, books on psychology are usually read by a limited number of "intellectuals," and in the case of history of psychology, only by scholars who specialize in the field. But, once again, the situation is reversed in the case of journal articles. In Brazil, the universities are more rigorously evaluated by agencies and organizations that support research and higher education. Consequently, Brazilian journals adhere to the quality standards established by international journals. Although there are only three psychology journals from Argentina indexed in PsycInfo, there are no fewer than 25 from Brazil. Thus, Brazilian journals tend to be well regarded, both nationally and internationally. In Argentina, the ten-

dency to publish in Spanish has resulted in the research having a limited circulation outside the Spanish-speaking countries.

With regard to the situation of the history of psychology, the institutional situation is better in Brazil. Here, there are two journals focused on the history of psychology. There is also a well-established Society for the History of Psychology and two conferences. One of the conferences is annual (Helena Antipoff) and the other is biennial (Clio-Psyché). In Argentina, there are no journals devoted solely to the history of psychology, and there is one annual meeting that includes researchers not only from history of psychology but also from history of psychiatry and history of psychoanalysis.

It is likely that the field will continue to grow in Argentina and Brazil due to the interest that exists in the history of psychology in other parts of the world. Current senior researchers have laid the foundations of the area, including journals, conferences, associations, and courses.

With regard to research, some topics have the potential to be of common interest. These would include the influence of positivism in both countries in the early part of the 20th century and the history of psychology programs in the universities. However, there are differences between the two countries will result in different areas of interest.

In Argentina, at least since the 1960s, theoretical and applied psychology has been strongly dominated by *psychoanalysis*, or, more accurately, different approaches to psychoanalysis. Psychoanalysis is often regarded as being opposed to the view that psychology is a natural science. Therefore, although critical history of psychology in Canada, the United States, and Europe implies a critical view of psychology conceived as a natural science, in Argentina, *mainstream psychology became psychoanalysis*. This situation has implications for the future for the history of psychology. One of the questions to be asked of the history of psychology in Argentina is the need to explain why psychology there became so distinct from the psychology in other parts of the world, including other Latin America countries.

In Brazil, on the other hand, history of psychology has been closely linked to social psychology, and the history of psychology is likely to be biased in this direction. Historical concerns with Afro-Brazilians could develop lines of research related to not only the contributions

of Afro-Brazilian psychologists but also the ways in which psychology has contributed to the segregation and integration of Afro-Brazilians in different periods of history. Similarly, psychological questions related to indigenous people before and after Portuguese colonization is an area of research, and it will probably expand in the future.

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