

Preface

The *First International Conference on Counseling Psychology*, organized by the Institute of Psychological Intervention, Education and Development of the School of Psychology and Education, *University of Porto* and by an International Organizing and Scientific Committee, was held in Porto from July 11 to 15, 1988, under the chair of Bártolo Paiva Campos. Cândido Agra (Portugal), Joaquim Bairrão (Portugal) Donald Blocher (U.S.A.), Anna Bonboir (Belgium), Brigitte Detry (Portugal), Bill Law (U.K.), Mariane Lacomblez Leitão (Portugal), James Marcia (Canada), Jack Martin (Canada), Fritz Oser (Switzerland), Rainer Silbereisen (Germany), Norman Sprinthall (U.S.A.) and Christiane Vandenplas-Holper (Belgium) had agreed to serve on the Organizing and Scientific Committee. The objective of the conference was to provide an opportunity for counseling psychologists, all over the world, to meet and discuss recent developments on research, practice and teaching. The topic of the conference *Human Development and Counseling* was focussed on *human development in a structural, ecological and life-span perspective*.

The present volume is one of the publications which originated in this conference. It ties together eight contributions which have been presented in three symposia: "Adolescent Social Cognition and Social Action", "New Directions in Psychosocial Developmental Research" and "Identity Development and Counseling Applications". Unfortunately R. Josselson's work was not at our disposal to be included in this volume.

The expanded version of the papers which have been presented at the conference has been rearranged by Christiane Vandenplas-Holper in order to form a unified and balanced whole. Some contributions of the volume — those of Schultz and Selman; Coimbra and Campos; Keller and Reuss; Noack; Costa and Campos — present empirical studies. The first three of these contributions are largely illustrated by excerpts of protocols referring to the different assessment devices which have been used in the respective studies. Other contributions — those of Archer; Waterman; Marcia, Kowaz and Bradley — present clinical data and considerations for future research. All of the authors are preoccupied with prevention and enhancement of developmental processes. Vandenplas-Holper shows the integrating thread which runs through the volume and sketches avenues for future research and intervention.

The format of the volume — reports of *recent and sophisticated studies* presented in a way which remains *easily readable* — addresses *researchers* as well as psychologists working in the *field of clinical and educational psychology*.

Special thanks are due to the Educational Service of the Foundation Calouste Gulbenkian who, among others, sponsored the *First International Conference on Counseling Psychology*. The organization of the conference largely benefitted from the assistance of the local Organizing Committee composed of Joaquim Coimbra, Maria Emilia Costa, Luisa Faria, Anne-Marie Fontaine, Maria de Lurdes Gramaxo, Luis Imaginário, José Luis Ribeiro, Isabel Soares and Maria do Céu Taveira. The editing of this volume

benefitted from the technical assistance of Luisa Santos and Silvia Alves who carefully wordprocessed the text and of Wendy Copes who kindly amended the English style of some of the non-native English contributors.

We want to express our gratitude to all of them.

With this volume, the Institute of Psychological Intervention, Education and Development *initiates a series* dedicated to psychological development considered in reference to conceptual and intervention issues. In this series the texts will be published in the various languages the chapters were originally written in.

Bártolo Paiva Campos and Christiane Vandenplas-Holper