



## Comments, Tips, and Advice from our Associate Editors

**Anita Ratnam**, Specialist in Development Studies; expert in Institutional Leadership in civil society organisations; Founder and Director, Samvada, Bangalore, India.

The launch of the IJCLP is to me an event of historical significance. I firmly believe that career and livelihood planning can go a long way in making India a more inclusive, equitable and sustainable society. As we help young people reflect on their identities and aspirations, respect their abilities and aptitudes, recognize their autonomy, and realize their rights as well as responsibilities, we shape not just individual lives, but the culture and structure of our complex and changing society. I look forward to the IJCLP evolving into a platform for sharing insights and nurturing knowledge building for the profession.

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**Dr. David M. Reile**, Managing Director, CDA & R/S Foundation, USA.

Congratulations to all who have contributed to the inaugural edition of IJCLP. What a wonderful achievement! To Career and Livelihood Planning professionals, may I encourage you to remember the importance of your professional relationships. Reach out to colleagues, meet frequently together, share ideas, mentor each other, and encourage one another. Your influence and impact will grow, the more you collaborate.

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**Dr. Girishwar Misra**, Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Delhi; Fellow, National Academy of Psychology (NAOP), India; Editor, Psychological Studies.

Contemporary transformations in the world of work are making choice and entry to occupations a complex and challenging process. Indeed, the expansion of the horizon of work life needs enhanced skills of career guidance. In particular, we need to go beyond dispositional measures and move toward a contextualised understanding of the features of work self-concept. I hope that IJCLP will help prepare counsellors by promoting a nuanced understanding of the individual and the context in which career construction unfolds.

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**Dr. Glenn C. Kharkongor**, Professor, Vice Chancellor, Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong, Meghalaya, India.

Career and livelihood planning has reached maturity as a discipline in its own right in India with the launching of this journal. This important milestone is a tribute to the pioneering efforts of the editorial team, whose persevering zeal and tireless efforts have created a rising awareness and appreciation for career counselling in our country. For the small but growing band of qualified career counsellors in India, a forum for sharing research and ideas was very much needed and the IJCLP has come at the right time.

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**Dr. Hazel Reid**, Reader in Career Guidance and Counselling; Director of the Centre for Career & Personal Development, Faculty of Education, Canterbury Christ Church University, UK.

Greetings to all readers and subscribers of this first issue of the Indian Journal of Career and Livelihood Planning! It has been a pleasure to be involved in this significant development for career guidance and counselling. Times are troubling in many parts of the world, for numerous reasons, and in such times career guidance and related activities can bring hope, encourage resilience and foster adaptability. The work is important for all our biographies—so keep on keeping on!

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**Helmut Zelloth**, Senior Specialist in Vocational Education and Training Policies and Systems, European Training Foundation, Italy.

The first issue of the Indian Journal of Career and Livelihood Planning is definitely a major milestone in the Indian history of career guidance and counselling and it is exciting to think about what is still to come with the next editions. For me it has been a great honour and pleasure to be involved and to see the spirit and energy of the authors and editors to drive things forward in career guidance in India. When doing the review I felt that the authors of this first edition are protagonists of a historical moment and a long-lasting event which will have many interesting and important stories to tell to the readers and subscribers. My tip is 'Think and compare globally, build and join nationally, and act and sustain locally'. Again my compliments and congratulations that you finished the first and most crucial phase of such an important project in such a short time!

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**Leong Jenn Yeong**, Head of Department for Student Development, Assumption Pathway School, Singapore.

Congratulations to the Indian Association for Career and Livelihood Planning (IACLP) for the successful launch of the first issue of Indian Journal of Career and Livelihood Planning. What the association is doing is indeed ground-breaking and I believe that this endeavour will bring about greater connectedness and make a difference to a country which is set to be one of the leading economies of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I am privileged and indeed humbled by this opportunity to work and partner with all of you in this endeavour.

As a career guidance and counselling professional, I believe that forging partnerships is crucial and this can take place at three levels. The first level is collaboration with your clients in helping them to develop new dynamic career stories. The second level is helping and working with people within your organisation to advocate client-centric programmes and enable the first level of collaboration to take place; and finally, the third level where fellow career guidance professionals come together to create platforms for resources and best practice sharing which will enable society to create their own stories of the future. The IACLP represents one such platform and I hope that despite our diverse cultures and settings, we come together, united in our goal to contribute to the betterment of society.

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**Dr. Malavika Kapur**, Professor and former Head of the Department of Clinical Psychology, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS); Professor, National Institute for Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore, India.

To quote Prof Girishwar Misra, as mentioned in his keynote address at the Jiva conference in 2010, to be prepared for the unknown and the uncertain is an important aspect of career choice that is often overlooked: there is a need to face these with courage. One must also have a series of choices not just a single one that you pin all your hopes on. One must be able to choose from other choices if one option falls through. It is important to think creatively and make your own career that has a bearing on your own unique talents, and explore the need for it, and market it.

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**Dr. Mantak Yuen**, Associate Professor, Centre for Advancement in Inclusive and Special Education University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China.

Here are ideas I would like to share: As career guidance practitioners we need to equip ourselves with up-to-date knowledge on career development in diverse cultural and social contexts. We need to strengthen our interpersonal and group skills for facilitating people's career planning and decision-making. Information technology and multimedia can be of great value in career education programmes. Always evaluate processes and outcomes from our services. Congratulations on the first issue of IJCLP!

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**Dr. Mark Watson**, Professor of Psychology, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa.

Greetings from South Africa to you—the reader of this new and exciting journal! In this second decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, career and livelihood planning takes place in constantly changing social, political and economic contexts. It requires of us as career practitioners to regularly update our theoretical knowledge and our practical counselling skills. It is my hope as one of the Consulting Editors that reading this journal will assist you in that process.

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**Dr. Mary McMahon**, Senior Lecturer, School of Education, The University of Queensland, Australia.

Congratulations on this inaugural issue of an exciting new career journal! Career and livelihood planning is a critical service for individuals and communities. I believe that assisting people to plan their lives is a privilege. Engaging with others to hear their stories and learn from and with them facilitates the construction of meaningful future plans. This important work and the growing Indian profession of career and livelihood planning will be well supported by this new journal and the leadership it offers.

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**Dr. Nirmala Almeida**, Associate Professor and Head, Human Development Specialisation, Nirmala Niketan of College Home Science, University of Mumbai, India.

The long awaited and eagerly anticipated first issue of the Indian Journal of Career and Livelihood Planning is off the blocks and running! I am sure that this Journal will be a springboard for research productivity in an area that is mushrooming but under-researched in the Indian context. For budding and blossoming career guidance practitioners, keeping updated, sharpening career guidance skills, and evaluating guidance services should be accorded high priority as accountability is a key feature of career guidance practice.

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**Dr. Renette Du Toit**, Research Manager, EE Research Focus; registered research psychologist; member Health Professions Council; member Career Guidance Consulting Group under the leadership of the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA), South Africa.

After a long contemplation of the human condition, Sigmund Freud nominated work and love as the two essential ingredients of a healthy and well-adjusted personality. Just think about the immense opportunity (and responsibility) that career development practitioners have in assisting an individual with making fundamental choices about his/her work-life! Do it, live it, and enjoy it; it is important and meaningful work.

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**Tony Watts**, Founding Fellow and Life President, the National Institute for Careers Education and Counselling (NICEC); Visiting Professor, the University of Derby and Canterbury Christ Church University, UK.

I warmly welcome this new Indian Journal. It represents a seed from which many new flowers can bloom. Career guidance has much to offer to India; India has much to offer to the field of career guidance globally. A journal is a symbol of serious engagement, to ensure that practice is grounded in sound theory and research. The work is too important to be based on anything less.

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