



The 3rd International Congress in Emotional Intelligence

Opatija, September 8th-10th, 2011

Emotional intelligence has sparked a huge degree of interest both amongst the general public and in scientific and practical fields. Since the concept first emerged, research into emotional intelligence has grown exponentially and scientists and experts in a variety of different disciplines and in all parts of the world have joined this fascinating line of research. This is shown by the numerous publications that have appeared in prestigious magazines and by the volume of scientific work in the field of emotional intelligence being produced around the world and in Croatia too.

The 1st International Emotional Intelligence Congress was organized by its founder Pablo Fernandez Berrocal in Malaga 16th to 19th of September 2007, and was a great success attracting 350 leading scientists and experts who contributed, from the perspective of their different specialties and areas of research, by analyzing important theoretical, empirical, and practical aspects of emotional intelligence.

At the First Congress it was decided that the next meetings would take place every two years (in Santander, 2009; Opatija, 2011; and New York, 2013).

The 2nd International Emotional Intelligence Congress took place in the city of Santander (Spain), organized by the Marcelino Botín Foundation on the 16th to 18th of September 2009, with more than 400 attendees. Two third of the presentations at both Congresses were in Spanish, and we decided to continue with English and Spanish as the official languages of the Congress.

A beautiful city of Opatija, Croatia, hosted the 3rd International Congress on Emotional Intelligence. It was the first EI Congress outside of Spain, and it was very difficult to organize such a successful meeting with the same great atmosphere as it was in Spain.

The three main aims were continuing to be the topics of the 3rd Congress: I) to review existing EI conceptual models, together with theoretical aspects of the concept; II) to analyze the latest advances in the field with regard to current approaches available for the evaluation of EI; III) to demonstrate the impact of EI in practical environments. In this respect, the contributions for the Congress was divided into five sessions:

1. Measurement of EI
2. EI in educational and academic settings
3. EI at the workplace
4. EI and personality qualities
5. EI, health and well-being

One hundred ninety four participants registrated to the Congress, and have presented 189 papers and posters. Also, eight distinguish keynote speakers covered a wide variety of emotional functioning.

Lisa Feldman Barrett (Northeastern University, USA) proposed a psychological construction framework for understanding how the brain creates emotion in more or less intelligent ways. In her amazing talk she presented both

brain and behavioral evidence to show that the workings of these ingredients hold the key to understanding emotional intelligence.

Marc Brackett (Yale University, USA) has presented the RULER approach to social, emotional, and academic learning which is based on the premise that emotions are central to decision making, learning, physical and mental health, academic success, and social interaction. Also, he provided an overview of RULER and its underlying theory, and discussed findings from experiments showing the impact of RULER on the academic, personal, and social lives of students and educators.

Paulo N. Lopes (Catholic University, Portugal) synthesized relevant prior work and recent research findings to explore some of the challenges involved in measuring and studying emotional intelligence, using it effectively in the workplace, and designing powerful training programs in this realm. He argued that there is great potential to improve motivation and productivity at work by enhancing leaders' capacity to manage their own and others' emotions.

Batja Mesquita (University of Leuven, Belgium) raised the question to what extent an immigrant's emotional intelligence can predict the degree of emotional acculturation, above and beyond the variation explained by immigration status (e.g., number of years in the host country, the number of contacts with majority culture members). She also discussed an interpretation of the results that emotional intelligence is a culture-bound phenomenon.

Hideki Ohira (Nagoya University, Japan) has shown empirical evidence for the functional associations of the brain and body accompanying decision making as follows. (1) Heart rate responses and concentration of inflammatory cytokine (IL-6) can predict acceptance or rejection to an unfair offer in an economical negotiation game. (2) Sympathetic responses reflected by secretion of epinephrine are represented in brain regions such as the midbrain, anterior cingulate cortex, and anterior insula, and furthermore can determine randomness of decision making in a situation where action-outcome contingency is stochastic and unstable.

Tomas Chamorro Premuzic (University of London, UK) compared and contrasted the predictive power of EQ and IQ as determinants of career success. He argued that the impor-

tance of EQ as a driver of career success has been underestimated by mainstream scientific research in Psychology: the main reason for this is that most, if not all, studies have conceptualized "career success" in terms of job performance, focusing only on traditional career trajectories. In two empirical studies with US and UK entrepreneurs, he has shown how EQ is a better predictor of career success than IQ.

Richard D. Roberts (ETS, Princeton, NJ, USA) discussed his research team's recent attempts to develop new measures of emotional understanding and management using the situational judgment test paradigm, given in both self- and other-rating formats, and as text or multimedia. Across nearly a dozen studies, he has shown the measures (particularly of emotion management) have acceptable reliability, and appear to predict a range of valued outcomes (including academic performance, wellbeing, and coping with stress).

One of the authors of EI, Peter Salovey (Yale University, USA) began with a brief history of the idea of emotional intelligence and a formal definition of it. After that he shared findings from several studies that address relations between emotional intelligence and competencies that matter in the workplace, school, family, and social environment. Finally, he commented on the popularization of emotional intelligence by the media throughout the world and discussed some of the controversies that have ensued.

We would like to acknowledge the support given by organizations and individuals who have collaborated on preparing this Congress, and to thank all of those who have taken part in it: members of the Scientific Committee, the exceptional speakers, and all those whose hard work and scientific endeavor have contributed to the Congress. All participants shared sincere enthusiasm and spoke highly of pleasant and productive atmosphere, Croatian beauties and hospitality. Additional information together with keynote speakers' PowerPoint presentations, book of abstracts, and photos from the Congress can be found at the web site: www.icci2011.org

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