



## Global Integration Update

### August 2014

### Getting Organized

Hi from Geneva and hope your summer season is going well! Here are a few brief updates for GI.

**1. Periodic Updates.** We are currently sending these updates about once a month to about 50 colleagues. If you prefer to not receive them, just let us know ([mcaresources@gmail.com](mailto:mcaresources@gmail.com)). The main updates over the last couple years are now organised by month/date and are posted on our MCA website in the Global Integration section. [Click here to access them](#) . This will help to keep track of some of the initial thinking, news, resources, and developments for GI.

**2. Self-Deception.** Yesterday we sent you (and 1500+ others) the monthly [MCA Resource Update](#). The theme was character /self-deception. One of the featured articles was from Sam Sommers, a psychology professor at Tufts University. Those in academia might find it particularly interesting since it looks at six ways we deceive ourselves, with a number of university examples. The main illustration is great—our caption for it would be ‘trekking through the lah-lah land of self-deception.’ Click here for the article: [A Tool Box on Self-Deception](#).

**3. Webinar: Aid Workers Under Attack.** August 19 is [World Humanitarian Day](#) to commemorate the humanitarian personnel who have lost their lives while serving humanitarian causes. One of the events happening is a free webinar featuring author Larissa Fast, talking about her new book, *Aid in Danger: The Perils and Promise of Humanitarianism*. The event is hosted by the Overseas Development Institute (London). For those of you on PST, it may be well worth the early rise at 6am to view it live. [Click here for more info and to register](#).

**4. Good Input--Developing GI.** In April there was a special meeting in Pasadena, CA to talk more about connecting/contributing to the developing area of Global Integration. Present were: Jenny Pak and Cherry Steinmeier (RSP), James Steinmeier, Cynthia Eriksson (Fuller), Kelly O'Donnell (MCA), and Marvin McDonald (TWS, by skype). We shared some of our activities and interests in GI-related areas and considered some ways forward, including presentations at CAPS conferences. See the summary and follow up items in the GI Updates section of the MCA website—[click here](#).

**5. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—Update.** We want to encourage us all to stay in touch with the major efforts to put together the post 2015 SDGs. The SDGs build upon the Millennium Development Goals and the UN General Assembly (New York, Sept. 2014) is preparing to discuss, debate, and negotiate the SDGs, especially in reference to the [17 proposed SDGs](#) released 19 July by the Open Working Group (review these!). “Mental health and wellbeing” across the lifespan, for example, are included within the 169 proposed “targets” (albeit very general). **“Proposed goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages....3.4 by 2030 reduce by one-third pre-mature mortality from non-communicable diseases (NCDs—[cancer, respiratory, diabetes, cardiovascular]) through prevention and treatment, and promote mental health and wellbeing.”**

Warm greetings,

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