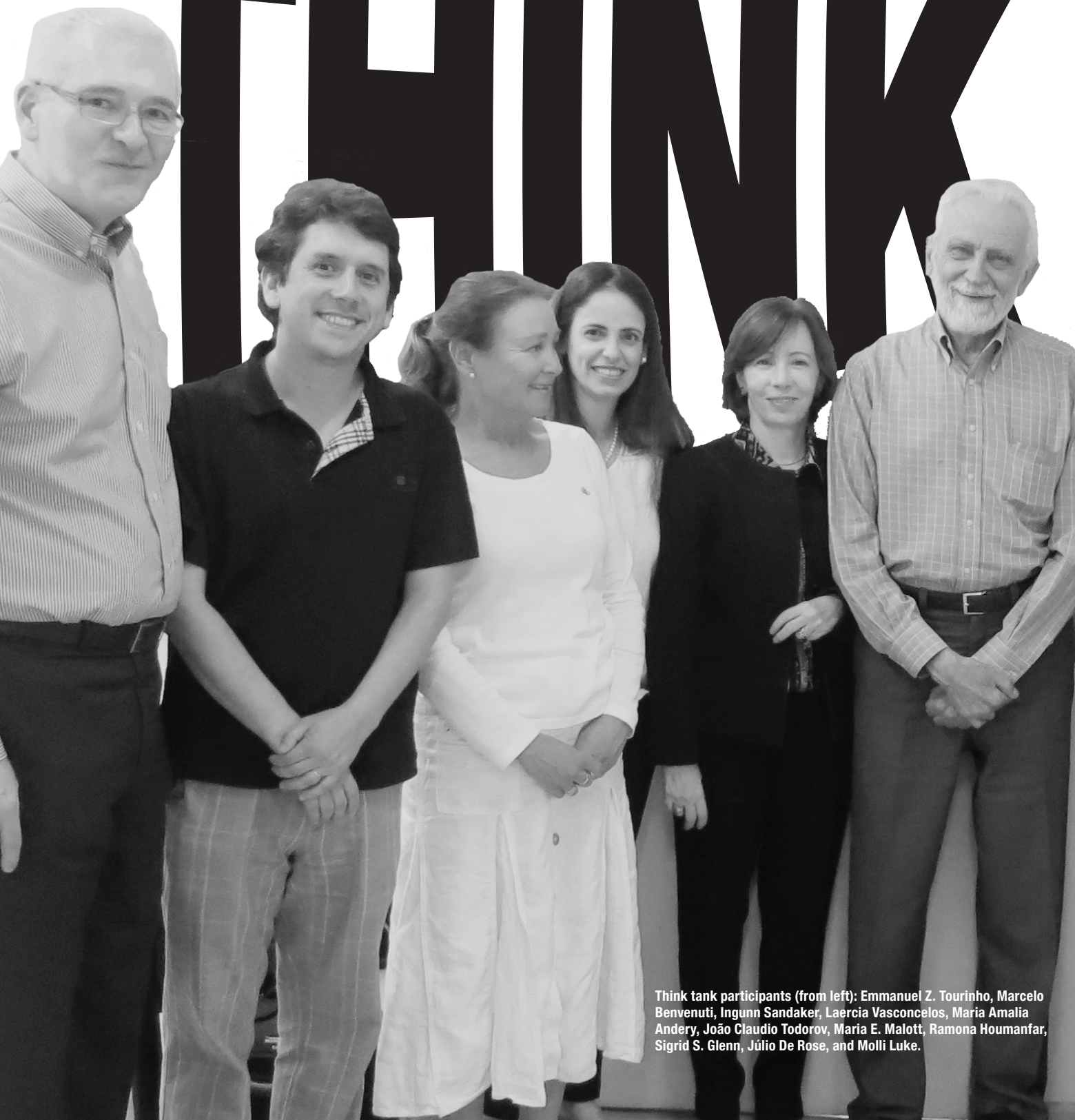


# THINK



Think tank participants (from left): Emmanuel Z. Tourinho, Marcelo Benvenuti, Ingunn Sandaker, Laercia Vasconcelos, Maria Amalia Andery, João Claudio Todorov, Maria E. Malott, Ramona Houmanfar, Sigrid S. Glenn, Júlio De Rose, and Molli Luke.

# TANK



## Cultural Analysis From a Behavioral Perspective

São Paulo, April 9–10, 2015

BY JOÃO CLAUDIO TODOROV, MARIA AMÁLIA ANDERY, MARCELO BENVENUTI, JÚLIO DE ROSE, SIGRID S. GLENN, RAMONA HOUMANFAR, MOLLI LUKE, MARIA E. MALOTT, INGUNN SANDAKER, EMMANUEL Z. TOURINHO, AND LAERCIA VASCONCELOS





**1** Conference presenters and think tank participants.

On April 9–10, 2015, a stimulating event titled, “Contingências Sociais: Indivíduo, Cultura, e Sociedade” took place at the University of São Paulo in Brazil. There, a group of faculty, students, and distinguished scholars, inspired by the work of Sigrid S. Glenn and João Todorov, discussed essential concepts on how cultural phenomena could be considered from a behavioral perspective. The think tank was part of a regional meeting of Brazilian Society of Psychology (Sociedade Brasileira de Psicologia, SBP) and was organized by Todorov and Marcelo Benvenuti. The opening session was attended by Ricardo Gorayeb, president of the Brazilian Society of Psychology.

This was scholars’ third formal discussion on cultural phenomena and behavior analysis. In 2005, the first think tank on meta-contingencies and cultural analysis was organized by João Claudio Todorov and Maria Malott as an initiative of ABAI and the Associação Brasileira de

Psicoterapia e Medicina Comportamental in Campinas, Brazil. The second was organized in 2007 by Ingunn Sandaker at the Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences in Norway.

Think tank members were able to appreciate laboratory research on the concept of metacontingency and other cultural phenomena in the laboratory through a poster session review.

Think tank participants, conference invited presenters, and the audience had the opportunity for exchange during the morning session. Invited presenters summarized their research to think tank participants and the audience and then think tank participants presented the summary of their work.

The 2015 cultural analysis think tank and associated conference was sponsored by the following organizations:



**2** Deisy das Gracias De Souza discusses data during a poster session.



- Brazilian Society of Psychology: A civil nonprofit organization, with its headquarters Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo, Brazil. The society publishes abstracts of its annual meetings and a magazine titled *Trends in Psychology*; organizes meetings that serve as a space for the creation of other associations on similar topics; and collaborates with other scientific associations for knowledge dissemination and protecting the interests of teaching, research, and practice in psychology.
- The Institute of Psychology of the University of São Paulo (<http://www.ip.usp.br/portal/>)
- The São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP): A public foundation with the mission to support research projects in all fields of knowledge within higher education and research institutions. The foundation works with the scientific community to fund research in biodiversity, bioenergy, global climate change, neuroscience, and other

related fields. FAPESP maintains cooperative agreements with national and international research funding agencies, higher education institutions, and business enterprises and offers programs to support foreign scientists willing to work in research institutions in the state of São Paulo, Brazil (<http://www.fapesp.br/en/>).

- The CAPES Foundation: A public foundation established in 1951 within the Ministry of Higher Education as a Brazilian government agency awarding scholarship grants to graduate students in universities and research centers in Brazil and abroad (<http://www.iie.org/en/programs/capes>).

Concepts developed by the think tank will continue to be refined and a follow-up meeting will take place in 2016 at a summit of cultural analysis in Denton, Texas—organized by Sigrid S. Glenn and others.



**3** The audience looks on.