

Two-Day Ecumenical Conference in NYC Explores “The Future of Psychoanalytic Education”

Angela Musolino

The Future of Psychoanalytic Education, an ecumenical conference held at the Lycée Francais in New York City on December 1st and 2nd, was a unique event bringing together psychoanalysts from almost every analytic viewpoint in the United States. The keynote speaker, Swedish psychoanalyst, Jurgen Reeder, author of “Hate and Love in Psychoanalytic Institutions,” proposed that there is a need for a new focus on the “ethos” or spirit of psychoanalysis. He stated that it is important for psychoanalysts to work together to resist the challenges to psychoanalysis from the positivist paradigm of the scientific community and the monitoring demands of a consumerist climate. In her response to Reeder’s paper, Jennifer Harper stated that the psychoanalytic ethos rests on our unique methods of practice and investigation, and as keepers of silence and relatedness.

Remarkably rich and complex, the conference featured six panels on topics ranging from the impact of regulation on the education and practice of psychoanalysis to the nature of power and authority in institute life. The papers presented were exciting, and challenged both mind and heart on questions of what is psychoanalysis, who should define it, and what influence should a pluralistic world view have on psychoanalytic theory and practice. The breadth of material presented, from musings on the ontological underpinnings of psychoanalysis, to critiques of the day-to-day practices of institutes, to the emotional experience of candidates in training and the political implications of regulation, makes it impossible to cover it all in this brief review. What follows is an impressionistic summary.

The conference brought together thirty different analytic organizations and institutes. Classical mainstream points of view tangled with those promoting progressive innovative responses to change. A kaleidoscopic mix of reality and fantasy was displayed in response to the meaning of these differences.

Flashpoints for conflict centered on the role of the training analyst and the frequency of sessions. At one end of the training spectrum, psychoanalytic candidates can choose any qualified psychoanalyst for personal analysis during the course of their training; at the other, a candidate is assigned a training analyst from a small group that is intimately affiliated with the training institute. Those affiliated with either view (or something in between) felt strongly about the “rightness” of that particular model.

The “frequency question” which was touched upon in many of the panels and presentations ranged from a more conservative view, which defines treatment that requires three or more sessions per week as psychoanalytic to a more progressive view that any treatment, regardless of frequency, that focuses on transference and resistance is psychoanalytic. The presentations and audience questions indicated that there is a general misconception that modern psychoanalysts prescribe only once weekly sessions. It appears that the modern psychoanalytic principle of using the contact function to determine the frequency of sessions is not clearly understood by those outside our member institutes. ...continued on pg. 3

SMP Conference Tour leaves March 20th for Buenos Aires

SMP’s Conference Tour flies to Buenos Aires on March 20th and returns March 30th. The trip includes 9 nights at the five-star Regal Pacific Hotel in Buenos Aires in the heart of the city and within walking distance of Florida Street, famous plazas and other important sites. Four course dinners, site seeing, the tango, and the opportunity for visits to Iguassu Falls are all part of the trip.



The tour is limited to 45 but there may be some spots left. So if you are interested, contact tour organizer, Dr. Ted Laquercia; e-mail: tlaquercia@aol.com; phone: NY 212.242.1107, Boston: 617.277.7957, home: 212.580.7280.

CMPS Hosts Second Annual Phyllis W. Meadow Awards

Ron O. Lieber and Jennifer Wade



CMPS and BGSP honored the winners of the Second Annual Phyllis W. Meadow Award for Excellence in Psychoanalytic Writing at an evening reception and award ceremony in the CMPS Great Hall on Friday, November 9th. **Claire Kahane, PhD**, won the \$3,000 first prize for her paper "A Contract to Terminate: Mourning the End of the Transference." Kahane is a literature scholar with psychoanalytic training from Berkeley, California. Honorable Mention was awarded to **Andrea Celenza, PhD**, and **Christopher Fowler, PhD**, for their paper "Altering Psychotic Processes: A Case Study of Psychoanalytic Interventions with a Schizophrenic Patient;" **Sharon Klayman Farber, PhD**, for her paper "Autistic and Dissociative Features in Eating Disorders and Self-Mutilation;" and **Angela Sandone-Barr, MEd**, for her paper "Cynthia and Gold: A Modern Psychoanalytic Study of a Fragmented Ego." All papers will be published in *Modern Psychoanalysis*.

A cozy crowd gathered in the Great Hall for the ceremony. Claire Kahane flew in from Berkley, California to receive her first prize from Mimi Crowell, PhD, CMPS President, and Jane Sndyer, PhD, BGSP Provost. Jennifer Wade provided closing remarks including the good news that the Seaver Institute has agreed to fund the award for next year. So if you have an idea for a paper, get to work on it in time for next year's award competition. The author of the paper that the judges agree makes the greatest contribution to psychoanalytic literature will receive a first prize of \$3,000. Each of three honorable mention winners receive \$500. **The deadline for submissions is June 2, 2008.** For more information on the award consult: cmeps.edu; bgsp.edu or call Ronald O. Lieber at the CMPS office: 212.260.7050.

www.SocModPsychoanalysts.org

SMP's website is being updated by SMP webmaster Ted Wong and is designed to function as the printed SMP Registry by providing information about SMP, its institutes, and its members. The 2008 printed SMP Registry will be taken directly from the website. Visit www.SocModPsychoanalysts.org to check your listing. To change your listing contact SMP Membership Chair, Eve Hazel: dr.evehazel@aol.com. Check the site also for updates on SMP activities and current and past issues of the *Analyst*.



SMP Annual Meeting & Elections will be held in Spring 2008
Watch the mail and SMP website for details on date and time.

NYS Licensing Update

The NYS Board of Mental Health Practitioners, by unanimous decision, established regulations related to the Experience requirement for licensing as a psychoanalyst at their last meeting on October 26th. The law requires 1500 hours of supervised experience before being allowed to sit for the examination. The regulation clarifies that the requirement can be met through a combination of at least 750 hours (50%) of direct face-to-face contact with patients and up to 750 hours of indirect activity e.g., supervision, professional development, etc. **A reminder to all NYS licensed psychoanalysts:** The law mandates that any change of name or address must be reported to the NYS Department of Education within 30 days of the change.

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“The Future of Psychoanalytic Education”

continued from page one

Dr. Vicki Semel (ACAP), representing modern psychoanalysis, presented an abbreviated version of her paper “Understanding the Fieldwork Experience: How Do We Know When Students “Get It” about Narcissism?” on the panel “Constructing Our Psychoanalytic Ethos: How and What We Teach.” Semel identified seven criteria educators can use to measure a student’s growth in understanding severely regressed patients; how they observe the contact function, their interventions, defenses and reactions to those defenses, their description of the patient’s symbolic and unconscious verbal and non-verbal communication, their reactions to the patient and an understanding of those reactions, their reactions to supervision, and the student’s interactions with classmates.

The success of the conference might best be measured by the unanswered questions it generated: What do we hold on to from the past and tradition that has value without becoming ossified, rigid, or obsolete; what changes in theory, technique and practice are so mutative that psychoanalysis would not recognize itself; how can we remain vital and relevant in a world that at large may be antithetical to psychoanalysis; how do we negotiate the tension between impulses to join together as a psychoanalytic community, yet maintain our distinct and separate identities; how can we disagree powerfully but respectfully, and not act on our destructive, envious and narcissistic urges?

The conference was a vibrant demonstration of the difficulty of holding the tension of differences without breaking apart. As was noted by one participant, “We psychoanalysts finally made it to the Paris Peace Table. This conference represents the first round of talks. If anything is to be accomplished as a group, we need to move beyond the threat of our differences and try to manage to tolerate what we cannot change in the other.”



Conference organizers, Jane Hall and Arnold Richards are planning a second meeting next year. **SMP members can provide an important contribution to this project by writing and submitting papers that will share our particular perspective with the wider psychoanalytic community.**

Jurgen Reeder’s paper is available at: <http://internationalpsychoanalysis.net/category/future-of-psychoanalytic-education/>

INSTITUTE NEWS

ACAP and BGSP Introduce Master of Arts in Psychoanalytic Counseling Degree

A CAP is pleased to announce a new degree and licensing opportunity for students. The Academy of Clinical and Applied Psychoanalysis is again in the forefront of educational innovation through the introduction of the Master of Arts in Psychoanalytic Counseling. In coordination with Centenary College this degree—the first of its kind in New Jersey—began in September 2007 at our Livingston site. The program permits our students to apply for licensing as a professional counselor after the first two years of the ACAP program combined with some additional academic and clinical requirements. Our commitment to develop this degree grew out of the needs of our students who often ask if they can become licensed after completing our Master of Arts degree. Now the answer is, “Yes.” The ability to obtain a clinical license opens up an even wider range of professional opportunities for our students.

We are also reorganizing our original Master’s degree to emphasize the Applied Psychoanalytic component with fewer clinical requirements. The revised degree will appeal to teachers, those who work in human resources, and anyone who wants to learn more about human motivation and how to work with “difficult people”—our specialty.

—Vicki Semel, PsyD, ACAP Executive Director

Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis (BGSP) opened its Master of Arts in Psychoanalytic Counseling in Fall of 2007 to nineteen students, 9 new and 10 transfers from the Master of Arts or doctoral programs. The program builds on the prior Master of Arts in Psychoanalysis, adding an elective and four counseling courses, along with the inclusion of material on counseling to separate discussion sections of relevant courses in the psychoanalytic program. In addition, students complete a more extensive clinical experience to meet internship requirements, building on the prior fieldwork externship program. Students completing the program meet the master’s level requirements for licensure as a mental health counselor in the state of Massachusetts. Licensure requires the completion of additional clinical hours post-master’s as well as successful performance on a licensing exam.

For several years BGSP students have expressed interest in licensure as mental health counselors as Massachusetts does not regulate the practice of psychoanalysis and many clinical settings require a mental health license. The new counseling program provides a solid foundation in psychoanalytic theory and psychoanalytic approaches to diagnosis and intervention while providing exposure to other approaches to clinical work.

—Jane Snyder, PhD, BGSP Provost

Why Johnnie Still Can't Learn

Eileen Keating

“Why Johnnie Still Can't Learn” a conference sponsored by BGSP in conjunction with Wheelock College, showcased the dissertations of two VGSP graduates, introduced the research of other students, and presented a dialogue between educators and psychoanalysts and psychotherapists. The conference, organized by Joanne White of BGSP and VGSP and Petra Hesse of Wheelock College was held on October 13 and 14th at Wheelock, and represented BGSP's first educational collaboration with another college.

The three principal speakers, introduced by Jane Snyder of BGSP and VGSP, addressed the connection between emotional development and learning. Barry Waterson presented his study on the impact of modern psychoanalytic thinking on affect regulatory disorders and the development of mentalization in a child diagnosed with ADHD. Laurie Godfrey's research described the emotional obstacles to second language acquisition in children, illustrating how emotions impede educational processes and how her tactical approaches lowered resistance to learning. Elizabeth Truslow, an advanced student at VGSP, presented her work with autistic and Asperger's children demonstrating the thoughts, feelings and development of a child by following the child's contact and by observing the development of his art. Waterson and Truslow have previously presented their research at the Yale Child Study Center; Truslow has also pursued further research at London's Tavistock Clinic.

A panel of educators and psychoanalysts, moderated by Mary Shepherd and including Jennifer Andrews, Kathleen Henneberry, Laurie Godfrey, Robin Jones, Sandra Augustino, William Sharp, Marlene Lezama, provided vignettes of meeting the emotional needs of individual children with innovative programs in the school setting—programs drawing on the expertise of teachers and psychoanalytically trained practitioners. These demonstrated the need for such cooperation in the context of the challenges confronting educators today.

The second day of the conference was led by BGSP advanced students Robin Dash and Gunta Kaza, who are artists and faculty at Brandeis and Mass College of Art respectively. They led participants through the Museum of Fine Arts encouraging participants to 'Look as Learners.'



BGSP School Based Program Continues to Grow

The School Based Program (SBP) of the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis (BGSP) and the Boston Institute for Psychotherapy went back to school in September as did the students. The program has grown, adding new schools to the list of those served and expanding services in the schools where we are already involved. SBP has been in contact with 3 new schools and is collaborating with the after-school programs to run parent groups as well.

ACAP Conference for Educators

By Pat Bratt



ON NOVEMBER 30, 2007 ACAP invited educators to a conference designed for all professionals working in our elementary and high schools. The day-long event began with talks by ACAP directors Maurice Lovell, Sheila Zaretsky, Patricia Bratt and Vicki Semel. Topics were ACAP's unique experiential model of teaching and learning, and The Step Back Method for studying problem situations, and effective ways to develop intervention strategies with even the most difficult cases.

Participants then met in small discussion groups that became their "team" for the day. They were asked to use the method described in the morning to study and analyze problem situations. The groups provided an opportunity to experiment with the method while being able to discuss some of their own frustrating cases. The entire day was used for learning and social interaction, modeling the philosophy that learning is an organic process that occurs in many venues and is always enhanced by the development of interpersonal relationships. Lunch was another opportunity to chat informally and to pick the winning raffle ticket for a lucky participant who won a course at ACAP for next semester. In the afternoon participants returned to small discussion groups to tackle a sample case scenario as a team. They choose spokespersons for the group and returned for a general session where team representatives discussed the process and findings of their group. As happens this approach led to lively competition among teams, with cheers and many laughs. The day ended with a reception.

"Joining Forces" Grant Provides NJ State Workers with ACAP Training

Sheila Zaretsky

"Joining Forces," a program developed by ACAP, has provided training for workers in state agencies such as the Division of Youth and Family Services as well as workers in state-run mental health facilities. "Joining forces" grants from the Health Care Foundation of New Jersey provided twenty-five scholarships in the 2006-07 school year, thirty scholarships in the 2007-08 school year and has been renewed for 2008. Participants are eligible to enroll in one course per semester and may enroll in a small group supervision that meets every other week for one year. Participants report that their studies at ACAP have been very helpful. As one student noted, "I'm more patient with myself and with my workers, and more effective overall."

NJCMP Conference: What Makes Mother Real?

Demetria DeLia

Judith Akullian's presentation, "What Makes a Mother Real?" at the New Jersey Center for Modern Psychoanalysis conference in September was based on the long term treatment of a woman born without a uterus who embarked on a surrogacy.

Stanley Hayden was panel moderator with discussants, Demetria DeLia and David Panozzo. Gerald Fishbein, scheduled to attend, sent his remarks in a letter which was read by Dr. Hayden.

Student Profile: Raul Plasencia

Barbara D'Amato



As I chatted with Raul Plasencia, in the Front Room at the Center he was a Certificate Candidate. In a few weeks he will present to the Faculty, engaging in the final rite of passage for students, in which they demonstrate understanding of modern analytic theory and technique. It is a threshold upon which they emerge as graduates and receive certification. At this writing Mr. Plasencia is awaiting his turn.

Raul remembers his admission to the school involved metaphorical "kicking and screaming," as he compliantly followed his analyst's recommendation to register. At the time he was enrolled in a doctoral program in social work, where he had not found the clinical training he wished to master. However, he

was uncertain whether or not he wanted to be a psychoanalyst. He was clearly in conflict. The late Cyril Meadow, long time Center Director/Founder, made a lasting impression on Raul when he finally applied for admission in 1994. Mr. Meadow told Raul he was the kind of student the Center wanted. When asked if he were ready to begin earning \$100,000 per year, Plasencia felt deeply understood. Meadow had spoken both to his conscious desire for increased income and his unconscious need to belong.

Initially cautious and still ambivalent about his decision to study at the Center, Raul suspected he might be the only "gay Latino," on the premises. He felt isolated and thought he had nothing in common with "these psychoanalysts." Yet, he remained, continued to take classes, advancing through the program. Things started to shift in one class when Dr. Sara Sheftel asked for a volunteer to videotape Cy Meadow's Memorial Service and Raul found himself volunteering. He silently thought, "What's the worst that could happen?" Plasencia made a conscious decision to become more involved with the psychoanalysts.

Raul has been CMPS Student Association President for several years. He has been a visible presence at Center functions and works on several committees. Raul believes that his experiences at CMPS have taught him not to hide. He says he now feels quite comfortable with who he is and how he relates and would like to be part of the next generation of modern analysts. To any student who is uncertain about completing the program Raul's recommendation is "stick with it, work it through, it is so worth it."

Liegner Article Reaches Wide Audience

Ronald O. Lieber

Dr. Evelyn Liegner's article, "Focused Countertransference Exploration in Classroom Teaching of Modern Psychoanalytic Candidates," appears in the current issue of *Clinical Social Work*, (vol. 35, pp 277-286.) This is a triumph for Dr. Liegner and for modern psychoanalysis. The paper outlines our pedagogical position in working with students and by extension with patients. It reaches an audience who most likely have not heard of modern psychoanalysis or if they have are fuzzy as to its significance. The article summarizes clearly and succinctly our treatment philosophy and its efficacy in working with preverbal resistance. The abstract states, "The focus is on moving candidates from an intellectual to an emotional experience of regression, transference, and countertransference as it is manifested in the classroom setting, and to study these manifestations and the treatment approach used to elicit them." If you'd like a copy of the article, please contact me: 212.260.7050. Copies are on reserve in the CMPS library.

SMP Calendar Winter/Spring 2008

Institute full name and address is listed with first entry. Please submit calendar dates to
Charlotte Melnik at Melnikcs@hotmail.com



Friday, January 11th, 7:30-9:30pm

CMPS Adoption Circle Workshop: **The Magic of Adoption.** Center for Modern Psychoanalytic Studies (CMPS) 16 W. 10th Street, New York City. Information: 212.260.7050/www.cmeps.edu.

Tuesday January 15th, 1:00 –2:00 PM

CMPS Informational Open House: Learn about a career in psychoanalysis. CMPS: 212.260.7050; e-mail: cmeps@cmeps.edu/www.cmeps.edu.

Tuesday January 15th, 1:00 –2:00 PM

Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis-New York (BGSP-NY). You are cordially invited to learn about our Masters Program in Psychoanalysis. BGSP-NY, 16 West 10 Street, NYC. 212-260-7050/bgsp-ny.bgsp.edu

Wednesday, January 16th, 7:30 – 8:30 PM

Academy of Clinical and Applied Psychoanalysis (ACAP) Open House. Learn about our programs. ACAP, 301 South Livingston Avenue, Livingston, NJ. ACAP: 973.629.1001/www.acapnj.org

Friday, January 18th, 7:30-9:30 PM

CMPS Professional Lecture Series. Lucy Holmes, PhD, presents, "Why Talking Cures." CMPS. For information: 212.260.7050/www.cmeps.edu. (see pg. 10)

Fridays January 18th, and February 29th at 6pm

Boston Graduate School for Psychoanalysis (BGSP) Information sessions for all programs. BGSP, 1581 Beacon Street, Brookline MA 02446. BGSP, 617.277.3915; e-mail: bgsp@bgsp.edu; www.bgsp.edu

Sunday, February 10th

New Jersey Center for Modern Psychoanalysis (NJCMP). "The Induction of Death Wishes in the Unwanted Child." Discussants respond to the case of a woman, the product of an unplanned pregnancy, who develops panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder and breast cancer. NJCMP: 201.974.1222.

Tuesday, February 12th, 5:30-6:30 PM

CMPS Informational Open Houses: Learn about a career in psychoanalysis. Get a tour and introduction to our programs. 212.260.7050/ www.cmeps.edu.

Tuesday, February 12th, 5:30-6:30 PM

Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis-New York Come to learn about our Master of Arts in Psychoanalysis. BGSP-NY: 212.260.7050/www.bgsp-ny.bgsp.edu

February 15th, 7:30-9:30pm

CMPS Adoption Circle Workshop Series: **Search and Reunion, Part II:** Showing of the award-winning documentary, *Las Hijas*, directed by Maria Quiroga who joins us for discussion. 212.260.7050/www.cmeps.edu.

Friday, Feb. 29th, 7:30-9:30PM

CMPS Professional Lecture Series
Elliot Zeisel, PhD, presents, "Affect Education and the Development of the Interpersonal Ego in Modern Group Psychoanalysis." CMPS. 212.260.7050/cmeps.edu. (See article on pg. 10)

Friday, February 29th at 7:30 pm

Gallery 1581 Opening— BGSP is opening a new show called "Contact". There will be a talk and reception on Opening Night. BGSP, 617.277.3915/www.bgsp.edu

Sundays, March 2 and May 18

Brooklyn Seminars in Modern Psychoanalysis Brunch Programs: "Getting It Right." (See pg. 9)

March 20th to March 30th

SMP Conference & Tour to Buenos Aires. (See pg. 1)

SPRING 2008

SMP Annual Meeting & Elections. Date/Time: TBA

CMPS and the Studio School present

• **Sixth Annual Education Conference** •

CMPS. Date TBA: 212.260.7050/www.cmeps.edu.

Friday, April 11, 7:30-9:30pm

CMPS Professional Lecture Series
Lynn Laub, PsyD, presents "Affective Attunement and Cognitive Understanding." 212.260.7050/cmeps.edu.

Friday, May 9th, 7:30-9:30pm

CMPS Professional Lecture Series
Dan Gilhooley, PsyD, presents, "Mistakes." A study of clinical "mistakes." 212.260.7050/www.cmeps.edu.

Friday, May 23rd, 7:30-9:30pm

CMPS Professional Lecture Series
Robert Quackenbush, PhD, presents: "The Use of Psychoanalytic Techniques with Children and Adolescents." CMPS: 212.260.7050/www.cmeps.edu.

Monday-Friday, July 7th-11th

BGSP Annual Cape Cod Conference
Please make plans to join students and faculty from all three institutes in Wellfleet. BGSP: 617.277.3915
e-mail: bgsp@bgsp.edu • www.bgsp.edu.

CMPS Conference November 10th features panel of "Sages"

June Bernstein

The annual CMPS conference this year featured a panel of sages, most in their ninth decade, with at least 200 years of combined clinical experience. **Arnold Bernstein** acted as moderator and was the perfect elder statesman displaying his usual tact and diplomacy. One person described the conference as "one of the best I can remember." Others described it as: "informative," "thought provoking," "hilarious," and "confrontational."



Dr. Evelyn Liegner

Evelyn Liegner gave a compelling account of how she psychoanalytically supervises clinicians, many of them social workers, who work in private practice and in agency settings, and at times both, a situation that is becoming more prevalent in the twenty-first century. She gave a case illustration of

modern psychoanalysis in action. In this demonstration she described how dynamic engagement in the moment with the supervisee presenting a problem helps the student to understand how to work with a client rather than by being told what to do. The audience, including visiting students from NYU and Hunter College, found her presentation clear, candid, and richly informative.

Leslie Rosenthal declared that he didn't know whether he was a tribal elder leading his flock to better hunting grounds or to the nursing home. Rosenthal raised the issue of mortality in a way that was both serious and entertaining. The passage of time and its changes became a *leit motif* for other speakers and for members of the audience.

Murray Sherman was dubious about the *professionalization* of psychoanalysis, and whether degrees, licensing, and formal training were ruining our profession. He, along with some members of the audience, regretted the changes made since the Center started in the early 70s as an experiment in training psychoanalysts. While some agreed with Dr. Sherman's anti-institutional point of view, (one audience member said it resolved his resistance to completing his degree) others questioned whether he was being realistic (another member of the audience wondered whether we too, 30 years from now, would be espousing the proverbial elder's stance, that nothing is what it used to be). Then Sherman surprised the audience by declaring that he had



Drs. Murray Sherman and Leslie Rosenthal

been trained in many different theories and found that all of them worked. He revealed that he is secretly hoping to get a Nobel Prize for developing one that doesn't work!

Robert Marshall was unusually serious at this conference. He has been absorbed by the latest research on mirror neurons and has been thinking and writing about the implications for psychoanalysis. He finds that this research gives scientific credence to Spontitz's recommendations on mirroring and joining.

The agenda was set to accommodate the experiential and clinical nature of the conference and participants gathered right after lunch into workshops led by CMPS faculty.

For a "summing up" when participants returned to the hall, Lucy Holmes and Sara Sheftel initiated an open discussion of the workshops and the conference. This was taken up by the morning's speakers and by audience members in an appropriate participatory exchange of questions and responses with varied interpretation and feelings expressed about the content of the day.

Dr. Sheftel announced that she was stepping down as Chair of the Conference Committee—a position she has held for 15 years—and passed the torch to Dr. Lucy Holmes. The day ended with the usual social get together where, with refreshments, the talk continued.



Dr. Sara Sheftel,
Conference Chair

The provocative discussions begun at the conference are scheduled to be taken up more fully at CMPS' **Professional Lecture Series** this Winter-Spring 2008 (*article on pg. 10.*)

ACAP Summer Conference: “Building Emotional Resilience”

Sheila Zaretsky

Held on sunny, wind-swept Long Beach Island, ACAP’s summer conference in August was again a marvel of learning and growing together. Our attendees this year, although a bit fewer in number than in past years, signed up for many more workshops, making the experience more one of depth than of casual learning.

Our theme, building emotional resilience in ourselves and in our patients, introduced participants to the modern psychoanalytic conceptualization of mental health (resilience) as consisting of the ability to have all of one’s feelings and still act appropriately. Emotional resilience was examined in our workshops as a necessary part of being a social species. The capacity to be in touch with our own emotional state is necessary to tune into and help modulate the emotional state of another. While self-knowledge is the first step in being able to integrate our full range of feelings while allowing us to use judgement and self control in the face of great arousal, we also require a space in which talking and being heard by another can occur without interference.

CMPS Adoption Circle Workshop

Josie Oppenheim



On Friday November 30th, Josie Oppenheim and Ruth Meyers led a workshop, “Understanding Relationships from the Perspective of Adoptive Parents, Birthparents, and Blended Families: The Universal and Unique Challenges.” Though the workshop was aimed at adoptive families,

its themes touched upon dilemmas experienced in blended and traditional families. Dr. Meyers spoke on the recent history of adoption and the ways in which adoption has become more visible and less secretive. Ms. Oppenheim examined the political component of adoption—that of it being “different” as are other non-traditional families such as those headed by same sex parents. Participants included adoptive parents, those planning to adopt, mental health professionals, and other professionals working in the fields of adoption and foster care. A very lively and provocative discussion ensued where personal experience and case material were shared. The talk centered on the conscious and unconscious meanings of the desire to locate one’s biological parents if one has been adopted and the fantasy of having been adopted when one is apparently biologically connected to one’s family. The workshop ended with refreshments and an animated further exchange of ideas and e-mail addresses.

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Next Adoption Group Workshop: Friday, January 11th, 2008. Information: 212.260.7050 • www.cmeps.edu.

Cape Cod Conference— “Back to Basics: Transference and Countertransference”

Jill Solomon

Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis (BGSP) Annual conference at Cape Cod —“Back to Basics; the core psychoanalytic concepts of transference and countertransference,”—welcomed Myriam Szejer, a Parisian child psychiatrist and psychoanalyst. Szejer’s talk was entitled: “Words to Be Born: Psychoanalysis on a Maternity Ward.” Szejer does groundbreaking work with failure-to-thrive infants and their parents. Szejer finds that failure-to-thrive infants have absorbed a feeling state from the parents and have bodily interpreted this feeling as a wish that they not thrive and survive. By interviewing the parents within the first three days of birth, Szejer is able to understand what is blocking the baby from taking in nourishment. Using interpretation with the baby, Szejer is able to unlock the emotional block and promote growth. The audience was fascinated with her work and asked many questions in order to understand the dynamics of how her communication to the babies is processed and integrated in order for the babies to begin to take food.



BGSP’s 2008 Conference at the Cape. July 7-11th, Wellfleet. Details to come. 617.277.3915/ www.bgsp.edu.



The Life and Times of an “APP”

Ernest Brod

—A parent, estranged from her 23-year old daughter, is concerned she may be ill but doesn't know where she lives.

—A “master of the universe” business executive, charged with accounting fraud, faces the possibility of jail.

These are some of the more difficult cases I deal with in my practice, and modern psychoanalytic techniques have been helpful in all of them. Sound like just another day at the analyst's office? What makes this unusual is that my practice is corporate investigations and intelligence, and I deal with clients not patients.

I have no formal training as a psychoanalyst, but years of marriage to a modern analyst, two decades of individual and group therapy with a modern analyst, 23 years of leading workshops at Brooklyn Seminars in Modern Psychoanalysis, and ten years as a trustee of SMP have qualified me as an “Applied Psychoanalysis Practitioner.” Modern psychoanalytic principles have helped me to be successful at building relationships and at developing business by learning how to overcome my resistances to networking and “selling.” Through open-ended, non-threatening questions, good listening techniques, and “joining,” I find I am able to bond with clients and gain their trust.

Also, I have embraced forensic psycholinguistics as an investigative tool. All of us select our words and express our thoughts in a completely individualized manner. Psycholinguistics can build profiles of people based on their use of language and can identify a writer using a sample of the suspect's writing for comparison.

I have led numerous workshops on success in the workplace at Brooklyn Seminars and the CMPS Extension Division and have presented programs in company offices around the world on networking and building relationships. These quickly come to resemble analytic groups, as we work toward my own most basic modern psychoanalytic principle—being aware of your feelings, but acting in your self-interest.

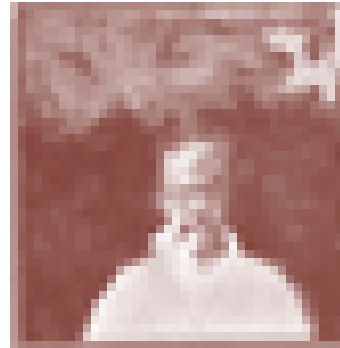


Brooklyn Seminars in Modern Psychoanalysis Brunch Programs

Topic: “Getting It Right,” 10:30am-1:30pm, Sunday, March 2, Michaela Schaeffer, PhD and May 18, Ernest Brod, JD. 917-602-9394/erniebrod@yahoo.com.

“Presence” — CMPS Art Show

Kenneth Feingold, Curator



Self Portrait (Adolescence)
Dan Gilhooley, 2007

A group of CMPS faculty, fellows, and candidates interested in increasing the profile of CMPS in the cultural scene in downtown New York City, formed an art committee in 2007 chaired by Lynn Laub. We sent out a call-for-entries and received hundreds of submissions from which fifteen artists' works were chosen.

The exhibitors shared a thread—the human figure—which has been a focus of art from its beginnings. But here rather than examining the figure itself, the artists' representations evoke familiar aspects of the interiority of the person which in turn, evoke certain affective responses in the viewer.

In particular, this group of works produces feelings that might be described as disquiet, along the boundary of absence/presence. A sense of the presence of something which is absent, or the absence of something, which is present. This can be traced to Freud's discussion of “The Uncanny” (1919), the uncomfortable affect he defined as *Unheimlich*, and to André Green's discussion of negative hallucination in “The Fabric of Affect in the Psychoanalytic Discourse” (1973): “...I understand negative hallucination not as absence of representation, but as representation of the absence of representation, which is expressed clinically by an excess of affect, whose effect in relation to its representative correlate may be compared to the effect of aggressivity when it is disintricated from erotic libido.”

We see in many of the works the representation of drive derivatives, whether strictly along the lines of contemporary forms of embodying Eros and Thanatos or in over-determined fusions of these derivatives. In Amy Stienbarger's “Matts”— One spells out “Welcome” and the other, “Go Away”; Carmen Lizardo's “Self Portrait with Clock” presents the body full of it's own life energy (pregnant, naked, attractive) while choking on a clock (time, mortality.)

The exhibit opened October 21st to a large and enthusiastic crowd. On view through December the art works added a dimension to life at the Center and we look forward to the next show planned for the Spring of 2008.

Double Congratulations, Dr. Rosenthal

Ron O. Lieber

Two congratulations to **Dr. Leslie Rosenthal**, CMPS founder and professor emeritus, who last month won two Gradivas, the award given by NAAP "for the best published, produced or publicly exhibited works that advance psychoanalysis." One was for "The Thermo-static Function of the Group Analyst: Regulating the Degree of Stimulation in the Group," originally published in the journal, *Modern Psychoanalysis* and "The New Member: 'Infanticide' in Group Psychotherapy," originally published in the *International Journal of Group Psychotherapy*. Both articles are found in Rosenthal's monograph "Theory and Practice of Modern Analytic Group Analysis: Selected Papers of Leslie Rosenthal" published by *Modern Psychoanalysis*.

CMPS Professional Lectures 2008

CMPS' PROFESSIONAL LECTURE SERIES is designed to **demonstrate how we work and think**. Lectures are held on 5 Fridays this Winter and Spring at CMPS from 7:30-9:30pm. Fee: \$10/\$7 students. 212.260.7050/cmeps.edu.

- **January 18: Lucy Holmes, PhD**, "Why Talking Cures." Twenty-five years of clinical experience and the most recent research in neuroscience validate Freud's theory that "saying everything" helps patients get better.
- **February 29: Elliot Zeisel, PhD**, "Affect Education and the Development of the Interpersonal Ego in Modern Group Psychoanalysis." The use of emotional communication in group helps members develop an interpersonal ego.
- **April 11: Lynn Laub, PsyD**, "Affective Attunement and Cognitive Understanding." The analysts' emotional attunement and cognitive understanding are used to strengthen psychic structures that interfere with maturation.
- **May 9: Dan Gilhooley, PsyD**, "Mistakes." A study of clinical "mistakes" touches on controversial issues concerning fundamental elements in psychoanalytic technique. Clinical examples demonstrate how mistakes, used creatively, can focus and improve treatment.
- **May 23: Robert Quackenbush, PhD**, "The Use of Psychoanalytic Techniques with Children and Adolescents." Understanding symbolic communication allows us to help children put their thoughts and feelings into words.

All Presentations are followed by audience discussion and refreshments

the Analyst

1. NYC Ecumenical Conference
SMP Conference Tour
2. NYS Licensing Update
3. Master of Arts in
Psychoanalytic Counseling
Programs Begin
4. Institute Education
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6. SMP Calendar 2008
10. Professional Lecture Series