President's Column

Hazel Ipp, Toronto

This is just a brief communication to update you on current developments and upcoming events in the IARPP community.

First, I am delighted to announce that the IARPP Board elected Jeremy Safran to the position of President-Elect as of February 2008. Jeremy will serve as President of IARPP in 2009-2010. Jeremy has been an active member of IARPP since its inception, serving on the Founding Board and continuing to play a vital role ever since, spearheading, chairing, and organizing our incredibly successful Web Seminar Series. Apart from his consistent IARPP involvement, he is Professor and Director of Clinical Psychology at the New School for Social Research and also on the faculty of both the New York University Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis and the Stephen A. Mitchell Center for Relational Studies. He has published several books, including Negotiating the Therapeutic Alliance: A Relational Treatment Guide; Emotion in Psychotherapy; and Psychoanalysis and Buddhism: An Unfolding Dialogue. I look forward to our collaboration going forward in the service of IARPP.

Our membership continues to grow in exciting ways. We were thrilled to recently welcome our first member from Alaska! Along with our increase in membership is an expansion of Relational communities within many countries. The composition of our Local Chapters Committee, co-chaired by Neil Altman and Chana Ullman, reflects our growing international presence.

Exciting new links with communities in South Korea, Peru, Sweden, and Norway are currently being developed. And new communities are appearing in the wings. It is indeed very gratifying to witness the burgeoning of Relational thinking as it takes root in so many diverse countries and cultures. We look forward to enjoying a thriving mutual influence and meeting of minds around the globe.

Our Baltimore Conference, chaired by Joe Lichtenberg, fast
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Report from Sydney

2009 International Conference

Online Colloquium
June 9-22
approaches, and we look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible. It promises to be a wonderful conference with a lineup of exciting plenary and topic-specific panels and papers that will delve deeply into the convergences and divergences of Relational thinking and attachment theory. The program is designed to maximize dialogue and audience engagement, and we look forward to lively and rich discourse, friendship, and fun.

We are also delighted to announce that our next International Conference will take place in Israel, June 24-29, 2009. The Conference is entitled “In the Shadow of Memory: Relational Perspectives on Remembering and Forgetting” and promises to be spectacular! Watch for announcements and a Call for Papers soon.

As we grow and develop in so many exciting ways, I wish to extend my grateful thanks to all of you, both those in the forefront and those behind the scenes, who dedicate so much time, energy, creativity, and thoughtfulness in making IARPP all it is and all it promises to become.

IARPP
Annual Conference
May 29- June 1, 2008

Relational Perspectives on Attachment Theory and Psychoanalytic Practice
The Sheraton Baltimore City Center Hotel

Co-Sponsored and Hosted by the
Institute of Contemporary Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis
Dr. Joseph Lichtenberg, Conference Chair

Pre-Conference Master Classes

Panels
Relational Perspectives and Attachment Theory: A Theoretical and Clinical Overview

The Contribution of An Attachment and A Relational Perspective to an Exploratory Treatment: A Clinical Observation

An Attachment and Relational Perspective in the Treatment of Traumatized Patients

Workshops, Paper Presentations, Discussion Groups
Conference Receptions
Membership Meeting
Final Integrative Plenary

Register now at www.iarpp.org
IARPP’s first online colloquium for 2008, which runs from Monday June 9 through Sunday June 22, will feature Muriel Dimen’s paper “Money, Love, and Hate: Contradiction and Paradox in Psychoanalysis.” The colloquium will be moderated by Adrienne Harris and Jade McGleughlin and includes a distinguished international panel of discussants: Richard Frankel, Katie Gentile, Lewis Kirshner, Ingrid Pedroni, Andrew Samuels, and Charles Spezzano.

Dimen, who is a psychoanalyst and cultural anthropologist, notes that “The way analysts talk, behave, and feel in relation to money, is replete with an uneasiness that is the surface manifestation of a deep, psychocultural contradiction between money and love that cannot be thought, willed, or wished away. For the clinical project to succeed, this contradiction can and must find a temporary, reparative resolution in the paradox between love and hate.”

This colloquium will take up the question of money in the spirit of the Marx-Freud tradition, in postmodern perspective, and through several languages—not only psychoanalysis but also social theory, anthropology, and, less centrally, feminist theory. It will address money’s unconscious and emotional resonance as well as its cultural meanings. Money’s clinical and theoretical vicissitudes in the context of cultural symbolism and economic change will also be considered along with the class position of psychoanalysis and the psychology of class itself. Money’s relational meaning in the transference and countertransference will also be addressed.

All current members of IARPP will automatically be signed up for the colloquium. Prior to its beginning, instructions will be sent by email to explain how to download the paper and participate in the discussion. During the two weeks of the colloquium, everyone is free to join the email conversation with the presenter, moderators, and discussants.

We are excited to be able to present this discussion to all IARPP members. Please mark your calendars and check your email for further announcements.

Daniel Shaw & Bruce Reis Co-Chairs, Continuing Education Committee

Save These Dates

Upcoming IARPP Online Seminars

May 26 - June 23
Ghislaine Boulanger’s “Adult-Onset Trauma”
Moderated by Nancy Vanderheide

Sept. 8 - 26
Candidates’ Seminar led by Jody Davies
Moderated by Lucyann Carlton

Oct. 13 - Nov. 7
Todd Essig’s “The Possibilities and Limits of Providing Psychoanalytic Care at a Distance”
The Sydney Chapter Discusses Self-Disclosure

Mary Bayles, Sydney

The Sydney Chapter of the International Association for Relational Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy (SCIARPP) was formally constituted in September 2007 after many years in the planning. SCIARPP held its first major event on March 15, and that clearly placed it on the Sydney psychoanalytic/psychotherapy map.

Fifty-five participants met at a superb new venue in Sydney Harbor beneath a bright blue sky and sprawling vistas of yachts and water for a day-long symposium entitled “Perspectives on Self-Disclosure.” Our focus was Philip Bromberg’s essay “The Analyst’s Self-Revelation – not Just Permissible, but Necessary” from Awakening the Dreamer: Clinical Journeys (2006). Although Philip wasn’t with us, his delight in our using his work set the tone for the event—warm, open, and engaged. We had four speakers address his paper, followed by small-group discussions, before returning to the large group for summing up.

Mary Bayles presented a paper detailing the basic premises that underpin Bromberg’s claim that self-revelation is not only permissible but necessary to therapeutic action. Bromberg prefers the term “self-revelation” to “self-disclosure,” I believe, because it highlights that what is disclosed is a revelation, that is, something new that is introduced into the dyad to help open up potential space.

We were pleased to have Robert Bosnak with us. Robbie is a Jungian analyst who is a friend and colleague of Bromberg’s and who has often been cited in Bromberg’s writing. They had lunched the week before, and Robbie, telling us a little of his discussion with him, conjured Philip up into the room before he began his talk. Robbie focused on the importance of earning the right to self-disclose, articulating through vivid examples how the analyst must work with his feelings about how the patient views him while simultaneously holding onto his own point of view, all the while keeping in mind the patient’s need for an experience of safety.

In our first venture into inviting the wider analytic community to actively dialogue with us, we invited a speaker from the Sydney Psychoanalytic Institute – Louise Gyler. Louise was great! She spoke to the paper from a British object relations perspective and engaged with us in a productive and insightful way about theoretical similarities and differences, generating a really interesting discussion.

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Save the Date

2009 IARPP International Conference
June 24-27, 2009
David Intercontinental Hotel
Tel-Aviv, Israel

The Shadow of Memory
Relational Perspectives on Remembering and Forgetting

World-Renowned Speakers

New Voices from Our Growing International Community

Invited and Submitted Papers and Panels

Social and Cultural Events

A Call for Papers will be announced at the end of May

Conference Co-Chairs
Hazel Ipp, Rina Lazar, Chana Ullman

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Tessa Philips finished the morning by presenting a moving account of self-disclosure and the clinical issues that confront an analyst who is required to deal with a significant life event that powerfully impacts the therapist and as a result the therapeutic work. She used Russell Meares’ maxim “what happens next” to assess the impact of her self-disclosure in a variety of clinical situations.

We had some lively small group discussions followed by a splendid lunch. When we came back together in a large group, we found ourselves in an enactment between the speakers and the audience. One brave participant openly expressed that she observed a noticeable shift in the relationship between the panelists and the audience. The engagement between them seemed to have changed so that all the conversation was happening among the panelists and not between them and the audience. Her revelation allowed everyone to acknowledge their discomfort, and we were able to unpack what we thought was going on, with participants openly disclosing their felt experience. It was a fitting and lively end to the day!

The event finished with many participants expressing their excitement and gratitude for the breath of fresh air that SCIARPP offered. The openness of our dialogue and freedom we felt to speak up were frequently commented upon. We felt enormously proud of ourselves. Our executive only assembled as a working unit in September, but the small group worked hard to organize a successful event in an amazing venue with a sense of seamless ease.

We are currently in the process of planning guided reading groups to start later in the year as well as another major event to coincide with the Annual General Meeting in September. Having started as a reading group about 6 years ago, SCIARPP now has 46 members, one major event on record, and another on its calendar of upcoming events. Please look us up if you come to Sydney.

Would you like to write about the Baltimore Conference for the eNEWS?

Email s_naiburg@yahoo.com to join the IARPP Press Corps.