
IARPP eNEWS

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International Association for Relational Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis
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Interview with Hazel Ipp

by Karen Rosica, Psy.D.

We have decided to do something a bit different with our president's column for this issue: instead of having Hazel write something, Karen Rosica did a brief interview with her -Ed.

Hazel Ipp received her M.A. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Witwatersrand, in South Africa in 1978, her Ph.D. from York University, in Toronto in 1986, and her Certificate in Psychoanalysis from the Toronto Psychoanalytic Institute in 1994. She is a Founding Board Member and Vice-President of the Toronto Institute for Contemporary Psychoanalysis where she is a training and supervising analyst. She maintains a private practice in Toronto and is on the faculty of the Institute for Contemporary Psychoanalysis, The Toronto Child Psychoanalytic Program and The Institute

for the Advancement of Self-Psychology. She is a Visiting Faculty Member of Istituto Di Specializzazione in Psicologia Psicoanalitica Del Se' E Psicoanalisi Relazionale (ISIPSe) in Rome. She serves on the Editorial Boards of Psychoanalytic Dialogues and Contemporary Psychoanalysis.

K: Hazel, tell me just a little bit about you professionally. Have you been presidency prone in your life? Does this happen often?

H: I wouldn't say that exactly. I am active in my professional life. For the past 15 years I have been very involved in creating and running the Toronto Institute for Contemporary Psychoanalysis, which, like IARPP, was the brainchild of

Stephen Mitchell. For many reasons, IARPP holds a special place for me

K: Tell me something about how you came to IARPP or, better, first tell me how you came to Relational thought.

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H: I was originally trained in South Africa. My training was quite classical and Kleinian. My psychoanalytic training in the Toronto community here was through the IPA Institute and therefore continued in the classical tradition. A supervisor introduced me to self-psychology, which I found attractive because it significantly humanized the clinical field for me. Soon after Jay Greenberg and Steve Mitchell published *Object Relations in Psychoanalysis*, Steve came to speak in Toronto. This

was a turning point for me. Their ideas bridged a lot of what had gone before and opened up so much more. "Bridged" really understates what I mean to say. Their thinking spoke to much that was on my mind and on the tip of my clinical tongue. It opened new and expansive clinical and theoretical possibilities--especially in terms of its inclusiveness, which I think is the essence of the Relational movement. When Steve began developing his ideas for IARPP, he invited me onto the Founding Board. Delightedly, I accepted and the rest is, well, history.

the IARPP holds such an important place in your professional life?

H: The Relational Movement is very exciting to me. I believe it has re-energized psychoanalysis internationally. IARPP represents a confluence of the ideas and people who have been writing and contributing to Relational thinking over the past two decades. It has made a special contribution that other organizations haven't in terms of a vital and growing community with a shared sensibility. I want to emphasize IARPP's vitality. Our Web Seminars fill up within days of being advertised and our on-line colloquia have been a huge success too. Did you know that we had 1000 people attend the last online colloquium? That is rare, I'm sure.

K: Can you say what thinking this way has changed for you clinically?

H: It revitalized me. I love working this way and thinking about clinical work in Relational terms makes so much sense to me. It makes me feel internally more active and far more present in the work. It seems to have the same impact on my students. At first, working this way unnerves them but then they feel excited and energized by the possibilities and the ideas.

K: I think that is practically unheard of. How do you account for that?

H: Of course, I can only surmise. IARPP is an umbrella for relational thinking. So many people around the world have been waiting for just such an organization where they can enter into a professional conversation with each other. At least,

K: Is this part of why

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that is my sense. An idea whose time has come. Our membership comes from 26 different countries. This great variety has emerged because IARPP offers open dialogue, which many in the field of psychoanalysis are seeking. The goal now is to intensify this internationalization and to make sure this openness expands so we can involve more people in making the organization what it can be.

K: Relational thinking, for me, has created a dialogue with authors I might never have read.

H: Me too. I developed a whole new interest in the British writers with a relational lens. I had read them before but they took on different life when I re-read them. Many diverse analysts have become integrated into my thinking in a new way.

K: What are you teaching now?

H: I am teaching several courses but I think my course on Analytic Impasse uses Relational thought in the most interesting way. And I lead several study groups in which we read together. Currently, we're

reading Philip Bromberg's new book, "Awakening the Dreamer: Clinical Journeys."

K: What kind of help would you like from others in the organization?

H: I want to see even greater community development within the organization. The same people can't and shouldn't keep doing everything. I would love us both to bring in new people and to involve others who are already members but might be sitting on the sidelines.

K: It's an interesting question: Is there a next generation? What happens after the revolution?

H: You've hit on the exact point. That's what I am aiming to stimulate—the next generation. We've already begun. For example, a large number of our papers at the Athens conference will be submitted and refereed. We will continue to need the "stars" in our organization because people will always want to hear from them. But we need to expand our community. How do we draw others in? I would like help from others with thinking this through. Did you know that about 40% of our membership now comes from outside North America?

K: No kidding?

H: Yes. Much is going on outside North America

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2007 Dues Reminder:

THE IARPP MEMBERSHIP YEAR ENDS JANUARY 31, 2006
YOU MAY RENEW YOUR DUES FOR 2007 AT THE IARPP INTRANET VIA OUR
SECURE, ONLINE RENEWAL FORM.
PLEASE LOG IN AND RENEW YOUR DUES FOR 2007.
AUTOMATIC REMINDERS FOR RENEWAL WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU STARTING IN
MID-DECEMBER.*

*PLEASE NOTE THAT REDUCED IARPP DUES FOR 2007 ARE AVAILABLE FOR
STUDENTS, CANDIDATES, ACADEMICS, AND NON-PRACTICING MEMBERS.
PLEASE SEE THE MEMBERSHIP PAGE OF THE IARPP WEBSITE FOR DETAILS:
[HTTP://WWW.IARPP.ORG/HTML/MEMBERSHIP/FEES.CFM](http://www.iarpp.org/html/membership/fees.cfm)*

**UNLESS YOU ARE A NEW MEMBER SINCE SEPTEMBER 1, 2006.*

*PLEASE CONTACT OFFICE@IARPP.ORG FOR MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS,
INFO@IARPP.ORG FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS*

that is very stimulating, and we know this because there is such a great international interest in IARPP with local chapters forming in several different countries outside of the United States. We also need more people from all over this continent. The New Yorkers do so much; they have a lot of know-how, energy and investment in this project. But they can only do so much. And there is burnout. We need more new energy that will help carry the organization. This is the challenge, I think. Growing another generation.

K: What countries are currently represented?

H: Well, there is a long list outside of the United States and Canada. To name a few, there is Australia and New Zealand, and South Africa. In Europe, there is England, Italy, Spain, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Israel, Turkey, Greece, Slovenia and other Eastern European Countries. You know, I don't have them all in my head. Valerie Ghent, our incredible administrator, is the container for this kind of information. I don't know where we would be without her, by the way.

You know, she is Manny Ghent's daughter. Manny worked tirelessly along with Lew Aron and really helped launch the IARPP after Steve's death. Of course, the rest of the very able board assisted them. Val continues to hold the organization together in all sorts of important ways. We rely on her tremendously. I am imagining that the list of countries represented would be on our website, but I really don't know. It should be if it isn't. It's a good question and important information.

What I can say is that there is a lot of interest among the Europeans. Our next conference will be in Athens (July 2007) and Spyros Orfanos is coordinating it with a member from Greece--Alexis Mordah--along with their local committee comprised of people from several countries. The structure they are proposing will be different from our previous conferences with greater diversity and inclusiveness. There has been a call for papers, which is a first for us--a bit tardy but we've finally done it--and it will be part of our conferences from now on. There will also be pre-circulated papers in some instances. There

will be workshop formats, and there will be the annual members' meeting. We will also be featuring a panel comprised of candidates from around the world. Candidates are representative of a new generation for us and we want to encourage their involvement. I think this openness and variety will contribute to drawing others in.

K: It's more relational! Really more inviting and accessible.

H: There is a bit of a vicious circle we need to address: We want people to get involved. But, people tend not to get involved unless they feel involved. But to feel involved, one has to get involved. So to meet this challenge, we are working on both fronts: helping people to feel involved by continuing to develop IARPP's promise of openness, and helping people get involved by fostering and recruiting a new generation's participation in the running of IARPP.

K. Hazel, I, for one, support your ideas and wish you the best of luck. Thanks very much for your time. ❖

Reflections on the Boston 2006 IARPP Biennial Conference

In January 2006, nearly 500 people from various parts of the world gathered in Boston for a conference and came away with a moving, unforgettable experience.

The over-all mission of the IARPP Boston conference was to explore, from Relational perspectives, what happens within our psychoanalytic approach as it encounters life's inescapable realities and the impingement of overwhelming world events. Hence, the title: ***"Close Encounters: Relational Perspectives at the Psychological Edge."***

Through the creative initiative of the Co-Chairs Hazel Ipp and Barbara Pizer and the Boston Planning Committee, the Conference theme was conceived in terms of light and darkness seeking to capture some of the dimensions in the analyst's encounters with clinical and existential impossibilities. The Plenary panels addressed ways we hold the light of courage, tenacity, hope, creativity, love, and spiritual surrender in our encounters with the

darkness of the unknowable, the inescapable, the unfathomable, the unacceptable, and the seemingly unchangeable. With this in mind, the plenary presenters spoke to the challenging problems of knowing self and other; of facing illness, mortality, injury, or loss; of inhabiting the contexts of power, prejudice, and oppression; and finding the means to enlarge our minds to contain chaos and paradox and all that lies beyond our control. Reflecting the Conference theme of encounters at the psychological edge, the four Plenary Panels were titled:

- *Two Person Dialectics: The Analyst's Subjectivity in Dyadic Crisis*
- *The Shadow of Loss: Helplessness and Resilience in the Therapeutic Process*
- *Social Crisis as Psychic Emergency: The Clinical/Political Edge*
- *Chaos, Creativity, and Transformation*

In addition to the plenary

panels, there were twelve paper sessions, including well known speakers as well as several newer contributors within our IARPP community.

Perhaps the spirit of the conference is best conveyed in Barbara Pizer's closing comments and Valerie Ghent's memorable song:

"In this moment, as I am overwhelmed with gratitude, you might worry that I've gone over the edge, or moved too far back from the edge. Not so. I hope, like myself, you have become more at home at the edge.

"Along with Hazel, I say, 'thank you' to the members of our Program Committee and the Boston Conference Committee* – Hazel has just now thanked them by name. Also, a thank you to Shelly Petnov-Sherman for facilitating our CE credits. Unfortunately for us this year, we were unable to extend them to MDs. Thank you to Cass Jones,*

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Michelle, Ken, and Shirley Freeland of PCMI for their organizational assistance. Thank you to our Panel Speakers, Moderators and Interviewers, our Invited Speakers and the Moderator/Interviewers. And finally, a heartfelt thanks to you, our Participants, who have contributed so much to the success of this Relational quest and adventure.

“If you, if we, have come away with one idea about our subjectivity as it relates to “The Trauma of Morality” (Straker), with one wedge of greater openness that allows for the letting go of helplessness, grief, and grievance (Panel 2), one toe-hold that might open a door to renewed hope; if we leave here with one less fixed assumption about our proclaimed awareness of “ordinary social crises” (Dimen, Panel 3), one less metaphorical “cup of coffee” (Altman) that allows us to “bear witness” (Ullman, Mann) to clinical process and world events, thereby deepening our commitment to personal and social freedom in and out of the consulting room; if we come away with just one small disturbance in the field of possibility, then

“one thing leads to another” (Seligman) and we will take an active part in transforming that chaos in which we find ourselves embedded.

“Finally, in the spirit of creative experiencing (Orfanos) marked by close encounters here, I would like to thank Val Ghent, our Administrative Director, who wrote a song of peace and freedom and sang it at the party last night. I would like to ask her to sing it for us once again as a way of closing this conference and opening us to our larger selves and wider worlds.”

SHOW MY LOVE

by Valerie Ghent

*There’s no more time for
hiding
no more time for pain
no more time for lying
no more time for blame
no more time for grudges,
no*

*I’m going to show my love
mmm hmmm
show my love
mmm hmmm*

*There’s no more time for
fighting
no more time for war
no more time for
battlefields
‘cause we’re closing every
door*

no more time for dying

*I’m going to show my love
mmm hmmm
show my love
mmm hmmm*

*show my love
show my love
yes I will
show my love*

*I’m going to show my love
mmm hmmm
show my love
mmm hmmm*

*If there’s no more time for
teaching
no more time to give
no more time for children
then there’s no more time
to live
no more time god can find*

*I’m going to show my love
mmm hmmm
show my love
mmm hmmm*

(© V. Ghent 2003, Cavos Music)

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Hazel Ipp and Barbara Pizer

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WRITER'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

by Stuart A. Pizer, Ph.D., ABPP & Maureen Murphy, Ph.D.

Since the first IARPP conference in 2002, the presence of so many young and new professionals drawn to this relational gathering inspired the idea of providing a Writers Development Program that would support the emergence of new voices and fresh contributions in the relational literature and at relational conferences. This idea has finally become a reality

As we now assume co-chairmanship of the Writer's Development Program, we want to let you know how we have structured it and how it will work for IARPP members. First, we have been fortunate to assemble a stellar Advisory Committee to assist us in locating experienced relational contributors who fit a specific "new" writer's project. Our Advisory Committee currently includes: Howard Bacal, Emanuel Berman, Peggy Crastnopol, Jaine Darwin, Muriel Dimen, Samuel Gerson, Sue Grand, Adrienne Harris, Marsha Hewitt, Kimberlyn Leary, Gabriella Mann, Barbara Pizer, Gary Rodin, Karen Rosica, Peter Shabad, Donnel Stern, and Chana Ullman.

We invite and encourage any IARPP member, as a benefit of membership, to send us (Stuart Pizer: sapizer@psychoanalysis.net and Maureen Murphy: pinc93@earthlink.net) your request for a writing mentor. Please be as specific as you can about the themes, issues, overarching conceptual framework, specific problems, or other details of your writing project. We will then share your request with our Advisory Committee to seek the widest possible vantage point on a good match to coach your project. We will endeavor to find a member of IARPP, suited by interest, experience, or perspective, who will agree to read and comment on up to three drafts of your paper as you prepare it for publication or presentation. No one would be asked to mentor more than one person at a time.

We hope this Program appeals to our membership, both potential beneficiaries and potential mentors. We hope to contribute in this way to the spirit of interconnectedness and growth in our relational community. And, although the Writer's Development Program is in no way linked to any journal or conference jury and can offer no assurances of ultimate acceptance for publication or presentation, we hope we succeed in cultivating refreshing new contributions within our international membership. ❖

REGISTER NOW FOR ATHENS 2007!

Registration for the IARPP Athens 2007 conference registration is open.

The conference brochure is available online at the IARPP website:

<http://www.citycongress.com/iarpp/>

On the IARPP website you will find all relevant information about the conference, including speaker list, how to make your hotel reservation, travel and tourist information, and more. Please note there is a maximum capacity for the conference so early registration is encouraged!

To register online for the conference, please go to: <http://www.citycongress.com/iarpp/registrationform.htm>

We hope to see you at the conference and thank you for your continuing membership with the IARPP.

*Hazel Ipp, President
Alexis Mordoh, Spyros D. Orfanos
Athens Conference co-Chairs
Valerie Ghent, Administrative
Director*

Online Colloquium

October 30 - November 19, 2006

Lew Aron

Analytic Impasse and The Third

Discussants: Sheldon Bach, Jessica Benjamin, Marcia Cavell, Peggy Crastnopol, Jody Davies, Sam Gerson, Matti Kleinanen, Michael Shoshani

Join us as Lewis Aron examines conceptualizations of the third in contemporary intersubjective theory. Utilizing a variety of metaphors (the triangle, the seesaw, strange attractors, and the compass) Dr. Aron explains this often misunderstood concept. Drawing on Jessica Benjamin's intersubjective theory he shows the direct implications of using this concept in clinical practice, and how the notion of the third is particularly useful in understanding what happens in and in resolving clinical impasses and stalemates of the type addressed in the work of Jody Davies. Through clinical illustration, Dr. Aron shows how therapeutically productive self disclosures are best understood as attempts to create a third point of reference that open up psychic space for self-reflection and mentalization. With clinical illustration Dr. Aron builds on his previous collaboration with Benjamin to demonstrate how the notion of the third facilitates the gradual transformation from relations of complementarity to relations of mutuality.

Web Seminar

November 20, 2006 - December 15, 2006

Brian Koehler

The Psychoanalytic Treatment of Psychosis

In "An Autobiographical Study," Freud (1925) noted, "since the analysts have never relaxed their efforts to come to an understanding of the psychosis...they have managed now in this phase and now in that, to get a glimpse beyond the wall." For over 90 years, psychoanalysts have illuminated what lies beyond the wall. This course will concentrate on the psychoanalytic treatment of the seriously mentally ill person, in particular a person with a schizophrenic or bipolar psychosis, as well as the psychotic anxieties and autistic/schizoid phenomena in neurotic patients. Throughout the course, the emphasis will be on the therapeutic process and the nature of the self vulnerable to psychosis. Topics to be covered, but not limited to, may include: the therapeutic handling of conflict and deficit, a psychodynamic understanding of such psychotic symptoms as delusions and hallucinations, the role of therapeutic transforming images, transitional subjects, therapeutic dreams, the de-integration of the separate and symbiotic selves, containment of psychotic anxieties, structuralization of the self, "taking" the transference, the therapeutic use of countertransference and self, the role of insight and self-understanding, the role of the therapeutic symbiosis, need-adapted treatment, the interaction of psyche and soma in the vulnerability to, and treatment of psychosis. Reference will also be made to current clinical research evidence, particularly in the Scandinavian countries, supporting the role of psychoanalytic treatment in schizophrenia, as well as current neuroscience research supporting the use of psychotherapy in psychotic disorders.

New IARPP Local Chapters Formed

The Membership Committee of IARPP is pleased to announce the formation of new local chapters in Israel and Sydney, Australia, and Spain. Look for reports on the activities of these new Chapters in the next eNews.

Check Out the IARPP “Members Only” Intranet

Members should be aware of the new, members-only IARPP Intranet which is now up and running. Members may receive a unique ID and password which can be used to access the site. The link to the Intranet can be found at the upper right of the IARPP website.

As IARPP continues to grow, so does our need to communicate with each other and be able easily to access information about activities and programs. The IARPP Intranet has been designed to do just that, help members communicate and have up-to-date information.

The IARPP Intranet, with a password-protected login, already has a searchable membership directory, a Bulletin Board, and Event Calendar, and CE Exams. It provides an exciting new array of online services for the IARPP membership, and as it grows and develops will provide more. For more information about Intranet features contact info@iarpp.org.

Intranet Committee Chair: Larry Zelnick, Ph.D.

Committee Members:

Diane Ungar, Ann Baranowski, Scott Bishop, Shlomo Beinart and Alisa De Torres

Check the “Resources” page of the IARPP website for upcoming Web Seminars:

<http://www.iarpp.org/html/resources/colloquia.cfm>

www.iarpp.org

Members are encouraged to visit the IARPP website at www.iarpp.org. An online membership directory is now available to members via the new Intranet services. Past and upcoming colloquium information is available as well, along with IARPP conference information, past issues of the IARPP eNews, and other membership information.