



Dr. Frances Bonds-White, IAGP President

## President's Letter

Dear Colleagues:

So many exciting things are happening within the IAGP that I hardly know where to begin telling you about them. The Third Mediterranean Regional Conference was a joy to attend. The Granada Summer Academy was an exciting experience for the participants and we are anticipating the upcoming Pacific Rim Conference in Matsue, Japan. Finally, Esther Stone, M.S.W. and Maurizio Gasseau, Ph.D. (co-chairpersons of the Scientific Program Committee) with the assistance of Jaime Ondarza Linares, M.D. and Eva Fahlstrom, M.A. (Co-Chairpersons of the Precongress Institutes) and Claudio Merlo, Ph.D.; Renato de Polo, M.D.; and Sylvia Anfilocchi, Ph.D. (Local Organizing Committee, COIRAG) are working very hard to produce an outstanding International Congress for us in Rome, Italy in August, 2009. You will be reading about them in this edition of the Globeletter.

The members of the Executive Committee and the Committee Chairs of many committees are working very hard to build the internal structure of our organization. Thanks to the hard work of Howard Kibel, M.D. our information specialist and Pinky Lee, our administrative assistant, our membership data base is getting more and more up to date and we will soon be publishing a membership directory.

The Nominating Committee, under the leadership of Fern Cramer Azima, Ph.D. is working very hard to

make our nominations procedures clear, transparent and ethical. For the first time, we have elected members serving on the Nominating Committee. The committee members are Jean Francoise Millat, France; Richard Repos, M.S.W., USA (the elected members) and Marianne Wiktorin, M.A., Sweden; and Walter Stone, M.D., USA (the appointed members).

What the IAGP needs more of is you, our members working together with Board members on committees. In order to learn more about your interests, our president-elect Jorge Burmeister, M.D. and a group of BOD members are developing a Membership Survey which they will be sending to you soon. Please respond and tell us what you want from and for the IAGP. Also, if you are willing to work on a committee now and in the future, or if you have any questions or concerns about the IAGP, please contact me at [President@iagp.com](mailto:President@iagp.com).

Finally, I want to express my gratitude to Cecelia Winkelman and Ethel Tillinger, the Editors of this newsletter. Remember you can help them in your job by sending in your news and announcements for the next edition.

Frances Bonds-White, Ed.D., FAGPA, TSTA, CGP  
President, IAGP

See President, Page 7

## A Bridge Called Mediterraneo / Un Puente Llamado Mediterráneo

### 3rd Regional Mediterranean Congress of the IAGP and the Spanish Association of Psychotherapy and Group Techniques (SEPTG)

Two hundred fifty participants met in the beautiful City of Barcelona for the 3rd Regional Mediterranean Conference of the IAGP, titled 'A Bridge called Mediterranean' from the 28th of February to the 2nd of March, 2008. It took place in the World Trade Centre, a wide and modern located space looking over the Mediterranean Sea with huge windows from which we could see boats coming and going. The beautiful view suggested or invited us to dream especially having in mind the title of the Conference.

It was a multicultural encounter in which participants from 27 countries were present: Germany, Netherlands, Turkey, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia, Israel, Croatia, Spain, Brazil, Norway, Portugal, Ireland, Finland, United Kingdom, Slovenia, Greece, France, Chile, Argentina, Austria, Sweden, Australia, Mexico, Switzerland, United States, and Island. Right from



Concha Oneca, SEPTG President

the beginning we could feel the warmth and joy of meeting each other and talking to each other, fundamental matter in this encounter of 'building bridges of dialogue'.

This easy going communication was assisted by the existence of the internet list. All participants registered to the Conference were invited to take part in it, and there existed the possibility to register only for the internet list. The list was active during the weeks previous to the Conference and acted as a warming up to the Conference. People introduced themselves, connected, shared and discussed many issues in a free and open manner.

After the official opening of the Conference, we had a creative welcome workshop with active techniques. The music and dancing facilitated communication and elicited a high level of participation. Work was developed around three main issues, presented later in three plenary lectures. The first one was 'Building Bridges Between Groups', which was fundamentally about Group Analysis and its development in Spain. The second was 'Migrations, Social Change Processes and Change Resistance' and the third 'Conflict

See Mediterraneo, Page 7

## Editors' Letter



Cecelia Winkelman



Ethel Tillinger

Welcome to this 2008 edition of IAGP's Globenewsletter. Your Globeletter editors hail from Down Under, from Melbourne, Australia. In this edition, we invite you to a) reminisce over the Barcelona and Granada conferences; b) attend coming events in Japan, Rome and Granada;

c) remember those members who have recently died; d) be impressed with reports from IAGP section chairs; and e) send to us contributions for the next Globeletter, especially news of coming events for your organisation and letters, reflections or articles you would like to see included in Globeletter. We hope

you like our first try at editorship and look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Ethel Tillinger and Cecelia Winkelman  
Email address: [globeletter@iagp.com](mailto:globeletter@iagp.com)

See Editors, Page 7

## Index

8th Pacific Rim Conference .....	2
17th Congress of IAGP .....	3
Calendar of Events .....	8
Executive Committee .....	8
IAGP Report .....	2
In Memoriam .....	6
Letter .....	2
Reflections on Barcelona 2008 .....	4-5



# Invitation to 8th Pacific Rim Regional Congress

Invitation to 8th Pacific Rim Regional Congress of the International Association of Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes and the 14th Conference of International Association of Dynamic Psychotherapy, Japan

Welcome to our Pacific Rim congress. We all know that the many conflicts that pervade our modern world make it difficult for ordinary people to live in peace. Let us exchange ideas and skills for psychotherapy between East and West. We invite you to get together in an old country where all the gods and goddesses in Japan gather to have a meeting once a year in October.

**Date:** 7-11 October 2008

**Pre-congress:** 7-8 Oct. Congress: 9-11 Oct.

**Venue:** Kunibiki Messe (Shimane Prefectural Convention Center) 1-2-1 Gakuen Minami, Matsue-city, Shimane 690-0826, Japan  
**TEL:** +81-852-24-1111 FAX: +81-852-22-9219

**Congress Website:**

<http://www.prrc-iadp2008.org/index.html>



Organization of PRRC 2008:

**President:** Frances Bonds-White (IAGP President)

**Congress Chair:** Hidefumi Kotani (IADP Pres, JAGP Exec Board, Past IAGP Board)

**Advisory Board:**

Kate Bradshaw Tauvon (Sweden, Secretary, IAGP)

Douglas S.G. Kong (Singapore, Treasurer, IAGP)

Christer Sandahl (Sweden, Immed. Past Pres, IAGP)

Ta-jen Chang (Taiwan, R.O.C., IAGP

Board)

Sabar Rustomjee (Australia, Past President of IAGP)

Akio Tahara (Japan, President, JAGP)

Kenji Kitanishi (Japan, Immed. Past Pres, JAGP, IAGP)

**Congress Theme:** Creating New Space beyond Internal and External Wars

**Language:** English

**Registration:** All registration will be done online.

**Accommodation:**

JTB Global Marketing & Travel Inc. will handle hotel accommodation. Online registration for hotel accommodation.

**Headquarters Office:**

International Christian University  
Institute of Advanced Studies of  
Clinical Psychology  
3-10-2 Osawa, Mitaka-shi, Tokyo,  
Japan, 181-8585  
Institute HP: <http://subsite.icu.ac.jp/iascp>

**E-mail:** [iascp@icu.ac.jp](mailto:iascp@icu.ac.jp)

**TEL & FAX:** +81-422-33-3655

## IAGP Report

### Report Task Force Section Chairs

In two meetings (Amsterdam 8.2007 and Barcelona 2.2008) the section chairs Felix de Mendelssohn (GA) in Amsterdam, Teresa Somaruga Howard and Jaime Ondarza in Barcelona, Manuela Maciel (PD), Rick Reposa (Family), Heloisa Fleury (Trans-Cul), George Dimitris Anastopoulos (OCS), as special Guest: Celia Riskin (Spanish-Portuguese List = SPL) and Jorge Burmeister as the Chairperson Task Force Section Chairs agreed upon several joint activities.

Regarding the IAGP Lists we coincided in our intentions to offer the lists as medium for facilitating cross-communication including different language speakers in the same discussion. We want to guarantee that IAGP members can always visit the list of their interest establishing contacts / exploring the topic in more depth.

Regarding Section meetings we agreed upon the importance to have regular section meetings in order to foster the development of the sections and to enhance identification with IAGP among the membership. In Matsue and Rome regular section meetings will be scheduled.

We also agreed upon developing joint conference proposals and projects in order to foster cross-fertilization among the different methods and working fields composing the IAGP and represented by their sections and to promote the unique vision and identity of IAGP. Several projects were envisioned including

1. joint panels around the main topics of the conference
2. a joint project exploring different working models for large groups in order to find out best solutions for their inherent multilingual challenge
3. a joint workshop of all sections offering their working model on the same topic (e.g. conflict

#### SECTION CHAIRS

**Chairperson, Family Therapy Section**  
Richard Reposa

**Chairperson, Group Analysis Section**  
Felix de Mendelssohn

**Chairperson, Organisational Consultancy Section**  
George Dimitris Anastopoulos

**Chairperson, Psychodrama Section**  
Manuela Maciel

**Chairperson, Transcultural Section**  
Heloisa Fleury

**Chairperson, Consultative Assembly of Affiliate Organizations (CAOA)**  
Maria van Noort

**Chairperson, Spanish/Portuguese List**  
Celia Riskin

**Chairperson, Task Force for Sections**  
Jorge Burmeister

resolution) in the same group. The workshop will be directed towards newcomer and students as well as to experts in the field. For the Barcelona conference we carried through our proposal: The vision of IAGP - from different approaches to cross fertilization and its application on conflict resolution and collective trauma work. For Matsue and Rome we are going to evaluate the experience of Barcelona assessing similar or new projects. We want to invite all section members who want to participate in such activities to contact their section chair person directly!

As pending questions we have identified

1. the formal procedure to organize own section activities: what are the criterias to fulfill, the formal application and/or the information of the EC / the Board required?
2. the job description of the role of the Section chair. Concerning the latter aspect we want to ask

for help by the Governance and Bye-Laws Committee while the preparation of job description pertains to their responsibility.

**Jorge Burmeister**  
**Chairperson Task Force Section Chairs**

En las dos reuniones (Amsterdam 8.2007 y Barcelona 2.2008) los coordinadores de las secciones: Félix de Mendelssohn (GA) en Amsterdam, Teresa Somaruga Howard y Jaime Ondarza en Barcelona, Manuela Maciel (PD), Rick Reposa (IT Familiar), Heloisa Fleury (Trans-Cul), George Dimitris Anastopoulos (OCL), así como la invitada especial: Celia Riskin (representando la Lista español-portuguesa = SPL) y Jorge Burmeister como moderador del Grupo de Trabajo de los coordinadores

**See Report, Page 8**

## Letter from Zerka

Dear Colleagues,

Your conference in Barcelona stirs special feelings in my heart because Barcelona was the port from which my sister found freedom in America in August 1941 during the Second World War with her family.

She was already mentally ill and upon arrival here, I was referred to J. L. Moreno for her treatment. That is how we met and our partnership began. He treated her successfully. The details are in my memoirs which we hope to publish next year.

In 1966 we held the Second International Conference of Psychodrama from August 29-September 3 in this welcoming city, enabled by Professor Ramon Sarro, a staunch supporter of Moreno's ideas.

Thirdly, in 1968 Moreno obtained a Doctor Honoris Causa from the Medical School of the University of Barcelona for which Dr. Sarro was once more the link.

Dr. Roberto Inocencio de Santander can tell you about another fine International Psychodrama Conference he organized in the 1980's in Barcelona.

All these events can be found reported on in the

local news papers.

So I am very sorry not to be with you in this one but you can see how much I would like to be. Have a great meeting.

I hope the Moreno Museum can be established on a safe financial footing.

My gratitude and love to you all.

**Zerka T. Moreno**

Estimados Colegas:

Vuestra conferencia en Barcelona evoca especiales sentimientos en mi corazón porque Barcelona fue el puerto desde el cual mi hermana encontró libertad en América en agosto de 1941 durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial con su familia.

Ella ya estaba mentalmente enferma y a su llegada la referí a J.L. Moreno para su tratamiento. Así es como nos encontramos y empezó nuestra cooperación. Él la trató exitosamente. Los detalles están en mis memorias que espero publiquemos el año próximo.

En 1966 nosotros tuvimos la Segunda Conferencia

Internacional de Psicodrama desde el 29 de agosto al 3 de septiembre en esta acogedora ciudad, facilitado por el profesor Ramón Sarro, un incondicional defensor de la ideas de Moreno.

En tercer lugar, en 1968 Moreno obtuvo el Doctor Honoris Causa de la Escuela de Medicina de la Universidad de Barcelona, para el cual el Dr. Sarro fue una vez más el vínculo.

El Dr. Roberto Inocencio de Santander puede hablaros acerca de otra buena Conferencia Internacional de Psicodrama que él organizó en los ochenta en Barcelona.

De todos estos acontecimientos se puede encontrar referencias en los periódicos locales.

Por ello, siento mucho no estar con vosotros en este acontecimiento pero podéis entender lo mucho que me hubiera gustado estar. Tened un gran encuentro.

Espero que el Museo Moreno pueda establecerse en base a un seguro apoyo financiero.

Mi agradecimiento y amor a todos vosotros.

**Zerka T. Moreno**



# The 17th Congress of IAGP – Rome, Italy 2009: Groups in a Time of Conflict

The topics of the Congress will include trauma, issues concerning women, children, and adolescents, cultural and immigration concerns, and the exploration of myths and symbols, organized so that participants will be able to experience these themes in depth.

The Congress Plenary Speakers are renowned for their activism for peace.

**Lord John Alderdice** (UK)

Title of address: **Fundamentalism, Radicalization and Terrorism as Large Group Phenomena**

As a psychiatrist, psychoanalyst, teacher, administrator, politician and negotiator, his goal has been human rights. He has been a political leader of Northern Ireland's Alliance Party and was a key negotiator of the Belfast Agreement on Good Friday, 1998, which established a new Parliament in Ireland. He served as Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly until 2004. The British Government appointed him as one of four commissioners to monitor terrorist activity in Ireland. He has sat since 1996, as a member of the Liberal Democrat Reform Party, in the British Parliament's House of Lords.

**Pedro Demo**, PhD (Brazil)

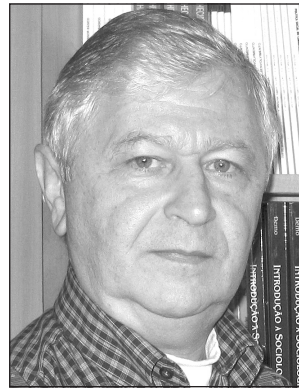
Title of address: **Political Poverty**

He is Dean and Professor of the Sociology Department, University of Brasilia, Brazil. He has lectured and published on Scientific Methodology and Social Politics. As an educator and trainer of future teachers, he emphasizes the connection between education, citizenship and poverty. He is an advocate of education for 'popular citizenship' and in this role he has developed the concept of 'political poverty', asserting that poverty is more than the acquisition of material goods, but the 'lack of citizenship among the poor'.

**Giovanni Foresti**, M.D. and **Giuseppe Fiorentini**, M.D., (Italy)



**Lord John Alderdice**



**Pedro Demo**



**Anna Ornstein**



**Esther Stone**

Title of address: **Temporal Dimensions in Psychosocial Conflicts**

Clinicians, teachers, training analysts, consultants to community social services and members of the Italian Psychoanalytic Society and the International Psychoanalytic Association, both authored articles on psychoanalytic theory, exploring the dynamics of human emotions as it relates to the cause and effect of violence and trauma. Dr. Foresti's article Post-traumatic syndromes and their influence on psychiatric paradigms is a classic. Dr. Fiorentini is Chair of the European IPA Public Information Committee, whose task includes applying psychoanalytic thinking to the dynamics maintaining hate and violence in the world.

**Anna Ornstein**, M.D. (USA)

Title of address: **The Function of Groups in Times of Terror**

As Professor of Child Psychiatry (Emeritus), University of Cincinnati and lecturer in Psychiatry at Harvard University Medical School, she has written

on psychoanalysis, child psychotherapy and recovery following survival in extreme conditions and about the protective and therapeutic power of groups that evolve in response to trauma. Dr. Ornstein is a foremost interpreter of Kohut's Self Psychology. Her enduring interest in the psychological effects of trauma is informed by her own experiences as a young child growing up in pre-war Hungary and as an adolescent interned in the concentration camps of Auschwitz and Parnitz. Her memories of this period are published in her book *My Mother's Eyes: Holocaust Memories of a Young Girl*.

We encourage you to submit proposals for presentation and to register at [www.iagpcongress.org](http://www.iagpcongress.org) Contact the author, Esther Stone, or Maurizio Gasseau, SPC Co-Chairs at [2009congress@iagp.com](mailto:2009congress@iagp.com) with any questions.

**Esther Stone, SPC Co-Chair**

## Subscribe to the multilanguage discussion list

IAGP CONGRESS ROME 24-29 August 2009  
"GROUPS IN A TIME OF CONFLICTS"  
"GRUPOS EN TIEMPO DE CONFLICTO"  
"GRUPPI IN TEMPO DI CONFLITTI"  
[www.iagpcongress.org](http://www.iagpcongress.org)

Subscribe to the multilanguage discussion list in English, Italian or Spanish: [www.iagpcongress.org/en/forum.shtml](http://www.iagpcongress.org/en/forum.shtml)

Os invitamos escribirse a la lista de discusión en Español, Italiano, Inglés : [www.iagpcongress.org/es/forum.shtml](http://www.iagpcongress.org/es/forum.shtml)

Vi invitiamo ad iscrivervi nella lista di discussione multilingue : [www.iagpcongress.org/it/forum.shtml](http://www.iagpcongress.org/it/forum.shtml)

Dear colleagues,  
Register now. Send abstracts of your proposals for workshops, panels, posters, etc. The deadline is October 15, 2008. As an IAGP member we ask your cooperation in publicizing this event. For information and/or communication you can write to Silvia Anfilocchi : [vicepresidente@coirag.org](mailto:vicepresidente@coirag.org)  
Arrivederci a Roma!

**The Local Organizing Committee**  
**Renato de Polo, Claudio Merlo**

Queridas amigas y queridos amigos,  
os invitamos a inscribirse pronto, cómo la proxima cuota inferior decae el 31 de octubre.

Los abstracts con las propuestas para talleres, conferencias, etc. deben ser enviados antes del 15 de octubre, 2008. Los temas propuestos incluyen una amplia gama de intereses y estamos seguros que todos Ustedes darán importantes y estimulantes contribuciones para activar la participación de los colegas presentes.

En cuanto socios individuales de IAGP pedimos vuestra colaboración para darle publicidad al evento. Deseamos a todos un buen trabajo y les esperamos en Roma

**El Comité Local**  
**Renato de Polo, Claudio Merlo**

**See List, Page 8**

## IAGP GOES TO INDIA: Drs. Sabar Rustomjee and Bonnie Buchele Lead Disaster Management Workshops

At the Indian National Workshop on Disaster Management, held in Kerala, India in December 2006, Dr. Sabar Rustomjee, Past-President (2000-2003), IAGP and Dr. Bonnie Buchele, IAGP Board of Directors Member (2003-2009) gave presentations on Trauma, A Clinical Viewpoint and Trauma and Groups, which highlighted the hidden trauma symptoms in victims and the vicarious traumatization on care givers who work with victims of trauma. They served as the international resource persons for the conference.

The conference was organized by Mr. D. Jayachandran, Medical Social Worker, (the first IAGP member from India), Dept of Neurology, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology in Trivandrum, India; the Confederation of Non-Governmental Organization for Rural India and the Kerala Educational Development & Employment Society.

Shri V. Ramachandran, IAS (Retd), of the Administrative Reforms Commission, of the Government of India opened the meeting. Many presenters from India including Dr. K.A. Kumar, Director, Medical Education for Kerala (retd), Dr. R. Padmam, Dean Behavioral Studies; Dr. M. Nair; Prof T.S.N. Pillai, Prof A. Gregory, all of Cochin University gave presentations on post-traumatic stress disorder, psychosocial needs and care of Tsunami survivors, and



**Sabar Rustomjee and Bonnie Buchele with Indian dignitaries at Opening Ceremony of National Workshop on Disaster Management**

social work interventions in disasters to 201 doctors, psychiatrists, social workers, clinical psychologists, NGO leaders and nursing professionals who came from many states across India.

Dr. Sabar Rustomjee of the IAGP gave the keynote address for the valedictory meeting and Dr. T. Sagar presented an Action Plan which resolved to use group therapy methods in the psychosocial care for disaster management in India.

Following the conference on January 1, 2007, Dr. Sabar Rustomjee gave a workshop on Stress

Management for Youth Volunteers for 60 youth volunteers of Nehru Yuvak Kendra (Government of India). On February 7, 2007, Dr. Rustomjee conducted a one day workshop on Stress Management and Suicide Prevention for 60 psychologists and social workers, organized by Humanity Trust of India and the Mental Health Authority of India, Trivandrum District.

**Mr. D. Jayachandran and Dr. Sabar Rustomjee**





# Reflections on IAGP & SEPTG

## On Toxic Leaders

### Workshop at the 3rd Regional Mediterranean Congress of the IAGP and the Spanish Association of Group Psychotherapy and Group Techniques (SEPTG): A Bridge called Mediterranean

The intention of this workshop was to provide a space for participants to think together about why there are so many toxic leaders in organisations. What are the forces that produce them and what can we do about it?

When I entered the room, the workshop from the previous session was still very much in evidence. Beautiful coloured collages were spread across the floor as participants walked around and lovingly photographed them. I felt 'my space' had been intruded upon but I also recognised that there is often never enough time for workshops in conferences and intervals between are always too short. Here the 'space between' was only five minutes. As the time boundary had been crossed and as the previous workshop leader was a friend of mine, I suggested helping them to tidy their work away. It felt a difficult process. While I was preparing and negotiating, I found myself thinking, I will have to manage this chaos. I had been very conscious of the fact that by having a workshop with this title, I was setting myself up to be a toxic leader. It felt not a little dangerous!

I arranged about twelve chairs into a circle with the help of those already there and we settled down to start. There were initially about twelve people in the room. Just as I was shutting the door as a signal, another ten or twelve people joined us and I asked them to shut the door and they came in. And we started again. After another short interval the door burst open again and another group of about ten people joined us. They said they had been waiting outside because they thought the previous workshop was continuing. It was not a nice welcome for them! So, after a while we were about 40 people in the room in a very wobbly circle. It felt chaotic and very unsettling. I was fascinated with the way the matrix had brought us the exact context in which I had been thinking a toxic leader might emerge. Our small group had expanded by four or five times in less than ten minutes with all the attendant chair shuffling and disruption.

Before the conference I had been ruminating on the theme and realised that it feels as though we are currently living in an increasingly fragile world! Existing structures, both physical and psychic, are apparently melting away. With the threat of global warming, the physical world, as we know it will probably disappear. As the balance in the world economy changes from a dominant West to an increasingly dominant East, mounting debt coupled with the disappearing millions as the American mortgage system collapses, gives our financial systems a will-o-the-wisp quality. The balance of power between the developed world and the developing world is changing. Then there is the terrorist threat. Meanwhile here in the room, we were creating a fragile structure that I was trying to hold.

I started by asking who needed help with understanding the English language and despite asking this question three times and having my question translated into Spanish each time, there was little response. I asked this question each time a new group joined us but despite this attempt to help



Singing at the Conference Dinner



Dance Therapy Students Performing



Teresa von Sommaruga Howard

with the literal understanding across languages, the difficulty of speaking and understanding each other became a primary preoccupation of the session.

It was in these opening minutes of the group that the frame was set. My constantly starting over and asking the same question became an irritating repetition for some. One person, wishing to be supportive, 'instructed' me to continue. "Don't keep stopping!" So the wish for a 'strong' leader to take control was evident from the start! The rapid change already evident in the room had become unwelcome and uncomfortable yet, we had only just started!

There was a precursor to this group that in my head fed into this process. On the first afternoon of the conference, I had been part of an evening daily reflective group conducted by David Guttman and Jacqueline Ternier of France. In that group, we had recognised the increasing difficulty IAGP was having in attracting young people as members. We almost didn't notice that we already had two young women in the room but eventually we did see them and asked them for their perspective. One of the young women described her group-analytic educational experience as toxic. David, whose model is to pay close attention to the unconscious as it emerges and then take action to transform the status quo, had already suggested to the other young women, a dance therapy student, that she take a prominent place in his workshop the next day. I decided to take his lead and so invited the young group analyst, who told us that she wanted to be able to dance with group-analysis, to join me in conducting this group on Toxic Leaders.

So after we had all settled down I invited my young friend to tell her story as one example and explained that she was there as a co-conductor.

It all felt quite wobbly at the beginning and we spent time thinking about what was a toxic leader. It is interesting

to notice how when we feel insecure we need definitions to help us find some safe space of knowing in the confusion. Questions such as, 'What does toxic mean?' 'What is the definition of a toxic leader?' 'Does toxic mean destructive or poisonous?' The group settled for a moment when a woman from Serbia said that she was quite clear that Milosevic was a toxic leader. In fact she thought he and his wife were a toxic pair.

Just before the conference, I had discovered an interesting book by Mark Edmundson. In *The Death of Sigmund Freud: Fascism, Psychoanalysis and the Rise of Fundamentalism* ((2007) London: Bloomsbury) he writes that Freud suggests that because the psyche is often in a state of tension that borders on civil war, humanity has come up with many different solutions to this internal conflict and the pain it inevitably brings. Many of these solutions he believed, are best described as forms of intoxication. What these intoxicants enable is a revision of the superego to make it less harsh in its judgements, and so more bearable.

In the group, we talked about how although we know certain substances poison us we still indulge in them because we become addicted to the intoxicating feelings they engender. So we become intoxicated with leaders who take away our pain despite their poisonous qualities.

As Edmundson points out, "Freud believed that the relationship of such a leader to the masses is an erotic one. "The leader takes the place of the over-I and offers individuals a psychological dispensation. Where the individual super ego is inconsistent and often inaccessible because it is unconscious, the collective superego, the leader, is clear and absolute in his values. He is associated with things that are permanent: with God, or destiny, or with absolute truth. He satisfies the human hunger to rise above time and chance and join with something more powerful and more enduring than merely moral



# PTG Conference, Barcelona 2008

## Reflections

I found that the main difficulty in the conference was the language barrier. It is always a challenge, and requires a lot of patience from participants. Many of the Spanish participants did not speak English at all, and most of the English speaking did not know Spanish. Sometimes people in the audience who knew both languages helped with translation, but it was still a source of frustration.

I encountered this problem in its highest intensity in one of the reflection groups. These on-going groups were held every evening throughout the conference. I attended the large group where the language problem was frequently addressed. As these sessions continued, it became clearer to me that the struggle and conflict were beyond the communication problem, especially when a conflict started among the Spanish-speaking participants, between the Catalonians and the other Spanish participants. The Catalonians protested that their language was not represented in the conference.

The time of Franco was mentioned. As someone interested in the social unconscious I can only imagine that if the traumatic part of the Spanish history is not addressed, it will find its unconscious ways to impact the life of Spain one way or another.

The atmosphere in the large group softened in the last half an hour of the last session and it seemed as if the conflict gave way to more connection and mutual recognition. An Italian woman addressed a Chinese man from Australia. He told a story of a Buddhist monk in Vietnam who responded to an event of raping women through finding both the rapist and the raped inside of himself, 'as we are all human'. The Italian woman asked for the Chinese man's name. He translated his name into 'eternal peace'. "May I call you 'human'?" asked the woman. "Only if I deserve it", was his calm answer. For me



Reflection Group at Barcelona Conference

the conference could have ended at that moment.

So, I am ending with this hopeful dialogue, and can summarize it as my main learning from this conference: Call

me human only if I deserve it.

Haim Weinberg



Patrick de Inocencio and Maite Pi

enterprises. By promulgating one code, one set of values, the leader wipes away the differences between people, differences that can be a serious source of anxiety" (100).

In the group, the idea of toxicity led us to thinking about poison and possible antidotes. What could be the antidote to a toxic leader? How can we boost the immune system? One woman thought that we should think about the idea of homeopathy where a tiny dose could change the course of a disease. I liked this idea although I was painfully aware that she had been through huge suffering as a result of being seen as a toxic leader. It is after all a human being who is presenting herself in the pivotal point to precipitate change and not a small pill or a few drops of liquid.

Some thought that the conference itself had exhibited a kind of abandoning leadership by not organising translation for the session. Another person thought that it should be made clear that only English is spoken in some workshops and then there would not be a problem. I thought if only the whole world was painted red as it was when I was growing up!

Another person thought that learning to listen and thinking carefully about what we have heard could be another antidote. Certainly less and less space seemed to be available for thinking as time appeared to speed on as we approached the end of the group. The level of interaction just kept speeding up. Everyone wanted to speak at once but surprisingly for a group-analytic group, I was asked to take the role of a chair that I resisted but the forces on me were huge. Everybody wanted to talk at once. Many put up their hands, as in school, wanting me to decide who should speak first. I felt as though each person was not able to take their own authority but wanted me to decide who had the right to speak at any one moment. One person kept putting his hands up and refused to speak until he had the leader's permission! He got more and more upset about not being able to speak. I finally relented



Dance Therapy Students who were also Volunteer Conference Translators

and he showed us a sociogramme he had drawn of the group and gave us a little speech in his own language that need to be translated into English. I immediately regretted my decision, to give him permission to speak, especially as he continued almost to the ending time boundary. Just before that, the session was in effect ended by the translator, who was the same participant who had asked me to carry on at the beginning. He got up saying he was frustrated with translating for this man and was going to have lunch! We had earlier noted how we are easily intoxicated by speed and 'Speed' is an intoxicant! We had not been able to slow down and think about the process as it was happening around us.

Despite, what felt like intense provocation to be a strong and decisive leader, I sought to maintain a place where we could keep thinking about what was happening between us in the room. But, despite my intense group-analytic stance, I noted that the group was turning me into a toxic leader. It felt as though whatever I said in that short space of time nothing could be different.

It led me to thinking about the world we have created and our capacity to sit with uncertainty. Perhaps there is a little toxicity in every person and every situation just because we are constantly dealing with huge levels of anxiety. As someone who has managed a large public sector department and quite frequently conducts large groups, I am familiar with the powerful projections that the person who is in authority in these situations has to take. The forces to be 'strong' and charismatic, to know what to do in every situation, are enormous. Most of us have suffered some personal narcissistic injury in our lives and want to be loved or at least liked. Resisting the need for personal approval in a difficult situation, by continuing to stand alone for long periods is almost impossible.

A recent article in the Guardian (13.3.08 G2: Nowadays

there is nowhere to hide) after the apparent suicide of the Chief Constable of the Greater Manchester Police, Duncan Campbell asks, "What kind of person seeks the most senior police office, and how well equipped are they to deal with what will be thrown at them?" As he begins to answer these questions, he quotes an anonymous Chief Constable interviewed for a book by Robert Reiner, "The difficulty about being a Chief Constable really is that people place you in impossible positions. They ask you questions, if you fail to answer, you are arrogant and unaccountable; if you do answer, you are political" reports on the "constant pressure and a feeling that no one is ever satisfied. There are times when it really is quite bleak."

The group spilled out into the lunch break. It had been a frustrating experience. Finding a way to contain and allay excessive and overwhelming anxiety, without being a dictator or a pseudo-parent figure for the larger group, organisation or country, is not so easy and takes time. As Patrick de Maré often said, it is not love but ordinary friendliness or Koinonia that we need to develop. It isn't immediate or unproblematic but I suspect that if we can hold a model of the possibility and what that possibility entails we might learn to spot toxicity in ourselves and in others much more quickly.

In conclusion, I would like to dedicate this article to Patrick de Maré who died a week before this conference. When he retired from regularly conducting his Wednesday Median Group he passed it on to me to conduct with Don Montgomery. It was this gesture of faith that enabled me to build bridges between two very different ways of thinking, the spatial and the emotional for which I will always be grateful.

Teresa von Sommaruga Howard  
March 2008



# Cultural Conflicts and the Social Unconscious in Granada

In Granada, Spain, a group therapy conference has taken place annually for the last 9 years, organized by Jorge Burmeister under the auspices of the IAGP and in collaboration with German (DAGG), Italian (COIRAG), Spanish (AEP) and Austrian (OAGG) group associations. This year, sequentially with Malcolm Pines, Maite Pi, Elizabeth Rohr, and Catherina Mela, I led a group-analytic median group of 19 members, 3 hours daily for 5 days.

After beginning the group, a tall, dark-skinned man entered the room. He was from Morocco, did not speak English, but was fluent in Spanish. A strange exchange of words took place in the group about the translating, and the group members preferred not to translate it to him. It seemed that the man represented "the other" for the group, and they wanted to exclude him.

I saw this as an example of the social unconscious being enacted in the group. My definition of the social unconscious includes co-created shared social anxieties, defenses, myths, memories and fantasies, and its building blocks are chosen traumas and chosen glories. And, after all, we were meeting under the shadow of the Alhambra palace in Granada, the last city conquered by the Spanish Christian kings in the Moslem-Christian struggle. This conflict, that on the surface was about language and translation, was between Moslems and Christians and about the world conflict.

This dark Moroccan man personified for the group members the extreme of Islam. He had to contain all the group's projections. After two days, although the language problem seemed to be resolved, he left and the group seemed stuck; I think that it had to do with their ambivalence around his leaving, with their



## Granada Summer Academy

feeling both relieved and ashamed at the same time.

On the fourth day, after giving his keynote lecture, he returned to the group. With his return, the group was filled with hope and messianic elation, as if all the problems were going to be solved from now on. We could talk more to him. We could talk more openly about other social conflicts, including gender. We also could address the anger of the group members towards the leaders, some of whom had to leave before the group ended, including myself.

On the last day, the Moroccan participant told

the group that before the conference he had met with a German woman who had been his girlfriend long ago. They had decided to separate because of the differences in cultures and religions, as they understood that they could have no future together. While telling it to the group, he started crying. One of the German group members hugged him, while other group members simply cried with him.

Haim Weinberg

## In Memoriam

### Dr. George Christie 1924-2006

Dr. George Christie, psychoanalyst and group therapist died in Melbourne, Australia on 8/12/2006, just 2 weeks short of his 82nd birthday.

George graduated in Medicine from the University of Melbourne in 1948. He followed his interest in Psychiatry, training at the Repatriation Hospital where he met and married his beloved wife Margaret. As a qualified Psychiatrist he still wanted to learn more about psychoanalytic theory and technique and joined the staff of the Austen Riggs Centre in the U.S.A., quite an adventure with his growing family. Here he worked with, among others, Eric Erikson, in the heyday of psychoanalytic influence on psychiatry in America.

On his return to Australia he worked firstly in the then Mental Health Authority and after establishing his private practice in 1966 he held a number of hospital appointments culminating in becoming the Group Programme Co-ordinator at the Royal Childrens' Hospital, Melbourne. From this Group Training Programme, established by Dr. Bill Blomfield, was to grow the early training programmes of the Australian Association of Group Psychotherapists (1973) of which George was a foundation member. He worked assiduously to develop the Victorian Training Programme of the A.A.G.P. and to have it approved by EGATIN.

He had already commenced training in Psychoanalysis, completing training in 1980 and becoming a Training Analyst with the Australian Psychoanalytical Society in 1988. He was one of the few psychoanalysts in Melbourne to practice both individual analysis and group psychotherapy and to see them as complementary rather than competing. This was typical of his gift for holding and reconciling differences.

In 1983 he decided to further his experience with appointments to the Cassel Hospital and Charing Cross Hospital in London. Both environments provided exciting new ideas which greatly influenced his work. He and Margaret enjoyed and relished this time of their life living in London.

An essential feature of the therapeutic community at the Cassel was the close link between the Nurse therapist and the Psychotherapist, both for individual and group therapy, a model which has proved to be very effective.

On his return to Melbourne he decided to continue this work with Dr. Ann Morgan with whom he had conducted groups at the Royal Childrens Hospital. This link continued until his retirement.

The Charing Cross experience with Dr. Mike Pawson, Consultant Obstetrician, working with infertile couples strengthened his interest in human creativity. He believed in the universality of ambivalence towards pregnancy and the importance of accessing and acknowledging this could lead to a successful pregnancy. The application of the cotherapy couple to this work proved to be extremely effective and internationally recognized.

Apart from his contribution to the Australian psychoanalytic and group psychotherapy training and supervision George was also a contributor internationally at G.A.S. (London) European Symposia and I.A.G.P. Congresses. He was Co-chair of the Scientific Programme Committee of the 14th International Congress of the I.A.G.P. in Jerusalem 2000. He served as a member of the Board of Directors of the I.A.G.P. from 1998-2003.

With all these achievements George always remained humble. His whole style was of wise intervention without a trace of dogmatism or even opinion.

He not only expressed this philosophy as the best way to elicit creativity and growth but lived it in every group situation where we were privileged to know him.

He is survived by his wife Margaret, his sisters Joan and Laurice, his 4 children and 14 grandchildren.

Dr. Oliver Larkin

### Jay Wagner Fidler, M.D. 1917-2007

On February 18th of 2007, Jay Fidler, the fourth President of IAGP (1984-86) passed away in Pompano Beach, Florida, in the USA, where he had spent his final years. With his passing went part of the history of the organization.

Jay had been present at the founding of IAGP in 1973 at the

International Congress of Group Psychotherapy in Zurich and served on its first Board of Directors. Prior to that, there was no formal organization but, rather, a 'Committee' and later a 'Council' that organized the Congresses. He was Co-Chairman with Malcolm Pines of the 6th International Congress that was held in Philadelphia, USA in August 1977. He was Secretary-Treasurer of the organization from 1977-84, serving two consecutive terms. Later on, in recognition of his vast contributions to the organization he was made a Distinguished Fellow. In 1996, Alberto Serrano made a videotaped interview of Jay in an effort to preserve the historical memory of IAGP. Unfortunately, by then dementia had set in so that Jay was unable to expand on its origins.

For many years Jay suffered from Parkinson's disease. Sadly, in his waning years, although acutely aware that his memory was compromised, he continued to enjoy life and valiantly fought his ailment. One year prior to his death, his son Eric reported, "we sat by a pond in the continuing care community where he lived [as he] watched the swans the way a zoologist in the field would, speculating happily on what their behavior meant. [When asked about his current state and future] he laughed and said, 'No, no, I want to live to be 100'. Then he laughed again and looked me in the eye and said '110'." After his passing, Eric reported that while "cleaning out his room, I found a recent text on biology and a very obscure book on irrigation.... even until very close to the end he was learning and observing like a scientist." In a similar vein, his daughter Dagny reported that Jay "said you could learn a great deal about people from the way they played games." She said that he loved to play cards with family and friends. Even then, he would look "at the world as a student would; he was always interested in learning from just about everything."

Jay was born in Reading, Pennsylvania and educated at Rutgers University and the University of Pennsylvania Medical College. He started his psychiatric training with the US Army during World War II and completed it at Boston State Hospital. There he met one of the most renowned psychiatric educators in the USA, Elvin V. Semrad, M.D. As a consequence, Jay wrote one of the earliest (and important) papers on the treatment of psychotic patients. His academic publications included papers on social psychiatry, rehabilitation of the severely mentally ill, and occupational therapy, an interest that he shared with his late wife, Gail. With Mark F. Ettin, Ph.D. he collaborated on two innovative volumes on Group Psychotherapy, one that traced its origins in Greek philosophy to its broad applications in society and another that applied group processes to various political contexts.

During the course of his career he had been on the faculties of several prestigious medical schools: New York Medical College, Albert Einstein School of Medicine, and the New Jersey School of Medicine at Rutgers University, where he attained the rank of Clinical Professor. He held many positions in the American Group Psychotherapy Association, serving as its President, 1972-74.

I have many fond memories of Jay. One of the earliest occurred in February 1975, at an extension meeting in Mexico City to the annual Conference of the American Group Psychotherapy Association. Jay was taken ill and was mistakenly thought to have had a heart attack. I stayed with him until arrangements were made for his transport home to New Jersey. It was then that he dubbed me "good shepherd" and called me that ever since. However, in a sense he shepherded me during my career, specifically, to get involved in IAGP.

Howard D. Kibel, M.D.

### Dr. Patrick de Maré 1916-2008

By his death we have lost a Great Man, one of the last of that brilliant group who was inspired to develop Group Analysis through their connection with Michael Foulkes at Northfield. But earlier, age

19, living a free life in Charlotte Street, Pat had joined a group, The Society for Creative Psychology, that practiced free discussion and exploration of their group relations.

Piers Lyndon has drawn a loving portrait of Pat in his article, "The Telos of Patrick de Maré", a man of ideas, a visionary, an instigator and a man of passion. True words! Pat's mind "flowing like Ariel as Mercury in a fluid and easy movement", a phrase that brings back to mind Pat the brilliant musician whose joy and skill with his piano-accordion graced and livened so many meetings both here and abroad.

Spirit and mind unconfined: deeply Catholic, he gave us his blessings. His mind flew beyond the confines of given theories, beyond psychoanalysis, beyond Foulkes' group analysis. His passion was freely to explore our experiences in groups: small, median, large; Therapeutic community, hospital, in-patient settings and social clubs. His legacy is vast. The special issue of Group Analysis dedicated to him, edited by Harold Behr, demonstrates the spread of his ideas, and of his personal example in workshops and conferences.

There is so much sadness at our parting, so much gratitude for his life and legacy, so much love.

Malcolm Pines

Lyndon, P. (2000). *The telos of Patrick de Maré: A survey of ideas and implications. Group Analysis, 33 (1).*

### Dr. Emilio Rodrigué 1924-2008

Emilio Rodrigué was born in Argentina where he studied Medicine. At age 25, he began his analytical training in London, where he had an analysis with Paula Heimann, was supervised in child psychotherapy by Melanie Klein, and observed groups lead by Bion. In this period, he had, as analyst-supervisors, Herbert Rosenfeld, Donald Winnicott, Hanna Segal and John Rickman. In 1958, he moved to the USA, where he experienced an intense and transforming connection with the philosopher Susanne Langer. He worked in the therapeutic community of Austen Riggs, as a contemporary of Robert Knight, Rappaport and Erik Erikson.

He took on the presidency of the Argentinean Psychoanalysis Association in a period where group work was in full development, stimulated by professionals such as Pichón-Rivière, Bleger and others. He was a man of passion, diving into projects, taking them on as his own, and motivating others around him to seek knowledge, to create new worlds and to change reality. He was a strong, unpretentious figure, teaching us through example by allowing us to identify with him. Among his highlighted actions in which I participated, he abandoned the Society of Psychoanalysis, where he was a professor, to found, together with other outstanding analysts, the Platform group, which was crucial at his time because it created conditions for the blossoming of many independent schools of training in psychoanalysis. He exchanged prestige for freedom. In a public declaration he said "institutions provoke authoritarian and sectarian phenomena because the group transference press generates effects that restrict the freedom to think". It was for this reason that he did not join in a steady form, any other institution, circulating as nomadic for diverse territories.

He arrived in Brazil with his wife at the time, Martha Berlín, who had a strong training in psychodrama and they initiated a project of group analytical training. They realized many laboratories and workshops transmitting their experience in different Brazilian cities. It was a period of distance from the analytical orthodoxy and a time where he was crossed by great political conflicts consuming Latin America. He compromised himself with them without fear. Rodrigué loved Brazil, Salvador fascinated him and there he married Graça, a woman related to the Afro-Brazilian religion who collaborated by transforming Bahia into his land of adoption, where he lived his last 30 years. It was there where he approached more to the Lacanian thought and formed a strong group that followed him to the end of his days. Reichian, Lacanian, Kleinian, Freudian, these schools served as food for his wish to understand subjectivity. Before all, he was a thinker against dogmas, someone who lived politically.

Analyst, group analyst and institutionalist, he left disciples

See Memoriam, Page 8



## Mediterraneo, from Page 1

Resolution Processes'. All three were followed by active discussion, and, as usually happens, time left for sharing was too short.

The three plenary lectures as well as the welcome and farewell workshops were the only activities which had simultaneous translation, English-Spanish, with no other parallel activities. The rest of the time there were many concurrent activities, making it sometimes difficult to choose among the workshops, papers, panels, and symposiums.

The language barrier was obvious and evident, especially when verbal communication is the main tool of working together. Dialogue seemed to go slower, was less free, somehow lost spontaneity and was frustrating at first, waiting for the translation of what was being said. In most cases, the majority made an effort with good will and patience, reaching to understand and to be understood by the others. Little by little people got more involved, confident and helpful in making the effort to use the two languages whenever it was possible. That gave me the feeling of hope.

We counted on the great help of postgraduate students, who volunteered in every activity of the Conference. We also had the collaboration of the postgraduate students of Dance Therapy, who, with their dances, music and performances, were delightful and like a breath of fresh air to the experience.

At the end of each day there were four on-going reflection groups. Participants were recommended to take part in the same group each day in order to experience the group process. Two of them offered a Psychodrama orientation, one a Transactional Analysis and one a Large Group with Group Analytic orientation.

In relation to social events, the Townhall of Barcelona hosted us in a wonderful setting, appropriate for the occasion. A person in charge representing the Townhall of Barcelona gave us a welcome speech. We were gratefully surprised when we realised that this person knew a lot about us and our work. The gala dinner took place at the Avenue Palace, a classic place in Barcelona where we had a wonderful aperitif, exquisite dinner, and the best companionship, music, singing and dancing.

It has been an interesting experience for our Society and we still have a lot to think about it and to elaborate. We have sent an evaluation questionnaire, but we don't have the results yet.

The Spanish Society of Psychotherapy and Group Techniques (SEPTG) felt the honour and the challenge of being the host and organiser of this 3rd IAGP Regional Conference together with our annual Symposium. We put into it a lot of dreams, care and work and it has been a rewarding experience for us. Although it was neither complete nor perfect, we take

the consequences as matters to think about and to learn from. We do so with optimism and joy and live it as an opportunity of improving and learning.

I hope this small report will give you an idea of what happened in Barcelona, and if you want more information you can find it on the web of the conference.

With warm regards,

**Concha Oneca**  
President of SEPTG

Nos reunimos en Barcelona 250 personas durante los días 28 al 2 de marzo. El lugar fue el World Trade Center, un espacio de trabajo amplio y moderno situado en el mar mediterráneo con grandes ventanales desde los cuales podíamos ver el ir y venir de los barcos. Además de bello, muy sugerente, invitaba a la fantasía teniendo en cuenta el título de la Conferencia "Un puente llamado mediterráneo"

Fue un encuentro multicultural de gentes de 27 países: Alemania, Países Bajos, Turquía, Italia, Bulgaria, Serbia, Israel, Croacia, España, Brasil, Noruega, Portugal, Irlanda, Finlandia, Reino Unido, Eslovenia, Grecia, Francia, Chile, Argentina, Austria, Suecia, Australia, Méjico, Suiza, Estados Unidos e Islandia.

Desde el principio, podía percibirse en el ambiente la ilusión de encontrarse unos con otros y dialogar, siendo este por otra parte el objetivo fundamental del encuentro "Tender puentes de diálogo".

Creo que una ayuda importante para esta comunicación inicial tan rápida fue la existencia de la lista de Internet a la que todos los inscritos estaban invitados y a la que también se podían inscribir personas interesadas aunque no fueran a participar en la Conferencia, mantuvo una participación muy activa durante un tiempo previo a la Conferencia y permitió a los participantes presentarse, dialogar, saludarse los que ya se conocían y mantener un nivel de comunicación libre y asociativo.

Después del acto oficial de apertura de la Conf., hubo un taller de bienvenida con técnicas activas que fue muy facilitador de la comunicación con alto nivel de participación.

El trabajo se desarrolló en torno a tres grandes temas y que ocuparon los espacios de las conferencias plenarias.

La primera conferencia plenaria cuyo título fue "Construyendo puentes entre grupos" trató fundamentalmente de la historia del Grupo Análisis y su desarrollo en España.

La segunda, "Las migraciones, procesos de cambio social y resistencias al cambio".

La tercera, "Procesos de resolución de conflictos".

En los tres casos fueron exposiciones de gran interés y alta calidad, lo que provocó animado coloquio y como no podía ser de otra manera, el tiempo de diálogo entre los asistentes fue insuficiente.

Fueron los tres únicos espacios, junto con los talleres de bienvenida y de despedida en los que no se realizó ninguna actividad paralela y en los que pudimos contar con traducción simultánea español – ingles.

La barrera del lenguaje fue obvia y estuvo presente todo el tiempo. La comunicación es mucho más lenta y de alguna manera se pierde espontaneidad y se gana en frustración pero en la mayoría de los casos se hizo un gran ejercicio de voluntad y de paciencia por entender y hacerse entender y todo el mundo que podía utilizar los dos idiomas, ayudaba en la traducción, lo cual me produjo un sentimiento de esperanza. También contamos con la inestimable ayuda de estudiantes de post-grado que de forma voluntaria hicieron una gran labor, de manera que la mayoría de espacios, talleres y simposium contaban con la colaboración de alguno de ellos. De post- grado también eran los alumnos del master en Danza Terapia que nos acompañaron con sus danzas, músicas e interpretaciones teatrales.

Al final de cada jornada, hubo cuatro grupos de reflexión continuada con la recomendación de asistir al mismo cada día, con el fin de poder vivir el proceso.

Dos de ellos de orientación psicodramática, uno de orientación de análisis transaccional y otro de orientación grupo analítica.

Respecto a los acontecimientos sociales, el Ajuntament de Barcelona nos obsequió con una recepción en un marco incomparable para una ceremonia de acogida. La persona que representó al Ajuntament nos dio la grata sorpresa en su intervención de conocer en detalle el motivo de nuestro encuentro y nuestro trabajo. La cena de gala tuvo lugar en el hotel Avenida Palace que es un clásico de Barcelona donde pudimos deleitar un animado aperitivo, exquisita cena, música y baile. La música y el baile estuvieron presentes en varios de los encuentros y talleres de manera especial en los de bienvenida y despedida.

Para nuestra sociedad SEPTG ha sido una gran experiencia de aprendizaje de la que todavía tenemos mucho que revisar y pensar. Está en marcha un estudio de evaluación del que no tenemos resultados todavía.

Ha sido un reto y un honor para nosotros el haber sido anfitriones de la III IAGP Conferencia Mediterránea y XXXV Symposium de nuestra SEPTG. No ha sido ni completo ni perfecto por lo tanto tenemos algunas dificultades que afrontar a las cuales miramos con optimismo e ilusión y como oportunidades de mejorar y aprender.

Espero que con este pequeño resumen haya podido reflejar una idea de lo acontecido.

Con afecto,

**Concha Oneca**  
Presidenta de la SEPTG

## Editors, from Page 1

### Introducing you to Globeletter Editors:

Cecelia Winkelman is Senior Lecturer at the Australian Catholic University Melbourne campus, where she has a role as Assistant Head of School and is also involved in the supervision of psychology trainees in the University Clinic. She is a psychodramatist and uses action methods in her teaching and in training counsellors in listening and empathy.

She is well respected in the field of psychology both

for her professional contributions and for her generous willingness to be involved with her students and colleagues. She coordinates the Psychoanalytically Oriented Psychologists Interest Group (POPIG) in the Victorian Branch of the Australian Psychological Society. In this capacity she promotes psychoanalysis to the mental health community.

Ethel Tillinger is a psychologist and counsellor at the University of Melbourne's Counselling Service and a psychotherapist in private practice. She is experienced in group work and group psychotherapy and conducts groups on Living Alongside Mental Illness for University students who have a parent with

a mental illness. She is also involved in supervising trainee counsellors and coordinating the supervision program.

She contributed to the work of the Australasian Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, serving as co-President of the Victorian Chapter and state representative to the Australian and New Zealand committee.

Her Psychoanalytic Master's thesis was on the topic of Holocaust survivors' giving testimony. Using a model of intersubjectivity, she developed a research tool for tracking the moment-by-moment changes in integration of trauma in survivors.

## President, from Page 1

Estimados Colegas:

Han sucedido tantas cosas emocionantes dentro del IAGP que no sé por dónde empezar a contar. Fue un placer asistir en La Tercera Conferencia Regional Mediterránea. La Academia de Verano en Granada fue una experiencia emocionante para los participantes y nosotros estamos anticipando la próxima Conferencia del Pacífico en Matsue, Japón. Por último, Esther Stone, M. S. W. y Maurizio Gasseau, Ph.D. (Co-presidentes del Comité Científico del Programa), con la ayuda de Jaime Ondarza Linares, M.D. y Eva Fahlstrom, el M.UN. (Co-presidentes de los Institutos del Precongreso); Claudio Merlo, Ph.D., Renato del Polo, M.D. y Sylvia Anfilocchi, Ph.D., (Comité Organizador Local, COIRAG), trabajan muy duramente para que todos podamos tener un Congreso Internacional de altísima calidad en Roma, Italia en Agosto, 2009. Usted podrá conocer todo el programa

en esta edición del Globeletter.

Los miembros del Comité ejecutivo, de las Secciones del Comité y de muchos otros comités, trabajan arduamente para construir la estructura interna de nuestra organización. Gracias al trabajo dedicado de Howard Kibel, M.D. nuestro especialista en información, y Pinky Lee, nuestro asistente administrativo, se ha logrado que nuestro banco de datos de la asociación consiga estar más actualizado, lo que muy pronto nos permitirá publicar una guía de la asociación.

El Comité de Nominaciones, bajo el liderazgo de Fern Cramer Azima, Ph.D. trabaja con mucho empeño para que nuestros procedimientos de nominaciones sean claros, transparentes y éticos. Por primera vez, hemos elegido a miembros que forman el Comité que Nominaciones. Los miembros del comité son Jean Francoise Millat, Francia; Richard Repos, M. S. W., EEUU (como miembros elegidos) y Marianne Wiktorin, M.A., Suecia; y Walter Piedra, M.D., EEUU (como miembros designados).

Lo mas necesario en la IAGP es que nuestros

miembros trabajen conjuntamente con los miembros de la Junta Directiva y de los respectivos comités. Para conocer más sobre vuestros intereses, nuestro presidente electo Jorge Burmeister, M.D. y un grupo de miembros del Board, están desarrollando una encuesta de la Asociación que muy pronto se os enviará. Respóndela por favor y dínos lo que deseas de y para la IAGP. También, nos gustaría saber si estarías dispuesto a trabajar en un comité ahora y en el futuro. Si tienes alguna pregunta que concierne al IAGP, por favor me puedes contactar en [President@iagp.com](mailto:President@iagp.com).

Para finalizar, deseo expresar mi gratitud a Cecelia Winkelman y Ethel Tillinger, los Redactores de este boletín. Recuerde que usted los puede ayudar en su trabajo mandando sus noticias y los anuncios para la próxima edición.

**Frances Bonds-White, Ed.D., FAGPA, TSTA, CGP,**  
Presidente IAGP

*(President's letter translated by Maria Cecilia Orozco Lopez & Gregorio Armananzas)*



## Report, from Page 2

de secciones nos pusimos de acuerdo en organizar varias actividades juntos.

Con respecto a las listas de la IAGP coincidimos en nuestra intención de ofrecer las listas como medio por excelencia de una comunicación compartida para miembros hablantes de idiomas diferentes en el contexto de la misma discusión. De este modo, queremos garantizar a los socios de la IAGP que siempre puedan visitar la lista de su interés estableciendo contactos más fácilmente y pudiendo explorar sus temáticas en profundidad.

Con respecto a las reuniones de las Secciones, estuvimos de acuerdo en tener reuniones de las mismas con regularidad, fomentando su desarrollo y mejorando la identificación con la IAGP entre los propios miembros. Para Matsue y Roma está previsto fijar reuniones regulares de las secciones.

También estuvimos de acuerdo en diseñar propuestas y proyectos juntos para la conferencia de la IAGP. Queremos promover una visión única y la

identidad de la IAGP desarrollando el principio de la fertilización mutua entre los métodos diferentes y los campos de aplicación que componen la IAGP y que están representados por sus secciones. Se enfocarán varios proyectos incluyendo

1. La organización de mesas redondas alrededor de los temas principales de la conferencia

2. Un proyecto compartido con el fin de explorar los diferentes modelos de la coordinación de los grupos grandes políglotas

3. La organización de un taller compartido de todas las secciones ofreciendo sus modelos en relación con un mismo tema (por ejemplo la resolución de conflictos). Este tipo de taller se dirigirá tanto al profesional recientemente incorporado en nuestro campo como a estudiantes y a los propios expertos. Para la conferencia de Barcelona hemos llevado a cabo nuestra propuesta: La visión de IAGP - de los abordajes diferentes a la fertilización mutua y su aplicación en la resolución del conflicto y el trabajo del trauma colectivo. Para las conferencias de Matsue y Roma vamos a evaluar la experiencia de Barcelona

para el diseño de nuevos proyectos. ¿Queremos invitar a todos los miembros de las secciones que quieran participar en tales actividades que contacten e informen directamente a su coordinador de la sección!

Como preguntas pendientes hemos identificado:

1. El procedimiento formal para organizar actividades propias de la sección: ¿cuáles son los criterios a cumplir, la aplicación formal y/o la información del ejecutivo o de la junta directiva?

2. La descripción del rol del coordinador de la Sección.

Acerca de este último aspecto vamos a pedir la ayuda del Comité gubernamental y constitucional dado que tal descripción pertenece a su responsabilidad.

**Jorge Burmeister**

**Coordinador Grupo de Trabajo de los coordinadores de secciones**

## Memoriam, from Page 6

everywhere he passed. He wrote three volumes, one of them being the deepest and most of psychoanalysis last times histories, "Sigmund Freud, the century of Psychoanalysis". In the launching of his most important work, he defined Psychoanalysis "as a martial art, a wisdom, a new form of thought, that is singular and not found in another place. To be a psychoanalyst, he claimed, one has to have mastery, to have the tools and clinic". He died at age 84, on February 21st, 2008, Salvador (Bahia), Brazil.

**Ana Maria Sigal and Heloisa Fleury**  
(Instituto Sedes Sapientiae, São Paulo, Brazil)

*This obituary is also in press in the journal Pulsional Revista de Psicanalise.*

Emilio Rodríguez nació y estudió Medicina en Argentina. A los 25 años, comenzó su formación analítica en Londres, donde se analizó con Paula Heimann, trabajó en psicoterapia infantil bajo la supervisión de Melanie Klein y fue observador de los grupos de Bion. En este período, fueron sus analistas-supervisores Herber Rosenfeld, Donald Winnicott, Hanna Segal y Juan Rickman. En 1958, se radicó en los E.E.U.U, donde tuvo un contacto intenso y de transformación con la filósofa Susana Langer, participó también de la comunidad terapéutica pionera de Austen Riggs

(contemporáneo del Robert Knight, Rappaport y Erik Erikson). Asumió la presidencia de la Asociación Argentina de Psicoanálisis en un período en el que, el trabajo con grupos estaba en pleno desarrollo, estimulado por profesionales como Pichón-Rivière, Bleger y otros.

Emilio era un hombre de pasiones, se sumergía en los proyectos, e se adueñaba de ellos convocando a todos los que estábamos a su alrededor a zambullirnos profundamente para ir atrás del deseo, para crear nuevos mundos, para cambiar la realidad. Fue una fuerte figura de identificación de su tiempo, nos marcó con su ejemplo sin tener la pretensión de ser un maestro. Entre las acciones de destaque de las que participó, rompió con la Sociedad de Psicoanálisis, donde era miembro didacta, para fundar junto a otros destacados analistas el grupo Plataforma, que tuvo crucial importancia en su época porque creó las condiciones para el florecimiento de muchas escuelas de formación independientes en psicoanálisis. Cambió el prestigio por la libertad. En una declaración pública dijo que las "instituciones provocan fenómenos autoritarios y sectarios, porque la presión transferencial grupal produce efectos que restringen la libertad para pensar". Por esta razón, no participo más de forma constante en ninguna otra institución, circulando como nómada por territorios diversos. Llego al Brasil con su esposa, en aquella época, Marta Berlin, que tenía una vasta formación en psicodrama e con quien desarrolló un proyecto de formación analítica de grupo. Realizaron muchos laboratorios y work-shops transmitiendo su experiencia en diferentes ciudades brasileras. Era un período de distancia de la ortodoxia analítica y un momento en el que su pensamiento estaba

atravesado por los grandes conflictos políticos que conmovían Latinoamérica y con los que se comprometió sin temor.

Rodríguez amó el Brasil, Salvador lo fascinó y allí se casó con Graça, mujer ligada a la religión afro-brasíler que colaboro para que Bahia se transformase en su tierra de adopción, donde vivió sus últimos 30 años.

Fue allí donde se acercó más al pensamiento Lacaniano y formó un grupo fuerte que lo siguió al final de sus días. Reichiano, Lacaniano, Kleiniano e Freudiano; todas las escuelas que le sirvieron de alimento para saciar su deseo de entender la subjetividad. Fue ante todo un pensador contrario a los dogmas, un ser que vivió políticamente. Analista, grupanalista e institucionalista, dejó discípulos por donde transitó. Escribió en tres tomos, una de las historias del psicoanálisis más profundas y encarnadas de los últimos tiempos "Sigmund Freud, el siglo del Psicoanálisis" En el momento del lanzamiento de ésta, su más importante obra, definió al Psicoanálisis "como un arte marcial, una sabiduría, una nueva forma para pensar, que es singular y que no se encuentra en otro lugar. "Para ser psicoanalista -dijo él- hay que tener maestría, tener las herramientas y tener clínica". Murió a los 84 años, el 21 de febrero de 2008, en Salvador (Bahía), Brasil.

**Ana Maria Sigal y Heloisa Fleury**  
(Instituto Sedes Sapientiae, São Paulo, Brasil)

*This obituary is also in press in the journal Pulsional Revista de Psicanalise.*

## List, from Page 3

Para informaciones podéis contactar Silvia Anfilocchi a la dirección: vicepresidente@coirag.org  
Cari colleghi

Vi ricordiamo che la prossima scadenza delle quote di iscrizione è il 31 ottobre e che entro il 15 ottobre

2008 devono essere inviati gli abstract con le vostre proposte di intervento (relazioni, seminari, conferenze, ecc.). Le aree tematiche suggerite coprono una vasta gamma di interessi e siamo certi che ciascuno di voi potrà portare contributi stimolanti per attivare uno scambio proficuo tra tutti i partecipanti.

In quanto soci individuali IAGP, contiamo sulla vostra collaborazione per diffondere le informazioni

relative a questo congresso.

Buon lavoro a tutti e arrivederci a Roma!

**Il Comitato Locale**  
**Renato de Polo, Claudio Merlo**

Per informazioni e/o comunicazioni potete contattare Silvia Anfilocchi all'indirizzo mail: vicepresidente@coirag.org

## Executive Committee

IAGP Executive Committee Members invites you to contact us with any questions:

Frances Bonds-White, Ed.D., USA:

**president@iagp.com**

Kate Bradshaw Tavon, M.A., TEP, Sweden -Secretary:

**secretary@iagp.com**

Douglas S.G. Kong, M.D., Singapore - Treasurer:

**treasurer@iagp.com**

Jörg Burmeister, M.D., Switzerland/Spain- President Elect:

**presidentelect@iagp.com**

Christer Sandahl, Ph.D., Sweden - Immediate Past President:

**pastpresident@iagp.com**



Francisco Peralta Torrejón

**IAGP President Frances Bonds-White, center, and past presidents, from left: Christer Sandahl, Roberto Delnecencio, Malcolm Pines and Alberto Serrano**

Please notify the IAGP secretary of change of email or postal address at [secretary@iagp.com](mailto:secretary@iagp.com)

## Calendar of Events

**2008, Oct. 7-11, Matsue, Japan**

IAGP 8th Pacific Rim Regional Congress & 14th Conference of International Association of Dynamic Psychotherapy  
"Creating New Space beyond Internal and External Wars"  
[www.prrc-iadp2008.org/index.html](http://www.prrc-iadp2008.org/index.html)  
[iascp@icu.ac.jp](mailto:iascp@icu.ac.jp)

**2009, Jan. 22-26, Dunedin, New Zealand**

Australian New Zealand Psychodrama Association Conference,  
"He tangata he tangata he tangata -- It is people, it is people, it is people"  
<http://anzpaconference2009.wordpress.com/>  
[conference@anzpa.org](mailto:conference@anzpa.org)

**2009, Jun. 8-12, Granada, Spain**

IAGP Granada Summer Academy, "Emigration, Family and Culture"

**2009, Aug.24-29, Rome, Italy**

17th Congress of IAGP with the Confederation of Italian Organizations for Analytic Research on Groups  
"Groups in a Time of Conflicts"  
[www.iagpcongress.org](http://www.iagpcongress.org)  
[vicepresidente@coirag.org](mailto:vicepresidente@coirag.org)