

President's Letter

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to welcome you cordially to the new 2009-2012 term of IAGP membership! I want to express to you my sincere gratitude for your trust and your interest in IAGP.

Many of us were in Rome in August 2009, where the IAGP held its 17th tri-annual Congress. Over 1,500 people attended this event, which was most successful in terms of professional exchange, networking, and socializing with new and old friends. This experience is encouraging us to transform our visions and our dreams into reality. I want to use this opportunity to thank especially our local partner organization, COIRAG, the head of the local organizing committee, Silvia Anfilocchi, the two heads of the Scientific Program Committee, Esther Stone and Maurizio Gasseau, and the two heads of the Pre-congress, Eva Fahlström and Jaime Ondarza-Linares. Their engagement was outstanding and their great work realized.



Jorge Burmeister

President's Vision for IAGP

It is a privilege for me to inform you about the vision of what I hope IAGP can accomplish in this current term and the projects the Board of Directors and I are proposing. I invite all of you to participate and contribute to them. IAGP is not only a trans-cultural and cross-methodological group association, it also provides a vision and a perspective for understanding the difficulties that hinder us in cooperating in a creative and trustful way. The intention of our group analytic and psychodramatic founders, like JL Moreno and SH Foulkes, was to create a strong professional network. Such a network can reflect and act on conflicts/challenges with knowledge, tolerance and respect.

We have set up our new English/Spanish bilingual site. This is an advantage in our attempts to be open and inclusive in fulfilling the premises of an international perspective for our field. For those colleagues who speak neither English nor Spanish we will be working hard to involve speakers of other languages in the IAGP's activities as well. There will be more emphasis on our internet activities this term. Over the next few months, we will be restructuring/refining our current online services and adding new ones. In the meantime, you are cordially invited to join the IAGP's discussion and announcement lists.

Our next international congress will be held in August 2012 in Cartagena de India, Colombia. And we will run our first Latin American regional conference from 3rd – 7th September 2010 in Sao Paulo, Brazil in a joint project with FEBRAP.

The outcome of a recent IAGP survey indicates that the future development of IAGP shall 1) promote and improve programs and activities which foster cultural competence and exchange 2) facilitate social projects and human rights in countries with economic hardship including training programs.

In this regard we will use Pilot Projects, as a first-step approach. These Pilot projects initiate our professional activities on a small scale in regions

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Invitation to IAGP's 18th Congress, Between Worlds and Cultures: Social Transformation

Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, has been chosen by UNESCO as Historical Patrimony to Humanity. It has also been selected as the location of the 18th Congress of the International Association for Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes (IAGP), August 2012.

The country has all the necessary conditions to hold international cultural events. Easily accessible due to its privileged geographic location, it possesses high quality tourism services and cultural diversity. The IAGP vote in favor of Colombia has been influenced by social and political transformation processes, which have developed the country and led to important societal changes.

Colombia, with its rich cultural heritage, has created a variety of musical rhythms, such as Salsa and Merengue, which are today making a presence on dance floors across the world. It is also recognized as the origin of acclaimed artists like Fernando Botero. Cartagena, as the legendary treasure of the Caribbean, holds the mysteries of the Colonial Era, which have inspired the genius of the Nobel Prize winner for Literature, Gabriel García Márquez.

There is no better place to embrace IAGP's next International Congress, Between Worlds and Cultures: Social Transformation. Colombia's growth and social transformation have been crucial. These changes have been happening in a parallel fashion in other Latin American cities.

Violence and injustice occurs throughout the globe, and raises the need for leadership, solidarity and representation of ethnic interests. As group-workers involved in the performance of social and community practices, we need to face the challenges of the painful history of every one of our countries. Political structures have interfered with their growth and development. The experience of dictatorships, wars and globalization have increased migration. These marginalized and traumatized immigrants tend not to receive proper treatment or attention. This is a challenge with many facets, interdisciplinary, therapeutic, social, community and humanitarian.

As psychotherapists, professionals in private practice or in community health services, we see and feel the trauma, the wounds, the losses, the hope and the desperation. Are we prepared and do we have the adequate tools to deal with these feelings? Without a doubt, we need to be aware of how professionals in other areas of the world confront these challenges. We need to know what their experiences are, and how effective their professional techniques and talents have been in psychotherapy, and in influencing the social and mental health of communities.

We need to become mediators of peace and reconciliation between individuals, groups,



Marlene M. Marra



María Cecelia Orozco



Elisabeth Rohr

communities and cultures, keeping in mind the merit as well as the difficulties, failures, and challenges of our work. Part of the challenge is based on knowledge of ethical principles in the processes and strategies in group relations.

We therefore initiate the organization of IAGP's 18th International Congress. In doing so we want to share our worries, interests, thoughts, and wishes with all of you in order to build this Congress. We hope the Congress will contribute to the growth, discussion and interest of all professionals.

For this reason, the general theme of the Congress, Between Worlds and Cultures: Social Transformation, emphasizes topics of interdisciplinary interest. We will focus the Congress themes through the perspectives of group therapy, organizations and education. We intend to promote an exchange of ideas using the following themes:

Transformation of conflict and dialogue:

This theme concerns the use of dialogue in transforming conflict into peace, directed towards the respect of human rights of each individual. We would like to investigate the group work practices that promote a culture of peace and respect towards human rights.

Global migration and its effects:

Global migration is a challenge for this century. The majority of migrants have left their countries as a consequence of poverty and war. Migration may make integration into the new country difficult leaving people feeling like strangers, sometimes, in their own land. The needs of refugees for community health services may be overwhelming.

Our international encounters at Congresses are a privilege. They are a safe and protected space where we have the experience of feeling like foreigners and strangers. Here we the opportunity to meet, discuss and explore topics that are changing the world and our daily lives.

Learning from the past:

Culture and memory are two interconnected concepts. Memory may allow something to be carried from one generation to another. Paradoxically, memory both transmits and withholds information; sometimes

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Editors' Letter

This Globeletter has come together in the midst of disruptions, pressures, a broken wrist, reorganisation and conflicts. While these have been experienced personally we have also been editing submissions that have been describing international and intergenerational disruptions. We are pleased with the way this Globeletter has come together and in having the opportunity to get to know IAGP members through their writing and photos.

This issue of Globeletter celebrates the 2009 Congress held in Rome last August. There are reports from the Congress organisers. Also, we have selected several of the many highlights of that Congress. Some snippets from the forum, *Transgenerational Footprints of Our Wars*, are in this issue and more developed versions of those papers will be published in IAGP's journal, *Forum*. In addressing the aftermath of war,



Cecelia Winkelman



Ethel Tillinger

these papers illustrate the way different cultures shape the experience of trauma. This reflects one of the aims of IAGP, that of holding different cultural pictures of shared human experience.

The new IAGP President welcomes us. Incoming Chairs of IAGP Sections bring their vision for the future; and retiring Psychodrama Section Chair shares her view of past achievements during her term in office. In looking back, we also farewell departed IAGP member, Juan Campos. Looking forward, there are invitations to the 1st IAGP Regional Latin American Congress, September, 2010, to be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil and to the 2012 IAGP Congress in Columbia.

Please write to us with your news; we echo Jorge Burmeister's invitation to be involved with IAGP. Be involved with *Globeletter* by writing about your favourite projects and latest thinking; and please include a photo so we can get to know each other through writing and face-to-face.

The deadline for the next edition is April 30th, 2010; email us at globeletter@iagp.com.

Theater and Group Therapy — Kindred Healing Arts

The Red Well Theater Group of Washington, D.C. presented a dramatic reading of the stage play *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, by Frank McGuinness, at the IAGP 17th Annual Congress in Rome, Italy this past August.

I'm the founding director of the Red Well Theater, a group of American psychotherapists who combine their love of theater with an understanding of group process. We use theatre performance and dialogue to illuminate the complexities of relationships. We aspire to the Athenian ideal of a public space where all are welcome to bear witness and share their experience openly in a spirit of respectful joining, reflection and healing exchange.

Someone Who'll Watch Over Me is a fictional account of a hostage taking of an Englishman, Irishman and American and their experience of captivity together, chained to a wall in a cell in Lebanon, circa late 1980's. The play explores the daily crises endured by the hostages whose strength comes from communication—both soul searching and mundane—and from humor, wit and faith. The emergence of centuries-old nationalistic conflicts within the small group dynamics of the men also serves as a powerful reminder of the disruptive effect of reactivated traumas, whether familial, political/cultural, or situational in origin.



Bob Schulte

Mr. McGuinness' play was inspired in part from conversations with Irish writer Brian Keenan who was in fact kidnapped and held hostage from 1986-1991 in Lebanon and shared a cell with Englishman John McCarthy for some of that time. Mr. Keenan wrote an autobiographical account of his experience, *An Evil Cradling*. Of his experience,

Mr. Keenan reflected, "Just as I was chained in darkness for almost five years, my captors were chained to their guns in a profound darkness I could see into. Tell me now, who is the prisoner here?" In the play, the Englishman Michael less eloquently spells out an equally profound truth to his cellmates, "We are in this together. Don't forget that. If I go under, so do you."

Our discussion facilitator, Molly Donovan commented, "The action of the drama takes place in a cell where three Westerners are held by Arab captors. Halfway through our second rehearsal it struck the cast members they could be playing Muslims in

Guantanamo, with Westerners holding the guns. The power of this play lies in its ability to engage nationality and politics and yet move beyond that engagement to become a reflection on relationship as an essential element of our humanity."

Performing for an international audience was a unique opportunity to explore these themes in depth with colleagues intimately familiar with other similarly complex international situations. We felt a deep gratitude for the emotional risk taking and authenticity of their reactions to the play. We were moved by the singular courage to identify with both the hostages and the hostage takers, thereby creating a secure and receptive environment to consider the complex individual, group, national and global implications of the play's themes. Good guy/bad guy splits were assiduously avoided which allowed for deeper access to feelings of shame and guilt linked to national identities unconsciously associated with past transgressions and inflicted traumas.

Our next Red Well Theater performance is scheduled for the American Group Psychotherapy Association Annual Meeting in San Diego, California in February 2010. Visit us at www.redwelltheater.com.

Bob Schulte

Regional Latin America Congress planned

The XVII Brazilian Psychodrama Congress and I Latin America Congress of Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes will be held in Brazil, September 3 – 7th, 2010. The strong partnership created between IAGP/ FEBRAP (Brazilian Federation of Psychodrama) for the International Congress in 2006 has continued to produce an interest in IAGP, as an institution that attracts different cultures and promotes different theoretical approaches.

This conference features a design to study in depth selected topics. It aims to build new channels for dialogue among cultures. For over 30 years FEBRAP has been organizing National and International Congresses. It is time to renew a dialogue between cultures, to develop new understandings and methodologies, to deal with challenges that group workers around the world are facing.

Welcome to <http://connections2010.ning.com> for more details and participation!!

Organising Committee: Heloisa Fleury (former IAGP Scientific Program Committee co-chair 2006), Marlene Marra (former FEBRAP President), Adelsa Cunha (FEBRAP President) and Milene Féo (President of the Congress).

BIENVENIDOS AL CONGRESO LATINOAMERICANO REGIONAL IAGP

El Congreso Brasileiro de Psicodrama y el I Congreso Latinoamericano de Psicoterapia en Grupo y Procesos Grupales serán realizados en Brasil, 3-7 Septiembre, 2010. La fuerte relación entre la IAGP y FEBRAP (Federación Brasileña de Psicodrama)

This conference features a design to study in depth selected topics. It aims to build new channels for dialogue among cultures. For over 30 years FEBRAP has been organizing National and International Congresses.

Group Analysis Section

As the new chair of the Group Analysis Section, I would like to share my views on our future work. First of all, it is clear to me, from my lifelong participation in institutional work that survival of the Section depends on the active participation of its members; they are its lifeblood. One issue is how the Section will be able to represent the problems, questions, and doubts of members. A second is how to reflect the different group analytic approaches. We want to include young colleagues, who have doubts, just as we did when we started.

To facilitate the preliminary objective, active participation of members, the internet list will be the



Giovanna Cantarella

main vehicle for mutual exchanges. I will do my best to let colleagues from every latitude, whether they are Section members or not, feel that their contribution is precious. Contributions are welcome, whether they address where we work, what we do, who we work with, what problems we face, and what solutions we find.

The preliminary objective can be reached by working together inside each Section and joining forces with other Sections. Some of these links have already been established in the past and new ones were forged at the 2009 Rome Congress. For my part, I will foster integration within IAGP and connection with other group analytic associations.

I hope we will deepen our mutual knowledge of different therapeutic praxis, transcend our original schooling/training without losing contact with it, and enjoy the richness of IAGP.

Giovanna Cantarella
Group Analysis Section Chair

Psychodrama Section 2003 – 2009

After being elected as Psychodrama Section Chair at the Istanbul Congress in August 2003, I tried immediately to organize a section working committee. In this group of volunteers, we defined four goals, which became subgroups: a) scientific research, b) promotion of psychodrama, c) networking and d) international publishing. There was a leader for each subgroup.

During the first three years, I came to the conclusion that I had been working too much in isolation. Three of the subgroups did not produce many outcomes; the exception was the scientific research committee led by Michael Wieser. The latter committee started collaborative work with FEPTO, the European umbrella for psychodrama training organizations.

It was not easy to keep this international Psychodrama Section committee alive and working, especially when there were only opportunities of



Manuela Maciel

fact that our colleague from Italy, Maurizio Gasseau, the next Chair of the Psychodrama Section, has already created a promising international working team and is encouraging my active contribution to this team. I recommend for the future that we try to work

effectively as a team. I believe we will do so, since the members who were nominated are active members of IAGP and of the international psychodrama community. I recommend we organize sociodrama sessions to enhance cohesion and team work.

I am also happy about the election to the Board of Sue Daniel, the previous Section Chair, as this may increase the potential of good teamwork.

I agree with Christer Sandahl's idea to have applied rather than theoretical sections (clinical, organizational, educational, etc). This structure would serve IAGP's goal of promoting cross-fertilization.

I appreciate the volunteer work of the Board and wish the next Board excellent achievements!

Manuela Maciel
Psychodrama Section Chair 2003 – 2009

Transcultural Section

Action Plan for the Transcultural Section

The goal of the Transcultural Section is to develop theoretical and methodological knowledge of transcultural issues in group therapy and group processes. For the Transcultural section, it is important to develop together ways and strategies for intercultural communication. Transcultural is a term that is used internationally and can be recognized easily in the diverse context of IAGP. I like to use the word intercultural in addition to transcultural because in my view it refers more clearly to the vicissitudes of intercultural communication. Intercultural communication emphasizes the joy as well as the hardships in bridging differences and misunderstandings within and between intercultural groups.

Based on the input at the Transcultural Meeting in Rome 2009, I made an Action Plan for this section. The red thread running through all the suggestions and recommendations is to pay attention to the cultural competencies that we have in common and to organize these around three aspects:

- 1) Self Awareness: This could enhance an attitude toward each other from which we could benefit both on the list and in meetings.
- 2) Knowledge: Theories/approaches for



Maria van Noort

trans/intercultural work can help us relate to others with respect and offer useful concepts for all organisations and communities.

3) Skills: In the intercultural context, non-verbal communication skills are as important as verbal ones and should get much more attention than they have so far.

I propose an ongoing Intervention (intercultural supervision) Platform on transcultural issues in the groups with which we work. We can bring cases to discuss during conferences. People who have discussed cases in their homelands can bring that material to this platform to get a transcultural view of it from international colleagues. I want to ask everyone to identify and invite a young colleague, interested in trans/intercultural work, to participate in this list on the condition they tell us which teacher inspired them the most and why. This would give us a breadth of approaches and experience and help us

update our knowledge.

2) Knowledge:

I want to create a think-tank for theory and concepts that are conducive for trans/intercultural work. I would also like to identify and connect with existing think-tanks.

3) Skills:

The think-tank could identify methods and applications, especially non-verbal ones, to enhance our work. This extension could help group leaders, who up till now have been mainly trained in verbal methods. Therapists who use the creative arts, such as music and dance, need to be included here.

Humanitarian Action

I hope humanitarian action will develop from the work we will do together. Let us take into account different cultural approaches and not focus exclusively on Western psychology. We could make a bridge with our colleagues from Eastern countries. People in this section could give advice/help from their experience of existing programs.

Maria van Noort, Chair
Transcultural Section

Rome Congress experience was 'truly addictive'

I'd like to recall my only previous experience at an international congress before we met in Rome last summer. It was in Dublin (August, 2008) at the GAS symposium, where I had the pleasure of meeting a charming Israeli colleague who, in a very pleasing way, confessed to me that her experience of international gatherings was "addictive", "truly addictive".

I suspect that her experience is by no means hers only, but mine too and, I guess, for many others as well.

After the Rome 2009 IAGP congress I am sure that many more participants won't be able to do without international meetings and we'll certainly see each other at nearly all the next opportunities leading to Cartagena 2012.

As a matter of fact, we all had an excellent experience in Rome, not only for the high quality of the presentations we could hear both in the pre-congress and congress – or, better, the selection of them that everybody could make from the wide offering. The general atmosphere was moving, exciting and involved, with the inevitable inconveniences in such large gatherings pretty easily overcome by the hard work and perfect organization Alessia Bobbio arranged by coordinating the many volunteers she had



Silvia Anfilocchi

involved.

It was particularly amusing meeting "live" individuals, which until then lived in e-mails only to finally discover we had imagined each other rather differently. I must confess I expected the well-known Goyo to be a large and imposing figure only to realize that he is a delicate and really nice person and Roberto de Inocencio whom

I imagined to be a serious and rather severe professor only to appear as an elegant and smiling gentleman.


It happened to me and certainly to all the participants that we'd love to go into the various issues raised during the Rome congress (but also to re-visit the inexhaustible source of visual and sensual pleasures that is Rome) and I'm sure that the shared enthusiasm is with us still, giving a new flesh to our working and study activities as "Groups in a Time of Conflict" inspired many presentations which, in different fields, suggested careful analysis

and thorough comments of contemporary political and social situations thus reinforcing our belief in contributing to better, more equal live solutions to the dramatic conflicts which afflict the global scene. To recall Roby Friedman's appeal during one of the symposia on the theme of violence and conflicts when he said "*Please, don't stop discussing, thinking and writing on these themes. It's helpful for those who are in the middle of fights and wars*" which stressed that conflicts are not only resolved in the territories concerned but involve many other locations and situations: the Rome congress – and our everyday practice – was one of these instances.

I should mention many other friends and colleagues with whom I shared such a hard but worthy and satisfying work, but my largest heartfelt thanks goes to my President – Claudio Merlo – for having involved me in a so inspiring and unique experience and to all the 1560 participants without whom this congress would never have taken place.

Looking forward to meeting you all the soonest as possible.

Silvia Anfilocchi



American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama

68TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

April 15 - 19, 2010
Marriott Courtyard - Downtown, Philadelphia, PA

SATURDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
How Psychodrama Became Part of the Addictions Field
TIAN DAYTON, MA, PhD, TEP

Dr. Tian Dayton, the director of The New York Psychodrama Training Institute, is a Fellow and Scholar's Award winner of ASGPP. Dr. Dayton was faculty at New York University for eight years teaching psychodrama. She has authored many books, among them *The Living Stage: A Step by Step Guide to Psychodrama, Sociometry, and Experiential Group Therapy*. She has two training DVDs, one being *Trauma and the Body*. Dr. Dayton has been a guest expert on NBC, CNN, MSNBC, Montel, Rikki Lake, John Walsh and Geraldo.

FRIDAY OPENING PLENARY SPEAKER:
What's Going on in Bioethics?
JONATHAN MORENO, PhD

Jonathan D. Moreno, PhD is the David and Lyn Silfen University Professor of Ethics and Professor of Medical Ethics and of History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania. He is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Sciences.

PRE & POST CONFERENCE TRAINING INSTITUTES / WORKSHOPS
In Group Psychotherapy, Psychodrama, Sociometry, Sociodrama and Creative Arts Therapies; the use of action methods in a wide variety of applications

Credit Hours / CEUs
NAADAC, approved CASACs; NBCC, Certified Counselors; National Registry of Group Psychotherapists and MFT & SW (CA)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:
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Rome Congress: Transgenerational Footprints of Our Wars

Symposium Convenor

Many wars in past decades have placed their footprints in our paths. Their effects have been transmitted consciously and unconsciously over generations. Frequently fear and silence prevented families and society at large from processing those traumas. The reasons for silence can be related to the fear of death and vulnerability, shame of the victims, guilt by the perpetrators, or fear of reactivating the conflicts.

When wars happen decades before, and people do not talk about them, it is sometimes argued that there has been no real effect. Silence can have a trans-generational effect, as can disclosure. In some cases, unconscious repetition or identification have been forms of transgenerational transmission of war trauma. Their consequences influence our personal, family and social identities.

In order to understand our own experience and learn from the past, we need an exchange of knowledge. This breaking of the silence would allow us to come out of isolation. We have the possibility to influence younger generations, who have more distance, and thus, perhaps, more courage, to confront this phenomenon.

Convenor: Gregorio Armañanzas Ros
Email: gar@gogestion.com

Muchas guerras han dejado su huella en las últimas décadas: la Segunda Guerra Mundial, la Guerra Civil Española, etc.

Sus efectos han sido transmitidos conciente e inconscientemente a sucesivas generaciones. Frecuentemente, el miedo y el silencio han impedido que las familias y la sociedad procesen esos traumas. Las razones para el silencio pueden tener que ver con el miedo a la muerte y a la vulnerabilidad, la vergüenza en las víctimas, culpa en agresores y sus descendientes, el temor a reactivar el conflicto, etc. En algunos casos, se argumenta que no ha dejado huella, mostrando al mismo tiempo, la fuerte necesidad a no hablar sobre ello. En otros casos, la divulgación, repetición o la identificación han sido la forma de la transmisión transgeneracional del trauma de las guerras.

Las consecuencias de ello han conformado nuestras identidades personales, familiares y sociales.

Es necesario intercambiar conocimientos, aprender del pasado, romper el silencio, ayudar en el intercambio de experiencias vividas de forma aislada y aprender de otras experiencias con el fin de comprender las nuestras. Tal vez las nuevas generaciones que tienen la distancia y el coraje para hacerlo.

Convocante: Gregorio Armañanzas Ros
Email: gar@gogestion.com

Unrecognized transmission leaves its mark

When Anna Ornstein responded with such outrage to Felix's references to second generation theoreticians, I found myself weeping quietly. It was a familiar experience, fighting not to feel psychically annihilated. There I was again, filled with strong feelings and unable to find a way to express or make sense of them in the presence of those who had been there and suffered so much. We had an enactment of what it means to be second generation right in the symposium: so powerful, it was almost too difficult to contemplate in the present.

Anna told us that after the war, to justify claiming restitution from the German government, survivors like her had to be interviewed by psychiatrists. She was incensed that these interviews gave rise to theories of radioactive transmission of trauma to the second generation. Both Anna and Grete described their disbelief about the existence of the second and third generation as a phenomenon. But we know that they do exist. Too many people have struggled to make sense of the legacy of their parents' experiences, for it not to be so.

My father was similarly disbelieving when I first started to describe how it was to be his daughter. It was not until much later when my son, his grandson then in his early twenties, asked his grandfather, "Wasn't it difficult to be forced to leave your home country?" "Oh no it was a relief!" I looked at him in shocked disbelief, explaining that I had spent most of my life trying to understand what had happened



Teresa von Sommaruga Howard

The spectre of being diagnosed crazy floated about in the room. To suffer so much inevitably leaves a scar. Being traumatised by surviving experiences that no human being should have had to live through is not an illness. It isn't that they were crazy, as implied by early post war researchers, but that they had simply lived through what many should never have had to live through. These unspeakable experiences had left their mark. The psychic mark is inescapable, but it is painful for survivors to be forced to recognise the way their experiences have impacted on their children and grandchildren despite their intentions to be protective.

My annual workshop *Breaking the Silence*:

to him. He was not like any other fathers that I knew. He looked at me in horror and said very slowly, "I must have projected it all into you." It was a significant turning point but it took another fifteen years before he could tell me. "You don't know how humiliating it is to be an outcast in your own country." And, very recently he admitted to feeling shame, rage and sadness about what happened to him.

Mending the Broken Connections for second and third generation over the last ten years in Germany has reinforced my view that few people find the opportunity to make sense of the impact on them of their parents' experiences. These regular meetings have taught me that although many people know the fact that they are children or grandchildren of survivors or refugees, few understand the impact on their own lives. Few know the detail of what actually happened to their forebears. There is often a belief that if people got out of Germany before the war they were left unscathed; physically, perhaps, but certainly not emotionally. In Felix's family, they even denied that people had been killed.

I have heard Dankwart's story often. Young students from Germany, even now, hate to identify themselves as Germans abroad. As Dankwart so eloquently describes, he was ashamed just because he was German and not because he himself had done anything. He has to live with what his forebears may or may not have done. Dankwart's pain resonated with Kauro's description of the culture-wide humiliation in Japan, despite these two countries being worlds away from each other.

Goyo's description of growing up in the shadow of the Spanish civil war reminds me of my work with the large group in Finland and talking with people

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Transmission of Trauma after the Civil War in Spain

A characteristic of the post traumatic experience in Spain is that this was a civil war between neighbours, friends, and even relatives. If war breaks out between two different countries or cultures, it is easier to stereotype the other group, dehumanize them and, after this, try to kill them. This is not so easy with known people. Guilt, scepticism and distrust of humanity must have played a strong role in Spain in those years.

In order to track the transgenerational effect of the deaths from that war, it is important to know how they happened. Bullets are blind. The impact is less if the person was killed on the battleground compared to someone persecuted, then killed intentionally. All the people searching now in Spain for their relatives' graveyards, belong to this second category.

Danieli (1994) established four kinds of adaptation in families: fighting families, victim families, numb families and families of aggressors. Only one category for aggressors; perhaps the family dynamics of the perpetrators are less studied because they are perpetrators and not victims.



Goyo Armañanzas Ros

emotions.

In Spain, it is unusual to consider the war trauma in parents or grandparents as a root of emotional problems in our patients. A middle aged client showed difficulties in living. There were sad feelings and tearfulness, but with a taboo in sharing those at home. Recently the client made his first allusion to his father's experiences in the Civil War, saying that

it was terrible. His attitude to his father was that of a rescuer, always trying to enliven him. Last week, he revealed that his father refused to fight and was sentenced to be executed for his disobedience. This event functioned as a family secret.

Some professionals working in groups with victims of Franco's dictatorship, cannot believe me when I relate to them that some grandsons of fascists are living with guilt because of the actions of their grandparents. This is clearly demonstrated in Sichrovsky's (1988) book, "Born guilty" in which he reported on his interviewing offspring of Nazis.

Seventy years after Spain's civil war, there are no professional publications in Spain about the emotional impact of the war on its subsequent generations. The first time I heard a talk about this topic was by Vamik Volkan and Anne Schutzenberger in the 1998 IAGP Congress, in London. I had ended my psychiatry studies seventeen years before in 1981. As you can imagine, this affected me strongly and I started to

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More general aspect of 'footprint' given

In this symposium, I wanted to give a more general aspect of "footprint" and not only of a particular war. It was my intention to show that each man has archaic tendencies dating back to the stone age to act and react according to his inherited tendency to fight against those who do not agree with his attitudes.

In my experience with therapeutic groups, especially large ones of 50-200 participants, some people will fail to conform to the expectations of the majority. Then projective identifications (Melanie Klein, 1946) occur through which one's aggressiveness is projected onto others. These others are then identified as enemies. I have described this process in my article, "Archaic Patterns as Triggers of Conflicts between Groups and Nations" (2007, *Forum*, no.2). People unconsciously expect that others will have the same thoughts and feelings as themselves. When they find that this is not the case, the projective identifications occur. A German proverb characterizes this tendency: "If you will not be my brother, I shall break your skull!"

There may be a wish to work through the effects of transgenerational footprints of war, but we still carry

See *'Footprint'*, Page 5

The Language of the Drawing Room, the Language of the Kitchen

My early childhood years were spent in the country, with my grandparents who had taken refuge there because the cities were being bombed by American planes, fighting against Italy and its German allies. But there was war raging in Italy too, a civil war between the fascist militia and the partisans. Every day was spent in fear of robbery, blackmailing and attacks by the starving partisans who were trying to survive in an area where the laws of the state were no longer working. Every day there were skirmishes and ambushes, with the dead left abandoned in the roads by the fascists as a warning to the local people not to help the partisans. Every day in the kitchen I used to hear in hushed tones stories of wounded partisans who were hiding or were looking for shelter in the abandoned farmhouses.

With the war won, the vendetta began--the hunt for the losers, the fascists, and the roadside lynchings. The civil war was still going on. After a year peace arrived at last.

Even then I don't know why the peace was maintained. Another civil war was already beginning, linked to the Cold War, between the communists and Western sympathisers, but no-one pushed things to their extreme. Why this happened and things didn't



Robert Ghirardelli

it?

It is lucky for me and for all of us that democracy prevailed here, or as we group analysts would say, that group cohesion prevailed over individual isolation and the formation of subgroups.

As I am thinking about these things, I have in mind several painful stories--the former Yugoslavia, Northern Ireland, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Palestine. These stories I heard at our recent IAGP Congress in Rome last August. I found them moving; they opened the floodgates to my childhood memories.

Which forces, which interpretations, which ties, I ask myself, need to be brought into play or established? Would they be patience and time to cope with unimaginable grief as Lord Alderdice, the Ulster peace broker, explained to us?

Let me get back to my grandparents and my experience as a child. What I remember is that they tried to walk a difficult tightrope, keeping a balance between behaving with compassion and defending their own affections. On the one hand they helped the partisans and the wounded resistance fighters, putting to one side the way they had themselves

ended up as in the former Yugoslavia is something I still don't know. The problem I pose is why, at a certain point in the history of a nation, does the move towards group co-existence prevail as opposed to other more aggressive and anti-group forms? In other words, how does the "social unconscious", the spirit of a population, react? What are the forces which govern

been threatened and robbed. On the other hand, overlooking the violations and reprisals endured in the past, they supplied old clothes to the uniformed fascists who wanted to save themselves from lynching. In order to do this they also had to abstain from identifying too closely with the various parties, including various offspring who had fought on opposing sides.

What have I inherited from the experience and behaviour of my forebears? A fear of airplanes; for years as a child I was frightened when I heard planes flying overhead. Did they unconsciously remind me of the bombardments my parents had endured? I have also inherited an unconscious bipartisan behaviour. I do not behave in a ruthless manner towards enemies but am merciful. Sometimes this was even against my own proclaimed ideals.

But I have learnt another thing from those years. I listened to the tales and the events that my family used to repeat over and over again to dampen and rework the emotions that these traumatic experiences had caused them. I realised that two languages co-existed: on the one hand, the language of the drawing room and, on the other, the language of the kitchen.

The drawing-room conversations emphasized the heroism of the resistance and the fight against the enemy, whose record was stained with serious errors and crimes. The historical reconstruction of the facts was not impartial as only the positive parts and not the controversial ones were mentioned, transforming a harsh tale into a politically correct narration.

In contrast, in the kitchen, where usually only the women were to be found, another story was told formed of conflicting events, which were endured

See *Kitchen*, Page 6

2009 IAGP Congress Scientific Program Report

It has been months since the 17th Congress of the International Association for Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes (IAGP) was convened in Rome, Italy. Yet I find myself still at the opening ceremony, hearing the music and humming the words. "Imagine all the people ... living for today ... sharing all the world" and seeing the flashing pictures of the 48 countries representing the 157 participants attending the Congress.

The Congress theme, *Groups in Time of Conflict*, reflects the state of our world, as well as the experiences of many in this International audience. The Large Group, which met at the end of each Congress day, became the container for issues of the Congress and demonstrated how the "outside" becomes very much a part of the "inside" in the Congress.

The International Congress is a group centered meeting and the scientific program was organized around theory and techniques. A percentage of the program emphasized social, cultural and political contexts. Participants commented on the rich cultural exchanges and the prompt translation when language



Esther Stone

barriers arose. That experience gave people a sense of connection and led to hopes for universal cooperation and resolution of conflicts.

Our Plenary Speakers explored conflict and trauma from individual, group and societal dynamics. Lord John Alderdice, Irish psychiatrist and key negotiator of the Belfast Agreement

on good Friday 1998, spoke on Fundamentalism, Radicalization and Terrorism as Large Group phenomena. Anna Ornstein, American analyst, author and holocaust survivor, spoke about The Function of Groups in Times of Terror. Pedro Demo, Brazilian sociologist and educator emphasized the need for the poor to empower themselves and discussed his concept of "Political Poverty". Giovanni Foresti and Giuseppe Fiorentini, Italian

analysts, spoke of the Temporal Dimensions in Psychosocial Conflicts.

Two important contributions were 1) Susan Gantt, along with Richard O'Neill and Gary Burlingame, have developed a new group process measure which will enable more finely honed outcome studies about what process variables in group contribute to what outcomes. Their measure, "How Groups Work", was administered at the Pre-Congress workshops and the early morning reflection groups. Her findings might be of value to us all. This supports the research aspect of IAGP's mission to learn about what happens to people in groups and how groups work. 2) The SPC introduced the concept of Thematic Tracks: groupings of the scientific activities into themes/topics so that a subject could be studied or experienced in depth.

I thank all of those who attended the Congress. Your participation has contributed to the success of the IAGP Congress and to our friendships across the oceans.

Esther Stone
SPC Co-Chair

Transmission, from Page 4

read, study and think about it. Before this, I had not been aware of the enormous importance of this topic in my life.

Delayed tasks

Frozen bereavement is a reaction to killings in environments characterised by fear, by "disappeared" bodies and by lack of burial rituals. Many people "disappeared" in Spain. They were killed and buried secretly. Around 1975, both before and after Franco's death, a movement arose of trying to find the places where people assassinated by the fascists were buried. Families started to search for the mass graves, opening them and reintering the bodies in individual and family plots. This movement has grown. Some families consider the task of discovering the graves, identifying the bodies and assisting families in reintering them to be the responsibility of the government. Now many families can talk openly of their feelings about being a son, a daughter, or a nephew of an individual who had been assassinated. Some families are now sending obituaries to the newspapers.

Stockholm syndrome

An old woman remembers how, during the civil war, people saw male prisoners transported in lorries to be executed. They cried out: "al paredón" ("to the wall" against which people were shot). Remembering it, she asks herself how she could have had those feelings about it.

A granddaughter of a Spanish republican, killed in the Civil War, observes how in that town many female descendants of those killed, married soldiers and civil guards from Franco's army.

Similarity between families of aggressors and victims.

Rosental and Volter (2001) found similarity between families of Jews and Nazis. The similarities were in the silence about the family past, feelings of guilt and shame, fantasies about the past, psychosomatic reactions and problems in becoming autonomous individuals. In the families of victims the fantasies were of being an active agent, in the families of aggressors, of being a victim.

I can add to these the mechanism of emotional detachment from the past. For both groups, the facts are known, but the emotional experience is rejected. It is the experience of seeing the facts as in a film, not real. A kind of derealization.

Goyo Armañanzas Ros

'Footprint', from Page 4

within us archaic levels of interpersonal relationships. There is the wish to be surrounded by equals and the need to react with aggression when that is not the case. We then project this aggression onto others and identify them as our adversaries.

We could train our children and adolescents to recognize these archaic tendencies in order to "immunise" them. It is my hope that, in a time when the Internet reaches almost the whole world, humankind can be liberated step by step from the domination of the above-mentioned archaic relationship patterns and thus remove the footprints of war.

I wanted to give a more general aspect of footprint and not only of a certain war. It was my intention to show that each man has archaic tendencies (already in the stone age) to act and react according to his inherited tendency to fight against those who are not corresponding to his attitudes.

Raymond Battegay

In Memoriam: Juan Campos Avillar 1928-2009

Juan Campos Avillar was born in Barcelona in 1928. He completed his PhD in Medicine at the University Complutense in Madrid in 1954. Four years later he completed a degree in Psychological Medicine at the University of London (Maudsley Hospital). At that time he was working with Foulkes and Kräupl-Taylor and met his future wife, Hanne. In 1963, he completed postgraduate studies in the United States in psychotherapy and psychoanalysis and analytic group psychotherapy. He also worked in Latin America for four years. He returned to Spain as Professor and Director of the recently founded Department of Psychiatry and Psychology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB).

He was regarded as an expert among mental health institutions, including the World Health Organisation. From 1979 he promoted the group analytic movement in Spain, Europe and Latin America. In 1984 he became an executive member and then vice president of the IAPG. He became the founder and the first chairperson of the group analytic section of IAGP.

Among other institutions he was an active member or honorary member of the SEPTG, APAG, GAS and IAGP, the Lifwynn Foundation and of editorial boards of numerous magazines. He was the creator of several international networks, congresses and virtual analytic groups and the author of more than 100 articles in the field of psychiatry, psychoanalysis and the group analysis. During his last decade he continued to conduct research on the implementation of new technologies relevant to the professional groups to which he belonged.

Some years ago he rewrote a verse by Calderón de la Barca and dedicated it to his friends: “And I ask myself: what is the dream of a therapist when he feels his hour has come? And he recognizes that in spite of all he might think, he might say, he might do, the world around him doesn’t change nor will change? His dream will become a nightmare? Or is it enough that a small group goes on dreaming the dream he has had within this group, by the group and together with this



Juan Campos Avillar

group making it reality?”

This reflects after all the hope which he never lost that we can make a reality of our dreams between all of us. Good bye Juan, we will never forget you!

Maite Pi, Gerona

Juan Campos Avillar nació en Barcelona en 1928, doctorándose en Medicina en la Universidad Complutense de Madrid

en 1954. Era diplomado en Medicina Psicológica por la Universidad de Londres (Maudsley Hospital) cuatro años después, un tiempo donde encontró a su futura esposa, Hanne y trabajaba con Foulkes y Kräupl-Taylor. Realizaba asimismo estudios postgrado en Estados Unidos obteniendo en 1963 títulos en Psicoterapia y Psicoanálisis y en Analytic Group Psychotherapy. Trabajaba también en Latinoamérica durante cuatro años. A su vuelta a España era catedrático y director del Departamento de Psiquiatría y Psicología de la Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona fundada en 1968. Ha sido experto entre otras instituciones de la ISA, y de la OMS (en salud mental de la PAHO). Desde 1979 promovía el movimiento grupoanalítico en España, Europa y Latinoamérica. Desde 1984 era miembro de la ejecutiva y luego vicepresidente de la IAPG. Se convirtió en el fundador y primer coordinador de la sección de análisis de grupo de la IAGP. Entre otras instituciones era miembro activo durante muchos años y últimamente miembro de honor de la SEPTG, APAG, GAS e IAGP. Era miembro del advisory board de la Lifwynn Foundation, de los consejos editoriales de numerosas revistas y creador de varias redes internacionales y de congresos virtuales de grupo análisis. Es autor de más de cien artículos en el campo de la psiquiatría, el psicoanálisis y el grupo análisis, Durante la última

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década investigaba sobre todo la aplicación de las nuevas tecnologías en el ámbito de los grupos profesionales a los que pertenece.

Hace algunos años mandaba el trozo de un poema de Calderón de la Barca rescrito por el mismo: “Y me pregunto yo ¿en que sueña un terapeuta de grupo cuando ve su hora llegar? y comprueba que por más que piense, por más que diga, por más que haga, el mundo que le tocó vivir, no cambia, ni va a cambiar. ¿Se convierte el sueño en pesadilla? o basta con que siga con él soñando un pequeño grupo lo que en grupo soñó, por el grupo y con el GRUPO se hará realidad!”

Refleja muy bien la esperanza que nunca perdió, entre todos podemos hacer de los sueños una realidad. Adiós Juan, no te vamos a olvidar jamás!

Maite Pi, Gerona

Kitchen, from Page 5

but not understood. Here fear, pain, and anger, were mixed together with the love felt for our own. There was compassion for the subterfuge and graft necessary for survival, even if this meant lying or behaving in a non-heroic way.

In the drawing room, the exaltation of civic valour and virtue prevailed, while in the kitchen the emphasis was on the bonds of our affections, emotions and feelings. If in the drawing room, they openly talked about the revenge due to their tormentors, in the kitchen, it was the undercover efforts at fooling the partisans, who were by now the

victors, in order to save the cousin who had formerly donned the fascist uniform.

In the drawing room the confusion and contradictions of affections were denied, in the endeavour to affirm coherence and fidelity to the values of the winner. Back in the kitchen the very same coherence and fidelity to values were denied, with the power of affections affirmed. This brings to mind Blaise Pascal, who said, “The heart has its reasons, that reason cannot know.” Thus a split was made between the different aspects of self, a split of one’s mind, representations of self, and of social relationships. All this was done in order to hold on to contradictory and painful parts of ourselves and to

keep them hidden inside.

So what is my conclusion? In a nutshell, our unconscious seems to be formed of layers. The trans-generational footprints of our wars mix with the social unconscious of that particular people and that particular moment in history. Into this melting pot our own unconscious personal history is introduced, our Oedipus complex, and the relationships with our real family. War has conditioned us and has left its mark for generations to come, and as with any trauma, it threatens and splits our minds. That’s what we have to cope with!!

Roberto Ghirardelli

could exchange our experiences and find a space; a place where we could talk openly about our history, a place where we could relate to others, learning how they’ve created and solved their problems; a space where every one of us can have the same rights to speak, be listened to, respected and understood.

We invite you to Cartagena, Colombia.

Marlene M. Marra
Elisabeth Rohr (SPC)
María Cecilia Orozco (LOC)

La invitación a 18º Congreso IAGP

Entre Mundos y Culturas: Transformación Social Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, elegida por la UNESCO como Patrimonio Histórico de la Humanidad, ha sido seleccionada como la sede del 18º Congreso Internacional de la Asociación Internacional de Psicoterapia de Grupo y de Procesos Grupales (IAGP) a realizarse en Agosto del año 2012.

El país reúne todas las condiciones necesarias para el cubrimiento de eventos culturales internacionales,

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wrong. He discovered that it was more comforting to learn to live with ambiguity and renounce his need for the clarity of right and wrong.

The aftermath of war is widespread and ubiquitous in Europe. Millions of people were dislocated or left without any family. Almost no one escaped the impact of loss. Mourning was almost impossible. Instead, people got on and built a new life. They coped and tried to forget, just as their parents had after the First World War.

President, from Page 1

and countries where our support is required. These projects offer conferences and workshops to start cooperation and to share our competence. The task forces for the different regions will elaborate concrete projects. They will contact with universities, professional organizations, or other experts. This first step shall stimulate further steps. You, our membership, are invited to join our task forces to contribute because we are convinced that their projects require a broad support and a good networking among all of us. We will respect one basic principle, to avoid competition with other organizations that offer similar services: IAGP facilitates help where it is not available by other means.

We plan to develop training programs for countries experiencing economic hardship. These programs could cover 1) a general introduction to our field, including basic competences for group work and group leaders, 2) an introduction to trauma therapy, and 3) an introduction to inter-cultural work. We plan to continue our work in developing on-line or long distance educational facilities to deliver those programs. And we intend to develop a library and access to resources in our field as well.

We will reiniciate a task force of experts on disaster management. We intend to establish strategic alliances with other international organizations already engaged in this field. We will explore the best ways to provide our competence for their needs. We are interested to offer our expertise for peace work and conflict resolution to the United Nations, UNESCO, World Psychiatric Organization, Medicines Sans Frontiers and the International Association of Refugees.

We intend to promote social projects and community work through the use of applied group processes and the different instruments our basic methods offer on this regard. We want to promote scientific research projects which will develop professional quality and competence.

We are considering a proposal to restructure the sections of IAGP according to their field of application like therapy, education, counseling, etc. We invite you to become active in discussing this proposal via the section and membership lists.

Introducing the New Board

The newly elected Board of Directors and Executive represent a balance between regions, cultures, gender and methods. I am pleased to announce some appointments since the Board of Directors meeting in Rome. I thank all members of the Board and the Executive for their availability in assuming responsibilities to co-construct the future of IAGP during the next three years.

All committees and task forces share two priorities. The first is to establish a strategic agenda with goals, tasks and procedures to organize their work. These agendas will be published and discussed. The second is the appointment of IAGP members to committees and task forces. This process is ongoing. I invite you to reflect on your own vision for the future. With what project/group/section would you like to be connected to share your views? If you are interested in joining committees, task forces or section activities, please contact the chairpersons (look at our web page), notifying them of your interest.

Committees, Task Forces and Other Activities
Membership Committee: Public Visibility Committee: Education Committee: Disaster Management Task Force: Regional Development of Group Competence in Africa Task Force: Regional Development of Group Competence in Asia/China and India Task Force: Governance and By-Laws Committee: Finance Committee: Translator Team: Ethics Committee: Globeletter: FORUM: Information Manager: 2012 IAGP Congress, Colombia: Scientific Program Committee: Pre-Congress Committee: Section Chair Task Force:

If you are still not a member or if you have still not renewed your membership we ask you to join IAGP as soon as possible, so that you can start obtaining membership benefits right away. We offer significant discounts to people in countries with lower average income, as well as for students and retired people. Further information about membership benefits, dues and the facility to renew online or by post/fax can be found at www.iagp.com/membership. Contact us with any queries and suggestions at office@iagp.com. If you have decided to join us as a regular member, we want to say a very warm welcome and thank you to you!

In closing I would like to remind you of the most important value according to the Zulu: “ubuntu”, our humanity. I am convinced that we will prosper if we remember this value. I invite you to listen and share with your mind but also with your heart. I invite you to respect and act with courage, but also with wisdom

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and humility. I wish you all a meaningful time of dialogue, of co-creation and of cooperation,

Looking forward to your active participation in IAGP,

Warm regards
Jorge Burmeister
President, IAGP

Queridos colegas,

Les escribo para darles cordialmente la bienvenida como socios en el nuevo periodo 2009-2012 de la IAGP! Deseo manifestarles mi sincero agradecimiento por su interés y confianza en la IAGP.

Varios de nosotros estuvimos en Roma en Agosto de 2009, donde la IAGP celebró su 17 Congreso triannual. A él asistieron alrededor de 1.500 personas, siendo todo un éxito a nivel de intercambio entre profesionales, trabajo en red y encuentros con los viejos y nuevos amigos. Esta experiencia nos anima a transformar nuestras visiones y sueños en realidad. Quiero aprovechar esta oportunidad para agradecer de forma especial a la asociación organizadora local, COIRAGA, la responsable del Comité Organizador local, Silvia Anfilocchi, los dos responsables del Comité Científico, Esther Stone y Maurizio Gasseau, y a los dos responsables del Pre-Congreso, Eva Fahlström y Jaime Ondarza-Linares. Su compromiso fue magnífico y realizaron un gran trabajo.

Vision del Presidente para la IAGP

Es para mi un privilegio informarles de la vision de lo que espero que la IAGP puede llevar a cabo en este período y de los proyectos que la Junta Directiva y yo mismo estamos proponiendo. Les invito a todos a participar y contribuir a los mismos. La IAGP no es únicamente una asociación de grupos transcultural y de orientaciones diversas, también proporciona una visión y perspectiva para la comprensión de las dificultades que nos impiden la cooperación de forma creativa y confiable. La intención de sus fundadores grupoanalíticos y psicodramatistas, como JL Moreno y SH Foulkes, era crear una red profesional potente. Una red así puede reflexionar y actuar ante los conflictos/retos con conocimiento, tolerancia y respeto.

Hemos puesto en marcha nuestra página bilingüe Inglés/Español. Esto favorece nuestros intentos de apertura e inclusividad cumpliendo con las premisas de una perspectiva internacional en nuestro campo. Para los colegas que no hablan ni inglés ni español trabajaremos al máximo para poder implicar también a personas de otras lenguas en las actividades de la IAGP. En este periodo habrá más énfasis en nuestras actividades por internet. A lo largo de los próximos meses, reestructuraremos /redefiniremos nuestros actuales servicios online y añadiremos algunos nuevos. Mientras, están todos invitados a entrar en las listas de discusión y anuncios de la IAGP.

Nuestro próximo congreso internacional se celebrará en Agosto de 2012 en Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. Y se celebrará nuestra primera Conferencia Regional Latino Americana del 3 al 7 de septiembre de 2010 en Sao Paulo, Brasil en un proyecto con junto con FEBRAP.

Los resultados de una encuesta reciente de la IAGP indican que su desarrollo futuro debe 1) promover y mejorar programas y actividades que fomenten la competencia cultural y el intercambio 2) facilitar los proyectos sociales y los derechos humanos en los países con dificultades económicas incluyendo programas de formación.

Con este fin utilizaremos Proyectos Piloto, como una primera aproximación. Estos proyectos piloto inician nuestras actividades profesionales a pequeña escala en regiones y países donde se requiere nuestro soporte. Estos proyectos ofrecen congresos y talleres para iniciar la cooperación y compartir nuestros conocimientos. Los grupos de trabajo para las diferentes regiones elaborarán proyectos concretos. Establecerán contactos con universidades, organizaciones profesionales u otros expertos. Este primer paso promoverá otros que llegarán más allá. Ustedes, nuestros socios, están invitados a unirse a nuestros grupos de trabajo para colaborar ya que estamos convencidos de que sus proyectos necesitan el soporte de todos y un buen trabajo en red entre todos nosotros. Respetaremos un principio básico, evitar la competencia con otras organizaciones que ofrecen servicios similares: La IAGP facilita ayuda

donde ésta no se puede alcanzar por otros medios.

Estamos planeando desarrollar programas de formación para países con dificultades económicas. Estos programas podrían cubrir 1) una introducción general a nuestro campo, incluyendo competencias básicas para el trabajo en grupo y líderes de grupo, 2) una introducción a la terapia del trauma y 3) una introducción al trabajo intercultural. Pensamos continuar con nuestra tarea de desarrollar formas de educación on-line o a distancia para llevar a cabo estos programas. También intentamos poner en marcha una biblioteca y acceso a las fuentes de nuestro campo.

Reiniciaremos un grupo de trabajo de expertos para la intervención en catástrofes. Intentamos establecer alianzas estratégicas con otras organizaciones internacionales que ya están trabajando en este campo. Exploraremos cual es la mejor forma de poner nuestras competencias al servicio de sus necesidades. Estamos interesados en ofrecer nuestros conocimientos para trabajar para la paz y la resolución de conflictos a las Naciones Unidas, la UNESCO, La Organización Mundial de la Salud, la Organización Mundial de Psiquiatría, Médicos sin Fronteras y la Asociación Internacional de Refugiados.

Intentamos promover proyectos sociales y trabajo comunitario a través de procesos aplicados de grupo y los diferentes instrumentos que nuestros métodos básicos pueden ofrecer para este fin. Queremos promover proyectos de investigación científica que desarrollen la calidad y competencia profesional.

Estamos considerando una propuesta para reestructurar las secciones de la IAGP de acuerdo con su campo de intervención, como terapia, educación, counseling, etc. Les invitamos a participar a elaborar esta propuesta a través de las secciones y las listas de miembros.

Introducción de los miembros de la Junta

Las personas elegidas recientemente para la Junta Directiva y Ejecutiva representan un equilibrio entre regiones, culturas, género y orientaciones. Me place mencionar algunos compromisos desde que la Junta Directiva se reunió en Roma. Agradezco a los miembros de la Junta y de la Ejecutiva por su disponibilidad en asumir responsabilidades para co-construir el futuro de la IAGP durante los próximos tres años.

Todos los comités y grupos de trabajo comparten dos prioridades. La primera es establecer una agenda estratégica con objetivos, tareas y procedimientos para organizar su trabajo. Estas agendas se publicarán y discutirán. La segunda es el compromiso de los miembros de la IAGP a los comités y grupos de trabajo. Este proceso está en marcha. Les invite a reflexionar sobre su visión para el futuro. ¿Con qué proyecto/ grupo/sección le gustaría estar conectado para compartir sus puntos de vista? Si están interesados en unirse a los comités, grupos de trabajo o actividades de las secciones, pónganse en contacto por favor con los coordinadores (ver página web), notificándoles su interés.

Comités, Grupos de Trabajo y Otras Actividades

Comité de socios: Comité de Imagen Pública: Comité de Educación: Grupo de trabajo de intervención en catástrofes: Grupo de trabajo de Desarrollo Regional de competencia grupal en Africa: Grupo de trabajo de Desarrollo Regional de competencia grupal en Asia/China e India: Comité de Gobierno y Estatutos: Comité de Finanzas: Equipo de traductores: Comité Ético: Globeletter: FORUM: Encargado de Información: Congreso de la IAGP de 2012, Colombia: Comité científico: Comité del Pre-congreso: Responsable del grupo de trabajo de las Secciones:

Si aun no es miembro o si aun no ha renovado su membresía le pedimos que se una a la IAGP lo antes posible, para poder comenzar a disfrutar de los beneficios de ello le aporta desde ahora mismo. Ofrecemos descuentos significativos a las personas de países con ingresos por debajo de la media, así como para estudiantes y personas jubiladas. Pueden encontrar más información sobre los beneficios de membresía, cuotas y la facilidad de renovar on-line o por correo/fax en www.iagp.com/membership. Pongase en contacto con nosotros para cualquier consulta y sugerencias en office@iagp.com. Si ha decidido unirse a nosotros como miembro, queremos darle la bienvenida y agradecerse!

Para acabar me gustaría recordarle uno de los valores más importantes de acuerdo con los Zulus: “ubuntu”, nuestra humanidad. Estoy convencido de que prosperaremos si recordamos este valor. Le invite a escuchar y compartir con la mente pero también con el corazón. Le invite a respetar y actuar con coraje, pero también con sabiduría y humildad. Le deseo una época significativa de diálogo, co-creación y cooperación.

Esperando su participación active en la IAGP

Saludos cordiales
Jorge Burmeister
Presidente, IAGP

18th Congress, from Page 6

como fácil acceso por su privilegiada posición geográfica, una impresionante vitalidad y alta calidad de servicio en el turismo, amplia diversidad cultural que hoy se refleja en las nuevas generaciones, entre otros. El voto a favor de Colombia ha sido también una respuesta a los procesos de transformación social y política que ha desarrollado el país, llevando a cambios importantes en la sociedad.

Colombia, con su historia y su herencia cultural, ha creado una variedad de ritmos musicales como Salsa y Merengue que se bailan hoy en todo el mundo. Es también conocida como el lugar de origen de excelentes y renombrados artistas como Fernando Botero. Cartagena, como tesoro legendario del Caribe también guarda los misterios del pasado de la era colonial, la cual ha inspirado al genio literario y Premio Nobel de Literatura Gabriel García Márquez.

Qué mejor lugar podría albergar el próximo Congreso Internacional de la IAGP y de Procesos Grupales: "Entre Mundos y Culturas: Transformación Social?". El crecimiento y la transformación social de Colombia ha sido crucial, como también se han presentado en otros países de América Latina.

La violencia y la injusticia están presentes en todo el planeta y crean las necesidad de liderazgo, solidaridad y representación de intereses étnicos. Como trabajadores de grupo y co-responsables en el desempeño de las prácticas sociales y comunitarias, necesitamos enfrentar los desafíos que albergan las historias dolorosas vividas en cada uno de nuestros países y las estructuras políticas y democráticas que interfieren en su crecimiento y desarrollo. La experiencia de las dictaduras, las guerras y también, la globalización han incrementado la migración. Existe la tendencia de que estos migrantes marginados y traumatizados no reciben la atención necesaria ni el tratamiento adecuado. Este es un reto de muchas facetas: Interdisciplinario, terapéutico, social, comunitario y humanitario.

Como psicoterapeutas, profesionales de la práctica privada o en servicios de la salud comunitaria, vemos y sentimos el trauma, las heridas, las pérdidas, las esperanzas y la desesperación. Estamos preparados y tenemos las herramientas adecuadas para lidiar con estos sentimientos? Indudablemente, necesitamos estar conscientes de la forma cómo los profesionales en otras regiones del mundo se enfrentan a estos retos. Necesitamos saber cuáles son sus experiencias, qué tan efectivas han sido sus técnicas y habilidades profesionales en psicoterapia, y cuánta influencia han ejercido en la salud social y mental de las comunidades.

Necesitamos ser mediadores de paz y reconciliación entre individuos, grupos, comunidades y culturas, teniendo muy presente el mérito y también las dificultades, fracasos, desafíos y éxitos que trae nuestro trabajo. Parte de este reto, se basa en el conocimiento de los principios éticos; en los procesos y estrategias para las relaciones grupales.

Por lo tanto, ya iniciamos la organización del 18º Congreso Internacional de la IAGP y nos gustaría compartir con ustedes nuestras preocupaciones, intereses, pensamientos y deseos para construir este congreso. Esperamos que él contribuya en el crecimiento, discusión e interés de todos los profesionales.

Es por esta razón que, el tema general del congreso: Entre mundos y Culturas: Transformación Social, hace énfasis en ejes de interés interdisciplinario. Enfocaremos los temas del Congreso a través de las perspectivas de las Terapias de Grupo, de la Consultoría Organizacional y Educativas. Intentamos



IAGP Board at Rome Congress

promover un intercambio de ideas utilizando los siguientes temas:

Transformación de Conflictos y el Diálogo:

Este tema se preocupa por el uso del diálogo para transformar el conflicto en la paz, dirigido hacia el respeto de los derechos humanos de cada individuo. Nos gustaría investigar las prácticas del trabajo grupal que promueva una cultura de paz y respeto hacia los derechos humanos.

La Emigración Global: La migración es uno de los grandes retos del siglo XXI. La mayoría de los migrantes han abandonado a sus países como consecuencia de la pobreza y de la guerra. Estas situaciones demuestran que la migración trae dificultades de adaptación al nuevo país, haciéndolos sentir extraños, muchas veces, en su propia tierra. Las necesidades de buscar los servicios de salud comunitaria en los refugiados puede ser, en algunas ocasiones, abrumadoras.

Nuestros encuentros internacionales en los congresos son un privilegio. Son espacios seguros y protegidos en donde podemos tener la experiencia de sentirnos extranjeros y extraños. Ellos se convierten en la oportunidad que tenemos para reunirnos, para discutir y explorar asuntos que están cambiando el mundo y también nuestras vidas diariamente.

Aprender del Pasado:

La cultura y la memoria son dos conceptos interconectados e interdependientes. La memoria garantiza la reproducción simbólica de una generación a otra. Paradójicamente, la memoria transmite un contenido de informaciones, pero también administra aquello que conviene olvidar para asegurar la continuidad de la cultura. Los rituales pueden contribuir a compartir como una comunidad, a la validación de la comunidad y a la transformación social. Tales transformaciones pueden tener un significado personal y cultural

El Significado del Grupo en las Estructuras Políticas y su Ética Correspondiente:

Construyendo a la comunidad puede convertirse en un camino hacia la transformación social de un país. Uno de los aspectos de este Congreso es atender los cambios de paradigmas en las prácticas grupales. El segundo, es tejer pensamientos sobre las interacciones de las redes sociales y las implicaciones de las mismas en la participación de los procesos de acción pública.

En conclusión, el tema del Congreso "Entre Mundos y Culturas-Transformación Social" nos invita a investigar los dramas de la vida cotidiana y al mismo tiempo a explorar temas comunitarios. Por ejemplo, cómo los individuos, grupos y comunidades pueden fortalecer sus capacidades para construir una vida mejor, sin importar sus diferencias?

Bien, estamos convencidos que todas las prácticas sociales, educativas y psicoterapéuticas pueden ser consideradas como un medio para construir la confianza en la comunidad y búsqueda para la justicia. Al promover oportunidades para adquirir conocimiento, esperamos iniciar cambios en nuestra propia realidad y contribuimos a crear vidas llenas de dignidad.

Pensemos en crear un lugar en donde pudiéramos estar cerca los unos a los otros, en donde pudiéramos ver a los extranjeros, extraños o amigos, o simplemente, un lugar en donde pudiéramos intercambiar nuestras experiencias y encontrar un espacio; un lugar en donde pudiéramos hablar abiertamente sobre nuestra historia, un lugar en donde pudiéramos relacionarnos con los demás, aprendiendo cómo ellos han creado y solucionado sus problemas; un espacio en donde cada uno de nosotros tenga los mismos derechos para hablar y ser escuchado, respetado y comprendido.

Los invitamos a Cartagena, Colombia.

Marlene M. Marra
Elisabeth Rohr (SPC)
María Cecilia Orozco (LOC)

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