

THE PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY
of the Postdoctoral Program, Inc.

November 28, 1990

Susan Mulliken, Ph.D.
President

Mary Libbey, Ph.D.
Vice-President

Rachelle Dattner, Ph.D.
Corresponding Secretary

Arthur Meinzer, Ph.D.
Recording Secretary

Roni Cohen, Ph.D.
Treasurer

Members-at-Large

Judith Alpert, Ph.D.
Joseph Arieo, Ph.D.
Pamela Crabtree, Ph.D.
Ruth Jaffe, Ph.D.
Lynn Passy, Ph.D.
Linda Pasternack, Ph.D.
Richard Rutkin, Ph.D.
Michael Stern, Ph.D.
Isaac Tylim, Psy.D.

Past Presidents

Martin Nass, Ph.D.
Marvin Hurvich, Ph.D.
Harold B. Davis, Ph.D.
Arthur Goldweber, Ph.D.
Richard Lasky, Ph.D.
Fred Wright, Ph.D.
David Webb, Ph.D.
Helen Silverman, Ph.D.
Susan Warshaw, Ed.D.

Dear Colleagues:

We are delighted to announce that plans are underway for the Sixth Biennial Psychoanalytic Society Conference, to be held in early February, 1992. Former conferences have been very well attended and well received, and we eagerly anticipate another success in 1992.

The theme of the Sixth Biennial Conference is "On the Nature of Contact in Psychoanalysis." We intend the idea of "contact" to be an evocative topic, covering a broad range of interests encompassing the multi-dimensionality of clinical work. "Contact" occurs simultaneously on a variety of levels, in diverse ways. The initial contact, for example, is at once an intrapsychic, interpersonal, social, financial, and culturally-defined event. Moreover, these varied aspects of contact themselves intersect in treatment. The idea of "contact" also connotes a certain humanism, raising questions of authenticity, of the patient's (and analyst's) search for genuine connection with both self and others.

We are casting our net wide, inviting papers on a diversity of topics. In order to stimulate your thinking, some ideas generated in committee discussion are listed below. These should not limit your considerations; we hope they will stimulate you to approach the Conference theme from your own particular psychoanalytic viewpoint.

The referral process and its effect on the beginning treatment relationship

The influence of age/gender/race/sex/language of analyst and/or analysand on their contact

The unique nature of contact within the "analytic space"

Non-verbal and/or unconscious communication

The use of the couch in treatment

The effect of frequency of sessions on the nature of contact in psychoanalysis

The therapeutic alliance

Empathy

Dreams

Extra-analytic contact: chance encounters; contact through letters or by phone

Breaks in contact: premature termination

Failures in contact: consultations not followed up

Termination

Post-termination contact

The Conference will be a one-day meeting. Individual papers as well as focused panels from all orientations are welcome. We invite you to submit a two-page abstract of the paper you would be interested in presenting. If you are organizing a panel, please submit a two-page abstract of each paper as well as an overall summary of the panel. Clearly identify the chairperson with whom we should communicate. **Our deadline for this first submission is February 15, 1991.** The committee will then determine more precisely the shape of the Conference and which of the submissions will be included.

Please send your abstracts by February 15, 1991 to:

Dr. Rachelle Dattner
200 Cabrini Boulevard, Apt. 45
New York, N.Y. 10033

We look forward to your creative participation in what we know will be an exciting endeavor. The committee members listed below are available to discuss any ideas or questions you may have.

Sincerely,


Rachelle Dattner, Ph.D.
Conference Chairperson
(212) 781-7844

Conference Committee Members:

Laura Barbanel, Ed.D.	(718) 624-6507
Muriel Dimen, Ph.D.	(212) 929-6605
Jay Frankel, Ph.D.	(201) 378-8333
Paul Hymowitz, Ph.D.	(212) 645-8815
Judith Lasky, Ph.D.	(212) 595-4352
Jacqueline Lopez, Ph.D.	(212) 260-6772
Seymour Moscovitz, Ph.D.	(212) 996-4974
Susanna Neumann, Ph.D.	(212) 255-7784
Helen Silverman, Ph.D.	(212) 873-9588
Stephen Solow, Ph.D.	(212) 979-5191
Nina Thomas, Ph.D.	(212) 877-7282
Bobbie Troutt, Ph.D.	(212) 362-1920
Susan Warshaw, Ed.D.	(212) 496-1161