

**Minutes of the Psychoanalytic Society Board Meeting  
June 9, 1998**

Present: Steven Axelrod, Judith Beldner, B.J. Cling, Susan Herman, Paul Hymowitz, Lynn Leibowitz, Dolores Morris, Seymour Moscovitz, Sandra Pine, Michael Stern, Barbara Suter, Carol Zeits.

Absent.: Richard Rutkin,

1. **Special Session of Old and New Board:** This meeting was held as a special session. Present from the New Board were: Ann D'Ercole Paul Feinberg, Bruce Grellong, Helen Silverman, Pat Vitacco, and \_\_\_\_\_. As a special invited guest Lew Aron also met with us.
2. **Minutes:** Minutes of 5/12/98 meeting were distributed, and correction input.
3. **Meeting with the Director:** Regular business was dispensed with, and this special session was devoted to an in-depth discussion with Lew Aron, the new Director, about new directions and possibilities for the better intermingling of the Psychoanalytic Society with the NYU Postdoctoral Program. The following issues were discussed:
  - a. General Introductions. Michael, as outgoing President, had all introduce each other.
  - b. Background. Lew Aron spoke about the historical tensions between the Postdoc and NYU generally, and the fact that we have had trouble fitting in as a program. As a partial solution he emphasized the new Postdoc website, and encouraged the Society to also have one, which would be linked. He suggested that some of the problem with bringing the Society closer to the Postdoc is that NYU is not generally favorable to a professional society of graduates. However, he had a number of suggestions of how we could be mutually beneficial, and partially overcome this objection. The Society is in need of various NYU connections, e.g., various auditoriums, etc. for conferences. On the other hand, the Society can independently raise money and spend it, which the Postdoc can't do. Lew then updated the Boards on some of the particulars of changes he has tried to effect at the Postdoc, toward its general improvement.
  - c. General Discussion. Concerns that were generally shared by the Boards with Lew included (1) that graduates need an affiliation such as the Society because they often feel unconnected to any particular track, (2) that the Referral Service could be a point of connection where we could work together (3) that there were events and projects that we might co-sponsor (4) that membership on Postdoc committees by a Board affiliate would be a good first step in maintaining a strong link (5) that the Society would be interested in visibility and recognition for its participation in return for its sponsorship. Lew was open to these suggestions, and clarified the possible new direction of the NYU Postdoc Clinic, which some felt might conflict with the Referral Service. He had included a graduate on the Clinic committee, which made such decisions, but it was not a Society member.