

Memo on Conference Call 01/28/2018

10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Participants: Lew Aron, Director of Postdoc

Helen Silverman, The Psychoanalytic society
(Board member, former Treasurer)

Harriette Kaley, The Psychoanalytic society (Board member)

Memo requested by Dr. Aron and prepared by Dr. Kaley

The purpose of the Call was to inform Dr. Aron of The Psychoanalytic Society's willingness to donate a substantial sum from its accumulated funds to Postdoc, to trigger a matching grant from the University. The idea was originated by Dr. Silverman, partly in response to Dr. Aron's year-end letter soliciting donations, and was supported by the Board at its meeting on Monday, Jan 22, 2018, provided Dr. Aron could assure us that certain condition could be met. In the end, assuming that we are able to implement some mutually satisfying version of the plan we ultimately worked out, Dr. Aron will write up documents informing all the appropriate levels of Postdoc governance of what we've done and what's been promised. Since this will all be done within Postdoc, it becomes very important to have such understandings in writing.

This memo is the first step in that documentation process. The condition, as the Society originally stipulated it, was that our half of the match—approximately \$27,500 in a single year to trigger a 100% match from the University, or a 50% match if the donation was made over two years—would be used to support graduate activities. Dr. Aron quickly informed us that such an arrangement was not possible, since the grant required that the entire packet of funds, both original donation and the University's matching grant, be used entirely for tuition.

However, Dr. Aron offered that he had control of other funds, which he could set aside for our purposes; he estimated that as roughly \$15,000. Though that is an amount about one-half of what we'd hoped for, as a good-faith gesture it permitted the Call to become a negotiation permitting alternate scenarios to be considered.

Dr. Silverman then noted that we hoped that the packet of funds would serve as the reservoir for Postdoc to draw on for support of activities for which it had been in the past approaching the Society, e.g., support for Conferences, for training Postdoc

people in asylum assessments, etc. . We had been uncomfortable with the feeling that we were treated primarily as a funding source for Postdoc activities, and that we preferred a firm understanding that there is a certain amount of money donated by the Society, which can be drawn on for activities in which graduates can productively be involved. We also stipulated that all such activities should involve the Society from the beginning planning stages; we do not accept being called in to fund activities that have already been set up without our input.

In discussing what kinds of activities might be supported from this approximately \$15,000 account, we realized that the pattern in the past suggests that in most years the entire amount would probably not be expended. Dr. Kaley then suggested that the remaining amounts be used to increase the size of the Scholar's Grants that the Society has been giving for many years.

Currently individual grants are \$1000 and group grants are \$2000: amounts probably too small to elicit numerous serious applications. Increasing the stipends would probably increase the appeal and importance of the grants. This idea would probably have to be approved by the Society Board.

In any event if there is money left in that account after two years, we agreed that Dr. Aron should deposit it into the quasi-endowment fund he hopes to build up, to support Postdoc into the future. It was also agreed that any activities supported by the special account would require an acknowledgement at and with any and every event, publication, promotional materials, etc., of the support by the Society and Postdoc.

The Call ended with a clear sense that we had worked out a mutually satisfying plan, that Dr. Aron would check tomorrow with the University to be sure we could do everything we hoped for, and that we would review a memo (which you are reading now) summarizing the meeting.

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April 16, 2018

Letter of understanding/ agreement between

- 1) Dr. Lew Aron, director of the NYU Postdoctoral Program in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy ("the Program") and
- 2) The Psychoanalytic Society of the Postdoctoral Program ("the Society")

This document exists to make a gift from The Psychoanalytic Society to the Program, an act recommended by Dr. Helen Silverman, former President of the Society, and unanimously endorsed by the Board of the Society, as a way of demonstrating and reinforcing the close ties and intertwinings that exist between the two.

The purpose of this document is to establish the conditions under which the Society will donate a sum from its accumulated funds to the Program sufficient to trigger a matching grant from the University. Following the signing of this document by the appropriate parties, Dr. Aron will create documents informing all the appropriate levels of the Program's governance of the gift, its conditions and the assurances that have been given. Since this will all be done within the Program, it becomes very important to have such understandings in writing. This letter is a step in that documentation process.

The Society's primary goal in this matter is to support graduates of the Program in various ways, including their scholarly activities and other ways that help them continue their professional growth, acknowledge, and support their ongoing and vital connections to the Program. To that end, the Society will this year donate to the Program the sum of \$30,000 or whatever amount is required in 2018 to trigger a 100% matching grant from the University. But those funds are required to be used for tuition. In order to support the Society's goals, Dr. Aron will therefore set aside other funds over which he has discretion, to the extent of \$20,000, to be disbursed over a period of two years from the time when the University provides the matching funds

That reserved fund is intended to serve as a reservoir for the Program to draw on for support of activities for which it had been in the past approaching the Society, e.g., publishing the Program's directory, providing financial support for Conferences, providing Postdoctoral people with training in asylum assessments, etc., and for other purposes that may arise in which the Society would want our graduates to be included, e.g., subsidizing training for graduates in doing asylum interviewing, subsidizing fees for the ABPP exam, increasing the stipends for the Society's Scholars' Grants, etc. In addition, the Society may use the fund for purposes which it initiates independent of the Program, such as its annual social event. The overall purpose is the creation of a funding source within the Program which can be drawn on for a range of activities in which graduates can productively be involved. All such activities must involve the Society from the beginning planning stages; the Society will not accept being called in to fund activities that have already been set up without Society input. The Society reserves the right to approve all expenditures from the fund; all requests for such expenditures must be submitted in writing to the Society Board, which will have final approval of the expenditure and its amount.

If there is money left in the special account after two years, the Society and Dr. Aron agree that Dr. Aron should deposit it into the quasi-endowment fund he hopes to build up, to support the Program into the future. It was also agreed that any activities supported by the special account would require an acknowledgement at and with any and every event, publication, promotional matter, etc., of the support by the Society and the Program.

The signatures below of Dr. Aron for the Program and Dr. Maureen O'Reilly Landry for the Program affirm acceptance of the spirit and letter of this document.

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Dr, Lew Aron, Program Director

Dr. Maureen O'Reilly Landry, Society President