

Minutes of the Society of the Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis: Monday, March 31st, 2014

Present : Harriet Kaley, Judith Lobel, Helen Silverman, Ella Lasky, Ronda Sternberg, Phyllis Cohen, David Beyda, Juanita Shell.

Absent; Maureen O'Reilly Landry, Chris Bayer, Sharon Brennan.

It was suggested that a note be sent to Chris Bayer in sympathy for his mother's decline.

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed, and subsequently approved.

The implementation of the referral service was discussed. It was remarked that the referral service is generally underutilized. It lacks public visibility, and is often passed over in favor of listservs and other avenues of communication between clinicians. ~~Ronda is to undertake the publicity campaign for the referral service.~~ Ella suggested that (1) all referral requests should be forwarded to the referral service, and (2) there should be a different a responder to referral requests each month. We will invite all six members of the referral service to the next meeting of the Society Board. All six should be sent emails of the new website (psychoanalyticsociety.org). [?] We want to let the referral service know that we have only edited and condensed the material on the new website, and have not made substantive changes in content.

The website person Kristan will be posting pictures from the Hootenanny.

It was decided that the party itself would be evaluated on another occasion. However, it was noted that the cost of the party, which is consistent from year to year, comes to about a quarter of the Society's yearly revenue. This gave rise to the question of how to increase membership and involvement in the Society. What new --and possibly less expensive--ways of bringing people together could we come up with? Such alternative activities included: a soiree or dinner with a speaker/writer/artist; a movie, to be followed by discussion; a lecture on "everything you've always wanted to know about rap music" and its appeal to adolescents.

It was decided to survey by email everyone who has ever graduated the program in order to ask such questions as: (1) Have you ever attended an annual party? (2) Have you ever taken a mini-course? (3) Have you ever attended a memorial presentation sponsored by the Society? (4) Have you ever attended any other function/activity sponsored by the Society? It was decided that Ella would write a draft of the survey.

The following question was brought up: How long is the term for board members? Currently elections are held every two years. We have clarified that the next elections will be held in 2015. This decision has been made by consensus of the board members. It was asked, furthermore, whether elections should be staggered.

The following remarks were made on the operation of the Board. In general, we function by consensus; however, we have to bend the bylaws in a pragmatic way. We will continue to review the bylaws. We were reminded of the fact that any member can vote.

There was some confusion about the amount of the award to the research project "Risk and Resilience in 9/11 Pregnant Widows and their Infants". Phyliss Cohen thought that the grant had been for \$1,000; but later realized that the correct amount was \$1,500, which met with the expectations of the grantee. That issue is now resolved.

The authors of "Becoming an Analyst" requested feedback concerning their application for the Scholars Grant; the board agreed that Maureen, in her capacity as chair of the Scholars Grant committee, would conduct a review and meet with the authors.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Board would be on Monday, May 5th, 2014.