

Minutes of Psychoanalytic Society, Board Meeting,
3/9/20

ROUGH DRAFT (FYI ONLY)

Present: Maureen, Janet, Harriet, Judith E-J, Helen, Stephanie, Judith B (via face-time), Gloria Ellis (via face-time).

Absent: Judith Lobel

COVID 19 ISSUE

Board was in agreement that the Annual Party be postponed – with a future date TBD. Helen will request the deposit to the Harmonie Club of \$5000 be returned to the Society. Also to be returned were the reservation payments to approximately 35 members. An apology to Spiro will be sent to the listserv along with the announcement (who will issue this?). We will express our regrets. The point was made that these returns should be rushed, to take advantage of the presence of George.

A discussion ensued as to the purpose of the annual party, which was originally to honor Scholars' Grantees. A question was raised as to how much room exists to honor new traditions (e.g., honoring others like Spiros.) This was characterized as a not-permanent shift. The point was made that we could study the number of attendees when others are honored – there might be an increase, which would be informative and might give a direction for the future.

Helen suggested (should I omit names?) that the existence of the 3rd open Scholars' Grant be announced along with the cancellation of the Annual Party, to indicate that the Society is alive and well. It should be made clear that the NYU matching grant will again be triggered when we have a certain level of finances in contributions. The Society will revisit this effort ("this project"?) shortly. The 3rd grant already growing, will be announced (Are we accepting proposals?)

DIRECTORY

Mention was made of the New Directory project which should be handled by Heather (after the Board revisits it in the April 20 meeting). Spiro had proposed that the directory be online, so that it could be updated easily. The issue of whether hard-copy should be sent to those who request it came up. It was clarified that the Board is in charge of financing – not organization. Hence organization will go to Heather. (I assume the Board makes the decision as to hard-copy since that involves costs). This seemed to be tabled, maybe for the April 20 meeting.

Mini Courses

The Board President felt it was necessary to decide the following at the meeting:

1. how the Society should charge for mini courses;
2. who was eligible to take and offer them
3. what the reimbursement to the presenters should be

-A lively discussion ensued which encompassed the following:

In the past, Society members could take courses free of charge, and courses were open to candidates if there was room. Reimbursement previously was \$100 per presenter. Courses were intended to help the presenters become known to our Society and receive consequent referrals. The courses were professional opportunities to teach, and were understood to be a service to graduates – a mandate of the Society. After much discussion concerning how much the payment should be, a proposal was offered to double it, supported by the observation that a decent Honorarium adds to our stature; a final proposal was made to leave the fee as is, with the proviso that should the session be longer than usual (e.g., a day) and the presenters ask for more reimbursement, it could be considered, and be financially treated as 2 sessions. Also mentioned was that a stipend for expenses is included in the reimbursement. This should be in the announcement.

It was agreed that the presenter must be a Post-Doc person, to be considered (Maureen, I have omitted the discussion of Judith L's invitee and his/her reimbursement).

Helen will put out an announcement about mini-courses, a set-up for fall.

It was agreed that we want to create an environment in which we support each other.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 in view of members early work schedules the following morning.

Not all agenda items were discussed.

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