

**THE PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY
OF THE
POSTDOCTORAL PROGRAM, INC.***

**SCHOLARS' GRANTS
AWARDS
2005-2011**

**Edited by
Sharon Brennan, PhD
Helen Silverman, PhD, ABPP**

*** Graduate Society of the New York University Postdoctoral Program
in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy**

*The Psychoanalytic Society
of the Postdoctoral Program
congratulates the
New York University
Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy
and Psychoanalysis
on its 50th anniversary.*

*Special recognition goes to
Lew Aron, PhD, Director,
and
Spyros Orphanos, PhD, Clinical Director,
for their commitment to deepening
the understanding of psychoanalysis,
as an evolving discipline,
in both the sciences and the humanities,
for positive personal and social change.*

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INTRODUCTION

The Psychoanalytic Society of the Postdoctoral Program, Inc., which comprises the graduate community of the New York University Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis, is delighted to bring you this book of summaries of completed Scholars' Grants projects. The Psychoanalytic Society has a number of programs designed to support and encourage the ongoing scholarly, clinical, research, ethical, and public education interests of our members, as well as to facilitate social connection and community among Postdoc graduates. In fulfillment of this mission, the Scholars' Grants Program is one of the Society's centerpiece programs. It provides monetary grants to Society members who are involved in projects that will facilitate understanding of psychoanalytic principles and perspectives across various contexts of human experience.

Since the inception of the Scholars' Grants Program in 2005, twenty-one individual and group grants have been awarded and selected through a blind, peer review process. The diversity, scope, and depth of these projects are quite awesome. They encourage and attest to the enduring, empowering, inspirational value of psychoanalysis in human lives. The range of these projects extends from neonatal to nonagenarian stages of life and from intrapsychic to socio-political contexts, and includes projects on analytic process, relational insight, inter-generational expressions of trauma and reparation, cross-cultural conflict, the impact of technology on self and relational well-being, and the application of psychoanalytic wisdom and perspectives in an on-line public education forum. These winning projects have or are evolving into published papers, presentations, books, conferences, a workshop, and an on-line e-magazine. The Society is pleased to have facilitated the work these projects.

We hope you will savor and enjoy the humane sensibility, richness, diversity, creativity, and inspiration found in these projects as much as we have valued supporting them.

Sharon Brennan, PhD
Co-Editor

Helen Silverman, PhD, ABPP
Co-Editor

THE PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY OF THE POSTDOCTORAL PROGRAM, INC.

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The Psychoanalytic Society

The Psychoanalytic Society is the professional, scientific, and educational association for graduates, faculty, and supervisors of the New York University Postdoctoral Program. The Society is independently incorporated and sponsors various activities that serve its membership, the overall Postdoctoral community, the professional community at large, and the public.

These endeavors include:

- The Postdoctoral Referral Service, which has been providing moderate cost referrals to Psychoanalytic Society members for more than 40 years. Please contact Dr. Judith Beldner, Chair, at jbeldner@gmail.com for further information on this fee-based option for Society members.
Application for treatment can be made by calling 1-800-POSTDOC and on the web at: www.psychologistsearch.org.
- The Moderate-Fee Candidate Psychoanalytic Service Committee maintains a list of Society members who are willing to do moderate-fee analysis with NYU Postdoctoral Program candidates. Complimentary enrollment is offered annually to Society members.
- The Scholars' Grants Committee which awards up to three annual grants to Society members who have demonstrated a commitment to psychoanalytic research, scholarship, and/or community education. We also have an annual Scholars' Grant offered to a matriculating candidate in the New York University Postdoctoral Program. These endowments are awarded to support scholarly work that substantiates the efficacy of psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic theory.
For information contact Maureen O'Reilly-Landry, PhD, Chair at doctormony@aol.com
- An Annual Cocktail Party in late winter, has become a wonderful tradition and highly anticipated event for Society members and their guests. Each year, prominent members of our Society are honored in a creative way.
Please contact Dr. Sharon Brennan, Chair, at: drsharonbrennan@earthlink.net for further information.
- A Colloquium Committee which manages a series of workshops and colloquiums on topical subjects and of interest to the community.

- An Outreach Committee that works to establish links with students who are still in training, informs current candidates about Psychoanalytic Society events, and hosts an annual brunch for recent and imminent graduates, contributes to the annual Postdoc Weekend, and provides new graduates the opportunities to network with alumni who share similar professional interests.
- An annual Memorial Lecture, which will be produced in partnership with Postdoc this year, has been honoring the faculty of the New York University Postdoctoral Program for nearly 30 years. Distinguished analysts and authors from the United States have participated.
Please contact Dr. Maureen O'Reilly-Landry, Chair, at doctormony@aol.com for further information.
- An International Conference which is held biennially, and which provides an opportunity for professional and social exchanges with analysts from other countries. Members present and discuss scientific papers before professional audiences. Past conferences were held in Israel, Argentina, France, Italy, Toronto, Ireland, South Africa and Scotland. The next conference will be held in New Zealand in August 2012 and will be co-sponsored by the graduate societies of NYU Postdoc, William Alanson White, Adelphi, and the local society.
Please contact Dr. Michael Stern, Chair, at mstern393@gmail.com further information.
- The Bernard N. Kalinkowitz Memorial Fund, which honors his lifelong commitment to individuality and pluralism in psychoanalytic training and practice, and celebrates him as a founder of the Postdoctoral Program. The Fund confers a scholarship award to a first year candidate.
- Please contact Dr. Dolores Morris, Chair, at domorris@worldnet.att.net for further information.

If anyone is interested in working with the Society as a Board member or in a committee we invite you to volunteer. To learn more about the Society's initiatives, feel free to contact any of our Board members or Committee chairpersons. Please visit us on the Web at:

www.pschoanalyticsociety.org

contact Society Administration at:

geoinmaine@myfairpoint.net

for general information on the web at

www.psychologistsearch.org.

The Birth of the Scholars' Grants

Pat Vitacco, PhD

The initial idea of a Scholars' Grant came to me while driving home from a Psychoanalytic Society Board meeting in 2004. Like a dream, there is always day residue which shapes and influences what then develops, and so it was too with the Scholars' Grant.

The Society Board had been actively exploring venues which might interest, serve and support its members and psychoanalysis. During this period of time, Lew Aron was actively encouraging community members to become more involved in psychoanalytic research and writing. But perhaps the most significant factor which shaped my musing was the discussion earlier that evening about requests being made to the Society by members of the Postdoc community for financial support and seed money for research projects and training programs.

When I presented my idea to the Society Board for Scholars' Grants, I received unanimous approval and support. Patrick Lane, Sue Herman, Vicki Azara and Joan Yager volunteered to serve on the committee which I chaired, and they collaborated in operationalizing my idea. Later on Zarin Mody and then Maureen O'Reilly- Landry joined the committee.

Since 2005, The Psychoanalytic Society has annually awarded \$5000 in Scholars' Grants to Society members who have demonstrated a commitment to psychoanalytic research, scholarship and/or community education. The winners are honored and awarded their grants at the Society's Annual Cocktail Party. Beginning in 2009, an individual Scholars' Grant for \$1000 has been offered to a candidate in the NYU Postdoctoral Program. It is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Patrick Lane who was highly instrumental in its initiation.

These grants were originally conceived as a way to both encourage and financially support Society members interested in pursuing psychoanalytic research, writing, and education.

The overall and arching goals of the Scholars' Grants has been to support the members of the Psychoanalytic Society and to demonstrate to the general population the continued relevance and efficacy of psychoanalytic theory and practice in the 21st century.

SCHOLARS' GRANTS RECIPIENTS and their PROJECTS

2011 SCHOLARS' GRANTS

Dancing with the Unconscious: The Art of Psychoanalysis and the Psychoanalysis of Art

Danielle Knafo, PhD

Trans-generational Transmission and its Enduring Impact

Jill Sallberg, PhD, Sue Grand, PhD, Melinda Gellman, PhD

Feminist Literary Criticism: Writing and Reading Intersubjectively

Theresa Ragen, PhD

2010 SCHOLARS' GRANTS

The Disaster Response and the Development of Resilience, Phase II

Laura Barbanel, PhD

Crows on the Cradle: Psychosocial Initiation on Behalf of Children and Parents Living in Political Conflict in Jerusalem

Judy Roth, PhD

The Use of Self in a Neonatal and Pediatric Care Setting

Zina Steinberg, PhD, Susan Kraemer, PhD

2009 SCHOLARS' GRANTS

The Psychodynamics of Medicine

Maureen O'Reilly-Landry, PhD

Psychological Impact of Giving Testimony in War Crimes Tribunals and Truth Commissions

Nina K. Thomas, PhD, ABPP

Candidate Grant

The Bad Object as the Artist's Muse

Limor Kauffman, PhD

2008 SCHOLARS' GRANTS

Perversion and the Internet

Helen Levine, PhD, Isaac Tylim, PhD, ABPP

Using the Interpersonal Therapeutic Relationship to Reactivate Dormant Creativity In Depressed and Dementing Patients

Alvin Atkins, PhD, ABPP

The Impossible Bond: Challenges of Being a Psychoanalyst Parent of a Difficult Child

Judith S. Levy, PhD

2007 SCHOLARS' GRANTS

Internet Project for the Public Visibility of Psychoanalysis

Susan B. Parlow, PhD, Sharon M. Brennan, PhD, Jack Drescher, M.D., Kenneth E. Feiner, PhD, Harriette Kaley, PhD, ABPP

Clinical Services for Training and Research with Adolescents and Their Families

Paul Feinberg, PhD

2006 SCHOLARS' GRANTS

Disaster Response, the Treatment of Trauma and the Development of Resilience, Phase I

Laura H. Barbanel, PhD

In the Shadow of Freud's Couch: Portraits of Psychoanalysts in their Offices

Mark Gerald, PhD

Psychodynamic Consultation to a Rabbinical School

Ian S. Miller, PhD

2005 SCHOLARS' GRANTS

A Program in Disaster and Trauma Interventions

Isaac Tylim, PhD, ABPP, Elizabeth R. Goren, PhD, Robert M. Prince, PhD, ABPP; Sergio Rothstein, PhD, Nina K. Thomas, PhD, ABPP

Sequential Formulations Towards Knowing Psychoanalytic Process

Richard Lasky, PhD, ABPP, Norbert Freedman, PhD, Marvin Hurvich, PhD, ABPP

"The Insider Outside: A Psychotherapist's Journey from Ground Zero - the Story of New York and New Yorkers After 9/11 Through the Eyes of a Psychoanalyst"

Elizabeth R. Goren, PhD

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*These summaries represent the authors'
own statements about their work
and the editors have maintained the
diversity of the authors' voices and styles.*

Dancing with the Unconscious: The Art of Psychoanalysis and the Psychoanalysis of Art

Danielle Knafo, PhD

To be published by Routledge in February 2012

I have been teaching, lecturing and writing about psychoanalysis and art for the last 25 years and this book represents much of my thinking on this important and fascinating subject.

In *Dancing with the Unconscious*, I combine theory and therapy, the clinic and the studio, in order to extend the dialogue between psychoanalysis and art and to show how each discipline informs the other. Part One frames my discussion of the analytic encounter by describing it as a dance performed by two unconscious minds. Next, through narration of the treatment of a transgendered patient's struggle with unconscious conflict, I demonstrate the profound creative possibilities inherent in free association, transference and dream work. Chapters that follow investigate the use of regression in psychoanalysis and art, the relationship between creativity and substance abuse, the creative transformations of trauma, and the psychological partnership between solitude and creativity. Part Two begins with a provocative analysis of the dreams of Freud and Jung and shows how unconscious contents reveal the genesis of each man's respective theory. Chapters that follow include a reevaluation of the film *Blue Velvet* through the lens of the primal scene; the symbolic expression of trauma and the attempt to repair it in the art of Egon Schiele and Ana Mendieta; and the spellbinding, sadomasochistic vision of writer and artist Bruno Schulz. This book illustrates how, when taken together, the art of psychoanalysis and the psychoanalysis of art bear witness to the endless creativity of the unconscious mind.

Since some of the chapters discuss specific artists and their works, I very much wanted to include illustrations in the book. It is extremely costly to purchase the rights to use artistic images and to obtain the images themselves. The Psychoanalytic Society Scholars' Grant allowed me to purchase these rights. Thanks to the Society, my book contains 32 pages of beautiful color plates which not only enhance its attractiveness but also help the reader visualize the art discussed in its pages.

Trans-Generational Transmission and its Enduring Impact

Jill Salberg, PhD, Sue Grand, PhD, & Melinda Gellman, PhD

In recent years, psychoanalysis has increasingly been pre-occupied with themes of transgenerational transmission of emotional traumas.

In particular, authors have looked at traumatic legacies inherited from generations past insofar as they effect the psychic struggles with which our patients wrestle and bring into our offices. Where before psychoanalytic theory restricted its vision to the nuclear family, to the dynamisms transmitted from parent to child, recently the lens has been expanded and widened to include the lives of grandparents, great-grandparents and extended family members all within the specific political, social and cultural context of their historical time (See Grand, 2000, 2010; and Gaudillier, 2004 as just some examples).

This expansion has been stimulating and illuminating for clinical process and theory. However, the focus has primarily emphasized the legacy of malignant trauma. In doing so it has excluded the more subtle threads of trans-generational shaping and narrowed our view of how we become part of the fabric of social humanity, how we all struggle with our own conflicts, capacities and character. It is our plan to open up this area of inquiry and mine the fertile vein of trans-generational transmission - from the average to the traumatic, across families and cultures and of the psyche and the soma.

We are proposing a one-day conference to be sponsored by the NYU Postdoctoral Program with The Psychoanalytic Society as co-sponsor, to explore a new avenue of inquiry into trans-generational transmission. We conceive of this as lending itself to inter-disciplinary study and would draw both its speakers and audience from the fields of psychoanalysis, psychology, evolutionary biology/psychology, culture studies, family therapy, attachment research and multi-disciplinary researchers of the effects race and class have on family and social structure. In this expansive way we hope to ask new questions, to wonder how trans-generational transmission unsettles theories of psyche and self. We look forward to engaging a thoughtful exploration of how these transmissions occur both in families and in psychoanalysis. We wonder as an outgrowth what might be re-defined in terms of the intersection between psyche and culture? Further, what might this yield to us about the nature of unconscious communication between analyst and patient?

We want to design a conference with a decidedly different tone; one that is experience-near and that dissolves our cerebral distance from the human condition. The study of trans-generational transmission is

intended to ameliorate alienation; it draws us close to others, and it makes visceral links to that which has been deprived of meaning. In our view it is insufficient to talk about these ideas; it is critical to evoke this experience in attendees. To this end we plan to have papers with close clinical experience and small breakout groups for discussions, to use experiential exercises and the arts to "teach through creating" and promoting an atmosphere of openness and connection. In considering these questions we will create over-arching themes through which we can examine malignant trauma and non-traumatic experience. We hope to convey a trans-generational look at the human predicament inclusive of love and resilience, tenor and hope and the struggle towards or avoidance of I-Thou relatedness. Finally, we plan to have an edited book as an outgrowth of this conference, which would include papers/presentations from the conference, as well as new material that may be generated in response.

Date of Proposed Conference: October 2012

Funds provided by the Psychoanalytic Society will be used directly towards researching the topic, compiling and organizing material for speakers, etc., making deposits towards securing space to hold the conference, some honorarium funds when needed and monies towards development of multi-media presentations.

Feminist Literary Criticism and Inter-subjective Clinical Writing
(a work in progress)

Therese Ragen, PhD

Drawing on contemporary literary theory, particularly feminist literary theory, this project explored ideas about alternative forms of clinical writing based on a more inter-subjective psychoanalytic approach. Working from an inter-subjective approach leads to broadening our thinking beyond traditional clinical writing. In her 1998 book "When Memory Speaks", Jill Kerr Conway states "forms and stylistic patterns [of writing] vary profoundly over time, and those variations constitute a kind of history of the way we understand the self, and what aspects of it we feel comfortable talking about" (p. 4). For those of us who adopt an inter-subjective view of the analytic process, how does the way we think about the self, as well as what we feel comfortable talking about, change? What are the implications for our writing?

I suggest that feminist literary theory can help us think in some new ways about our writing. The first memoirs (a genre which bears a number of similarities with clinical writing) were written by men. They were odysseys, stories of conquest. It wasn't until contemplative religious women were asked to write their spiritual memoirs that the form began to include stories of relationship, in this case with God. Traditionally, clinical case writing has presented stories of conquest over pathology (replete with military metaphors, e.g., resistance, defense, conflict). What might a case study look like in which the heart of the text is the story of the inter-subjective dynamics between analyst and patient? We have certainly begun focusing more on this in our clinical writing. Can we push clinical writing to new frontiers on this? What new forms of writing might emerge?

Psychoanalytic Training in Trauma and Resilience – Phase I

Laura Barbanel, PhD

This work was a qualitative research project and evolved out of the question of how-trauma was taught in psychoanalytic institutes. It had two phases each supported by Scholars Grants from the Psychoanalytic Society.

Phase one in 2006 was an investigation all of the institutes that I could find. That meant doing a comprehensive search for psychoanalytic institutes in various parts of the country. Obviously, I could not be exhaustive, but I did review the curricula of about 50 institutes.

What became clear is that the trauma training was all over the place. There are institutes that had one workshop, one CE course, or several courses. There are programs that have a subprogram or specialization. There also are programs that have the work in trauma integrated into the program.

In essence, there are four models:

- 1-a course or CE workshop- consisted of day long or more workshops, usually not necessarily required or systematic.
- 2-a mini program- one course or several courses, with one instructor or a series of instructors often added on to the program and not usually required.
- 3-a full program-one or two years, with clinical content and sometimes a supervisory component.
- 4-programs where the study of trauma is integrated into the overall curriculum. This is, of course, the most difficult to research. It is harder to determine how it is integrated, particularly when courses are not fully described.

The discussions that took place and continue to this day in relation to other areas of concern in the field, are similar to struggles that took place in other areas such as psychoanalysis and women, psychoanalysis and culture, and LGBT issues. Is it better to have separate courses, or integrate the topic in the general coursework?

These were essentially the findings of my first Scholars Grant. I then thought it would be worthwhile to find out what programs were actually teaching and how.

Psychoanalytic Training in Trauma and Resilience – Phase II

Laura Barbanel, PhD

With the second Scholars Grant, I tried to get to the actual coursework of the various institutes that had specific trauma programs. This was more difficult than I would have anticipated, since many institutes are a bit wary about giving too much information. I thought I would speak to people who would talk to me about their philosophy of teaching, etc. Not at all. Many were wary and suspicious, jealous of the work they had done.

This report, therefore, is more anecdotal.

First of all, not surprisingly, the programs that have subprograms seem to be in the east coast and the west coast, and less so in the middle of the country. The New York area leads the group. NYU Postdoc is, of course, one of those that has developed a program.

What do the programs cover and what do they not cover? The following is not well covered:

1-individual versus social trauma- individual-accidents, abuse, assault, loss, in contrast to social or collective trauma-holocaust, war, floods, hurricanes, disaster (9-11). As we know, trauma is always experienced in isolation and healed in connection. But the dynamics may differ when it actually occurs in isolation versus when it occurs with others.

Early on, psychoanalysts spoke of individual trauma. Today there is much talk of the collective trauma as well. Is there a dynamic difference? It is not clear that this discussion takes place in many of the programs.

2- Single incident versus multiple incidents. It is one thing to be in a car accident or even be raped in a dark alley. It is another thing to be consistently abused as a child and adolescent, both sexually and physically. Not to minimize any kind of trauma, but one is very different than the other.

In fact, the whole diagnosis of PTSD is questioned for those who have repeatedly and consistently been abused during their childhood and adolescence. Today, there is the discussion of a new diagnosis called developmental trauma disorder or DTD, which is seen as different than PTSD and needs different attention. DTD is seen as the single most important mental health and health problem in the US today. It needs careful study in psychoanalytic programs. It is not clear that this is happening.

3-Resilience and Post traumatic growth

These factors are extremely important to the discussion of trauma and are not necessarily a clear focus in many programs.

Summary

In summary I would say that although there has been significant literature on trauma and its treatment, a specific model of training and treatment of trauma from a psychoanalytic framework has not emerged. What we don't know is whether this is a reflection of the newness of the thinking on trauma as a separate phenomenon that needs special training, or is somehow related to the unique qualities of trauma. For example, what we found after the first phase was that the model that we had developed was too intense for students. We know that when you work with trauma there is the danger of being traumatized, what we call vicarious traumatization. Perhaps it is this factor that makes the psychoanalytic study of trauma less comprehensive than it might otherwise be. This is speculative, of course, but may inform our study and work in curriculum development. The Postdoc program is evaluating its model.

In conclusion I would say that we have much work to do. My work is only a beginning.

I deeply indebted to the Psychoanalytic Society for its support of my explorative research. I hope that it has added something to the field.

Crows on the Cradle: Developing a Psychosocial Initiative For Mothers in East Jerusalem

Judy Roth, PhD

This project emerged from participatory action research aimed at understanding the escalating sense of trauma reported by human rights advocates in East Jerusalem. Action research suggested that Palestinian parents and children were preoccupied by the terror of losing their homes and the escalating political violence in their neighborhood.

The project was a mentalization-based initiative for mothers living in homes slated for demolition, with the hope that by strengthening mothers, by "minding", the mothers and their children would be further fortified. The project involved creating a partnership with stakeholders and professionals rooted in the community and supported by community leaders. This psychosocial initiative was geared for those living with ongoing trauma.

This project brought a psychoanalytic mindfulness to the protection of human rights in a zone of political violence. The initiative integrated psychoanalytic perspectives with current psychosocial models (Bragin; Boothby; Alger) that provide necessary tools for assessing community needs and resources, designing interventions, and understanding how to partner with communities while respecting indigenous capacities for healing.

Embedded in this initiative was/is the ongoing question of whether and how international/foreign mental health professionals can, without doing damage, be helpful to people living with war (Anderson, 1999). Much time was spent studying and conceptualizing models of community engagement, so as to develop a framework for thinking about fostering "mentalizing" partnerships and understanding how these partnerships evolve. Additionally, the initiative raised the question of what it means to be a witness, a moral witness, in the hopes of creating a community of "thirdness", a presence that might imagine and contain the unbearable and slow down cycles of reactivity.

A byproduct of the initiative was the development of a web of relationships with social activists, mental health practitioners, and residents. This web has ignited a growing awareness in the community, local municipality, and international arena about the extreme duress families living in this area face, particularly around worries of child detention and the loss of homes.

The Scholars Grant made it possible to seek additional training in psychosocial models of intervention and to attend an international conference on protecting children who live with war. The grant also facilitated receiving a grant for the project itself, from a foundation in the Netherlands.

The Use of a Psychoanalytic Self in a Neonatal (NICU) and Pediatric Intensive Care Setting

Susan Kraemer, PhD & Zina Steinberg, PhD

Over the past eight and a half years we have worked as psychoanalytically informed consultants to parents and their critically ill newborns (some extremely premature, some with disabling congenital anomalies) and with the NICU staff. The staff that work with these traumatized families bear the stress of prolonged immersion in an environment where profound helplessness, shame and terror foster avoidance, retreat, and even dissociation. We have identified sustained thinking and knowing, and have been repeatedly struck by how difficult this can be for the parents, for the staff and for us as well. We have noted the ways in which we also fall into mindlessness or reactive dissociation in order to manage overwhelming, unthinkable pain, and we have struggled to draw on our psychoanalytic perspective in order to stretch our ability to contain and think about the pain and anxiety attendant to this work.

Many mothers come to the NICU with a history of prior losses, such as miscarriage, stillbirth, failed IVF cycles, multi-fetal reductions, the loss of one or more of a multiple pregnancy. To be with the mother may be to enter into a mind where ghosts and aliens hang about. Prior struggles with fertility may be carried forward with tremendous shame so that the failure to hold a pregnancy becomes entangled with a vulnerability we recognize as gender shame; the mother/father is left with a perilous sense of oneself as female or male; as nurturer, or as one who can sustain life. There may be a terrible mingling of grief and shame, such that the experience of loss seems to signal badness in the one who has suffered the loss.

Normal maternal ambivalence is terrifying in an environment where death is real and mothers guiltily imagine themselves responsible for their baby's prematurity. We found ourselves working to promote primary maternal preoccupation; urging mothers to visit, touch, hold their babies-supporting those who detach and trying to contain and transform the hyper vigilance and rumination that compulsively perverts the mother's thinking and worries about her baby. At the same time, we were challenged by staffs often angry and judgmental reactions to these maternal defenses. We made use of our own responses to help staff think about the mother's reactions in more nuanced ways.

With the support of the Scholars Grant, we extended our consultative work and outreach in a variety of ways. We met for two years with a pediatric team which services chronically ill children of all ages (some

requiring palliative care) with the goal of helping these medical professionals develop greater tolerance for reflection, both to support their emotionally difficult work and to facilitate more sensitive engagement with the families. Through workshops, presentations here and abroad, and journal publications we have demonstrated and shared our perspectives on the ways in which unthinkable experience, when contained and reflected upon through relationships, can be made more bearable and be used more effectively. We have engaged and taught members of the psychoanalytic community, psychiatry fellows and psychology interns, neonatologists, NICU nurses, pediatric residents and multi-disciplinary groups of professionals who work with parents and babies. In the spirit of the Scholars Grant, we continue to bring our psychoanalytically informed consultation work to a broad-based population. Our forthcoming chapter, "Creating Tolerance for Reflective Space: The Challenges to Thinking and Feeling in a NICU" (which will appear in *A Psychodynamic Understanding of Modern Medicine*, Radcliffe Press, March, 2012) was supported in part by the Scholars Grant.

A Psychodynamic Understanding of Modern Medicine Placing the Person at the Center of Care

Maureen O'Reilly-Landry, PhD

I received the Scholars' Grant for a project that resulted in a book to be published in March, 2012 by Radcliffe Publishing. The book is a collection of chapters written by psychoanalysts who are also experts in the psychological dimension of some aspect of modern medicine. Each author provides insights into aspects of medicine as it is practiced in the 21st century.

The idea for the book arose from my own work as team psychologist on a chronic dialysis unit. There, I utilized my psychoanalytic training to better understand the dialysis patients and their families, as well as their interactions with the doctors, nurses and other medical clinicians, since together, they faced issues of life, death and disease. I presented a paper about the experiences of patient and staff when a patient on a dialysis unit dies. A second paper focused on the real and fantasized relationships that can arise in the context of organ failure, such as between organ donor and recipient, and between human being and life-sustaining machinery. At these conferences, I discovered that other psychoanalysts were having similar experiences in medical settings, where their knowledge of subjectivity, psychological defenses and unconscious processes enabled them to arrive at insights that were lost to those who attend only to measurable surface behaviors. Clearly, there was a place for the voices and insights of the psychoanalyst.

The following excerpt is adapted from the book's Preface.

In this book, modern psychoanalysts analyze modern medicine. These trained observers peek beneath the surface to glimpse the unconscious and covert psychological processes that occur commonly, and frequently present problems, in the current system of medical care. Modern medicine has accrued great knowledge and developed powerful tools to better enable our healers to heal us. But it has also laced strain on all participants in the medical encounter--clinician, patient and caregiver. Each chapter provides a means to understand this psychological strain, and makes suggestions for managing it.

Chapters are arranged under the following headings:

- I. Subjectivity, Meaning and the Medical Experience
- II. Medical Patient and Provider: Mutual Influence
- III. Relationships Borne of Technology
- IV. When a Family Member is Ill

Authors range from those with national and international reputations, such as psychoanalyst Peter Fonagy and family therapist Pauline Boss, to the lesser known, but wise and experienced clinical practitioners who gently probe their subjects in order to better understand health care phenomena at their deepest levels. Authors are primarily psychologists and psychiatrists, but there is also a dentist and a pulmonologist, all trained to think psychoanalytically. The following members of the Postdoctoral Psychoanalytic Society have contributed chapters as well: Susan Kraemer, Janet Plotkin-Bornstein, Zina Steinberg and Patricia Vitacco. Each chapter assists the reader to understand the complex process of interacting subjectivities in which well-meaning, yet anxious people on all sides of the medical relationship, are doing the best they can to cope with situations that nonetheless threaten to overwhelm them.

I am truly grateful to the Psychoanalytic Society for supporting this opportunity to bring together such an unusually diverse group of talented clinicians and thinkers in the interest of psychoanalysis and the practice of medicine.

Telling the 'Truth' in the Aftermath of War

Nina K. Thomas, PhD, ABPP

What does "reconciliation" or "recovery mean" for those societies emerging from internal political conflict involving "ethnic cleansing," "genocide," or similar protracted traumas? What do those terms involve for the individuals surviving in the context of such ongoing conflicts. But most of all, what does giving testimony do to help, if at all, the survivor regain his or her subjectivity as a living person rather than a "victim." These are the questions I have been addressing for some time in the work that has taken me to Bosnia in the immediate aftermath of the war in that country, to Argentina in order to study the impact of the years of political repression there, and to South Africa in order to research how the comprehensive processes of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in that country have affected the long-term outcome for individuals caught up in the decades long struggle to institutionalize a more inclusive and democratic system in place of the oppressive and repressive regime that held until 1994.

Survivors of political trauma, as with other forms of chronic traumas, are almost routinely caught in the continuous presence of the past. My interview research has been focused especially on the quality of their living present; in what ways the aftermath of the wars in their countries continue to affect their current lives. Of equal importance to my work has been to consider how the pursuit of justice figures in the reconstitution of their lives and perspectives on the future.

In some cases - Bosnia and more recently Argentina - the pursuit of justice through trials of perpetrators of war crimes has offered the possibility of both restoring a sense of agency to victims and through that made some modest contribution to a sense of resolution of the past. The effect of such opportunities for having their narratives of survival publicly witnessed and affirmed has a mixed outcome. Complex indeed, giving testimony is no simple task when the survivor's physical as well as psychic existence may hang in the balance by doing so. One Bosnian concentration camp survivor reported: "He got six years for the crimes he committed. I have to live with my injuries for the rest of my life."

The Scholars' Grant from the Psychoanalytic Society enabled me to add my observations from within Palestine to those societies for which ongoing conflict has had such a massive impact on their victims' lives.

As a result of my work I have had two papers published. One has been published as a chapter entitled: "Whose truth: inevitable tensions in testimony and the search for repair" in "First do no harm: the Paradoxical Encounters of Psychoanalysis, war making and resistance (Eds., Harris, A. & Botticelli, S., 2010); and a second, "Obliterating the other: What can be repaired by 'truth' and testimony" (2009). In each I acknowledge my indebtedness to the Psychoanalytic Society for the award of the Scholars' Grant.

***The "Bad Object" as the Artist's Muse -
A Relational Perspective on the Creative Process as a Dialogue
between the Artist, his "Bad Object" and the Audience.***

Limor Kaufman, PhD

How does art heal? How does art enable transformation and working through traumatic memories? What inspires the artist? I argue that art-making is a relational process that has the potential to transform the artist by facilitating a new relationship with real and imaginary others. I suggest that creative acts can be seen as a series of imaginary conversations with the artist's significant "others", and in particular the artist's "bad objects." The creative process promotes a transformation of the "bad object" into a "good object" through the novel experience of a responsive appreciative audience. Art is the artist's attempt to return to the place of trauma and turn it into a reparative experience shared between artist and audience.

The Psychoanalytic Society grant award provided me the opportunity to present this paper in relational conferences in Tel Aviv and San Francisco and at a Trauma and Art series at NYU Postdoctoral Program. It encouraged me to further explore the relationship between the artist's bad object and their art making in my clinical work with individual and groups of artists.

Perversion and the Internet

Helen B. Levine, PhD and Isaac Tylim, PsyD

Our stated goal entailed researching the question of perverse or deviant sexuality in relation to the internet. This topic was largely unaddressed in the psychoanalytic literature at the time of our proposal and took us on a fascinating odyssey.

We noted the coincidence of postmodern theorizing in the psychoanalytic literature and the blurring of boundaries made possible on the internet. We wondered if multiple identities, multiple sexualities, the denial of difference between the sexes and the generations describes what contemporary Freudian psychoanalysis considers perversion or whether it heralds a sexual revolution that renders the term perversion obsolete or unjustly stigmatizing. Is the internet normalizing what had hitherto been considered perversion?

Our hypothesis was that the Internet lends itself to specific as well as more general perverse manifestations. We suggested that the internet uniquely fostered the blurring of boundaries between the sexes, the generations, humanity and the machine- the virtual and the real.

We studied cyber-sex on the highly lucrative pornographic sites with professional actors as well as those peopled by amateurs. The astounding variety of sexual proclivities catered to on the internet make Psychopathia Sexualis look pallid. The hallmark of the appeal of sexuality on the internet is anonymity and easy accessibility. Cyber-space we found is a "no-place;" disembodiment is its essence. Gender bending, masquerades of all types, benign and dangerous, abound. In the virtual world as opposed to real life one may be anything one can type.

Numerous of our colleagues supplied us interesting and unique clinical reports about their patients and their sexual involvements on the internet. However, all felt that few if any generalizations could be made from the individual cases. When we consulted with child and adolescent psychoanalysts, they assured us that all of their patients were deeply involved in the newest versions of this technology, but they felt similarly that no generalizations as to a dynamic underlying the individual cases could be deduced.

Our topic, like the internet itself expanded with such rapidity that what was new one week was old news the next. The grant funds were used largely to pay for research assistants to cull findings from sources outside psychoanalysis (where we found a multitude of studies and reports) and

for purchasing books on the broader topic of technology and the culture of the internet, a topic now a standard in university curricula.

We are grateful for the support given us by the Scholars' Grant and the Psychoanalytic Society and for the immense learning experience it afforded us.

Originally we intended to write a book. We later abandoned that effort for the reasons discussed. Our work, however, did lead to the following joint presentations:

"Perversion and the Internet" panel presentations at the Meetings of the International Psychoanalytic Association, Berlin, July 2007.

"The Techno-Body: Revisiting Perversion in Cyber-Culture," panel presentations with Janice Lieberman, PhD as discussant.
Division 39 Meetings, New York, April 2008.

"The Real and the Virtual: Digital Natives and the Question of Perversion" panel presentation, with no discussant.
Division 39 Meetings, San Antonio, April 2009.

An Interpersonalist's Discovery: Re-Awakening Dormant Creativity in a Depressed and Dementing Elderly Woman

Alvin L. Atkins, PhD

This clinical investigation set out to describe a psychotherapy treatment with Rachel, a 99-year-old widowed woman (conducted over eight years). The setting itself challenges biases in our field concerning the "frame" in which this treatment took place. Wheelchairs abound in a nursing home setting, and sessions take place in the resident's room, often involving assistance with hearing aids. Myths centering on how much transference, new learning, and change in attitudes that can be expected to occur in elderly people are certainly raised for someone 99 years old and definitely for a person classified as "demented." It was proposed that the model of co-participant inquiry, delineated by Dr. John Fiscalini, which fosters the freedom of analytic technique with an egalitarian emphasis, provided the best fit for this milieu.

Rachel was a former teacher who had conducted classes as a volunteer at the Hebrew Home, where she entertained with original Yiddish songs and her own poetry. Our work initially focused on her depression. During the last two years of treatment, as evidence developed of an increasing dementia, a front temporal degeneration, and with her loss of memory quite pronounced, she was placed on a dementia unit. When she first showed signs of deterioration, I reminded her of the Yiddish songs she had written over the years. She became very animated, because she had forgotten about those days and showed new energy, which seemed like a remarkable transformation. Not only was she much less depressed, she expressed an eagerness to be involved in her Yiddish singing again. She knew I had some familiarity with Yiddish and asked me to compose a song with her. We were deeply engaged in this co-participation and it seemed natural to work together.

This led to a year of collaboration and writing a Yiddish song, "Alles Iz Besser In Yiddish," ("Everything Is Better In Yiddish") which clearly strengthened the therapeutic bond between us and also served as an associative anchor in Rachel's otherwise fragile memory.

The noted neurologist and psychiatrist, Dr. Oliver Sacks, has examined the role of music and brain functioning. He stated that "Patients with degeneration of the front parts of the brain, so-called front temporal dementia, sometimes develop a startling emergence or release of musical talents as they lose the powers of abstraction and language." Clearly the transference that developed over the years enabled our creative efforts in music to tap into meaningful core identifications. Rachel's plea throughout her songs for the survival of Yiddish and the shtetl world it represents can

be understood as a metaphor for the survival and continuity of her own "core self" over time.

My work with Rachel provided mutual stimulation in that we both seemed to derive pleasure in our meetings. It was a discovery for both of us. She drew joy and satisfaction from rediscovering her ability to create and express herself through Yiddish music. For my part, I developed enormous respect for the therapeutic power of music and feel privileged to have helped this remarkable 99-year-old lady reclaim a piece of her vital, core self.

**An expanded version of this paper was presented at a conference sponsored by the Psychoanalytic Society of the Postdoctoral Program on January 24, 2009, entitled "New Horizons: Working Psychoanalytically with Older Adults." I am planning to complete a sequel to this paper based on neuropsychological evidence of the potential for creativity in older adults, focusing on brain behavior in the modern age.

Challenges of Being Psychoanalyst Parent of A Difficult Child

Judith Schweiger Levy, PhD

Parenting a dysfunctional child is burdensome to most adults. It raises particular challenges, involving the need to deal with painful loss, disappointment, helplessness and compromise at various phases of both the child's and parents' lives, up to and including the child's adulthood. It can easily become consuming and traumatic for a parent, and may take its toll on marriage, the ability to focus on work, and general ability to go on with life with a sense of meaning and purpose. It may provoke self-blame, guilt, anger, envy, and extreme shame, and if chronic, can lead to states of despair.

While many analysts have suffered the anguish of parenting a difficult or troubled child, this issue is rarely, if ever, publicly discussed or written about; it often appears to be regarded as a very private, even "secret" matter. My project has been to interview analytic colleagues with difficult children with the aim of exploring and understanding the interlinked effects on personal and professional lives when analysts find themselves as parents to emotionally troubled or chronically "difficult" children. I wanted to look at how these challenges and burdens affect analysts in particular, and how being an analyst might make it easier or harder to parent a difficult child.

I interviewed 21 psychoanalytically trained colleagues all working in private practice, from various locations in the US, who defined themselves as having difficult children: Of the 21, nineteen women and one man participated; fifteen were psychologists, two were psychiatrists, and four were social workers. I conducted confidential, semi-structured interviews in person or by telephone, with a set of questions that served as a springboard for discussion. Of the 21 participants, seventeen allowed me to tape the interviews which were later transcribed. All of the analysts' children were currently of adult age, except two who were adolescents.

Broadly, I defined "difficult" as meaning that the child's behavior, currently or in the past, led to a degree of incapacity that interfered with developmentally appropriate expectations of functionality in interpersonal relationships, at school, or at work. More operationally, this assessment could involve children and adult children, ranging from preadolescence through adulthood (including "failure to launch.") who might be considered to have DSM Axis I or Axis II disorders, for instance affective, attentional, thought, or addictive disorders. However, I approached the criterion of the child's diagnosis more informally, since my focus was on parents, rather than any particular diagnostic category of the child. Given that

psychoanalyst-parents are likely to be relatively sophisticated about diagnosis, I used the parents' assessment of their child as the criteria for inclusion in the study. Issues related to parents' construal or misconstrual of their child as troubled—that is, the problems inherent in making clinical judgments about one's own child—was one of the issues I attempted to examine and articulate.

The content of the interviews involved three broad areas of inquiry:

1. How does being an analyst affect the relationship to and management of one's own difficult child? Are there particular thoughts, feelings, or expectations of oneself based on one's professional identity that facilitate or impede constructive action? What might be the implications, for example, of considering oneself to be an "expert" in human development and relationships while "failing" with one's own child? In what ways might being an analyst create particular opportunities vs. difficulties regarding parental impact on one's child? How does one's analytic training help or hinder the management of boundaries, attachment and loss, emotional regulation, and the attainment of wisdom, hope, equanimity, and acceptance?
2. How does being the parent of a difficult child affect the analyst's work? This applies to such areas as, for instance, one's choice of patients, choice of theoretical perspective on a patient's problem, choice of technique, the management of transference and countertransference, e.g., in the treatment of patients with similar issues to those one's child has, professional self image, and confidence in oneself as a helping professional.
3. What are the larger social and/or institutional implications regarding self-disclosure of one's own family situation? What specific challenges might arise in dealing with the expectations and judgments of friends, extended family, schools, and colleagues? This applies both to effects in terms of personal relationships, or relationships with colleagues: on the negative side, the potential to feel stigmatized, marginalized, shamed, or in other ways negatively judged; on the positive side, to be seen as someone who understands a type of problem in depth and with a solid basis for empathy—as well as to the practical career consequences of such perceptions by others.

While I am continuing to compile and organize my data, several trends and themes have emerged. All of the respondents reported intense grappling with the paradox of integrating two such different yet overlapping roles. Most wanted more support and understanding from others in the psychoanalytic community, as well as a wish to share personal and professional challenges with others in similar

positions. All experienced the challenges of maintaining emotional containment in their therapeutic work while experiencing some level of personal trauma – be it acute or chronic – to be quite difficult. On the other hand, all experienced their professional work to be healing and gratifying. All were very sensitive to the effects of the cultural stigma of mental or emotional illness on their feelings about their children – leading to guardedness and protectiveness. They grappled with modulating relatively harsh “analytic superegos” which exacerbated their own - to them - understandably irrational expectations of ideal parenting. Feelings of both personal and professional shame and intense anger toward their children were often strong, as well as envy of colleagues and patients with more “normal” children. Several people felt their practices would suffer if others knew about their difficulties with their children, but most found that their own analysts or trusted supervisors and friends were invaluable in providing support and empathy, and most used their considerable self reflective capacity to keep perspective. Many had suffered narcissistic injuries unwittingly inflicted by “insensitive” comments made by colleagues during case reports, lectures, seminars, or study groups. All of the participants decried the relative under appreciation in psychoanalytic training and theorizing, of biological factors in development, a trend which, while changing, they felt still needs improvement. Most felt that having difficult children had affected their therapeutic work in various ways including feeling less prone to make judgments, jump to conclusions, and to allow oneself more of a space for personal vulnerability in the work.

As an analyst and parent who has struggled with one of my own children, receiving the Scholars’ Grant was both a professional and personal affirmation that my colleagues from Postdoc saw the value in exploring the issues enumerated, and motivated me to take action on something I had fantasized about for a long time. That, in and of itself, provided a sense of connection and a degree of healing for me.

My continuing intention is to provide a forum for the sharing of ideas, feelings, and experiences, to provide support and learning for both analyst and non-analyst parents, with the goal of turning the information that accrues into a long article or book. I also want those in the analytic community to have greater insight and empathy for their colleagues as well as for themselves and their patients, when the challenges of parenting issues arise.

***Internet Project for the Public Visibility of Psychoanalysis –
Psych E News***

Susan Parlow, PhD

As far back as the late 1990's I participated in casual discussions about the steep erosion of esteem of psychoanalysis in the public eye. Undermined by misinformation, changes in insurance policies, a confusing multiplicity of theoretical models, a certain Welschmertz in the early Freudian models, and empirical challenges by new "evidence – based therapies, the public image of psychoanalysis was at a low point. Lew Aron heard my concerns and suggested "why don 't you do something about it"; I felt I was assigned a mission and so I formed a committee at NYU Postdoctoral Program to address this issue.

In early meetings (2005 - 6) with seasoned professionals such as Jack Drescher, Harriette Kaley, Ken Feiner, Sharon Brennan, Maureen O'Reilly Landry, Barry Cohen, and Dan Hill, (apologies to those I may have inadvertently left out), a loose consensus was achieved that we should create an online magazine for the public that would show psychoanalytic work directly as we, the actual doers of it, understand it. The goal was to arrange for people to see the value of the work for themselves. The Scholars Grant allowed the creation of Psych-E-News to be a realistic possibility.

Funded by the Society, we began a website to produce a five-times a year e-magazine with articles by outstanding psychoanalysts talking about their clinical work, in language accessible to the public. Later, with Sharon Brennan and Harriette Kaley spearheading, we proposed to the then-new Division of Psychoanalysis of the New York State Psychological Society (NYSPA), that they adopt the project, which they did.

An editorial board was formed (Nick Stamsteg, Maureen O'Reilly Landry, Roanne Barnett, Don Grief). Eight issues were published under the NYSPA banner. It was then, and remains, a great honor to me to have published the exciting and innovative articles that came out in the newsletter, showing the value of psychoanalytic work in challenges of everyday life. The pieces were strong, fresh and creative. The full list of names is too long to list here; please do look them up, they are excellent.

The newsletter now is under NYSPA, Division of Psychoanalysis, with Roanne Barnett as the new, capable Editor In Chief. At the time of this writing, she is re-visiting the project, and I look forward to seeing the results.

Working with Troubled Adolescents and Their Families

Paul Feinberg, PhD

As a psychoanalyst my goal when conducting a session is to help the other deepen connections, between what they say, do and feel, what they are experiencing and what they hope to be able to understand, between present struggles and past dilemmas, as well as helping them expand their relationships and connections to others.

Working with troubled adolescents and their families presents many unique challenges. For example, when problems strike families with adolescents they often appear to pull fragmented families further apart, adding to communication disruptions, and increased emotional disconnection. Often when we first encounter a troubled adolescent at The Ackerman Institute Adolescent Project they frequently are receiving medication as well as individual therapy. Our focus has been to bring the entire family together. We benefit the adolescent as well as the entire family by helping them express what needs to be expressed, helping the parents hear what the adolescent needs them to hear, even as they might not yet realize they need their parents to hear and support them. And we work to help the parents be open to hearing what they need to hear (so the adolescent feels seen and heard) so they can be the effective parents we assume they want/need to become vis a vis their adolescent.

Most therapists working with adolescents work individually with them, seeing the parents rarely. We felt that this could widen the gap between family members, leaving the adolescent potentially lost and alone, and the parents desperate and clueless as to how they might do a better job with their children.

By bringing the troubled adolescent and their family together, by respecting the parents wish to become more effective vis a vis their children, and by recognizing the adolescents need to be seen, heard, and understood by their parents (and not just their therapist) we help to deepen their connections, making the adolescent transition to increased independence and autonomy more of a real achievement rather than one of isolation.

When families with troubled adolescents first come for therapy the parents appear frustrated, angry and accusatory (certainly to their adolescent); the adolescent presents as angry, hurt, shut down, unable and unwilling to talk to their parents. Being able to work with a team to help the parents locate their better selves, to be able to hear what their children need them to hear, enabling them all to be both more autonomous as well as connected was a labor of love.

Many thanks to the Society for its encouragement and support.

Photographic Portraits of Psychoanalysts in their Offices

Mark Gerald, PhD

This project, starting early in 1993, studies the person in their work environment - namely the psychoanalyst in his or her office. I became interested in this through my visits to psychoanalysts' offices as a candidate taking classes, being in supervision and as a patient. I noticed the variabilities around the theme of the iconic psychoanalytic office. Each office tended to reflect the Freudian original in possessing a couch, books, art and other objects. Yet, each was a distinctive expression of the person of the analyst - sometimes matching the analyst's persona and at other times the space being discordant with its occupant.

I began to read about work spaces, offices, design and architecture and was led eventually to *Bergstrasse 19*, a book of photographs by Edmund Engelman, taken in 1938 of the first psychoanalytic office, the home and work space in Vienna of Sigmund Freud. I had studied photography prior to becoming a psychologist/ psychoanalyst and decided to return to this early love. I photographed psychoanalysts, first in New York, and then in Cambridge and Stockbridge, Massachusetts, in San Francisco, Oakland and Berkeley, California, in Miami, Florida and London, Paris, Athens, Madrid, Mexico City and Buenos Aires. The subjects have ranged from eminent leaders in our field, some in their nineties, to candidates in their early thirties. There is diversity in terms of gender, race, ethnicity and sexual orientation.

The project had led to various shows in New York and at national and international conferences, where I have presented papers on the work. An article, based on the project, "The Psychoanalytic Office: Past, Present, and Future" was published in *Psychoanalytic Psychology*, 2011, vol.28, no.3. I am continuing to work on this project and anticipate another show in 2012 and have my sights on the publication of a book.

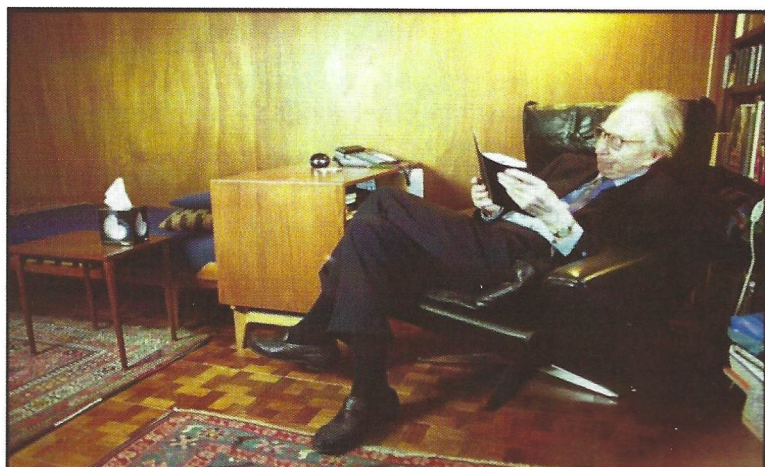
I am enormously grateful to the Psychoanalytic Society for showing its early faith in my work by providing me with one of its first Scholars' Grants.



Anni Bergman



Joyce McDougall



Allen Wheelis

Psychodynamic Consultation to a Rabbinical School

Ian S. Miller, PhD

Evolution: The consultation follows the development of an innovative psycho-educational program at a graduate-level rabbinical school, focusing on the weekly small group "process" of individual class cohorts meeting over a four-year period. Anchored in psychoanalytic group theory, the meetings facilitated:

- 1) individual maturation and leadership development over the course of training;
- 2) observation of student sub-groups in the large-group process of institutional life; and
- 3) a platform from which institution-wide reflective process emerged.

Summary of Findings: Beyond the dynamic issues specific to a particular institutional consultation, small group activity paralleled the evolution of group development from Bion's Basic Assumption groups to Task-Related activity-specifically, the creation of group projects "useful" to the institution in its own course of development.

Presentations: The work was presented both at an NYU Postdoctoral Weekend and at a meeting of alumni of the William Alanson White Organization Program.

Personal Meaning: The consultation underlined the utility to organizations of reflective psychodynamic process both for individuals and the larger institution. It was gratifying to participate within this institutional growth; and for psychoanalytic principles to be valued by a community of religious practitioners not usually acquainted with psychoanalysis.

Additionally, the work served as a platform for my inquiry into psychodynamic processes within other kinds of social organizations. Two papers emerged from this latter work: 1) (2011) *Blaming BP: The Dynamics of Blame as Social Defense and in Broadening Organizational Knowledge*, in the Journal "Socioanalysis" 13:27-36; and 2) (2011) "Profit as Organizing Meaning: The Financial Industry and the Dynamic Theory of Multiple Function", chapter 22 in Long and Sievers (eds) *Beneath the Surface of the Financial Industry*, Routledge, 2011.

A Program in Disaster and Trauma Interventions

Isaac Tylim, PhD

The Specialization Program on Trauma and Disaster offers training to the psychoanalytic community at large. A year-long program on theoretical and clinical issues is complemented by Saturday workshops and seminars. The latter have facilitated the creation of a forum devoted to the exploration of complex countertransference impasses faced by analysts as 'witness' to traumatic narratives.

The consequences of man-made or natural disasters has also been addressed under the broader umbrella of the socio-cultural political context from where they have emerged.

In addition to the above, the Specialization Program faculty proposed a new course for the Postdoctoral program that was approved by the Senate. Selected Issues in "Trauma Studies" has been offered every other year. It is taught by four faculty members representing all the tracks.

Presentations at Division 39 and NYU colloquia, as well publications speak on behalf of the success of this much needed project.

The Specialization Program is most appreciative of the Psychoanalytic Society's support. Its grant has lessened administrative burdens related to space rental, materials, and brochure. Once again, one is reminded of the wonderful and unique community called Postdoc, where life goes on after graduation.

Sequential Formulations Towards Knowing Psychoanalytic Process

Richard Lasky, PhD, Norbert Freedman, PhD, and Marvin Hurvich, PhD

The Scholars' Grant went toward the support of a psychoanalytic (process) research study that was jointly conceived by Bert Freedman, Marvin Hurvich and myself and actually carried out by Bert and me. It involved the close examination of audio-recorded psychoanalytic hours and resulted in two publications.

In the first paper that grew from this project (*The Upward Slope: a study of psychoanalytic transformations*. 2009, *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 78, 201-231), which we published with Rhonda Ward, we looked at a repeating cycle of regression/desymbolization, transition/disruptive enactment leading to transitional space, and reorganization/leading to symbolic synthesis, wherein different forms of mental functioning evoked distinct dynamic processes of psychic repair.

In the second paper that grew from this project (*The Ordinary and the Extraordinary countertransference*. 2009, *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 57, 303-331), which we published with Jamieson Webster, we looked at transitory disruptions residing within the analyst's consciousness versus impasses that were intolerable to the analyst to such an extent that they remained outside awareness. The full abstracts of both articles, as they appear in the journals, are presented below:

Abstract: Upward Slope

In an examination of twelve audiotaped psychoanalytic sessions, the authors, using both quantitative and qualitative methods, observed a stepwise progression in mental organization, which they term the upward slope. Its constituents include a phase of regression (desymbolization and the agony of equivalence), a phase of transition (disruptive enactment leading to transitional space), and a phase of reorganization (triangulation leading to symbolic synthesis). The hypothesis of a phase-specific progression is advanced, wherein different forms of mental functioning evoke distinct dynamic processes of psychic repair. The authors present detailed clinical summaries of the sessions they examined, as well as their own observational comments, to illustrate these ideas.

Abstract: Ordinary/Extraordinary Countertransference

This is both a clinical and an epistemological inquiry into the concept of countertransference. A distinction is made between the ordinary countertransference, a transitory disruption residing within the analyst's consciousness, and the extraordinary countertransference, an impasse intolerable to the analyst to such an extent that it remains outside

awareness. This distinction, rooted in the history of psychoanalytic thought, is here traced in a recorded psychoanalysis. The clinical material is examined from three perspectives, including empirical evaluation by computer-assisted monitoring of spoken language and two modes of psychoanalytic interpretive listening. Analytic sessions designated as ordinary were readily identified by quantitative measures. However, the threshold between the ordinary and the extraordinary countertransference was reached at the point where empirical observations broke down. Detailed psychoanalytic observation of the four sessions that lie beyond empirical validation led to a formulation of the analyst's state of consciousness during these pivotal hours.

Beyond the Reach of Ladders. My Story as a Therapist Forging Bonds with Firefighters in the Aftermath of 9/11

Elizabeth Goren, PhD

Beyond the Reach of Ladders is a chronicle of my struggle helping a group of grief stricken and traumatized men who were by nature and situation resistant to psychotherapy. In this book I relate the story of my journey from the morning of 9/11 when I joined the disaster relief effort, into a firehouse that lost several men, and through the trauma therapy of firefighters years later.

Through the story of my work inside the firehouse and in my office in the aftermath of the disaster, the reader is given an understanding of the experiential and interpersonal nature of mourning, as well as the psychic underpinnings of individual, group and collective trauma. The dreams and excerpted therapy process notes in the book are an inside look at what happens in that mysterious interaction between therapist and patient and a glimpse at the inner life of the analyst at work.

My intent with this book was threefold. First to bring recognition to the real life struggles of these iconic heroes. Secondly, to educate people on the nature of trauma, grief and disaster. And finally, most fundamentally, to raise the public's awareness and appreciation of psychoanalysis, its scope of applicability, its humaneness and humanity in theory and practice.

It was a decade long project to write this book and to finally get a publisher who believed that the public would be interested in 'another 9/11 book' and one which features psychoanalysis.

Finally, published in the United Kingdom, and through Amazon, its distribution is worldwide. One of the most exciting things for me in having this book come out in 2011 was the attention it received around the tenth anniversary of 9/11. As a result I, the firemen, and psychoanalysis were featured on public television and radio throughout this country and abroad, from NY 1 to small public radio stations in Lincoln Nebraska for example to Liverpool England. Perhaps the best media coverage psychoanalysis got through my book was the interview with Jeremy Vines who claims the largest international talk show audience around the world. Newspapers like the New York Post and Metro, which might not otherwise give psychoanalysis much attention, reviewed and covered the book, as did certain online publications and blogs, particularly in the UK. Reviews in several psychoanalytic journals are due to be published this year. An excerpt of one online review is included here:

"A tribute to the strength and resiliency of the human spirit, this unflinchingly honest book shows us how, with the right kind of help, life can be more powerful than death, however strong a pull death may exert in times of traumatic stress. With Dr. Goren as our guide, we are shown how an understanding of the unconscious, in the widest sense of that word, can bring hope ... and change."

Books Monthly

The Scholars' Grant helped support my taking writing workshops and obtaining editorial guidance for this project.

My gratitude for the grant I received from Psychoanalytic Society is mentioned in the acknowledgements of the book. Again, many thanks for your belief in my project.

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How to Apply

Scholars Grant Application

Scholars Grants applications will be accepted from any current member in good standing of the Psychoanalytic Society. Patrick Lane Candidate Scholars' Grant applications will be accepted from any current candidate in good standing in the NYU Postdoctoral Program.

Please send the following documents and information to the Scholars' Grant Committee. Please email each as a separate document (total of 3 attachments) to geoinmaine@myfairpoint.net.

1. Cover sheet listing ONLY your name, address, phone number, email address, title of proposal, and whether you are a current Society member or current Postdoc candidate. Please include this information for all applicants if the application is for a Group grant (All Group applicants must be current Society members.)

2. One-page CV of each applicant

Please submit the following WITHOUT any of the above identifying data so that the proposals can be reviewed anonymously.

3. Abstract of 300-500 words describing your proposed project.
Be specific with regard to all of the following (when applicable):
- title of project (be sure this matches exactly the title on cover sheet)
 - whether this is an Individual, Group or Candidate Grant
 - a detailed description of the project
 - people/organizations involved (excluding names of applicants)
 - how far along the project is at the present date
 - remaining steps required for completion
 - anticipated time frame for completion
 - relevance of project to psychoanalysis
 - form of presentation to public

Please submit the above 3 documents to:
geoinmaine@myfairpoint.net.

Please direct any questions to:
Maureen O'Reilly-Landry [212-316-4945](tel:212-316-4945)/doctormony@aol.com

