

## **SPSI Continuing Education Committee Minutes January 2, 2020**

Present: Chris Keats (chair), John Allemand, Flaviane Ferreira, Kimberly McKittrick, Mary Murphy and Kathy Weissbourd. Absent: Janelle Eckhardt.

The minutes from our meeting on November 7, 2019 were reviewed and accepted.

We welcomed Janelle Eckhardt in absentia.

Continuing review of our experience of financial loss at the Knafo event led us to recommend, going forward, to spend less money on catering and venue and to raise the price for attendees to \$125.

### **Upcoming events: (action items in bold)**

Skye Haberman did not send the draft of a talk she had planned to give in the fall, 2020, and she may not follow through on these plans.

Maxine Nelson would like to discuss a movie with John Allemand, venue SPSI, on May 8, 2020. John and Maxine will discuss this further and bring more details.

John Allemand has announced several upcoming events sponsored by the Alliance:

Erin Carruth has organized classes for teachers under the title, *The Unconscious Goes Back to School*. They will be held January 9, January 23, February 6, February 20 and March 5 2020, from 7-8:30 pm at SPSI.

On February 29, 2020, Donna Orange, PhD, will explore how psychoanalysts might begin to hear missing voices and become more attentive to hearing backwards (*Nachtraglichkeit*). The venue will be Seattle Pacific University.

On September 26, 2020, Usha Tummala-Narra, PhD, will speak on some aspect of multiculturalism. She is author, among other things, of *Psychoanalytic Theory and Cultural Competence in Psychotherapy*. John Allemand will look into the possibility of having her speak to a smaller group at SPSI on Friday evening, September 25, and Chris Keats will inquire of Zan if this venue might be available. It is possible that this talk could be jointly sponsored by the Diversity Committee, but expenses will be limited to offering the venue and advertising.

On Saturday, November 21, 2020, Jamieson Webster, PhD, will present. She has written on conversion disorders and is currently working on *The Cambridge Introduction to Jacques Lacan*.

On Saturday, February 21, 2021, Robert Grossmark, PhD, author of *The Unobtrusive Relational Analyst*, will speak on whether you can be a relational analyst and unobtrusive at the same time.

### **Other business:**

As of the end of this academic year, the only committee members continuing will be John Allemand, Janelle Eckhardt, and Kimberly McKittrick (one Community Members and two Clinical Associates). The committee discussed whether it might go 'dormant' until such time as SPSI's Coordinating Committee and Nominating Committee decide whether SPSI wants a CE committee and if so who from the faculty might wish to join. Chris Keats was urged to send a letter to the Coordinating Committee for consultation on the future of the committee.

The letter he wrote is as follows:

1/8/20

Dear Rebecca, Sheri, John and Mike:

The Continuing Education Committee will have only three members by June, 2020. The members will include two clinical associates and a community member, but no member of the faculty.

The Committee met January 2, 2020, and the consensus was that we would write a note to request consultation with the Coordinating Committee about this situation.

Does SPSI want an Education Committee? We understand the programs have made money for the Institute and Society, but lately attendance has fallen off and the most recent event we held lost money. We are not sure what has caused attendance to drop – it may be that there are so many events sponsored by other organizations (NPSI, the Alliance, COR, our own Arts Salon and Scientific Sessions for example), that there is no appetite for more.

(As case in point, at present the Alliance has scheduled the following excellent programs:

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On Saturday, February 21, 2021, Robert Grossmark, PhD, author of *The Unobtrusive Relational Analyst*, will speak on whether you can be a relational analyst and unobtrusive at the same time.)

What is the CE Committee's mission? The goal of the Continuing Education Committee is to offer colloquia, symposia, lectures, workshops and seminars for the members of the Institute and for individuals and groups in the community. The Committee strives to present those programs which are not currently available in the community such as (but not limited to): child and adolescent psychoanalytic theories and process; contemporary and historical psychoanalytic theories and practices; applied psychoanalysis, such as an examination of the impact of culture, race, gender, sexual orientation and the arts to psychoanalysis.

If this goal is substantially being met by other organizations, perhaps the CE committee is redundant. One goal not mentioned in the above mission statement is the goal of providing Category 1 CEs to MDs. These are not available from other programs, as we are the only committee which has sought them by application to APsaA. Our MD members may obtain their Category 1 CE from other sources (for instance attendance at national conferences or teaching [Category 1 CE credit, for instance, is available for organizing and teaching courses at SPSI]) and it is possible there would be no outcry were Category I CE Credit not available from CE Committee programs.

If on the other hand the Coordinating Committee is reluctant to sunset the CE Committee at this time, the Coordinating Committee could fully staff the committee with faculty members (two would be ideal, one to chair the committee and another to serve along with the three able and talented members who will still be on the committee in June, 2020). Failing that, and if there were no desire to sunset the committee altogether, the Coordinating Committee might want to allow the CE Committee to 'go dormant', and the three members who would still be on the committee might meet irregularly without a specific agenda until such time as the Coordinating Committee might wish to move forward.

The CE Committee meets for the last time this year May 7, 2020, and would appreciate some word from you before this date.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Keats M.D.  
Chair, CE Committee

To date, there has been no response from the Coordinating Committee.

Our next meeting will be at 7:30 pm at SPSI Thursday March 5, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Keats, M.D.