

Seattle Psychoanalytic Society and Institute  
Business Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 13, 2024  
Via Zoom

Attending: A. Buchinski, A. Thomas, A. Crofut, C. Malkmus, J. Cardinali, J. De Mott, J. Wood, K. Lippman, R. Meredith, P. Cömert, M. Pauly, M. Brooks, L. Jordan, J. Goyden, P. Crastnopol, R. Gottesman, K. McKittrick, S. Walker, R. Hushka, M. Petrovcic, R. Farr

1. Call to order.
2. Vote on minutes from January and February Business meetings.  
January: Approved.  
February: Approved w/ change from “agenda” to “minutes.”
3. Director Report  
Read by A. Buchinski in C. Keats’ absence. Attached below.
4. Board Report  
R. Hushka reported that at their last meeting, the Board: reviewed plans for the March 9 retreat; discussed SPSI membership categories and benefits; and changed the date of the graduation party to Sunday, June 2, 4-6 pm
5. Committee Reports
  - a. Curriculum  
K. Lippman asked all faculty to please fill out the teaching survey, whether or not you want to teach next year. She shared revisions to APT absence policy for the upcoming transition to the 9-4-9-9 calendar, which is 2 weeks shorter than the current 33-week academic year.
  - b. APsA  
K. Lippman reported that Sandy Walker was elected to the APsA Board as member at large. APsA has a newly revised ethics policy, which includes requirement for a professional will. The Board has passed a motion to enforce limit on number of posts to some listserv communities.
  - c. Diversity  
E. Jordan reported that at January meeting, committee supported S. Walker’s election to APsA board; discussed that psychoanalysis in the community workgroup is not currently active; discussed Ch. 7 of Holmes Commission Report regarding enactments that come up at SPSI.

- d. CAAO  
A Thomas reported little to report. The 4<sup>th</sup>-year cohort has questions about post-didactic case conference participation.
  - e. Admissions  
M. Pauly reported committee has met regarding goals and intentions around process of admissions. Application deadline is May 1. Six prospective applicants attended a recent dinner. 10 people have confirmed intent to complete application, including two distance learners and one academic associate.
6. Holmes Commission Report Reading Groups.  
Some groups have not met for second time. S. Walker reported that at first meeting her group worked on getting to know one another. J. Cardinali felt that meeting in person was a benefit for his group. L. Jordan said that anyone who might still want to join a group could contact her or Zan.
7. Motions
- a. **Motion for Changes to Ombuds Program**  
Presented by A. Buchinski in M. Bullard's absence. Discussion: M. Brooks requested clarification regarding functioning of larger group; one or two ombuds will be involved in any issue, not the entire group. K. Lippman recommended vote on motion to expand resource, with further review of how their process will work.  
**PASSED unanimously**
  - b. **Motion to Change Infant Observation from mandatory to elective**  
Presented by K. Lippman. Discussion included appreciation for thoughtful compromise; question about impact on current cohort (no change); worry that IO will fade away and sense of loss; question about IO cohort size; hope that benefit from those who had good IO experience will be conveyed to candidates and lead to more intentional participation.  
**PASSED unanimously**
8. Psychoanalytic Training Program Terminology  
M. Pauly proposed that SPSI members avoid referring to the psychoanalytic training program as "the four-year program," as this may lead to unrealistic expectations for applicants and candidates regarding the length of psychoanalytic training.
9. Announcements  
M. Brooks – New candidate handbook is being reviewed by committee chairs and

will soon be available for current candidates, prospective applicants, and faculty.  
R. Meredith – Thanks to Rock for his work on planning the retreat.

## 10. Adjourn

### Director's report to the Business Meeting 3/13/24

I regret I am unable to attend this Business Meeting as I am traveling this week to the East Coast.

Paul Horton facilitated our 2024 Retreat on Saturday March 9. About thirty people attended, including a community member and a candidate. Thought was given to those not attending, and we discussed personal invitations in the future. We wanted to get everyone's voice in the room.

Those who did attend were grateful to Zan for provision of food and drink, and to Paul for facilitating our discussion, which centered around what we had done over the past year and what we hoped to do in the future. Many were surprised by the long list of accomplishments, including revitalization of the two year program; further efforts at democratization including giving candidates the vote at the faculty meeting, now renamed the business meeting; changes in the TA committee now renamed the committee for consulting analysts and analysts of candidates, and re-purposed to study the provision of those services rather than gatekeeper for those seeking those roles; strides toward development of pathways towards becoming a consultant or analyst of candidates; changes in curriculum to reflect our interest in group dynamics, diversity and equity; work towards revision of the candidate handbook; small group reading of the Holmes Commission Report with an eye towards self-assessment and change in areas of diversity and equity; and work in the re-named Collective Scholarship Committee towards provision of aid to those in need. There was a wish to acknowledge committee chairs for all their hard work and to faculty for teaching. Of course, there is much to be done and everything is a 'work in progress' including efforts at repair when there are inevitable ruptures, and provision of a safety net for those involved in the rupture and repair efforts.

Looking forward, we began work towards revision of our mission statement to reflect where it is that we would like to be headed. There was general agreement that the mission would reflect three goals: Education, Nourishment, and Collaboration, with much falling under each heading. Of course, we are here to educate analytic candidates and those in the psychotherapy program, but we want to be an Institute of Care, and a place of further professional development and learning. We would also like to be

outward looking, towards the larger community and towards other similar organizations, both local ones and those further away from us.