Message from the President

The Will to Reach the Next Level

I am happy to report that the Academy has finally achieved the status that many of us sought some years ago. Those of you who attended the Annual Meeting in Toronto must have realized the high level of academia of the conferences and the sophistication of our discussions. Our publications have achieved the highest standards within the profession, and we are attracting members from academic institutions of high regard.

As I reflect on what areas of the society require attention to continue to develop along the lines that we have delineated, I have detected – in consultation with our top leaders – that we have lagged behind in our fundraising activities. The mentality of many of our members with regard to fundraising is antiquated, since they consider it as only needed when societies are in financial distress.

The finances of the Academy are extremely healthy. Our Office Budget and Administration Committee has been very active and has very capable members -including two former Treasurers-. We would be able to continue to function as well as we have without any fundraising activities. Nevertheless, if we wanted to expand our educational activities, or if we wanted to offer new opportunities to residents or candidates within our programs or publications, we would find ourselves extremely limited without any additional funds.

The Victor Teichner Program is one of the most successful programs that the Academy has developed. It provides the opportunity to Psychiatric Training Programs around the country who are deficient in Psychodynamics to choose one
We also have the contribution from the foundation set up in honor of Ali Symonds -a former Treasurer and trustee-, which year after year has helped us fund academic activities at the Annual Meeting. Ever since I first sat at the Executive Council Meetings as a trustee, I have been captivated by the great care and respect with which this donation is dealt. Ali died 23 years ago, none of the current members of the Executive Council knew her personally, and yet, through her gift, we have been made aware of her existence. Thanks to her donation, we know she was deeply involved with broadening the consideration of women’s issues within Psychiatry. We have learned that she was given the Presidential Award for Distinguished Service and Scientific Contributions, bestowed two weeks prior to her death. Had her husband not had the foresight of setting up her Foundation that continues to be strong after all these years, we would not know that she was the first president of the Association of Women Psychiatrists, and that had it not been for the devastating pancreatic cancer that cut her life short at 72 years of age, she would have continued her life work, probably as a mentor to many of us within the younger generations. The gift she left us was more than money, she really left us a part of herself that we are able to connect with regularly.

I envision three levels of fundraising activities for the near future: 1) “Psychoanalysis for the Future”, a fundraising campaign directed to our general members, 2) “Legacies”, a planned giving program for members to plan bequests, and 3) “Giving to Ourselves” a fundraising event that could be part of our Annual Meeting. The details of each of these three levels still need to be delineated, and you will hear more about them soon.

I invite you to feel proud of our Academy. Through the hard work and vision of many we have reached the place we currently hold. We are the only affiliate society of the American Psychiatric Association that is a medical society dedicated to psychotherapy of any kind. We are also the only medical society in the country that is dedicated to Psychodynamic Psychiatry. We are an affiliate society of the World Psychiatric Association, and have kept our membership steadily increasing. The leadership of our society is in the hands of able members who are in the middle of their career, full of energy and creativity. We are always open to suggestions and comments.

Best regards,

David Lopez
American Academy of Psychoanalysis
and Dynamic Psychiatry
60th Annual Meeting
CALL FOR PAPERS

We hope to see you in Atlanta!

May 12 - May 14, 2016
Atlanta, Georgia

Let's Play - The Role of Play
in Treatment and Across the Lifespan

Call for Papers Instructions and Submission Forms can be downloaded from the AAPDP website (www.AAPDP.org). If you would like a hard copy mailed or emailed to you, please contact the Executive Office by email: info@AAPDP.org or call: 888-691-8281.

Submission Deadline is October 1, 2015

www.AAPDP.org
59th Annual Academy Meeting
Toronto, Canada, May 14-16, 2015

By Raul Condemarin, M.D. and Joanna Chambers, M.D.,
Meeting Co-chairs

The American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry held its 59th Annual Meeting May 14-16, 2015, at the Westin Harbour Castle in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, chaired by Drs. Joanna Chambers and Raul Condemarin. The theme of the meeting, The Neuroscience of Psychodynamics, was amply discussed through symposia, workshops, and lectures. The depth of the presentations, in combination with the active participation of the audience, resulted in a better understanding of the applications of neuro-scientific knowledge in the different areas in which we are involved in helping our patients.

Feedback on the program was quite positive. Through the meeting evaluations we learned that most attendees found the program to be very informative and enjoyable.

The quality of the presenters and the enthusiasm of the participants surpassed all expectations of the 2015 Program Committee. Special Thank You’s go to Jackie Coleman and Marie Westlake for their great support, efforts and dedication throughout the meeting.

Richard Brockman, M.D. opened the meeting with his extraordinary presentation: Othello: Shame, Violence and Neurobiology. He was as able to correlate the conundrum of wishes and drives exemplified in Othello’s story with the neurobiology of emotions, especially desire and loss. Richard’s lecture was done in a manner that was simultaneously didactic and engaging which produced not only a captive, but also a more enlightened audience with regard to the experience of the patient’s pain.

The keynote speaker was Andrew Gerber, M.D., who discussed the Essential role of Research and Neuroscience in the future of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry. Dr. Gerber was a vibrant presenter who demonstrated through extensive findings from current studies the pressing need to innovate our field by continuing to do more research that will expand our current knowledge and answer the larger amount of questions that it has generated.

The plenary session featured Dr. Graeme Taylor, Professor of the University of Toronto, who spoke about Patients with Paucity of Inner Experiences: Insights from Neuroscience and Empirical Research. Dr. Taylor reviewed several measurement-based and experiment-based scales evaluating the validity of the alexithymia construct. He presented studies from Canada...
and Denmark that have implicated both genetic and environmental factors with the etiology of alexithymia, ego- defenses, empathy and mentalization.

Elizabeth Auchincloss, M.D., delivered the Presidential Address in which she shared her research about the *New Challenges and Developments in the Therapeutic Alliance*. She discussed the potential benefits for psychoanalysis and psychodynamic psychotherapy that could be brought by a greater understanding of this aspect of the clinical relationship.

This year we began the morning program with three simultaneous panels and symposia. The first one, *The Psychodynamic Assessment: Different Patients, Different Circumstances*, was presented by Drs. Greene, Friedman, McGill, Downey, Jimenez and Alfonso, chaired by Dr. Katz. This symposium expanded on different techniques to gather developmental information, and also shared different ways to set up clinical psychodynamic treatment goals, and use of countertransference to improve the therapeutic alliance. The new section of the program titled *Meet the Experts* featured Drs. Olarte, Silvio, Condemarin and Kramer, who answered questions of dilemmas that we frequently encounter in clinical practice. This new addition received good reviews from the participants.

In another topic pertinent to the relationship between Psychotherapy and Neuroscience, Dr. Arash Javanbakht discussed the *Theory of Memory reconciliation and Psychotherapy*. He explained the current models of acquisition of memory that have been constructed from neurocognitive research findings which could inform and guide psychotherapeutic methods and medication treatment.

Over the course of the meeting the audience enjoyed wonderful presentations such as: *The Alliance, Authority and Models of patient Centered Pharmacological care* by Dr. David Mintz, *The Unconscious Dance of the Brain and the Skin* by Enzo Finore, Psy.D., the presentation on *Catatonia in Patients with Chronic Medical Illness* by Dr. Jimenez and *Inflammation in Psychiatry* presented by Dr. Condemarin with a discussion by Dr. Mary Ann Cohen. In addition, Dr. Rothe presented *Dealing with the Death of a Parent as a College Student*, with a panel that discussed the importance/relevance of pre-adolescent developmental achievements, family relationships and psychodynamic conflicts in the readiness for late adolescence.

Residents participated in different venues in this year’s meeting. They enjoyed a luncheon and interesting discussions with Drs. Mintz and Chambers. Later on, they presented along with Drs. Olarte and Schwartz on Resident Interactions panel.

*The Therapeutic Use of Dreams* was presented by Milton Kramer, M.D., and in terms of art and psychotherapy, Drs. Mahr and Kuo presented on *Music, Mind and Brain* and Dr. Charles Joy reviewed *What Poetry Evokes in You*.

Saturday evening ended with the Awards Dinner that provided a great opportunity to meet new members and reconnect with friends and colleagues in the midst of good food and interesting conversation.
We would like thank Drs. David Lopez and Eugenio Rothe for their guidance throughout the planning stages of the program. This meeting marked the end of Eugenio Rothe role as Scientific Program Committee Chair, after six years of a wonderful job.

We think the meeting’s theme and program were consistent with the Academy’s mission. Through many excellent academic presentations, the meeting provided an open forum for the expressions of ideas and research in psychodynamic psychiatry.

It was pleasure to see you in Toronto, and thank for your support to our work and to the Academy in general. We look forward to meeting again in Atlanta at our 60th Annual Meeting in 2016.

Photo Credits to Dr. Joe Silvio
Last Fall, the Academy held its successful fifteenth Joint Meeting with the Organizzazione di Psicoanalisti Italiani Federazione e Registro (OPIFER) at the historic and beautiful Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa. The theme of the meeting was *Psychotherapy with Challenging Patients: Honoring the 100th Anniversary of Silvano Arieti’s Birth.*

Dr. Arieti has been honored in the country of his birth. There is a street named after him in Pisa and in 2014 the Italian government issued a stamp commemorating the centenary of Arieti’s birth.

While in Pisa, Drs. Joan and Matt Tolchin were given a beautiful copy of the stamp on a postcard, which is now part of the Academy archives. A scan of the postcard is below. They were also given a document, in Italian, describing the distinction of having such a commemorative stamp, which can be viewed by clicking on the image of the postcard.
Psychodynamic Psychiatry
The Official Journal of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry

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Psychodynamic Psychiatry welcomes the submission of completed manuscripts for possible publication.

Visit the AAPDP website for more information for Contributors to Psychodynamic Psychiatry: www.AAPDP.org

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The Academy Forum

WHY WRITE FOR THE ACADEMY FORUM?

- Relaxed, casual atmosphere
- No formal peer review
- 2,500 word essays; brief, but long enough to develop your idea
- Avid Academy readership
- Opportunity for a personal touch
- Chance to express your opinion and receive comments from colleagues
- Enhance our sense of community and friendship

Some suggested topics might include:

- A case of Freud’s in light of further developments in psychoanalysis.
- A case report illustrative of a clinical area of interest to you.
- A work of art, music or literature that has been most meaningful to you.
- A description of your research activities.
- Reflections on your particular area of practice.
- Psychoanalysis as applied to the current national or world political scene.
- Reviews of books you have read or movies with psychodynamic themes.
- Personal experiences or changes in your life that have made a difference to your technique and practice of psychotherapy and psychoanalysis.
- Suggestions for education in psychoanalysis and psychodynamic psychotherapy. How to encourage it, and how to teach.
- Your experiences in teaching and supervision.
- An interview of a senior Academy member by a more junior member.
- Crises or turning points in psychodynamic therapy that you have encountered and how you dealt with them.
- Short stories, poems, haiku...

Freud said that we had an obligation to publish our clinical and theoretical work to continue to propel our field forward. This remains as true today as it has always been. Informal as well as more formal journal communications are part of that obligation. Exchange of ideas and suggestions on an informal level has an important effect on generating new directions and changes in our field. Please also encourage your colleagues to write for the Forum – send this appeal on to them.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions. Thank you.

Cordial best wishes,

Jerry Perman

Gerald P. Perman, M.D.
Academy Forum Editor
News from Academy Members

Dr. Harold I. Eist, Honorary Member of the Academy, was awarded a Distinguished Alumni Award for his contributions to psychiatry, mental health education and patient advocacy on Thursday, September 24, 2014, at the annual Alumni Awards Ceremony at the University of Alberta.

The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes the truly outstanding accomplishments of University of Alberta alumni who have earned national or international prominence as a result of their outstanding professional achievements and service to society.

Welcome New Academy Members!

Psychoanalytic Fellow
Elizabeth Tillinghast, J.D., M.D. (New York, NY)

Psychiatric Members
Malaika Berkeley, M.D. (Atlanta, GA)
Sucheta Connolly, M.D. (Flossmoor, IL)
Angela M. Hegarty MB BCh (New York, NY)
Elizabeth F. Kieff, M.D. (Chicago, IL)
Edward Malewski, M.D. (Saint Joseph, MO)

Members-in-Training
Diana Cozma, M.D. (Philadelphia, PA)
Frank A. Fetterolf, M.D. (Pittsburgh, PA)
Sarit Hovav, M.D. (Omaha, NE)
Giulia Sorrentino, M.D. (Valhalla, NY)

We invite you to submit your personal news and professional accomplishments to the Academy e-News. To submit an item of interest, simply mail the information you would like to share with your colleagues to the AAPDP Executive Office at One Regency Drive, Bloomfield, CT 06002, or email to info@AAPDP.org.

- Special Awards or Special Interests
- Professional Appointments
- Medical/Psychodynamic/Psychoanalytic Presentations
- Medical/Psychodynamic/Psychoanalytic Publications
- Community/Appearances/Personal Events/Family News

We would love to hear from you!