

AAP Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis

E-News *Keeping in Touch with Our Members*
9 January 2011

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AAP Conference, July 15-17, 2011, Santa Cruz Call for Presentations – Proposal Due Soon

This year's conference, "Psychosynthesis: Creating Unity in Human Systems," will be held at the University of California at Santa Cruz. More information on the conference will be coming to you. Meanwhile, **if you would like to present at this conference**, please download and complete the Microsoft Word document, "Workshop Proposals Form 2011," found at www.aap-psychosynthesis.org/docs/WorkshopProposalsForm2011.doc. All instructions for submission are found on the form. -- Ruth Carter, MFT, Conference Chair, raggcm@comcast.net.



View of the redwoods on campus (photo by Audrey McMorrow)

Southeast Region Retreat: Feb. 26, 2011

A Psychosynthesis retreat for the Southeast region (Florida, Georgia, and Alabama) will be held on Saturday, February 26, 2011 from 10:00-4:00. It will be hosted at the home of Shamaï Currim, 4208 St Clair Drive, in Sarasota, Florida. Lunch is included. For further information, and to register, please contact Shamaï at shamai@hourglass.net or 941-306-5404.

There's Still Time to Register! Mindfulness-Based Psychosynthesis Training Retreats ...

... are starting this month in Lexington, Kentucky and on live online broadcast. The mindfulness-based psychosynthesis training program is a two-year professional training program designed to develop competency in the core principles and practices of psychosynthesis from a mindfulness perspective.

For more information, please visit the Kentucky Center Website at www.kycenterofpsychosynthesis.org. Contact Judith Broadus, jbroadus99@aol.com.

PDC Planning 5-Day Course in "Foundations of Psychosynthesis," July 17-22, 2011

The Professional Development Committee (PDC) of AAP will offer a 5-day course, "Foundations of Psychosynthesis: Core Concepts and Experiential Intensive," July 17 through 22, following the Annual Conference at the University of Santa Cruz in California.

The course will cover the core principles and practices of psychosynthesis at a foundational and intermediate level. Anyone interested in integrating psychosynthesis into their personal lives and their professional work is invited to attend. People who have studied psychosynthesis in the past, or in some other form, may also wish to attend for a refresher. Members of the PDC will serve as faculty for the Intensive.

The course will be highly experiential and interactive, making it especially helpful to people who have studied primarily on line or on their own. Principles will be explored through dialog, guided imagery, drawing, role-playing, movement, and other engaging activities. Participants will share their experiences in small groups, and then explore theoretical concepts and principles with the whole group.

The Intensive is designed as a major component of a self-study program in Psychosynthesis Foundations that the PDC is developing and coordinating. We envision the whole program to include local

mentoring, distance and Internet learning opportunities, and regional/national workshops/intensives—leading to a Certificate of Completion in Psychosynthesis Foundations. All participants will receive a Certificate of Completion for the Intensive; in addition, Continuing Education Credits (CEs) will be available for an extra fee.

A few internships will be available for advanced students who desire to begin leading in a supervised environment. These interns will attend the TDP prior to the conference, participate in planning and debriefing sessions before and during the Intensive, and may facilitate small groups and/or lead an exercise. Application forms will be available soon; please send an email to the address below to receive one.

Cost of the Intensive is estimated at \$525 (early registration) plus room and board at UCSC (at the same rates as the Conference). Intern fee is estimated at \$200, plus room and board. Registration will open soon for a limited number of participants. To be on the contact list for the Foundations Program and/or the Intensive, please send an email to Coordinator Molly Brown at psychosynthesiseducation@gmail.com.

We are delighted to be able to start this ground-breaking program this summer. Please forward this information to anyone you think might be interested in joining us.

-- The Professional Development Committee (PDC): Judith Broadus, Molly Brown, Vincent Dummer, Mary Kelso, Janet Messer, Debbie Onken, Brad Roth

The AAP Open Dialog Task Force Publishes Recommendations

The Steering Committee wishes to thank Carol Blanchard, Didi Firman, John Parks, and Nancy Rowe, members of the Open Dialog Task Force, for their thoughtful and comprehensive considerations of ways to foster a spirit of healthy, respectful dialog, inquiry and theory building that could be sustainable over time. Their task was to suggest ways to create opportunities for dialog and sharing. These recommendations are being sent out via e-mail. We appreciate the comprehensive way that they approached this task and the thoroughness of their suggestions.

Call for Nominations: AAP Steering Committee, 2011

The AAP Nominating Committee is calling for prospective Steering Committee member nominations, and we hope you will consider nominating yourself and/or other worthy AAP members. Instructions and more information are on the attached form, which is to be sent to aap.input@gmail.com. Deadline: February 1, 2011.

AAP Social Networking Research Intensifies

Social Networking is bringing the world together. According to www.socialnetworking.com, this is the way the 21st century communicates today. Most networking is group interaction with common interests and goals. The AAP Steering Committee hopes that this year, members will explore NING and other options for social networking, the potential for group conversation, and places where Psychosynthesis research dialogue occur.

Many AAP members, active and observers, participate in a long-standing group, www.yahogroups.com/group/psychosynthesis. Membership is international with 425+ members. It was formed in 1993 by Dr. John Cullen, now deceased. Its original intent was to explore social psychosynthesis, but has evolved, since then, into a general psychosynthesis conversation site.

Dirk Kelder, director of AAP's social networking research, whose main interest is social psychosynthesis, says, "The realm of Social Psychosynthesis is one which is able to provide a container to hold both the individual or personal dimension, together with the community or social dimension, in such a way that each supports the other rather than competes with it. If it is effective in doing this, it can then generate an environment that transcends both the personal and the social dimensions. This subsequently supports and engenders (as in a feedback loop or the snowball effect) a greater level of spirituality. I suspect this is the realm of the true transpersonal dimension."

Peter Stonefield, AAP member and professional training and coaching consultant in the San Francisco Bay area, recommends that AAP consider the many options available on the internet. He suggests that AAP look into the feasibility of LINKEDIN, YAHOO, and GOOGLE groups. He further adds, "AAP, at each of these sites, would be able to create its own group, interface with others, and would have the option of requiring permission of a moderator to join."

Peter also has been using DIMDIM, www.dimdim.com, a virtual web conferencing program. This may be suitable for the AAP membership in the future. It is a tool for online collaboration in real time using visual, auditory (using the phone conference line), and texting modalities. He is hoping that it be used by the Communities of Practice (COP) that were started at the conference. The Synthesis Coaching COP has already conferenced using DIMDIM.

The Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis has a group on LINKEDIN. Worldwide, LINKEDIN is a networking tool, the purpose of which, for AAP, is to develop a public outreach to other individuals and groups, discussing the application of psychosynthesis in topics such as psychology, organizations, leadership, coaching, education, etc. This would provide an interface with other groups and psychosynthesis.

Many members of AAP have FACEBOOK pages, and are connected to other Psychosynthesis colleagues worldwide. The AAP Conference, in 2010 and now 2011, has a page on FACEBOOK. Approximately 115 faces show up as supporters, several have posted their website on the page, and there are about 300 visitors a month. There are pages for Psychosynthesis Practitioners

Worldwide, Psychosynthesis Counselors and Psychotherapists Worldwide, Roberto Assagioli, and Psychosynthesis. Psychosynthesis Centers in Australia, Norway, and Italy have pages, too. There may be others as well.

David Shirley, AAP member and Director of Operations at Essential Software in the San Francisco Bay area, searched hundreds of options for social networking and proposed NING for AAP. He says that social networking can increase the sense of being a community with a common purpose. "So little has been done," says David, "To take psychosynthesis beyond the personal level. Some work has been done on the organizational level but, to my understanding, this has largely been done within a business context."

Research will continue this year, in the use of social networking. There are many perspectives and opinions about AAP's use of on-line technology. There is a growing interest in and concern for how we integrate and synthesize this inevitable use of technology into AAP goals. The AAP Membership Committee encourages members of AAP to explore the many options available for connecting and interacting with psychosynthesis colleagues.

Another possibility, which has not been discussed in detail as yet, is the potential for online distance learning. At the 2010 conference, there was an experiment in the use of telecasting part of the conference. There are practitioners who have been successful in online therapy.

There's a whole world of cyberspace options out there yet to be discovered and yet to be created. In the meantime, a question for AAP members to consider is, "What might be the best options for a small non-profit group like AAP?"

—Judi White, in consultation with David Shirley, Peter Stonefield, and Dirk Kelder

IV International Conference "Self and Other: the Sacred Space for Dialogue": April 28-May 2, 2011, St. Petersburg, Russia

For many years, Harmony Institute for Psychotherapy and Counseling has organized International Conferences which have become the space for hundreds of people from different countries, cultures, and professional disciplines to meet and share their personal and professional experiences.



This year we are happy to invite you to take part in the IV International Conference "Self and Other: the Sacred Space for Dialogue" which is taking place from April 28 till May 2, 2011 in St. Petersburg, Russia. To know more about the topic and mission of the Conference, visit <http://eng.inharmony.ru/11> If you like to know about the previous Conferences from programs, photos and comments of participants, please visit <http://eng.inharmony.ru/12>. For more information, contact harmonyconference@rambler.ru

—Conference Coordinators, Sergey Valyukhov and Anna Rodina.

Reminder: It is AAP membership renewal time.

Your participation in the ongoing mission of AAP is valued highly. We are entering a time of change. Ongoing connections, as well as new members, are important to our future. To renew, please go to the AAP website at www.aap-psychoanalysis.org, Membership section. The user name is *aapmember* and the password is *awareness*. Click on Membership Renewal. There you will find the registration form and several options for payment. We look forward to your being with us another year. Happy New Year!

Quote of the Month

Music can indeed be a powerful healing agent. There are many and diverse ways in which it can and does exert a beneficial influence on both body and mind. First of all, its effect can be wonderfully restful and refreshing, and we need not emphasize how valuable this is in our times of physical exhaustion, nervous tension and emotional and mental excitement...

The field of musical therapy is indeed large, and the fruits it can yield are significant and precious ...

We trust that the magic of sound, scientifically applied, will contribute in ever greater measure to the relief of human suffering, to a higher development and a richer integration of the human personality, and to the harmonious synthesis of all human "notes," of all "group chords and melodies" – until there will be the great symphony of the One Humanity.

—Roberto Assagioli (selections from the section on "Positive Effects of Music" in *Psychosynthesis: A Collection of Basic Writings*)

Editor's note: We look forward to your feedback and your suggestions for our next issue. The deadline is February 4. Please send your comments to aap.input@gmail.com. Thank you! Dori Smith, Editor

**Dori Smith,
Managing Editor**

Vol. 3, Issue 1

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