

News from the [Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis](#)

May, 2009

Edited by Eileen Keating, Paula Berman, Meredith Kuczik & David Urman

Welcome to the latest issue of *BGSP News & Notes*! This is an occasional e-mail newsletter to keep people informed about what's going on at the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis. We will present information about recent and upcoming school events, faculty and student publications and presentations, continuing education classes, and other news of interest to the BGSP community.

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RECENT EVENTS

"Everything you want to know about building your practice" Workshop



Dr. Mara Wagner held a workshop for students on March 20th to share her tips and techniques on how to build a private practice. Students found her discussion useful not only for building their own private practices but also to augment their clinical hours in the Therapy Center.

Clinical Case Seminar

BGSP hosted a clinical case seminar on March 28th, moderated by Dr. Mara Wagner, designed to demonstrate how psychoanalysis is being applied in a variety of settings. Mrs. Pat Hugenberger presented a patient who began treatment with her in the Therapy Center and is now being seen in her private practice. Dr. Vincent Panetta introduced a patient whom he is seeing in a mental health clinic. Finally, Mr. William Sharp discussed a child case from his work in schools.

Elizabeth Dorsey Leads an Ethics Seminar in Nashua, NH

Twenty-seven counselors, social workers, case managers and psychologists attended a seminar in Nashua, NH sponsored by the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis. *Ethics VI, Dilemmas in Everyday Practice* was presented by Elizabeth Dorsey of BGSP. Clinicians from the Greater Nashua Community Mental Health Center, where the seminar was held, unanimously spoke of enjoying the open discussion and the stimulation of Ms Dorsey's provocative questions, such as "why don't you sleep with patients?" and "whose treatments goals do you have in mind when you work with children?" Ms. Dorsey's knowledge and gentle structure helped inspire group

This is the sixth time Ms. Dorsey has presented an ethics seminar in New Hampshire where Mental Health clinicians are required to acquire three ethics credits a year. Many have attend seminars given by lawyers who keep them abreast of state regulations, but the style of case presentation and open discussion is more suited to their practical needs as clinicians. Ms. Dorsey's ethics seminars have people returning for more. It is another example of the open, questioning style of modern analytic training that appeals to people who truly wish to participate in their own learning.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BGSP Summer Cape Conference to be held July 13-17 in Wellfleet

The overall topic of the conference is the Unconscious and its many manifestations. Freud's seminal discovery and understanding of how the unconscious affects psychic life has had a pivotal role in the development of psychoanalysis. Although as psychoanalysts we agree to the existence of the unconscious, we often struggle to discover the unconscious meaning in the patient's unfolding story. For the analyst in training it can be an arduous process to even grasp the idea of an unconscious both in one's self and in the patient. The question then arises how exactly do we, as psychoanalysts, see the unconscious in the present moment with the patient? How do we get beyond content to the unconscious story? How do language, topic selection and action/inaction among others communicate unconscious meaning? How does the unconscious of the analyst impact the progression of the session? These questions are some of the many to be discussed at the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis' twenty-fifth annual summer conference from July 13-17 in Wellfleet, Ma.

Join the faculty and students of the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis as they go in Search of the Unconscious.

WHAT'S NEW AT BGSP?

BGSP Enrollment is Up

Since its inception 36 years ago, BGSP has grown from a small psychoanalytic institute to a graduate school extending from its main campus in Brookline to a branch campus in Manhattan. In the past 15 years enrollment has increased by 135%. In the past year alone, our student population has grown by over 25%.

Fall 2008 represented the largest incoming class that the school has yet experienced. With 27 new students, this class is 80% larger than the next largest class we have ever had. We have also received many applications for Fall 2009 and are looking forward to a healthy enrollment for that semester as well.

In general, there is more interest in our school than ever before. The number of inquiries we receive is up more than 100% as compared to the number of inquiries received four years ago. Who said psychoanalysis is dead?

The Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis Offers New Program in Psychoanalysis and Culture



Psychoanalysis & Culture Program at BOSTON GRADUATE SCHOOL OF Psychoanalysis

Last Spring, the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis (BGSP) announced a new graduate program in Psychoanalysis and Culture, the first of its kind in the United States. The program, which leads to the Master of Arts and the Doctor of Psychoanalysis degrees, is designed to examine the reciprocal relationship between psychoanalysis and culture in order to more powerfully promote the knowledge of factors that underlie personal and social change. Graduates of the doctoral program are prepared to seek positions in academia as researchers or teachers, or as senior administrators in mental health or social service agencies.

“Combining the insights of psychoanalytic thought with other perspectives from the social sciences, humanities, and cultural studies, this program explores complex issues such as mental health, individual and social violence, race, gender, and sexuality,” said Professor Siamak Movahedi, a psychoanalyst and sociologist involved in the design of the program. “This program examines the individual unconscious, the socio-cultural environment in which it operates, and the interactions between the two.”

"Psychoanalysis and culture are, in many ways, at the heart of the most creative work in the social sciences," said Charles Lemert, The John C. Andrus Professor of Sociology at Wesleyan University and teacher in the program. "BGSP has long been a leader in the training of psychoanalysts in both clinical and academic research. This innovative program on psychoanalysis and culture, occupies a new space on the academic map."

One concentration – Psychoanalytic Social Theory – examines media, literature, the arts, and politics to develop a deeper understanding of the unconscious and cultural forces affecting society. The other concentration – the Study of Violence – focuses on contemporary issues of national and international importance such as interpersonal violence, terrorism, and culture wars.

For additional information about the Psychoanalysis and Culture program, contact Psychculture@bgsp.edu . Details on the school and its programs can be found on www.bgsp.edu, or call 617-277-3915 for more information.

FACULTY AND STUDENT NEWS

Dr. Reed Honored by the International Federation of Psychoanalytic Education



Congratulations are due to Dr. Dena Reed, President of the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis, who was recently honored by the International Federation for Psychoanalytic Education (IFPE) for her continuous efforts towards the preservation and advancement of psychoanalytic education. Dr. Reed received the Distinguished Educator Award in acknowledgment of her success expanding the boundaries of quality psychoanalytic training and research.

Throughout her time at BGSP, Dr. Reed has served in multiple leadership roles, and has remained an instrumental force in securing regionally-accredited, degree-granting programs at both the Masters and Doctoral levels. Dr. Reed not only serves in an administrative capacity, but also she advocates legislatively and institutionally for the field of psychoanalysis while continuing to serve as a faculty member, training analyst, and supervising analyst.

BGSP Provost on Panel on Future of Psychoanalytic Education



The second annual ecumenical “Future of Psychoanalytic Education” conference convened on November 16, 2008, at the NYU School of Medicine in New York. Dr. Jane

Snyder, BGSP Provost, participated in a panel roundtable discussion on “Continuity and Transformation in Psychoanalytic Education”, a freewheeling discussion of curricula content and goals, training requirements, teaching methods, and processes of evaluation.

The conference was organized as a followup to the previous year’s conference bringing together participants from multiple institutes and psychoanalytic associations to engage in a dialogue on important issues in psychoanalytic education and the field at large. Co-chair Jane Hall introduced the program by calling for “mending splits” in the field through ongoing respectful dialogue and stating that “hubris is this field’s biggest enemy”.

Keynote speakers included Henry Friedman who decried rigidity in training and the hierarchical structure in institutes and called for an end to the training analyst designation, Theodore Jacobs and Paola Mieli. Dr. Jacobs called for an emphasis on education as well as training and the need to renew the “spirit of inquiry” in the field, proposing that psychoanalysis take up a place in academia and work with other disciplines. (These remarks are certainly in synchrony with BGSP’s position and mission). Dr. Mieli called participants back to the goal of psychoanalysis as “subjective transformation” with an emphasis on each individual’s uniqueness, a stance antithetical to formulaic prescription in technique or training. She emphasized that psychoanalysis is its own discipline, separate from the mental health disciplines.

The day included many critiques of current training standards and practices, and debates over what constitutes psychoanalysis versus psychoanalytic psychotherapy as well as calls for more creativity and more research in the field. As Co-chair Arnold Richards summed up, at times it was very discouraging with a lot of talking at each other rather than dialogue, but it is worth trying to keep the conversation going, perhaps with more ongoing committees. We need to find a way to talk to each other.

Students Elect Student Association Leaders

After holding a successful election in December, the Student Association is currently led by newly appointed officers Alistair McKnight (President) and Kimberly Sapp (Vice-President). The new leadership (please see below) hit the ground running at the end of the Fall semester, successfully organizing a student-based carpool to a CMPS conference in New York. BGSP remained well represented at the conference, thanks to the participation of 33 of our students!

Since the beginning of the Spring 2009 semester, the Student Association remains hard at work. According to BGSPSA Treasurer Rebecca Reed, the association is presently “creating innovative strategies for achieving and furthering the Student Association’s mission of promoting community life, advancing student interests, and providing a forum

for addressing student concerns.” One avenue for accomplishing this goal is through holding community meetings. Student Association meetings are generally held on class Fridays throughout the semester, and provide an opportunity for students to not only voice questions and concerns, but also hear about upcoming events and opportunities.

Presently, the Student Association has several points of interest, including coordinating the Annual Student Association BBQ at the Cape Conference. This year the BBQ will take place on Monday, July 13th. In addition to this pursuit, the Student Association continues to address the open agenda items of the computer lab and student lounge renovations. Further information regarding these endeavors will be presented at the next Student Association meeting. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

Officers: *President*: Alistair McKnight; *Vice-President*: Kimberly Sapp; *Secretary*: Yelena Zelikman; *Treasurer*: Rebecca Reed

Representatives: *Master of Arts in Psychoanalytic Counseling*: Sarah Cavallaro; *Master of Arts in Psychoanalysis and Culture*: Walter Budzian; *Doctorate in Psychoanalysis*: Megan Coonce; *Doctorate in Psychoanalysis and Culture*: Wes Alwan; *Saturday-only Students*: Lynn Irwin; *International Students*: Junichi Torigoe

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Last legislative session, the Massachusetts House of Representatives considered legislation that would prohibit our unlicensed students, graduates, and faculty from calling themselves "psychotherapists" and from representing that the service they provide is psychotherapy. BGSP successfully lobbied to have this bill defeated, as it would effectively prohibit our unlicensed students and graduates from practicing.

This legislative session, such legislation is again up for consideration under the bill title HB 224. In response, BGSP is supporting a different bill, HB 266, which regulates the practice of psychotherapy, including the registration of psychoanalysts. Under HB 266, in order to practice psychotherapy legally, a clinician would be required to be licensed in one of the existing licensed mental health professions or registered as a psychoanalyst (or a student pursuing such licensure or registration). Because we believe that, eventually, legislation regulating the practice of psychotherapy will be pushed through, BGSP supports HB 266 as a way of both protecting the public and ensuring that our students and graduates can continue to practice. Sometime during this legislative

session, this bill will be up for a public hearing. BGSP will need an outpouring of support for HB 266 and against HB 224 at that time in order to push its legislative agenda.

Please contact Carol Panetta, Psy.D. at 617-277-3915 if you would like more information.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WORLD OF PSYCHOANALYSIS?



Psychoanalytic Research in the News

We are excited to share some recent data which supports psychoanalysis as a compelling and important approach to understanding and working with the human psyche. An article in the New York Times, [Psychoanalytic Therapy Wins Backing](#), references a paper published in The Journal of the American Medical Association. The paper reviews 23 studies providing evidence for the effectiveness of talk therapy in psychoanalytic treatment.

The results of this research are not a surprise to psychoanalysts who treat depression, anxiety, and other symptoms of chronic psychic pain. As a type of psychotherapy, psychoanalysis helps people give up symptoms and behaviors which interfere with their leading meaningful and productive lives.

We also applaud the studies currently being conducted by Massachusetts General Hospital's Psychotherapy Research Program under Drs. Ablon and Levy as referenced in the Boston Globe article [Off the Couch and Into the Lab](#) on January 11, 2009. However, we were disappointed in the overtones of the article suggesting that psychoanalysis is dead and that only a small number of remaining analysts practice this archaic form of cure. Psychoanalysis is not only alive and well, but thriving and growing despite a managed care environment with a proclivity towards drug-based therapy and other quick "solutions."

There are thousands of practicing analysts throughout the world and hundreds of analytic training institutes, of which the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis (BGSP) is one. In addition to private practice, our graduates are working in public school classrooms, universities, clinics, private business, non-profit agencies, and forums for public policy. Our doctoral programs foster research on the psychoanalytic process respecting its individualistic nature by focusing on case studies. We also

encourage research on the individual unconscious, the socio-cultural environment in which it operates, and the interactions between the two.

We believe it is time “to let research thrive” and to let Freud get the recognition that he deserves. Maybe then we can all benefit from a system in which people are able to receive the services that prove to be the most effective over time, even if they are longer term in nature.

STUDENT PROFILES

International students, Junichi Torigoe and Joon Ho Lee are spreading awareness of Modern Psychoanalysis in their own countries of Japan and Korea.

Mr. Torigoe presented a case last year in Japan chosen from his field work experience at BGSP. The use of psychoanalytic techniques in the treatment of schizophrenia was of particular interest to his audience of largely classically trained analysts. Such concepts as emotional communication, joining, contact functioning rather than interpretation and once a week sessions rather than multiple weekly sessions came as new ideas for many of participants in the conference. Torigoe’s article, stemming from his presentation, is due to appear soon in the Japanese Journal of Psychoanalysis. In addition he has recently been invited to write about Modern Psychoanalysis in a book on psychoanalysis to be published in the fall.

Mr. Lee traveled back to Seoul, South Korea in 2007 to participate as a translator in the 5th International Object Relations Psychoanalytic Seminars in Seoul. Dr. Michael Eigen, a faculty of the NPAP and NYU Postdoctoral Program for Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis, editor of *The Psychoanalytic Review*, and author of numerous articles and books, was invited as the speaker. The three day event was hosted by the Object Relations Institute for Psychoanalysis in Seoul (ORIPS) and was well attended by over 150 people.

A book based on the 2007 seminars held in Seoul titled Flames From The Unknown: Michael Eigen’s Seoul Seminars on Klein, Winnicott and Bion was also translated and published in Korean.

GALLERY 1581 NEWS

Inside/Out



May 1- June 27th, 2009

An exhibition on the theme of the artist's experience of bringing forward an inner vision and representing it in an outer form. A variety of work, many in short series, brings the viewer into the processes used to develop the imagery as it unfolds.

Juror, Randy Garber, is a recipient of many artist awards and grants. Her work can be found in museums including the Boston MFA and the Decordova Museum. Garber currently teaches at Curry College and Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

THERAPY CENTER NEWS



New Therapy Center Outreach Committee

A Therapy Center Outreach Committee has been formed at BGSP to encourage referrals. Led by Ms Paula Berman, the group consists of Therapy Center Therapy Center's services and setting up meetings with potential referral sources such as colleges, clinics and hospitals. Dr. Mara Wagner has volunteered to accompany committee members to these informational meetings. student analysts who are engaged in getting the word out about the

During the first quarter of 2009, there has been an above average rate of referrals thanks to both faculty and students. However, because of the growing number of student therapists in the Therapy Center, continued efforts to establish contacts in the community are essential. Anyone interested in working on the committee or who has ideas for referral sources please contact [Ms. Paula Berman](#) at BGSP.

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