PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In Wisconsin in the United States, autumn is a particularly beautiful time of year. The maple trees are turning shades of yellow and red. Farmers are harvesting corn and soybeans, and pumpkins are out on lawns for purchase. The morning air is brisk and sometimes there is frost on the grass, and the days are ever shorter. I hope you are enjoying any seasonal changes in your “neck of the woods!”

As President of ADEC I am fortunate to be working with a host of talented and hard-working individuals. We continue to move forward in implementation of the strategic plan, which has included restructuring our committees. That restructuring allowed us to become more efficient with fewer overall committees and the tasks distributed across committees in ways that make sense. Our committees work very hard on behalf of ADEC, and are constantly coming up with new ways to make your membership a wise investment.

Member Benefits:

In this “season” of renewing our memberships, I just want to point out that starting in January 2017, ADEC members will receive two free webinar recordings per year. These recordings can be from any year including the current one. This is an exciting new benefit and truly adds value to being a member of ADEC. Be sure to check out all the member benefits.

The ADEC Forum:

In response to our need to trim costs, the Board of Directors has decided to make some changes in ADEC Forum, beginning with a decision to cancel the fourth issue for 2016. As recommended by the Communication Committee, the Board has also decided to change how ADEC Forum is issued, essentially combining ADEC Forum with ADEC Connects for four issues per year. What this means is, four times a year ADEC Forum will come to your email boxes as a combined publication with ADEC Connects with similar “click-through” features. As usual, the publication will be archived as a pdf, just as ADEC Connects is currently archived, and for those who like ink-on-paper the pdf version will offer you an easy-to-print version of the same kind of content you have come to expect in ADEC Forum. Yes, it will look a little different, but you can look forward to the kind of high-quality content you have come to expect in ADEC Forum.

Currently we do not have a senior editor for ADEC Forum. As I have said in past messages, ADEC is an association that must depend on volunteers to conduct much of our business, and this includes soliciting and editing content for ADEC Forum. If you are interested in serving as the ADEC Forum editor, please do not hesitate to contact us. All ADEC members are encouraged to submit articles for these issues. Just go to http://www.adec.org/adec/Main/Publications/ADEC_Forum?
See you in Portland!! ADEC 2017 Conference:

As you may have noticed, it is not too early to register for the 2017 Annual Conference in Portland! We are very excited about the conference venue in downtown Portland. Early bird rates are in effect from now until January 6, so register early to secure that rate. We are very excited about our keynote presenters this year. Make sure you are registered so you can sit in the front row to hear Wendy Lichtenenthal, Hank Schut and Jack Jordan. Check out our pre-conference offerings as well.

Volunteer with ADEC:

Finally, I hope you will consider volunteering with ADEC. There are a variety of opportunities – we have committees needing members, and we have flexibility. What I mean by that is, come to us with a skill set and we will help you find your ADEC niche! Some volunteer opportunities are occasional, whereas others stretch across the year. Reach out to me and we can have a conversation about how you would like to get involved.

Janet McCord, PhD, FT
President
ADEC

REGISTER FOR THE 2017 ADEC ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN PORTLAND

Registration for the 2017 Annual Conference is now open. The conference committee is hard at work finalizing the schedule. ADEC received one of its highest presentation submission totals this year and we’re looking forward to a distinctly educational and successful conference.

Be sure to visit the conference homepage for registration information, program updates, pre-conference institute schedule, hotel and travel information and more.

Keynote Speaker Highlight - Wendy Lichtenenthal, Phd, FT

**When Those Who Need It Most Use It Least: Facilitating Grief Support for Those at Greatest Risk**

Most clinicians have encountered bereaved individuals who appear acutely distressed and in need of assistance, and yet ultimately do not access support. The presenter will discuss her program of research, which includes studies to develop a risk screening tool to identify those at greatest risk for bereavement mental health challenges, to determine how mental health providers diagnose and treat individuals during bereavement, and to reduce barriers that a high-risk population, bereaved parents, commonly faces in accessing support through an ongoing
randomized controlled trial of an intervention for this population, Meaning-Centered Grief Therapy. The presenter will describe findings demonstrating the underuse of professional support among individuals with more debilitating grief symptoms and will consider the challenge that the field faces in truly meeting the needs of the bereaved, particularly those facing the most significant psychosocial challenges, in both research and clinical settings.

STUDENT PROFILE, SARA MARIE TROUPE, MA

So that the ADEC community can get to know its students, Connects will continue to feature stories on ADEC scholarship recipients.

Sara Marie Troupe, MA, is a 4th-year clinical psychology doctoral candidate at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP). She currently leads IUP’s Actively Moving Forward chapter, a peer support group for college students grieving the illness or death of a loved one. Sara presented at the 2016 ADEC Conference and was a recipient of the ADEC Student Travel Scholarship Award. Sara is a student practicum therapist at IUP’s Counseling Center and Indiana’s Community Guidance Center. Her primary clinical interests include grief and loss and body image concerns. Sara enjoys providing outreach workshops to educate students and reduce mental health stigma on IUP’s campus. Currently, Sara is applying for her doctoral internship and is excited to see where the match process takes her.

Do you have a mentor/role model who has significantly affected your career path in thanatology? Tell us why you chose this career path.

I became interested in thanatology, specifically grief work, when I began volunteering as a co-leader for a local community grief support group, Hopeful Hearts, during my second year of graduate training. While volunteering, I was fortunate enough to meet Dr. Gordon Thornton, IUP professor emeritus, who also was a volunteer for the organization. Dr. Thornton, a well-known professor of thanatology and 2002-2003 ADEC President, taught a Death and Dying course at IUP for over 30 years. Although he has retired from the classroom, he remains involved in the campus community by continuing to share his expertise with IUP’s Psychology Department and graduate students. Dr. Thornton encouraged me to present at ADEC’s 2016 conference, as well as apply for the Student Scholarship Award. I am inspired by his dedication to the study of thanatology, his obvious enthusiasm for the field, and his extremely kind and welcoming personality. I admire his continued involvement in the Indiana community. I truly appreciate the time that he has dedicated to mentoring me and supporting my own endeavors related to grief work.

What advice would you offer a more junior professional in the field on growing their career or keeping their work fresh?

I would suggest involvement in their campus and local communities as much as possible. My most meaningful experiences while in training have happened outside of the classroom. I volunteered for a community grief support group for a year, and it was a privilege to hear families share their stories of loss and support for one another through the grieving process. This experience sparked my interest in grief work and inspired me to get involved on campus. At IUP, I facilitate a peer support group for students who have experienced loss. Last year, our goal was to develop a Bereavement Leave Policy for students. We met with administrators, presented at meetings, and developed a policy, which students can now use as a reference if they experience the loss of a loved one throughout their education. Witnessing individuals first hand, both on campus and in the community, who are
mourning the loss of loved ones, strengthened my commitment to invest in my career in helping others.

**What do you think the future holds for your work and that of others like you? How will that impact what you do?**

As a therapist, I think that the future holds many stories that are waiting to be shared. It is my hope that I, and all therapists, can continue to create a safe environment where individuals can feel comfortable sharing their experiences of death and loss. I find the grieving process to be extremely fascinating. Everyone experiences the loss of a loved one at some point, yet we often do not know how to support one another. Openly share our thoughts and emotions related to loss is an important aspect of healing. By creating a space where individuals can feel comfortable, I hope to develop an open dialogue with my clients where that they can freely share their feelings and emotions and always feel secure in seeking support.

**ADEC NEWS**

**2017 Annual Conference Speaker Notifications**

Thank you to everyone who submitted an abstract this summer. Speaker notifications for the 2017 Annual Conference in Portland, OR, will go out in late November.

**ADEC Awards**

ADEC is currently accepting nominations for five awards to be distributed at the ADEC 39th Annual Conference in Portland, OR.

- Death Education Award
- Clinical Practice Award
- ADEC Service Award
- Research Recognition Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award

[View all award criteria](#) and then [submit your nomination online](#) by November 15, 2016.

**Scholarship Opportunities**

ADEC invites the submission of student papers to be considered for one of three student paper awards: The Undergraduate Student Paper Award, the Graduate Student Paper Award and the Cross Cultural Student Paper Award. [Review the guidelines](#) and [submit your paper now](#).

There is also a call for applications for the Student Initiative Conference (SIC) Scholarship. The award consists of payment for conference registration (contingent upon conference attendance) and one-year student membership in ADEC (for new members only). Students will be asked to complete four hours of volunteer services while at the conference.

[Follow the guidelines](#) listed on the ADEC website and [apply online](#).

Please direct all questions about the awards and scholarships to [Donna Levy](mailto:) at ADEC Headquarters.

**Renew Your ADEC Membership**

It's time to renew your membership with ADEC for 2017. ADEC is pleased to offer a brand new member benefit for those who renew. Starting in January of 2017, members of ADEC will receive two free webinar recordings to along with the [wonderful benefits](#) ADEC membership already offers.
CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIR MESSAGE

Who wouldn’t want to visit Portland, Oregon?

Are you kidding me? Everyone wants to visit Portland! And April, 2017 is the perfect time! "Why?” you might ask, because we’re combining a world famous city and outstanding networking opportunities with the world’s greatest thanatology professionals. Okay, there may be a tiny bit of hyperbole there, but not much. Portland is indeed a world famous city and a considerable number of the world’s greatest thanatology professionals will be attending this conference.

Our 2017 Annual Conference is quickly approaching and we have another outstanding conference planned for you.

Our keynote presenters are Wendy Lichtenthal, PhD; who will speak on “When Those Who Need It Most Use It Least: Facilitating Grief Support for Those at Greatest Risk.”

Henk Schut from the University of Utrecht (Netherlands) is the Ira Nerkin International Fund keynote speaker: Title: "Intervention Efficacy: Bridging the Gap Between Daily Practice and Research Findings."

We are excited to conclude the conference on a “high note” with a keynote presentation by an internationally renowned presenter: our own Dr. John “Jack” Jordan, who will be speaking on: "Attachment Informed Grief Therapy; Working with a Suicide Loss Survivor.”

Our abstract review committee is currently reviewing the proposals that have been submitted and notices will be going out in November. Once again, we have received a rich variety of proposals on topics of interest regarding grief counseling, end-of-life care, cultural perspectives, death education, and more. The latest updates to the ADEC Body of Knowledge and plans for the third edition of the Handbook of Thanatology will also be presented in a concurrent session.

We will be staying at the Portland Marriott on the scenic downtown waterfront which provides convenient shopping and entertainment opportunities.

Have you written a book or have a product that you’d like to introduce to professionals devoted to issues of grief, loss, death and dying? Two opportunities are available, either an exhibit booth (for a fee) or the book fair which is free.

Can’t wait to see you in Portland,

Jon K. Reid, PhD, LPC-S, NCC
Conference Planning Committee Chair

ADEC NOMINATIONS
ADEC is now accepting nominations for the following leadership positions:

- **Vice-president**
- **Treasurer**
- **2 Board member positions (3-year term)**
- **1 Leadership recruitment and development committee member (2-year term)**

Learn more about the positions for which nominations are being accepted.

Send all names of individuals whom you wish to nominate to Donna Levy with CV and biography. Before nominating someone, please make sure they are willing to accept the nomination. You may submit your own name if you are interested in being considered as a candidate. **The deadline is November 7.**

**MEMBER CORNER**

**Passed and Present: Keeping Memories of Loved Ones Alive**

Author Allison Gilbert Invites Readers to Come Together and Discover New Ways to Remember Cherished Loved Ones on Her.

A Memory Bash offers a fresh and fun opportunity to reflect on the lives, legacies, and gifts of those who have passed away in the company of others drawn to do the same. Gathered together, readers will participate in uplifting commemorative activities—from learning new ways to preserve a loved one’s handwriting, favorite morewords, and most reminiscent recipes to sharing short stories about their loved ones and what made them so special—all while eating, drinking and laughing. It’s just one of the many creative ideas Gilbert includes in Passed and Present. Taking readers far beyond the initial stages of grief, Passed and Present is not about sadness and mourning; it is about happiness and remembering. Within its beautifully illustrated pages, anyone determined to hold onto what they most loved about their loved ones will find eighty-five innovative, inspiring ideas.

Inspired by Allison Gilbert’s collection of “Forget Me Nots,” readers will discover abundant reasons to smile as they remember loved ones who have passed on. Being proactive about remembering loved ones has a powerful and unexpected benefit—the more we incorporate memories into our lives and embrace the people who have passed, the happier and more fulfilled we are in the present. Featuring captivating artwork by Jennifer Orkin Lewis and an introduction by Hope Edelman, bestselling author of Motherless Daughters, Passed and Present is a much-needed source of proactive ideas and heartwarming inspiration for everyone who has lost someone whose presence will always be welcomed and embraced.

**About the Author**

**Allison Gilbert** is the author of the critically acclaimed books Parentless Parents and Always Too Soon. She is a frequent guest expert on CNN, FOX, MSNBC, ABC, and NPR, and her writing has appeared in numerous publications and websites, including CNN.com, the New York Times, The Daily Beast, and Huffington Post. She lives in New York with her husband and two children. For more information visit her website: www.allisongilbert.com.
RENEW YOUR CERTIFICATION

If you are a current CT or FT in your third year, the deadline to recertify is coming up on November 15, 2016. CTs and FTs must recertify every three years. Visit the ADEC website to view the guidelines and learn how to recertify in 2016.

If you are a current CT, consider applying to become an FT when recertifying. Check the ADEC website for requirements.

WHAT'S NEW FROM ADEC MEMBERS

By the Rev. Paul A. Metzler, D.Min.


Harris and Bordore have collaborated to focus on the critical aspect of social justice as it shapes, informs and undermines the experience of loss and grief for so many across multicultural and sociocultural contexts. They are joined by twenty-two others contributors offering singular breadth and depth of insight and reflection organized in five sections (I: Introductory Concepts; II: Issues Related to Social Status, Policy, and Politics; III: Issues Related to Groups; IV: Individual Experiences in Social Contexts; V: Practice Implications). The twenty-two chapters of this book will inform and stretch most readers outside of their familiar comfort zone to understand at new levels the complexity of grief across many social and cultural divisions. Both scholarly and personal, each chapter concludes with a summary of key terms and questions for reflection (as well as references), enabling deeper study and exploration. This book shapes new ground for thanatologists and other helping professionals to address the neglected but critical role of social justice and bereavement in mainstream and marginalized communities.


Hoy's book offers a solid contribution for new or experienced group leaders who need to bolster their approach with deeper understandings of the latest research, theory and evidence-based best practices for effective bereavement support groups. His seven chapters draw from his considerable professional experience in leading support groups, as well as his wide familiarity with the research and clinical practice literature that informs current understandings of grief processes and helpful intervention. Chapter 7, "Dealing with Complicated Grief in the Support Group" provides a good summary of the complex issues of what constitutes complicated grief and if and how such griever can be helped in a bereavement group setting. This book will be very helpful to the range of support group leadership that is common, from self-trained peer leaders to credentialed psychotherapists.


Kosminsky and Jordan have contributed an excellent consideration of attachment theory to enable clinicians to more deeply understand the grief process and inform effective intervention with mourners. The eleven chapters are ordered in three parts (I: An Introduction to
Attachment Theory and Research; II: Bereavement through the Lens of Attachment: Advances in Research, Theory, and Practice; III: Clinical Implications: Toward Attachment-Informed Grief Therapy. This book may introduce some bereavement counselors for the first time to the crucially important concept of how attachment processes inform human development and shape responses to loss. Those already familiar with attachment perspectives will find this book an important update to new research in the neurosciences and trauma studies, among others, that further illuminate how attachment-informed therapy can be practiced. Thanks to the effort of these two seasoned clinicians, a neglected concept in the existing thanatology literature is thoroughly introduced.


Wolfelt offers a useful guide for parents, teachers, counselors and other adults who seek to offer support and comfort to children and adolescents dealing with “death, suicide, funerals, homicide, cremation, and other end-of-life matters.” After several introductory chapters that address the uniqueness of children’s grief and his signature concepts about companioning grieving persons, he offers ten chapters organized by both the ages of children (Preschoolers: 3-to-5; School-agers: 6-to-11; Teenagers: 12-to-19) and by multiple types of death loss (parent, sibling, suicide, terminal illness, etc.). Each of these chapters provides helpful examples of possible language to use with different aged children, depending on the circumstances of the loss.

“What’s New” offers a brief review of educational materials written or produced by ADEC members. Each review is run once and is intended to showcase the contributions of our membership to the death, dying, and bereavement field.

Send a review copy (not just an announcement) of recent material (2014 to present) to:

The Rev. Paul A. Metzler, D.Min.
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FEATURED UPCOMING EVENT

November ADEC Webinar

Changing the Face of Bereavement: Caregivers Adaptation After the Death of a Family Member with ADRD
Jennifer Elison, EdD, APRN, LCPC
Monday, November 14, 2016
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. CST

JOB BANK

As a member benefit, ADEC members may post job ads at no charge. Nonmembers may post a 300-word job ad for $150 per 60 days. Submit your posting via email.
FEATURED JOB LISTINGS:

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Part-time Bereavement Coordinator
Cincinnati, OH

Hood College
Assistant Professor of Counseling (16-0066)
Frederick, MD

ADEC CONNECTS SEeks feedback

ADEC Connects is interested in what you are doing. We are always looking for interesting stories and accomplishments from our members, upcoming events and feedback on the newsletter.

CONTACT US
Editor Amanda Brace, EdS
Managing Editor Justin Dreyfuss

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