In this newsletter you will find updates on the recent activities of the European Chapter along with a new feature of the newsletter: brief local news about research, meetings and conferences etc. I hope to see you at the international meeting in Toronto – if you are there, do not miss the European Chapter meeting Thursday, June 22 at 12:00.

Organizational news

The by-laws of the European Chapter, which were approved in 2006, have been uploaded on the chapter website. According to these, the Presidential cycle for the European Chapter is six years with two years as President-Elect, two years as President and two years as Past President. At the membership meeting in Toronto, we will propose that this cycle is reinstated with elections held in September 2017 and the new President-Elect entering the office of President at the Amsterdam 2018-meeting. Hadas Wiseman (chair), Helge Rønnestad and Wolfgang Lutz have agreed to serve as the nomination committee for the election.

Furthermore, we will propose that an executive officer from a Euro country is appointed. Among other advantages, this will mean that we will neither have to change the bank account every time a new president is elected nor change the chapter funds into the local currency of the sitting president. Proposals for candidates for the position can be sent directly to Stig Poulsen (stig.poulsen@psy.ku.dk) or Henning Schauenburg (Henning.Schauenburg@med.uni-heidelberg.de).

Joint conference UK/ European Chapters September 2017

Wednesday 20 September – Friday 22 September 2017, the joint European & UK SPR conference will take place in Oxford. We are very happy to be able to announce Bruce Wampold as the keynote speaker. The program encompasses studies conducted in more than 20 countries with 9 parallel tracks each day organized within a variety of themes including evidence-based treatments, training and therapist development, child and adolescent psychotherapy, treatments for personality disorders and feedback-informed psychotherapy. All in all, the program consists of 8 pre-conference workshops, 2 plenary sessions, 44 panel sessions, 8 structured discussions, 10 brief paper sessions, and 1 poster session.
Registration will open very soon on [http://sprconference.com/EU-UK-2017/](http://sprconference.com/EU-UK-2017/). Please also look out for the upcoming special conference newsletter!

**Country reports**

In the previous chapter newsletter we announced that several new country reports on psychotherapy research in European countries had been posted at the European Chapter section of the international SPR website. Since then, three new reports have been added: from Austria by Henriette Löffler-Stastka & Michael Wieser, from Portugal by João Salgado and from Sweden by Fredrik Falkenström. They can be accessed by clicking the links below:

- [Austria – SPR country report](#)
- [Portugal – SPR country report](#)
- [Sweden – SPR country report](#)

The fact that the country reports have documented an abundance of activities in the member countries has made it clear that it would be relevant to include local news about activities related to psychotherapy research in the chapter newsletter. Therefore, I am glad to be able to introduce the new “Local news”-section of the newsletter.

**Local news**

**European news**

*Feedback meeting*

May 3-4, 2017, a meeting on feedback in psychotherapy was organized in Leiden, Holland by Kim de Jong. Feedback researchers from numerous countries were gathered for presentations and workshops with the purpose of developing new ideas for research projects as well as establishing collaborations on systematic reviews and position papers. The meeting was highly productive and is likely to lead to further initiatives in the future.

*FEPTO RC Meeting*

The Federation of European Psychodrama Training Organisations (FEPTO) organizes a meeting October 5-8, 2017 in Tallinn. The goal of the meeting is to discuss diversity in psychodrama practice and how to deal with it in research. Submissions of brief paper presentations/brief project or poster presentation (5-10 minutes), lectures (15-20 minutes) or structured discussions and/or research workshops (90 minutes) can be sent to hannes.krall@aau.at. More information: [http://www.fepto.com/organization/committees/research-committee-3](http://www.fepto.com/organization/committees/research-committee-3).

*European Network on Individualized Psychotherapy Treatment of Young People with Mental Disorders (TREATME)*

March 31st, 2017, the Management Committee of the TREATME network on Individualized Psychotherapy for Young People met for the first time in Brussels under the leadership of Randi
Ulberg, University of Oslo. Five working groups have been established focusing on, respectively: Specific markers (moderators); Mechanisms of change (mediators); Age customized process and treatment measures; Age customized research designs; Dissemination of results and Communication with stakeholders. The groups on moderators and mediators have already started their work and plan to do literature reviews on relevant moderators and mediators.

SPRISTAD

The SPRISTAD-Study is an international, multi-site, collaborative and longitudinal study of therapist training and development. The goals of the study are 1) to track progressive changes over time in trainees as therapists; (2) to identify factors that tend to facilitate or impede trainee development. Quantitative and qualitative data are being gathered from a large number of psychotherapy trainees of varied types in a wide range of training programs.

There is a high level of activity in the study. The core instruments (i.e. Training Program Description Form (TPDF); Trainee Background Information Form (TBIF); Trainee Current Practice Report (TCPR) have been translated into numerous languages, and transferred into a Lime Survey format. Witten/Herdecke University is the site for data-storage and management under the auspices of Professor Ulrike Willutzki. Data is starting to be collected from Austria, England, Lithuania, Germany and Spain, and data is ready to be collected and entered from Slovenia, Italy, Romania and the Nordic countries. Some sites will start collecting data soon.

Recently, Pre-conference SPRISTAD work-shops and panel-presentations have been arranged at several conferences such as the NASPR meeting at Berkeley, the International SPR-meeting in Jerusalem, and are also on the program for the SPR-Toronto and submitted for the SPR European and UK conference in Oxford. New training sites are continually preparing to participate in the study, and new training sites are welcome. If interested in joining us, please contact: helge.ronnestad@psykologi.uio.no
Country news

Norway

Christian Moltu has received 10,000,000 Norwegian kroner for the further development of The Norwegian Response System for Evaluation (NORSE), which provides feedback on the treatment of the psychiatric services in Førde in Norway. Congratulations to Christian!

France

Psychological consultations as a first line treatment for young people:

In France, a pilot scheme has been initiated, where psychologically distressed young patients (11 to 21 years) can obtain funding for a series of sessions with a psychologist in private practice. A team of researchers will examine various factors (acceptability of the stakeholders, efficacy and efficiency, coordination in care), and will develop recommendations about whether this service might be provided to a broader range of clients with mental disorders.

Changes in the regulatory law for research implying humans:
https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jo_pdf.do?id=JORFTEXT000034634217

In the previous SPR country report, we examined the uncertainty regarding psychotherapy research, related to recent changes in the regulatory law supervising the organization of research implying human subjects. Subsequently, the law has been modified extensively and the new version seems to finally separate experiments in human science from medical or biological experiments implying humans, simplifying the implementation of psychotherapy research in France by lessening the authorizations necessary to perform research.

Czech Republic

Research projects

Two new research projects are in the stage of preparation: (1) a study on the negative effects of psychotherapy (led by Zbynek Vybiral) and (2) a multi-site naturalistic study on the effectiveness of group psychotherapy in patients with medically unexplained physical symptoms (led by Tomas Rihacek).

Conference

A European Association of Integrative Psychotherapy (EAIP) international conference will be held on 12-14 October, 2018 in Prague. Thematically, it will be focused on topics such as psychotherapeutic competencies and research in integrative psychotherapy. More information will be soon available at http://www.eaip2018.cz. See you in Prague!

Italy

A research team has started to collect data (in Padua, Palermo and Rome) on psychotherapy training for the SPRISTAD network.
A DADD project was financed to conduct a meta-analysis on group treatments for substance-use disorders (main investigator Prof. B. Strauss, University of Jena, conjoint with Gianluca Lo Coco, University of Palermo, Italy), and the results will be presented in 2018.

A study on the effectiveness of 12-months MBT (Carrera, Cappelletti, Padoani, Salcuni) with borderline patients in mental health services is still running in Padua.

That is all for now – see you in Toronto and Oxford!

Best wishes,

Stig Poulsen
President – SPR European Chapter