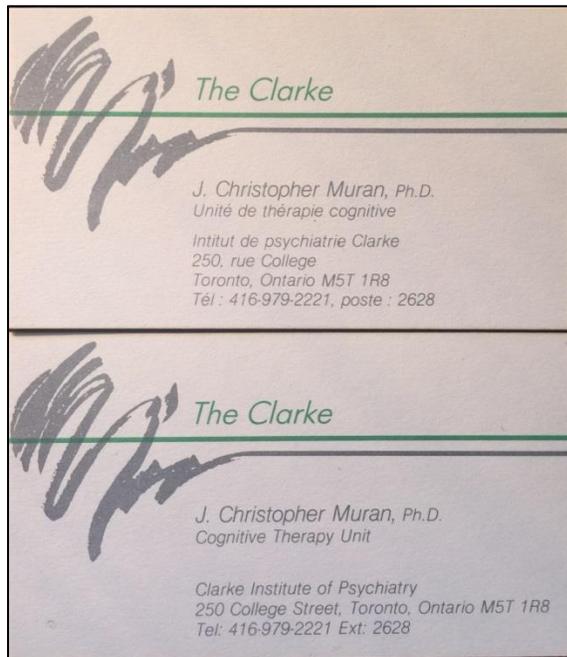


An Old Working Alliance

Early in 1989, Adam Horvath published his first major paper on the Working Alliance Inventory (WAI) with Les Greenberg and stimulated even more research on the construct. Later that year, I completed my doctoral training & began a postdoctoral fellowship at the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry in Toronto: This marked my entry into psychotherapy research and the beginning of my collaboration with Jeremy Safran on the study of alliance ruptures.



January 2017, I was back in Toronto for our Executive Council meeting always scheduled in advance of our international meeting. It was a very productive meeting, and here are some of the highlights:

- 1) We made significant strides on behalf of our students: Increase in investment in and organization of travel awards, decrease in conference registration fees, and definition of the protocol for our new emerging scholars program. See our GVP report in this newsletter.
- 2) We completed contract renegotiations with Taylor & Francis that brought more benefits to our journal and organization; we also established

for definition regarding ComCom and increasingly important relationship to the SPR and its future. See the journal & ComCom reports.

3) We also took significant steps towards an investment plan that should greatly promote and protect the financial status of SPR. See our EO report.

4) Finally, with the gracious gift of Adam Horvath who recently transferred the rights of the WAI to SPR, we are in a better position to manage such gifts. We are now in the process of establishing an Intellectual Property committee to support SPR in this regard. More on this in the near future.

5) Our January meeting is also when we tour the venue for our upcoming conference and address the many details that go into ensuring its success. See the reports from the program chair and local host.

Despite all the work, I was still able to wax sentimental on my journey from postdoc to this point. I reflected how far we've come in alliance research. I thought about our early efforts and my eager steps on the streets of Toronto. I could recognize Toronto as it was & also marvel at what it is now. I do hope you can attend our June meeting. Toronto remains a wonderful city and is an important hub in the history of psychotherapy research –and an old working alliance.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Chris Muran