

*President*

Erhard Mergenthaler, Prof. Dr.  
Sektion Informatik in der  
Psychotherapie  
Universitätsklinik für  
Psychosomatics Medizin  
und Psychotherapie  
Am Hochsträß 8,  
89081 Ulm  
GERMANY  
erhard.mergenthaler@uni-ulm.de

*Past-President*

Michael J. Lambert, Ph.D.  
Department of Psychology  
272 TLRB  
Brigham Young University  
Provo, UT 84602  
USA  
mike\_lambert@byu.edu

*President-Elect*

Jacques P. Barber, PhD  
Center for Psychotherapy Research  
Department of Psychiatry  
University of Pennsylvania School of  
Medicine  
Room 648, 3535 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-3309  
USA  
barberj@mail.med.upenn.edu

*General-Vice President*

Prof. Dr. Bernhard Strauß  
Universitätsklinikum Jena  
Institut für Psychosoziale Medizin  
und Psychotherapie  
Stoysstraße 3  
D-07740 Jena  
GERMANY  
sekretariat\_mpsy@med.uni-jena.de

*Executive Officer*

Tracy D. Eells, MBA, PhD  
Department of Psychiatry and  
Behavioral Sciences  
University of Louisville  
500 South Preston Street  
Louisville, KY 40202  
eells@louisville.edu

*Regional Chapter Presidents:*

Elisa Yoshida (SA)  
eyoshida.tln@terra.com.br  
Chris Evans (UK)  
rju101@sghms.ac.uk  
J. Christopher Muran (USA)  
JMuran@chpnet.org  
Giuseppe Nicolò (EU)  
giuri@iol.it



## Welcome to the 38th SPR International Meeting Madison, Wisconsin June 20-23, 2007

**Jacques P. Barber, Anna Buchheim, Gary Diamond, Gregory G. Kolden, David Orlinsky  
and Bernhard Strauss with the dedicated help of Sven Schneider**

SPR welcomes you to [Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center](http://www.mononaterrace.com), designed by the world-famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright, and located on the shore of Lake Monona in the center of Madison, WI.

This year we have a rich program including almost 400 presentations by nearly 320 separate presenters. The meeting will open on Wednesday 13:00 with 5 pre-conference workshops. At 17:30 we will gather for a few introductory comments followed at 18:00 by the presidential address delivered by Erhard Mergenthaler. The program currently includes 58 panels (for a total of 190 papers in panels), 16 paper sessions (with 63 papers), 1 poster session with more than 60 posters and 10 discussion groups. In addition, there will be two plenary sessions, one Thursday morning on outcome research and the other on Saturday at 14:00 on process research. There will also be a special event on the research and legacy of Hans Strupp on Saturday at 16:00. Due to the large number of events, we will have 8 parallel sessions on Thursday, but less on Friday and Saturday. However, we have relatively large rooms (in most cases there are more than 100 seats in each room) so space will not be an issue.

We are glad to report that efforts by the program council and the local host committee suc-

ceeded in encouraging submissions from cognitive-behavioral researchers and family/couple therapy researchers, as you will see in the preliminary conference program, which is now available at

<http://theta.medizin.uni-ulm.de/fmi/xsl/sprconf/static/downloads/program.pdf>. We have made every effort to organize presentations with similar contents in different time slots (e.g., a track for presentations related to the new SPR interest section on culture and psychotherapy). Of course, we were not always successful in this, and have learned in the process that whether one topic is similar to another depends to a large measure on one's point of view.

We have included time for personal conversation and informal discussions among members by providing frequent coffee breaks during the day and ample meeting space with great views of Lake Monona. To further meaningful interaction, we have asked panels to include discussants from differing perspectives, and also encourage members to attend some sessions that are not in their main field of interest.

We anticipate an enjoyable and productive meeting which has been expertly organized in conjunction with the local host committee (Greg Kolden, Bruce Wampold, Tracey Smith and Will Shattuck), and we look forward to welcoming you at the 38<sup>th</sup> international SPR conference in beautiful Madison Wisconsin.

**THIS ISSUE:**

<i>International Conference 2007</i> .....1	
<i>President's Message</i> .....2	
<i>General VP Nominations</i> .....2	
<i>Journal Report</i> .....3	
<i>Future Meetings</i> .....3	

## President's Message

Erhard Mergenthaler

The purpose of the president's message in the spring newsletter is to inform the members of the SPR about the politics and status of our society. The Executive Committee (EC) met in Madison, Wisconsin in January to visit Monona Terrace, the site of our upcoming international meeting, to prepare the upcoming meeting, and to discuss and make decisions regarding the business of the Society.

Greg Kolden, Bruce Wampold and their colleagues from the local committee were with us and not only made our stay pleasant, but are also taking care to make your stay in June a pleasant and successful one. This year's site is an excellent venue with interesting architecture, an impressive environment and perfect organization. Jacques Barber and the program council did a great job preparing the scientific program. I would like to give a hearty thanks to each of them for devoting enormous amounts of time to make this meeting an exceptional one.

We have decided to move our web site from the University of Ulm to Affiniscap, a professional web-hosting company located in the United States. This step was necessary because we wanted to offer online payment of membership dues and conference fees. An added benefit of the Affiniscap site is a much improved database management system. Online payment and web-based database management are features much better provided by a commercial organization specializing in web hosting for societies such as ours, rather than by an academic institution. The web master is Sven Schneider [sven.schneider@uni-ulm.de](mailto:sven.schneider@uni-ulm.de). We also have decided to support the initiative COMMON LANGUAGE FOR PSYCHOTHERAPY PROCEDURES (CLP) with a link on our web pages. You will find it under „Member Section“. The EC agreed not to encourage memorials for deceased

members in future international meetings. We would not mind however to have regular scientific panels focusing on the work of a late colleague. At present, SPR cannot accept charitable contributions on a tax-deductible basis. We decided to consult with an attorney to allow such contributions. The EC also agreed that from now on all dues, international and chapter, should be paid through the central office. We decided to approach the representatives of the Society for the Exploration of Psychotherapy Integration (SEPI) in order to explore ways and means of closer collaboration.

Our society has reached a size where we will have to face the fact if the membership keeps growing we may not be able to continue with only volunteers running the business, as we have so far. We have reached a point where the work load for the Executive Officer and the acting President is beyond what can be done in addition to a full time professional career at a university or comparable institution. We therefore need to define the future of SPR, find out what our preferences are, and make appropriate decisions. The EC will devote Tuesday afternoon before the Madison meeting solely to this topic. If you have any thoughts, ideas, or proposals I would appreciate any feedback ahead of time. We gladly will take this into consideration.

Now I am looking forward to seeing as many as possible of you at our upcoming meeting in Madison. Hopefully you will find time to gather at the Wednesday night opening where, as last year, we will have the awards ceremony and some light refreshments. In my presidential address I will talk about process research, the resonating minds – be it within or between individuals, and consequences for the near future possibly heading at an experimental psychotherapy as a new branch in psychotherapy research.

## Update: Nomination for General Vice President

Please send your proposals to the chair or one of the committee members no later than May 15, 2007.

The composition of the Nominating Committee is currently the following:

Alejandro Ávila Espada, Chair (Europe) [avilaespada@psi.ucm.es](mailto:avilaespada@psi.ucm.es)  
 Ricardo Bernardi (Latin America) [bernardi@chasque.net](mailto:bernardi@chasque.net)  
 Clara Hill (North America) [Hill@psyc.umd.edu](mailto:Hill@psyc.umd.edu)  
 Sue Wheeler (United Kingdom). [sw103@leicester.ac.uk](mailto:sw103@leicester.ac.uk)

Louis Castonguay and Gilian Hardy are rotating off. Thanks much to Louis and Gilian for serving on this committee.

## *Psychotherapy Research* Journal Report-Jan 15, 2007

Things are going well for the journal.

1. Uwe Hentschel has stepped down and Paulo Machado has replaced him as the European Editor.
2. Uwe sent thank you notes to all of his Editorial Board members. Clara had originally invited people for 3-year terms. Clara and Paulo together decided who to invite for the new Board for 3-year terms and sent invitations to these people (all North American Board members were re-invited). In a change, they decided that the Board should now be truly international—so people were invited to serve on the international Board rather than the North American or European Board. We also expanded membership to include people from Taiwan and Australia.
3. We are slowly getting the backlog under control. We have done several things in the last couple of years to address this problem:
  - a. Increased the size of the pages
  - b. Moved from 4 to 5 issues per year in 2006, and moved from 5 to 6 issues per year in 2007
  - c. Removed the translations of the abstracts from the printed version to the online version (saves 1-2 pages per article)

- d. Taylor & Francis is planning on doing a preview section online where accepted articles will be accessible prior to appearing in print.
- e. The special sections have been a big success. For example, we recently have had special sections such as the therapeutic relationship, training therapists, depression, and therapist effects. We have one upcoming in 17(2) on predictors of outcome—that will have 10 papers in it. We have several more special sections planned (e.g., treatment of children/adolescents).
- f. The number of submissions is up.
- g. We continue to be pleased with our relationship with Taylor & Francis. They have been very responsive to our concerns about the backlog, technical editing, and Manuscript Central. In addition, they have been generous in terms of funding social events at the conferences (e.g., they will fund refreshments for the upcoming Editorial Board meeting in Madison).
- h. Speaking of which, we plan the first-ever Editorial Board meeting in Madison. It seems like a good idea for Editorial Board members to get together to talk about issues related to standards for reviewing.

### **Mark Your Calendars!!**

#### **Future Meetings**

**2007 International Meeting: Madison, WI, USA, June 20-23**

**2008 International Meeting: Barcelona, Spain, June 18-22**

**2009 International Meeting: Santiago de Chile**

**2010 International Meeting: San Francisco, CA, USA**

---