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SALVE

Weimar "An excellent place for SPR!" (B. Strauss)



Dear SPR
Members,

Once again, our Society will maintain its tradition of holding annual conferences in interesting and otherwise excellent settings. We owe this year's opportunity to local host, Bernhard Strauss. The interior of the conference center that Bernhard chose, the Weimar-Halle, is quietly splendid. It adjoins and overlooks an inviting lagoon and park where, no doubt, many of you will discuss ideas stimulated by the scientific sessions.

Weimar-Halle is just one part of the rich experience that awaits you in Weimar---within walking distance of the Hall! For a brief picture preview of Weimar's cultural and architectural banquet, visit <http://www.scrapbookpages.com/EasternGermany/Weimar>. At the bottom of the home page you'll find links to several key museums (Goethe, Bauhaus) and other major sites. If you are really lucky, you'll be able to cajole John Clarkin, our new General Vice-President, to guide you on a tour. At the Goethe museum, you can learn the significance of "Salve" in Weimar if you don't already know. Nearby, check out the 4 star Elephant Hotel to see who's standing on the balcony. It was Thomas Mann in the last week of January, '03. You'll be able to get an excellent grilled bratwurst (thuringer) in the market square where the Hotel is located. Don't miss the chance to learn everything there is to know about Goethe from a very enthusiastic teacher, Horst Kaechele. By the way, the website mentioned above says that Weimar is pronounced "VY-mar." I'm sure that Bernhard told me that's incorrect. Fortunately, he'll be there in June to give the final answer to those of us who are still wondering.

Very importantly, we once again have a large and diverse scientific program, as described in this Newsletter by Mark Aveline, Program Chair and your President-Elect.

Also, as you might have noticed, our Soci-

ety is keeping apace technologically. This year, a web-based submission procedure was introduced. The International SPR website has an elegant new look thanks to our new webmaster, Erhard Mergenthaler (www.psychotherapyresearch.org). Another change in an important position is that Uwe Hentschel became managing editor of the Society's journal, Psychotherapy Research. Uwe and the Executive Council (EC) want to move to electronic submissions in the foreseeable future. Many thanks to Bill Stiles who expertly met the responsibilities of managing editor for the last 3 years. (Visit the International SPR website to learn more about the journal. Also, note the current call for papers for a special series, "Research on the Teaching and Learning of Psychotherapy and Psychotherapy Research"—topics that are at the heart of SPR's mission.)

Your EC has been busy addressing an unusually large number of issues. For example, in the March, 2001, Newsletter Robert Elliott reported to you that the EC decided to begin a 2-year trial of having Oxford University Press (OUP), the publisher of our journal, handle dues collection. At the recent January EC meeting, we reviewed the process and saw that some improvements are needed. Also, the EC just received notice from OUP that one of its subscription agents defaulted on payments to OUP. (A subscription agent is a sort of "middle-man" between libraries that subscribe to journals and the publishers.) OUP said that it received a report that a specific subscription agent "was not able to place or make payments for the substantial majority of its customer orders for 2003 subscriptions, despite the fact that it had received payment for these orders from libraries." A task force was formed by the EC to follow-up on dues procedures and will also clarify the implications for SPR of the subscription agent default.

I am very pleased to report that the EC completed its "What Happened" analysis of the unexpected financial loss of the 2002 conference. A summary report will be sent to members. Specific changes in conference

SALVE Weimar (cont.)

planning procedures were identified and we began to implement some of them with the Weimar conference (Bernhard's forbearance was noted and much appreciated). In addition, Adam Horvath drafted a Conference Manager's Manual that included input from former managers of international conferences, obviously an important contribution. The EC has specific additions to the Manual, based on its intensive review of the 2002 conference losses.

Robert Elliott has continued his history of dedicated service to our Society in multiple roles. This year, he has been instrumental in resolving tax issues with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. The EC now has reason to believe that the Society is in the home stretch on this front. Michael Lambert has been playing a role behind the scenes for some time by helping to maintain the Society's incorporation status, and by donating the required annual fee. The new Constitution and By-Laws are now completely approved. The Society owes a debt of gratitude to the Constitution committee (David Orlinsky, Mark Aveline, Franz Caspar, and Bill Stiles). Paulo Machado, our Executive Officer, has been doing double and triple time given the various financial issues that required attention in the past 8 months. The Regional Chapter Presidents (Eva Baenninger-Huber, Louis Castonguay, Hector Fernandez-Alvarez, and Glenys Parry) all have contributed the additional time, effort, and wisdom needed to help the EC move ahead on important issues.

In brief, there's been a lot of business to attend to lately. The EC is looking forward to attending to research with you in Weimar.

Warm wishes,
Karla Moras
President

SPR nominating committee

Update:
Nomination Committee for General Vice-President

The composition of the Nomination Committee is changing. David Orlinsky (North American representative) and Frank Margison (United Kingdom representative) have completed their 2 year terms and will be rotating off. New members are in the process of being proposed and appointed for their positions. A member from the South American chapter also is needed. Helge Ronnestad will continue as the European chapter representative. The membership will be informed of the new composition of the committee via an email to the SPR listserv shortly.

Thanks very much to David and Frank for serving on the committee and also to Helge for his contributions to it during the past year.

News from the chapters

...from Europe and the UK

The next European SPR Meeting is planned to be held as a joint meeting with the UK-Chapter again. Michael Stigler from the University of Lausanne has generously volunteered to host us in Lausanne.

...from South America

The SA chapter will look to establish jointed links with regional Psychotherapy organizations. Along these lines a preparatory meeting is being planned to be held in Buenos Aires, during the spring of 2003, with the participation of the Southamerican countries represented in SPR. Secondly, during the IV Congress of the Federación Latinoamericana de Psicoterapia, to be held in Porto Alegre, Brasil in May, 2004, a special Section on Research Issues has been scheduled. This meeting will constitute an exceptional forum to discuss relevant topics both for researchers and clinicians and an opportunity to promote SPR and involve new members.

The next Southamerican Chapter meeting has been scheduled for April 2005 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

... from North America

The next NASPR meeting will take place in Newport, RI, Nov. 5-9, 2003. Call for Submissions can be found on the NASPR web site (<http://www.naspr.org/>) by following the link to the Regional Conference 2003. The deadline for submissions is May 1st 2003. Students will find applications for travel awards

... from the UK

The UK Chapter of SPR has been working to develop external collaborations with professional psychotherapy associations, with service user organisations and with the Government Department of Health. Our aims are to influence policy on psychotherapy research, to promote research awareness and activity amongst practitioners and to form strategic partnerships to further service-relevant research.

In December 2002, we held a one day event in Oxford. Its focus was to develop a research agenda for psychological therapies within the National Health Service research programme "Priorities and needs". About 100 delegates from six psychotherapy organisations and service user groups participated in a structured consensus exercise, to identify key priorities for research funding. Of the 18 priorities identified, three commanded support from over 85% of delegates. The Department of Health is interested both in the methodology and in feeding the results into their own research prioritisation exercise.

SPR members have also been very active in forming a collaborative research network in the North of England which has recently been successful in securing programme funding from the Department of Health.

We are about to enjoy our 19th Annual Meeting, in Ravenscar, North Yorkshire, from 23-26th March. We are pleased to welcome Karla Moras, SPR President, as our key note speaker on "Developing treatments for 'medication resistant' depression". Other international links at the conference include plenary sessions from the Norwegian Multicentre Project for the study of process and outcome of psychotherapy.

Scientific Program, Weimar 2003 25 –29 June 2003

Program Council: Mark Aveline (Chair), Tom Schroeder, Karla Moras, Mike Lambert, and Bernhard Strauss

The Preliminary Program is drafted and has been posted on the Conference website @ www.med.uni-jena.de/spr2003. You will soon be receiving the printed version.

There has been an excellent response to the call for submissions. Colleagues from 24 countries have submitted 254 presentations. Germany and the USA have made the most but there is a good spread of presentations from across Europe. Further afield, submissions have come in from South America, Israel, Australia, New Zealand and Taiwan.

The Conference will begin on Wednesday June 25. Pre-conference workshops are scheduled for the afternoon. There will be a welcome reception in the evening. The Conference ends at 1.15pm on the Sunday. For the most part, sessions will be held in the Congress Centre, a most attractive, contemporary building, centrally-located in Weimar.

Each day, there will be collective and break out sessions. The volume of submissions means that there has to be up to ten parallel panel and paper sessions but this is balanced by daily plenaries when we can come together. The plenaries will give overviews in neuroscience, and what we know about cognitions and outcome and multiperson therapy. For the “what we know” sessions, we are able to draw on the expertise of SPR members who have written chapters for the forthcoming, new edition of the *Handbook of Psychotherapy and Behavior Change*. The final plenary will consider collaborative research; everyone will have the opportunity to put their ideas forward for possible future studies.

Presentations have been grouped into tracks. Should you wish, you will be able to follow interests in case formulation, CBT, cultural perspectives, culture and spirituality, measures, metapsychology, multiperson therapy, neuroscience, new directions, outcome, process, psychosomatics, quality management, training and development, and trauma.

On the Saturday, there will be several demonstration workshops and a research consultation workshop. The latter is an innovation for SPR; participants will get expert advice for their project on research design, implementation or analysis.

On both the Thursday and Friday, there will be substantial poster sessions, a third of which will be previewed.

We hope that the establishment of special interest groups, begun in Chicago in 2000, will continue apace. Time has been reserved for special interest groups to convene on the Saturday. There is a scheduled session for Young Scholars to meet on the Friday evening. Remember that these groupings can be represented on the Program Council and help deliver the conference that reflects your interests and needs.

If you submitted a presentation, you should have received an email informing you of the outcome by the end of the first week in March. Please let the Program Chair know if you have not heard (aveline.spr2003@btopenworld.com).

We look forward to seeing you in Weimar. Registration is through the Conference website from which you can, also, access hotels.

Mark Aveline

Weimar, Germany welcomes SPR

Weimar, situated in the middle of Germany in the state of Thuringia, is one of the most beautiful and culturally important cities in Germany. It has been called the „cradle of the German classic“. Long before scholars such as Goethe, Schiller, Herder and Wieland founded one of the most powerful cultural periods in Europe, Lucas Cranach and Johann Sebastian Bach lived in the small city at the river Ilm. Following the end of the „golden classical age“, important impulses for modern culture originated from Weimar based upon the work of – amongst others – Franz Liszt, Richard Strauss, Henry van de Velde and the Weimar Bauhaus around Walter Gropius.

As a visitor, you will be able to walk on the tracks of all these famous persons and enjoy and visit innumerable architectural monuments bearing witness to the work of great minds and great history.

The WEIMAR-HALL, a modern conference center right in the middle of the city and in walking distance from most of the hotels, will be the place of the SPR international meeting. The hall was erected on the foundation site of its historical predecessor from 1932 and has been re-opened in 1999, the year when Weimar was awarded as the „Cultural Capital of Europe“. The fully equipped conference center has an integrated park landscape and provides a place where „thoughts can be felt“.

Due to the charme of the city with a history dating back into the year 975, the short distances and the rich variety of

museums, theaters, restaurants, castles and parks, Weimar is an excellent place for an SPR meeting.

Weimar is said to be „always right next door“. It is centrally located halfway between Frankfurt and Berlin and can be easily reached from the airports in Frankfurt, Leipzig or Berlin-Schoeneberg. More information about the location and detailed descriptions of how the city can be reached are included into the website (see below).

The hotel capacities of Weimar are excellent. Nevertheless, since the meeting will be held in the early summer holiday season, it would be wise to register for a room in one of the hotels that are listed on the conference web site as soon as possible.

It also would be good for the organisation committee to receive your registrations for the conference banquet soon enough. The banquet is planned in one of the castles close to the city. We will organize good food and good music.

For the first time in SPR’s history, the entire communication – including the submission of abstracts – is organized via the web. You will find registration forms for the conference as well as the hotel registration forms under: www.med.uni-jena.de/spr2003

My team and I are ready to welcome you in June!

Bernhard Strauss,

Chair of the local organisation committee

Future Meetings

International Meetings

- 2003 International meeting: Weimar, Germany, June 25 - 29, host: Bernard Strauss
- 2004 International meeting: Rome, Italy, June 16 - 20, host: Antonio Semerari
- 2005 International meeting: Montreal, Canada, host: Chris Perry
- 2006 International meeting: Edinburgh, UK, host: John McLeod

Regional Meetings

- 2003 UK SPR Annual Meeting, in Ravenscar, North Yorkshire, March 23-26
- 2003 NASPR meeting will take place in Newport, RI, November 5-9,
- 2005 SASPR meeting will take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, April

www.
psychotherapyresearch.org

Psychotherapy Research

Report to Members, February, 2003
William B. Stiles, North American Editor

...This is an overview of journal operations during 2002. A full report is available online at the SPR web site:

<http://www.psychotherapyresearch.org/journal.html>

This web site also lists article titles and author addresses for **forthcoming issues**.

New submissions were about the same in 2002 as in 2001, up 60% over 2000 in both North America and Europe.

The **final acceptance rate** was 20% of all editorial decisions in 2002. However, the eventual acceptance rate climbs to around 40% after 3-4 years and one or more revisions. Full statistics are available in the online report.

The **publication lag** was 7-9 months from final acceptance in 2002, but this is beginning to increase because of the higher number of submissions.

The **ISI impact factor** dropped to 0.951 in 2001 from 1.439 in 2000 and 1.571 in 1999, and closer to the value of 0.939 in 1998. (See editor's comments in the full report online.)

Clara Hill will be the new North American Editor, replacing Bill Stiles when he finishes his term at the end of 2003. Clara will begin receiving manuscripts in January, 2004.

Institutional subscriptions were steady in 2002, at about 210 print subscriptions. The growth area is in consortia, through which an additional 669 institutions have electronic access to

the journal (as of November, 2002).

The **Developing Countries Program** offers free electronic access to the journal. *Scholars in eligible countries must tell their institutions to sign up*. SPR members can help by telling colleagues in eligible countries. A list of eligible countries and application instructions are posted at:

<http://www3.oup.co.uk/jnls/devel/>

The OUP web site offers has the **full text of articles** (PDF) online, free to SPR members and members of institutions that subscribe, at:

<http://ptr.oupjournals.org/>

The journal will begin publishing **Chinese translations** of abstracts in issue 13(2), June, 2003.

The editors have issued a call for papers for a special section on **Research on the Teaching and Learning of Psychotherapy and Psychotherapy Research** (submissions due December 31, 2003).

SPR members who are willing to act as **ad hoc reviewers of manuscripts** submitted to the journal are encouraged to contact one of the editors, Bill Stiles <stileswb@uhio.edu> or Uwe Hentschel <hentsche@fsw.leidenuniv.nl>.

Send **book review** ideas to Stanley Messer <smesser@rci.rutgers.edu> (authors from North America) or Henning Schauenburg <hschaue@gwdg.de> (authors from outside of North America).

Read your journal. * Cite it when you write. * Submit your best work.

News on the Internet (Web)

In the summer, last year, the SPR web pages have moved from Canada to University of Ulm, Germany. Adam Horvath, who has been hosting and keeping up to date the web pages so far, had everything nicely prepared, so that this shift was possible without any interruptions in accessibility. In the last few months we then updated the pages, reordered or grouped together some of the contents according to feedback we received from the membership. Finally, we changed the appearance back to a design that could be understood as a modern version of the original SPR letter head and logo.

We also improved the security of the membership database which is accessible through the web pages. We assigned for each member a unique user name which usually is the last name with – in case of multiple identical last names – an additional character, and a password. If you need to know your user name and password please write a message to me.

Web pages should be up to date. We do our very best, but all together we can do better. So keep us informed if you have any new informa-

tion.

For those of you interested in technical features: The SPR web pages are located on a Sun-Fire-280R (Ultrasparc) running Solaris 8. As development software we use Adobe GoLive on a Macintosh. The membership data base is uses Claris FileMaker and it is running on a Macintosh X server. We did not use frames and the window size we kept flexible so that whatever resolution you are using the SPR pages should fit. We have been testing the site on Windows, Macintosh and Unix platforms using Internet Explorer and Netscape.

If you experience any odd behavior please keep us informed. We are always eager to learn more and how to improve the site.

Our team here is Stefan Heim as systems engineer, Sven Schneider who does the software development and updating, and myself coordinating the various tasks.

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