

# OCTOBER 1999 NEWSLETTER

## CASPAR IS NEW INTERNATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

**Franz Caspar** is the newly elected International Vice-President. He defeated Wilma Bucci in the election that ended October 1. Caspar has not missed an SPR meeting since he joined in 1985. He was given the SPR Early Career Award in 1993.

Franz grew up in Switzerland, studied in Hamburg, worked in Bern for 20 years, and moved to Freiburg this year where he is Professor in Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy at the University of Freiburg . A central emphasis in his academic work has been on individual case conceptualizations, and on the therapists' judgments.

## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE 2000 SPR MEETING

by Robert Elliott, David Orlinsky, and Bill Stiles

### Program Committee

The 31st Annual Meeting of the SPR will be held Wednesday, June 21, 2000, to Sunday, June 25, 2000 at the Indian Lakes Resort, near Chicago. This meeting promises to be special for two reasons: First, it marks a return to the locale of SPR's first annual conference, thirty years later. Second, this meeting is being coordinated with the Fifth International Conference on Client-Centered and Experiential Psychotherapy, with which it will overlap by a day-and-a-half. We hope these events will inspire the usual variety of submissions, as well as some addressing the history of psychotherapy research or investigations of humanistic therapy (or both!).

The program will include posters, paper sessions, panels, discussion groups, and preconference workshops (as detailed below). Please submit only one paper or panel presentation per first author. (There is no limit on other forms of participation such as posters, being a panel discussant or moderator, a discussion group leader or member, or the co-author of a paper or panel presentation).

To reduce scheduling conflicts and facilitate member attendance at conference sessions, the program committee will attempt to organize "topic tracks" by having sessions on similar subjects or types of research scheduled sequentially in the same rooms. You can help in this by noting the new requirement to list up to four keywords with your poster, paper, or general panel abstract.

The deadline for receipt of submissions for the Chicago meeting is **Monday, DECEMBER 13, 1999**. Notices of acceptance will be sent by early February, 2000. If you wish to have an accepted paper or poster posted on the **SPR website** before the conference to facilitate well informed discussion, you should e-mail it to us by **June 1, 2000**, with text and graphics in a standard format, such as MS Word, WordPerfect, RTF or HTML.

## Categories of Submissions

Please read the following carefully, as there are several changes from previous years.

### (a) Posters or Previewed Posters:

Posters are appropriate for the full range of research reports, including completed projects, single case studies, pilot studies, and work-in-progress. **NOTE:** Some poster sessions will be preceded by poster preview sessions, consisting of 1-minute introductions by presenters, intended to inform and entice potential viewers. In your submission, please indicate whether or not you wish to preview your poster in this way. Submit a one-page abstract in English, listing up to four keywords (by e-mail, fax or mail).

### (b) Papers:

Papers are expected to be reports of a completed study. Paper sessions will be scheduled for 90-minutes, to consist of three 15-20 minute paper presentation with 5-10 minutes of discussion allotted to each paper. Moderators for paper sessions will be designated by the program committee. Submit (via mail only) a one-page abstract in English, listing up to four keywords, together with a 5-6 page summary of the paper (in English, German, French or Spanish).

### (c) Panels:

Panels should include three related presentations focused on a common theme, or reporting different aspects of a large-scale research project. Panels will be scheduled for 90-minutes, to consist of three 15-20 minute presentations, with a minimum of 30 minutes for open discussion. Each panel should have a moderator (normally, the organizer of the panel, or another clearly relevant person) and three formal participants, e.g., three papers, or two papers and a prepared discussant. (If planning a panel with more than three formal participants, consider an open discussion session or preconference workshop as a possible alternative.) Strong preference will be given to panels with international representation; if the panel features your research group, consider inviting a discussant from a different region. Submit (by e-mail, fax or mail) a one-page abstract in English for the panel as a whole, listing up to four keywords, along with separate a one-page abstract in English for each presentation within the panel.

### (d) Open Discussion:

This is an opportunity to gather a group of colleagues for an informal discussion of a specified topic in

psychotherapy research. Two or three persons should be named who agree to be responsible for leading the discussion, but who should **not** make formal presentations. Submit a one-page summary of the topic in English (by [e-mail](#), fax or mail).

#### (e) **Pre-Conference Workshops:**

Workshops will be held Wednesday afternoon (June 21) before the conference begins, and are intended to provide methodological information and training in specific areas of psychotherapy research. Include the name and affiliation of each person who will contribute and indicate the amount of time you want for the workshop (normally 2 or 3 hours). Submit a one-page summary of the workshop in English, (by [e-mail](#), fax or mail).

#### **Additional Notes on Posters, Papers, and Panels**

1. Depending on scheduling constraints, we may ask some people to shift their mode of presentation (e.g., from paper to poster or vice versa).
2. If you have no preference between presenting your work as a poster or as a paper, list the type of presentation as "**Poster or Paper.**" However, please recall that proposals for papers must include a 5-6 page summary and must be submitted by mail.
3. If you have an idea for a paper but would like to find other members to join you on a panel, try putting a notice on SPR's listserver. To subscribe, email to [<listproc@sip.medizin.uni-ulm.de>](mailto:listproc@sip.medizin.uni-ulm.de) the message "subscribe SPR-L your\_name\_and\_affiliation."

#### **PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1999.**

Submission options:

(a) by email (preferred): [fac0029@uoft01.utoledo.edu](mailto:fac0029@uoft01.utoledo.edu)

(b) by fax: +1-419-530-8479

(c) by mail (**required for papers**): Robert Elliott, SPR Program Chair

Department of Psychology

University of Toledo

Toledo, OH 43606, USA

Do **not** send applications for student travel awards to the program chair. See instructions elsewhere in this newsletter for instructions about how to apply.

ALL ABSTRACTS AND OVERALL SUMMARIES MUST BE IN ENGLISH IN THE SPECIFIED FORMAT (see below; also see sample abstract). Use **one page** of letter paper (8.5" by 11") or A4 with at least 1.25" margins on all four sides. Abstracts and overall summaries will be converted into digital form to create a book of abstracts to be available at the meeting and on the SPR website.

**Type of presentation:** Poster; Previewed Poster; Paper (remember to mail with 5-6 page summary); Poster or Paper; Panel (1 abstract for overall panel plus 1 abstract for each panel presentation); Open Discussion; Preconference Workshop.

**Title:** Title to go here

A. If a poster, paper, or panel presentation, include:

**Author(s):**

**Institutional affiliation(s):**

B. If a general panel abstract or preconference workshop, include:

**Moderator:**

**Participants:**

**Institutional affiliations:**

**Discussant:** (if relevant)

C. If an open discussion, include:

**Discussion Leaders:**

**Institutional affiliations:**

**Address for Correspondence:** (Name and address of the person to whom correspondence should be addressed (please include email if possible)).

**ABSTRACT**

[text of the abstract or summary to go here; maximum 200 words]

**Keywords:** (1-4 words or brief phrases that characterize the topic or type of research)

**Special audiovisual needs:** (i.e., in addition to overhead, slide projector; e.g., video playback equipment [N: subject to availability]).

**\*\*\* SAMPLE ABSTRACT \*\*\***

**Paper in Panel**

**Title:** The construction of therapeutic narratives in process-experiential therapy: A comparison of good and poor outcome dyads.

**Authors:** Heidi Levitt, Yifaht Korman, Lynne Angus, and Karen Hardtke

**Address for Correspondence:** Heidi Levitt

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**ABSTRACT**

This study examined the constructions of psychotherapy narratives in two process-experiential therapies: a good outcome case and a poor outcome case. This therapeutic approach focuses on clients' present experiences in order to facilitate emotional change and experiential processing, combining aspects of client-centered and gestalt approaches.

The Narrative Process Coding System was employed to identify three types of processes used in the construction of the therapeutic narratives. External narrative sequences describe actions and events. These units often include client story-telling and are most like literary narratives. Internal sequences give a subjective account of clients' experiences. Reflexive sequences are analytical evaluations of actions or events, in which clients reflect upon the meanings of their behavior or plan future courses of action.

The Client Experiencing Scale was used to provide a second perspective on the evolution of client narrative. This scale measures the degree to which clients focus on their feelings and internal

experiential state. The patterns of narrative sequences were examined in interaction with clients' experiential levels to determine how clients' construction of narratives differed in good and poor outcome therapies.

**Keywords:** therapy process, process-experiential psychotherapy, narrative

**Special audiovisual needs:** none

## **STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS**

Student travel awards for presentations at the Chicago meeting are made separately by each regional chapter. Contact your regional chapter for these awards:

**Hans Kordy, Europe:** [kordy@psyres-stuttgart.de](mailto:kordy@psyres-stuttgart.de)

**Adam Horvath, North America:** [na-spr@home.com](mailto:na-spr@home.com) (Write "TRAVEL" in the Subject field)

**Paulo Sousa, South America:** [nuplac@phoenix.ucpel.tche.br](mailto:nuplac@phoenix.ucpel.tche.br)

**Elsbeth Guthrie, United Kingdom:**

## **FIRST SPR MID-ATLANTIC USA CHAPTER MEETING**

It is not too late to join Clara Hill and her colleagues at the first SPR Mid-Atlantic Chapter meeting to be held at the University of Maryland, Friday, November 5th. Those who wish to participate should send a one-paragraph Abstract to Clara E. Hill, Department of Psychology, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742. For more information, contact Clara Hill at [Hill@psyc.umd.edu](mailto:Hill@psyc.umd.edu). The conference has been organized with an eye to keeping costs low and the registration fee will be \$25 for members, and \$15 for students.

## **MAKE NOMINEES FOR CAREER AWARDS BEFORE DECEMBER 1**

Every year, SPR makes Senior Career and Early Career Achievement awards. We encourage everyone to think of making nominations for both awards. Please send all nominations to Paul Crits-Christoph at 3600 Market Street, 7th Floor, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2648. The deadline for the submission of nominations is DECEMBER 1.

# **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Keep the following upcoming meetings in mind:

2000 International Meeting: Chicago, Illinois; host David Orlinsky

2001 International Meeting: Buenos Aires, Argentina; host Clara Moreno

2002 International Meeting: Santa Barbara, California; host Larry Beutler

## **SPR Web Sites**

<http://ted.educ.sfu.ca/society/>

<http://www.iep.uminho.pt/SPR/default.html/>

<http://psyc.tc.sghms.ac.uk/spruk/>

[www.ub.edu.ar/spr/default.html](http://www.ub.edu.ar/spr/default.html)