

Society for Psychotherapy Research

Newsletter, 2000:3

October 2000

an international, multidisciplinary, scientific organization

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Call for submissions for the 2001 SPR meeting

by Franz Caspar, Silvia Gril, Bill Stiles and Robert Elliott
Program Committee

The 32nd Annual Meeting of the SPR will be held Wednesday, June 20, 2000, to Sunday, June 24, 2000 in Montevideo. This meeting promises to be special as it will be the first SPR convention in South America.

For those of you who may be concerned about the expected costs, we can reassure you that Silvia Gril, the local host, is addressing these concerns in an active fashion: She has not only negotiated good conditions and rates, but also presented good arguments for a participation at this year's business meeting. We would like to reiterate the advice to keep overall costs low by booking air transportation early, and considering combining your trip with participation at the SEPI meeting in Santiago (see information in this mailing).

We look forward to the usual variety of submissions, including submissions by South American colleagues coming to an SPR meeting for the first time.

To keep registration fees down, only some of the presentations will be translated simultaneously, but we will - depending on the submissions - try to foster a maximum of exchange while facilitating presentations in each participant's more familiar language (English or Spanish). We will try to make sure that there is at least one Spanish-language or translated session in each conference slot.

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).

The "topic track" model as introduced last year was very successful. Therefore, it will be

continued, and combined with the "special interest group" model as proposed by David Orlinsky and the executive committee. Thus, in order to reduce scheduling conflicts and to facilitate members' attendance at conference sessions, the program committee will attempt to organize sessions on similar subjects or types of research sequentially in the same rooms. You can help in this by using the new requirement to list up to four keywords to flag the special interest groups to which your poster, paper, or general panel abstract belongs, and by submitting clusters of related submissions together. Special interest groups are also encouraged to contact the program chair early and in an informal way to discuss how the group can best be accommodated. (Please keep in mind that the many constraints on scheduling will not allow us to fulfill all your wishes.)

The deadline for receipt of submissions for the Montevideo meeting is **Monday, DECEMBER 11, 2000**. To prevent lost submissions, please send your submissions in parallel on two channels (email, fax, mail). Notices of acceptance will be sent by early February, 2001. Please make clear whether you could present only in one language (English or Spanish) or whether you could use either language. If such information is lacking, we will assume as a default, that you will present in English. Please be aware that simultaneous translation will be possible only for a limited number of presentations. All submissions need to be in - not necessarily perfect, but understandable - English. 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, 2001**, with text and graphics in a standard format, such as MS Word, WordPerfect, RTF or HTML.

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Karla Moras is the new International Vice-President

Congratulations to Karla Moras who has been elected General Vice-President of SPR. In her statement of candidacy, Karla enunciated the following priorities she envision for SPR. In her own words: 1) Maintain SPR's robust health and work with the other members of the Executive Committee to identify, and then support, what appear to be the key causal and maintaining processes for SPR's successful tra-

jectory; 2) Maintain SPR's unique character; and 3). Foster scientific advances on the effects and efficiency of psychotherapies. "During my years on the Executive Committee, I would propose additions to our annual conference programs that highlight research opportunities and directions that arise from the newly expanded base of acceptance of psychotherapy as a treatment that can have "real" and enduring effects. "

Call for submissions (from previous page)**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). Posters belonging to special interest groups can be grouped together. We will try to have enough space to allow for an English plus a Spanish version for those who wish to present their Poster in both languages.

(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 presentations 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 a 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). This would be a good format for discussions in special interest groups.

(e) **Pre-Conference Workshops:** Workshops will be held Wednesday afternoon (June 20) 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). In addition, the Program Committee reserves the right to reconstitute panels if necessary.

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> the message "subscribe SPR-L your_name_and_affiliation."

PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2000.**Submission options:**

(a) by email (preferred): SPR2001@psychologie.uni-freiburg.de

(b) by fax: +49-761-203 30 22

(c) by mail (**required for papers**):

Franz Caspar, SPR Program Chair
Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy
University of Freiburg
Belfortstrasse 18
D 79085 Freiburg i.Br.
GERMANY

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

ALL ABSTRACTS AND OVERALL SUMMARIES MUST BE IN ENGLISH IN THE SPECIFIED FORMAT (see model attached; also see sample abstract attached).

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.

SEPI Meeting in South America

The 17th Annual Conference of SEPI, will be held in Santiago Chile, next June 14 – 17th, 2001. Due to the geographical and schedule proximity, both SPR and SEPI agreed to cross mail their call for papers and to offer conference member rates to the other society members. This is a unique possibility for coordinating your travel and even plan to stay a couple of extra days in South America. You will find a copy of SEPI's call for papers in the current mailing.

Montevideo, the site of SPR 2001

by Sylvia Gril

The main architectural feature of the city of Montevideo is its eclecticism, to which we may add a large amount of green areas. In many of its neighborhoods you will find a combination of modern and traditional buildings, colonial and European styles. Although it is a vital city with a wealth of cultural activities and an enviable night life with attractive shopping centers, theaters and restaurants -with the typical meat "parrillas"-, visitors may breathe the calm and tranquility that have allowed the city dwellers to call their own city the "big village".

The old town is called "Ciudad Vieja". The meeting will take place just there. "Ciudad Vieja" is a small peninsula surrounded by sea by the metropolitan port. There are many colonial buildings, old mansions with large patios of Hispanic inspiration where interesting museums are currently functioning. The Cabildo, the Cathedral, the Matriz Plaza, the Zabala Plaza, the Port Market are all beautiful reminders of our past, and are intermin-

gled with sophisticated art galleries and antique shops, together with the main offices of large banks and financial companies.

Just two blocks from the meeting place you will find our Rambla, a wonderful promenade for walks alongside the river Rio de la Plata. Also driving along the Rambla you can find very different neighborhoods, from Aduana to Carrasco, which deserve a visit to get a glimpse of the different lifestyles in Montevideo.

If you are planning for a longer visit don't miss other interesting places in Uruguay, just one hour from Montevideo, you will find the Atlantic Coast, with a variety of seaside sites, from the internationally known city of Punta del Este, to the wild and beautiful beaches in Rocha. A different option, 2 hours from Montevideo is the charming and romantic city of Colonia, with its Hispanic touch.

Many reasons to come to 2001 SPR meeting...

Web news

by Adam Horvath

New URLs: Following the recommendations of the Executive Committee, last year we have reserved for two years the domain names (URL): "www.psychotherapyresearch.org" and "www.naspr.org". At the Chicago meeting it was decided to make these new address "active". In practice, this change involved moving our web from our trusty, but somewhat sluggish, old server at the faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University (my home ground) to a commercial site. By the time you read this news the new URLs will be fully functional.

You should notice some improvement in speed and reliability using the new service, not to mention the fact that the new URLs are much easier to remember (though, admittedly, psychotherapy-research is a *mouthful*). So, come and visit us at our new digs, bookmark the new address, and let us know if —horrors— there are any bugs or broken links. Bug reports and suggestions should be e-mailed directly to jhorvath@quicktech.bc.ca.

We will keep our old address functional for a transition period of at least six months.

Journal changes: As most of you have probably noticed, our Journal (Psychotherapy Research) is now published by Oxford University Press. The new publisher has integrated PR with the sophisticated on-line service OUP is running. Their URL is <http://www3.oup.co.uk/jnls/>. As OUP runs a first class text-on-line journal service on the web for their subscribers, we have decided not to duplicate this effort. Consequently from Volume 10 onward you will be able to access the journal from <http://ptr.oupjournals.org/>. We, however, will maintain an "archive" of all the pre Vol. 10 material on our web <http://> and will continue to provide access to the table of contents of forthcoming issues.

Members' DB: We are pleased to see that the on-line Members Directory has become a "most often consulted web resource". However, we have also noticed some justified concerns about the level of security and user friendliness of the database. We decided therefore to switch software technologies and undertake a major rebuild of this part of the SPR web service.

Next time you use the membership list you will notice the following: there will be a choice to use the OLD or NEW database. The OLD version is the one you are familiar with and takes your last (family) name as your ID and the usual generic password.

The NEW version offers the following features:

Individual password.: Your ID remains the same but the password assigned to you will be unique to each member, Your PW will appear on the dues statement included in this mailing for most of you. Those members who did not receive their password in this mailing will be mailed one shortly, or can request one on the web. You will be able to change this PW to anything you wish, but please make note of your password in some safe place. We can give you a new one, but it is quite a hassle.

Members' who indicated interest in one or more of the Special Interest Groups (SIG) will have this information displayed on-line, and will be able to sign on (or off) SIGs and search for other members who have signed up for a particular SIG(s).

You will be able to edit all of your own (but not anybody else's) personal data on the web. This updated information will be shared seamlessly with our main database thus all of our correspondence, journal etc., should get to you without any interruptions.

You will be able to set and change your "preferred contact" options. I.e., how we contact you, send you mailings and notices.

You will be able to "authorize" us to have your data to be displayed in the membership list right from the web.

We will keep **both** versions of the database on-line until we are certain that all of our members have received their new individual password.

We encourage each of you to consult the on-line membership database; it is the most up-to-date membership information available. Please keep updating your information should any part of your address change! Any change you make on-line will **automatically update** all of our records, thus will guarantee that our correspondence will reach you in a timely manner.

Mirror site: European colleagues: You will probably get a faster access to the SPR site by contacting our stalwart mirror in Portugal <http://www.iep.uminho.pt/SPR/default.html>

Use the WEB: Last, but not least, a few of our colleagues have taken advantage of the opportunity to post information (news, topics of interest, research projects). I invite all of you to make use of this facility; harness the vast communication potential of the web to advance your professional goals.

Future Meetings.

International Meetings

2001 International meeting:
Montevideo, Uruguay, June
20-24, host: Sylvia Gril

2002 International meeting:
Santa Barbara, CA (USA),
June 23-27, host: Larry
Beutler

2003 International meeting:
Weimar, Germany, June
25 - 29, host: Bernard
Strauss

Regional Meetings

Joint Meeting of the SPR
European and UK Chapters,
Leiden, The Netherlands,
March 7-10, 2001 info:
[http://www.Leidenuniv.nl/
SPR](http://www.Leidenuniv.nl/SPR)

North America Chapter Con-
ference, Puerto Vallarta,
Mexico, November 7-11,
2001

SPR Web Sites

[http://www.
psychotherapyresearch.org](http://www.psychotherapyresearch.org)

[http://www.iep.uminho.pt/
SPR/default.html](http://www.iep.uminho.pt/SPR/default.html)

IMPORTANT

Nominate candidates for SPR
2001 awards by **December 1,
2000**

The deadline for receipt of
submissions for the
Montevideo 2001 International
SPR meeting is **Monday,
DECEMBER 11, 2000.**

See you in Montevideo...

Call for Nominees for the 2001 Distinguished Career (Senior) Achievement Award and Early Career (Junior) Achievement Award

Each year, SPR makes two Achievement awards: one to a senior distinguished investigator and one to a promising investigator early in her or his research career. We encourage everyone to nominate deserving individuals for these awards. Don't assume that someone else will nominate the person that deserves this year's award. The deadline for the submission of nominations is DECEMBER 1.

Informal inquiries may be made to any member of the awards selection committee, which is composed of the three most recent past presidents: Bill Stiles (committee chair) <stileswb@muohio.edu>, Marv Goldfried <marvin.goldfried@sunysb.edu>, and Bill Piper <piper@interchange.ubc.ca>.

Distinguished Career (Senior) Achievement Award. This award that reflects a lifetime of scientific work and constitutes a major and significant contribution to psychotherapy research. The primary criterion for this award is the scientific merit of the nominee's contribution. To make a nomination, please send: (a) a copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae; (b) copies of six of the most important papers or book, (c) at least three letters of recommendation (one from the nominator) attesting to the quality, significance, and impact of the nominee's research. The three recommenders should represent more than one institution. All of the materials, except for the publication, should be in English. If the publications are not in English, please include an ab-

stract of each in English.

Early Career Achievement Award. This is an early career award, normally granted no more than 9 years after the person has completed his or her research training. The award should reflect the person's productivity as well as promise in making scientific contributions to psychotherapy research. To make a nomination, please send: (a) a copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae; (b) a personal statement from the nominee that summarizes his/her program of research; (c) copies of four representative publications (the nominee should be the first author on some of these publications); (d) at least three letters of recommendation (one from the nominator) attesting to the quality, significance, and promise of the nominee's work. The three recommenders should represent more than one institution. All of the materials, except for the publication, should be in English. If the publications are not in English, please include an abstract of each in English.

Please send nominations to William B. Stiles, Department of Psychology, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056, USA. Email: <stileswb@muohio.edu>.

A list of past winners of these awards is posted in the archive section of SPR's web site.

REMEMBER: The deadline for the submission of nominations is DECEMBER 1.

News from members

New Psychotherapy Research book published in South America:

Investigacion en psicoterapia, Processos y Resultados: Investigaciones empiricas; Sylvia Gril, Ana Ibanez, Ines Mosca, Paulo L. Sousa (Eds.), Editorial Educat

Is a book from the Latinamerican Chapter and it has different chapters with papers presented in the 98 meeting in Montevideo. It has papers from south American researchers (Jimenez, Fernandez, Duarte, Marino, Gril, Lancelle, Altmanm, Bauer, Fascioli, Montado, Scherb, Garbarino, Fernandez) and also from SPR members that collaborated with us as Horst Kaechele, Rainer Krause, Wilma Bucci, Erhard Mergenthaler, Marco Chiesa. Some chapters in Spanish, other in English.

We dedicated the book to the SPR in its thirties. I think it is a great achievement to have this book. It is the second one we have in South America in the field. The first one was edited by Jimenez et al. in 1994. I am personally proud of it.

Student travel awards

Student travel awards for presentations at the Montevideo meeting are made separately by each regional chapter. Contact your regional chapter vice-president for these awards, and check for information in your regional newsletter:

North America: Adam Horvath
<horvath@sfu.ca>

South America: Paulo Sousa
<nuplac@phoenix.ucpel.tche.br>

Europe: Eva Baenninger-Huber
<eva.baenninger-huber@uibk.ac.at>

U.K.: Elspeth Guthrie
<eguthrie@fs1.cmht.nwest.nhs.uk>

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/Interest Groups: (1-4 words or brief phrases that indicate applicable special interest group or otherwise characterize the topic or type of research)

Special audiovisual needs: (i.e., in addition to overhead; e.g. video playback equipment, LCD projectors. Please note that availability is not clear at this moment).

*** 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 (York University)

Address for Correspondence:

Heidi Levitt

Department of Psychology

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North York, Ontario M3J 1P3

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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-centred 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/Interest Groups: therapy process, experiential psychotherapy, narrative

Special audiovisual needs: none