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37th SPR International Meeting Edinburgh, Scotland June 21-24, 2006

John McLeod and **Jo-Anne Carlyle**, Chairs of the local organizing committee, the Program Council, and the UK Chapter of SPR, are delighted to invite colleagues from all parts of the world to visit Edinburgh to take part in the 2006 International Meeting of the Society for Psychotherapy Research. The theme for this Meeting will be **“From Research to Practice.”**

Edinburgh has a long history of innovation in psychotherapy. Among the famous making significant contributions to psychotherapy are William Cullen (1720-1790), Ronald Fairbairn (1889-1964), and George Kelly (1905-1967). Edinburgh is one of the most popular cities in Europe. Medieval, Georgian, and modern architecture offer striking contrasts with a breathtaking impact. Edinburgh is famous as

a city of festivals, culture, and the arts. Scotland is a beautiful country with stunning cityscapes, glorious sunsets, ancient castles, lochs, and famous golf courses.

The conference will be held at Pollock Halls, the main student residence area of the University of Edinburgh. The modern campus offers excellent accommodations, a range of comfortable meeting spaces, and is close to a wide range of shops, restaurants and bars within the student quarter of Edinburgh. The rooms are hotel-quality with either single rooms with en suite facilities or twin beds.

The opening session of the Conference will take place on Wednesday, June 21 at the historic Assembly Rooms in the heart of Edinburgh. The Conference closes with a dinner and social event on Saturday evening, June 24, on the Pollock Halls campus.

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Jacques Barber Elected General Vice President

Jacques Barber has been elected the new General Vice President of the Society for Psychotherapy Research. Dr. Barber will serve the remainder of the 2005-2006 year as General Vice President, after which he will serve a year each as President-Elect, President (2007-2008), and Past-President. **(continued on page 4)**



President's Message

By

Michael J. Lambert, Ph.D.

As we move toward the end of 2005, the Society turns its attention to the 2006 International Meetings to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland. The scientific committee for the meeting is chaired by Erhard Mergenthaler and the meeting promises to have a stimulating program in a lovely site with a history of important scientific contributions. This of course will depend on submissions from members and others who make the time to present their best work at the conference. In this regard we hope members will submit their proposals as early as possible so that the electronic submission server does not get overwhelmed at the last minute.

At this writing, the electronic submission portal that can be accessed through our website: www.psychotherapyresearch.org, does not yet include the submission instructions or the possibility for submission, but will be ready in the near future. If you go to the website you will find a lovely picture of Edinburgh and notification that the meetings will be at Pollock Hall on the campus of the University of Edinburgh. The University can accommodate nearly all our needs, including housing, and therefore, we anticipate a meeting that is separate from the distractions that often arise from meetings held in city hotels.

The theme of the conference is “**From Research to Practice**” and it is hoped that those who submit proposals will keep this theme in mind—what are the implications of my research

findings for effective practice? This is a theme that is dear to my heart. As economic pressures mount to make treatments more efficient, traditional concern for quality patient care is under attack. This places an important burden and unprecedented opportunity on psychotherapy research to illuminate effective processes and procedures for ensuring positive patient outcomes. Although research is commonly ignored by practitioners, at this moment in time we have the possibility of having a much greater impact on practice and social policy than ever before. Research can become a guiding force in what patients experience when they come for help. Psychotherapy research can increase the likelihood that patients will improve while in treatment if psychotherapy researchers take full advantage of the current climate of challenge and accountability. It is hoped that the submissions for the 2006 meetings will be especially attuned to the conference theme and the responsibility that we might accept to make our research strike a balance between scientific interests and practical matters.

The SPR Executive Committee meets in January to discuss the business of the Society and set its future direction. Members who would like to bring matters to the attention of the Committee are invited to bring them to my attention or to the attention of their Regional Society Officer so that they can be considered.

2006 Membership Dues

The 2006 dues statements for membership dues will be mailed in early November. The membership dues for the 2006 calendar year will remain at the same levels as for the previous calendar year. Dues may be paid in either Euros or U.S. dollars with Visa or Master Card credit card, personal check, or bank transfer. In order to ensure that you do not miss any editions of the Society's journal, *Psychotherapy Research*, your payment should be received no later than **December 31, 2005**. We are trying to update our membership directory, so you will be asked to verify your mailing and e-mail address.

This is important to ensure that all members receive both the journal and the Newsletter during the course of the year. On the dues statement, you will be asked whether you wish to receive the Newsletter by e-mail only, postal mail only, or both e-mail and post. The cost of mailing the Newsletter is approximately \$10 per year per member. Although this is not a large expense per se, if half the membership received the Newsletter by e-mail only, SPR would have an additional \$5,000 to budget for desirable expenditures such as student travel scholarships.

Important Deadlines for SPR Members:

December 14, 2005 Conference submissions due

December 31, 2005 Membership dues for 2006

Call for Submissions for the 2006 International SPR Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland by Erhard Mergenthaler, Jacques Barber, Denise Defey, Georgia Lepper Program Council

“From Research to Practice” will be the leading theme for our international conference to be held **June 21-24, 2006**, and we would like to encourage submissions that give special thought to this dimension of research, while welcoming the full range of contributions to the field. In the tradition of SPR, we also welcome research projects at various stages of development, though preference is given to completed studies. The conference language will be English and we ask that submissions be in English.

Traditionally the types of submission are **Paper, Poster, Panel, Plenary, Open Discussion, Pre-Conference Workshop, Conference Workshop, and Research Consultation Workshop**. A full description of each type will be found at the SPR web site.

First authorship by an individual is limited to one paper or panel presentation. Other program formats such as posters are unlimited. For example an author can be named on multiple papers so long as the multiple papers are presented by different persons.

Submission will be via the web starting on November 24, 2005. **The deadline for submissions is December 14, 2005.** Notification of acceptance will be sent end of February. From past experience we know that the submission process may be slow close to the deadline due to heavy electronic traffic. We highly recommend that you enter your submission as early as possible.

The conference web site can be reached by clicking on the SPR 2006 Edinburgh logo on the society's home page www.psychotherapyresearch.org. You will be able to get information about types of submissions, and make and revise submissions. You will be given a unique number to identify the submission. Please use this number when corresponding about your submission. During the submission period and again after notice of acceptance you can return to the web site to review or to make changes to your submission.

If you have a question or request or if you have an idea or suggestion for the conference and its scientific program you may send an email to the program chair, Erhard Mergenthaler at chair@psychotherapyresearch.org. If you need assistance regarding the use of the web pages you may send an email to support@psychotherapyresearch.org.

port@psychotherapyresearch.org. The local organizing committee you can reach at host@psychotherapyresearch.org.

Stages and types of work. You will be asked to identify the stage of your work. Preference for a paper presentation will go to completed work. Classifying the stage and type of work will assist the program committee group similar work and inform potential attendees more fully about the expected content.

Abstract. Structure the abstract with headings: Aim, Methods, Results, Discussion. Maximum length: 250 words. For panels, plenary, workshops, and open discussion provide an overview of the session as a whole. Abstracts will be published on the conference SPR web site, and also will be published in hardcopy and available at the conference.

Additional Notes. Remember that a central purpose of SPR is to foster discussion and interaction between members. With this in mind it is essential that presenters leave ample time for discussion during presentations. One-third of available time is a guideline that we believe will make the meetings most rewarding.

Depending on the number of submissions and the possibly resulting time constraints it may be necessary for the program council to request that those who make submissions consider changing the venue for presentation, e.g. paper to poster. Remember that preference for a paper submission will be for completed work.

Finally, if you have an idea for a panel or other collaboration, please consider using the SPR mailing list list@psychotherapyresearch.org to find colleagues with similar interests. To subscribe to the list, go to the society's home page and follow the “Contact” link.

We are looking forward to your submissions and to welcome you in Edinburgh, which is one of the most popular cities in Europe. The impact of its mediaeval and Georgian architecture, side by side with striking modern buildings, is breathtaking. Edinburgh is a celebratory city, whose warm welcome is extended to those participating in SPR

Student Travel Awards

Student travel awards for presentations at the 2006 SPR International meeting in Edinburgh are made separately by each regional chapter. Contact the President of your regional chapter for these awards. Please be aware that different chapters have different deadlines and rules for applying for travel support. You are strongly encouraged to contact your regional chapter president as soon as possible if you are considering applying for such support. E-mail addresses of the chapter presidents can be found on page 1 of this Newsletter.

Call for Nominees for the 2006 International SPR Awards: Distinguished Research Career and Outstanding Early Career Achievement

By
John Clarkin, Ph.D.

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. Every SPR member is encouraged to nominate deserving individuals for the awards. *Don't assume that someone else will nominate deserving individuals this year.* Such assumptions can lead to deserving researchers being passed over for an award. The deadline for the submission of nominations is **DECEMBER 1, 2005**.

A list of past winners is posted on the International SPR website (www.psychotherapyresearch.org, "About the Society" link, then click "Awards").

Informal inquiries may be made to any member of the awards selection committee, which is composed of the three most recent past presidents: John Clarkin (Chair) jclarkin@med.cornell.edu, Mark Aveline mark.aveline@mac.com, and Karla Moras karla.moras@verizon.net.

Distinguished Research Career Award. This award reflects a lifetime of scientific work that 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, the nominator prepares three sets of the supporting documents. The nominator sends one set to each member of the Awards Committee. The documents are: (a) a copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae; (b) copies of six of the most important papers or books, (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 publications, should be in English. If

the publications are not in English, please include an abstract of each in English.

Outstanding Early Career Achievement Award. The early career award is granted no more than nine years after the person has completed his or her main 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, the nominator prepares three sets of the supporting documents. The nominator sends one set to each member of the Awards Committee. The documents are: (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 publications, should be in English. If the publications are not in English, please include an abstract of each in English.

Please send nominations to Dr John Clarkin, New York Presbyterian Hospital—Cornell Medical Center, 21 Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, New York 10605, USA, Prof. Mark Aveline, Barnfield House, Chedworth Laines, Glos GL54 4NS, UK, and Dr. Karla Moras, 415 City Avenue, A-3, Merion Station, Pennsylvania, PA 19066, USA.

It is not necessary for the material to be in printed form. E-mail attachments are acceptable but large attachments should be compressed before sending.

Future Meetings

International Meetings

2006 International meeting:
June 21-24, 2006
Edinburgh, Scotland
host: John McLeod
2007 International meeting:
June 20-23, 2007
Madison, WI, USA,
host: Greg Kolden
2008 International meeting:
June 18-21, 2006
Barcelona, Spain
host: Luis Botella

Barber (continued from page 1)

Dr. Barber is Professor at the University of Pennsylvania's Penn Center for Psychotherapy Research. He also is Adjunct Professor at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. He is managing several research projects involving dynamic psychotherapy.

In his statement of interest, Jacques listed the five following goals of his participation in SPR leadership: (1) fostering the tradition of conducting excellent science in

the context of camaraderie and pluralism; (2) increase membership from countries with low participation and from diverse psychotherapeutic schools and approaches; (3) increase participation of junior researchers in symposia alongside of more senior researchers; (4) encourage participation of clinicians in SPR in order to increase the clinical relevance of psychotherapy research; and (5) encourage the development of multi-center studies of naturalistic follow-up of psychotherapy patients with complex disorders.