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International Conference 2008

1

New GVP/President's Corner

2

Call for Submissions

3

Call for Award Nominations

5

SPR Barcelona 2008



39th annual meeting

39th SPR International Meeting Barcelona, Spain June 18 - 21, 2008

Luis Botella

The Barcelona SPR local arrangements committee is excited to invite colleagues from around the world to take part in the Society for Psychotherapy Research 2008 International meeting June 18-21 in Barcelona (www.bcn.cat/english/ihome.htm).

The meeting will take place at the four star Hotel Barceló Sants (www.barcelo.com/BarceloHotels/en-GB/Hotels/Spain/Barcelona/Sants/Home) which is located just on top of Barcelona Central Train Station *Sants Estació* with direct connection to the Barcelona International Airport. *Sants Estació* is also a subway (metro) station served by two different metro lines; L3 and L5—see a public transportation map here: www.tmb.net/en_US/home.jsp. The strategic location of the conference venue makes it very easily reachable from many different areas of Barcelona in just a few minutes metro ride.

BARCELONA FACTS

Barcelona is the capital of Catalonia and it is located in a heavily populated area overlooking the Mediterranean which is a hub of economic activity. Barcelona city centre has eight metro lines and an extensive fleet of buses. Eleven thousand taxis provide an efficient service, and are available at all times either by pre-booking or by hailing them in the street.

Barcelona is also internationally renowned as a cultural center, and it has over 50 museums, showcasing permanent collections of works by artists such as Picasso, Miró and Tàpies. The city is also a showcase for the best of the country's theatrical talent and it hosts a number of renowned music festivals (jazz, flamenco, classical and contemporary music...) In addition, the opera house, the Gran Teatre del Liceu, hosts one of Europe's most prestigious opera seasons. Barcelona's architecture is one of its most internationally appreciated features, and the works of Gaudí and other modernist architects and artists are definitely worth a visit. A distinctively Mediterranean way of living—including nice Summer weather, large beaches, a passion for gastronomy, and an exciting night-life makes a visit to Barcelona something to enjoy and remember.

GETTING THERE

Barcelona is well-served by land, sea and air links. By land Barcelona is within easy reach of most European cities by train, bus or car. Barcelona is the arrival and departure point for flights from around the world and the airport is within easy reach of the city and connected by train with the congress venue. By sea Barcelona is the Mediterranean's foremost cruise ship harbour. It operates ferry services to the Balearic Islands and cruises to major ports.

Louis G. Castonguay Elected General Vice President

Louis G. Castonguay

I am deeply honored for having been elected General-Vice President of SPR. I am grateful for all the support that I have received from our members, and I hope to continue the tradition of past and current presidents in fostering the growth of our organization. As I referred to in my nomination statement, I intend to devote my presidential mandate to the increase of SPR membership, solidification of our relationship with other organizations that have complementary goals (such as the Association of Behavior and Cognitive Therapy, the Society for the Exploration of Psychotherapy Integration, and the Division of Psychotherapy of the American Psychological Association), as well as to address the training and professional needs of young scholars. Based on my experience with the development of Practice Research Networks (PRN) and my strong belief in the scientific-practitioner model, I also hope to facilitate the increased involvement in our organization of full-time clinicians. Ultimately, I would like to see SPR becoming the premier forum for generating and sustaining open, friendly, and productive dialogues among researchers and clinicians (at different level of experience and across different theoretical orientations) about how to increase our understanding of change and improve our treatment effectiveness.



President's Corner

Jacques P. Barber

I want to express my deepest gratitude to both Louis Georges Castonguay and Giuseppe Nicolò for their willingness to submit their candidacy for the SPR General Vice Presidency. As long as members of their stature are willing to put forward their candidacy, knowing how much work is involved in the position, I believe that SPR has a bright future. As you read above, Louis, a Professor of Psychology at Penn State University, was elected general vice president of SPR. The Executive Committee and I look forward to working with Louis in the coming years. He will immediately join the program council headed by Bernhard Strauss (president elect) in order to help prepare the Barcelona Meeting. Louis will head the program committee for the subsequent SPR meeting in Santiago, Chile.

The program council has enclosed the call for paper for our upcoming meeting in Barcelona. The highly relevant theme of the conference is "Neurobiological and Sociocultural Contexts of Psychotherapy and Psychotherapy Research." The hope is to encourage the submissions of papers describing the interface between neuroscience and psychotherapy research in addition to more traditional submissions.

In order to cope successfully with the high number of submissions expected for the Barcelona Meeting and to make the program more manageable in terms of parallel sessions, the program council has introduced a new submission category of

"Brief Communications," and is developing ways to provide greater exposure for presenters of posters. We are all looking forward to seeing the results of your most interesting and innovative work at this conference. Please note that the time window for submission is earlier than prior years and will run from November 1st to December 1st. I would like to echo the request of the program council and our webmaster to not wait till December 1st to submit your proposals. Submitting your proposals ahead of time is likely to reduce your frustration with the submission module, as it is not always capable of handling hundreds of simultaneous submissions.

I have been very glad to hear many good things about the organization and the program of our last meeting in Madison, so I am also pleased to let you know that we ended this meeting with a profit. These funds will be used to seed future conferences, to build a much needed reserve, and of course to help run the organization as smoothly. So in general, the society is in good financial shape due to the thoughtfulness of my predecessors and the expert help of our executive officer, Tracy Eells. The executive committee has put in place a series of procedures to reduce the financial risk that our annual meetings create for the society. The major risk we currently face is that conferences are planned, and commitments to hotels are made, but we often do not really know how many members will attend the meetings. This being the case, please bear with us and

President's Corner (continued)

do your best to pay your dues, submit your proposals for the next meeting, and register for the conference as early as possible. Finally, when your plan change let us know as soon as possible of these changes. Doing so increases our ability to successfully plan our future meetings.

As you know, we are meeting in Barcelona from June 18th to June 21st, 2008. We are lucky to have a small but dedicated group of colleagues, headed by Luis Botella to help organize the meeting. Luis was also able to get financial and organizational support from his department at the Ramon Llull University. For the listing of all future events related to SPR, please visit our website at <http://www.psychotherapyresearch.org/calendar.cfm>, where you can find information about our upcoming meetings. We will also continue to post relevant information to SPR members. For example, our website currently

lists information about the upcoming meeting of the Australian Regional Group organized by Brin Grenyer. This meeting will be held on December 6th and 7th at the Illawarra Institute for Mental Health, University of Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia. All are welcome. If you have an event that you would like us to advertise, please send the information to either Tracy or me.

The SPR Executive Committee will meet during the last weekend of January (31st to Feb 3rd) to discuss the meeting in Barcelona, review the local arrangements, and discuss the general plans for the conference. However, the EC also discusses topics of general interest to the society. Thus, if you have any comments, critiques or suggestions please forward them to any member of the EC including myself.

Call for Submissions for the International SPR Meeting in Barcelona, Spain June 18 – 21, 2008

Bernhard Strauss (President-Elect & Program Council Chair), Hans Kordy, Robert Russell, Ulrike Wilutzki, with Luis Botella (local host), David Orlinsky (Culture and Psychotherapy Section Chair), and Louis G. Castonguay (General Vice-President)

The theme of the 39th annual international SPR meeting will be **“Neurobiological and Sociocultural Contexts of Psychotherapy and Psychotherapy Research.”** The Program Council encourages proposals that give special thought to the influence on psychotherapy and psychotherapy research of recent developments in neuroscience, and of social and cultural processes and the changes occurring in a time of globalization.

In addition, the Program Council welcomes the full range of contributions to the field, including reports of innovative research methods and empirical studies of varied treatment modalities (individual, couple, family, group, and milieu therapies), diverse patient populations (children, adolescents, adults, and seniors), a wide range of diagnostic and problem categories (e.g., effects of cultural, political or economic oppression and migration as well as various psychological/psychosomatic disorders), and a broad spectrum of theoretical approaches (e.g., CBT, existential-humanistic, interpersonal, psychodynamic, and systemic).

Although preference in general will be given to presentation of completed studies, we also aim to foster discussion of research projects at various stages of development (especially in Structured Discussion groups, Posters, and Brief Communication sessions). In Panels, preference will be given to those that include (a) presentations a common topic reflecting different treatment approaches or research methods, (b) representatives from different research teams, (c) members from different countries, and (d) presenters at different career levels.



Call for Submissions (continued)

The official conference language will be English and all submissions should be made in English.

To accommodate the large number of submissions that we expect for the Barcelona meeting, we have modified the types of submissions: In addition to the usual Panels, Plenaries, and Workshops, we will encourage the presentation of **Posters**, and **Brief Communications** (5-10 min.) accompanied by distribution of printed material, **instead of traditional papers**. To increase the value of Poster and Brief Communication sessions, the Program Council will organize these into groups by topic, and access to posters will be available for an entire day. A full description of each type of submission will be found at the SPR conference website. **Please read these descriptions carefully before submitting your work!**

First authorship by an individual is limited to **one presentation** on a Panel or in a Brief Communication session. Other program formats such as Posters or Structured Discussion Groups are currently unrestricted, but this may change if required by limitations of time and space. However, please note that one person can be listed as a co-author on multiple presentations so long as those are presented by different persons.

Program submissions will be accepted via the web beginning **November 1, 2007**. This year, the **deadline for submissions** will be **December 1, 2007** (by 23:59 in your time zone). Notification of acceptance will be sent toward the end of **February 2008**. From past experience we know that the processing of submissions is likely to become very slow close to the deadline due to heavy electronic traffic. We highly recommend that you submit your proposals **as early as possible** – not during the last 24 hours before the December 1st deadline!

The conference website can be reached by clicking on the SPR 2008 Barcelona 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 also be given a unique number to identify each 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 website to review or to make changes. 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 Council chair Bernhard Strauss (Bernhard.strauss@med.uni-jena.de). If you need assistance regarding the use of the web pages you may send an email to support@psychotherapyresearch.org. The local organizing com-

mittee can be reached at host@psychotherapyresearch.org.

Submission Format

Stage and type of work. You will be asked to identify the type of your work and the stage of its development. This will help the Program Council to organize sessions and inform potential attendees more fully about the expected content. However, we strongly recommend considering **communicating with other members** in order to organize panels that reflect your own interests.

Abstract. Structure the abstract with headings: **Aim, Methods, Results, Discussion**. Keep your abstract under 250 words to prevent it from being cut arbitrarily by the computer. Please provide an overview of the session as a whole for panels, plenary, workshops, and structured discussion sessions. For panels, an abstract must be submitted for each paper included in the panel. Abstracts will be published on the conference SPR website, and probably in hardcopy for purchase at the conference.

Additional Notes. Please remember that a central purpose of SPR is to foster discussion between members, and it is essential that presenters leave ample time for discussion of their work. A minimum of 20 minutes in each 90 minute session should be reserved for open discussion with members in the audience, which means that presentations be limited to 20 minutes (if there are three) or 15 minutes (if there are four). We also strongly recommend that authors submit coherently organized Panels, as stand-alone presentations will be designated Brief Communications and limited to 10 minutes. Depending on the number of submissions and possible 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., oral presentation to poster).

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. It is our experience that in most cases, well-integrated panels with authors from different research groups have the largest attendance. To subscribe to the list, go to the society's home page and follow the "Contact" link.

CE credits: SPR and NASPR will again provide CE credits in collaboration with Division 29 of the American Psychological Association. Further information related to CE Credits see <http://www.psychotherapyresearch.org/displaycommon.cfm?>

We are looking forward to receiving your program proposals and welcoming you in BARCELONA!

Call for Nominees for the 2008 International SPR Awards: Distinguished Research Career and Outstanding Early Career Achievement

Erhard Mergenthaler

Each year, SPR considers making achievement awards: one to a senior distinguished investigator and one or two to promising investigators early in their research careers. 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, 2007*.

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: *Erhard Mergenthaler (Chair)* erhard.Mergenthaler@uni-ulm.de; *Michael Lambert* michael.lambert@byu.edu and *John Clarkin*, jclarkin@med.cornell.edu.

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 9 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 *Prof. Dr. Erhard Mergenthaler, University of Ulm, Am Hochstraess 8, 89081 Ulm; Michael J. Lambert PhD, Professor & Endowed Chair, 272 TLRB, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT 84602, USA; John Clarkin PhD, Professor, New York Presbyterian Hospital—Cornell Medical Center, 21 Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, New York 10605, USA.*

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

Student Travel Awards - SPR Barcelona

European Chapter

Members of the European chapter: Applications for student travel awards should be submitted to the chapter president, Prof. Wolfgang Tschacher (tschacher@spk.unibe.ch or Universität Bern, Laupenstrasse 49, 3010 Bern, Schweiz). The application should include a cover letter, an abstract of the submitted presentation, and a short CV; it may include, if available, a pdf of the presentation and/or a recommendation letter. Please apply before January 1st, 2008.

Latin America Chapter

The Latin American Chapter will award three \$200 travel awards to students from Latin America who present a paper or poster, or who participate in a panel at the Meeting. Application is restricted to first authors. Students should send a copy of the presentation to the Chapter President (spr.la@terra.com.br) by the time of its submission to SPR. A Committee formed by the current Chapter president and two past-presidents will choose the winners.

North America Chapter

The NASPR chapter has implemented a policy whereby students do not need to apply for travel awards. Instead, ALL papers/posters for which students are first authors are automatically reviewed by a selection committee for a potential travel award. Recent committees have given preference to work that is empirical (vs. theoretical/conceptual) and completed at the time the proposal is submitted.

Student Travel Awards - SPR Barcelona (continued)

United Kingdom Chapter

Students and those earning below 18k p.a. may apply for financial support to attend the UK and international meetings. Applications to chris@psyctc.org (cc to chris.evans@nottshc.nhs.uk as Email can be unreliable). Include the conference submission, CV and detail of support requested. Decisions of the chapter steering group are final and awards are paid in arrears on receipt of evidence of attendance, an invoice for the awarded sum, and a brief report on the conference. Deadline for Ravenscar: 1.xii.07, decision by 31.xii.07; for Barcelona: 1.i.08, decision by 1.ii.08.

2nd SPR Europe Methods Workshop for Young Researchers

Franz Caspar, Thomas Berger, Wolfgang Tschacher

In September 2007, more than 50 young SPR members, or doctoral students of SPR members, attended the 2nd SPR Europe Methods Workshop for Young Researchers, which was held in Bern, Switzerland. "This great success can be explained by the very attractive program and the fact that, again, internationally known lecturers have been ready to conduct their workshops without any honorarium. This made the organization and participation affordable," said Franz Caspar and Thomas Berger who – after the success of their first workshop in Geneva 2006 - organized this second workshop in Bern. The program included workshops by European lecturers Wolfgang Tschacher, Giancarlo Dimaggio, Hans Kordy, Benjamin Zimmer, Jürgen Barth, Meinrad Perrez, Peter Wilhelm, Stéphane With, Daniel Gassmann and Christoph Flückiger, who taught methods such as meta-analysis, analysis of nonverbal behavior, quantitative methods for studying psychotherapy process, assessment of metacognition, new technologies in psychotherapy research, ambulatory assessments and assessment of therapeutic factors. Like last year at the first SPR methods workshop in Geneva, where Clara Hill made a significant contribution, again promi-

nent colleagues from the North American SPR chapter contributed: Louis Castonguay, Michelle Newman and Bill Stiles enriched this week with the following workshops: "Additive designs in psychotherapy research" (Louis Castonguay and Michelle Newman) and "Theory building based on case studies" (Bill Stiles). In addition, Castonguay and Stiles held two evening lectures which were opened to a public audience. The basic idea of the methods workshops is to convey psychotherapy research methods on a level and in a breadth beyond that taught at universities, and facilitate contacts for those who want to deepen their knowledge and skills. Networking between doctoral students and young assistants is another important goal. SPR workshops are becoming a successful format within SPR Europe, see the workshop in Rome in 2006, and the upcoming workshop in Lecce, Italy, in December of this year.

More information may be found via the link on the SPR homepage of the European chapter.

Mark Your Calendars!!

Future Meetings

2008 International Meeting: Barcelona, Spain, June 18-21

2009 International Meeting: Santiago de Chile, June 24-27

2010 International Meeting: San Francisco, CA, USA

Important Deadlines for SPR Members:

**November 1, 2007 —
Membership dues for 2008***

**November 1, 2007 —
Start of on-line submissions**

**December 1, 2007 —
Conference submissions due**

*Go to www.psychotherapyresearch.org to renew online or to download a renewal form. Paper renewals will not be mailed this year.