As a Board of Directors and Editors, we want to represent the membership of the Division of Group Psychology and Group Psychotherapy. So we would like to tell you what we are up to, and we’d like to hear from you if it does or does not reflect your expectations, wishes, and concerns. We worked hard during the August convention held in Chicago and the recent mid-winter meeting held in Los Angeles to formulate good goals for the future of our division. These include, among other issues, promoting advanced credentialing for psychologists who work with groups (Joe Kobos and Morris Goodman have worked tirelessly on this) and providing guidelines for educational and training standards for our postdoctoral residencies (David Drum’s able leadership here has forwarded our cause enormously). The Bureau of Educational Affairs (BEA) has proposed criteria and procedures by which guidelines and standards for education and training in psychology will be determined. They have built on previous work done by the Board of Professional Affairs (BPA) and the Committee on Professional Practice and Standards (COPPS). If you would like to read the particulars go to www.apa.org/ed/.

We have also been actively participating in the discourse about defining substantive specialties within psychology that the public can recognize. Our recent admittance to the Council of Specialists allows us to be at the center of this debate.

News from APA Headquarters

The Education Advocacy Issues Update reported by Dr. Cynthia Belar scores a big win for psychology! President Bush signed into law on Oct 28th the reauthorization of the National Health Service Corp (NHSC) that provides $146 million in financial incentives for psychologists to work in designated underserved areas. Plus, psychologists are defined as “Health service providers”; are listed as “primary care providers” along with physicians, nurses, and dentists; and grad students are now eligible for the NHSC scholarship program.

President Goals

As part of the meeting for presidents elect, each of us was asked to share our goals. I presented three: (1) Improve interassociational interaction (AGPA, ASGW, etc.) by possible shared responsibility for credentialing, brainstorming regarding education and leadership, better delivery of research to public through public health advocacy; (2) increase relevance for clinicians in the “trenches” by inviting “normative” clinical cases from main cadre of clinicians without having to go through regular review process of APA Division 49 journal, and providing bullet reports of recent and relevant studies; and (3) broaden graduate and undergraduate student base by increasing the number of student representatives on the board, offering almost free...
In all fairness, many divisions are experiencing a downward trend in membership. Is it all financial? Certainly some members have chosen to drop their membership in divisions due to finances. Our division is experiencing a financial crunch, too, and our membership dues may be increased (see article in this Newsletter). However, we also know from marketing experts that even in financially “tough times,” people are willing to pay for value.

Thus, we are challenged as a division to provide value added services to our membership. And here is where we need your help. What would it take to bring new members into the fold? What is your wish list as a member of Division 49? Let me tweak your thinking a bit….. What do you think of an "Online Newsletter?" How about "handouts and course curriculum" as part of a "Member’s Only" section on the website? Or, would "distance learning" workshops or seminars that carry CE credit be attractive to you?

Let me know your thoughts and I’ll report the results in the next Newsletter. I can be reached at sobelman@loyola.edu.
From the President

(continued from page 1)

first year membership, and adding a student section to the journal that may not have to meet as strict criteria as regular submissions. These later suggestions regarding the journal were discussed and agreed upon by the board at the recent mid-winter meeting. We recommended to our journal editor, Dennis Kivlighan, that he reviews their feasibility.

APA Convention Planning

Allan Elfant and Andy Horne generously donated their time to review the many proposals that were submitted for the upcoming conference in Toronto. (August 7–10; put it on your calendar!) APA is now using “cluster programming” that shortens the conference by a day, and greatly reduces the number of slots we have. Therefore, it was a challenge to select the very best proposals and fit them into narrow time slots. From the reviewers’ recommendations, we put together a program of symposia, workshops, and papers. We want to know from you if this program meets your needs as a division member. Would you like to see more symposia on recent findings on group research, more experiential workshops, invited nationally known guest lecturers?

In addition to the regularly scheduled program, be sure to mark on your calendars the Division Business and Awards Meeting from 3–5 PM Friday, August 8, and the Social later that evening from 7–9 PM. It promises to be a memorable (and free!) event.

If you would like the board to know what you think about convention programming, the topic of identifying specialties, and other relevant group issues, please let us know. Address your comments to Sally_Barlow@byu.edu.

Visit the Website

And have you visited the Division website yet? The address for the site is:

http://www.pitt.edu/~cslewis/GP2/Hello.html

and the pages there contain lots of information about the Division and its activities, along with links to information about news and events of interest to Division members, and to other webpages for organizations, journals, and people devoted to the analysis of group behavior. So why not take the time for a brief visit, and then let us know what you think. Comments and suggestions are welcome--just send them to Dr. Moreland at the e-mail address above.

Division 49 Directory

It has been several years since Division 49 last sent out a directory of its members. Because such directories are very expensive to produce and mail, we have decided to move the directory to our webpage (see the address below), something that many other professional organizations have done recently. If you have a moment, please visit that webpage and look at the directory. Is your name there? Is the information posted about you correct? If you answered “no” to either of these questions, then please contact Dick Moreland, who created the directory webpage and will be maintaining it over time. If you would be willing to have your email address and/or phone number included in the directory someday, then please let us know. Meanwhile, only mailing addresses will be posted.

http://www.pitt.edu/~cslewis/GP2/Hello.html

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Robert Kaltenbach, PhD
Candidate’s Statement
President

I am honored to accept the nomination to run for president-elect of the division. The trust and confidence shown in me by the nominating committee, board, and the membership is indeed gratifying. I will strive to make certain that your trust and confidence is honored by my service.

I am the immediate past treasurer of the division, and thus I have current knowledge of the issues being addressed—specifically training and specialty certification in group therapy and the status of group therapy among third party payers. I believe I have rapport and a cooperative working relationship with board members and APA staff and will be able to move forward with projects of the division. Additionally, I have recently retired from my “day job,” and thus will have both time and interest to devote to division issues.

I have an understanding of the administrative needs and procedures required of this position from previous experience. I have served as secretary/treasurer, vice-chair, and chair of a division of the American Association of Dental Schools. The same positions were held in the Organization of Teachers of Dental Practice Dynamics, a national organization, while I taught patient management skills at the School of Dentistry and Medicine at the Medical College of Georgia. Additionally, I have served as president of a chapter of the American Mental Health Association and have held several committee chair positions at the state level. I have also served as president of several civic associations.

I specialized in group processes and therapy in my graduate training at the University of Georgia and was a charter member of the Association of Specialists in Group Work. I have used groups extensively in training and clinical work as director of a functional rehabilitation program at a pain center and as a faculty member of an APA-approved internship/residency for psychology and psychiatry residents. I coordinated a program for veterans who suffered with PTSD in which group therapy was the major therapeutic entity.

As a project, I offer to develop a task force to determine the status of group as a therapeutic entity among third party payers and to educate them regarding the therapeutic and financial efficacy of group.

I appreciate your consideration of my candidacy to serve as president-elect of the division.

Steve Sobelman, PhD
Candidate's Statement
President

I am most pleased to have the opportunity to represent Division 49 as your President-elect and eventually serve as your President.

My professional career includes teaching, practicing, and advocating for Group Psychology through leadership positions at the National and State levels and within the academic arena. As a full-time psychology professor at Loyola College in Maryland, I teach undergraduate and graduate courses in Group Process and Group Psychotherapy. (I was also the coordinator of Graduate Programs in Psychology.)

I am currently the President of Maryland Psychological Association (MPA) and serve as MPA’s Webmaster and listmaster. I also serve as Newsletter Editor (Division 49). Additionally, I was the founder and clinical director of a large mental health facility and continue my psychotherapy practice.

If elected, I will continue in the position as your Newsletter Editor and continue previous commitments to promote a greater understanding of the needs of group psychology as I keep my finger on the pulse of current trends in psychology. And most importantly, as your President-elect, I will bring new challenges and initiatives to Division 49: 1) increasing membership (especially graduate students), 2) exposure to the public through technological innovations, 3) continued support for research efforts, 4) access to the Board of Directors and Officers through the website (your opinions and comments are vitally important), and 5) fiscal responsibility to our members.

I strongly believe that “if you want to get something done, give it to a busy person.” I’m a busy person and will “get it done” for you. Thank you for your consideration; I welcome your vote.

Eric Chen, PhD
Candidate’s Statement
Member at Large

I am honored as a candidate for Division 49’s Member-at-Large position. A graduate of the counseling psychology program at Arizona State University in 1995, I am an associate professor of Counseling and Counseling Psychology at Fordham University. My research interests and publications have encompassed topics of group counseling process and outcome and of multicultural issues and competencies. Over the past several years I have increased my involvement within the Division, including reviewing proposals for the 2000 and 2001 APA Convention and serving on the editorial board of Group Dynamics: Theory, Research, and Practice. I
Each year, I share my perspectives, encouragement, and love of psychotherapy with doctoral students in the Counseling Psychology program at The Pennsylvania State University, where I am a clinical supervisor and part-time faculty member. Through mentorship and training, I have challenged, sparked interest, supported, and sometimes recruited students and new psychologists into group psychotherapy organizations, including Division 49 and the American Group Psychotherapy Association. I firmly believe that we must actively welcome new psychologists to our Division and our governance if we are to thrive and grow.

Most recently, my position as Publicity Chair on the Executive Board of The Central Pennsylvania Psychological Association has illuminated the critical need we have, as psychologists, to better represent ourselves in the community and current political environment so that those outside of our organizations can benefit from our unique contributions as group psychologists.

I am ready to represent you as a member of the Board of our Division. Please let me count on your vote.

Sandy L. Colbs, PhD
Candidate’s Statement
Member-at-Large

I am pleased to be running for Member-at-Large. My involvement with Division 49 as a member of the SIG for college and university counseling center psychologists has been extremely valuable. I have a strong commitment to my colleagues who share my passion for theory, research and practice of group psychotherapy in counseling center settings. I am a consultant to counseling centers in the development and enhancement of group therapy programs, and have been involved in clinical practice, professional training and research related to group work for 17 years, most recently as director of Student Counseling Services at Illinois State University. I am currently conducting a comprehensive research survey of group therapy practices in counseling centers.

My contributions to professional organizations have focused on creating smaller organizational structures within larger structures to allow graduate students and new professionals to find a “professional home”. I have been an organizer of several such groups both within and outside of APA, and enjoy doing the foundational work that opens the door for involvement and connection by others. I hope to contribute in similar ways to Division 49.

Jennifer Harp, PhD
Candidate’s Statement
Member-at-Large

I am a strong advocate of group psychotherapy and group psychology, and I want to represent you on the Board of Division 49. I bring several perspectives that deepen my sincere interest and prepare me for this exciting opportunity.

As a full-time clinician, I am firmly committed to the current and future challenges of practicing psychologists; my first concern is for continued excellence in our clinical work. Current mental health care coverage policies, changes in clinical training models, and economic realities issues affect us all. We feel it professionally and financially. It can be challenging to maintain our standards and professional passions while participating in a current climate that can sometimes erode our morale and resolve.

If elected Member-at-Large, I will work to maintain a strong and participatory membership.

Lynn Rapin, PhD
Candidate’s Statement
Member-at-Large

I am in private practice as a psychologist and consultant to health care and nonprofit organizations. I am also an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Cincinnati, where I have taught for 22 years. My group work has centered on ethics, best practices in group work, and group work in organizations. I have served as a member of the Division 49 Ethics Committee and the Prevention and Groups Committee. I have over seventy publications, including six chapters on group work, and regularly present at national meetings. I have served in other leadership capacities including current membership on the Ohio Psychological Association Board as in-house consultant to the board staff and Co-Chair of the Personnel Committee and past Co-chair of the Insurance Committee. I co-authored the Association for Specialists in Group Work Best Practice Guidelines and was Ethics Chair for several years; I also co-authored the 2000 Training Standards, served six years on editorial board, and currently serve on the ASGW board as the immediate Past-President. I am a Fellow of ASGW and have received its Professional Advancement Award.

If elected Member-at-Large, I will work to maintain a strong and participatory membership.

Division 49 Website
http://www.pitt.edu/~cslewis/GP2/Hello.html
As you look forward to the 2003 APA Convention, keep in mind that Division 49’s program once again will be guided by a “cluster-programming model.” This approach joins between five and seven divisions who have some commonality among their various missions to form a cluster. Representatives of the divisions in each cluster meet together in Washington, DC, to develop a broadly based theme that relates to the missions of all participating divisions in the particular cluster. They also select a keynote speaker. The various divisions, in turn, use the cluster theme to develop supporting programs for presentation at APA.

This year Division 49 joins the following divisions in Cluster H:

- Division 12, Clinical Psychology;
- Division 25, Behavior Analysis;
- Division 28, Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse;
- Division 38, Health Psychology;
- Division 47, Exercise and Sport Psychology; and
- Division 50, Addictive Behaviors.

The theme of Cluster H is “Optimizing Quality of Life in Sickness and in Health.” Division 49’s programming theme is “Optimizing Well-being through Group Modalities: Using Prevention, Theme, Psychodynamic Psychotherapy Groups in Improving Quality of Life.” Sally Barlow will be chairing this panel presentation. It appears that the keynote speaker for Cluster H will be Martin Seligman, whose work relates quite well to Cluster H focus. As a popular speaker, it is expected that Dr. Seligman will draw people to the keynote address, who will stay for the symposia that follow.

Where Are We Going?

Andy Horne, PhD
President-Elect

I am pleased to be the president-elect of our organization and look forward to a wonderful period of time working with the Board, the membership, and APA. I have been involved with our Division since its inception and have had the opportunity of observing our organization grow from the initial membership and fledgling start to the strong and vibrant organization we are today, one in which we may all have pride.

While we have moved from a beginning group to a more mature one, there are ongoing challenges that face our division. The previous leadership has done an excellent job of managing the problems that have come to the Division, and hopefully I will be able to follow in their lead. Specifically, there are a number of issues that need to be in the foreground rather than the background:

Membership. We have experienced a decline in membership of our organization, and steps need to be taken to identify why this is happening, who is leaving, and what might be done to help maintain the organization as a viable force in the lives of psychologists who were once with us, but not now. To accomplish this task we have initiated a follow-up of previous members seeking to learn from them why they left and what recommendations they may have for making the division more attractive again.

Budget and expenses. As membership goes down, so does the income of the division, and it is necessary at this point to identify ways to reduce the spending of the organization. The Board has begun considering methods of reducing costs involved, including managing more business via email and phones and less face-to-face time, though we all know the importance of coming together. Still, the balance of the budget has been going the wrong way and it is important that it be turned around.

Your input into how to address both of the problems is welcome; I hope you will write or email your thoughts and suggestions for how to creatively and energetically approach change. There are a number of other issues on the table, including considerations regarding the method of delivery of the newsletter (paper, electronic, other?), the status of specialization within APA, and the ongoing balance of synergy of group psychology and group psychotherapy.

I welcome your thoughts, input, and suggestions. Please feel free to contact me via email (ahorne@coe.uga.edu), phone (706-542-4107) or mail (402 Aderhold Hall, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA, 30602). Warm regards, and here’s to a great year.
I am excited and pleased to be saying hello to you in my new role as Treasurer of Division 49. But, I have a bit of trepidation with my first recommendation as Treasurer. As I write this, I am flying home from the recent board meeting of our division in Los Angeles. I have the charge from the Board to provide an update regarding Division 49’s fiscal realities. Additionally, I want to share the board’s recommendations for how best to develop our financial foundation.

The reality is that the declining membership in our division (widespread in many APA divisions) has resulted in our spending beyond our yearly income for each of the last three years. Fortunately we have a solid financial cushion and we have been able to absorb the loss of income associated with the loss of members. But, the trend is disturbing and the Board is taking steps to change this.

First, our already lean budget is being carefully reviewed for any items that can be reduced. Secondly, we are recommending to the membership an increase in dues from the current amount of $37 per year to $49 per year ($49 for division 49!). This increase in membership dues will move us out of a deficit and into the black in our operating budget. This proposal from the Board will be voted on in the annual business meeting held at the Toronto Convention in August, 2003. Last, but equally important, join us in encouraging colleagues to join Division 49 and help us build our financial health.

Report From the Student Committee

Kenin M. Krieger, MS
(PhD Candidate, Indiana University)
Student Chair, Division 49

I am pleased to be the new Student Chair of Division 49 and hope to build on the work of Martyn Whittingham, who provided strong leadership during the past year. Membership in APAGS has been on an increase, and I hope to attract more students to Division 49.

My own research and practice interests include the use of developmental theory in group psychotherapy, leadership training, therapeutic conditions required for change, and the use of technology and online learning environments in undergraduate and graduate classrooms.

The following guidelines will serve the Student Committee in pursuing the Mission, Vision, and Goals.

Mission

To provide information, services, and networking opportunities for students interested in group work. To provide leadership opportunities for students.

Vision

Leadership

- To involve students in the workings of Division 49 student affairs.
- To create continuity between leadership bodies.
- To establish a consistent flow of applicants to the student government.
- To establish a structure for finding and voting in new student committee members.

Membership

- To create a large body of student members invested in group work and its correlates.
- To establish meaningful benefits to membership that extend beyond those currently in place.

Goals

Short Term

Connections and networking:
- Establish closer ties with APAGS
- Determine avenues for possible collaborations with APAGS

Web-based resources:
- Develop content for a web-based system that will be useful for student committee activity and benefits
- Determine content and uses

Long Term

- To establish continuity of student membership
- To establish continuity of student leadership
- To provide extensive web-based guidance related to students’ needs with respect to group work
- To establish opportunities for mentoring relationships at conferences.
Message From the Webmaster

Richard Moreland, PhD
Webmaster, Division 49

Division 49 has both a website and a listserv. The website, located at http://www.pitt.edu/~cslewis/GP2/Hello.html, contains links to a variety of useful web pages, including a brief history of the division; a listing of division officers (with contact information); brief descriptions of the division’s journal and newsletter; a summary of news and events relevant to division members; links to other websites related to group theory, research, and practice; and much more. Division members are encouraged to visit the website and take advantage of what they find there. Suggestions for improving the website are welcome—just contact Dick Moreland at cslewis@pitt.edu.

The listserv, which currently includes nearly 400 division members, is used to send out email messages of many kinds to as many people as possible. The messages include job listings and opportunities for postdoctoral study, announcements of upcoming conferences, news of interest to division members, and requests for help by division members. Division members who are not on the listserv address list can join by contacting Dick Moreland at cslewis@pitt.edu.

Division 49: Group Psychology and Group Psychotherapy
Board of Directors’ and Editors’ Winter Board Meeting Minutes

Robert K. Conyne, PhD
Secretary

The Board of Directors and Editors met in Los Angeles on January 25, 2003, for the Annual Mid-Winter Meeting.

The following are highlights from that meeting:

President – Sally Barlow

Dr. Barlow welcomed everyone. She was pleased to announce that CoS has recognized us, and we can now establish an APA-approved postdoctoral training program in the group specialty.

President-Elect – Andy Horne

Very excited to be part of this Association and has been involved with it since its start. Andy likes to get structure and use it to help guide an organization.

APA Council – Allan Elfant

Next report will be after the upcoming APA Executive Council meeting. It was pointed out that all our apportionment votes were not cast for Division 49. However, there is little chance that we could increase our representation, anyway, given our numbers.

Journal, Group Dynamics—Dennis Kivlighan

Major issue for Journal is relatively lower number of submissions in relation to quality.

A number of questions regarding the journal were asked. Would special issues help with the submission and planning problem? Dr.

Kivlighan pointed out: therapeutic, social psychology, and organizational development areas need to be balanced. Submissions in those three areas were: 24% therapeutic, 39% social psychology, and 37% organizational. However, in terms of publication the percentages were not so balanced, favoring the therapeutic. Suggestions were made as to how to increase balance and how the Journal might encourage future submission of articles.

Newsletter, The Group Psychologist—Steve Sobelman

It was asked that Newsletter items be submitted in order to keep members “in the loop.” Questions regarded what information is of value to members. Suggestions were presented and discussed.

Treasurer—Susan Gantt

Membership is down as a Division, which parallels many other Divisions in APA. Over the last 5 years we have declined from 1,105 members to 724 members. This decline impacts us financially: $6,000 to $8,000 deficit per year over the last 3 years with cash reserve declining by 45% over that period. Suggestions were made as to how to remedy this problem.

Standing Committee Reports, which are too lengthy for inclusion in the Newsletter, were presented by the following:

Awards—Andy Horne

Education and training—Sally Barlow

Fellows—Gloria Gottsegen

Membership—Traci Callandrillo

Nomination and Elections—David Drum
I attended the recent Council of Specialists (CoS) meeting held in Washington, DC, on November 23, 2002. The council dealt with several issues, and I’ve tried to highlight them.

1. The Bureau of Educational Affairs (BEA). BEA has proposed criteria and procedures by which guidelines and standards for education and training in psychology—they are looking for public comment—go to www.apa.org/ed/. They built on previous work done by Board of Professional Affairs (BPA) and the Committee on Professional Practice and Standards (COPPS).

2. The Specialty recognition discourse continues. Current highlights include the Committee on Professional Practice and Standard’s COPPS’s draft of evolving principles, a soon-to-be-appointed advisory committee to oversee this entire conundrum—CoS recommended Russ Bent to the APA. Hopefully, they will address the many constituent needs from the Committee on Accreditation (CoA), CoS, and CRSSSP (the Commission on the Recognition of Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology).

3. Ted Packard’s report on the postdoctoral residency programs—Key information: “The substantive specialty practice area is one that has been endorsed as follows: 1) the specialty has been recognized by the Commission on the Recognition of Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology (CRSPPP) of the APA or by the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) AND 2) the specialty has been recognized by and holds membership in the Council of Specialties (CoS), AND, 3) the specialty has provided the Committee on Accreditation (CoA) with educational and training guidelines endorsed by that specialty.”

4. Finally, the Education Advocacy Issues Update reported by Cynthia Belar accounts a big win for psychology! President Bush signed into law on Oct 28th the reauthorization of the National Health Service Corp (NHSC) that provides $146 million in financial incentives for psychologists to work in designated underserved areas. Plus, psychologists are defined as “Health service providers” and are listed as “primary care providers” along with physicians, nurses, and dentists; and grad students are now eligible for the NHSC scholarship program.
Walls and Bridges in Group Psychotherapy

David A, Kipper, PhD, ABGP

The reading list that I have compiled for my graduate course on group psychotherapy includes one book that provides a broad review of contemporary main forms of this sub-discipline. Rather than reflecting a single theoretical orientation, this particular textbook describes at some length a number of models and group interventions. Although my class, not uncharacteristically, tends to focus on one basic approach, I believe that novices to group psychotherapy should be aware of other group psychotherapy models. Accordingly, in reviewing the reading list with my students, I explain that “as clinicians and therapists in the making, they may benefit from the opportunity to know what else exists in our field. It may help them explore, sometime after the completion of their formal studies, additional group psychotherapy approaches, if they so choose.”

I was quite intrigued when it was brought to my attention that in phrasing my rationale for assigning the book (as quote above) I used the word “additional group psychotherapy approaches” rather than “other…approaches.” To the person who drew my attention to my choice of words, the word additional implies that a familiarity with group psychotherapy interventions based on several approaches would have a cumulative effect on her practice. She is expected, then, to become an eclectic therapist who integrates different kinds of interventions into the group therapy that represents her primary practice. The word other, on the other hand, implies a search for a replacement for her present primary therapeutic approach. So, I was asked, which word did I really mean to say and what is my position on this issue?

Like any other psychotherapeutic modality, the survival of group psychotherapy as a valid treatment of choice will depend on its demonstrated effectiveness. This put a heavy responsibility on two small groups of professionals: the researchers and the trainers. Much has been said on the role of the researchers, so let me address the trainers.

A great number of contemporary training programs in group psychotherapy follow the old tradition—that is, having an exclusive focus on one theoretical orientation and the intervention technique(s) and process(s) associated with it. Either by design or by benign neglect they discourage integration of techniques and interventions that emanate from other forms of group psychotherapy. Trainers became the “guardians of the walls.”

The current trend in individual therapy points to a movement toward applying different treatment interventions for different psychological dysfunctions. Such specialized interventions have been introduced as either alternative modalities to the primary therapeutic orientation or as additions to it. A part of such a movement has been evident in the field of group psychotherapy. So far, it pertained to models of group psychotherapy that serve as alternative to one’s primary modality, mostly those essentially based on psychodynamic theories. In addition we have also seen the development of group psychotherapy alternatives for specialized client groups (e.g., MacKenzie, 1990; Marziali & Munroe-Blum, 1994; Stone, 1996; Vannicelli, 1989). However, creating interventions/techniques derived from different orientations that may be intermittently incorporated into one’s primary approach is still an unmet challenge. Examples of such approaches would be the use of role-playing sequences, or action-based experiential reintegration therapy (Kipper, 2001) in verbal therapies. It could also include reformulating cognitive therapy techniques in the form or role-playing, or the adoption of cognitive techniques in traditional psychodynamic-oriented group psychotherapies. This way, trainers of group psychotherapy can become powerful “builders of bridges.”

References


The writer’s e-mail address: kipperda@aol.com

Listserve and Website

Are you participating in Division 49’s e-mail listserve? If not, then you’ve missed out on many interesting and potentially valuable messages about job opportunities (academic and nonacademic), calls for papers in special journal issues, conference announcements, and so on. The listserve has also allowed members to consult with one another on issues of mutual concern, such as evaluations of various therapy techniques. Several hundred Division members are already on the listserve—if you want to join them, then just contact Dr. Richard Moreland (cslewis@pitt.edu).

And have you visited the Division website yet? The address for the site is http://www.pitt.edu/~cslewis/GP2/Hello.html, and the pages there contain lots of information about the Division and its activities, along with links to information about news and events of interest to Division members, and to other webpages for organizations, journals, and people devoted to the analysis of group behavior. So why not take the time for a brief visit, and then let us know what you think. Comments and suggestions are welcome—just send them to Dr. Moreland at the e-mail address above.
Consultation Corner

Allan B. Elfant, PhD, ABPP

We are instituting this section of the newsletter to invite readers to submit narratives that describe a dilemma, struggle, or question pertinent to a theme that pertains to leading a psychotherapy group. We will then request a consultation input from seasoned group practitioners. If you decide to respond, e-mail me at abelfant@aol.com as well as our newsletter editor, Steve Sobelman (steve@cantoncove.com). Let us know if you wish to use your name or remain anonymous.

The first theme for this column will be on group therapist self-disclosure. We know as group clinicians that we are always revealing ourselves in what we do or do not say, where we elect to intervene, what we focus on, and how and where we engage our attention. In addition, disclosing subjective experiences or autobiographical

Why Pursue ABPP Specialty Certification?

Joseph Kobos, PhD, ABPP

Many ask why we developed the Group Specialty within ABPP and whether they should pursue the certificate. The following, which is paraphrased from an ABPP brochure, answers these questions.

The practice of American psychology has become increasingly complex. There has been a decided trend toward practice focused in delimited areas with a number of such areas emerging as specialties. The ABPP establishes and continually incorporates the current developments in the definition and requirements of specialties in professional psychology. Over the past decade 9 new specialties have joined 3 traditional specialties that have been in the field for the past 50 years. The new specialties have emerged through public needs and professional advancements.

The public is not expected to be knowledgeable about specialty requirements such as accredited doctoral programs, internships, or supervised post-doctoral training.

The clearest and most responsible way for a psychologist to represent herself/himself to the public, third-parties, and the profession as a specialist is to be certified through an organized peer process as meeting the standards and demonstrating the competencies required in the specialty. ABPP is the only nonprofit professional unitary organization with multiple-specialty board quality controls recognized by the profession as certifying specialty practitioners in psychology.

Some of the rewards of specialty board certification include:

The attainment of an independent, rigorous verification that the standards and competencies required in a specialty area of psychology have been met.

Holding an increasingly valuable credential, in the context of increasing speciality practice, which is recognized by universities, hospitals, health service systems, agencies, and the public.

Listing as Board Certified Specialist in the on-line ABPP Directory and in a number of ABPP Academy Directories available as a guide to the public, third parties, and colleagues.

Membership as a Fellow in the Academy of the specialty. The newly organized Academies provide professional fellowship, continuing education, advocacy activities, recruitment, improving quality and accessibility of services in the specialty, participation in Specialty Board examination, and the election of Specialty Board members.

Receipt of and opportunity to publish in the Diplomate, the official newsletter of the ABPP.

Invitation to attend and participate in the ABPP’s National Convocation held during the APA National Convention.

Recognition by most licensing jurisdictions of the Diploma as an endorsement for reciprocity of licensure.

Increasing recognition by employers such as the U.S. Public Health Service and the U.S. Department of Defense for salary bonus benefits.

Qualification for reduction of liability practice insurance by American Professional Agency.

An opportunity to support and participate in the advancement of the specialty practice of psychology at the local, state, and national levels through the governance of the ABPP and the Academies.

Most fundamentally, to meet the standard of a responsible profession that, when offering specialty services to the public, the professional psychologist offering such services should be certified in the specialty by the profession.
New Serials Recommendation Form

To: Serials Librarian

I recommend that our library subscribe to the journal *Group Dynamics: Theory, Research, and Practice*. This new journal is published by Division 49 of the American Psychological Association, Group Psychology and Group Psychotherapy.

The major use of the journal for our library would be: (1 = Extremely Important, 2 = Moderately Important, 3 = Less Important).

1 2 3 Reference: This journal is emerging as an outstanding source of the latest research dealing with groups in a range of contexts.

1 2 3 Student Reading: I intend to scan the contents of new issues regularly for articles to add to my students’ reading list.

1 2 3 Publication Outlet: My current research requires a publication outlet in this area. The journal provides up-to-date editorial directions and interests.

1 2 3 Likely Benefit for Library: My evaluation of this journal’s contents and direction is very positive; including this journal in our library will, in my assessment, add the library’s success in fulfilling overall department, faculty, and student needs.

1 2 3 Personal Affiliation and Dissemination: I am a member of this journal’s sponsoring association/editorial board. I will recommend articles on a regular basis to students and colleagues. The library’s help in providing the material is most appreciated.

Please include this journal in your next serials review meeting with my recommendation. Thank you.

Name:

Department and Phone Number:

*Group Dynamics: Theory, Research, and Practice*

ISSN: 1089-2699
Quarterly
Institution: $150.00 (list); $182.00 (international surface); $195.00 (international airmail)

Publisher:
American Psychological Association
Subscriptions
750 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242
CALL FOR DIVISION 49 FELLOW NOMINATIONS

Gloria B. Gottsegen, PhD
Chair, Fellows Committee, Division 49

The Fellows Committee invites you to apply for initial Fellow status if you

1. have held a doctoral degree in psychology for at least five years;

2. have been a member of the Division for at least one year;

3. have made an outstanding and documented contribution to the science, teaching, and/or research of group psychology and/or the practice of group psychotherapy;

4. are endorsed by three APA Fellows, including two Fellows within the Division if possible.

Current Fellows, who are already Fellows in other divisions and who seek Fellow status in Division 49, should submit a statement outlining their involvement in group psychology and/or group psychotherapy.

Please send for your application forms early, since the process is a lengthy one. The deadline for final submission of materials for 2003–2004 is December 1, 2003.

Requests for application forms should be sent to

Gloria B. Gottsegen, PhD
Chair, Fellows Committee, Division 49
22777 Meridiana Drive
Boca Raton, FL 33433-6310
Fax: 561/393-2823
E-mail: GGottsegen@aol.com

Newsletter Deadlines

February 15
May 15
September 15

All material for publication must be submitted to the Editor either on a computer disk (3 1/2") or as an email attachment (in Microsoft Word or Word Perfect format).
self-nomination form in this space
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### Task Force on Use of Groups for Prevention

| Task Force                   | Robert Conyne, PhD                                        | Hob: 312-867-0400           |
GROUP PSYCHOLOGY AND GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY (49)
American Psychological Association
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Please type or print

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☐Student Affiliate: A person enrolled full-time in a graduate program or school of recognized standing in psychology with an interest in the science and practice of group psychology and/or group psychotherapy.

DUES STRUCTURE (2001)
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Member ..................... $35.00
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Signature of Applicant Date