

BOARD NEWS

American Board
of Examiners
in Psychodrama,
Sociometry and
Group Psychotherapy

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Number 2

ELECTED BOARD DIRECTORS

Chairperson: Karen Drucker, Psy.D., T.E.P.
 Vice-Chairperson: Mari Pat McGuire, L.C.S.W.-C., T.E.P.
 Secretary: Lin Considine, M.S., L.M.H.C., C.P., P.A.T.
 Treasurer: Jeffrey Yates, L.C.S.W., T.E.P.
 Directors: Martica Bacallao, Ph.D., C.P., P.A.T.
 Elaine Camerota, Ed.D., T.E.P.
 Kim Friedman, M.A., L.M.H.C., C.P., P.A.T.
 Louise Lipman, L. C.S.W., C.G.P., T.E.P.
 Fiona G. Roche, C.Q.S.W., R.S.W., C.G.P.A.(Dip.), T.E.P.

MY FIRST BOARD MEETING

KIM FRIEDMAN, M.A., L.M.H.C., C.P., P.A.T.



After returning from my first weekend of joining the Board at the September meeting in D.C., I felt energized by the experience. My passion for the work is reinvigorated by the camaraderie of sitting together and discussing psychodrama within the context of the exam, the business of the

organization and its future goals for keeping the community vital and growing. Serving on the Board allows me an opportunity to join with others and feel the satisfaction of accomplishing tasks that connect me more deeply to my professional work. This is a welcome change to my routine since I work primarily on my own in private practice.

Fiona Roche and Elaine Camerota are fellow knitters who join me in beginning a new term on the Board. Fiona brings a fresh perspective as I do, and Elaine adds a depth of experience from serving on the board many times in the past. Karen Drucker took the helm this year and chaired the meetings with grace and an ability to refocus our efforts when time was running short. Dale Buchanan, in the role of Executive Director, provided a sense of pacing and history that helped the Board move forward with mindful consideration.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR KAREN DRUCKER, PSY.D., T.E.P.



Dear Certified Psychodramatists,

I am writing this the day of the written exams, October 17, 2009. I am sending blessings to all of you taking the exam. May you be clear and creative, may your anxiety create enough adrenalin to enhance your performance, and not too much to stifle your spontaneity. May you feel proud of yourself for your commitment and moving towards this accomplishment. Thank you to all the trainers and colleagues who helped

the examinees get ready for this day.

We have eight PATs taking the TEP exam this year, and two people taking the CP exam. At first, we were concerned that the numbers of CP candidates were so low. To examine this more closely, Martica Bacallao designed a graph to show the number of CP and PAT candidates each year since 1981. The graph helped us detect a pattern in CP exam-takers over the course of 29 years (1981-2009). There appears to be a peak every 5 to 6 years, and then, a big drop in the number of people taking the CP exam, followed by a slow ascent back up. Last year, we had 14 people take the CP exam, which made it a peak year. This year is the descent. For more information on this issue, please see the article on page 3 by Dale Richard Buchanan.

The 2009 Psychodrama Directory includes 407 certified psychodramatists. There is a record number of PATs involved in the PAT process—a total of 51! You are the ones who really keep us on our toes, so thank you for your commitment to psychodrama! We are pleased to know that more than half of you use our website.

This past September, the Board met at Dale's house in Washington, DC, and we welcomed new board members, Fiona

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

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Riche, Kim Friedman, and Elaine Camerota. It was wonderful to feel the new energy and curiosity of Fiona and Kim, as we pondered over questions for the CP and TEP exams. We also appreciated the history and breadth of experience that Elaine brought—she served on the Board for nine years, from 1991 to 2000. Our longest serving board director is Alton Barbour who served on the Board for 13 years. We have had other people who served three terms; Dena Baumgartner, Jeanne Burger, Nina Garcia, Kate Hudgins, John Mosher, Elizabeth White, and Sandra Wood. Elaine is on the start of her fourth term and will be the second longest serving board member at the end of this year.

One of topics on our agenda item for January, 2010, are the pros and cons of electronic submission of PAT, TEP, and CP forms. There has also been some interest in having an on-line course available for people to get the basics of psychodrama theory and concepts. Both raise a variety of issues. Although we want to keep up with the current generation of computer users and available technology for education, any changes in the certification process such as these, must be approved by a majority vote of the membership. We'll be discussing this among many other issues, as well as evaluating the written exams in West Palm Beach, Florida. Lin Considine has graciously offered to host us in her home for our January meeting.

Other exciting news is the amount of people becoming certified who are non-native English speakers. Most are from the Republic of China, but we also have speakers of the romance languages from Europe, Mexico, and Latin America. In cases when English is a foreign language

(EFL), and the written portion of the exam is in English with psychodrama terminology, language may become a barrier for the EFL test-taker. This poses new challenges for both the EFL candidates and for the reviewers of the exam. The Board is aware of this challenge, and is currently exploring adaptations to facilitate the language differences in our growing multi-lingual group of EFL candidates working towards certification.

Given the difficult economic times, the Board has decided to not raise the CP and TEP dues for the fourth year in a row. We know that finances are tight for many of you, and we appreciate you keeping your certification current. You may not know that Board policy states that if you do not renew your certification, then your certification is terminated! You go through blood, sweat, tears, time and energy to get certified. Please don't let your certification lapse.

Each year, there are elections for two TEP and one CP positions for the Board. Please consider running. Notify us if you are interested. We work hard but have a great time connecting with each other! I am running again as I'm only in the role playing phase of this Chair position, and need another year for role creating!

Thank you for being my colleagues, and giving me this opportunity to give back to the psychodrama community, which has given me so much.

Warmly,



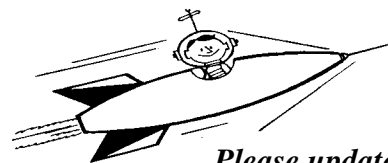
MY FIRST BOARD MEETING

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Martica Bacallao brought a level of precision to the wording of exam questions and delight in the intellectual discussion that infused inspiration in our efforts. Lin Considine, Mari Pat McGuire, and Jeffrey Yates provided a solid core of board experience to draw upon in moments of debate, and I look forward to working with Louise Lipman in January when we reconvene. [Louise was not able to attend the Fall Meeting.]

The generosity of the team to offer their homes for future meetings was impressive. I am proud to be part of a group filled with such wonderful people, and highly recommend the experience of serving on the Board to anyone who is interested in deepening their involvement and giving back to the organization. As I look toward completing my TEP exam three years from now, I cannot imagine a better way to reengage with the material, and the community. Thank you for electing me. I wish everyone the best in the coming year, and may you have abundance in all that you need.

MOVING or CHANGING YOUR EMAIL ??



*Please update your information at
www.psychodramacertification.org*

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Members are encouraged to submit Newsletter materials.

**AN INFORMAL STUDY ON THE
LOW CP TURNOUT FOR 2009
DALE RICHARD BUCHANAN, PH.D., T.E.P.**

Given the low number of candidates taking the CP examination this year, the Board did an informal study on the issue of low turnout. Martica Bacallao created a graph analysis of the number of persons taking the written examination over the past twenty-nine years. Dale Richard Buchanan conducted an informal survey of trainers who traditionally send their students for certification.

Looking closely at the graph of the number of candidates over the past twenty-nine years, we found a pattern of peaks and valleys in the number of persons taking the CP examination. Over the course of nearly three decades, a peak occurs every 5 to 6 years. A peak is seen when a higher than average number appears from the preceding years. Following the peak, is the valley, which is a lower number than the average number from the preceding years.

True to the pattern charted on the graph, the years of 2003 to 2007, showed a lower numbers of candidates. Then in 2008, we experienced a peak year with fourteen CP candidates taking the written examination. A significant drop in the number of CP candidates for 2009 (a total of 2) has occurred. This drop could have been predicted from the pattern that we saw on the graph, charting nearly three decades of the quantity of CP exam-takers.

The Board suspects that the peaks may be caused when students from the same training group join together to take the written examination in the same year. Some candidates for certification take the exam at the earliest possible opportunity, as soon as they have acquired the training hours and practicum experience. Other candidates continue with more training hours and practicum experience than is required by the Board, and take the exam in a later timeframe.

An informal survey of trainers who typically refer students for certification found that some trainers noted a decline in students and other trainers noted an increase in students while the majority of trainers reported no change in the number of their trainees. At this point in time, there does not seem to be a decline in the number of persons enrolled in psychodrama training. Indeed, by monitoring our website (workshop calendar and training events), the actual number of training events appear to have increased over the past several years. Nonetheless, the Board will continue to closely monitor, gather information from various sources, and assess this issue of concern in low turnout for the CP process, to see what comes up, or down, in the following years.

2008 ABE INCOME & EXPENSES

Income	
CP Dues	17,960.00
CP Fees	6,700.00
Interest	586.68
On-site Income	436.18
PAT Fees	5,450.00
TEP Dues	26,023.49
TEP Fees	2,535.77
TOTAL INCOME	\$59,692.12
Expenses	
Bank Charges	65.28
Directory	1,588.57
Exam Administration	100.00
Exec. Director	17,200.00
Graphic Design	165.00
Internet Services	600.00
Legal & Prof. Fees	135.00
Meetings	4,640.96
Newsletter	420.82
Office Expense	8,000.00
On-Sites	1,644.14
Photocopy	128.88
Postage	2,314.45
Printing	391.28
Proctors	1,210.00
Secretarial	10,000.00
Supplies	849.98
Telephone	685.89
Webmaster	620.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$50,760.25
Surplus	\$8,331.87

A large portion of the surplus was generated by the peak number of applications for certification.

PSYCHODRAMA WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT

Barry Spodak, L.I.C.S.W., T.E.P. was featured in a front page article in the August 17, 2009, issue of *The Washington Post*. The article was titled, "Threat Theater: For the Actor's, It's a Living. For the Officers, It's a Test of Nerve." In this article, Barry discussed the schizophrenic, bipolar, and paranoid characters he created to help law enforcement agents assess threats on the lives of presidents, supreme court justices and other VIPs. A video of his work was also created and is posted on-line at *The Washington Post*. To search for the video go to <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/video/2009/08/14/VI2009081402838.html>.



OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR PAT

Any certified practitioner who wishes to enroll in the practitioner applicant for trainer process can obtain the forms and all supporting materials free of charge at our website. If you prefer, we will send you the PAT forms and supporting materials provided that you send us payment of \$50.00. Persons can enroll in the PAT process anytime between January 1st and July 15th of each year. Enrollment in the PAT process begins the day that we receive these completed materials in our office. The first annual update is not due until July 15th of the following year.

BOARD CONVERSATION HOUR

If you are attending the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania we invite you to come to our annual Conversation Hour. The Board's Conversation Hour will be held on Saturday, April 17th from 12:45 PM - 2:15 PM. Board Directors will be present to answer your questions and address your concerns. The location for the Board's Conversation Hour will be announced in the conference package.

ADDRESS CHANGES & CORRECTIONS

Since the publication of our directory several other members have updated their addresses and contact information. For the most current information on our members, please go to our website at www.psychodramacertification.org.

ELECTIONS NOTICE

The Board has openings for two T.E.P. positions and one C.P. position. Members are expected to pay for one-half of their transportation and all other expenses to attend twice-yearly meetings. One meeting is held on the 3rd weekend in January and the other meeting is scheduled for the weekend after Labor Day Weekend. The exact location of the meetings vary and are set by the Board Directors at the previous meeting. If you are interested in standing for election, please call our office and we will send you instructions for writing a brief biographical statement. Nominations must be received by January 8, 2010.

THE HEALING CIRCLE MODEL

John Mosher's Healing Circle book has been updated and revised. *Cycles of Healing: Creating Our Paths to Wholeness* the 2009 edition is available in electronic form from him at no cost. To obtain an electronic copy of his book simply email him at res6jrz8@verizon.net.

CP & TEP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

CP and TEP applications are available free of charge on our website (www.psychodramacertification.org). If applicants would prefer that we mail them the materials, there is a \$50.00 processing fee for each application. Application packages will not be mailed after June 15, 2010. Completed CP and TEP applications are due by July 15th.



American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama

68TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

April 15 - 19, 2010

Marriott Courtyard - Downtown, Philadelphia, PA

SATURDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

How Psychodrama Became Part of the Addictions Field

TIAN DAYTON, MA, PhD, TEP

Dr. Dayton, the director of The New York Psychodrama Training Institute, is a ASGPP Fellow and Scholar's Award winner. Dr. Dayton was faculty at New York University for eight years. She has authored many books, among them *The Living Stage: A Step by Step Guide to Psychodrama, Sociometry, and Experiential Group Therapy*. One of her two training DVDs is *Trauma and the Body*. Dr. Dayton has been a guest expert on NBC, CNN, MSNBC, Montel, Rikki Lake, John Walsh and Geraldo.

FRIDAY OPENING PLENARY SPEAKER:

What's Going on in Bioethics?

JONATHAN MORENO, PhD

Dr. Moreno is the David and Lyn Silfen University Professor of Ethics and Professor of Medical Ethics and of History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania. He is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Sciences.

PRE & POST CONFERENCE

TRAINING INSTITUTES / WORKSHOPS

In Group Psychotherapy, Psychodrama, Sociometry, Sociodrama and Creative Arts Therapies; the use of action methods in a wide variety of applications

Credit Hours / CEUs

NAADAC, approved CASACs; NBCC, Certified Counselors; National Registry of Group Psychotherapists; MFT & SW (CA) and PCB (PA) Approved Hours

FOR MORE INFORMATION, or to register on-line, go to www.ASGPP.org

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