

I. Structure

A. Officers:

President: Joellen Peters, PhD and Michael Donnell, PsyD

President-Elect: Sara Hamilton, PsyD,

Section IV Representative: Michael Donnell, PsyD

Past-President: JoAnn Ponder, PhD

Treasurer: Michael Uebel, LCSW

Education Chair: Lisa Madsen, MD

Education Chair Elect: Ryan Parker, LCSW

Secretary: Suzanne Stambaugh, Psy.D.

Membership Chair: Ryan Parker, LCSW

Members at Large: Andrew Wade, LMFT-A, Seja Rachael, LPC-S

B. Membership: ASPP has 107 members, 24 also are members of Division 39. Approximately 45 members are psychologists, 10 are psychiatrists, 29 are Licensed Social Workers and 16 are licensed professional counselors. There are 9 student members spread across professions.

C. Diversity: ASPP attracts quite a few early career professionals, working primarily in clinical rather than academic settings. Of the 107 members, 77 are women, 28 are men. We have a membership chair who is working on increased programming for early career professionals and pre-licensed clinicians. We also offer CME's, through co-sponsorship by Center for Psychoanalytic Studies, which is affiliated with APsaA; this has made membership more attractive to physicians.

II. Governance Functions

A. Governance Structure: ASPP is governed by an elected board of officers. The presidency is a three-year track (president-elect, president, past president); the other officers serve two-year terms. The board also includes a secretary, treasurer, and two members at large. Governance begins each year with a day-long board retreat in August attended by all of the current officers. Thereafter, the current officers have a board meeting one evening per month through May and also make decisions by e-mail.

B. Program Planning: The board works as a whole to plan the programs. A yearly theme is chosen by the president-elect for the upcoming year. The president-elect heads up the effort in creating the programming for that year, including finding nationally known speakers to address the theme at a one to two-day conference. There are typically at least one clinical conference, one conference revolving around a diversity theme, one on ethics and one on supervision, that are designed to meet various licensing requirements.

Members are recruited to present on theme-related topics at the monthly meetings. Salons, study groups and classes are also created and offered by our members. We also sponsor a community event each year, and a yearly fundraiser.

C. Program Administration: The president presides at the retreat, board and monthly meetings, and aids in the coordination of the conferences. The education chair coordinates the classes/salons and aids in coordinating conferences and community events. In addition, the education chair is responsible for overseeing our CE/CME/CEU process. The secretary takes minutes at the board meetings, and the treasurer oversees the budget and expenditures. All the board members participate in designing and implementing the programs.

D. Recruitment, Retention and Diversity Issues: The board makes an active effort to recruit new members, especially male officers,

ethnic minorities, and clinicians from various disciplines. Nonetheless, it has been an ongoing challenge to find new officers each year, especial for the presidency. We have an administrator who helps with the details of classes and conferences and manages the web sites, accounts and membership. This is part of our active attempts to lighten the president and treasurer's workloads. ASPP has been fortunate to have officers willing to serve additional terms, or former officers returning to the board in a different role. These officers have the leadership experience, along with a sense of the organization's history, which enables them to serve as mentors for the incoming new officers. These factors have helped to encourage newer and younger professionals to serve as officers for ASPP.

III. Publications and Communications

A. E-mails: E-mails are sent at least twice per month to remind members about the meeting that month, advertise an upcoming conference or program, or impart Division 39 news.

B. Web site: ASPP has a web site that includes a roster of officers and members, a calendar of events, and dues and registration forms. People can register and pay dues and conference fees online. We have added a Forum where we post job opportunities, office space, and discussion items for members.

IV. Chapter-Division 39 Relationships

ASPP has an elected representative to Division 39, usually a former president of ASPP. The representative receives a travel stipend to attend the Section IV meetings at the Division 39 Spring Meeting each year. The representative serves as a liaison and disseminates information from Division 39. The ASPP web site contains a link to the Division 39 web site. Other pertinent Division news is forwarded in e-mails. At monthly meetings and conferences Division membership is encouraged.

V. Programming

Each year, ASPP organizes its programs around a central theme. The theme for 2016 – 2017 is, **Conflict, Resolution and Enactment** the theme for 2017- 2018 is **Negotiating Contact: Boundaries, Barriers, and Borders**

A. Monthly Meetings: Meetings are held on the first Wednesday evening of each month from September through May. Meetings usually consist of an hour-long paper presentation, focusing on some aspect of the program theme, followed by a discussion. This year we introduced a new format for some of the meetings. This format consisted of a moderated group discussion on a particular issue. This format was included in an effort to foster greater interactivity at the meetings and among members. Attendees receive 1.5 hours of continuing education credit for each meeting. Monthly meetings are free for members. This year's program:

1. Sep. 7, 2016: Community Interactive Discussion: What is it Like to Practice Psychoanalytically in Austin?

Presenter: Michael Donnell, Psy.D. and Joellen Peters, Ph.D. (Clinical)

2. Oct. 5, 2016: Fighting with the Dead and Resurrecting Desire: First Phase of a Treatment

Presenter: Seja Rachael, MA, LPC-S (Clinical)

3. Nov. 2, 2016: Due to a conflict in our meeting space, this meeting was cancelled.

4. Dec. 7, 2016 Annual Business Meeting followed by Working the Negative: a Study of Conflict and its Relation to Psychotherapy.

Presenter: Michael Uebel, Ph.D., LCSW (Clinical)

5. Jan. 4, 2017: Community Interactive Discussion: Identifying and Creating the Psychoanalytic Patient

Presenter: Joellen Peters, Ph.D. and Sharon Horowitz, Ph.D. (Clinical)

6. Feb. 1, 2017: Body as Slave: Military Culture through a Psychodynamic Lens

Presenter: Scott Steiner, PhD (Diversity)

7. Mar. 1, 2017: Collaborative Divorce from Conflict to Resolution

Presenter: Syd Sharples, LCSW (Clinical)

8. April 5, 2017: Insight and Collisions in Working with Psychoanalytic Patients and Sex Offenders

Presenter: JoAnne Ponder, Ph.D. (Clinical)

9. May 3, 2017 Conflicts in Cross-Cultural Passages

Presenter: Juana Antokoletz, Ph.D. (Diversity)

B. Conferences: ASPP sponsors at least two conferences each year for continuing education credit. This year's conferences:

1. Multicultural Psychoanalysis - Presented by Neil Altman, Ph.D.
2. Dramatic Dialogue: Contemporary Clinical Practice – Presented by Lewis Aron, Ph.D. and Galit Atlas, Ph.D.
3. Listening, Learning and Development in Psychoanalytic Supervision: a Self-Psychology Perspective– Presented by Ed Watkins, Ph.D.

4. Reclaiming the Radical Ethics of Early Freud – Presented by Lynne Layton, Ph.D.

2016-2017 Conferences will feature: Glen Gabbard, M.D., Francisco Gonzalez, M.D. and one more speaker to be determined.

C. Classes: ASPP offers classes each year: classes focusing on the program theme, readings from an upcoming conference presenter, or some new psychoanalytic book or topic. This year's classes:

1. Introduction to the Fundamentals of Psychoanalysis
2. Transference, Projection and Enactments: Intrapsychic Perspectives on the Interpersonal Dimensions of the Clinical Hour
3. The Patient's Experience of the Therapist's Subjectivity: an Introduction to the Work of Lewis Aron
4. Psychoanalytic Book Club: Reading and Discussing The Play within the Play : The Enacted Dimension of Psychoanalytic Process by Gil Katz
5. Racial and Whiteness in the American Unconscious
6. The 10 Most Popular Articles in Psychoanalysis

D. Public Programs: Over the years, ASPP has sponsored lectures and film screenings as a community service and a fun way to interact with the public around psychoanalysis. This year we offered:

1. Bad Cop?... or the playing out of a historically-rooted system of violence and intimidation – an interactive discussion with members of the public on how to think about the recent conflicts between the community and the police

2. Fracking, Trump, and Fantasies of Invulnerability: the consequences of neo-liberalism – an interactive discussion on the impact of how neo-liberal ideas in the culture have affected our culture.

VI. Education and Training

We do not have a formal training program although we have members who are involved in formal training programs.

VII. Key Initiatives and Innovations

This year we are offering programming specially designed for early career professionals and we continue to have events cosponsored with other professional organizations in Austin.

VIII. Current Challenges

A. Governance: The major challenge facing ASPP is finding people willing to serve as officers, especially president. The board is also creating templates for gathering needed information from speakers, and developing instruction sheets for planning conferences and community events.

B. Finances: Monthly meetings are free to members. The classes and salons are taught by our membership and the fees charged help us offset the rising costs of conferences. The ASPP board has attempted to offer big-name speakers at one conference each year, in order to help draw a large attendance and earn a moderate profit. This, in turn, helps to offset possible losses in offering another conference with a lesser-known speaker who may not draw a large crowd. We've typically lost money on conferences in recent years. Conference attendance decreased slightly from the past, seemingly due to competition from other organizations in town. In addition, costs have risen, including venue rentals, presenter's travel/lodging, and administrative costs for compiling CE/CME reports. This year, we searched for the least expensive sites, offer beverages only, and

stopped serving food. Two years ago, we began having an annual fundraising party.

C .Marketing and Outreach: The board created a marketing committee this year made of board members as a way to address the growing needs of a consistent marketing message. We are hoping to recruit regular members to join this committee to help offset the demand currently placed on board members. One issue we are working to address is bringing psychoanalytic ideas and concepts to graduate students at our local universities. ASPP advertises its programs at local graduate schools. Grad students are offered low membership dues, low registration fees for conferences and classes, and the opportunity to apply for a stipend to attend the Division 39 Spring Meeting. Board members continue to alert members of their communities, and other professional organizations of our upcoming programs and events.

D. Exploring new formats for the Monthly Meeting.

IX. What I Want to Learn from Other Chapters:

- Are you successful in finding people to run for office? If so, how do you recruit them?
- Some ideas for a governance structure for a small society that spreads the work load.
- We are thinking of changing our name. Have any chapters gone through this? What did you learn?