Connecticut Society for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy
Rachel Torello, PsyD

I. Structure
A. Officers
   President: Dean Leone, PhD
   Past-president: Elaine Hunter, LCSW
   President-elect: Rachel Torello, PsyD
   Section IV Representative: Nakia Hamlett, PhD
   Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair: Jill C. Delaney, LCSW
   Corresponding Secretary: Douglas Rau, PhD
   Recording Secretary: Nakia Hamlett, PhD
   Continuing Education: Carrie Christensen, LCSW
   Registrar: Carrie Christensen, LCSW
   Clinical Conference Committee Chair: Ellen Nasper, PhD
   Membership Chair: Rachel Torello, PsyD
   Newsletter Editor: Mickey Silverman, PhD
   Early Career Initiative Chair: Michael Kahn, PhD
   Long Range Planning Committee Chair: Nancy Sachner, LCSW
   Co-Historian: Dale H. Ortmeyer, PhD
   Co-Historian: Wendy Stewart, PhD
   Liaison (WNEPS): Barbara Marcus, PhD
   Regional Representatives
   New Haven County: Allison Brownlow, PhD
   Hartford County: Jeffrey Asmar, LCSW
   Fairfield County: Lois M. Fox, LCSW
   Eastern Connecticut: Ann Singer, PhD

B. Membership
   Total: 197
   Division 39 Members: 70
   Psychology: 94
   Social Work: 76
   Psychiatry: 11
   New Members since May 2014: 45

C. Diversity
   Graduate Students: Approx. 9
   Early Career Professionals: Approx. 20

II. Governance functions
   Our chapter has a strong executive board that is responsible for the majority of important decisions. The Board has 5-6 meetings per year, including 1-2 half-day retreats. In order to function effectively, our Board also relies heavily on a committee structure. We have a number of both standing and ad hoc committees. Board members serve as committee chairs and are equipped to then report to the Board and bring issues up for vote. The Board also makes recommendations to each committee.
III. Publications and communications
We have both an online (updated in real time) and printed (updated yearly) membership directory, which is accessible to all members. We have four primary ways to communicate with our membership:
2. Newsletter – 2 issues per year
3. Listserv for members only
4. Conference Announcements – electronic and paper

IV. Chapter-Division relationships
We encourage Div. 39 membership, stating on our application form that we are a local chapter and strongly recommend it. We inform our members of Div. 39 programming. We regularly nominate an early career member for the Div. 39, Section IV stipend/early career scholarship.

V. Programming
A. Clinical Conferences
2. November 8, 2014: Usha Tummala-Narra, PhD, Complexity Matters: Cultural Identity from a Psychoanalytic Perspective
3. February 7, 2015: Linda Mayes, MD, Making room in one’s mind for a child: How brain and mind change with parenthood
4. April 11, 2015: Lisa Marcus, PhD, Kenneth Marcus, MD, and Sara Yaxte, Genderqueer: One family’s experience with gender variance
5. May 16, 2015: Ed Ryan, PhD, Mindfulness in Psychoanalysis and Meditation
6. November 22, 2014: Michael J. Diamond, PhD and Donald Moss, MD, Reconsidering Men and Masculinities: Developmental Conundrums and Clinical Quandaries

B. Diversity Workgroup Workshop Series: Through An/Other Lens: Multicultural Perspectives
Workshops were led by members and are open to all members.
1. September 20, 2014: Rachel Torello, PsyD, On Othering and Otherness
2. October 25, 2014: Maria Elena Oliva, LCSW, In Search of the Language of the Heart: A bilingual client in therapy
3. December 13, 2014: Nakia Hamlett, PhD, Exploring the Unconscious: African American Males, Social Justice, and Violence in America

C. Psychoanalysis and the Cinema (Regional Mini-Meetings)

D. Reading/Study Groups: On September 27, 2014, the Hartford regional group hosted a mini-workshop with Israeli psychologist and gerontologist Dr. Jacob Lomranz, Professor Emeritus from the University of Tel Aviv. Each of our regions (Hartford, New Haven, Fairfield County, Eastern CT) has at least one active study group, which is coordinated and led by our regional representatives.

VI. Key initiatives or innovations
• Our Diversity Workgroup began a workshop series: Through An/Other Lens: Multicultural Perspectives.
• We have established a Speakers Bureau. The goal of this outreach group is to educate interested community mental health trainees and professionals on psychoanalytic ideas and their usefulness in clinical practice.
• This year we have had a significant increase in new members. We attribute this to a number of factors, including our relevant, clinically-focused conferences, attention to issues of diversity, and a greater move toward electronic and web communication.

VII. Current challenges
• Offering enough opportunities to satisfy the diverse theoretical backgrounds of our expanding membership (e.g., ego psychologists, Kleinian, Relational, Jungian, Child & Adolescent, etc)
• Promoting psychoanalytic theory and practice within an academic culture that, for the most part, negates and demeans it.
• Diversifying our membership

VIII. What I want to learn from other chapters
Recently, a few of our clinical conferences have had very large turnouts, yielding some unexpected revenue. Therefore, we have some extra money to re-invest in the organization, and are wondering what other local chapters have done in this regard.

IX. Recommended seminars
All of our clinical conferences have been very well attended and well received. We would recommend any of them to other chapters.