

**Open Membership Meeting, Friday, April 28, 2017**  
**Information Gathering for Section IV**  
**Rhode Island Association for Psychoanalytic Psychologies**

**I. Structure:**

**A. Officers**

President Elect: Barbara Kremetz, LICSW

Past President, Continuing Education Coordinator: Sandra B. Levy, PhD

Treasurer: Marjorie Lamphear, PhD

Division 39 Liaison: Michael Venezia, LICSW

Secretary: Jayna Klatzker, LICSW

Member-at-large, Venue Coordinator: Paul Valente, LICSW

Member-at-large, Nominating Committee Chair: Lee Chafee, LCSW

Communications, Marketing, Website, Newsletter, Audio/Visual: Michael Venezia, LICSW

**B. Membership**

- Division 39: 14
- Psychologist: 24
- Social Work: 19
- Graduate Student: 4
- Mental Health Counselor: 3
- MD: 4
- Other: 2
- Total: 56

**II. Governance Functions:**

- A. Governance Structure: Our executive board continues to operate with an emphasis on teamwork and cooperation and meets once per month during the academic year. We have a programming committee as well, currently chaired by President Elect Barbara Kremetz, LICSW, which also meets monthly during the academic year. Unfortunately, we continue to struggle with frequent turnover on the board. At the end of the 2016 academic year, our Continuing Medical Education coordinator stepped down. We have reached out to our membership base but have been unable to fill that position and a result have been unable to offer CME's this year. Our Division 39 Liaison and Marketing, Website, and

Communications person and Treasurer also stepped down at the end of last year but have been replaced. We added a secretary position this year though sadly she will be stepping down at the end of this year but has already been replaced. We are continuing in our efforts to recruit new board members and have brought on another Member-At-Large who is also heading our newly created Nominating Committee.

- B. Administrative Support, Publications and Communications: We currently communicate with our membership and others interested in our programming via email, website (riapp.org) and Facebook page. We continue to bring quality programming to our Wednesday Evening Lectures and Fall and Spring Conferences. Our programming continues to represent a pluralistic approach to clinical practice in psychoanalytic psychology.
- C. Recruiting Students and Members: RIAPP reaches out to students through discounted memberships. We have increased our recruitment of early career professionals into the membership and also onto the executive board. In addition, some of our events feature topics on diverse sociocultural issues and we offer continuing education credits in cross-cultural practice when possible. We also continue to offer social hours on a regular basis. We are in the process of exploring how to develop a listserv through our email and a referral service for clinicians through our website.

### **III. Chapter-Division Relationships**

RIAPP currently offers continuing education credits for lectures and conferences. This is a major draw for our membership.

We often encourage membership to join Division 39 at lectures and conferences.

Typically, RIAPP promotes the Division 39 conferences via our electronic newsletter which is distributed via email. Sadly, due to reduced capacity and technological prowess on our executive board we have been unable to offer an electronic newsletter this year.

### **IV. Programming 2016-2017**

#### **A. Wednesday Evening Lectures**

1. Enacting Racialized Distinction: Normative Unconscious Processes in the Clinic by Lynne Layton, Ph.D.
2. Working Intersubjectively with Survivors of Human Trafficking by Paola Michelle Contreras, PsyD

3. Coming Together and Falling Apart through Winnicott's Z Dimension and Bion's Alpha Function: Personal, Clinical, and Cultural Refractions by Louis Rothschild, Ph.D.
4. Why Psychodynamic Training is Needed in Community Mental Health by Paul Letendre, LMHC
5. Art, Existential Anxiety and Psychotherapy: Eros, Enigma and Mortality in the World of Edward Hopper by Malcolm Slavin, Ph.D.

#### B. Conferences

Fall Conference: Traumatic Narcissism: Relational Systems of Subjugation by Daniel

Shaw, LCSW

Spring Conference: Transference-Focused Psychotherapy by Frank Yeomans, MD PhD

#### V. Education and Training

RIAPP is not formally affiliated with a graduate or post-graduate academic/training program.

#### VI. Key Initiatives or innovations this year

- Our financial reserves are at an all-time high. As a result, we are considering expanding the type of events that we offer. In addition, we have been attempting to recruit more renowned speakers with our budget and have increased our honorariums for next year and the number of our social hours.
- Feedback from membership has been positive as we continue to offer an improved audio/visual experience for events with better audio equipment and comfortable jazz music playing prior to presentations while our members congregate.
- President Elect Barbara Krementz has spearheaded a movement to align RIAPP more closely with the formal Division 39 bylaws and overall process. We now host electronic balloting for members to vote on new appointees to executive board positions.
- We hosted our first annual meeting this year to discuss pressing issues with our membership such as offering local organizations an opportunity to solicit our membership before certain lectures. Though membership attendance was low,

participation was strong. We predict that membership turnout will increase next year as members become more comfortable and familiar with a more formal Association process.

## **VII. Current challenges**

- We continue to have difficulty engaging our community through social media. As previously reported, we created a Facebook page last year to stay connected with our membership but this page has yielded the same low activity as our LinkedIn page. As mentioned above, due to reduced capacity and technological prowess on our executive board we have been unable to offer an electronic newsletter this year. However, we have started recruiting members for an electronic communications committee to help reinstate the newsletter and improve our other electronic communication avenues next year.
- Retention and growth of our Executive Board remains as a challenge for our organization. Although we have increased our board membership this year, we are expecting at least two board members to be stepping down by the summer of 2017. We have made outreach attempts to several people in our membership who we feel could be a good fit for our board, but busy professional schedules and family commitments keep many prospective board members from committing to a leadership role.

## **VIII. What I Want To Learn From Other Chapters**

How are other chapters successfully engaging membership outside of continuing education events?

How are other chapters recruiting board members?

How do other chapters retain board members?