Dear Fellow Members,

In this brief message, I would like to comment on two issues of importance to our members.

The first concerns the question of membership in the ACP. As an international organization which represents child analysis world-wide, the ACP has become an unofficial certifying body for child analysts. That is, membership in the ACP is widely recognized as evidence that an individual has met established standards for training in child analysis and that our Admissions Committee has reviewed, evaluated and approved of that training. It is a credential of importance in our field.

For that reason, the Admissions Committee has been firm in insisting that our standards be met by any individual applying for admission. These, as you know, consist of sponsorship by two members of the ACP, and experience having analyzed at least three child cases on a four or more times a week basis under the supervision of a child analyst. These cases should include pre-latency and adolescent patients, as well as children of both sexes. Careful attention is also paid to character and to ethical considerations.

From time to time, an individual seeks membership who lacks the formal requirements for admission, but who has worked extensively with children and has been an active and respected child therapist. Recognizing the important contributions that such individuals have made to the understanding and treatment of children, several years ago the ACP created a category of membership called collegial member which provides a means for them to be part of our organization. Such members have the opportunity to participate fully in our Scientific meetings and other activities and to become valuable contributors to the ACP. It is my hope that in time a number of distinguished colleagues will join our ranks as collegial members. To expand our membership in this way can only enrich our organization.

Nominations for collegial membership are made by our members and reviewed by the Executive Committee and the Council. Anyone who wishes to make such a nomination can write to me, Judith Chused or Allen Zients.

In my last message, I touched on the importance of outreach efforts made not only by the ACP, but by individual members. Informal conversations with colleagues knowledgeable in this area have strengthened my opinion that the viability of child analysis in today's inhospitable climate depends, in large measure, on our ability to carry our message about the value of child analysis to a misinformed, as well as uninformed, public.

Dr. Robert Galatzer-Levy, who has completed a survey of child analytic practice in the U.S., informs me that although the data shows a slight decline in child analytic practice throughout the country, there are enormous variations with regard to practice in different geographic regions. In some areas, child analysts are quite busy and have active practices. In others, there are few cases and much discouragement about the possibility of doing child analysis. One of the important differences between these groups, Dr. Galatzer-Levy believes, is the extent to which individual child analysts and the child analytic group as a whole, are making efforts to reach out to their communities. The successful group has initiated well-planned and coordinated outreach efforts. The group that is in the doldrums, has made few such efforts, preferring to follow the traditional path of sitting back and waiting for referrals to come in.

Very briefly, I will outline a few of the outreach initiatives taken by individuals and groups. We hope to arrange a workshop on outreach at the annual meeting. That forum will provide an opportunity for colleagues from different parts of the country to report on their outreach efforts and to share their experiences with others.

One of the most effective means of reaching individuals (Continued on page 2)
President’s Message . . .

(Continued from page 1)

who are in daily contact with children is via a school consultation program. The placing of child analysts in private schools as consultants to teachers and administrators and as resource people, if carried out over time, builds an invaluable relationship with the school personnel. This, in turn, often leads to referrals. Such school consultation programs are currently being carried out by child analysts in a number of communities. Also valuable, although less so, are single lectures and informal talks given to parent or teacher groups. These are best used as supplements to the more sustained efforts.

Some colleagues have offered courses on topics such as child development, effective parenting, and myths, fairy tales and children's games at the extension divisions of colleges and universities. Others have worked in medical, dental and law schools; still others have held seminars with judges, family and divorce lawyers, and probation officers. Outreach efforts have also included the setting up of child analytic clinics within institutes, active teaching by child analysts in extension programs of the institutes, and the establishment of a parent-child nursery center. One analytic society has negotiated a contract with a social service agency which is willing to support the analytic treatment of several children per year.

While many colleagues report difficulty in making effective contact with pediatricians and other medical specialists, those who have worked on pediatric services and who have built a relationship with the physicians on those services report much greater success. The key factor is the establishment of a long-term relationship with our colleagues in different fields.

It was not long ago that the children of mental health professionals and referrals from that source comprised a sizable percentage of the children in analysis at any given time. Over the last decade or so, this has changed and fewer adult analysts refer immediate family members, relatives, or children of their patients for analysis. The education of the current generation of adult analysts about child analyses, therefore, is an important task.

Some ways of accomplishing this are to schedule (Continued on page 3)
President’s Message . . .

(Continued from page 2)

presentations by child analysts at society meetings, to invite adult analysts to sit in on case presentations by child analysts, and the offering of courses in one or another aspect of child psychology to adult analysts. The ACP plans to send notices of our annual meeting to institutes, specifically inviting adult analysts to attend our annual meeting in Cancun.

Individual members of the ACP have been active on the public relations front. Some have written articles and press releases for local newspapers, others have appeared on TV or radio to discuss a variety of topics related to parenting issues or aspects of child development. Such exposure is valuable in countering the negative image of analysis that has dominated the media in recent years. The ACP is currently exploring ways in which our members can gain greater access to the media.

These are only a few of the many outreach efforts taking place at the current time. I have reported them to acquaint our members with what some of our colleagues have been doing and to encourage those who have not been active in this way to initiate projects of their own.

One of our members who has been very successful in outreach efforts told me that the hardest barrier to overcome is the pessimism that one feels about such undertakings. In today’s climate, one does not expect a warm welcome from others outside our field and the whole idea of outreach may seem quite futile. Persistence, however, this colleague pointed out, can pay off. If attractively presented, our proposals often interest educators, administrators and others, and successful projects can be launched.

While they may not yield immediate results, over time sustained outreach efforts can yield substantial benefits. Not only may they promote referrals and enhance practice, but, equally important, they constitute the prime means that we have to educate the public about the unique value of in-depth work with children and adolescents. In a climate in which symptomatic treatment is in the ascendency and the public has been bombarded by attacks on psychoanalysis and the values it represents, it is vital for us, both as individuals and as an organization, to raise our voices and make sure that our message is heard.

From the Editor

The inclusion, in this issue of the Newsletter, of a short article by Paul Kay in which he reflects upon some normal developmental phenomena of childhood, marks a departure from our usual practice. The Newsletter typically devotes itself to reports of various ACP activities and/or reports of our members' activities. In the present instance, however, Dr. Kay was kind enough to send us his paper and it proved to be an opportunity to encourage a kind of publication which was very much a part of analytic journals in the first half of this century. These were short reports of clinical phenomena which had struck an analytic chord. Many of these reports were quite brief, sometimes only a single page and included only scant theoretical reflection. These reports, nonetheless, evidence of the intellectual ferment that characterized psychoanalysis at that point in history. And they showed how analysts were applying their special perspective to what they saw in their daily lives. We would like to provide our members with an opportunity to share such "preliminary" communications with their colleagues.

Randi Finger's column on "Children and Media" is one example of how "There is nothing as practical as a good theory." It demonstrates how analytic understanding can contribute to the debate regarding the exposure of children to violence. In these days of "managed care," when long-term, intensive treatment is constantly denigrated, it is important that we communicate to as wide an audience as possible some of the practical implications of our hard-won analytic knowledge.

Another example: Don Rosenblitt has created a public lecture series for parents and pre-school teachers, offered through the Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood. The series includes topics such as "Assisting a child with separations and autonomy," "Early identification of and intervention with learning disabilities," "Sibling relationships," "Conscience and moral development," and so on. These have grown over the past four years and now have a regular place in the local community. They illustrate the practicality of a psychoanalytic perspective in a very down-to-earth way which is both approachable and undeniable. We should all be thinking of ways in which we can, in our own corners of the world, contribute to this effort.

The pages of the Newsletter are open for reports of such activities. The range of possible topics is vast; a single issue of a recent newspaper yielded the following: The trial of children as adults; the persistent invisibility of international child sex and labor exploitation rings; a conference on child soldiers scheduled to take place in Mozambique later this year; the phenomenon of "gangsta rap" and the murder of Tupac Shakur; the impact of the "Charles and Diana" story upon British attitudes toward marital fidelity; the implications of the American Supreme Court's recent affirmation of the confidentiality of patient-therapist communications; the inter-generational transmission of hatred which complicates attempts to resolve conflicts in Northern Ireland, Bosnia, the Middle East, and elsewhere; the attraction of young people to deadly sects such as that founded by Shoko Asahara; and so on.

Obviously the Newsletter must remain, first and foremost, a means of communication amongst our members.

(Continued on page 6)
Treasure-hunting with a Distant Grandson: The Olfactory Connection
Paul Kay, M.D.
Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry, NYU Medical Center; Faculty, Department of Psychiatry, North Shore University Hospital-NYU School of Medicine, Manhasset, New York.

ABSTRACT
During one of my infrequent visits a few years ago to Andy, my 6-year-old grandson in the mid-West, he invited me to accompany him on a treasure hunt. The treasure consisted of old railroad track spikes on and under the ground in a field on the outskirts of his community. While hunting, he suddenly talked about his remembering me through smelling the gifts I have been sending him periodically. In this context, he also expressed competitive and exhibitionistic impulses in words and actions. Leaning on the psychoanalytic tradition of inferring the intrapsychic significance of everyday observational data as one source of understanding human motivation and behavior, I have offered a few impressions about the adaptational, developmental and drive-conflict aspects of the treasure hunt.

INTRODUCTION
Treasure and treasure-hunting have, since ancient times, loomed large in the life of children and adults in most civilizations. Directly and indirectly, they have also long since attracted the interest of psychoanalysts, particularly, in regard to their symbolic and conflict-drive significance. This report of a personal experience with a grandson points to the possible adaptational as well as the symbolic and conflict-drive aspects of treasure and treasure-hunting.

I
My all too-brief visits with my grandson Andy usually last only a few days. I live in the Northeast while he lives in the mid-West. We see each other twice, sometimes three times a year. I have kept in touch with him by telephone, mail and gifts. He has called and written to me. One summer's visit to him a few years ago when he was 6-years-old stands out in my mind. This red-cheeked, sky-blue-eyed boy who looked straight at you or through you had curly hair the color of corn silk. He had wanted me to go treasure-hunting with him the morning after my wife and I had arrived. No ifs or buts. The commander had spoken. Crisp in his thinking and writing, he never wasted words.

I felt proud and excited that he had asked me to go treasure-hunting and that he was just as eager as I was to do it together. We went down, almost ran down, to the old half-buried railroad tracks in a field near his home. I saw a few tired-looking freight cars resting sadly on the tracks. They had a used-up look. Alongside and between the tracks were lots of pebbles, stones and jagged pieces of weather-beaten rock, mostly greys and browns and dirty whites. On both sides of the tracks, there was a lush growth of gently waving tall grasses and yellow wild flowers some of which looked like Black-Eyed Susans. Shaped by a few lazy and unreal cottony clouds, the blue August sky stared down at us thoughtfully.

We walked slowly, searching the ground. I didn't know what to look for. Andy hadn't told me what the "treasure" was. I didn't want to ask him. I didn't want to intrude and I didn't want to look like a dummy. After all, I was a grandfather; a man of experience, of knowledge, maybe even of magic. At least, I ought to know what a "treasure" was. Suddenly, he cried out, "Gramps, I found one". It was a piece of rusted and twisted dark brownish metal; an old spike used to hold a track in place. Beautiful. Close-by was another beauty, a piece of rusted metal plate with a hole for spikes. On my own, I would have probably dismissed the stuff as junk but my grandson was a good teacher and I was eager to learn. His eyes, his face and the thrust of his body immediately convinced me that that junk, those hunks of metal, were treasures deserving a passionate interest.

Andy grew more and more excited. He was on a very serious mission with his far-away grandfather. The noonday sun had arrived. It was getting hot. I took a quick trip backwards into eternity. I recalled hunting for treasures and adventures in the empty lots near my home when I was a boy. My treasures were rocks, marbles, old toys, dead birds and cats, coins, rubber balls and such. All of them mysteriously, hauntingly dirty. Suddenly Andy cried out, "I found more than you". He had been counting the number of treasures which we had each found. He was delighted, proud, triumphant. Beating a grandfather, a father, a friend, the world. Of course. Terrific. Another treasure? And for me, there was yet another treasure: recognizing the old in the new, the cycle. How familiar. How new.

Later, after I had handed Andy another spike, he examined it closely. He said carefully, slowly, that it had my "smell". He seemed reflective and quietly pleased. He said that he like the smell and when I sent him things, he could smell me. The smell made him feel good. When he smelled me, it was like I was there. When I asked him how long the "smell" would last, he said about three weeks. Then it went away. (I had been sending him various small gifts, cards or letters about every three weeks.)

In response to another question, he said that the smell came back whenever he received something from me. A few minutes later, he added that he thought about me "too much" when I wasn't there. Thinking about me made him feel good. He got the same feeling when he looked at a picture of me.

Walking back home with our wagon-load of treasures, I suggested that we tell the housekeeper and his parents about the treasures and show them off. He said that he would, but did not. Later, I wondered to myself if he had wanted to keep the treasures in our own special and secret grandson-grandfather world. Just for the two of us. Wasn't that world the main treasure?

The afternoon of the day before we left, Andy seemed to

(Continued on page 5)
Treasure-hunting . . .

(Continued from page 4)

withdraw from me. At times, he seemed indifferent. Oh, we had a little fun and conversation here and there. In the evening, he seemed anxious to buy a toy, and did. He seemed absorbed in it. I mentioned that we had had a good time and that I would keep in touch with him as usual. I hoped that he would keep in touch with me. He did not visibly respond. I felt bad. Goodbyes were very quiet the next day. No hugs or kisses.

When we got home, I wrote him a letter. I asked him how he had felt about my departure. Had he been sad? Angry? He called me up a few weeks later. He said that he was calling because it was part of a school assignment and, also, because of my letter. He said that he had been sad when I had left, that there was a long time between visits and that he had been very interested in his new toy.

I liked the possibility of his experiencing me in the new toy. Grandparenting at a distance, I thought, was painful but a treasure for Andy and me.

II

Since Andy, an emotionally healthy boy, was not in a psychotherapeutic situation, the underlying meaning of his communications and behavior cannot be known. I had made no effort to explore or interpret them. In the spirit of the psychoanalytic tradition of drawing inferences from and raising questions about everyday experiences as one way of learning about human motivation and behavior, I have thought about the possible meaning of Andy's verbal and non-verbal communications, especially, in regard to the possible connections between the treasure-hunt and the smelling.

Andy's special use of sensory and other functions to erase the distance between us and his telling me about it suggest a strong wish to make sure that I knew how much I meant to him. It was, also, apparently, a way of enriching the tie between us. Was there, however, behind this strong wish, a fear of losing me because of our infrequent reunions? Was he afraid of my forgetting him? He knew that I had other important family ties including those to other grandchildren. He knew that those ties required periodical trips around the country. Perhaps, his wish to keep me close to him in a poignantly elemental way and strengthen our tie represented a painful underlying wish to get rid of me because our relationship was so frustrating and, possibly, enraging? When I left, he seemed to have utterly ejected me from his world as if simultaneously denying both my impending departure and my very existence.

Andy had, apparently, tried to solve the problem of keeping us together by transcending the geographical barrier separating us, partially, or mainly through smelling. Andy's special use of smelling surfaced in the context of the treasure-hunt itself, an action-packed dramatic way of keeping us close together. In the language of the unconscious, the spikes may have been fecal spikes and fecal penises, a possible response to both castration anxiety of developmental origins and the anticipation of my early departure. Under the circumstances, smelling might have referred to an anal fixation, regression or sublimation as well as an adaptation: perhaps, an integrated network of all these processes.

One could, in addition, view the treasure-hunt as Andy's attempt to get to know more about me, an expansion, perhaps, of his attempt to remember me by smell. Smelling is a way of remembering and knowing, hardly alien to adult life.1 Would I, an ancient, distant and, possibly, mysterious figure to him, unbend and gratify his wish for an exciting shared experience belonging to the unique world of a young boy? Perhaps, I would allow him to control me, at least temporarily, in order to find that out. Perhaps, I would even allow him to beat me in a somewhat veiled competition, to be superior to me and to tell me so. Unbeknownst to himself, might he have been trying to use me to work over and through certain very private and basic struggles involving his relationships to his parents and younger brother?

Andy had taken the initiative in the treasure-hunting, a vigorous thrusting forward kind of initiative. He seemed, along with the motivation previously suggested, to want to exhibit his prowess in treasure-hunting if not in general. The need to feel and demonstrate his superiority over me along with the exhibitionism and competitiveness might well have represented, in part, an attempt to repeat and master both frustrating and gratifying oedipal experiences and fantasies. Many decades ago, Freud (1909), Ferenczi (1913), Jones (1913) and Abraham (1913) wrote about children's use of their grandparents to deal with oedipal fantasies and conflicts.

Earlier, Freud had also pointed to a connection between smelling and oedipal conflicts. In 1895, he published clinical material (Lucy R.) indicating that the unpleasant olfactory hallucinations of a young woman (who suffered from suppurative rhinitis and who had lost the sense of smell) represented three repressed traumatic experiences organized around the oedipal conflict. (There is a grandfather in the history but he is a peripheral figure.) In this instance, smelling also represented remembering and forgetting and knowing and not knowing in connection with oedipal conflicts and their derivatives.

Treasure, especially buried treasure, may represent more than anality. Did the spikes (some of which were "buried" either in the grass or slightly under the stones and earth) represent to Andy buried and, in a sense, secret treasure? Based on the analyses of two boys, ages six and seven, and the study of certain fairy tales, Fraiberg (1954) concluded that the search for buried or secret treasure ultimately represented masturbatory activity and the fantasy of seeking the inaccessible mother. This fantasy includes wishes to take mother away from father and finding her hidden phallus. (Andy's treasure-hunting, then, might also represent a proto-fetishistic tendency as part of his healthy development.)

One can hardly avoid thinking of the possibility that

(Continued on page 6)
Treasure-hunting . . .

(Continued from page 5)

Andy had experienced my gifts, phone calls, letters and cards over the years as transitional objects and that the smelling of them (as well as the treasure-hunt itself) was part of a large and amorphous transitional experience. Such a large and complex transitional experience would probably represent an adaptational expansion if not an enrichment of the sense of reality, the capacity for fantasy, the ability to appreciate ambiguity and the capacity for imaginative problem-solving.

III

A certain timelessness had, for me, arched itself like a rainbow over the treasure-hunt. Time had stood still and moved with lightening speed. Pieces of my past had risen up spontaneously to merge with the present. I had sensed the ceaseless repetition and universality of certain shared life experiences like treasure-hunting between a grandfather and his grandson. That sensing involved movement from the past into the future, into eternity. And for Andy? Remembering me through smelling and other ways may have meant keeping the past alive; perhaps, keeping me with him always. Past, present and future, then, may have come together for him as well as for me.

Throughout this motionless and swiftly moving time during the late morning adventure of a July day in the mid-

West, memories, no memory-mosaics, were probably forming and reforming themselves ceaselessly deep within ourselves.

Footnote

1Much research in the neurophysiology and biochemistry of the link between olfaction, memory and learning in man, other mammals and insects has been going on in recent years in the United States and Europe.

Bibliography


From the Editor . . .

(Continued from page 3)

It is, however, a relatively informal channel and as such we can welcome "preliminary" communications which might not be able to find a place in the "big league" of the Psychoanalytic Study of the Child, the International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, or the Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association. Such "informal" pieces can sometimes be more persuasive than detailed expositions of clinical process or reports of tightly-conceptualized empirical work. The recent debate in the U.S. Congress regarding "parity" between health insurance coverage for physical and for mental health hinged not on empirical studies but on the personal stories told by individual Senators and Representatives. Since psychoanalytic work is pre-eminently personal -- both in its method and in its goals --we have some very real advantages when we take the time to tell others -- in everyday language -- about our work. Donald Winnicott's war-time radio talks for the BBC (published in The child and the outside world) and Erna Furman's Helping young children grow series are models of approachable clarity which demonstrate that child psychoanalytic work remains as relevant and vital as ever in 1996.

Call for Papers

ACP Program Committee

The Program Committee has almost completed its work for our meeting in Cancun next Spring. However, the work has just begun on several other future meetings. We are eager to hear from members regarding work that they might be able to present.

Topics we have targeted for future meetings include:

• Analytic work with children from “different” family structures (i.e., children who live in single-parent families, “blended” families, communal living arrangements, etc.)
• Analytic work with children who have unusual beginnings (e.g., children who are products of artificial insemination by donor, in vitro fertilization, or “surrogate” parents)
• Dreams in children and in child analysis, viewed across the developmental span from early childhood through adolescence
• Analytic work with preschool children and their parents

Members who have material relevant to one of these topics are urged to contact one of the chairs of the Program Committee to discuss the possibilities available.

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PMB
MINUTES of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, March 29, 1996  Drake Hotel  Chicago, Illinois, USA

Present: Moisy Shopper, MD, President; D. Clifton Wilkerson, MD, Secretary; Samuel Weiss, MD, Treasurer; Theodore Jacobs, MD, President Elect; Judith Chused, MD, Secretary Elect; Roy Aruffo, MD; Antoine Hani, MD; Leon Hoffman, MD; Eva Landauer; Julio Morales, MD; Liló Plaschkes, MSW; Kerry Kelly Novick; Paul Brinich, PhD; Laurie Levinson, PhD; Janet S. Szydlo; Robert Galatzer-Levy, MD; Jack Pelaccio, MD; Maurice Apprey, PhD; Anita Schmukler, DO; Alan Gurwitt, MD; Judith Yanof, MD, Nancy Hall, Administrator.

President Moisy Shopper, MD welcomed everyone and expressed appreciation to all executive committee members for the work and support given him during his tenure as president. He gave special thanks to Cliff Wilkerson, MD, secretary and Samuel Weiss, MD, treasurer, not only for a great source of counsel and aid to him, but also instrumental as the local arrangements committee for this meeting and the Sunday Institute that will follow. Dr. Shopper commented on the value of unpaid volunteers and their worth to this Association.

II. Media work has begun. Bobbi Fischer of Fischer Consultants has talked with child analysts, preparing them for interviews with the public. She has compiled material with many suggestions on how to facilitate the things done by the analysts and to put them in the public mind for understanding.

Minutes
It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes from the previous Executive Committee held December 15, 1995 in New York City at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY
D. Clifton Wilkerson, MD, Secretary

ACP Membership: Current Status

Dues                       
Invoice: 73,924
Total: 73,924

MINUTES of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes of the Executive Committee . . .

(Restricted from page 7)

(London) $7,400; Vanguard Short Term Bond Fund, $57,920; Vanguard Money Market Fund, $8,598.

To sum up, we are in good financial health, but we have also earmarked areas of concern.

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Nancy Hall, Administrator

The administrative office has been in New Jersey for a full year and the central office is proceeding on course with the operation of the administration of the Association. There has been a lot of activity as you might expect.

The major accomplishment was the printing of a new Roster of Membership. Like all directories, it can be out of date as it rolls off the press. Every member and candidate member receives one copy free of charge. The cost will be $5.00. The registration forms were mailed in January following a pre-announcement flyer in November. I have worked closely with Samuel Weiss, MD and Clifton Wilkerson, MD, the local Arrangements Committee, in preparation for the Annual Meeting. Reports and papers were collected, photocopied and distributed to the discussion leaders.

I have worked with Kerry Kelly Novick, Membership chair, in the approval process of new members and candidates. In working with Jules Glenn, MD, chair of the Nominating Committee, election ballots for president, secretary, treasurer and councilors were mailed with accompanying biographies. Ballots mailed, 500; ballots returned, 300. This year the European election ballots were collected by Ros Bidmead, general manager of the Anna Freud Centre. These ballots were then sent unopened in one packet to the Central Office. This ensured that all European members had an opportunity to vote in a timely manner.

Dues invoices were mailed in March. One goal of this office is to prepare and mail the dues notices in late fall. My personal goal is to have a central office that runs smoothly and meets the needs of all members.

REPORT OF THE ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Jack Pelaccio, MD, Chair

March 21-23, 1997 Cancun, Mexico

Since the site of Cancun, Mexico was chosen in December, the chairman has explored all the possibilities available for ACP attendees. Visuals were presented to the Executive Committee of suitable hotels, transportation, and cultural aspects of the city. The best choice seems to be the Westin Regina, located on the beach. This hotel has excellent facilities for meetings as well as for personal enjoyment. The hotel was able to state that most people with a stay of five days to a week which will make the rates $155 and $170. It is urgent that we book early, therefore information will be sent out in the fall for registration at the hotel.

REPORT OF THE CASE REGISTRY

Robert Galatzer-Levy, MD, Chair

The third round of surveys of child practice was sent out this fall. So far approximately 229 have been returned. Follow-up letters to those who did not reply will be sent. The data from the survey has not yet been analyzed. When studied, in addition to performing the function of making cases available for colleagues seeking cases, the registry will be able to hold a survey of child analytic practice that may be useful in shaping education and recruitment efforts.

The American Psychoanalytic Association's Committee on Practice conducted a survey over the past two years of child analytic practice among its members. Their findings are basically consistent with ours. Most child analysts during this period had no children in analysis and only a tiny minority saw three or more children in analysis at the time of the survey. Since the American Psychoanalytic survey included child graduates who no longer see themselves as child analysts, the proportion of those surveyed who had no children in analysis was, not surprisingly, larger. (On a positive note, child analytic training predicts greater success in analytic practice and appointment as a training and supervising analyst.)

The Committee on Scientific Activities has been formed with a membership of six, including a European member and a candidate member. It will have its first regular meeting at these meetings. As part of its activities, it is sponsoring a workshop on research methods in child analysis. The first meeting will be at these meetings, under the leadership of Robert Galatzer-Levy; participants will examine systematic methods for studying the microstructure of child analytic process.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE ASSISTANCE TO CHILD ANALYSIS IN EASTERN EUROPE

Lilo Plaschkes, MSW, Chair

The editorial of the Autumn 1995 Bulletin of the European Psychoanalytical Federation introduces its second publication of papers presented at a conference devoted entirely to child and adolescent analysis with a historical perspective as to the path of child analysis from "stepchild" to its current accorded space.

I mention this as a parallel in our European venture. After Peter Blos' visit and work at the Eastern European Seminar in Constanza, he proposed to Dr. Erzo Rechardt a seminar devoted to work with children and adolescents. There was a feeling that this proposal was premature in the order of the priorities of needs. However, both Peter Blos and I were subsequently invited by Dr. Rechardt to participate and to give a talk at the Eastern European Seminar, scheduled in Slovenia from August 5-10. The topic was "The Setting and Interpretation": Dr. Groen Prakken has, in her long experience, felt this to be of great importance. Peter will focus on adolescents and I on children. Lydia Tischler will be embarking on her first teaching visit to Prague (for proposed curriculum see March Newsletter). She will report her experience to us.

Dr. Rechardt thanked the Association for the $1000 grant. It was proposed that some of this money would be used to support selected talented individuals who are seriously working with children and who wish to attend either the Slovenia Seminar or the 3rd European Psychoanalytic Federation’s seminar on Child and Adolescent Psychoanalysis which is to be held from April 19 to 26 in Amsterdam.

Five people answered the questionnaire at the back of the Newsletter: Two from the USA, one from Poland, one from London, and one from Finland.

Dr. Augis from Lithuania has finished his adult training in Finland and is about to embark on his child training in Cleveland. He inquired about candidate membership in the ACP and I fixed the information to him. A psychologist and child therapist, Remute Zidoniene from Vilnius, Lithuania, is seeking training in the USA. I wrote to her and made some inquiries at the New York Freudian Society and told her I would bring it up at the executive meeting. As can be seen, there has been some substantive progress.

REPORT OF THE CME/CE STUDY GROUP COMMITTEE

Julio Morales, MD, Chair

To be able to continue offering CME Credit to our members for the Annual Scientific Meeting, we are in the process of establishing a Joint Sponsorship Arrangement with the Continuing Education Committee of the American Psychoanalytic Association. As part of this arrangement we would assume responsibility for the documentation required by the Accreditation Council and pay an appropriate fee.

From the initial contacts with Dr. Sara Tucker, chair of the Committee, and with Dr. Schachter and Dr. Chalfin, the possibility of this arrangement looked promising. However, at the present time, the American (Continued on page 9)
Minutes of the Executive Committee . . .

(Continued from page 8)

Psychoanalytic is not ready for this joint sponsorship. For this meeting, everything is in place for the members to obtain CE credit.

Discussion
Members discussed whether or not to continue to give CME credit. The general opinion was to survey the membership to find out if the need for CME credits justified the expense. The fee for re-application is $1750 every five years, with an annual fee of $500.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Peter Blox, Jr., MD, Chair

Dr. Blox had given notice earlier that this would be his last year as chair of this committee. He felt it was time for him to resign since there was little he could do on the national level; issues will be more on a state level. He will now work with Dr. Arthur Farley, chairman of the Committee on Government Relations and Insurance for the American Psychoanalytic Association.

REPORT OF THE GRANTS COMMITTEE
Samuel Weiss, MD, Chair

This year we have had only two applications. In addition, the Executive Committee in December voted $1,000 in support of our Eastern European colleagues who are struggling to develop a program in child analysis.

There is a renewal application from the New York Freudian Society (Laura Kleinerman, candidate analyst; Lilo Plaschkes, supervisor). The Committee unanimously recommends approval of this application. The available funds from the New York Freudian Society is $1,000. We, therefore, recommend a matching grant of $1,000.

The second application is from the Katan Center of the Cleveland Psychoanalytic Society. (Virginia Kerr is the candidate.) The Committee is very concerned about the severity of this child's illness and whether she is a suitable candidate for analysis. One recommendation is for psychological testing to support the application. Another is to accept the application with some understanding that we are thus supporting intensive psychotherapy, not analysis. This needs to be addressed by the Executive Committee. The request from the applicant is for $2,000. If the Executive Committee approves this application, we would recommend a $1,000 grant.

As of this writing, we have a little over $3,000 in contributions available. That would largely cover our current needs. Again, if possible, the Committee would prefer not to draw on our Endowment Fund as yet. That fund has grown to $52,000 in the less than two years since its inception, but it continues to need nurturing.

Discussion
Discussion revolved around the role of the Grants Committee. Members expressed concern about micro-managing someone else's application. It was agreed that the Committee's function would best be served by using the established criteria and trusting the judgment of the supervising analyst.

REPORT OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE
Barbara Deutsch, MD, Chair

The new ACP Liaison Committee will have its first meeting on March 30, 1996 from 7:30-8:30 am. We have included all the current liaison people and a representative from the Newsletter Committee and the Program Committee co-chairs. Our first task is to put into place active, interested liaison people. This will include adding Division 39 to our list. There are several other positions to be filled and we need to clarify how this will be done in each separate liaison organization.

After that, we will try to plan a cohesive policy for liaison function. This will be presented to the ACP Executive Committee in December.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Jules Glenn, MD, Chair

A total of 504 ballots were mailed; 300 were returned. The following persons were elected to serve in the term of 1998-2000:

President, Erna Furman; Secretary, Joseph Bierman, MD; Treasurer, Alan (Continued on page 10)
Minutes of the Executive Committee . . .

(Continued from page 9)
Zients, MD; Councilors, Rene Gelman, MD; Jill Miller, PhD; Barry Richmond, MD.

Dr. Glenn thanked all of those who participated in the election: Martin Silverman, MD; Elizabeth Tutters, MSW; Julio Morales, MD; Denia Barrett, MSW; Claudia Lament, CSW; Karen Marschke-Tobier, MSW.

REPORT OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Laurie Levinson, PhD and Janet Shein-Szydlo, Co-chairs

The theme for the 1997 Annual Meeting in Cancun, Mexico, will be "Current Thinking on Body-Mind Interactions". This theme will be carried through the seven workshops and the plenary session. The Committee met in September, 1995, to formulate the program. Presenters have been selected for the workshops. The plenary paper will be "Psychoanalyzing the Epileptic Child: A Model of Body-Mind Interactions" and will be presented by Mark Solms, PhD and Karen Solms, PhD. The Committee will meet Sunday, March 31, to evaluate the 1996 Annual Meeting and discuss plans for the 1997 Annual Meeting.

Discussion
It is imperative that papers be turned in on time. Strict attention should be given to the time frame for discussants and reporters to receive the papers.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
Leon Hoffman, MD, Chair

The Communications Committee has obviously been very active in preparation for this Annual Meeting. Many members throughout the country have expressed an interest in the media program. I have been working closely with Bobbi Fischer preparing for the program. She interviewed several child analysts to begin to develop "talking points", i.e., concise ways of expressing our ideas about child analysis when communicating with media as well as with others. In addition, I have provided Bobbi with reading material to learn more about child analysis and to begin to prepare media pitch letters. The plan for the 1996 Annual Meeting includes the three hour discussion with all present two media training sessions, and a meeting to plan for the year with media contact persons.

Discussion

MINUTES of the ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
Sunday, March 31, 1996  Drake Hotel  Chicago, Illinois, USA

Presiding: Moisy Shopper, MD, President; D. Clifton Wilkerson, MD, Secretary; Samuel Weiss, MD, Treasurer.

President Shopper opened the meeting at 9:15 am with a welcome to all in attendance. He expressed appreciation to the Program Committee and to all who had a part in the success of this Annual Meeting. He gave special thanks to Samuel Weiss, MD and Clifton Wilkerson, MD for all the work they did as the Local Arrangements Committee.

Minutes
It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes as presented at the last Annual Business Meeting held on April 9, 1995.

Report of the Secretary
D. Clifton Wilkerson, MD, Secretary

D. Clifton Wilkerson, MD thanked outgoing councilors Barry Childress, MD, Leon Hoffman, MD and Eva Landauer. He introduced the new councilors Barry Richmond, MD, Jill Miller, PhD, and Rene Gelman, MD. He offered congratulations to the newly elected officers: President-Elect Erna Furman, Secretary-Elect Joseph Bierman, MD, and Treasurer Alan Zients, MD.

There was considerable discussion of ACP having a Web Page on the Internet. The main concern was having one person in charge of updating and maintaining the Web Page in order to keep it current. There was also discussion of an 800 telephone number. In order for this to be effective, the person in charge (this could be on a rotating basis) must possess the knowledge of where to direct the calls.

OLD BUSINESS
There was no old business to come before the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS
There was an open discussion on the site for the 1998 Annual Meeting. After discussing the different suggestions, it was decided the site would be Boston, Massachusetts.

Paul Brinich, PhD, brought up the idea of formulating a budget for the year. This would involve deliberate planning instead of the present pattern of ad hoc spending. Most people appeared content with the status quo, however.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM.

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Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting . . .

(Continued from page 10)

CME/CE Study Groups spoke to the issue of continuing to offering CME credits. He strongly favored the continuance of CME credits. He noted that the rules have grown much more extensive, requiring the chairman to attend in person a three day seminar and be interviewed intensely. Even though this would require a great deal of time and work from him, he was willing to do whatever was required. In searching for a solution, Dr. Morales explored co-sponsoring with the American Psychoanalytic. The American Psychoanalytic indicated they were not ready to be a co-sponsor at this time. Dr. Morales called for members to express their views on offering CME credits to the members of ACP. After several had spoken, Dr. Shopper said it will be taken under advisement and the decision reviewed.

Report of the Administrative Office
Nancy Hall, Administrator
(See Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

Report of the Arrangements Committee
Jack Pelaccio, Chair
The 1997 Annual Meeting will be in Cancun, Mexico March 21-23, 1997.
The 1998 Annual Meeting will be in Boston April 3-5, 1998
(See Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

Report of the Case Registry
Robert Galatzey-Levy, MD, Chair
(See Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

Report of the Committee to Coordinate Assistance to Child Analysis in Eastern Europe
Lilo Plaschkes, MSW, Chair
(See Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

Report of the CME/CE Study Group Committee
Julio Morales, MD
(See Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

Report of the Grants Committee
Samuel Weiss, MD, Chair
The Executive Committee approved the following Grants and Contributions:
(1) $1,000 to support our Eastern European colleagues in their efforts to develop a program in child analysis
(2) $1,000 to the New York Freudian Society
(3) $1,000 to Katan Center of the Cleveland Psychoanalytic Society
(4) $1,000 as a co-sponsor for the colloquium of the Anna Freud Centre in New York on December 14, 1996.

Report of the Liaison Committee
Barbara Deutsch, MD, Chair
(See Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

Report of the Membership Committee
Kerry Kelly Novick, Chair
(See Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

Member Changes
(See the last report at the Annual Business Meeting March 31, 1995, Toronto, Canada)
Regular Membership
Karen Weise
Silvia Bell PhD

Purmina Mehta, MD
Candidate Membership
Caroline James, PhD
Marla Wald, MD
Elizabeth Carlin, PhD
Van DeGolia
Timothy Gofine, MD
Richard Lightbody, MD
Anna Janicki, MD
Ann Delancey, PhD
Rebecca Saltonstall, MD
Frances Wilt, MD
Alexandra Rolde
Howard Lerner, PhD
Mary Adams, MSW

Report of the Newsletter Committee
Paul Brinich, PhD, Editor
(See Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

Report of the Nominating Committee
Jules Glenn, MD, Chair
(See Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

Report of the Program Committee
Laurie Levinson, PhD and Janet Szydlo, co-chairs
(See details in Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

The theme of the 1997 Annual Meeting in Cancun will be "Current Thinking on Body-Mind Interactions". The Program Committee met earlier today to evaluate the program of 1996 and to refine the program for 1997.

Report of the Communications Committee
Leon Hoffman, MD, Chair
(See Report in Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, March 29, 1996)

Old Business

Suggestions: Invite grant recipients to speak at our meetings, as has been done in the past. Encourage Candidates to be on committees and to be participants in the workshops.

New Business

President Moisy Shopper, MD again thanked all committee chairs for their work and support. "Thank all of you for allowing me to be President of this fine organization," he concluded. Dr. Shopper then introduced Dr. Theodore Jacobs, the new president of the ACP. Upon taking the gavel, Dr. Jacobs expressed gratitude to all the officers and especially to Dr. Shopper. He invited and encouraged everyone to be active participants in the fine organization which is the ACP.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.

Errata

Our report in the June issue of the Newsletter regarding the March 29, 1996 Workshop Session on The Use of Dream Analysis in the Treatment of a 9-year-old Obsessional Boy (from the Annual Meeting of the Association for Child Psychoanalysis held in Chicago) mis-identified the workshop leader as Ruth Caruth, M.D and the discussant as Robert Berland, M.D. The leader was Ruth Karush, M.D. and the discussant was Robert Berlin, M.D., both of New York. We regret the errors.
On Saturday, May 11, 1996, Selma Kramer, M.D. presented the psychoanalytic community with the 27th Mahler Symposium, again co-sponsored by the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior of Jefferson Medical College and the Philadelphia Psychoanalytic Institute and Society, with the enthusiastic encouragement of the Margaret S. Mahler Research Foundation. As usual, the audience included prominent members of the psychoanalytic community from Philadelphia and New York, as well as prominent child psychiatrists and other workers in the mental health field. Conference attendees included: Troy Thompson, Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at Jefferson, Elsa and Harold Blum, Bernard Pacella, Helen and Donald Meyers, Patricia Nachman, Charles Socrrides, Lucy Daniels Inman, Ilene Sackler-Lefcourt, Eugene Kaplan, Patsy Turrini, and Lilo Plaschkes. In her opening remarks, Dr. Kramer noted that members of the audience had come from throughout the United States and from Canada. She also noted that, as in past, his year's symposium will be published by Jason Aronson, Inc.

In her presentation, "Autonomy and the Need for the Caretaking Other: Data from a Longitudinal Study", Anni Bergman, Ph.D. focused on how the way a child goes through the separation-individuation process influences later development. Successful negotiation of the separation-individuation process requires that the caregiver be emotionally available and responsive. With the achievement of emotional self and object constancy, the inner presence of the caregiver enables the young child to tolerate separateness and helps her to overcome feelings of vulnerability and inadequacy. Thus, a further level of autonomy is reached. Dr. Bergman noted that from her experience with some adult patients in analysis, the mother's emotional unavailability during the separation-individuation process may cast a shadow over all later intimate relationships. While these patients may have shown more than adequate capacities for autonomous functioning, in their intimate relationships they could never be satisfied and could never accept their chosen other's shortcomings. It seemed that no later love object could compensate for the feelings of unhappiness and dissatisfaction which they had experienced in early life.

Dr. Bergman described the development of autonomy during the separation-individuation process in one of the subjects of the original study, a boy, D. This particular child used his autonomous functioning to compensate for his mother's lack of consistent emotional availability. D was observed with his mother in a nursery-like setting from three months to three years of age. For the follow-up study, he was seen briefly during latency and again 25 years after the original observations had been completed. Also, additional data was available because, as an outgrowth of his follow-up as a young adult, D requested and began therapy with Dr. Bergman, primarily because of his realization of his difficulties in maintaining an intimate relationship.

In the first year of D's life a pattern emerged: mother showed a tendency to sabotage mutual pleasure between D and herself and interrupted periods of joyful relatedness and attachment through such behaviors as an abrupt weaning or a weekend separation. It seemed that mother had an underlying fantasy that D was an invulnerable child on whom she did not have a strong effect. Mother said that to think that she could be very important to D frightened her because it was such a great responsibility. Father also withdrew from D around the time of his second birthday. D seemed to have responded to his parents' unavailability by withdrawing and becoming less related. During the rapprochement subphase, it seemed that D dealt with feelings of helplessness and rage by identifying with the caretaker and taking on that role himself. Thus, he developed autonomy as a defense against helplessness. The effect of helplessness was, perhaps, particularly unbearable to D because he could not rely on the supportive presence of his parents. He seemed to have become overly invested in his independent functioning. During his third year of life, there was some indication of a tendency to use manic defenses and omnipotence in the face of helplessness and anxiety.

In follow-up at 10 1/2 years of age, D's psychological testing was said to reflect the experience of being cut off and unsupported. His response to Card 3 of the Rorschach, involved "two kids in a top competition who are sitting down that way because they have nothing to lean back against". In elementary school his teachers found him difficult to read and understand and to guide and control. D gave them the impression that they were not needed and that they could not have an effect on him. At home and at school D was perceived as emotionally unavailable and narcissistic. D's internal world seemed to reflect an expectation that he might not be responded to and that his needs might not be met. In response, he became prematurely independent, denied his need for supportive caregivers, and seemed more comfortable when he helped others. D's autonomous functioning and excessive self-reliance served to keep him consciously unaware of the ways in which his caregivers were not meeting his emotional needs as well as to express his anger at not being taken care of by showing his caregivers that he did not need them.

During the adult follow-up interviews, it was learned that D's mother had left the family when he was 14 years old. He felt that he had been more or less unsupervised during his high school years and took pride in how well he had managed and in his uncompromising self-reliance. He

(Continued on page 13)
Through the seasons of life . . .

(Continued from page 12)

was an extremely bright and capable adult but described himself as "over-individuated". While he had many friends, he had difficulties with intimacy and commitment in relationships. He was involved with a woman who was not able to be reliably available to him and whom he felt was not really good for him. In his therapy as an adult, D became aware that his exaggerated autonomy had been covering a longing for someone to take care of him, and he began to face depressive feelings about the emotional distance in his family. He talked about an excessive need for approval and acceptance. Also, he came to realize that he had been his own obstacle to establishing the kind of intimate relationship for which he had longed. However, therapy seemed to bring about a shift making it possible for him to begin to find a new way to regulate affective interchanges.

Dr. Bergman concluded that, before therapy, D had continued the trends of adaptive and defensive autonomy that had begun during his separation-individuation process without major transformation. She related this to the findings of other theorists regarding the lasting nature of early attachment patterns and the development of the capacity for affective self-regulation and autonomy. She concluded that further investigation is needed regarding the possibility that certain character traits emerge in the separation-individuation process and then last throughout the life cycle.

Ruth Fischer, M.D., in her discussion of Dr. Bergman's presentation, chose to focus on the mother-child affective interchange and the ongoing development of affect regulation during the separation-individuation process. Dr. Fischer noted that in the practicing subphase, D's mother was not able to share, in an ongoing way, his joy with his newly found abilities. Furthermore, she was not optimally available for emotional refueling. During rapprochement, the toddler normally becomes more aware of his vulnerability and helplessness. Mother's affective presence is needed for comfort and regulation, to help keep the child from being overwhelmed with hurt, anger, and fear. If mother is able to respond helpfully to her child's needs, the child can integrate loving and hating feelings for mother and internalize her regulatory behavior. During the rapprochement stage, as during the practicing subphase, D's mother was unable to be emotionally available to him in a consistent way. Dr. Fischer noted that, as a result, D's affect tolerance and regulation, self-esteem, and sense of relatedness all suffered. Dr. Fischer stated that in working psychoanalytically with over-individuated patients, the feeling of working together on a shared project which can only be accomplished with input from both parties may be a significant factor, at least during the early stages of treatment, which facilitates the patient's being able to accept help.

In "Separation-Individuation Processes in Middle Adulthood: the Fourth Individuation", Calvin Colarusso, M.D. underscored the fact that adult separation-individuation processes do not represent a replication of the infant's experience but the continuation of a theme from infancy in an adult form. He suggested that the term "Third Individuation" be reserved for separation-individuation phenomena occurring in the phase of Young Adulthood (ages 20-40), and that the term "Fourth Individuation" be used when referring to these processes in Middle Adulthood (ages 40-60). Dr. Colarusso believes that separation-individuation processes are imbedded in the major developmental tasks of mid-life which include: accepting the aging process in the body, coming to terms with time limitation and one's own death, maintaining intimacy, transforming the relationship to children, becoming a grandparent, caring for aging and dying parents, exercising and relinquishing power in the work place, and building and maintaining friendships. He emphasized the growth-promoting aspects of loss and mourning in mid-life development. Because of the changes in the body at mid-life, the individual must mourn for the lost body of youth. Rather than pathological efforts to deny aging, this mourning process can lead to a more realistic body image and "to the possibility of new experiences and the achievement of developmental potentials which the healthy mid-life body can facilitate if it is cared for properly". This growth-promoting power of loss and mourning is also especially evident in the mid-life confrontation with the fact that one has a limited time left to live. Just when we achieve a mature understanding of the importance of our loved ones for our happiness and well-being, we become aware that inevitably we will be separated from and lose these loved ones when we die. Awareness and acceptance of this reality can promote significant psychic reorganization.

Within marriage, mature love may emerge as one modifies the idealized representation of the spouse, which assumes less importance vis-a-vis the real spouse representation. Separation-individuation processes in regard to the mid-life relationship to children stimulate further individuation. In order for the middle-aged parent to focus energies on new adventures and on the developmental tasks of mid-life, the wish to hang onto children must be abandoned. Relationships to children must be transformed by letting go, integrating children's spouses into the family, mourning the loss of previous parental relationships to children, and achieving greater equality and mutuality with children.

Finally, while new grandparents must alter their internal representations of their "child" and redefine their standing among the generations, becoming a grandparent can have a most enriching effect on mid- and late-life development. Dr. Colarusso feels that the grandparental tendency to engage grandchildren with intense love and devotion is similar to the toddler's great need for mother during rapprochement. The toddler needs refueling before venturing further out into the world away from mother, and the grandparent needs refueling before facing "the collapse of the world and the great unknown void beyond the end of

(Continued on page 14)
Through the seasons of life . . .

(Continued from page 13)

mortal existence”. According to Dr. Colarusso, “intense investment in and idealization of grandchildren serve several defensive and developmental purposes: a) a narcissistic buffer against the stings of old age and the inevitability of death, b) a chance for magical repair of one's own life through genetic immortality, and c) a denial of unalterable imperfections in the self through selective identification with particular qualities in the grandchild”.

In his discussion of Dr. Colarusso's presentation, Robert Prall, M.D. began by noting that, at an early 1970's Mahler Symposium, Dr. Mahler had anticipated the theme of the present symposium by stating that the separation-individuation process reverberates throughout the entire life cycle. Dr. Prall expressed complete agreement with Dr. Colarusso's delineation of mid-life developmental tasks and with his assertion that early failures in the separation-individuation process may lead to adult patterns of psychopathology. Dr. Prall presented an illustrative clinical case involving an adult in mid-life in whom early, severe narcissistic injuries led to a marked disruption of the separation-individuation process. This seemed to be directly related to her severe adult psychopathology. Her early defense of withdrawal had become a character trait which was beginning to yield to therapy.

In "Loss and Restitution in Late Life", Stanley Cath, M. D. began with a summary of Dr. Mahler's influence on his work with patients in the last third of life. For Dr. Cath, the first half of life is dominated by a sense of growing up and out, with an accumulation of strengths and skills, while the second half of life seems characterized by a sense of growing down and, perhaps, in, with an accumulation of losses and depleting factors, such as goals not realized, failures in idealized relationships, roads never traveled, and the age-specific decline in the strength and integrity of tissues and organs. Each individual strikes a balance between losses and the capacity for restitution and resilience. An enhanced awareness of the aging self leads to depletion anxiety. Older people spend increasing amounts of time and energy monitoring the depletion-restitution processes in the basic anchorages of life: the body, the home and family, social involvements outside the family, economic security, and life's meaning and purpose. Living long enough inevitably challenges any remaining sense of omnipotence and creates new forms of need and dependence. Thus, Dr. Mahler's concepts of separation-individuation and rapprochement, her understanding of the small child's attachment to its caregivers and its intense anxieties about separation are applicable to understanding elders' attachments to and anxieties regarding their work, their children, their bodies, and their minds. (In fact, Dr. Mahler herself mentioned to Dr. Selma Kramer that, as she grew older, she began to feel like a rapprochement subphase child.) The last years of life involve a great deal of feeling separate, regretful, helpless, and, at times very small.

As he closed with a vignette, Dr. Cath focused on the importance of hope. His vignette involved a movie character, Mr. Holland, from Mr. Holland's Opus, who had to give up his dream of being a composer in order to support his family. In becoming a music teacher, he chose attachment, family, and students over composing and an audience. Dr. Cath reminded us that separation and loss over the life span involve lost aspirations and ideals as well as people. Dr. Cath noted that in therapeutic work with older patients, rapprochement conflicts may be reflected in their fighting to be independent and their rebelling in order to not allow tender feelings to develop in themselves or in their significant others. Defiance may be understood as a manifestation of a need to be self-sufficient and to deny that anyone is needed. Thus, working with elderly patients' conflicts regarding their important relationships, including their children, can be most important. As these conflicts are worked through in therapy, including elderly patients' often-present, impossible yearning for a parent-like figure who will nourish them, care for them, and be all the things they havereamed of, the possibility emerges that they can have new, more intimate relationships with the important people in their lives.

In his discussion of Dr. Cath's presentation, Leo Madow, M.D. suggested that, psychologically, over the last half of life we, to a certain extent, traverse the phases of separation-individuation in reverse and move slowly toward a second symbiosis. We reverse our independence, give up our autonomy, and become increasingly helpless and more dependent on mothering figures. He stated that Dr. Cath had demonstrated how we can be most helpful to our elderly patients, i.e. by helping them maintain some sense of individuation and autonomy while, at the same time, helping them to accept necessary passivity and dependence.

Harold Blum, M.D. presented the Annual Margaret S. Mahler Literature Prize to Salman Akhtar, M.D. for his paper, "A Third Individuation: Immigration, Identity, and the Psychoanalytic Process". Also, Dr. Blum took this opportunity to express deep appreciation to Dr. Selma Kramer for organizing and serving as the moderator of the Mahler Symposium since its inception.

As always, the program concluded with a spirited discussion among panelists and guests. Issues raised included: the differences between men and women regarding separation-individuation issues; the perhaps greater capacity of older people to appreciate beauty; the importance of early childhood experiences for later development; the need to face sadness in life instead of using hypomanic defenses; the importance of the process of termination in analysis; and the need to bring children and psycho-analysis is something so new in the world, the mass of mankind is so little instructed about it, the attitude of official science to it is still so vacillating, that it seems to me over-hasty to intervene in its development with legislative regulations. Let us allow patients themselves to discover it is damaging to them to look for assistance to people who have not learnt how to give it. If we explain this to them and warn them against it, we shall have spared ourselves the need to forbid it.”

The question of lay analysis (1926)
S.E., 20, 236
MSc in Theoretical Psychoanalytic Studies (Non-clinical)

The British Psycho-Analytical Society’s Master’s Degree in the Study of Psychoanalytic Theory

[The following course description is presented as one example amongst a growing number of graduate-level programs which approach psychoanalysis as a general psychology. Dozens of universities now offer such curricula, often cutting across departments in a way that brings to mind Freud's remarks in "The question of lay analysis." There he argued that a "college of psychoanalysis" should include not only an introduction to biology, the science of sexual life, and the symptomatology of psychiatry, but also instruction in "the history of civilization, mythology, the psychology of religion and the science of literature." (S.E., 20, 246) It is somewhat ironic that psychoanalysis is being invited once again into the Humanities and non-clinical Social Sciences (anthropology, political science, and sociology) at the moment when many are trying to evict it from the Clinical Sciences.

Ed.]

SUMMARY

The Psychoanalysis Unit at University College London will offer from October 1996 a one year full-time or two years part-time Master’s course in psychoanalytic theory. It is to be organised and taught by Members and Associate Members of the British Psycho-Analytical Society (and by candidates if able to offer special skills or scholarship). It aims to complement the many psychoanalytic studies courses emphasizing non-clinically based theories and non-intensive clinical practice, to maintain the Society’s tradition of theory firmly rooted in clinical psychoanalysis. The course will be made up of ten independent modules or units covering major theories as well as important areas of application. Units will be organised by Members of the British Society who are expert in their field. Each unit will consist of ten 1½ hour sessions which may be taught by the organiser or by invited lecturers. In addition, students will submit a thesis supervised by Members of the Society.

BACKGROUND

Psychoanalysis has gained a small foothold in British universities over recent years. Most commonly existing courses are organised by individuals with an academic interest in psychoanalysis but without clinical experience. Where lecturers do have clinical affiliations these tend to be with Lacanian or other relatively new and restricted theoretical approaches to psychotherapy. It is clear that there is a gap which exists between psychoanalysis as conceived by professional psychoanalysts and university academics involved in the teaching of these programmes. The British Psycho-Analytical Society felt it had no academic forum where it could offer teaching in a broad range of psychoanalytic theories and their applications. Therefore the Society, in collaboration with the Psychoanalysis Unit at University College London, has established a Master of Science Degree in Theoretical Psychoanalytic Studies at University College London.

A. GENERAL ORIENTATION

The MSc will provide a comprehensive introduction to current psychoanalytic thinking with a dual focus on the psychoanalysis of adults and children and the application of psychoanalytic ideas to other fields. Whilst maintaining a clinically informed perspective on psychoanalytic theory, the course will be wholly academic, concerning itself with theoretical rather than clinical issues. To meet these aims, a full-time course of one year (or an alternative route of part-time registration for two years) will be offered.

B. COURSE STRUCTURE

The course consists of twelve units. Each unit is run by a coordinator holding an honorary academic position within UCL who is responsible for devising the syllabus of their unit and organising a teaching programme to implement their curriculum. Each unit offers a lecture series of approximately 15 hours face to face teaching with reading requirement of approximately 5-6 hours associated with each session.

The units offered are as follows:

1. Fundamentals of psychoanalytic theory

This unit will be concerned with the work of Freud from a historical perspective, covering his major contributions and case histories, and their evolution into modern psychoanalytic theory. There will need to be an emphasis on basic concepts, and on the changes in the frames of reference of Freud's thinking and an attempt to examine their implications, at times contradictory, and their impact on current psychoanalytic thought.

2. The history of psychoanalytic ideas and the psychoanalytic movement

This unit will concentrate on the pre-Freudian roots of psychoanalytic thinking, the works of those philosophers and psychologists who influenced Freud, the historical study of the spread of psychoanalytic ideas across the world and the way political and economic influences have modified psychoanalytic perspectives.

3. Schools of psychoanalytic thought: Kleinian school

This unit will review the work of Melanie Klein and post-Kleinian thought, highlighting their contributions to the development of psychoanalytic theory, models of pathology and technique, and covering in detail the current contributions of Kleinian analysis.

4. Schools of psychoanalytic thought: the British Independent tradition

The tradition of psychoanalytic thinking evolving from the work of Fairbairn, Guntrip, Balint, Ferenczi, Winnicott and other Independent thinkers will be covered in this unit. The unique features of the Independent school of thought in the British Psycho-Analytical Society in terms of theoretical formulation and technical innovations will be considered in the context of the contributions of this group in the past and present.

5. Schools of psychoanalytic thought: the Contemporary Freudian perspective

This unit will focus on tracing the evolution of psychoanalytic thinking from Freud's ideas to current perspectives. An attempt will be made to analyze in what way Freud's and Anna Freud's ideas have survived in mainstream psychoanalytic thought, and in what way their ideas have developed further.

6. Schools of psychoanalytic thought: the American tradition

(Continued on page 16)
MSc in Theoretical Psychoanalytic Studies . . .

(Continued from page 15)

and European schools

This unit will cover American psychoanalysis, including the work of important ego psychologists (Hartmann, Kris, Rapaport) as well as the work of contemporary analysts closer to the object relations tradition, e.g. Mahler, Model, Loewald, Kernberg and Kohut. It will also include psychoanalytic thinking in continental Europe, particularly France, but covering the work of central European analysts. Coverage will include a critical scrutiny of the work of Lacan and French analysts in the structuralist tradition.

7. Developments in the technique of psychoanalysis

This unit will systematically examine the evolution of psychoanalytic technique from its earliest days to current practice, and the way in which theoretical ideas have influenced clinical work. The general problem of the interaction between theory and practice will be covered, as well as the influence of implicit theories of analysts upon their everyday clinical work. The applications of key clinical concepts will be discussed, including for instance changes in the technical use of ideas about transference, sexuality and dreams.

8. The application of psychoanalytic ideas to the study of literature, culture and society

The aim of this unit will be to familiarise students with the most significant contributions in the field of applied psychoanalysis. Examples of major psychoanalytic studies of particular literary works could be offered. The unit will also summarise psychoanalytic contributions to the understanding of cultural phenomena and social processes, such as group phenomena, religion, the holocaust, nuclear war and other current and past social issues.

9. Psychoanalysis and Philosophy

This unit will cover the extensive work on philosophical aspects of psychoanalysis. The topics covered will probably include philosophical issues concerning the epistemological status of psychoanalysis (e.g. is it a science?), philosophical aspects of the psychoanalytic theory of mind, psychoanalytic aspects of the mind-body debate and philosophical and psychoanalytic perspectives on the development of the self.

10. Psychoanalysis and Social Science Research

This unit will cover the accumulating body of work on social science research inspired by psychoanalytic ideas. The unit will take as its focus a developmental perspective and review observational research on infants and children as well as the broader field of developmental psychopathology. In addition, empirical work on psychotherapeutic/psychoanalytic process and outcome will also be reviewed.

11. Psychoanalytic views on Psychopathology

This unit will cover theoretical explanations of the varieties of psychopathology, such as anxiety, depression, personality disorders (such as borderline or narcissistic character structure), perversions, psychoses.

12. Child psychoanalysis, and psychic development through the life span

This unit will summarise different theories of psychic development. It will also cover different theoretical and technical approaches to the psychoanalytic treatment of children and adolescents.

C. ASSESSMENT

Each of these units will be examined formally with unit organisers playing a central role in evaluating students' performance. Students are obliged to attend all units. Students are required to complete an unseen examination and write a number of extended essays of no more than 3,000 words. In addition to the lectures and seminars associated with the course units, students will be required to write a theoretical dissertation on a special conceptual or theoretical issue of their choice, from a list provided or by arrangement with an approved supervisor.

D. ADMISSION

The course is open to students with suitable qualifications which will include a first degree in medicine, the humanities, arts or social sciences, or equivalent qualifications approved by the University. Students are given a choice of registering full-time for one year or part-time over two years. The selection will be the responsibility of the course organiser, but CVs will be reviewed and vetted by all unit organisers.

E. TEACHING PERSONNEL

Those involved in organising and teaching the course are either Full or Associate Members of the British Psycho-Analytical Society and involved in psychoanalytic work; in exceptional circumstances, students of the Society with special areas of theoretical knowledge may be asked by unit organisers to contribute to the teaching of a unit, and also other people from outside the Society with special expertise may be invited to contribute.

F. FEES

Home fee status (UK/EC)
One year, full time £4,500
Part time £2,250 per year

Overseas students
One year, full time £7,000
Part time £3,500 per year

G. APPLICATIONS

The closing date for the October 1996 intake is 1st June 1996, when interviews will begin. However, applications will continue to reviewed after that date for as long as places remain available.

H. FURTHER ENQUIRIES

The Course Organiser is Dr. Mary Target. She can be written to at the Subdepartment address, or telephoned on 011-44-171 380-7896. Fax: 011-44-171 916-1989. E-mail can be sent to Dr. Target at 100105.3615@compuserve.com.

Psycho-analysis is a part of psychology; not of medical psychology in the old sense, not of the psychology of morbid processes, but simply of psychology. It is certainly not the whole of psychology, but its substructure and perhaps even its entire foundation.

The question of lay analysis — postscript (1927)  
S.E., 20, 252
Thoughts in Anticipation of a Visit to Mexico

Peter and Joan Blos

With the ACP's annual meeting taking place in Mexico in 1997, we find ourselves reflecting on our previous visits to this interesting and paradoxical country, so different from the cartoon and textbook portrayals of our childhood and so poorly represented in travelers' tales of intestinal disorders and dishonest police. But we have never been to the Yucatan peninsula and we look forward to exploring it a bit at the conclusion of the meetings.

The first of our three trips took place some twenty years ago. As we look back we remember with amusement how quickly our shyness vanished when we found that even though English was our only language, and the vendors spoke only Spanish, we could bargain successfully in Mitla's market place. Another clear memory is of Monte Albán's nearby ruins -- their mysterious power, their haunting timelessness.

By the end of our week-long stay we found ourselves cautiously pronouncing Popocatepetl and Chapultepec. One evening in Mexico City, with the theater itself an architectural delight, we were enthralled spectators at a performance by the Ballet Folclorico. One afternoon we decided against a guided tour and instead took a city bus to the end of the line by the Ballet Folclorico. One afternoon we decided against a guided tour and instead took a city bus to the end of the line just to know what was there. One morning, as we passed the gateway to the justly renowned National Museum of Anthropology on the Paseo de la Reforma the stone figure of Tlaloc, the rain god compelled our awed attention.

On our second visit to Mexico we learned that Tlaloc was the highest and probably most ancient deity of the Meso-American pantheon and, from a friend, we heard the following story. After a long search for a figure to be placed at the entrance to the museum, the museum's anthropologists and archeologists had located an appropriately magnificent stone sculpture in a remote village. Its removal to Mexico City was planned to take place at the height of the dry season so that the region's unpaved roads would be baked hard by the sun. But, said our friend who had lived there at the time, against all likelihood, a heavy rain began to fall even as the god-figure was lifted onto the truck. And torrents of rain accompanied it to its destination. "Everyone knew this had happened," she said, "but no one talked about it."

On our third visit to Mexico we were shown a pre-Hispanic astronomical observatory, game fields of complex purpose, and Tepotzlan, the village studied by Oscar Lewis. There the thriving, outdoor market seemed a life-sized version of the marvelously detailed miniature that we'd examined several years before in the course of our visit to the anthropological museum. Stalls, booths, wares and merchants, even the textiles shading the stalls were identical!

Mexico has three ethnic divisions..." writes Michael Parfit. "But Mexico is dominated by mestizos, people of Spanish and Indian blood. So for most Mexicans the deepest ties to this land date not from the arrival of a ship loaded with homesick Europeans but from people who came here on foot so long ago that even myth does not remember. Within the blood of these Mexicans run the civilizations of Olmec and Maya and Aztec, as well as the urgent hungers of the Spanish."


On all three visits to Mexico we paid attention to the usual rules for travelers -- eat no fruit that has not been peeled, eschew raw vegetables, refuse iced drinks and use only bottled water. Except for one episode when one of us (JB) turned forgetful and want only ate a salad, we suffered no consequences to our enjoyment of Mexico's common foods and elegant cuisine. As we came to appreciate, it bears about the same resemblance to U.S. style burritos as Italian cooking to pizza or Chinese food to chow mein. We particularly loved the flan, the freshly made tortillas, and the sauces: mole (which has over one hundred ingredients) and the hot red sauce that turns the Mexican equivalent of red snapper into huachimango a la veracruzano. We understand that the cuisine of the Yucatan is quite different, that turkey and pork are its specialties, and that the sauces that flavor them are reminiscent of Asian cookery in their subtlety.

An unusual and newly published book recently brought home to us in quite another way that Mexico's traditions are long and sophisticated. In the introduction to the bi-lingual *Let the emptiness be filled*, the editor/translator explains that soon after the Spanish conquest "a few quite exceptional missionaries" recognized the cultural wealth that had been destroyed and "devoted themselves to reviving what knowledge they could." (p. 10) Twice translated, the closely selected poems, myths and prophecies presented by this volume render those early Spanish translations of the original works into English. Copies of the 59 page book may be obtained from the publisher. However, one of the twelve poems is, with permission, gratefully reprinted here because of its particular relevance to the interests of the ACP membership.

Advice of an Aztec Father to his Son

My son,

listen to our words with good judgment
look at things
look long and wisely
ask yourself
what is real?
what is true?
how it is you must work and act

In a secret place
the elders left us these words:
look long and wisely
ask yourself
what is real?

(Continued on page 18)
Visit to Mexico . . .

(Continued from page 17)

what is true?
listen to their words
listen!

My son,
you will act
you will cut wood
you will work the land
you will plant cactus
you will sow maguey
you will have drink
you will have food
you will have clothing
you will grow straight and tall
you will be spoken of with praise

One day
you will tie yourself
to a skirt-and-blouse
what will she have to eat?
what will she have to drink?
will she live on air?
You are her support
you are the eagle
you are the tiger

Mexico / U.S. Dialogos, Suite. 8, 103 Washington Street, New York, NY 10006.

Some Help Regarding Guide and Travel Books, and Others More General in Nature
Joan Blos

Like happy families, guide books tend to be pretty much alike, and those on Mexico / Central America / the Yucatan Peninsula do not constitute an exception. A check of our local book-store, which happens to be the first and flagship Borders, found numerous possibilities. The most predictable as to format and content were Frommer's, Fodor's, and (my preference) Bernbaum's. All offer up-to-date editions and all give a lot of information on where to stay and eat, how to get around, money, weather, etc. Other options included:

NEW KEY TO CANCUN AND THE YUCATAN by Richard Harris (Ulysses Press). Author seems to have considerable experience with, and interest in, the area described.

INSIGHT POCKET GUIDE TO YUCATAN PENINSULA WITH PULL-OUT MAP (Houghton-Mifflin) No author listed, alas, but format is convenient, content accessible, and how can analysts resist such a title?

ROUTE OF THE MAYAS (Knopf) Heavy on pictures and snazzy layout, but text I sampled was interesting and the book as a whole did not focus on where to eat, play and shop.

TRAVELERS' MEDICAL ALERT SERIES MEXICO: GUIDE TO HEALTH & SAFETY by William W. Fogy, M.D. (ICS Books) Specialized information including dietary precautions with rationale, preventive medication, treatment of minor ailments, health services and resources in Mexico. Seems authoritative & those with cause for medical concern might be glad to have it along.

The choice is really a personal one. It begins with format and how much weight one wants to carry. Next I check out the index: does it think the way I do so I can find things fast? I try to catch to the text's implicit attitude toward the history and people of the country -- is it patronizing or respectful? interested, smug or simplistic? are all the girls beautiful? Finally I look up some topic I already know something about. I figure that if the book does reasonably well with that, I can probably trust the rest!

I asked knowledgeable friends to recommend reading of a more general nature. Their eclectic suggestions included the novels of B. Travens whose works include The Treasure of Sierra Madre; also Carlos Fuentes for his fiction and non-fiction, and Octavio Paz, the well-known essayist and poet. The Plumed Serpent by D. H. Lawrence is a traditional but valid recommendation, they say. They like the detective stories set in present day Mexico by Paco Ignacio Taibo II who also happens to be a distinguished historian. Taibo's works are available in English but may require a search. Recommended novels of a different sort include Laura Esquivel's Like Water for Chocolate and Harriet Doerr's Stones for Ibarra. Hayden Herrera's Frida, a biography of Frida Kahlo, is revealing of the time in which she lived as well as her personal history. The list concludes, as perhaps it should have begun, with The Course of Mexican History by Michael C. Meyer and William L. Sherman. Happy
I am very excited about meeting you all in Mexico. I have compiled some information from the travel book Mexico: From The Lonely Planet that may interest you and make you look forward to your visit. I hope it will be of help. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you want further help or information. I will be very happy to provide it.

CANCUN

In the 1970’s Mexico’s tourism planners decided to build a new world class resort on a deserted sand pit off shore from the little fishing village of Puerto Juárez. The island sandspit was shaped like a lucky ‘7’. The name of the place was CANCUN. Dozens of mammoth hotels march along the island’s shore as it extends from the mainland nine km eastward, then 14 km southward, into the turquoise waters of the Caribbean. CANCUN is a planned community on the mainland. On the 23 -km long sandy island is the ZONA HOTELES or ZONA TURISTICA with its towering hotels, theme restaurants, convention center, shopping malls, golf course and so on.

BEACHES

The dazzling white sand of Cancun's beaches is light in weight and cool underfoot, even in the blazing sun. (That is because it is composed not of silica but rather of microscopic plankton fossils called disco-aster) tiny star-shaped creature. Combined with the crystalline azure waters of the Caribbean, it makes for delightful beaches. All of these beaches are open to the public because in Mexico beaches are public property. Starting at Ciudad CANCUN and heading out to Isla CANCUN all the beaches are on the left-hand side of the road; the lagoon is on your right.

MAYAN RUINS

a) Zona arqueológica EL REY, on ISLA CANCUN: small temple and several ceremonial platforms
b) There is a tiny MAYAN structure and CHAC-MOOL statue set in the grounds of the Sheraton Hotel which are authentic ruins found on the spot.

ARCHEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

The MUSEO DE ANTROPOLOGIA E HISTORIA, next to the Convention Center in the Zona Hoteles, has a limited collection of Mayan artifacts. Although most of the items including jewelry, masks and skull deformers, are from the Post-classic period (1200-1500), there is a Classic-period hieroglyphic staircase inscribed with dates from the 6th century as well as the stucco head which gave the archeological zone its name of EL REY (The King).

There are several day trips you can do from CANCUN that can be arranged at the hotel. You can also get to these places by car, if you decide to rent one, or by buses. Make sure you get all the information you need at the travel agency desk in the hotel before making any decisions. (If I had to choose I would definitely go for TULUM and CHICHEN ITZA)

a) CHICHEN ITZA (201 kilometers from CANCUN)
The most famous and best restored of the Yucatán Peninsula's Mayan sites, CHICHEN ITZA will awe everyone.

b) ISLA MUJERES (Island of Women). Access by plane or boat.
The chief attribute of ISLA MUJERES is its relaxed social life in a tropical setting with surrounding waters that are turquoise blue and bathtub warm. There are different beaches (PLAYA COCOTEROS or PLAYA COCOS is the town's principal beach). PARQUE NACIONAL GARRAFON with translucent waters and abundant fish. There are some Mayan ruins in ISLA MUJERES but there is not much left to see.

c) COZUMEL (Place of the SWALLOWS), Access by ferry from Puerto Morelos or Playa del Carmen. COZUMEL floats in the midst of the Caribbean crystalline waters (71 km. south of CANCUN). It is the largest of Mexico’s islands. Cozumel’s Palancar Reef was made famous by Jaques Cousteau and is a lure for divers from all over the world. Though it has that beautiful offshore reef, Cozumel does not have many good swimming beaches

d) FROM CANCUN TO TULUM ( around 120 kilometers). You can do everything or choose the ones that interest you the most.

1.-PLAYA DEL CARMEN Fishing village on the coast opposite COZUMEL. Nice beaches, but you can skip it if you want more time for the other sites.

2.-XCARET (Shecaret) . Xcaret has been Disney-fied into what one can now call Mayapark. Several small Mayan ruins, a cenote for swimming, a beautiful inlet filled with tropical marine life where you can swim with dolphins (If you are interested you must arrive there when they open as they only allow a small number of people to do it: If it appeals to you, DO IT; it is an AWESOME experience), an underground river where you can swim, etc. You can rent snorkeling gear there. You can spend a day in Xcaret. (There are changing rooms and restaurants).

3.-XEL-HA Lagoon. (Shell-ha’) A natural lagoon brimming with iridescent tropical fish. It is now a Mexican national park with landscaped grounds, changing rooms, restaurants, etc. You can rent snorkeling gear.

4.-TULUM The ruins of Tulum (City of Dawn, or City of Renewal), though well preserved, would hardly merit rave notices if it weren't for their setting. The gray black

(Continued on page 21)
Children and Media

Randi Finger, Ph.D.

On April 20th of this year, I attended an excellent program sponsored by the Baltimore-Washington Institute for Psychoanalysis: “To See or Not to See: Movies That Overstimulate Children. The Effects on Children of Violence, Horror, and Sex in Films.”

The speakers were: Kyle Pruett, M.D., who is a clinical professor of psychiatry and coordinator of the Child Development Unit at the Yale Child Study Center and has served as a consultant for several films as well as to Vice-President and Mrs. Gore’s “Families and the Media Campaign”, and Barbara Wilson, PhD, who is an associate professor in the Dept. of Communications at the University of California at Santa Barbara and a researcher in multiple studies, including one funded by the cable television industry to study violence on television. I asked and received permission to write a summary of the program for our ACP Newsletter. I hope you will find it as stimulating and helpful for work with parents, schools, and the community as I have. Drs. Wilson’s and Pruett’s presentations were followed by a panel discussion by Joseph Bierman, M.D., Allan Gold, M.D., Robert Lessey, M.D., and William Wimmer, M.D. of their paper, “Psychoanalytic Views on Children Viewing Films”, which has already been presented to our members at the 1995 ACP meeting.

Dr. Wilson began the program, offering findings from her studies at UC-Santa Barbara and the cable television project. Children are, as most of us would probably guess, watching programs intended for older audiences, watching them alone or with friends and not parents, and watching more than their parents know them to be. In fact, for a cadre of ten-to-sixteen year-olds, 58% watched 2-4 or more hours of television per day, 55% watch without parents, and 54% have a television in their own bedroom. Analyses of show content, revealed found that 57% of television programs contain violence which rises to 66% for children’s series. Studies show that violent portrayals reinforce aggressivity, desensitize to those injured, and increase fears of being victimized. Although certain groups (e.g., poor academic performers, unpopular children, and those from environments which are violent) have increased risk from exposure to violence in the media, there is evidence of such effects on children in general, even where risk factors are not significant.

Although there is more effort being made to indicate the appropriateness of shows for child audiences, that effort does not succeed without parent influence, nor do the current efforts to rate material take into account the very different cognitive levels and concerns of children at different developmental ages. Dr. Wilson told of her own experience of taking her 6 and 7 year old nephews to see “Jurassic Park”, the older loved it while the younger was terrified.

Dr. Wilson’s studies suggest three important age groupings to differentiate: 3-7; 8-12; and 13-17. In terms of cognitive capacities. The younger, in contrast to the older, children respond more to surface attributes such as sound and looks, have difficulty distinguishing between fantasy and reality, believing that what looks real is real, and have difficulty integrating pieces of information or drawing inferences. Movies will be less comprehensible and, at times, this allows more distance and less fear for younger children while, at most others, it creates an overwhelming experience. Younger children are more visual and perceptual (scared by the “Wizard of Oz”) than conceptual (“Poltergeist”); more scared by fantasy (witches) than fiction or reality (news); more concrete and tangible (a killer Santa Claus) than abstract and implicit (the aftermath of a nuclear explosion), and more focused on the threat (“ET” looks scary) than the victim-- with whom one needs empathy to feel fear-- (“Jaws”).

Developmental issues also make different contents scary. For the first group, fears were found to be of the dark, monsters, ghosts, and threats to animal characters with whom they identify. For the second, they were of personal injury or destruction/harm to relatives; for the third, of personal injury, or school, political, and global threats. (Members of the panel later added the importance of issues of separation and body damage for the youngest group.)

Thus far, efforts on the part of the media industries and concerned communities to label and inform, however, fall short of consideration of these differing age-related capacities and concerns [and, I would add, the vast individual differences in ego development regardless of age as well as the fluctuations within any given child’s capacities from moment to moment.]

Dr. Wilson stressed the importance of providing the information presented herein to families and other professionals; lobbying and educating for better informed ratings for film and television; encouraging parental co-viewing, and teaching (via parents and schools) age-appropriate coping strategies and critical viewing skills to children.

Dr. Pruett's discussion of Dr. Wilson’s paper was more pessimistic about the possibility of our having any impact on an “already lost” battle. He observed that seeing inappropriate movies is a social currency amongst kids. [As my own 9 1/2 year old nephew, Casey, said when I suggested we see “Babe”, “I’d croak if any of my friends saw me going into a movie that isn’t PG-13.”] He finally agreed. Fortunately, we ran into several of his friends at the show, all wearing abashed smiles but agreeing it had been “OK.”] Dr. Pruett also related an example of parents complaining when video store employees attempted to discourage children from viewing inappropriate material.

Other members of the audience commented on the difference in impact between non-visual media such as radio and books which are constrained naturally by the person’s own ego capacities as well as amenable to the imposition of limits. Books, in fact, are written with guidelines for different ages. Books for first graders, for example, have no scary titles nor (except for “The Emperor’s New Clothes”)
Children and media . . .

(Continued from page 20)

nudity; second graders are offered scary magic that is ineffective; third graders, scary things presented as fibs or as witches reduced to impotence by the child heroes. The level of activity vs. passivity was noted to effect the potential for mastery of stimulating material. With that in mind, the question was raised as to whether there is a more positive outlook for computer involvement than TV or film since the former is a medium which does allow more active participation as well as control. Dr. Wilson informed us that research (thus far on video games) does not support such a hope. In fact, there is evidence that the interactivity may actually increase the impact.

The afternoon session was led off by Dr. Pruett who concentrated first on general findings related to the influence of sensation regulation and, ultimately, ego capacities, the varying developmental tasks of childhood; and the level of arousal of the specific material. He, too, divides age cohorts into 3-7, 8-12, and 13-17. The first group is preoccupied with the mastery of reality vs. fantasy, gender identification, and aggressive impulses; the second, grappling with fantasy concepts, and the third, “awash with hormonally mediated experience while intellectually capable of inferring subtle nuances of violence.”

Efforts thus far to offer guidance to the viewing public, such as that in the New York Times weekly column, “Taking the Children”, which rates violence, sex and profanity, tend, first, to emphasize what children will like rather than what may be problematic; second, to be written by people untrained in child development; third, to avoid being judgmental in an effort to be open-minded; fourth, to worry about sex combined with violence and not consider that a “within-a-relationship” portrayal may still be overstimulating; and, finally, to reveal ignorance by complaining of a lack of information for guidance” as if there isn’t thirty years of literature.

Dr. Pruett then turned to a case in which movies, and particularly “The Lion King”, had played a prominent role in the therapy work. Q. was seen by Dr. Pruett over three different periods from age 7 to 17. Briefly, this bright boy with expressive language problems had a tenuous relationship with his father and a mother who had had a psychotic episode in public while Q. was with her. He presented as socially isolated, showed mood and temper instabilities, and had a strong appetite for movies. His interests were in scary movies like the “Alien” series which Dr. Pruett noted allowed Q. to work on the element of surprise (ego mastery of his traumatic experience with his mother) and horror movies where the violence was safe because wrongdoings were punished (building a Superego which served as a protector).

Q’s reactions to “The Lion King” portrayed many of the age-related issues of his pre-adolescent superego as well as his own specific struggles. He saw as defining moments: Simba proudly sings “I Just Can’t Wait to Be King”, announcing the competitive Oedipal wishes that will later make him vulnerable to accepting his Uncle Scar’s invocation of Simba’s guilt for the death of his father, the King; the exciting power of the deliciously evil Scar and his goose-stepping hyenas; the enchanting carefree adolescent pleasure of play with Timba and Poomba, the latter “dumb” but actually very smart (like Q.’s own L. D. experience); and the “simply weird” moment when Simba’s mother mistakes him for his father which Q. described as “It’s so Greek!” Dr. Pruett contrasted this intellectual mastery with the reaction of a 5 year old who, after begging to see “The Lion King”, watched it 50 times (which seemed fine to his parents) reenacting over and over the scene in which the Lion King chides his son, Simba, who then apologizes. Q. felt that talking about movies helped him “to like them more . . . and keep my devils in the movie theater.”

Notwithstanding the case of Q., Dr. Pruett notes that most children are not blessed with such psychological-mindedness as was Q. nor are they likely to be in therapy where such a capacity can be developed and supported as a means of mastery, or, in the case of the five year old, are engaged in normal developmental conflicts that heighten the emotional strain of this theme. Parental unawareness compounds the original exposure and the subsequent isolation of the child as he struggles to master the overstimulation. The neuro-muscular paralysis and tension in the state of arousal while watching movies and television tends to increase the need for self-soothing activities such as masturbation, nose-picking, and thumb sucking, and results in later efforts to discharge such tension through fights with siblings, parents, or peers. Dr. Pruett compared this impact of film to the dumping of toxic waste. Although pessimistic, Dr. Pruett encourages us to help parents be “jerks”, i.e., set limits to help combat peer pressure and the media addiction promoted by advertising; work with our patients and their families and consult to schools to provide education about impact of the media and the development of viewer coping skills; join and support “The Center for Media Literacy”; and, finally, to take on the industry where possible.

Planning for Mexico . . .

(Continued from page 19)

buildings of the past sit on a palm fringed-beach, lapped by the turquoise waters of the Caribbean. Don’t go to TULUM expecting majestic pyramids or anything comparable to the architecture of CHICHEN ITZA. The buildings in TULUM were the product of Mayan civilization in decline.

©
### Around the ACP

**Don Rosenblitt** was awarded the first Irvin M. Marcus Lectureship of the New Orleans Psychoanalytic Institute. He presented his paper, “States of overstimulation in early childhood,” to the Institute on October 4, 1996.

**Ted Cohen** and **Hosein Etezady** have established *The Vulnerable Child Newsletter*. Distributed quarterly by International Universities Press, the first issue was sent to 20,000+ child mental health professionals. Comments and queries regarding the VCN may be directed to Dr. Etezady at Paoli Hospital, Suite 205, Paoli, Pennsylvania 19301 USA. In addition, **Ted Cohen** presented some of the work of the Vulnerable Child Discussion Group to analysts in St. Petersburg and Moscow in August, 1996.

**Steve Marans** is the Coordinator of the Child Development / Community Policing Program — a joint activity of the Yale University Child Study Center and the New Haven Department of Police Services. Enquiries may be directed to Dr. Marans at the Yale Child Study Center, 230 South Frontage Road, New Haven, Connecticut 06520 USA. (203) 785-6862.

We received the following e-mail message in response to our decision to mail one copy of the ACP Newsletter to each training institute listed in the directory of the International Psychoanalytical Association:

Buenos Aires, 07/19/1996
The Association for Child Psychoanalysis

Dear Sirs:

Thank you for the Newsletter you have sent us for our Library. We will inform our members about it in the Association’s Bulletin.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Pablo Grinfeld, Library Secretary
Dr. Amalia Theodor de Zirlinger, Director
Asociacion Psicoanalicica de Buenos Aires
Maure 1850
1426 Buenos Aires
Tel: 775-7867
Fax: 775-7985
Email: info@apdeba.apd.org.ar

The new Liaison Committee of the ACP had its first meeting on March 30, 1996 in Chicago. Attending were Peter Blos, Jr., Ted Jacobs, Stephanie Smith, Moisy Shopper and the Program Committee Co-chairs, Laurie Levinson and Janet Szydlo.

Our task was to develop a coherent policy for our interaction with other organizations. In addition we need to find interested ACP members to act in liaison capacity.

**Dr. Paula Bernstein** will be the new liaison to the Program Committee of the American Psychoanalytic Association.

**Dr. John Schowalter** will serve as liaison to the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry through the October 1996 meeting. Following that meeting Drs. Moisy Shopper and Nathaniel Donson will participate jointly in liaison to the AACAP. We hope to broaden our impact and participate more actively with the Academy as well as to consider their contributions to our future meetings.

We still need someone to represent us with the American Psychiatric Association. We are currently planning a presentation for the APA Spring 1997 meeting in San Diego.

**Stephanie Smith** is our liaison to the International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions. Dr. **Thomas Barrett** is in charge of planning a program to be part of their annual meeting in Stockholm in 1998.

Dr. **Peter Blos Jr.** is planning the contribution from the ACP for the International Psychoanalytic Association in Barcelona in 1997. The ACP hopes to play an active part in planning for the 1999 meetings in Chile.

As you can see, the ACP participates in a wide circle of activities which can enrich both us and our fellow organizations. We need people with energy and interest who are willing to work, plan, and attend the meetings of these organizations.

If you would like to join this work please contact **Barbara G. Deutsch**, MD, at (516) 466-4250 ASAP. My mailing address is 111 Croyden Avenue Great Neck, New York 11023 USA. E-mail: Barbara720@aol.com Fax: (516) 466-2842.

The following letter appeared in *Forward* on July 19, 1996

**The Key to Child Therapy**

Your article by E.J. Kessler ("Child Therapy: An Analysis," June 21, 1996) points to the difficulties parents have in selecting the best treatment for their children who need psychological help. As Ms. Kessler, writes, in the current managed health care environment only brief psychotherapy is often authorized for children as well as adults.

A landmark study has organized the observations and clinical records of 40 years of child psychoanalysis. This study has been published very recently in the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* (JAPA) in April 1996. The report documents that "more intensive and longer treatments are much more effective than less intensive and shorter forms of therapy." The study is based on the work of child psychoanalysts in London, working under the supervision of Anna Freud, daughter of Sigmund Freud. The records of nearly 800 children treated over four decades were systematically examined using modern diagnostic assessment methods.

As Ms. Kessler discusses, often it is difficult for parents to determine which type of therapy is most appropriate for their child who needs psychological help. The study published in JAPA should help parents consider the value of longer term more intensive psychotherapy and psychoanalysis because this report documents that intensive treatment was shown to be more effective than shorter therapies or a combination of short term therapy and drugs. In addition, longer treatments were independently associated with greater improvement.

**Leon Hoffman**, M.D.
# Calendar of Events

## October 4-6, 1996
**Western Regional Child Psychoanalytic Meetings**
Denver, Colorado, USA  
*For further information contact*  
Denver Institute for Psychoanalysis  
University of Colorado School of Medicine  
4200 East 9th Avenue, C255-64  
Denver, Colorado 80262  
☎️ ☎️ ✉️ (303) 270-7776

## December 14, 1996
**The Anna Freud Centre Comes to New York**
**Eating Disorders in Late Adolescence and Young Adulthood**
New York University Medical Center  
550 First Avenue  
New York, New York 10016 USA  
*For further information contact*  
Ms. Nancy Hall  
P.O. Box 253  
Ramsey, New Jersey 07446 USA  
☎️/FAX ------------------------ (210) 825-3138  
E-mail -------- 76422.3352@compuserve.com

## December 18-22, 1996
**Fall Meeting of the American Psychoanalytic Association**
New York, New York, USA  
*For further information contact*  
American Psychoanalytic Association  
309 East 49th Street  
New York, NY 10017 USA  
☎️ ----------------------------- (212) 752-0450  
FAX ----------------------------- (212) 593-0571

## December 19, 1996
**Vulnerable Child Discussion Group Meeting**
**Research at the Anna Freud Centre**
New York, New York, USA  
*For further information contact*  
American Psychoanalytic Association  
309 East 49th Street  
New York, NY 10017 USA  
☎️ ----------------------------- (212) 752-0450  
FAX ----------------------------- (212) 593-0571

## March 20-23, 1997
**Conference of the European Psycho-Analytical Federation**
**Hysteria and Borderline Cases: Metapsychological Approach and Implications for Technique**
Geneva, SWITZERLAND  
*For further information contact*  
SYMPOG S.A.  
7, avenue Pictet-de-Rochemont  
CH-1207 Geneva  
☎️ -------------------------- 011-41-22 786 37-44  
FAX -------------------------- 011-41-22 786-40-80

## March 21-23, 1997
**Annual Meeting of the Association for Child Psychoanalysis**

## Current Thinking on Body-Mind Interactions
**Cancun, MEXICO**
*For further information contact*  
Ms. Nancy Hall  
P.O. Box 253  
Ramsey, New Jersey 07446 USA  
☎️/FAX ------------------------ (201) 825-3138  
E-mail -------- 76422.3352@compuserve.com

## May 14-18, 1997
**86th Annual Meeting of the American Psychoanalytic Association**
**Contemporary Shifts in Our Theory of Technique: Participation of the Analyst's Personality**
San Diego, California, USA  
*For further information contact*  
American Psychoanalytic Association  
309 East 49th Street  
New York, NY 10017 USA  
☎️ ----------------------------- (212) 752-0450  
FAX ----------------------------- (212) 593-0571

## June 19-21, 1997
**Aspen Child and Adolescent Institute**
**Eating Disorders in Late Adolescence and Young Adulthood**
New York, New York, USA  
*For further information contact*  
Jerome Karasic, M.D.  
400 Medicine Bow Drive  
Aspen, CO 81611 USA  
☎️ ----------------------------- (970) 923-3022  
FAX ----------------------------- (970) 923-0600  
E-mail ------------------------------ hldanish@rof.net

## July 27 - August 1, 1997
**40th International Psycho-Analytical Association Congress**
**Psychoanalysis and Sexuality**
Barcelona, SPAIN  
*For further information contact*  
International Psychoanalytical Association  
“Broomhills”  
Woodside Lane  
London N12 8UD ENGLAND  
☎️ ----------------------------- 011-44-181 446 8324  
FAX ----------------------------- 011-44-181 445-4729  
E-mail ------------------------------ 100450.1362@compuserve.com

## December 17-21, 1997
**Fall Meeting of the American Psychoanalytic Association**
New York, New York, USA  
*For further information contact*  
American Psychoanalytic Association  
309 East 49th Street  
New York, NY 10017 USA  
☎️ ----------------------------- (212) 752-0450  
FAX ----------------------------- (212) 593-0571

## August 2-6, 1998
**14th International Congress of the International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (IACAPAP)**
Stockholm, SWEDEN  
*For further information contact*  
Kari Schleimer, M.D., Ph.D.  
Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
University of Lund  
S-214 01 Malmö SWEDEN  
☎️ ----------------------------- 011-46-40 331 674  
FAX ----------------------------- 011-46-40 336 253

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# Repeat Query Regarding CME Credits

**From the Committee on Study Groups & Continuing Medical Education**

If we wish to continue to offer Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits to physicians attending our meetings, we must pay a substantial renewal fee ($1750 for 5 years) and do quite a lot of book-keeping. Individual members should please advise the CME Committee: (1) Do you use the ACP-provided CME credits? (2) Would you pay a nominal administrative fee ($10-$20 per meeting) for this service?

We are repeating this query because, although few members replied when we published a similar notice last year, several members spoke up at the Annual Meeting in Chicago, asking that we maintain CME eligibility for our meetings.

Replies should be directed to Julio Morales, M.D., Chair, Committee on Study Groups & CME, 141 N. Meramec Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105 USA  
☎️ (314) 725-5775
Roster Update Form for ACP Members
Please check your listing as it appears in the 1996 ACP Roster (which all ACP members should have received by now). If any changes or additions are necessary, please complete this form (or a copy) and send it to our administrator, Mrs. Nancy Hall, P.O. Box 253, Ramsey, New Jersey 07446 USA — ☏/FAX: (201) 825-3138 — CompuServe: 76422,3352

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