

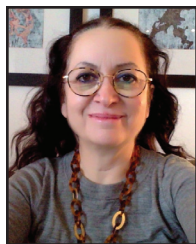
Special Issue

A New Chapter— The First In-person APsA Meeting After Two Years of the Covid-19 Pandemic

111th Annual Meeting, Boston
June 2022

Special Issue Guest Editors:

Sumru Tufekcioglu, Melissa Jenereski, Gerard Sobnosky, April Crofut, and Himanshu Agrawal



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Sumru Tufekcioglu, Ph.D.

A new chapter

Dear colleagues
and friends,

As I write to you today, having returned from the 111th Annual APsA meeting in Boston, I recall my first message on the Candidates' listserv a little over a year ago when I began my two-year term as President. I had written, then, that I was finding myself standing in between two spaces, where I felt that the most challenging phase of the Covid-19 pandemic was behind us, but that we were still not out of the woods yet and a return to some form of normalcy did not feel within reach.

Where I stand today, I feel that we are in fact at the beginning of a new chapter. We have finally held our first in-person meeting in Boston with around 450 members in attendance, with utmost care and protective measures against a possible virus spread and with much excitement to be with each other in person again. I can happily report that the meeting was a great success on all accounts. For those of you who have not been able to attend, we missed you and

look forward to seeing you next time. For those of you who did attend the meeting, thank you for taking the risk and for making the meeting so special. We, on the Steering Committee, have worked hard to make the meeting informative, intellectually stimulating, and enjoyable for you but your presence and genuine engagement made all the difference. Thank you.

Let me take this opportunity to thank the Candidates' Council Steering Committee members who were present at the meeting: Gerard Sobnosky, Melissa Jenereski, April Crofut and Himanshu Agrawal. Thank you all for taking on multiple responsibilities, chairing sessions, presenting your own papers, presenting your committee reports, joining group discussions, making the attendees feel welcomed, making sure we did not leave anyone behind before we left the shore for our boat party and even singing at the party. Thank you all for your dedication and commitment to our team and for your precious contributions to the many candidate activities.

Many thanks, also, to Tom Newman, Carolyn Gatto, Debbie Steinke Wardell, and the rest of the APsA staff members

who never cease to amaze at every meeting with their creativity, team spirit, warmth, and professionalism that make these meetings not only possible but also incredible.

In the following pages, you will find information about the different sessions and activities from the Boston meeting along with some photos. With this special issue, we would like to mark this important time in the history of APsA and celebrate the beginning of a new chapter. Let us keep moving forward, safer, stronger, and together. ♦

Warmly,
Sumru

Sumru Tufekcioglu, Ph.D.
President
Candidates' Council
APsA

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022

The Candidate at Work

Our Candidate at Work session was entitled “Working Analytically with Transgender and Gender Non-conforming Children” and featured two candidate presenters, Joe Wise, M.D.

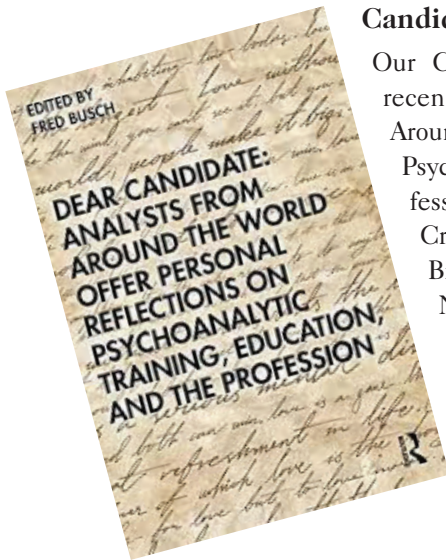
(Brooklyn, NY) and Himanshu Agrawal, M.D. (Hartland, MI) who each presented detailed clinical material from a case describing the experience of working with this group of patients

analytically. Robert Galatzer-Levy, M.D. (Chicago, IL) delivered a discussion that provided insights and suggestions for these interesting and very challenging cases presented. ❖

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2022

Candidates' Forum

Our Candidates' Forum session focused on the recent book “Dear Candidate: Analysts from Around the World Offer Personal Reflections on Psychoanalytic Training, Education, and the Profession” by Fred Busch. Two candidates, April Crofut, M.D. (Portland, OH) and Christine Rio Bistis-Nadala, M.D., Ph.D., MPM (Lincoln, NE) presented reflections on their training experience and Fred Busch, Ph.D. (Chestnut Hill, MA) served as discussant. The session was chaired by Gerard Sobnosky, LMFT (Los Angeles, CA). ❖



Fred Busch, Ph.D. (Chestnut Hill, MA)



April Crofut, M.D. (Portland, OH)



Christine Rio Bistis-Nadala, M.D., Ph.D., MPM (Lincoln, NE)



Gerard Sobnosky, LMFT (Los Angeles, CA)

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Words of Wisdom from a New Book Written for Candidates

Fred Busch

In the recent book I conceived of and edited, *Dear Candidate: Analysts from Around the World Offer Personal Reflections on Psychoanalytic Training, Education, and the Profession*, certain ideas were especially meaningful to me, and I wish I'd known about them as a candidate.

1. Most importantly, despite the problems of being a candidate, and sometimes the difficulty we face in our work with patients, most analysts feel they love being psychoanalysts. In our work with patients, we are trusted with their secrets, their most difficult experiences, their unconscious fantasies, we are learning about their unmetabolized thoughts and feelings. From this we have the chance to help patients with the core of what psychoanalysis has to offer...i.e., the patient's capacity to find, or re-find, their own mind.
2. Being a psychoanalyst means a lifetime of learning and thinking. What we learn as candidates is only an introduction. It took me many years of further study and participating in study groups to become a psychoanalyst.
3. Many analysts describe having multiple analyses. As one analyst put it, it's not enough to have a "good enough" analysis, as too much is riding on it. I can attest to this.
4. Several analysts wrote to encourage candidates to speak up about what they don't understand, what seems questionable, about the contradictions in different models they are presented with, etc. If one speaks up from a love for learning psychoanalysis, it should be greeted with pleasure. However, I know this isn't always the case, and questioning authority can be viewed as making trouble (I know from experience). It can lead one to become passive and engage in false idealizations to gain favor (I also know from experience). I was very fortunate to be in seminars with bright, thoughtful people who

were prone to question readings and statements that were offered as wisdom. We were brought up short when, at the beginning of one seminar, our instructors noted that our reputation preceded us, and wondered why we had so many questions. It was the most boring seminar I ever had.

5. It is important that analysts and candidates become involved in their national and international organizations. It is a way of connecting with a larger group of analysts and helps in recognizing there is a larger psychoanalytic world outside one's institute, with different training models and different ways of thinking about psychoanalysis. I've met many of my good friends through my involvement in the International Psychoanalytic Association. Also, our organization requires the efforts of many people who voluntarily give their time.

Over the years I've had the opportunity to teach candidates at institutes in the USA and around the globe. I've found there are some institutes where candidates expect to be taught, and others where candidates seem to expect that *their* point of view should be merely mirrored, and questions and comments were experienced as an affront or a depreciation of the candidate's voice. These institutes, which prize *niceness* above all else, view candidates as fragile. One would think that candidates would rebel against this characterization of them, but strangely enough this rarely seems to happen. I believe the only way to grow is to have teachers and supervisors who are honest with you, both about your strengths as well as about the areas where you still need to learn.

In ending, a few words about our field. In my experience, unanalyzed narcissism undermines what can be brilliant about psychoanalysis. One problem, identified by the eminent sociologist Robert Burton (1974), also applies to psychoanalysis, "The conception of each

author is seldom built on the work of those who came before. They are often laid out as alternative and competing conceptions, rather than consolidated and extended into a cumulative product" (P. 5).

The *difficulty* of getting analysts to open their minds to fresh perspectives is embedded within our training. We spend years immersed in one perspective or another, and there can be unfortunate professional consequences for those who challenge the prevailing theoretical orientation of the institute. Looking at the literature, authors of one perspective most often quote their fellow teammates, and disregard critiques or those of a different point of view.

In general, staying with what is familiar is typical of most of humanity. Many of us favor the comfort of conviction over the discomfort of doubt. We listen to opinions that make us feel good, instead of ideas that make us think hard. We surround ourselves with people who agree with our conclusions, when we should be gravitating toward those who challenge our thought process. I admit to being one of the challengers. I hope you take what I've written out of a love for our field, and a wish to protect our future.

Reference

Merton, R (1968). *Social Theory and Social Structure*. New York: Free Press.

Fred Busch, Ph.D., FABP is a Training and Supervising Analyst at the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute and has taught extensively. He has published numerous articles on psychoanalytic technique, and six books. He has presented his papers and has conducted clinical workshops nationally and internationally. His last four books are: *Creating a Psychoanalytic Mind* (2014); *The Analyst's Reveries: Explorations in Bion's Enigmatic Concept* (2019); *Dear Candidate: Analyst from Around the World Offer Personal Reflections on Psychoanalytic Training, Education, and the Profession* (2020); *A Fresh Look at Psychoanalytic Technique* (2021). ♦

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Candidates' Council Meeting

At our Candidates' Council meeting, candidates from around the country got a chance to meet each other, meet the Candidates' Council leadership and learn about the programs offered for candidates. The attendees learned about

the committees of the Candidates' Council and ways to get involved, joined group discussions on issues relevant to candidates, and gained an orientation to the greater APsaA community. We were also joined by the incoming President of

APsaA, Kerry Sulkowicz, M.D. (New York, NY) and President-Elect Daniel Prezant, Ph.D. (New York, NY) who talked to us about their past experiences of candidacy and the role of APsaA in their professional life. ❖



A candidate group discussion on the topic of challenges of training and practicing psychoanalysis during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Gerard Sobnosky, LMFT (Los Angeles, CA) (left), Melissa Jenereski, LCSW (Pittsburg, PA) (right)



A group of candidates at the President's Reception.

2022 Candidates' Council Master Teacher Award—Melvin Bornstein, M.D.

Following the Candidates' Council meeting, we were honored to welcome the 2022 Candidates' Council Master Teacher Award recipient, Melvin Bornstein, M.D. (Birmingham, MI), and deeply enjoyed his talk, "You have only yourself to rely on: the wondrous gift of psychoanalytic education." In a

delightfully candid conversation, Dr. Bornstein shared with us his thoughts on this topic, drawing on his own personal experiences: "When past painful experiences are dissociated, a failed attempt at dealing with life ensues and keeps the patient in a repetitious experience of the past in the present. This can change in

treatment only if the therapist is able to demonstrate to the patient that he can put the repetitious components of his trauma into his past and live life fully. Only he can do this with his agency and as a doer.

*A special welcome to the analytic candidates
from APsaA's newest Approved-Institute:*

**The New York University Postdoctoral Program in
Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis (NYU Postdoc)**

 **NYU | ARTS & SCIENCE**

For the list of APsaA Approved Institutes/Centers, visit:
<https://apsa.org/approved-training-institutes>

Interested in Local Events?
Visit: <http://www.apsameeting.org/societies-and-institute-events/>



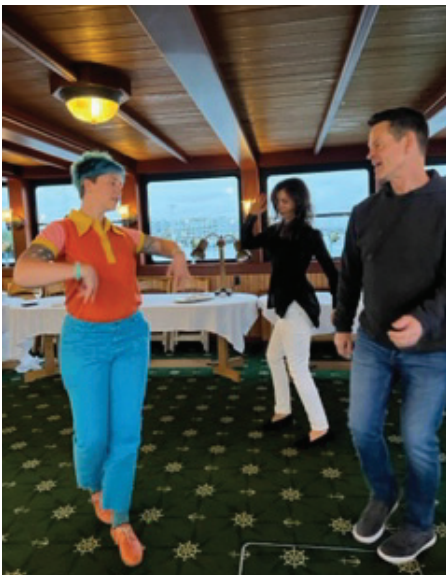
Melvin Bornstein, M.D. (Birmingham, MI)

His analyst is there to remind him that she is part of the safety of the present reality and that he has only himself to rely on." ❖

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Joint Candidates' Council/IPSO Summer Party: Boston Harbor Cruise

Organized jointly by the Candidates' Council and the International Psychoanalytical Studies Organization (IPSO), our annual summer party took place aboard the classic yacht, *Northern Lights*, on a private tour along the Boston Harbor. Yacht *Northern Lights* was inspired by the famous (and infamous) New England commuter yachts of the roaring twenties. These classic boats were commonplace along the New England coastline between Boston/Fall River and New York City. We had a lovely evening, enjoying the sights, conversation, food, drinks, music, and dancing. We had a toast to "working hard and playing hard." ❖



The 2022 Lee Jaffe Candidates' Council Semi-Finalist Paper Prize

The Lee Jaffe Candidates' Council Psychoanalytic Paper Prize is awarded based on a competition in which any candidate member is eligible to participate. The award-winning papers are selected based on a blind peer review process with candidates serving as readers and judges. This year's semi-finalist prize winner Alice X. Huang, M.D., M.S. (Portland, OH) presented her paper "Finding "sense" in separation: aesthetic experiences as transitional phenomena in the analytic process." A senior analyst, Donald B. Moss, M.D. (New York, NY), served as the discussant and commented on the themes of the paper as well as on the writing process more broadly. The session was chaired by April Crofut, M.D. (Portland, OR). For more information about the prize and how to apply visit: <https://apsa.org/content/candidates-council-paper-prize>. ❖



April Crofut, M.D. (Portland, OR) (second on the right)

Are YOU connected to the APsaA Community?



Candidate Member Benefits:

- ♦ Significantly reduced membership fee
- ♦ Reduced candidate member rates for APsaA meetings
- ♦ Low cost professional liability insurance
- ♦ Find an Analyst listing / Opportunities for referrals
- ♦ Eligibility for Membership in IPSO
- ♦ Candidate programming with CEUs
- ♦ Network with candidates & analysts from across the country
- ♦ And more!

The first-year of Candidate Membership includes a *complimentary* subscription to the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association (JAPA)*. Candidates enrolled in psychoanalytic training at an APsaA-approved institute are eligible.

Email Membership Services to join: membership@apsa.org

Has your APsaA membership lapsed?

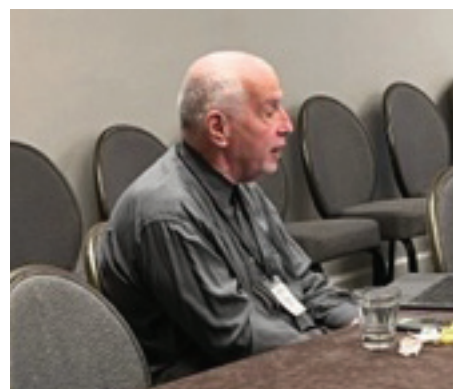
To rejoin the dynamic APsaA national community, contact membership services today.

Questions?

Email: membership@apsa.org or 212-752-0450 x26.



Alice X. Huang, M.D., M.S. (Portland, OH)



Donald B. Moss, M.D. (New York, NY)

Coffee With a Distinguished Analyst: Dr. Dorothy Holmes



Dorothy E. Holmes, Ph.D., ABPP (Blufton, SC)

We were honored to welcome the Candidates' Council 2022 Distinguished Analyst, Dorothy E. Holmes, Ph.D., ABPP (Blufton, SC) and her talk entitled "Oh, psychoanalysis: wherefore art thou? A conversation about tensions, splits, and opportunities in psychoanalytic identity." In her talk, Dr. Holmes examined the current struggle in psychoanalysis to define and position itself for a bright future, partly due to the ambivalence about whether the consideration of race and racism are essential to its identity. At 7:30am Saturday morning, the room was full and we had much resistance from the audience when we tried to wrap up the session at the end. ❖



Coffee with a distinguished analyst: Dr. Dorothy E. Holmes

**APsaA
Candidates' Council
Steering Committee**

Sumru Tufekcioglu, Ph.D.
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April Crofut, M.D.
Chair, Online Seminar Series
Chair, The Lee Jaffe Candidates' Council Paper Prize

Adam Moriwaki, Psy.D.
Chair, Distance Education

SAVE
the
DATE

2023 NATIONAL MEETING
JAN 30 - FEB 5

IN-PERSON
NEW YORK HILTON

To submit your ideas and comments on APsaA's meeting email:
TFfuturemeetings@apsa.org

apsameeting.org



CANDIDATES' COUNCIL ONLINE SEMINAR SERIES

2022

This newly-established program offers focused, supplemental learning experiences taught by leading thinkers and educators in psychoanalysis and the opportunity to connect with colleagues in training. The Seminar Series is a benefit of APsAA Candidate Membership. To join, contact membership@apsa.org.

LENA THEODOROU EHRLICH, PSYD MARCH 2022

Practicing Analysis After Graduation: A Pipe Dream or Realistic Possibility?



ANDREA CELENZA, PHD APRIL 2022

The Maternal Erotic Transference and the Fate of Feminine Signifiers



DONNEL STERN, PHD MAY 2022

On Coming Into Possession of Oneself: Witnessing and the Formulation of Experience



LANCE DODES, MD SEPTEMBER 2022

Psychoanalytic Understanding of Addiction



IRA MOSES, PHD OCTOBER 2022

From Behavior to Words: The Analysis of Acting Out



DIONNE POWELL, MD NOVEMBER 2022

Integrating Race, Ethnicity and Culture into Analytic and Psychodynamic Practice



APRIL CROFUT, MD
CHAIR, APSAA CANDIDATES
COUNCIL ONLINE SEMINAR SERIES

Registration for
September will
open in
mid-August



SUMRU TUFEKCIOĞLU, PHD
PRESIDENT,
APSAA CANDIDATES COUNCIL

Questions about the Seminar Series? Email aprilcrofutmd@gmail.com