

## CANDIDATE SESSIONS

Below are sessions geared for Psychoanalysts-in-Training/Academics-in-Training and Psychotherapists-in-Training. See the Preliminary Program for more information including faculty and educational objectives.

### **Tuesday, February 6, 2024**

**6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

**SOCIAL EVENT:**

**FIRST TIME ATTENDEE GATHERING**

### **Wednesday, February 7**

**9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Senior Analyst Presentation: From Enactment to Embodied Recognition: Working with the Intersubjective Third**

Chairs: Eli Diamond, Ph.D. (Los Angeles, CA)

Christopher G. Walling, Psy.D., MBA, FABP (Los Angeles, CA)

Presenter: Jessica Benjamin, Ph.D.\* (New York NY)

*Note: This program is open to candidate members and students only. Your registration for this session is subject to the approval of the session chair. You will be contacted if there is a conflict.*

**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Lunch break**

**2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Dr. Jessica Benjamin, Ph.D., distinguished psychoanalyst, psychotherapist, author and leading voice in the field of relational psychoanalysis will give candidates and psychotherapy trainees insight into her clinical work with patients. Dive deep into the transformative journey from enactment to embodied recognition within the psychoanalytic and psychotherapeutic realm. Dr. Benjamin will elucidate the nuances of navigating the intersubjective third, enhancing the therapeutic bonds between analyst/therapists and their analysands/patients. Reflecting her accomplished career, this presentation is a testament to her profound insights and pioneering contributions to modern therapeutic methodologies.

### **Wednesday, February 7, 2024**

**9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**Discussion Group 2: Enabling or Foreclosing Change: Inclusion/Exclusion and Letting Go/Holding On: The Paradoxes of Emotional Life**

Chair/ Discussant: Elizabeth Corpt, M.S.W., LICSW\* (Arlington, MA)

Presenter: Peter Shabad, Ph.D.\* (Chicago, IL)

The presenter will provide a case to illustrate the paradoxical relationship between metaphors of inclusion/exclusion and letting go/holding on. He will explore how the experience of being excluded in significant relationships leads to shame, the individual excluding what has been excluded, and paradoxically becoming preoccupied with/holding on to the self-excluded shame. Contrastingly, when a person feels included, the individual can more easily let go and open up to growth. The discussant will expand on the implications of how the projection of shame leads to ubiquitous othering in “us” versus “them” dynamics. For analysts, therapists, candidates, and trainees. Group discussion encouraged.

**Wednesday, February 7, 2024**

**9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**Discussion Group 9: Schizoid Modes in Narcissistic and Borderline States: Levels of Disturbance in the Capacity to Symbolize and Establishing a Space-Time Continuum**

Co-chairs: Susan N. Finkelstein, LCSW (New York, NY)  
M. Nasir Ilahi, L.L.M. (Greenwich, CT)

Presenter: Maria Teresa Flores, M.D.\* (Lisbon, Portugal)

This discussion group targets psychoanalysts, psychotherapists, trainees, and candidates working with schizoid, borderline and narcissistic patients providing psychoanalytic tools for understanding primitive anxieties in these disturbed populations and working in the transference-countertransference dynamic. Emphasis is placed on the role of unconscious phenomena, contributing to enactments between patient and psychoanalyst-psychotherapist-trainee-candidate. Theory and clinical practice are integrated by discussing an article, and examining the close details of a case, followed by a lengthy discussion among participants and chairs, focusing on the Independent and British Kleinian Schools of psychoanalysis. Susan Finkelstein is a training analyst in NYC and is the Director of Understanding Primitive Mental States. M. Nasir Ilahi is a training analyst and Fellow at the British Psychoanalytic Society.

**Wednesday, February 7, 2024**

**2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**DPE Education Forum: Candidates Speak Up: A Solution-focused Reflection on Candidates' Experience of Psychoanalytic Education**

Co-chairs: James W. Barron, Ph.D. (Brookline, MA)  
Wendy Jacobson, M.D. (Atlanta, GA)

Presenters/Discussants: Himanshu Agrawal, MBBS, DF-APA (Hartland, WI)  
Mary Landy, M.D. (Indianapolis, IN)

What do candidates think about their psychoanalytic education? What is the experience like for them? This session is for current and prospective trainees of psychodynamic and psychoanalytic programs, lecturers, supervisors, and training analysts. Candidates evaluate their classes, teachers, and supervisors, but this information is generally distributed to a very small 'inner circle' within the training programs and only used locally. Two separate surveys conducted in 2002 with candidates in training and 2012 with individuals contemplating psychoanalytic training revealed the greatest hinderances in pursuing training involved costs of training analysis, supervision of training cases, lost income owing to the demands of training, and tuition. The second survey also raised concerns about unprofessional culture within APsA training institutes. An open discussion about these survey results will take place.

**Wednesday, February 7, 2024**

**2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Discussion Group 13: IPSO: International Perspectives in Psychoanalysis Introduction to Post-Bionian Field Theory**

Chair: Konstantinos Taliouridis, Ph.D., Psy.D., MBA (Dedham, MA)

Presenter: Iraira Butcher, Psy.D. (Miami, FL)

Discussant: Giuseppe Civitarese, M.D., Ph.D. (Pavia, Italy)

This presentation is targeted to psychoanalysts-in-training, to address a gap between their current level of clinical knowledge and the level representative of a senior analyst. This presentation will narrow the knowledge gap through the application and discussion of a senior analyst's clinical knowledge theoretical point of views.

This activity is designed to increase learners' knowledge of clinical theory and its application in working with patients; specifically, that of a modern Bionian perspective. Learners will be involved in discussion/question and answer with the senior analyst (or analysts) to address their specific clinical knowledge needs. The presenter is an acknowledged, published, expert senior psychoanalyst, drawing on his vast experience and expertise to present an approach supported by scientific evidence and shown to be beneficial in the treatment of patients.

**Wednesday, February 7, 2024**

**4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

**Discussion Group 25: The Candidate at Work: "No, I Mean...Where are You Really From ?..." - When Minoritization and Othering Enter the Patient/Candidate Dyad**

Chair: Konstantinos Taliouridis, Ph.D., Psy.D. (Dedham, MA)

Presenter: Himanshu Agrawal, MBBS, DF-APA (Hartland, WI)

Discussant: TBD

*Note: This program is intended to satisfy the requirements of those states that require CE/CME credits in the area of cultural competency for license renewal, but the final judgment for such qualification is made by each state's board.*

A common challenge faced by trainees is the experience of othering ('treated as intrinsically different') or minoritization ('subordinated in status to a dominant group'). Since they are being evaluated, it can be a struggle to speak up and address such experiences, including racial enactments. This can lead to feeling unwelcome, silenced or unheard, fearful of possible consequences, and pressed to assimilate. We will hear clinical material from a candidate about their experience of these challenges and discuss ways to address them. This presentation will hopefully provide a model to discuss other instances of othering and minoritization, while keeping an open psychoanalytic mind.

**Thursday, February 8, 2024**

**7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.**

**SOCIAL EVENT: BREAKFAST GATHERING FOR CANDIDATE MEMBERS**

**Thursday, February 8, 2024**

**8:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**CANDIDATES' COUNCIL MEETING**

**Thursday, February 8, 2024**

**11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

**Candidates' Council Master Teacher Award: Becoming an Analyst: Pandemic Challenges and Opportunities and Post-Pandemic Reflections**

Chair: Himanshu Agrawal, MBBS, DF-APA (Hartland, WI)

Presenter: Lena Ehrlich, Psy.D., FABP (Ann Arbor, MI)

Learning how to practice as an analyst was a hard enough endeavor before the pandemic. During the pandemic, the loss of the in-office setting and the physical co-presence of analyst and patient added challenges to practicing analysis and to becoming an analyst. At the same time, these conditions gave candidates a unique opportunity to appreciate what psychoanalysis has to offer. Dr. Ehrlich will introduce specific examples of such opportunities, then will invite everyone to discuss. What might we deduce about the process of becoming a psychoanalyst from what we have learned about learning and practicing psychoanalysis during the pandemic?

**Thursday, February 8, 2024**

**2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Candidates' Forum: "Evolve or Expire!" Exploring the Precipice that Psychoanalytic Training Finds Itself At**

Chair/Moderator: Konstantinos Taliouridis, Ph.D., Psy.D. (Dedham, MA)

Presenters: Himanshu Agrawal, MBBS, DF-APA (Hartland, WI)

Nicholas Flier, M.A., L.P.C. (Stillwater, MN)

Erika Lepiavka\* (Palo Alto, CA)

In this seminar, the current president of Minnesota Psychoanalytic Society and institute, the current president of APsA's candidates' council and the current president of IPSO will invite audience members across the spectrum in terms of their educational trajectory (psychotherapists considering psychoanalytic training, current psychoanalytic candidates, recent graduates and veteran analysts) to discuss how the global landscape of psychoanalytic training has changed in the last 110 years. The discussions will use the results of a 2022 USA survey to jump start an international discussion. In this USA survey, prospective candidates were asked to rank the most appealing factors about psychoanalytic training (where they would consider psychoanalytic training), as well as the most and appealing factors (what would dissuade them from pursuing psychoanalytic training). The key take-away points will be shared with APsA and IPA leadership.

**Thursday, February 8, 2024**

**7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**SOCIAL EVENT:**

**JOINT CANDIDATES' COUNCIL/IPSO WINTER PARTY**

***Tickets are required and can be purchased during online registration.***

Location: Faces & Names Midtown Bar and Lounge - 159 West 54th Street New York, NY

Cost: \$80 (includes food, drinks, music, and camaraderie)

Questions: Himanshu Agrawal, MBBS, DF-APA, President of the Candidates' Council

APsA's Candidates' Council and the International Psychoanalytical Studies Organization (IPSO) are happy to invite you to the annual Winter Party. Join your fellow candidates, APsA fellows, graduate students, and other trainees at Faces & Names, half a block from the hotel, is a cozy neighborhood bar with a relaxed and fun atmosphere that has become a classic in this neighborhood for the last 35 years. We will enjoy conversation, food, drinks, music, and the chance to see friends, old and new, from across the country and around the world.

**Friday, February 9, 2024**

**11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

**The 2024 Lee Jaffe Candidates' Council Paper Prize**

Chair: April Crofut, M.D. (Portland, OR)

Presenter: Elizabeth A. Hamlin, M.D. (Delafield, WI)

Discussant: Adele Tutter, M.D., Ph.D. (New York, NY)

The Lee Jaffe Candidates' Council Paper Prize is a long-standing annual writing competition for APsA candidates, designed to support the development of new psychoanalytic writers. In this session, the 2024 prize winner Elizabeth Hamlin, MD will present her paper titled "Mourning and Medication", which explores the intersection of psychoanalytic and pharmacologic treatment through a psychotherapy case where medication precipitated the sudden experiencing of unintegrated loss. Adele Tutter, MD will serve as discussant, commenting on the themes of the paper and on the process of psychoanalytic writing.

**Saturday, February 10, 2024**

**7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.**

**Breakfast with Distinguished Analysts: The Holmes Commission Report and What it Means for APsA Trainees**

Chair: Himanshu Agrawal, MBBS, DF-APA (Hartland, WI)  
Presenters: Anton H. Hart, Ph.D. (New York, NY)  
Dorothy E. Holmes, Ph.D., ABPP, FABP (Bluffton, SC)  
Dionne R. Powell, M.D. (New York, NY)  
Beverly J. Stoute, M.D. (Atlanta, GA)

*Note: This program is intended to satisfy the requirements of those states that require CE/CME credits in the area of cultural competency for license renewal, but the final judgment for such qualification is made by each state's board.*

The establishment of the Holmes Commission on Racial Equality in American Psychoanalysis and the resultant Holmes Commission Report (HCR) which reports data from a three year study have all been landmarks in the long history of American Psychoanalysis. This report has been widely distributed, read, metabolized and discussed including in an ongoing study group set up by the APsA Candidates' Council as plans for implementation are being formulated throughout the field. This 'coffee style' panel discussion will give APsA trainees a chance to meet, mingle and pick the minds of the chairs of the HCR- what it was like to create the report, what the response has been like so far, and what this means for APsA trainees going forward.

**Saturday, February 10, 2024**

**2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Panel 3: The Psychoanalyst in the Community: Illuminating Community Psychoanalysis Through a Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic & Intersectional Lens of Identity [Culture/Ethnicity/Race] & the Influences of the Social Un/Conscious in our Attitudes, use of Power, and Actions**

Chair/Presenter/Moderator: Paula Christian-Kliger, Ph.D., ABPP (New York, NY)  
Presenters: Neil Altman, Ph.D.\* (New York, NY)  
Michael Gerard Connolly, M.P.A., L.P., NCPsyA\* (New York, NY)  
Karol Kullberg, ACSW, LCSW-C (Potomac, MD)  
Kathryn McCormick, M.A., LMFT (Seattle, WA)  
Thomas Veeder, M.D. (Portland, OR)  
Samuel P. Wyche, D.O. (Wyndmoor, PA)

*Note: This program is intended to satisfy the requirements of those states that require CE/CME credits in the area of cultural competency for license renewal, but the final judgment for such qualification is made by each state's board.*

This panel addresses a critical practice gap in American Psychoanalysis. Low income, BIPOC/Immigrant, and LGBTQA+ underserved individuals and groups are consistently marginalized. There is limited access to clinical/community settings where psychoanalytic/dynamic psychotherapy is practiced. Practitioners need exposure to self-and socio-analytic experiences in racial/cultural transferences and counter-transferences in clinical/community settings, like in villages/communities or houses of worship. With psychoanalysts and community-based [CB] clinicians in analytic/psychodynamic training, this program shines a light on community-based and institutional initiatives like Harlem Family Institute, Oregon Psychoanalytic Center, Colombian, SA

and DPE's "Psychoanalyst in the Community" working group, as illustrative, expanding tradition to include the social and social unconscious. It explores barriers/resistances within psychoanalytic/psychodynamic communities to embrace what CB initiatives can offer to field, and larger community/societies.

**Saturday, February 10, 2024**

**2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**DPE Idea Incubation Workshop**

Chair: Richard Tuch, M.D. (Los Angeles, CA)  
Presenters: April Crofut, M.D. (Portland, OR)  
Jennifer Flores, LMFT (Burbank, CA)  
Discussants: Lucy Lafarge, M.D. (New York, NY)  
Jennifer Stuart, Ph.D. (New York, NY)  
Adele Tutter, M.D., Ph.D. (New York, NY)

The workshop is designed to help candidates and recent graduates learn how to write a publication-worthy paper. Two presenters describe an idea they would like help developing to three panelists (e.g., editors, prolific writers) who then provide guidance and feedback. While other programs aim to help candidates write up their cases for professional advancement, this workshop is focused on helping candidates become contributors to the literature. This year's presenters will discuss two developing topics: involuntary celibates as a clinical entity and countertransference reactions that involve the analyst's sexual arousal.