

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 4, 2025

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

SOCIAL EVENT:

FIRST TIME ATTENDEE GATHERING

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Senior Analyst Presentation (Part 1): Lessons from The Social Frame:

How Facilitating Group Work in A Carceral Setting Transformed My Analytic Mind (And Heart)

Co-chairs: Eli Diamond, Ph.D., FIPA (Beverly Hills, CA)
Christopher G. Walling, Psy.D., MBA, FABP (Los Angeles, CA)

Presenter: Julie Leavitt, M.D.* (San Francisco, CA)

Important: This is a two-part session. When registering for Part 1, you must also select Part 2, scheduled for Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. If you do not register for both parts, you will be removed from the session.

Note: This program is open to psychoanalyst and psychotherapist 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.

In this daylong session, the presenter offers novel adaptations of traditional psychoanalytic concepts and practice methods she developed from a community psychoanalytic experience in which the “clinical encounter” was a two-year group that engaged staff at a social agency. Specifically, the presenter will address how psychoanalytically informed co-facilitation of a social-work/client-advocate group at the San Francisco Public Defenders Office transformed for her the meanings and uses of myriad foundational analytic ideas. Elaborating “case material” from this agency group will simultaneously problematize and enhance participants’ learning: about analytic listening/witnessing, group-unconscious processes, transference, trauma, the frame, analytic authority, grief, and mourning, holding vs. containing, the Law (in the Real), and confrontations with perversion and psychosis in power systems.

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Discussion Group 8: 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, LLM (Greenwich, CT)

Presenter: Debra Gill, LCSW (New York, NY)

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 fantasy and phenomena, contributing to enactments between patient and psychoanalyst-psychotherapist-trainee-candidate. Theory and clinical practice are integrated by discussion of an article; examination of close details in case presentation, followed by lengthy discussion among participants, presenter, and chairs, focusing on The Independent and British Kleinian Schools of psychoanalysis. Susan Finkelstein is a training and supervising analyst in NYC and is the Director of Understanding Primitive Mental States. Nasir Ilahi is a training analyst and Fellow at the British Psychoanalytic Society.

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

SOCIAL EVENT:

CANDIDATES' LUNCH WITH LEADERSHIP (IPA, APSA, NAPSAC, EPF, AND FEPAL)**

One Market Restaurant
1 Market Street
San Francisco
Price: FREE

***Note**: Limited spots available. Please register as soon as possible.*

ONLY FOR ANALYTIC CANDIDATES or BY INVITATION

Registration Contact: Dr. Konstantinos Taliouridis (ktaliouridis@icloud.com)

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

DPE Education Forum: Art as a Window into The Social Unconscious: Disturbances in the Field - Encounters with The Art of Felix Lembersky

Co-chairs: James W. Barron, Ph.D., ABPP (Brookline, MA)
Paula Christian-Kliger, Ph.D., ABPP (New York, NY)
Presenters: Joanne M. Gold, M.A., M.S.W., M.A.Ed. (Baltimore, MD)
Yelena Lembersky, M.Arch.* (Arlington, MA)
Ori Soltes, Ph.D.* (Bethesda, MD)

This interdisciplinary forum explores the intersection of psychoanalysis and art in the context of authoritarian governmental control. Felix Lembersky (1913-1970) was a Ukrainian/Russian Jewish painter whose art was initially lauded and later suppressed within the Soviet Union. As his art evolved to include figurative content depicting individual suffering and large group ethnic historical trauma, including paintings of the Nazi massacre at Babi Yar, it no longer conformed, aesthetically or politically with the authoritarian, gatekeeping priorities and narrow definitions of art within the bounds of "Soviet Realism." His art offers a window into the interplay between the internal object world, both conscious and unconscious, and the surrounding social, cultural, historical, and political contexts, while also exploring human vulnerabilities, destructive tendencies, and the capacity for empathy and connection.

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION GROUP 13: ETHICAL DILEMMAS IN PSYCHOANALYTIC INSTITUTES

Co-Chairs: Susan Kattlove, M.D. (Cambridge, MA)
Stephanie Schechter, Psy.D. (Cambridge, MA)

This discussion group will explore everyday ethical dilemmas that occur in clinical work and in the life of a psychoanalytic institute. What is ethical professional behavior – in the consulting room, in the classroom, in admissions meetings, in supervision? How are ethical judgments made when there are competing interests to consider? Why is ethical conduct so difficult to talk about at institutes? Because discussing actual ethical breaches is so difficult, this group will use fictional vignettes as a springboard to explore the multiple ethical and clinical choices members of psychoanalytic institutes face in supervisory, treatment, and peer relationships. This discussion group is intended for anyone involved in a psychoanalytic institute, including psychotherapy and psychoanalytic

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Discussion Group 14: IPSO: International Perspectives in Psychoanalysis: 'Making A Person': Clinical Considerations Regarding the Interpretation of Anxieties in The Analyses of a Patient on the Autisto-Psychotic Spectrum

Chair/Discussant: Konstantinos Taliouridis, Ph.D., Psy.D., MBA (Dedham, MA)
Presenter: Erika Lepiavka, B.A., M.A.* (Mexico City, Mexico)
Presenter/Discussant: Joshua Durban, M.A.* (Tel Aviv, Israel)

This presentation is targeted to psychoanalysts-in-training with advanced insights into the clinical practices and theoretical frameworks relevant to working with patients on the autism spectrum, particularly those exhibiting psychotic features. This session aims to bridge the gap in clinical knowledge between psychoanalysts-in-training and seasoned practitioners. The focus will be on the complexities of interpreting anxieties in patients who fall on the autisto-psychotic spectrum, emphasizing the following key areas; technical requirements and interpretive levels and transference-countertransference dynamics. Psychoanalysts-in-training will have an opportunity to engage directly with the presenters, asking questions and discussing specific clinical scenarios they encounter in their practice designed to foster a deeper understanding of the subject matter and provide tailored insights that meet the participants' specific clinical needs.

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

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

DISCUSSION GROUP 22: PSYCHOANALYSIS AND THE LAW: THE ROLE OF THE UNCONSCIOUS IN FORENSIC MATTERS

Co-Chairs: Linda S. Gunsberg, Ph.D. (New York, NY)
William D. Kenner, M.D. (Nashville, TN)
Presenter: Kenneth J. Weiss, M.D. (Bala Cynwyd, PA)
Discussants: Robert Galatzer-Levy, M.S., M.D. (Evanston, IL)
Gilbert W. Kliman, M.D. (San Francisco, CA)

A roundtable discussion will re-visit an important topic originally tackled by Freud: should the unconscious be considered by the Court as evidence in forensic cases? There will also be discussion regarding how the unconscious of the psychoanalyst/psychotherapist who testifies with regard to their patient in a Court proceeding may impact their testimony, and how the unconscious of the psychoanalytically trained mental

health professional who evaluates clients for the Court may impact their evaluation processes and final conclusions. Criminal, civil, and matrimonial case material will be offered to illustrate the power of the unconscious in the cases themselves as well as the unconscious biases that may influence the psychoanalytically trained expert. This discussion group will be of interest to candidates/trainees, psychotherapists as well as psychoanalysts.

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

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

DISCUSSION GROUP 23: THE CANDIDATE AT WORK: CASTRATED ANALYST MEETS WINNICOTT'S THINKING

Chair/Discussant: Konstantinos Taliouridis, Ph.D., Psy.D., MBA (Dedham, MA)
Presenters: Bobbie M. Davis, Ph.D., LCSW, RPT-S (Clarksville, TN)
Jan Abram, Ph.D.* (London, England)

This discussion group is designed for psychoanalysts, therapists, and mental health professionals interested in the intersection of classical psychoanalysis and contemporary theories. The focus will be on exploring the implications of Winnicott's concepts—particularly the “good enough mother” and transitional objects—within the framework of the “castrated analyst.” This session will address how these ideas influence the therapeutic relationship and impact the candidate's development in their analytic practice. The rationale for this session stems from the need to bridge classical and contemporary thought, fostering a deeper understanding of the analyst's role and the dynamics at play in the therapeutic setting. Participants will engage in critical discussions, case studies, and collaborative reflections to enhance their clinical practice and theoretical knowledge.

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Social Event:

THE ESCAPE GAME

151 Kearny Street

APsA Registrants, Get Ready to Escape!

Join us for an exciting evening as APsA takes over all five escape rooms at The Escape Game, just five minutes from the Palace Hotel!

Put your teamwork skills to the test as you work together to find clues, solve puzzles, and complete tasks to escape before time runs out. And see if you can beat the clock against the other four games happening simultaneously!

This social event was inspired by a conversation among attendees at the 2024 National Meeting who were planning their own escape to an Escape Room.

Whether you come alone and join a team or bring your own group, we can't wait to see you there!

Tickets are \$45. *Capacity is limited.*

Thursday, February 6, 2025

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

Social Event:

BREAKFAST GATHERING FOR IN-TRAINING MEMBERS

Join colleagues from around the country for breakfast. All are welcome to stay for the Candidates' Council meeting following breakfast.

Thursday, February 6, 2025

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

CANDIDATES' COUNCIL MEETING

Note: Candidates/Trainees who are pre-registered to participate in the Travel Scholarship are required to attend this meeting.

Candidates' Council leadership, committee chairs, and delegates from APsA institutes welcome all candidates to attend this meeting. Our friends from IPSO, any trainees who are not in psychoanalytic training, and psychoanalytic psychotherapy trainees are also warmly welcomed (please know that you may need to be excused in case an executive session is called). You will learn about committee work, participate in roundtable discussions of issues most relevant to candidates, have opportunities to compare notes with colleagues from around the world, gain an orientation to the greater APsA community, learn about exciting opportunities available exclusively to candidates, deepen your psychoanalytic identity, broaden your connection to the profession of psychoanalysis, explore resources for building your practice, and forge lifelong friendships with other candidates.

Thursday, February 6, 2025

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

The Wendy Jacobson Candidates' Teaching Award: Lessons from a Challenging Patient

Co-chairs: Himanshu Agrawal, MBBS, DF-APA (Hartland, WI)
Konstantinos Taliouridis, Ph.D., Psy.D., MBA (Dedham, MA)

Presenter: Wendy Jacobson, M.D., DF-APA, FABP (Atlanta, GA)

Dr. Jacobson will share a detailed description of her work with a case she treated relatively early in her career that led to quantum leaps in her analytic development. For much of the analysis she feared intractable impasse. Only late in the work did it become clear that she and her patient had engaged her patient's most serious difficulties and at least partially resolved them by psychoanalytic means. She will share lessons learned and include a description of how writing up the case proved invaluable. Audience participation will be welcomed throughout the seminar.

Thursday, February 6, 2025

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Candidates' Forum: "Looking at Hard Truths Together: Candidates Grapple with Systemic and Internalized Racism/Othering via a Multiracial, Cross-Institute Holmes Commission Report Study Group"

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

Co-chairs: Carrie Atikune, Psy.D. (Portland (OR))
Elisa K. Cheng, M.D. (Cambridge, MA)

Presenters: Bobbie M. Davis, Ph.D., LCSW, RPT-S (Clarksville, TN)
Emily S. Frank, Ed.D. (West Roxbury, MA)
Inna Goldberg, M.A., MSW, LICSW (Cambridge, MA)
Mia Goldman, M.A., LMFT (Los Angeles, CA)
Nancy Ann Lawroski, Ph.D., LP (Minneapolis, MN)
Amy Leung, M.D. (Albany, CA)
Maritza Rodriguez LCSW-R (Brooklyn, NY)
Belinda J. Torres, Ph.D. (Willoughby Hills, OH)

Discussants: Dionne R. Powell, M.D. (New York, NY)
Beverly J. Stoute, M.D. (Atlanta, GA)

Released on Juneteenth 2023, the Holmes Commission Report provides an unflinching look at race and systemic racism within American psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic therapy, sounding a clarion call for change within the field. Moderated by two Holmes Commission co-chairs, this program will discuss the impact of participating in a year-plus, multiracial, cross-institute Holmes Commission Report study group on candidates' racial awareness, sense of belonging, and analytic identities. It will examine the group's model of engaging with the Holmes Commission Report and each other, and its evolution from reading group to process group, navigating racialized enactments both outside of and within the group. The intended audience includes analysts, psychotherapists, candidates, trainees, and those interested in addressing internal, interpersonal, and systemic aspects of racism and othering within psychoanalysis.

Thursday, February 6, 2025

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

SOCIAL EVENT:

JOINT CANDIDATES' COUNCIL/IPSO WINTER PARTY

Tickets are required and can be purchased in advance only.

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. We will enjoy conversation, food, drinks, music, and the chance to see friends, old and new, from across the country and around the world.

Tickets are required and can be purchased in advance only.

Questions: Konstantinos Taliouridis (ktaliouridis@icloud.com)

Friday, February 7, 2025

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

The 2025 Lee Jaffe Candidates' Council Paper Prize

Chair: Elizabeth A. Hamlin, M.D. (Milwaukee, WI)
Presenter/Prize Winner: Edie B. Hitchcock, Ph.D., MFA, MA, LCPC (Chicago, IL)
Discussant: Derek Hook, Ph.D.* (Pittsburgh, PA)

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 2025 prize winner Dr. Edie Hitchcock will present their paper, "The Excessive Polycule: Polyamory as an Expression of the Death Drive". This presentation examines the contemporary cultural practice of polyamory as it may arise in the consulting room, using Kleinian and Lacanian conceptions of the death drive to illuminate work with a

patient in a distressing polyamorous relationship. This paper examines how polyamory can represent a paradoxical attempt to subvert a hierarchical social order by re-presenting all relationships as lateral and can work via the death drive to disavow lack and ambivalence while both promising and promoting life-in-excess-of-life.

Friday, February 7, 2025

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

PRESIDENTIAL SYMPOSIUM: LESSONS FROM CHILD ANALYTIC TRAINING

Co-chairs: Daniel W. Prezant, Ph.D., APsA President (New York, NY)
Alan Sugarman, Ph.D. (Cardiff by the Sea, CA)

Presenters: Tanishia D. Choice, M.D.* (Lincoln, MA)
Edward Lowery, LCSW (San Diego, CA)
Catherine Hill Phillips, LCSW (Menlo Park, CA)

This program will examine the differences between psychotherapy and psychoanalysis in the treatment of children. Specifically, it will examine how technical differences, particularly frequency of sessions affects both the process and the outcome of these different treatment modalities. It is aimed at child analytic candidates and trainees as well as recent graduates and faculty. Child analytic candidates and psychotherapy trainees need to be able to explain to prospective patients/clients the advantages of frequent sessions and a more open-ended treatment focus. Three recent graduates of child analytic training programs will use clinical material to demonstrate how their training experiences have informed their thinking on these issues.

Friday, February 7, 2025

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

DPE CRITICAL THINKING SEMINAR: EXPLORATION OF THE SOCIAL UN/CONSCIOUS: BARRIERS AND BRIDGES TO EMPATHIC CAPACITY, READINESS, AND RESONANCE WITH THE OTHER

Co-chairs: James W. Barron, Ph.D. (Brookline, MA)
Paula Christian-Kliger, Ph.D., ABPP (New York, NY)

Discussants: Shelley Savage, Psy.D.* (Silver Spring, Maryland)
David Goldenberg, M.D. (New York, NY)

Clinicians and citizens face the challenge of critically thinking about how the social surround is internalized as groups or communities-in-mind, which shape individual and collective identities. Groups-in-mind that are constitutive of identities can increase turbulence and exacerbate conflict, even leading to violence, but they can also enhance empathy and resonance with others. We are Human First (Paula Christian-Kliger et al 2019, 2020), an innovative, evocative/experience-near film, sets the Expression of the Death Drive". This presentation examines the contemporary cultural practice of polyamory as it may arise in the consulting room, using Kleinian and Lacanian conceptions of the death drive to illuminate work with a patient in a distressing polyamorous relationship. This paper examines how polyamory can represent a paradoxical attempt to subvert a hierarchical social order by re-presenting all relationships as lateral and can work via the death drive to disavow lack and ambivalence while both promising and promoting life-in-excess-of-life.

Friday, February 7, 2025

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

RESEARCH TRACK: INNOVATION IN THE ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT OF BORDERLINE PERSONALITY: A TRANSFERENCE FOCUSED PSYCHOTHERAPY (TFP) APPROACH

Chair/ Presenter: Eric A. Fertuck, Ph.D.* (New York, NY)
Presenter: Barry L. Stern, Ph.D.* (New York, NY)

This panel is intended for psychotherapy trainees, psychoanalytic candidates, practicing psychotherapists, psychodynamic psychotherapists, and psychoanalysts. Personality disorder patients pose significant challenges for the psychoanalytically oriented clinician. The aim of the panel is to update clinicians and investigators regarding the state of science in assessment and intervention in Borderline Personality Disorder and personality disorders from a Transference Focused Psychotherapy perspective. Many psychoanalytic therapists are unfamiliar with current assessment tools and modifications in psychoanalytic techniques that could enhance their acumen with these individuals. These challenges include suicidality, high risk behaviors, negative countertransference, and difficulty in maintaining a coherent and containing treatment frame.

Friday, February 7, 2025

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

THE HOLMES COMMISSION: A CHANGE IS GONNA COME: STUDYING AND IMPLEMENTING THE HOLMES COMMISSION FINDINGS

Co-Chairs: Anton H. Hart, Ph.D., FABP, FIPA (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)

Presenters: Himanshu Agrawal, MBBS, DF-APA (Hartland, WI)
Elisa K. Cheng, M.D. (Cambridge, MA)
Gloria Demby, LCSW (Brooklyn, NY)
Janice Berry Edwards, Ph.D., ACSW, LICSW, LCSW-C, BCD* (Washington, DC)
Michael Langlois, LICSW (Nantucket, MA)
Felecia R. Powell-Williams, Ed.D., LPC-S, RPT/S, FABP (Houston, TX)
Daniel W. Prezant, Ph.D., APsA President (New York, NY)

The leadership team of The Holmes Commission will engage with the leaders of North American psychoanalytic organizations who have been studying and implementing the recommendations of The Holmes Commission report. What has been learned and deployed, what are the current questions, what direct and indirect advances have been made, and what are the future plans? We also hope to discuss missteps and resistances and learn from each other as psychoanalytic professionals with a shared mission. All psychoanalytic training institute and society leaders, faculty, members, academics, community members and trainees are welcome. Questions and contributions from the audience are invited with the goal of moving the field of psychoanalysis forward in racial and other equities. A change is gonna come.

Friday, February 7, 2025

8:00 p.m.

**SOCIAL EVENT:
JAZZ NIGHT**

Save the date and time to join us for a vibrant night out at the jazz club! Experience the soulful sounds of live jazz as talented musicians take the stage, creating an unforgettable atmosphere. Details and costs are being worked out and more information will be available soon!

Saturday, February 8, 2025

7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

BREAKFAST WITH DISTINGUISHED ANALYSTS

Chair: Himanshu Agrawal, MBBS, DF-APA (Hartland, WI)
Discussants: Jack Novick, Ph.D. (Closter, NJ)
Kerry Kelly Novick, AB, BA, FIPA (Closter, NJ)

This 'coffee style' panel discussion will give APsA members who are trainees in a psychodynamic or psychoanalytic program a chance to meet, mingle with and pick the minds of Ms. Kerry Kelly Novick and Dr. Jack Novick about their impressive body of work in the field of psychoanalysis- lessons learnt in their distinguished careers, what they would retain and what they would do differently if they could 'do their training all over again'.

Saturday, February 8, 2025

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

Panel 5: Psychoanalytic Thinking Applied to Issues of The Day: Homelessness & Transgender Parenting

Moderator: Billie A. Pivnick, Ph.D. (Brooklyn, NY)
Presenters: Sandra Buechler, Ph.D.* (New York, NY)
Diane Ehrensaft, Ph.D.* (Oakland, CA)
Gerard P. Sobnosky, LMFT, FIPA (San Pedro, CA)

The work of Erich Fromm is being rediscovered by many clinicians who find his concepts useful in understanding the current zeitgeist. Fromm's emphasis on the impact of the societal and the cultural on the individual can be applied to many contemporary social and clinical situations. This panel will outline the work of Fromm and then address two current issues: homelessness and transgender children's fantasies about parenting and mothering. After discussing Fromm's contributions in the first presentation, the next presenter will discuss the clinical case of a homeless man in analytic treatment. Next, the fantasies of embrace or repudiation of parenting and mothering will be discussed in transgender children. There will be time for discussion amongst the panelists and with the audience at the end. Open to all clinicians.

Saturday, February 8, 2025

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

Panel 6: Three Takes on Change in The Psychoanalytic Process

Chair: Hannah Wallerstein, Ph.D., FABP (Ann Arbor, MI)
Presenters: Vera Bekes, Ph.D.* (New York, NY)
Fred Busch, Ph.D. (Chestnut Hill, MA)
Daniel Goldin, MFT, Psy.D. (South Pasadena, CA)

The fact that psychoanalysis offers a method and theory for change may be uncontested, but how exactly change occurs and what kinds of change matter are by no means areas of general agreement. This panel will offer three different perspectives on the topic of change, focusing on the therapeutic relationship, the building of representational capacities, and the place of pragmatism in this work, respectively. Synthesizing research, theory, and case material, the panel will attempt to elucidate central differences in how one works and thinks, the stakes involved in these differences, and how each perspective may push the others towards new or

sharpened articulations. It should be of interest to all those involved in psychoanalytic and psychodynamic practice and theory.

Saturday, February 8, 2025

11:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE SPONSORED WORKSHOP #8: PRACTICE BUILDING TODAY: BUILDING A GENDER INCLUSIVE PRACTICE

Chair/ Moderator: Susan L. Flinders, Ph.D., FABP (Chelsea, MI)
Presenter: Susan McNamara, M.D.* (Middlefield, CT)
Discussants: Reyna Cowan, Psy.D., LMSW* (Oakland, CA)
Stephen R. Lugar, Psy.D.* (San Francisco, CA)

Clinicians face a practice gap in effectively addressing the diverse manifestations of gender in individuals seeking treatment for a variety of concerns. When building a practice, or working in academia, psychotherapists/psychoanalysts, and candidates/trainees, and coincidentally academic psychoanalysts, may overlook the importance of understanding the nuances of gender. After completing this activity, learners, psychoanalysts/ psychotherapists, candidates/trainees, and academics alike, will have increased knowledge concerning how “gender” is evolving and its significance by exploring current ideas about how gender is constructed from biological, social, developmental, and psychoanalytic perspectives. This knowledge anticipates learners building more gender-informed practices. An experienced psychoanalyst will present material with PowerPoint followed by brief discussions from two early career analysts. A lively discussion with the audience is expected to follow.

Saturday, February 8, 2025

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Panel 10: Applying Traditional and Contemporary Psychoanalytic Theory to Current Socio-Cultural Issues in and out of The Consulting Room

Chair/Presenter: Afsaneh Alisobhani, Psy.D. (Newport Beach, CA)
Presenters: Katie Gentile, Ph.D.* (New York, NY)
Mark J. Goldblatt, M.D. (Cambridge, MA)
Golzar Selbe Naghshineh, LP, CGP* (New York, NY)

This is a three-part presentation intended for psychoanalysts, psychotherapists, candidates, trainees, social theorists and others interested in understanding the challenges faced by individuals, groups, and societies. Three psychoanalysts will explore the ways in which psychoanalytic thinking can be useful in understanding and addressing conflicts related to topics of global warming, challenges of infertility and psychoanalytic training. Psychoanalytic conceptualizations such as self-destructive dynamics, attacks on the ego, existential threats, Bionian dialects, among others are considered in the context of the examination of these topics. This session will help attendees understand the theoretical psychoanalytic dynamics involved in a variety of contemporary issues and will aid in the application of important clinical interventions.

Saturday, February 8, 2025

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ERNST AND GERTRUDE TICHO MEMORIAL LECTURE: SUPPORTING FRONTLINE WORKERS WITH DOWN-TO-EARTH PSYCHOANALYTIC CONCEPTS: COMPOST HAPPENS (THE KITTY BUNNY TALK)

Introducer: Harriet L. Wolfe, M.D. (San Francisco, CA)
Chair/ Presenter: Madeleine Lansky, M.D. (San Francisco, CA)

The Kitty Bunny Talk couples a tone of collegial conviviality with concrete metaphors in the form of cats, rabbits and silly emojis, making abstract psychoanalytic concepts vivid and easy to remember. By shifting Bion's concept of beta elements and alpha function into the metaphor of "composting," The Kitty Bunny Talk demonstrates how a psychoanalytic consultant can use teaching and metaphors to work on public and population focused program development that can scale to create high impact systems change. It focuses on community creation by valuing the frontline workers who serve the safety net populations around them. Compost Happens is a micro documentary featuring the consultant and consultees describing the impact that learning these down-to-earth psychoanalytic concepts has had on their frontline work in community health care settings.

Saturday, February 8, 2025

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Panel 11: "Where Do We Go From Here: Technology And The Psyche"

Chair: J. Todd Dean, Ph.D. (Saint Louis, MO)
Presenters: Gregory Gabrellas, M.D.* (New York, NY)
Shir Shanun, Psy.D. (Arcadia, CA)
Leora Trub, Ph.D.* (New York, NY)
Discussant: Nicolle Zapien, MFT, M.A., Ed.M., Ph.D. (Oakland, CA)

This panel will explore the impact of computer technology on the analysand's ability to free associate and, more broadly, to discuss their experiences with another person. Through a series of presentations, participants will address the challenges of free association and creativity in the age of AI, examine how computer technology affects intimacy in personal relationships, and consider how the assumption of knowledge from AI influences assessments of what is known. Additionally, the panel will analyze the impact of remote treatment on the development of the relationship between analyst/psychotherapist and analysand/patient from various perspectives, highlighting both the potentially disruptive effects of remote work and the ways it may facilitate the analytic process.