



Programming Highlights for Students & Residents

Clinical Conference 1 for Residents, Psychology and Social Work Trainees, and Students, Presented by APSA Fellows:

WORKING PSYCHODYNAMICALLY WITH GENDER AND SEXUAL FLUIDITY

Thursday February 6, 2025, 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Drawing from the clinical material of a weekly psychodynamic psychotherapy, this clinical conference will consider the interrelatedness of gender, sexuality, and desire. Following Saketopolou and Pellegrini, gender and sexuality will be presented as ever-dynamic processes that emerge both out of the subject's own self-theorizing, and the incursion of others and otherness in development. Their concept of patient affirmation will be introduced, in which what is affirmed is not the patient's conscious identity, but rather, the patient's own self-determining process. In presenting this case, the traumatic impact of normative gender regulation and some relationship dynamics between fathers and gay sons will also be elaborated.

Poster Session

RESEARCH RELEVANT TO THEORY AND PRACTICE IN PSYCHOANALYSIS

Friday, February 7, 2025, 11:15 AM – 4:00 PM

The American Psychoanalytic Association sponsors this annual research poster session designed to promote stimulating conversations and mutual learning among psychoanalytic practitioners, theorists, and researchers. Submissions have relevance to psychoanalytic theory, technique, practice, and effectiveness of psychoanalysis or interdisciplinary scholarship addressing research questions in neighboring fields.

Clinical Conference 2 for Residents, Psychology and Social Work Trainees, and Students, Presented by APSA Fellows:

A QUEER SILENCE: DISSOCIATION IN THE CLINICAL ENCOUNTER

Saturday, February 8, 2025, 9:00 PM - 11:00 PM

How do psychoanalysts/psychotherapists contend with the challenges of silence? This clinical presentation will illustrate how silence paradoxically served as a means of protection, connection, and disconnection for a queer adolescent with dissociative features. The patient's complex communication through silence demonstrates technical challenges, countertransference dissociation, and self-doubt. This session will consider how silence may have function as a medium by which one can examine queer subjectivities. Clinical material will examine how tolerating silence's complexities may have helped facilitate the exploration of the patient's queerness.

Committee Sponsored Workshop #9:

MEDICAL STUDENT EDUCATION

Saturday, February 8, 2025, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Narrative Based Medicine (NBM) has been described as medicine practiced with narrative competence "to recognize, absorb, interpret, and be moved by the stories of illness". NBM is a growing field, and it is believed the tenets of NBM offered through this workshop will aid attendees in bolstering their clinical tool kit. This seminar will introduce how narrative medicine may be used to teach medical students about psychodynamic and psychoanalytic concepts. It is intended for anyone who is interested in the training of medical students.

Ernst And Gertrude Ticho Memorial Lecture

SUPPORTING FRONTLINE WORKERS WITH DOWN-TO-EARTH PSYCHOANALYTIC CONCEPTS: COMPOST HAPPENS (THE KITTY BUNNY TALK)

Saturday, February 8, 2025, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

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.

All are invited to attend a cocktail reception generously sponsored by the Ernst and Gertrude Ticho Charitable Foundation, which follows the Plenary Address from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.