

The Working Together Retreat Project at SFCP

by Elizabeth M. Simpson, L.C.S.W.

The **Working Together Retreat Project** was conceptualized in January 2011. Over a five year period 12-15 SFCP members participated in the group process intensive three day trainings at the SF Jung Institute. The weekend training is offered bi-annually (February & October) by two Jungian analysts: Sam Kimbles, Ph.D. and Suzy Spradlin, Ph.D. Some of the objectives of the training were: to better understand group dynamics and ourselves as members of working groups; and to gain insight into our committee work, teaching, collegial collaboration and organizational dynamics. Zoe Grusky, who is involved at SFCP and PINC with projects related to group & organizational health, encourages interested SFCP members to participate in the group training at the Jung Institute.

The First Working Together Retreat:

The Working Together Retreat project (WTR) came together at the four year mark of SFCP's reorganization. Mardi Horowitz was finishing the first term as SFCP President and Chair of the Management Team and Robin Deutsch was beginning her term. Significant changes in leadership, committee membership, staff, and the Board were about to occur again as some members' terms were up. Elizabeth Simpson and Mary Margaret McClure, in conversation with several members chairing committees/divisions, etc., agreed that it was an opportune time for a working group to come together to discuss the health of the new management structure. Mardi Horowitz and Erik Gann were also working hard to engage the larger membership in similar discussions (and were invited to the WPINCH).

We worked hard to recruit group members from a cross-section of the Organization: SFCP staff, Division Chairs & members, Committee representation, Board members, Community members, etc. To accomplish something meaningful we needed time and outside facilitators; thus a full weekend (9-5 Saturday and Sunday). Sam Kimbles and Suzy Spradlin contracted to facilitate discussion. They consult to Centers throughout the country. The cost to each member for the weekend retreat is between \$275 and \$300 depending on the size of the group. This is a personal expense, not an SFCP budget item.

The intent was to form a working group over the two days; this was not intended to be a process group. The facilitators determined that to ensure a "working group," twenty members was the maximum size. There were many more individuals who were actively working in essential roles at SFCP, whom we could not invite; this is not because they are not valued, but because of our limit of 20 participants. This consideration has held true with Groups 2 & 3. Our plan, over time, is to include all interested members to participate.

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** Newsletter Material Deadline: 1/15/13 **

SAN FRANCISCO CENTER FOR PSYCHOANALYSIS

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The working groups commit to meet only once. However, the first two groups each decided at the end of the weekend to meet again for a ½ day follow-up without paid facilitators. They have just planned their fourth and third ½ day follow-up meetings respectively.

What is the Purpose of these WTR groups?

What we are learning is that many members, who are actively participating, recently finished a term, or who wish to be more involved in Center life benefit from the connection to a small group. These working groups are unique in that we have no committee affiliation or agenda. The purpose is to have conversation. The members find themselves discussing specific issues spontaneously because it is safe to do so. Our facilitators, Suzy and Sam, bring awareness to group process and important subconscious and unconscious concerns that members share. Members report this group experience impacts their interactions and understanding of their committee functioning and the larger organization. The intimacy, honesty and opportunity to speak about concerns and accomplishments have been invaluable to most participants.

Topics of Discussion – Created by the Groups:

The discussions are structured only by the topic of organizational life and health. Each group spontaneously creates the threads of conversation that feel relevant at the time of meeting. Below are some of the themes that have surfaced, with the first and second WTR groups having a different focus relative to group makeup and the particular moment in time for the organization.

- **Organizational structure – there is an impediment to clear communication between the various Divisions, Board and Management Team. Is the organizational structure itself the problem? Is it related to leadership? More time is needed to sort out these questions. A more intentional observation of group process and interface will be one pathway for evaluation.**
 - **What does it mean to shift our identity from an Institute to a Center?**
 - **SFCP's new home on Natoma Street – the impact on our identity.**
 - **The Child Psychoanalytic Training Program – integration is desired and challenging.**
 - **The vitality of SFCP's new educational & training programs – an infusion of energy, new community members and excitement: how to integrate?**
 - **Trust & Safety among colleagues within the organization. Hurt and betrayal related to boundary violations, disappointments and loss.**
- Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees meetings are open to all SFCP Members.
The next meeting will be held on
Monday, January 28, 2013, 7:30pm
SFCP, 444 Natoma Street
Questions, call 415-563-3366
- **Analytic Identity – affiliation with psychoanalysis, changing socio-economic times, how the training analysis impacts identity.**
 - **The powerful impact of group dynamics – any gathering creates an insider/outsider dichotomy which is tremendously provocative (whether or not the decision is made by the individual).**
 - **Can the Center really change – must the internal life of authority & power assert itself even though the external structure has changed?**

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Working Together Retreat Project continued from page 2

- **Loss of SFCP members – due to death and/or resignation of membership.**
- **Inclusiveness – how can we develop interest and greater involvement in the work of our organization?**
- **Privacy & confidentiality – how to secure a safe frame within institute life so that we can have meaningful conversations.**
- **Appreciation of the contributions made by committee members, program chairs, leaders, membership, etc.**

To date we have had two different WTR groups – the first group met in July 2011, the second in April 2012. A third group will meet in March 2013. Over time, we intend to reach out to and include as many people as are interested. We intend that our fourth group will include interested candidates. The idea is to gather a working group with representation from a cross-section of SFCP. We are limited by the group size (20) and our current ability to hold one full weekend retreat per year.

The Working Together Retreat project reports to the Management Team. Robin Deutsch appointed Ray Poggi to head a new committee on Group Process within SFCP. This Committee will become a place of discussion about this project and several other important efforts underway to create an evolving and healthy atmosphere for discussion & experience within our organization.

If you are interested in participating for Group 4, please contact Elizabeth Simpson.

Stepping Down

Michael Windholz will be stepping down from his role as Chair of the Research, Academia, and Advocacy Committee on June 30, 2013. The Chair of this Division serves on the Management Team. If you would be interested in finding out more about this position, please contact Robin Deutsch or Michael Windholz. Should you wish to serve in this position, please let Robin Deutsch know.

Board of Trustees Election

Early in 2013, the membership needs to elect analyst-members to 3 Analyst-at-large positions on our Board to replace 3 current members whose terms expire June, 2013. The importance of these positions cannot be overestimated because it is the Board that is ultimately responsible for the direction and operation of our Center. These positions will begin July 1, 2013. One position is for a 2 year term, two are for a 3 year term. The Board meets monthly.

The Nominating and Board Development Committee of the Board is seeking analyst-members to nominate for these positions. If you are an analyst-member interested in being nominated or want to recommend another analyst-member for nomination, please contact one these members of the Nominating Committee:

Erik Gann, M.D. (egannmd@gmail.com),
 Maury Marcus, M.D. (mauricemarcus@comcast.net), or
 Melissa Nelken, JD (nelkenm@uhastings.edu).

Maurice G Marcus, M.D.
 Co-chair, Nominating and Board Development Committee



Editor's Note

by Catherine Witzling, Ph.D., L.C.S.W.

January is a fitting month to begin new habits. In that spirit, the editorial staff of the Newsletter would like to urge you to avail yourselves of the "Letters to the Editor" column, if you have a response to material at one of our programs, or in the Newsletter, or if there's just something you want to get off your chest. We hope to provide a space for exchange of ideas in many voices. Please submit your letter to marcia.parham@sf-cp.org and catwitz@yahoo.com by the 15th of the month.



Four Remaining Programs for Child colloquium Series – 2013

Location: **SFCP, 444 Natoma, San Francisco**

Time: **10am to 12pm** on Saturday mornings (*except for Movie Night*)

Cost: **Free**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2; (10:00 - 12:00 Noon)

Presenter: **Ann Smolen, Ph.D.**

Understanding Difficult Parents: "Boys Only! No Mothers Allowed!"

Dr. Smolen, child psychoanalyst from Philadelphia, will discuss her challenging work with six year old Georgie whose father ultimately could not tolerate a female therapist present in the boy's life. She raises the difficult subject of working with negative projections. How can we protect our patients? And ourselves?

Ann Smolen is a member and faculty of the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia. Supervising and training analyst, she was the Director of the Child Psychotherapy Program in 2009/2010 and has a private practice Ardmore PA.

Note: This article was published in the International Journal of Psychoanalysis, February 2009, Vol. 90 with comments by Viviane Abel, James Herzog, Virginia Ungar, Janis Baeuerlen and Lee Grossman.

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Child Colloquium Series continued from page 4

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2013 (10:00 - 12:00)

Presenter: **Louis Roussel, Ph.D.**

Discussant: **Jill Miller, Ph.D.**

Interpreting Infantile Sexuality: Words And The Body

Dr Roussel will present his analytic treatment of a young adolescent whose significant physical symptoms reflect this youngsters psychosexual arrests. How can infant sexuality conflicts be expressed and treated? Doctor Roussel is a San Francisco psychoanalyst, former clinical director of the New College of San Francisco, Clinical Provider for the Masonic Center for Youth and Families, and member and faculty for SFCP.

Doctor Jill Miller, well known to our analytic community, will discuss this unusual case. She is a child, adolescent and adult psychoanalyst trained at the Anna Freud Centre, University of London, and Denver Institute of Psychoanalysis. A supervising and training analyst, she is faculty and member of the Denver Psychoanalytic Society and Geographic Supervisor at SFCP.



SATURDAY APRIL 20, 2013 (10:00 - 12:00)

Presenter: **Kristen Carey, Psy.D.**

Discussant: **Myrna Frankel, L.C.S.W.**

“The Girl Who Was Happy With Everything”

Dr. Carey will describe the successful treatment using play therapy to help her 7 year old patient move beyond they sphere of severe parental conflict. Mired in oedipal misery and preoccupied with family relationships, this girl is enabled to move into the world of latency.

Kristen Carey, a clinical supervisor and instructor at the Ann Martin Center, co-founder of KIDS CONNECT, instructor at Access Institute and community member at SFCP, has a private practice in San Francisco.

Myrna Frankel, LCSW, adult, child, and adolescent psychoanalyst, will discuss Doctor Carey’s paper. Mrs. Frankel is faculty and member of SFCP. A former early childhood instructor and program director, member of the mayor’s Office of Child Care, she holds degrees in psychology, education, speech pathology, and social work. Mrs. Frankel is in private practice in San Francisco.

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Child Colloquium Series continued from page 5



SUNDAY EVENING, April 28, 2013, 5:30 PM (*NOTE: time change*)

Discussant: **Reyna Cowan, Psy.D., L.C.S.W.**

Film, Fantasy and Freud: Fourth Annual Evening at the Movies

HEAVENLY CREATURES starring **Kate Winslet**

A film by Peter Jackson

Join us in a fantastical world of art, film, adventure and gothic romance as "Heavenly Creatures" recreates a true life story of two New Zealand girls whose shared fantasy world drifts into matricide. Provocative and elegant, Director and writer Peter Jackson (Lord of the Rings) was nominated for Best Original Screenplay. The movie won Venice's Festival Silver Lion and Toronto Fest's Critics Award.

Dr Reyna Cowan is a psychoanalyst and child therapist; a graduate of PINC and faculty at SFCP, she also teaches NCSPP, PINC, and the Psychotherapy Institute. Topics include: clinical development, Winnicott, film and the dream, psychoanalytic thinkers and working with preverbal communication. Film critic for KPFA radio, she has a private practice in Oakland for individuals, couples, children and adolescents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Postgraduate Meetings

The Treatments of Eating Disorders

Meeting 1:

Didactic Presenter: **Mary Brady, Ph.D.**

Clinical Presenter: **Marsha Silverstein, Ph.D.**

Saturday, January 5, 2013; 10:00am - 12:30pm

SFCP, 444 Natoma St., San Francisco, CA

2 CME/CE credits available for \$ 20.00

Meeting 2

Didactic Presenter: **Mary Brady, Ph.D.**

Clinical Presenter: **Sarah Stadler, M.D.**

Saturday, January 19, 2013; 10:00am - 12:30pm

SFCP, 444 Natoma St., San Francisco, CA

2 CME/CE credits available for \$ 20.00

To register, call 415-563-5815/aaron.chow@sf-cp.org

For more CME/CE credit information, click [here](#).

Peninsula Psychoanalytic Student Seminars

Containment and Emotional Transformation in the Psychoanalytic Treatment of Adolescents

Instructor: **Michael Loughran, Ph.D.**

Thursdays: January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2013

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Stanford Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Building

401 Quarry Road, Room 2211, Stanford

Free

Scientific Meeting

There is no Scientific Meeting in January.

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Dialogues in Contemporary Psychoanalysis

"Mourning and Melancholia" After the Holocaust: A Psychoanalytic Kaddish for Jean Amery, Paul Celan, and Primo Levi

Presenter: **Samuel Gerson, Ph.D.**
 Discussants: **Judith Butler, Ph.D.** and
Rachel Peltz, Ph.D.
 Moderator: **Henry Markman, M.D.**

Saturday, January 12, 2013; 9:30am - 12:30pm

SFCP, 444 Natoma St., San Francisco

Fees: \$ 55.00 - General

\$ 45.00 - SFCP Analyst Members, Candidates,
 Community Members or Students

3 CME/CE available for \$ 30.00 or \$ 36.00

To register, call 415-563-5815/aaron.chow@sf-cp.org

For more CME/CE credit information, click [here](#).

South Bay Psychotherapy Forum

Panel Discussion on Couples Treatment and Case Presentation

Panel: **Peter Klein, Ph.D., Dana Wideman, Ph.D. and
Sharon S. Levin, L.C.S.W.**

Case Presenter: **Sharon S. Levin, L.C.S.W.**

Moderator: **Janice Mill, Ph.D.**

Tuesday, January 15, 2013; 7:30pm - 9:00pm

Psychiatry Bldg. Stanford University Medical Center
 401 Quarry Rd., Stanford

Free; 1.5 CME/CE Credits is available for \$ 15 or \$ 18

For more CME/CE credit information, click [here](#).

Stanford Grand Rounds

In and Out of the Frame: Moving between fantasy and reality in movies and psychotherapy

Presenter: **Lee Grossman, M.D.**

Wednesday, January 30, 2013; 6:15pm - 7:30pm

Stanford Psychiatry Building, Room 2213
 401 Quarry Rd., Stanford

Free

CDP/PCP Annual Event

A Sense of Self in Time and Space: Physical and Emotional Development in Preschoolers with Au- tism and other Neurodevelopmental Disorders

Presenter: **Janet Green Babb, M.S., P.T**
Stephanie Pass, Ph.D.

Saturday, January 26, 2013; 10:00am - 12:00pm

SFCP, 444 Natoma St., San Francisco

Fees: \$ 50.00 - Mental Health Professionals;

Occupational and Physical Therapists

\$ 40.00 - Early Childhood Educators

\$ 30.00 - Students

2 CME/CE available for \$ 20.00 or \$ 24.00

To register, call 415-563-5815/aaron.chow@sf-cp.org

For more CME/CE credit information, click [here](#).

Child Colloquium

Understanding Difficult Parents: "Boys Only! No Mothers Allowed"

Presenters: **Ann G. Smolen, Ph.D.**

Saturday, February 2, 2013; 10:00am - 12:00pm

SFCP, 444 Natoma St., San Francisco

Free

To register, call 415-563-5815/aaron.chow@sf-cp.org

Coalition for Clinical Social Work (CCSW) presents:

ETHICAL AND CLINICAL DILEMMAS IN CHILD ABUSE REPORTING: A View from Both Sides

Presenters: **Kadija Johnston, L.C.S.W.**
Jonathan Michael, M.S.W.
Dan Phillips, M.S.W.

Moderator: **Elizabeth M. Simpson, L.C.S.W.**

Wednesday, February 6, 2013; 7:00pm - 9:00pm

SFCP, 444 Natoma St., San Francisco

\$15, 2 CME/CE credits available for \$20 / \$24

To register, call 415-563-5815/aaron.chow@sf-cp.org

For more CME/CE credit information, click [here](#).



RECOGNITIONS

Three candidates published in *fort da*, Fall 2012, Issue: Vol. XVIII, No. 2:

Leora Benioff, Ph.D. -- A Response to Christopher Clulow's "How Was It for You?"

Maureen Kurpinsky, Ph.D., reviewed "Plunge, Apogee Press," 2012, by Alice Jones.

Bronwen Lemmon, M.F.T., reviewed "Initiating Psychoanalysis: Perspectives," Taylor and Francis Group, 2011. Edited by Reith, Lagerlof, Crick, Moller and Skale.

Diane E. Donnelly, Ph.D., was the inaugural winner of the JAPA New Author Prize for her article: "The Function of Suffering as Portrayed in The Scarlet Letter and Reflected in Clinical Work." *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* 60(6): 1139-1159.

Mardi Horowitz, M.D., recently published:

"Self-Identity Theory and Research Methods," 2012, *JResPrac.* 8: (2), 1-10.

"Prototypical Formulation of Pathological Narcissism," 2013, pp 81-91, in J.S. Ogrodniczuk, ed. *Understanding and Treating Pathological Narcissism.* Wash. DC: Am. Psychol. Assoc.

Dr. Horowitz will give the opening address to the 2013 annual meeting of the Am. Acad. Psychoanalysis, "Grieving As Well As Possible." His book by that title has now gone into e-books as well as paperback.

Mitchell Wilson, M.D., published: "The Flourishing Analyst, Responsibility, and Psychoanalytic Ethics: Commentary on Kirshner" in *JAPA*, December 2012.

Dr. Wilson presented "Desire and Responsibility: The Ethics of Countertransference Experience," at the Psychoanalytic Grand Rounds, Stanford, October 24. He also taught "Ego Psychology" to the CAPA students in China, November, 2012.

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