



Northwestern  
Psychoanalytic  
Society & Institute

NPSI Annual Meeting Minutes and Committee Reports

December 2, 2015

Officers:

President – Caron Harrang, LICSW, FIPA  
Past President – David Jachim, PhD, FIPA  
Secretary/Treasurer – Maxine Nelson,  
LICSW, FIPA

Director of Training – Dana Blue,  
LICSW, FIPA

Administrative Staff:

Recording Secretary – Hollee Sweet

Directors:

Adriana Prengler, LMHC, FIPA  
Candidate Representative –Julie  
Hendrickson, MA, LMHC

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Present: Maxine Anderson, Sigrid Asmus, Dana Blue, Jeff Eaton, Judy Eekhoff, Caron Harrang, Julie Hendrickson, David Jachim, Maxine Nelson, Dave Parnes, Adriana Prengler, Rikki Ricard, Marianne Robinson, Barb Sewell, Hollee Sweet  
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The meeting was called at 7:35 p.m. Brief summary reports from each committee chair were presented during the Annual Meeting. Expanded committee reports with greater detail are attached (Appendix A).

I. Caron Harrang announced that enough members were in attendance to meet the requirement for a quorum (two-thirds of the active members).

II. 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes.  
The 2014 minutes were summarized by Caron Harrang and unanimously approved.

III. President’s Summary Report. Caron Harrang reporting:  
Caron Harrang discussed the past year at NPSI. She noted the election of NPSI’s new Director of Training, Dana Blue. Caron also noted the significant number of members and candidates who made presentations at the IPA in Boston, the NPSI Institute’s achievement of accreditation for one year by ACPE, Inc., the new Fundamentals in Psychoanalysis course, founding of the NPSI Advisory Council, the new Bion Study Group, and the upcoming International Evolving British Object Relations (EBOR) conference in October 2016.

Action: Caron requested that all full members make a tax-deductible donation to NPSI to fund current projects, accreditation, and the Institute’s goal to begin compensating faculty for their ongoing contribution to our psychoanalytic training in keeping with the current policy of paying study group leaders and certificate program instructors (e.g. Fundamentals in Psychoanalysis certificate program).

- IV. Treasurer's Summary Report. Maxine Nelson reporting:  
Maxine Nelson reviewed NPSI's financial statements. We have \$4,589.54 in checking, \$15,120.53 in savings, and \$24,028.95 in our investment account. We paid \$552.08 to set up the router and firewall last month. Maxine also discussed NPSI's current revenue streams. She noted that beginning in January, monthly reporting on financials will include the current month, past month, and the previous year.

Maxine also reported that she has formed an ad hoc Financial Committee. The goal of the committee is to establish policies and procedures to enable the NPSI Board to make financial decisions in line with a 5-year budget. The committee will meet over the course of 2016 and will include David Jachim as well as Advisory Council members Patrick Nalbone and Brandi Conforth.

- V. Education Committee Summary. Dana Blue reporting:  
Dana Blue reported that the composition of the Education Committee has changed significantly over the past year. Dana stepped down as Dean of Students when she became Director of Training and that position remains unfilled. She also resigned as Chair of Progression, a position taken over by Judy K. Eekhoff. Faculty Development committee has been combined with Curriculum, which continues to be chaired by Barbara Sewell. Maxine Anderson and Dana Blue stepped down as co-chairs of Admissions, a position which has been recently filled by Maxine Nelson. David Parnes, who became Candidate President in April 2015, replaced Nicole Wiggins on the committee. The Training Analysts' Committee Chair is currently unfilled. A new position of Recording Secretary has been created and filled by Community Member Connie Sais.

Dana discussed the ACPE (Accreditation Council for Psychoanalytic Education) report as it relates to the Education Committee. She noted an important change in policy, in which NPSI candidates will receive credit for one of three control cases at a frequency of three to five times per week, and the other two at a frequency of four to five times per week.

Current goals of the committee are to enroll a new cohort of candidates for beginning psychoanalytic training in fall 2016, and to make policy changes necessary for extending ACPE accreditation beyond the initial one-year period. This involves creating a policy on the Training Analysts' Committee requiring board certification in psychoanalysis by an outside entity. Caron reported that there is such an entity being formed within the Confederation of Independent Psychoanalytic Societies expected to be operational in 2016.

Dana reported that negotiations with PEP WEB are ongoing to establish a group subscription for NPSI so that we can provide journal articles and other materials for psychotherapists who enroll in our study groups and certificate program (Fundamentals in Psychoanalysis). She has been talking with full members individually to explain the requirements of establishing a group subscription and advantages to the Institute in doing so.

- VI. Progression Committee Summary. Judy Eekhoff reporting:  
Judy reported that the committee is currently reviewing and revising the Candidate Handbook.

Action: The revised Candidate Handbook will be reviewed by the Education Committee prior to being made available on the Candidate/Faculty [login required] section of the NPSI website ([www.npsi.us.com](http://www.npsi.us.com)).

- VII. Scientific Meeting Committee Summary. Jeff Eaton reporting:  
Jeff Eaton noted that the committee sponsored meetings in the first half of 2015. Jeff has resigned as Chair and this position remains unfilled. Jeff also reported on attending meetings at the IPA in Boston on the nature of Scientific Meetings and the diversity of meanings the term “scientific” has to psychoanalysts throughout the world. He suggested that this could be profitably investigated by a new chair of this committee.

- VIII. Publications Committee Summary. David Jachim reporting:  
David Jachim reported that the Selected Facts newsletter is highly regarded by colleagues and well read with an average open rate of 40%, nearly twice the industry standard for psychoanalytic societies. Changes on the committee include the Managing Editor becoming the Chair and committee membership being comprised of the newsletter staff. This structural change will continue after Maxine leaves her position and a new Managing Editor takes the reins. David also reported that NPSI changed Webmasters from Kilmer/Hansen to Totera Web Systems. The backside of the website has been revised allowing Administrator Hollee Sweet to make most of the needed content updates. The expense of updating the website is expected to translate to significant savings for the organization over time.

- IX. Curriculum Committee Summary. Barb Sewell reporting:  
Barb Sewell reported that the Curriculum Committee has collated and made available to faculty all of the syllabi from previous past years. Additionally the committee has faculty assignments for the current class through 2018. The committee has also been working on developing learning objectives for each year of the analytic training.

- X. Ethics Committee Summary. Marianne Robinson reporting:  
Marianne Robinson reported on the successful processing of the recent ethics complaint and exoneration of the member involved.

- XI. EBOR Committee Summary. Rikki Ricard reporting:  
Rikki Ricard reported that the “Save the Date” announcements and “Call for Papers” have both gone out for EBOR 2016. The committee has completed the schedule for the conference and is currently focused on developing pre-conference seminars to be held at NPSI in March, April, May, and September 2016.

XII. Candidate Group Summary. Dave Parnes reporting:

Dave Parnes reported that the candidate group is currently focused on making the Flexible Fee Referral system more visible to members and the mental health community in the Greater Seattle area.

XIII. New Business.

Caron Harrang presented Sigrid Asmus with NPSI's fourth annual Outstanding Community Member Service Award.

Maxine Anderson and Marianne Robinson were presented with lifetime achievement gifts from the members.

XIV. Election of Officers and Directors.

David Jachim was elected as a director to the Board of Directors.

XV. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

## Appendix A

### Committee Reports

#### I. Education Committee Report

Reporting Period: November, 2014-November, 2015

Committee:

Dana Blue (Director of Training and Chair)  
Judy Eekhoff (Progression Chair)  
Barb Sewell (Curriculum Chair)  
David Parnes (Candidates Chair)  
Connie Sais (Recording Secretary)

Vacancies:

Admissions Chair  
Training Analysts Chair  
Dean of Students

NPSI Mission (from [www.npsi.us.com](http://www.npsi.us.com)):

*“Northwestern Psychoanalytic Society and Institute—supporting our members, offering outstanding psychoanalytic training to mental health professionals, and educating the general public about psychoanalysis since 1999.”*

The Mission of the Education Committee is, therefore, to oversee all aspects of the “outstanding psychoanalytic training to mental health professionals” conducted at NPSI. This effort touches everyone involved in the training, including faculty, candidates, and training and supervising analysts.

Psychoanalytic training is the primary activity of NPSI, and the EC is the primary locus for its cultivation and maintenance. As such, EC is comprised of the chairs of each NPSI group: Admissions, Candidates, Faculty and Curriculum, Progression, and Training and Supervising Psychoanalysts. The EC functions as a bi-directional communication hub to coordinate activities of the whole. To further this coordination, the Director of Training also sits on the NPSI board of directors. Some or all members of the EC also meet periodically with the candidate group.

#### Summary of 2015 Activities

##### 1. ACPE Accreditation

After two years of preparation, and a site visit in April 2015, NPSI received word that the Accreditation Council for Psychoanalytic Education had granted us initial one-year

accreditation for our training program in psychoanalysis. Special thanks are due to the ACPE Committee, chaired by Maxine Anderson and David Jachim and comprised of Margie Bone, Caron Harrang, Patrick Nalbone, Nicole Wiggins, and myself. This group worked tirelessly to draft, collect and collate replies from many members to the extensive ACPE application questions. Our completed document was over 100 pages long, excluding the six appendices.

At the site visit, the goal was to demonstrate the workings of the whole organization. Thanks to all who attended classes, clinical seminars, supervisions, committee meetings, board meeting and wrap up session with our visitors.

The report from ACPE was complimentary, noting many areas of strength at NPSI. They were particularly impressed with our ability to work together as a group, with our entire community participating in the effort. The major improvement called for was to promote external certification for our analyst members, particularly the training and supervising psychoanalysts. This issue dovetails with work by the NPSI Board, which will be shared in the President's report. We will file a report with ACPE next year outlining our progress and at that point hope to secure accreditation that will extend for several years. In addition to enhancing our credibility and demonstrating our commitment to high psychoanalytic standards, accreditation will eventually allow our candidates to receive federal student loans.

## 2. New Training Analysts

Training Analysts: Two Training and Supervising Analysts were appointed this year: Dana Blue, in April, and Caron Harrang, in September. This brings our roster of TA's to a dozen, slightly more than half of our analyst members. This additional capacity positions us to serve three to four dozen candidates at any given time.

## 3. Training Case Requirements Eased

Following a lively discussion at the NPSI membership meeting held last May, in concert with training organizations around the globe as described by IPA President Stefano Bolognini, and in response to feedback from our candidates, the Education Committee implemented an important change in training requirements at the June meeting. NPSI candidates may now receive credit for one of their three training cases at a frequency of (at least) three times per week. The other two cases will remain at a frequency of four or five times per week as previously required. I invite everyone to observe the impacts, where evident, of this change to continue to help our training evolve in pace with the rest of the world community of psychoanalysts, while carrying forward the excellence for which our program is well known.

One preliminary result: Progression approved five reports at its September meeting. This indicates that candidate progress appears to be making a groundswell, thanks to the creative efforts of the candidate group, EC, board and the membership overall.

## 4. Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Program Launched

In October, NPSI faculty inaugurated its new certificate course titled "Fundamentals of Psychoanalysis." This course was the brainchild of Adriana Prengler, aided in its execution by Maxine Anderson and Dana Blue. Course participants meet weekly through the academic year to study the bedrock concepts of psychoanalytic theory and technique. Faculty rotate monthly, so that by the conclusion of the course, learners will have met many NPSI members, candidates and passionate colleagues, in addition to becoming better acquainted with the concepts that underlie our field.

## Plans for 2016

### 1. ACPE Accreditation Extension

Our preliminary accreditation was granted for a period of one year. In the report from the Accreditation Council for Psychoanalytic Education, as I mentioned, NPSI was directed to shore up the Board Certification of our Training and Supervising Psychoanalysts, and make ethics a more visible part of the analytic training. The NPSI board has been working via participation within CIPS and NAPsaC to develop a means of Board Certification. We are confident that we will be able to secure an extension of accreditation in the upcoming year.

### 2. Admissions

We are prepared to admit a class to begin training in September, 2016. Our application process is one of "rolling admissions", though spring is traditionally the best time for admissions events and activities. Stay tuned for ways to participate and support enrollment for the new group.

### 3. Distance Learning

Caron and Dana are co-chairing an effort to include Distance Learners at NPSI. There does seem to be interest; Dana has heard from prospective candidates since the news was announced in Selected Facts. The effort required is considerable, given the need to establish policies, and procedures; procure equipment and select technological platforms to make NPSI training available to learners at a distance; and to secure funding. This is a complex task, involving issues like confidentiality, HIPAA compliance, faculty training and IPA directives on Skype analysis.

The EC respectfully notes that this effort will require resources, both monetary and human, to accomplish, and intends to request a significant budget for this project in our planning for the upcoming year. This will likely require fund-raising to support. In time, it has potential to bring much needed resources, both monetary and human, to the group.

### 4. Faculty Development

The EC is in conversation about how to engage the whole faculty in a more productive way in the Institute. Working first via our curriculum committee, we are hoping to devise ways to enliven and strengthen this essential group.

## 5. PEP WEB

In the past, NPSI members and candidates have needed to personally decide whether to subscribe as individuals to the Psychoanalytic Electronic Publishing website (PEP WEB). The PEP is an online database that contains articles and papers from all the major psychoanalytic journals and many classic psychoanalytic texts (including the full-text and editorial notes of the 24 volumes of *The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*). With the addition of our Fundamentals of Psychoanalysis course, the Institute's need for accessibility to the PEP increased and the decision was made to invest in our own subscription. This allows our members and candidates to subscribe through NPSI (rather than through their memberships in other organizations) and permits the reprinting of articles for our classes that conforms to copyright regulations. Thanks to a generous donation from the Lynn Cunningham family, we now have a computer terminal at NPSI, which serves as an Internet access point for students in our classes. While the precise start point is still in negotiation, we look forward to beginning our NPSI subscription soon.

## II. Evolving British Object Relations Conference 2016 Committee Report

Committee:

Rikki Ricard – Chair

Gina Balli

Margaret Bergman-Ness

Claudette Cummings

Lynn Cunningham

Ken Cunningham

Anna Delacroix

Tony Hacker

Julie Hendrickson

Barb Sewell

Sub Art Experience Sub-committee:

Bruce Hall

Charlotte Dean

### Plan for Production of EBOR 2016

1. As of the beginning of November, 2015 Plenary Presenters were chosen and both agreed to present—Mark Solms and Maxine Anderson. The venue was secured—Pan Pacific Hotel (Seattle) and the Committee listed above have met three times. Save-the-Date and the Call for Papers announcements have gone out.



2. The “Meet the Presenters” interviews are underway and will be completed and posted on the NPSI website by the end of 2015. The Friday evening conference experience is in the planning phase and well underway.

3. Pre-conference seminars for March – September 2016 are being planned and will be announced to the local community in January 2016.

4. Fund-raising and donation procurement is in the planning phase and will be ongoing up until Conference. All other items needed for the Conference will be completed during monthly committee meetings and other time as needed.

### **III. Scientific Meetings Committee Report**

Committee:

Jeff Eaton (Chair)

Barbara Sewell

Aguayo Workshop Organizing Committee:

Caron Harrang (Co-Chair)

Maxine Nelson (Co-Chair)

#### 2014-2015 NPSI Scientific Meetings

##### **December 17, 2014**

Maxine Anderson, MD, FIPA

“Further Notes on Bion’s concept of ‘Becoming’”

##### **February 18, 2015**

Shierry Nicholson, PhD, FIPA

“The French and the Sacred Cow: Free Association reconsidered across psychoanalytic cultures”

##### **April 15, 2015**

Judy Eekhoff, PhD, FIPA

“Breaking up, Breaking down or Breaking through: Descriptions of Mental Pain”

The Scientific Meetings Committee is on hold pending finding a new Chair. Meanwhile, pre-event seminars were organized by Caron Harrang, LICSW, FIPA and Maxine Nelson, LICSW, FIPA in advance of the February 5-6, 2016 workshop titled,

“Reconsidering the Contributions of Donald Winnicott and Wilfred Bion: Then and Now.”

**October 21, 2015**

Morry Tolmach, LICSW (facilitator)

“Transitional Objects and Transitional Phenomena” by D. W. Winnicott

**November 18, 2015**

Ann Glasser (facilitator)

“Hate in the Countertransference” by D. W. Winnicott

**December 16, 2015**

“A Personal View of the Kleinian Development” by D. W. Winnicott

**IV. Training Analysts Committee Report**

Committee:

Maxine Anderson (Chair)

Cecile Bassen

Mirta Berman-Oelsner

Dana Blue

Elie Debbane

Judy K Eekhoff

Caron Harrang

Ken King

Robert Oelsner

Adriana Prengler

Marianne Robinson

Oscar Romero

The mission of the Training Analysts Committee is to provide a forum for discussion of items pertinent to the TA functions of analyzing candidates and providing supervision of control cases.

The committee met usually monthly from June 2014 – June 2015 in a working dinner format, where a potluck meal has been enjoyed as well as significant work on pertinent issues. Among its activities were hosting the Accreditation Council for Psychoanalytic Education (ACPEinc) site visitors in April 2015 for a full evening of discussion regarding certification issues..

The committee was pleased to have Dana Blue complete her TA examination and join the committee in spring 2015. Shortly thereafter Maxine completed her term as Director of Training on June 30 and was succeeded by a vote of the full members by Dana Blue. In October Caron Harrang passed her TA examination and joined the committee. It is hoped

that new possibilities within the TA committee structure and function may be creative for the NPSI community. As of July 2015 the position of Chair for the TA Committee remains open.

## **V. Candidate Group Report**

Committee:

Margaret Bergmann-Ness

Josh Cohen

Lynn Cunningham

Anna Delacroix

Julie Hendrickson

Becky McGuire Jackson

David Parnes (Candidate President)

Carolyn Steinberg

Nicole Wiggins

The purpose of the Candidate Committee is to provide support to the candidates during their training and to coordinate candidate communication with the rest of the institute. Candidates meet as a group once a month. Candidate reps on each of the committees (Education, Curriculum, etc.) report back to the group during these meetings.

Currently, the Candidate Committee is focused on the Flexible Fee Referral Program, addressing ways to further promote and market the service to the larger community, particularly through the NPSI website.

## **VI. Publications Committee Report**

Committee:

Lynn Cunningham (*Selected Facts* Newsletter Candidate News Reporter)

Anna Delacroix (*Selected Facts* Newsletter Copy Editor)

David Jachim (Chair)

Eric Huffman (*Selected Facts* Newsletter Community Member Reporter)

Maxine Nelson (Selected Facts Newsletter Managing Editor)

David Parnes (Selected Facts Newsletter Members-in-Action Reporter)

Hollie Sweet (Administrator/Newsletter Formatting)

The Publications Committee has continued to improve its flagship projects over the past year, including a new, more efficient Internet platform for the NPSI website and increased coverage of Society and Institute activities via our quarterly newsletter, *Selected Facts*. In that regard, the Chair of the Publications Committee will be transferred to the Managing Editor. This change will allow us more human power efficiency by consolidating all NPSI publication efforts under the roof of one committee.

The Publications Committee will continue to seek out psychoanalytic contributions to both our website and newsletter. In addition, additional potential committee members will be solicited so that we might expand our publication offerings.

## **VII. Progression Committee Report**

Committee:

Mirta Berman-Oelsner

Lynn Cunningham (candidate representative)

Judy K Eekhoff (Chair)

Barbara Sewell

The Progression Committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Reports are reviewed every other month, alternating with policy and procedural reviews. Reports are expected two weeks before meetings and will be reviewed in November, January, March, May and July. Lynn attends policy meetings in October, February, April & June.

In the past year the committee reviewed the Candidate Handbook and decided to update the manual to clarify the desired reporting format. The committee felt all reports should include the date of submission to Progression, along with the date range of the report and the name of the supervisor. The committee also clarified that letters to candidates regarding their reports would be cc'd to their control case supervisors.

The committee decided to have personal contact with each candidate rather than sending a written letter welcoming candidates to the new academic year. Ongoing updates to the Candidate Handbook will reflect changing policies such as the requirement for analytic frequency (e.g. allowing one control case at an analytic frequency of 3-5 times weekly), the changing procedures for report writing, and the guidelines for choosing supervisors who meet in person or virtually.

The committee met with candidates in the first term of 2015 and plans to meet with supervisors sometime during the 2015-16 academic year.