

Greater Kansas City & Topeka Psychoanalytic Center

From the Center President

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The Greater Kansas City-Topeka Psychoanalytic Center warmly invites you to become a new or renewing Center member to support our thought-provoking programs and services. In addition to the good feeling you'll get supporting our Institute, Fellowship program, workshops, study groups, and community outreach; you'll receive full access to the Psychoanalytic Education Publishing (PEP-web), a one-of-a-kind online psychoanalytic library. Without Center membership your individual PEP-web enrollment would cost a one-time fee of \$1,030 plus \$144 annually – so including this valuable resource in your membership is, well, quite a bargain.



Whether you enroll for membership at the Student, Regular, or Sustaining level, you'll also get free Continuing Education credits at our Monday night seminars. Sustaining members will get a \$50 honorary credit toward a paid event of your choice. Most importantly, however, you'll be a part of a vibrant, compassionate community of fascinating and caring people invested in the continuity and advancement of psychoanalytic thought and education in our community. Please join us. We want you, we need you, and we'll enrich your life as you'll enrich ours. Get or renew your membership now at www.gkcpsa.org. Just click on the banner when "Join the Center or Renew Your Membership" comes up.

Bob Feuer, Center President

Director's Corner

Celebrating Our Silver Anniversary

The 25th Anniversary of the beginning of our Institute provides a marvelous opportunity to

honor those that have come before us and helped establish the Greater Kansas City Psychoanalytic Institute as the reputable and quality training organization that it remains today. One of the things that has inspired me about our Institute is the continued involvement and vital contributions of analysts, some of whom were our founders and whose careers in the field span 40 to 50 years or more. The combined wisdom and clinical acumen of these individuals contributes greatly to the quality of training and supervision available. You can read more about the history of our Institute in the articles by Dr. Ricci and Dr. Harty later in this newsletter.



It is with great pleasure that I can announce that our Institute has a new Training and Supervising Analyst who was approved in April. Congratulations to Dr. Mari Hayes on her achievement! I am also excited to announce that the Institute is continuing the traditions of psychoanalytic education and that we have 3 more Candidates who have graduated since last year and whom we will be honoring at our online celebration on Saturday, June 5th at 5PM. Please join me in congratulating Jessica Almond, Walt Flynn, and Michelle Pfeifer on their successful completion of our program!

Larry W. Tyndall, PhD, Institute Director

A Historical Perspective From Our Second Institute Director: Michael Harty, PhD

How best to mark this milestone, the twenty-fifth anniversary of officially opening the Greater Kansas City Psychoanalytic Institute? In my mind there are several ways. It's first of all a time to celebrate. We savor our accomplishment; we take well-earned pleasure in what we have built. From a handful of willing but inexperienced volunteers, we



have evolved into a vibrant, multifaceted, and growing community of psychoanalytic teachers, practitioners, students, and supporters. Counting all those who have attended at least one of our training programs, we have helped to shape the careers of almost 100 professionals in our community and elsewhere, and that number continues to grow. Beyond that direct influence, we have established links with other groups and institutions, so that psychoanalytic contributions have a growing presence and visibility in our city

and beyond.

Naturally, it's also a time to remember. For some of us the 25 years may seem to have flown by, but if we pause to take inventory we realize how much has happened, and how complicated our story really is. I will have occasion to discuss this history in greater detail during our 5PM virtual observance on June 5, and I hope many of you will be present on-line for that program. I'll want to revisit our initial collaborations with the Topeka Institute for Psychoanalysis and the American Psychoanalytic Association, that turned the idea for an Institute in Kansas City into a reality. I'll remind us how we relied on the leadership of Dr. Walter Ricci, our longest-tenured Kansas City member, and Dr. Salomon Alfie, who for years had shared with Dr. Ricci the dream of an institute in our city. I'll want to recall our initial class meetings, when we borrowed space in the break room of Dr. Ricci's office suite, and our successive moves to three other locations. I'll talk about our struggles as we evolved from "New Training Facility" to "Provisional Institute", to full accreditation by the American Psychoanalytic Association. I'll revisit the crisis we faced when our sponsoring Institute, in Topeka, was dissolved before we were ready to operate independently. And most importantly, I'll want to remember and pay tribute to the people and organizations who contributed so essentially to our survival and growth.

Our indebtedness to them goes back at least to the Psychoanalytic Study Group of Kansas City, formed in 1965 by Doctors Harold Meyers, Irving Kartus, Ivy Bennett, Sigmund Gundle, and Gerald Ehrenreich. It includes Dr. Charles Wilkinson, an institutional and financial supporter of the Study Group, which later became the Psychoanalytic Society and then the Psychoanalytic Center. And most poignantly, we remember the colleagues who were part of our origins and our growth but are no longer with us. In the early years, besides the Study Group founders, they included Steven Appelbaum, Frank Broucek, and Francisco Gomez in Kansas City, as well as Jack Ross and Stuart Averill who helped us from Topeka. In the years since then, we have lost our dear colleagues Sidney Emas, Alice Bartlett, and Irv Rosen, and have deeply felt each of those losses. Our Institute stands as part of their legacies.

Along with remembering, it's a time for gratitude. Whether or not it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a community to nurture an institution like this one. The Topeka Institute contributed teachers, mentors, guidance, and encouragement. The American Psychoanalytic Association lent us organizational expertise and ongoing consultation. The Kansas City Psychoanalytic Foundation gave financial support. The UMKC Department of Psychiatry helped us establish a physical home, and other organizations – the local Division 39 chapter, the National Institute for the Psychotherapies – helped make the local culture receptive to psychoanalysis. We couldn't have done it without help, and fortunately we didn't have to.

Finally, this anniversary is a time for reflection: on the lessons we have learned, and on the further challenges that lie ahead. How will we deal with changes in the mental health marketplace; with population changes and social forces that call on us to become more inclusive; with the evolution of psychoanalysis itself and its professional culture; with the inevitable losses we will face within our own group? The next 25 years will not be easy, but neither were the first 25. We've weathered the loss of a sponsor, absorbed a wave of refugees from that

misfortune, carried on through the untimely death of a beloved director, and adapted to a pandemic that curtailed almost all personal contact. We're still here. Given that track record, and given our present healthy condition, we can look forward to whatever comes next with optimism and confidence.

How Our Institute Came To Be From Our First Institute Director: Walter Ricci, MD

My own history and the history of the Greater Kansas City Psychoanalytic Institute (GKCPI) are inextricably tied, in a history of some fifty years.

"Ex nihilo nihil". Nothing comes from nothing. Following Parmenides' wisdom, I searched within myself the origin of my desires to be a psychoanalyst.

My first contact with the name 'Freud' occurred in my father's medical office. I should admit that my curiosity was awakened not only by the name, but by the content, as it was 'Freud on Sexuality'. Following that, I was rewarded by a lecture by Heinrich Racker.

This caused immediate enlightenment of my mind and heart. Studying A. Garma and E. Pichon Riviere, I became fascinated by the subject matter, and in spite of my naïve ignorance, realized that there was something missing in my curriculum at my medical school, something that I had never experienced, something I can only say opened my eyes to the fact that the mystery of the mind and emotions was a subject to be endlessly explored.

I began my personal journey in Buenos Aires, Argentina. I graduated as a psychiatrist in 1962. My goal to relocate to the United States was accomplished in 1965. I applied to the Topeka Institute for Psychoanalysis (TIP), but first, due to my training in another country, had to repeat my psychiatry residency. While so doing, I became acquainted with a psychoanalytic study group comprised of five psychoanalysts working in Kansas City. These five distinguished psychoanalysts included Dr. Harold Meyers, Dr. Gerald Ehrenreich, Dr. Sigmund Gundle, Dr. Ivy Bennett, and Dr. Irv Kartus. All of them were faculty educators at Western Missouri Mental Health Center (WMMHC).

I went on to train at TIP. Dr. Harold Meyers was my training psychoanalyst. It was my good fortune to have trained with this wonderful man. Harold, (as he wished to be called) was very humanistic, open, flexible, and capable of



First GKCPI class back in 1996

Dr. Walter Ricci, Dr. Pam Seator, Dr. Carol Smith, Dr. Mary Lorton, Mr. John Parker, and Dr. Salomon Alfie.

engaging during our sessions. He had a respectful warm disposition while he led us in our exploratory search and analysis. During one of my sessions, I had just been called by Jefferson City and offered the position of superintendent of WMMHC. This was a full training facility with over 1500 employees and 8000 to 10000 admissions per year. I conveyed my terror to Harold. He listened and then simply said, "You can do this. This could be a major step toward having our own psychoanalytic institute in Kansas City." Though scared, I felt supported, and with the sense of a mission in mind, I accepted this position and stayed on as superintendent for eight years.

The task of creating a group at our institute, with diversity and an open orientation, was not easy. Using all that TIP had given me, and the desire to have an institute dedicated to the teachings of Freud, combined with the passion of pioneers such as Dr. Frank Broucek (and his understanding of shame), along with Dr. Hans Uffelman (a renowned philosopher with disciplined reasoning), and Dr. Salomon Alfie (who I had hired to be the director of the department of child psychiatry, and of the child psychiatric residency), I brought together these exceptional individuals with my own contributions from Dr. Heinz Kohut and Dr. Joe Lichtenberg -- and our GKCPi was born.

Our mission of forming this institute with a mission of teaching and learning in an atmosphere of respect, curiosity, compassion, and acceptance of diversity was no longer just a dream, but a reality.

The first class in 1996 including Dr. Mary Lorton, Dr. Pam Seator, Dr. Carol Smith, Dr. Badresh Parikh, and Mr. John Parker was launched, but it was a precarious time. We convened in a conference room in my former office on Shawnee Mission Parkway. We had no administrative staff, no funding, and no assets, just our intense commitment and desire to succeed. Many times, we were doubtful of our ability to bring this to fruition, but we prevailed. The Menninger Clinic had moved out of Kansas, and those professionals remaining in Topeka came to join with us, and they contributed to our development. Thus, over time, the trip from Kansas City to Topeka became reversed. Many professionals from Topeka came to us, and we always received them with welcoming arms.

I was the first director of the institute for two years, but because of some differences in philosophical orientation (with the committee for new institutes of the APSA), I resigned as director and Dr. Michael Harty, an excellent contributor, assumed this position.

It is with such pride, that I look back on this seed of desire that has become a fully accredited institute. I want to thank all of you who are here, and all who came before and are no longer with us for this tremendous accomplishment.

Congratulations to our graduates!

Walt Flynn

For me, going through the Institute's four-year academic program was one of the best experiences of my life. From attachment theory to mindfulness, my studies over the four-year period have greatly influenced how I view myself, others and the human condition in general. It has brought me a level of understanding that I would have never reached otherwise.



I just completed training to become a CASA (court appointed special advocate) volunteer and my studies will no doubt help to inform me on the challenging relational dynamics that I'm sure to encounter.

Over the course of four years, I became very familiar with my classmates and miss the sense of camaraderie and all the laughs we shared: they are truly special professionals. I'm eternally grateful for their acceptance of me even though I wasn't a mental health professional. Their accounts of real-life sessions and the continuing case studies helped inform me on the complex theories we studied and brought some of those theories to life.

Walt Flynn

Michelle Pfeifer

Before I came to GKCPI, I thought I had lost the way to a very important dream many years in the making – the completion of my analytic training. It was a harrowing time and loss.

Over time, I started to attend programs and sit in on class as a visitor at the lovely invitation of my good friend Yeshim Oz and with the encouragement of Alice Brand Bartlett. I was in distress when I first came to the institute. I started to experience the warmth and generosity of person after person in this community. I experienced a culture of responsiveness and generativity. I was surprised by the absence of institutional arrogance.

I was delighted to discover the bright and beautiful analytic minds of you all - the people that create the rich learning environment at the institute. I applied and became a transfer student. I found my fellow candidates to be earnest students who were down to earth, open, inclusive, playful and let me join them midstream with good will. Eventually I became one of them and belonged. This becoming one of them was one of the most meaningful parts of my experience. I thank each one of my classmates. I thank the faculty. I thank my supervisors. I especially thank my analyst. My dream came back to life here with you all in a way I could not have imagined. Now I call this analytic



Jessica Almond

Overall, I really enjoyed my experience at the Institute. I will forever be thankful to my supervisors, mentors and teachers as well as the friends I've gained along the way. I plan to continue to grow my psychoanalytic practice and explore ways of giving back through teaching and mentoring others. For me, the best part of the Institute has been developing relationships with others.

Jessica Almond



Congratulations to our newest Training and Supervising Analyst: Dr. Mari Hayes!

It has been a long journey and lots of road miles to becoming a psychoanalyst and now a Training and Supervising Analyst. My family and I moved from Detroit, Michigan at the time of the economic downturn in 2005 and found a home in Springfield, Missouri. I found employment with Mercy Health Care as a child and adult psychologist. Having previously been through a psychoanalytic child psychotherapy program in Detroit, one of the first things I did when moving to Springfield was contact the Kansas City Institute and speak with Bonnie Buchele, PhD. After speaking with Bonnie, I decided that I wanted to be part of the Greater Kansas City Psychoanalytic Community.

I was invited to come up to Kansas City for a luncheon for those that were interested in the training programs. I remember being asked while I was there if we have paved roads in Springfield. A frequent comment was that it must be quite different living down there. Although Springfield has paved roads, the city does not have much in the way of clinicians practicing psychoanalysis, so I began the 3-hour one way trek to KC every Friday for training.



At the start of my training, my husband and I had two young children. Elizabeth was a toddler at that time, and Liam was an infant. My family would often come along for the drive up, and we would stay with my in-laws, until the children started school and my husband started teaching for the Catholic Schools in Springfield. One of my psychoanalytic siblings, Deana Schuplin, stayed with me, and we engaged in many adventures with our classmates before and after class. I felt lucky!

I graduated in 2012 and after many weekends spent in Kansas City, I grew fond of being closer to extended family and to the institute. So, in 2017, we relocated to the Brookside neighborhood and made it home. I set up a private practice nearby where I could see both children and adults and grow my analytic practice. I also involved myself with teaching and local and national committees.

Many things have changed since I started my training. My daughter, Elizabeth, is graduating from St. Teresa's Academy and will be going off to Creighton University in Omaha in the fall. My son, Liam, will be a junior next year at Rockhurst High School. My husband, Tim, continues to work for the Catholic Schools and is the backbone of our family life.

The Institute has grown since my initial contact and now students are from a wider geographical range and can attend using Zoom in place of extended drive time. I, however, would not have missed the miles of traveling I did and am grateful for how it deepened my relationships in the KC area. Now that I am living in Kansas City, I enjoy exploring the area with my family, making it home, and running.

My Training Analyst Appointment Committee was made up of Michael Harty, PhD and Leonard Horwitz, PhD. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to meet with them and to review cases earlier in my training and ones more recent to my analytic practice. It helped me to keenly see the growth that I have made throughout my training and time with the institute through teaching and being part of the community. It also showed me how much I still have to learn and the importance in continuing to develop my psychoanalytic voice.

Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, June 5: Annual Center Membership Meeting at 4 PM Central Time

Saturday, June 5: Annual Graduation Ceremony at 5 PM Central Time

Both virtual — via Zoom. Watch for your emailed invitation!

Current Candidates

First-year candidates:

Holly D. Anderson, LCMFT
Christine Rio Bistis-Nadala, MD, PhD,
MPM
Carrie M. Duncan, PhD
Paul R. Hoard, PhD, LCPC
Scott Koeneman, PsyD

Third-year candidate:

Jennifer Dembowski, MA, LCPC

Advanced candidates:

Thomas Bartlett, PsyD
Jeremy Burd, MD
Breck Mundis, LSCSW

Raelyn M. Koop, LPC
Jose Gary B. Nadala, MD
Marrissa Rhodes, MS, MA, LPC

Continuing Academic Candidate:
Lori Hoodenpyle, JD

Your officers for the year

President: Robert Feuer, MA, LCP

President-elect: Thomas Bartlett, PsyD

Past president: David Blakely, MD

Secretary: Gail Barham

Treasurer: Nancy Crawford, JD

Candidate rep: Jennifer Dembowski, LCPC

Program chair: Jessica Almond, LCPC

Institute Director: Larry W. Tyndall, PhD

Director-Elect: Mari Hayes, PhD

Marketing & Outreach chair: Jeanne Mosca, PhD

Ongoing Activities chair: Michael Harty, PhD

APsaA Board of Director: Mari Hayes, PhD

APsaA Board of Director-Alternate:
Yeshim Oz, MS

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