

## AIP Posting Number Three

September 12, 2014

Dear Fellow AIP Members,

Welcome, again, to the Alliance for International Psychoanalysis (AIP).

Having just "gone public" on Friday, August 22nd, individuals are joining our new organization fairly rapidly.

A list-serv is apparently already up and running. You should be receiving an invitation to join an AIP google group. Once you receive the invitation, please accept it and (I think) you'll be on the list-serv. Then members can have an ongoing dialogue, ask questions, seek advice, and more.

We have a HERCULEAN task before us, but fortunately one that is driven by a desire for unity and pluralism. We shall strive to bring the devotees of all the psychoanalytic models, from the Freudians to the Lacanians, from the Intersubjectivists to the Relationalists, into the same caring, supportive, and educational community.

A half century ago, Rangell decried the splintering of psychoanalysis, noting that the field had already shared "the history of the 20th century: expansion, diffuse applications, use and misuse, explosion, disaster." More recently, Stepansky expressed concern regarding the "fractionation" of psychoanalysis. Similarly, just last year, Aron and Starr worried that psychoanalysis' lack of coherence could threaten its survival as a distinct profession.

You are clearly already motivated to bring our field together through your membership in AIP.

FYI, I just bought (pricey!) a 2013 book entitled, "*Metaphor and Fields: Common Ground, Common Language, and the Future of Psychoanalysis*," edited by S. Montana Katz. It doesn't entirely "do the job," but the articles within the book address the same concerns as AIP. You may find it interesting.

At this point, please help with these few things:

1. Spread the word about AIP to everyone with psychoanalytic interest you've ever met, and that includes family members, friends, distant acquaintances, and so on. We have interest in India, China, Belgium, and Mexico. It would be wonderful if any of you know persons interested in psychoanalysis in other countries that would be interested in joining.
2. Consider ways you could help more directly, i.e. joining a committee (membership, education, bylaws, etc).
3. Send Natalie, at [admin@allinpsych.org](mailto:admin@allinpsych.org), any ideas you might have about the website. It is a work in progress. Ideas regarding the copy, the pictures, the reading list -- anything -- are most welcome.

That's it for now. We are off to a nice start. I fully understand that we may be trying to metaphorically bring together all of the Christians under one roof, but let's go for it! We all do basically the same kind of work. There has, to date, been no international organization like AIP in which psychoanalytically oriented psychotherapists can find community without power hierarchies, allegiance to certain theories, etc.

I look forward to us ALL meeting some day, hopefully next year or the year after, in the first AIP International Conference.

With appreciation and fellowship,

Alan

PS. I'm linking to the [membership application](#), like I did a few weeks ago, and of course one can apply for and receive membership directly from the website, [allinpsych.org](http://allinpsych.org).

PPS. FYI, we have seven AIP Board members tenderly navigating this new ship. They are Apurva Shah, Eileen Beirich, Gabrielle Taylor, Diana Medina, David Orbison, Donna Cline and Yours Truly.