

Enlivening The Psychoanalytic Profession

ENLIVENING POST #6

Sunday, November 17, 2013

Glendale, California

Dear Local, National, and International Friends and Colleagues,

Less than 48 hours from now, on Tuesday, November 19th, at 10a, ballots calling for a Bylaws change at the New Center for Psychoanalysis (NCP) will be counted. If more than 60 percent of the ballots received favor the Bylaws change, NCP will proceed to select TAs using procedures established by its own TA committee.

If that DOES occur, then I hope we here at NCP will:

1. Encourage all those members who are interested to apply for TA status.
2. Reach out to former members disaffected by BOPS and encourage them to re-join our community.
3. Improve our connections with IPA only institutes.
4. Invite all those in psychoanalysis who are interested in training to have their analysts seek TA status from NCP.
5. Improve and formalize our ties with clinics, like the Wright Institute and Rose City Center, and perhaps even involve them in our Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy program.
6. Widely advertise our new, more liberated status, likely bringing more younger and enthusiastic psychoanalysts into our fold.
7. Improve our "digital" status, i.e. include video- and tele-conferencing, to our various extension and other courses, in a further effort to bring psychoanalysis into the 21st century.

If that does NOT occur, well, we shall carry on anyway, slowly taking on water.

PLEASE STAY TUNED. MANY ARE WATCHING.

With kind regards,

Alan

ENLIVENING POST #5

Friday, November 8, 2013

Shanghai, China

5p

My Wonderful New Center Friends and Colleagues,

We all agree that psychoanalysis needs a national and externalized assessment of competency.

My esteemed colleague, Jeff, a scholar of sociology, surprisingly endorses the extant Certification process. Even with its new variations, Certification resembles the way the Vatican selects Cardinals. It thereby perpetuates a variation of a theocracy.

Surely, Jeff, you must agree. You are far more knowledgeable in this area than me.

I struggle to even imagine the work required for you and Martha to help create these variations of Certification. I wonder — with warmth and compassion — if you could have been understandably blinded as a result.

(Wouldn't that be a perfect example of cognitive dissonance?)

We entered the 21st century more than a decade ago, and yet the profession of psychoanalysis has failed to evolve — unlike any other profession in the world. It continues to utilize antiquated, unscientific assessment methods. It has a hierarchical system unprecedented, and considered unethical, in any other profession.

As the postings in just the last few days validate, many of our colleagues correctly view the “new” variations on Certification as just as problematic as the old ones; some fear the new ones will soon expire.

We need our professional membership organization to behave like a democracy, not a theocracy.

The pending Bylaws amendment moves our profession a crucial step towards that end.

Please vote for the amendment.

Please be part of the maturation of our profession.

Submitted in the spirit of a truly global psychoanalysis,

Alan

ENLIVENING POST #4

Sunday, November 23, 2013

Tsedang, Tibet

2p

My Dear New Center Friends and Colleagues,

Harvey Schwartz' recent post brings to mind the following:

Restoring a Model-T Ford represents engagement in a thriving life.

Driving a Model-T to and from work, in freeway traffic, in the 21st century, represents dis-engagement from reality.

Despite decades of promises, BOPS has failed to develop an externalized, reliable and valid measure of psychoanalytic competency for use in Certification. Harvey's posting offers nothing but the same old dance using a few new steps.

Please help our community, and our profession, move forward by voting for the Bylaws amendment before you now.

Alan

ENLIVENING POST #3

Sunday, October 20, 2013 630p

Glendale, California

Dear Local, National, and International Friends and Colleagues,

We here at the New Center for Psychoanalysis (NCP) will receive ballots regarding our historic Bylaws amendment this coming week. If it passes, NCP will be able to appoint its own TAs while it patiently awaits an externalized, reliable, and valid assessment of psychoanalytic competency to be developed by one of our professional membership organizations.

As a TA myself, an active NCP member, and a former chair of the TA Committee, I am ardently hoping that the following individuals will apply for TA status if this ballot passes:

Raquel A

Sydney A

Richard B

William B

Kate B

Eileen B

Gordon B

Elena B

Bart B

Sharon B

Lisa B

Tom B

Frank C

Elaine C

Susan C

Frank D

Esther D-K

Morris E

Dan F

Beverly F

Jimmy F

Rina F

Christina F

Mike G

Peter G

Linda G

Carol H

Ken H

Christine H

Richard K

Debbie K

Joel K

Diane L

Sam M

Jim P

Myra P

Pauline P

Jeff P

Josh P

Margaret R

Dahlia R

Jeff S

Ed S

Sherri S

Anne S

Martha S

Janet S

Bettina S

David S

Gittelle S

Freddy S

Julie T

Mary T

Scott T

Lisa V

Shirah V

Chao-Ying W

Louis W

Andrea W

Richard W

Lisa Y

IMAGINE that if only HALF of these wonderful psychoanalysts — all of whom I personally know (and sorry for anyone I left out) — were to become TAs by early 2014.

Can you IMAGINE the growth spurt?

Any number of their current or former patients, students, or any potential candidates who know them could well be motivated to apply for full training because they would have a TA or supervisor they know and like.

Please vote when you get your ballot.

With kind regards,

Alan

ENLIVENING POST #2

Saturday, October 5, 2013, 6p

Morro Bay, California

As we at the New Center for Psychoanalysis (NCP) await our paper ballots regarding the proposed change to our Bylaws, I am posting this sample of writings from the national MEM list-serv from this past week.

I am hoping that reviewing these posts will gently nudge those of us who await change on a national level. To me, they all but shout out that passively awaiting reform in our national membership organization would be unwise.

Here's the sample:

1. IN SUPPORT OF OUR NCP BYLAWS: "Separating from ApsaA to change ApsaA is the only way to go in the short term. Hopefully the BOPS will change and support a more thoughtful and embracing educational model."
2. REFERRING TO THE RECENT COURT JUDGMENT NOW BEING APPEALED: "However dysfunctional our current governance and functioning may be, we do not have a bicameral structure."
3. REGARDING APSAA NOW: "Our most serious organizational dilemma is our internal fractiousness and its interference with a focus on our discipline. Many of our own members see the Association as more concerned with internal political matters than with advancing psychoanalysis and serving the clinical, social and intellectual needs of our society."
4. WHAT THE LAWSUIT MEANS: "The fact we need to reach to the courts to settle questions of control seems to me to demonstrate our bylaws and our structure no longer meet our needs."

When you receive your ballot, please join the 70 percent of our members who voted via the "special meeting" last Sunday to send the proposed Bylaws amendment to the general NCP membership.

Please cast your vote in favor of enlivening our profession of psychoanalysis, and thereby allowing us to serve "the clinical, social, and intellectual needs of our society."

With kind regards,

Alan

ENLIVENING POST #1

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

South Pasadena, California

515p

Dear Local, National, and International Friends and Colleagues,

This past Sunday, members of the New Center for Psychoanalysis (NCP) attended a “special meeting” to consider a proposed change to the organization’s Bylaws. The Bylaw amendment would allow NCP to rely upon its own TA selection process until: a. an assessment of psychoanalytic competency by a corporation separate from any psychoanalytic membership organization is developed, and; b. it chooses to adhere to such an evaluation process

Of the total of 53 votes cast last Sunday, 37 members voted yes, 15 members voted no, and 1 abstained. This constitutes 70 percent voting in favor, meaning that the proposed Bylaws amendment now goes out to the general NCP membership.

NCP currently has 244 voting members. In the next few weeks, Cecilia will be mailing a ballot to all of us. We will receive pro and con statements along with the ballots. We will have a specified time in which to respond. If 60 percent of us approve the proposed Bylaws amendment, it becomes codified. NCP has a standing TA committee that would begin accepting applications for TA status if and when this proposed Bylaws amendment passes.

If that occurs, the profession of psychoanalysis will have taken a giant step forward. Our tiny group of 244 will have stood up for what is logical, just, and fair. We will have directly addressed, and solved, a problem that has plagued our profession for decades, resulting in paralysis, strife and — quite literally — two major lawsuits. One of those two remains active now.

Those of you who support this move forward, please publicly post, or privately lobby, for the passage of this historical Bylaws amendment. I hope that those of you who oppose this amendment do the same.

I feel honored to be part of a small group of psychoanalytic professionals who may well facilitate making our beloved profession just that:

More Professional.

With kind regards,

Alan