The Script

INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONAL ANALYSIS ASSOCIATION

VOL. XXXI, NO. 6 SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2001

Violence or Reconciliation?

What Does Transactional Analysis Have to Contribute?

We planned this issue of The Script *to highlight the successful ITAA-WPATA conference in Sydney, Australia, in July with its theme "Reconciliation • Restorative Processes • Relationships." What we did not anticipate was the heartrending irony of that theme following the horrific terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, DC, on 11 September. It quickly became clear from news reports as well as email messages to the ITAA, the Forum discussion list, and us individually that this tragedy deeply affected not only our US members, but transactional analysts around the globe. As so many have said, the world is changed; things will never be quite the same.*

Thus it seemed to us that The Script *itself should not be the same, that we needed to reconsider the content of this issue to allow time and space to communicate some of the feelings, concerns, and ideas of our members as we begin to consider how we individually and collectively can respond to all that has happened. And so in this issue you will find reports, letters, and photographs of what, by all accounts, was a stimulating, reflective, challenging, and sometimes difficult conference. You will also find articles and messages about the terrorist attacks in the United States and the way our members view what should and needs to happen in the days, months, and years ahead.*

We think this is just the beginning of a dialogue that will span the globe, and we think that transactional analysis is a voice that needs to be heard in that process. We also think that the ITAA is in many ways a microcosm of the world at large. It is up to us to use the tools of transactional analysis and the skilled people in this organization to seek reconciliation among ourselves—as appears to have happened on many levels in Sydney—so that we can both model how that process can evolve among committed people and demonstrate the value of transactional analysis in resolving conflict without resorting to violence and terror.

The Editors

Sydney Conference Points the Way

by Charlotte Daellenbach

Those of us who attended the Sydney conference 25-29 July 2001 were challenged and inspired by the powerful theme—"Reconciliation • Restorative Processes • Relationships"—which was woven through every part of the gathering. The Landmark Parkroyal Hotel provided a friendly and welcoming container for our explorations, with its attractive rooms, beautiful views of the city or the harbor, and cheerfully helpful staff. The events manager, Caroline Jones, somehow seemed able to be everywhere at once, responding to each and every need.

On the opening night, over 200 delegates from many countries around the world were welcomed by Silvia Scott, an aboriginal elder of the Wiradjuri people. Her words embodied the spirit of reconciliation, showing warmth, humor, and an absence of bitterness. Elana Leigh, conference convener, mentioned the power of the ripple effect of change; Judy Morris, Western Pacific Association of Transactional Analysis (WPATA) President, explored the meaning and pathways of reconciliation; and Gordon Hewitt, ITAA President, focused on reconciliation between diverse parts of the global transactional analysis community. Geraldine Lakeland and Charlotte Daellenbach, on behalf of the Board of Certification, led the celebration and congratulations for the successful examination candidates and welcomed the newest CTAs, a TTA, and TSTAs. The enormous contributions of all the examiners, translators, supervisees, teaching audiences, and process facilitators were acknowledged and appreciated. This festive opening ceremony was crowned by a magnificent performance of the Yikadi Digd & Dance group. These beautiful dancers and musicians truly lived up to the title of their performance: "Awakening the Spirits."

> **"This conference was carefully structured to maximize reflection, exploration, and the practice of reconciliation."**

The organizers of this conference had carefully structured the program to maximize reflection, exploration, and the practice of reconciliation. Each morning started with small groups that focused on various aspects of reconciliation and provided space for active and often very personal participation in deep exploration of the theme. After morning tea we were treated to superb keynote speakers, followed by lunch. The afternoons offered the scientific program of papers and workshops. At the end of the day, we were invited to a plenary session, seated in the round, where we had an opportunity to reflect, confront, and connect. With so much clarity of focus, an environment was created that allowed and stimulated open confrontation of conflict. Many conflicts, on personal and systemic levels, were resolved. While some still need considerable further work, at least they were named.

Valerie Batts was the first keynote speaker. She challenged us to understand why we need to continue to have conversations about reconciliation. She reminded us of Nelson Mandela's words: that the oppressor must be liberated as much as the oppressed. All of us

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Only Through Transformation Is Reconciliation Possible

by Valerie Batts

In my keynote address at the Sydney conference I began by inviting the audience to "try on" the idea that at the core of reconciliation is a transformation for all sides in a conflict. That is, true reconciliation can occur only when all parties understand each other in ways that lead to behaving differently. For those with historic and current social, economic, and political power, this means first acknowledging the historic and continuing impact of this institutional position as well as working with the "targets" (historically viewed as recipients or victims) of this power imbalance to create restorative justice institutionally, culturally, and personally. During the conference we saw several examples of what happens when individuals allow such a process to happen. Given the events of 11 September, I want to offer thoughts about this on a large scale and then end with some comments on the conference itself.

> **"True reconciliation can occur only when all parties understand each other in ways that lead to behaving differently."**

Transformation in the world context involves a multifaceted process of generating a different conceptualization of how humans will live together in a global community in which "war" no longer means what it meant historically. The "theater of war" concept

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ITAA – The Change Begins

by Gordon Hewitt

At the July 2001 meeting of the Board of Trustees in Sydney, Australia, a significant number of changes to the ITAA were set in motion. These are set out below. As President I would very much like members to show their support for the change process by (1) encouraging others to join the association, (2) volunteering to serve on the board or the association's committees, (3) sharing their ideas through letters and articles in *The Script* and the *Transactional Analysis Journal*, and (4) supporting our website by visiting it and purchasing products through it.

Making the Board More Representative: The board has begun a significant change process for the association. It has agreed in principle to increase the number of regional representatives on the board so that people can more directly influence the board. It will also put a motion to members seeking to change the bylaws so that members who stand for election to represent a region will be voted for only by members of that region. Secretary Jim Allen has been asked to gather information about possible ways to achieve these goals and to report back to the board in Utrecht next summer. The board also agreed to pay most of the traveling expenses for board members so that people will not be prevented from standing for election to the board because they cannot afford to travel to meetings.



Sydney conference opening night (from left): Silvia Scott, aboriginal elder; Elana Leigh, conference convener; Judy Morris, WPATA President; Gordon Hewitt, ITAA President; Servaas van Beekum, Scientific Program

Increasing Services to Members: The board is seeking to increase services to members, including listing members on the

- *continued on page 3*

EDITORIALLY YOURS

by Bill Cornell

Fierce in Reason and Compassion

Just a few days ago, Robin Fryer and I were finalizing the copy for this issue of *The Script*. Then it was Tuesday, September 11, the day of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, DC. Like everyone else here, I spent the day stunned, listening to the radio as I tried to listen to clients, trying to make some sense of their reactions and my own and most urgently trying to reach my sons and my friends.

Suddenly, the United States, like so many other nations in the world, was the tragic target of the hatred and violence bred by nationalistic, ethnic, and religious fanaticism. What we saw and experienced that day was a level of violence and destruction that is beyond comprehension.

I found it personally appalling that within 12 hours of the first plane crashing into the World Trade Center, US President George W. Bush was promising vengeance (thinly veiled in the language of justice) and making a declaration of war while in the next breath saying a prayer. He seemed oblivious to the way in which his fusion of vengeance and prayer was virtually identical to what we now suspect was the pretext of the terrorists. We can be pretty sure that the terrorists were praying to their own version of God, certain in their own moral goodness and superiority as they directed those planes to their targets.

In 1965 I graduated from high school in a small, upstate New York, working-class town. I was the brightest kid they had ever seen around there, the pride of the village. At that time the Vietnam war was escalating, and in the time-honored tradition of nationalistic fervor, American political and military leaders had relentlessly and successfully transformed the North Vietnamese people into monsters who were no longer truly human. This entitled us to slaughter them en masse, our ultimate God-sanctioned victory assured as we strove to save the world from Communist atheists. Upon graduation, I was immediately inducted into the service; although I refused to comply, I was inducted anyway and granted a student deferment, which I also refused. Instead, I sought conscientious objector status on political and ethical grounds, challenging the prevailing religious requirement. My lawsuit against the Selective Service went on for years; meanwhile, I went off to college. But I was no longer the pride of the village; the town turned against my family, and my parents and siblings were subjected to such hostility that within a year they decided to leave, never to return.

Thirty-five years later my oldest son, Seth, decided to backpack on his own through Cambodia and Vietnam. Several weeks into his trip, I received a middle-of-the-night panicked call from him in Hanoi; he said he was in trouble and needed money right away, reeling off a bank number where I should send cash. Then the phone went dead, and I had no idea how to get back in touch with him. I sent the money immediately, but Seth never picked it up. I called the US Embassy, but they couldn't trace him. Finally, desperate, I called back to the bank in Hanoi where the bank manager assured me they had the money but my son had not appeared. He offered to call all of the other banks in Hanoi to see if Seth had been to any of them. After doing so he called me back to say there was no word on Seth but they would do what they could. I began to cry, "Why are you doing this for me?" I asked him through my tears. "Because I am a father, too," he replied. "But why would you help me after what my country did to your people? I can't believe you are so kind." I will never forget his answer: "We are a good people. We have always been good people. You did not make the war. We did not make the war. Our leaders made the war. We have no reason to hate you. I hope you find your boy. Our people will not hurt him; they will help him." Seth never did get the money I sent him, but he made his way virtually penniless from Hanoi to Hong Kong with the help of the people we were taught to fear and hate.

Within hours of the horrors in New York, Washington, DC, and Pittsburgh, I was receiving phone calls and emails of concern and condolence from ITAA friends and colleagues around the world. I know this is true for other ITAA members in the United States as well. These calls have been a powerful and soothing reminder that the ITAA can be, needs to be, a truly international community. Robin and I decided to postpone production of this issue briefly so that we could include some of these moving and thought-provoking messages. In addition, we asked Valerie Batts to share some of her perspectives on what happened in Sydney and what happened this week, to bring to bear some of her experience and expertise on the pressures of divisiveness and power that we see in both our organization and our world.

I found the process of editing this particular *Script* both ironic and sad, focused as it was on the Sydney conference, which was organized around the theme of reconciliation. From the letters and articles we received, as well as from some of the material that was sent out over the Internet, it seems that the conference brought its participants powerful lessons not only in reconciliation, but also—unfortunately—in competitiveness and divisiveness. We cannot afford to allow conflicts, misunderstandings, and contentiousness within the ITAA and among transactional analysis organizations to destroy our international community. What we have in-common as people and colleagues is far more important than the ways that we differ. Personally, I refuse to believe that these issues cannot be resolved. I do not believe we are strengthened by regional allegiances pitted against the difficulties of maintaining a cooperative international community. I believe deeply that the ITA can remain a diverse community without becoming a divisive or divided community. It is up to us to make sure, even on the small scale of our organization, that the differences among us do not become fodder for distrust, power plays, and fragmentation.



"We must find the will and the means to confront and ultimately to develop alternatives to cycles of vengeance, violence, and moral superiority."

It breaks my heart to see the forces of fear, hatred, and demonization swing into full force yet again. As American political reactions to this week's terrorist attacks unfold, it does not look as if we can rely on our nation's leaders to help people grapple with fear, hatred, tragedy, loss, unyielding anguish, and vulnerability. Wrapping ourselves in American flags—or any flag—or in the banners of fanaticism or vengeance will not reduce the tragedy or the vulnerabilities that stalk the peoples of this world. We need to wrap ourselves in tears and reason, not nationalistic diatribes. Former US Senator Bob Kerrey, one of the few current American politicians who actually fought in the Vietnam war, said yesterday of the terrorists' action, "I condemn it morally, and I do think it was cowardly. But physically, it was the opposite of cowardly, and if you don't understand that, then you don't understand the intensity of the cause.... There is hatred out there against the United States, and yes, we have to deal with terrorism in a zero-tolerance fashion. But there is anger, too, and they ought to have a place for a hearing on that anger, in the International Court or wherever we give them a hearing" (*New York Times*, September 15, 2001, p. A16). We must bring our skills, our reason, our compassion, and our humanness to bear upon our lives together even—and perhaps most especially—at those moments when we most fear it to be futile and inadequate.

I do not know the name of that banker in Hanoi. I do know the name of my President. I hope that George W. Bush can find within himself the determined wisdom of that Vietnamese father. During the memorial service at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC, three days after the attacks, President Bush said, "This nation is peaceful, but fierce when stirred to anger." We need now a leadership and a people who are fierce in reason and compassion, not fierce in anger. I hope that Bush can realize, even in the midst of unfathomable tragedy, that people of every nation, every faith, every race, and every ethnic identity are good people. We cannot afford once more the facile "solution" and self-indulgent relief of revenge. We must find the will and the means to confront and ultimately to develop alternatives to cycles of vengeance, violence, and moral superiority. We must give the nations and peoples of the world time to come together in a fiercely reasoned way, to finally, finally not resort first to war but to find the means and resolve to isolate and punish criminals while helping people understand the depths and divisiveness of our mutual fears and demonizations. Please appeal to the political leaders of all of our nations to rise to a wiser way this time. Please.

It gives me great pleasure in the midst of the troubling, complex issues we're attempting to address in this *Script* to devote some space to a tribute to Denton Roberts for his enormous dedication and service to the ITAA at a critical time. Denton has devoted much of his life to service for the good of diverse communities. He does not shy away. His time, skill, and goodwill were crucial in holding together the San Francisco staff, in particular, and the organization as a whole.

I also want to again express my gratitude to Robin Fryer. This issue of *The Script*, not to mention many others, would not have been possible without her and the many hours she was willing to give to this last-minute effort. Her editorial skills are invaluable and her investment in the ITAA is heartfelt. Her efforts may be largely invisible, but the quality of this newsletter and of the *Transactional Analysis Journal* is a product of her skill and dedication. □

The Script ITAA

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A Tribute to Denton Roberts

For the past two years, Denton Roberts has been Acting Executive Director of the ITAA—pro bono. In Sydney he stepped down from this demanding position. In honor of his contribution to the ITAA, we have asked some of those close to him to write a few words of tribute and thanks.

"Denton is a quiet, practical person who does not talk in superlatives, but I can only describe him adequately in superlatives: superb therapist, superb facilitator, superb giver to so many people. His gift to ITAA of pro bono time, week after week, helped create the wonderfully effective office we have today. I don't know anyone who has given so much so well. I love you, Denton, and admire you greatly."

– Mary Goulding

"If we can imagine someone loving the ITAA with patriotic fervor, that's how I would characterize Denton. He is a man of integrity who puts his all into any cause he embraces—from world peace to civil rights to community-based religion to the propagation of transactional analysis and the perpetuation of the ITAA. Denton has given from his soul with a joyful heart. How can we ever thank him enough? He does not seek praise for himself; he just asks us to give the ITAA a chance. Our greatest expression of gratitude to Denton is our continued support of his beloved ITAA."

– Vince Gilpin

"Dear Denton: A testimonial to you, that is if you, the most unpedantic gifted guy I know, can stand testimonials. But since you've managed to achieve, generate, and give in so many ways, how else are we poor ITAA plebes to stroke you for all you have done for us? So, cheers to my good friend of memorable times in the eighties and nineties in San Diego and elsewhere. To stimulating arguments, exchanges, and fun. May you proceed for many, many more years on your inimitable creative journey through life."

– Fanita English

"Denton and I have worked closely together for the past 18 months. We have agreed, disagreed, argued, drunk beer, and often found solutions that I think may have been better than either of us would have come up with on our own. Denton is one of the most generous men I know, giving freely of himself intellectually and emotionally and in terms of the time he makes available to those who ask for it. Denton's contribution to the ITAA has been great, and since Susan Sevilla left it has been extraordinary. Without it, the organization would have really struggled. So Denton, my personal thanks for your companionship, thoughts, and stories and as president, my heartfelt thanks for your many contributions to the organization over the years."

"Our greatest expression of gratitude to Denton is our continued support of his beloved ITAA."

– Gordon Hewitt

"Denton—my cotrainee, my colleague, my cotherapist, my own therapist, and in all my dear friend for over 30 years. We cried together and we laughed together. We intellectualized together and we damn well had fun together. You have a heart formed for friendship and susceptible to its finest feelings. You are humane, generous, open, and warm. You have my deepest respect, admiration, appreciation, and love. What a honor and privilege to know you. Here's to the next 30 years together."

– Barry Hirsch

"When I think of Denton I am always struck by how different we are: a middle American reverend and a European secular Jew. We think differently and we are inclined to act differently: I speak before I think, he thinks before he speaks; he is fond of jokes, I am suspicious of them. Yet there is so much that we share: handy with hammer and nails, liberation politics activism, writing and teaching, family life, and of course, love of transactional analysis. And we have some good stories to tell. Denton has shown his love for transactional analysis over the years by volunteering countless hours of crucial committee and board of trustees work. Lately he has given much time and energy to support the organization through several difficult transitions. During his visits to the ITAA office in Oakland he occasionally slept in my guest room, and we often went out to lunch before I drove him to the airport on his way back to LA. I will miss those lunches and he will be missed at the office. But we can count on Denton's love for transactional analysis to keep him busy on our behalf, and I look forward to whatever next brings us together on behalf of that love affair."

– Claude Steiner

"There is an old expression that fits Denton well: 'When the going gets tough, the tough get going.' Whether protesting in the civil rights movement, speaking up for the 'little guy,' or championing a cause for the ITAA, Denton is not afraid to act on what he believes is the 'right thing.' In a way, Denton is at his best when he is in a tough situation, and those of us who know him well recognize that he does not give up easily. When I first



met Denton many years ago, he spoke and acted with such passion, energy, humor, and sincerity that I could only stand in awe. In the years since, Denton has been a colleague, a teacher, a model, and mostly an outstanding friend. His writing is wise and deeply moving, his teaching brilliant, his actions saturated with love, and his presence inspiring. While ITAA President I worked closely with Denton and relied on his wisdom and knowledge of the ITAA culture and history. This was even more the case when he became Acting Executive Director. He has given to the ITAA and to the transactional analysis community around the world so much more than we will ever know. Denton, you will truly be missed in the governing of the ITAA. However, as you go for a new dream, recall what Winston Churchill once said: 'This is not the end. This is not even the beginning of the end. This is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

– George Kohlrieser

"Denton—It's funny how you can know a person a long time and not really know him. That's how it has been with Denton. I've known him for 25 years but only when we worked on the executive committee together did I begin to find out there is so much more than meets the eye. I had no idea how knowledgeable he was about organizations. When we were forced to release our executive director, Denton just went in and made things work so effortlessly. When we became stuck on policy or procedure on the board, we always turned to Denton. I began to see and understand the compassion for others that makes Denton such a beautiful soul. He is so low key that it might be easy to miss his depth, and I am grateful that I have had the opportunity to see the depth of his wisdom, knowledge, and love for others. Recently I was in LA with a friend and invited Denton and his partner for dinner. My friend was having a problem with her adopted daughter from Russia. I suggested she ask Denton what he thought. Everyone at the table sat mesmerized for the next 20 minutes as he made suggestions and gave us a wonderfully simple yet profound education on child development. Afterward my friend talked about how wise he was. 'Denton grows on you,' she said. 'He is like a flower, kind of hidden in the garden, one that you might not notice at first but who turns out to be the rarest flower in the garden.' That's how he has been for me. To quote from Donna Meeham's book *It Is No Secret*, 'He isn't an autumn friend that is here for a season and then drifts away. He is a diamond friend, precious and rare. A jewel.' As George Kohlreiser so often said lovingly when Denton would do something that was so totally Denton, 'That's our Denton.' I love you a lot, Denton and think you are really wonderful. I feel blessed by your presence in my life."

– Edie Bogusky Beaujon

Denton, we hope you hear and feel the love, admiration, and respect we and many others in the ITAA have for you. We know you don't seek out lots of strokes, but we hope you accept this tribute and know that it is from our hearts.

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ITAA - THE CHANGE BEGINS

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ITAA website (www.itaa-net.org). We already have over 350 members who have requested a listing. If you wish to be included and have not yet filled in the form, you will find a copy at the end of this article. We will in future have *The Script* delivered by airmail outside the United States, publish a joint EATA/ITAA membership directory, work with EATA to translate important non-English journal articles into English, and publish a collection of research into transactional analysis.

A Possible Reduction in Membership Fee: At the same time the board has decided in principle that it wishes to decrease the membership fee. The treasurer is currently investigating the implication of such a move and will report back soon. The board is also considering whether it is possible to have only two membership categories: Member and Student Member. It is not likely that we will complete this process before this year's fees are due, but we expect to make significant changes for the following year.

"I appeal to all members to support these moves both by being actively involved in the association and its work and by encouraging others to join."

There was some dissension on the board. In particular, there was distress by some US members that we should even investigate the costs and benefits of moving the ITAA office from California to elsewhere in the United States or another country. The decision of the board was that with so many other significant changes taking place, any move to relocate the office should be put on hold at this time and would in any case only proceed with the support of the membership.

Training and Certification: There also seemed to be misunderstanding by some board members in relation to the Training and Certification Council. This seemed to be based, at least in part, on a belief that people could not teach transactional analysis unless they have TSTA or PTSTA qualifications. In fact, anyone can teach transactional analysis and set up courses to give local qualifications in transactional analysis. The only restriction is that if people want to gain the international CTA or TSTA qualifications, then they must receive some of their training from people who already hold these qualifications. Following further discussion, the board indicated its strong support for training and certification, by both PTSTAs and TSTAs for the qualification CTA and TSTA, and for people worldwide who wish to teach transactional analysis locally. As part of this support, the board is considering proposals for a more secure funding base for the Training and Certification Council. In the meantime, the board agreed to continue funding the Training and Certification Council at its current level.

Conferences: The Board also approved in principle the following conference sites: 2002–Utrecht, the Netherlands (together with EATA); 2003–a site yet to be determined in Canada, the United States, or Mexico, with the board awaiting a firm proposal from a combined Canadian, US, and Mexican group; 2004–India; 2005–England (in cooperation with EATA).

Your Support: As you can see, the board is moving on a number of fronts to decrease the cost of membership and to improve the benefits to members. Again, I appeal to all members to support these moves both by being actively involved in the association and its work and by encouraging others to join.

Gordon Hewitt, PhD, is ITAA President. He can be reached at 30 Totara Street, Eastbourne, New Zealand, or at gordon@wn.planet.gen.nz .

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Website List of Members

If you wish to be listed on our website, please complete the following (as you want it to appear on the web page):

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please include country and city (area) codes

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Members' Forum

REFLECTIONS ON SYDNEY CONFERENCE

Dear Editor:

As the scientific program convener for the Sydney conference, I'd like to offer a few comments on the event.

To begin, I think readers will find it interesting to know that the program committee purposely designed the conference structure to facilitate participants' experiences of their personal, interactional, cultural, and political process around reconciliation. This structure, in some ways new in transactional analysis circles, was meant to offer a strong container in which participants could work and learn. The basic features of this structure included: morning groups with fixed themes and consistent leaders in which participants could reflect on issues of reconciliation that were of interest for them personally; keynote speakers each day who were selected for their expertise in the field, followed by dialogue with the audience; lunch and refreshment breaks provided by the conference, which were experienced as holding participants together; afternoon workshops specifically chosen for their relevance to the theme of reconciliation; and finally, a large group session at the close of each day in which everyone was invited to reflect on the experiences of the day and to make links and connections with the wider world. As participants wrote in their evaluation sheets, "The theme of the conference was everywhere, we could not escape it, we had to work with it and we could do so because it was held so powerfully." The structure held this process by narrowing and widening the focus of attention and by allowing a switch from being personal to being political and anywhere in between.

The global context in which we live teaches us increasingly to be impulsive instead of reflective. We respond to images and sensations from outside and often lack time to sort out what happens inside. It was with this in mind that the Sydney conference was designed so that 44% of the conference time was dedicated to reflection and 56% to input in the form of speeches and workshops. If one includes the opening and closing sessions and various breaks, the reflection time was even greater.

The conference culture was set from the beginning by combining a welcoming ceremony in the land of the local aboriginal tribe with classical opening addresses by the presidents of the sponsoring organizations. This reinforced that the conference was going to be a culture of exchange between cultures, between old and new, static and dynamic, young and aged, history and present. It was also designed to be a culture of generosity. An important aspect of this generosity, besides the lunches and breaks, was the production each day of a conference journal that included changes in the program, compilations of keynote addresses and themes from reflection groups, and even Eric Berne's life story (courtesy of the ITAA website) in five installments. The generosity of the keynote speakers and of aboriginal elder Silvia Scott, all of whom came back for the last closing plenary, was just one of the examples to show that generosity creates generosity.

Conference participants were asked to rate various events on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being highest. On average, the morning groups received a rating of 4, the keynote speakers 4.6, and the workshops 4.

This conference suffered and profited from having ITAA board meetings connected with it. Eventually, the gains were much greater than the hard times. The ITAA board meetings ended before the start of the conference with a very blocked process, which was brought into the conference via the ITAA general membership meeting on the first conference day. Eventually an extra board meeting was set up with mediation from Valerie Batts, one of the keynote speakers, and some healing was created there. Later in the week even more reconcilation seemed possible. To its credit, the conference as a whole held this conflict and made it possible for people to move their positions. In addition, a 17-year-old wound was healed between WPATA (Western Pacific Association of Transactional Analysis) and the T&C Council. The reconciliation that was reached included mutual recognition of training standards and certification procedures. This was possible through new calculations of training standards by the global TACC board, in which T&C Council and EATA's PTSC cooperate.

The choice of the city of Sydney and the country of Australia as the site for this conference was also significant. It offered the opportunity for a different kind of thinking and contact with a vibrant, young, active group of Aussie and Kiwi participants. Australia, of course, has itself experience with long and painful attempts to find healing between European settlers and their offspring and the indigenous people of the Aborigines. Silvia Scott, an elder from the Wiradjuri people, who was at the conference in the opening and closing ceremonies, dealt beautifully with the issue. She did not take up the anger against whites that was projected onto her, nor did she lose a sense of political reality about what the government here does or does not do. Her sense of humor was healing as well, from "Bring me Boris Becker, next time you're here" (to representatives from Germany) to "I've been an Aboriginal long before it became fashionable."

In closing, I'd like to say that the sponsoring organizations of the Sydney conference (WPATA and ITAA) and the organizing committee, chaired by Elana Leigh, generously provided a well-hosted event that may have long-standing effects in the global transactional analysis community. And as was the case after the Sydney Olympics in 2000, Sydney locals, supported by WPATA, would be happy to host another global conference in the (near) future.

Servaas van Beekum, Sydney, Australia

Dear Editor:

Having gone to the Sydney conference not expecting to do more than say hello to old friends, I was surprised and gratified to have come away with some goodies. The program was well constructed, with excellent keynote speakers each morning. These keynotes followed the hour-and-a-half home groups, which had as their themes different aspects of the conference theme: "Reconciliation-Restorative Processes-Relationships." Valerie Batts keynote was particularly stimulating and helpful. Afternoon sessions were workshops, with a plenary session from 5 to 6:30 pm each night. The last plenary session each afternoon was valuable, but I think a better group process would have achieved more. But some others liked them, and they did add to the generous reflective time that the conference had to offer. The New Zealanders made their Maori presence felt, which stirred a few feelings. Jonathon Wagner, unable to attend, sent a video presentation, which I heard was quite moving.

Unfortunately, the conference was pervaded by a nasty undercurrent about a big split in the board of trustees, and with only six minutes available for questions at the annual membership meeting, many people came away dissatisfied.

One of the great things, though, about the ITAA is the policy of having all meetings open to observers. I was fortunate to be able to sit in with others on a facilitation board meeting at which Valerie Batts put into practice what she talked about a couple of days earlier. I can't say much about this other than what an excellent job she did and how courageous the board members were in hanging in, talking straight to each other, and putting to rest many of their fantasies.

There was a board decision to allow the past president to stay on for another year. (This will need a membership vote if proceeded with, so let's talk about this.) This brought to a head the apparent split between non-US and US factions on the board, which led to all sorts of fantasies. This, coupled with the push by some US folks over the years to denigrate the value of the training and certification processes and the belief that the T & C Council would have its service funding cut, along with a fear of the office being relocated, seemed to put the cat amongst the pigeons.

In fact, most non-US transactional analysis folks don't have any difficulties with, and in fact value immensely, these training processes—even though the certification means nothing in most parts of the world. I think there is too much emphasis on *certification* as the bad guy, rather than seeing the passion and enthusiasm for *training* processes around the world with successful certification as the icing on the cake.

I also think that where the transactional analysis community is aged, like me—a bit burnt out from running ongoing training groups, seminar groups/institutes, and local associations—then we tend to become social clubs. Great fun but not much help in developing transactional analysis and the ITAA in doing what we used to do so well when we were young and enthusiastic. It is then easy to blame things such as certification as the cause of our membership decline. All we have to do is to take a look at the many parts of the world where transactional analysis is booming to see the model that shows how to succeed.

Otherwise, Sydney was a great conference with lots of time to meet old friends.

Robin Maslen, Hove, Australia

WORLDWIDE RESPONSES TO TERRORISM IN US

The following comments are edited excerpts of messages received by the ITAA office/staff or posted on the ITAA Forum Internet discussion list. We regret that we don't have room to print all the messages we received, and we thank everyone who wrote.

For days as I watched the events on TV I felt compassion, horror, complete disbelief, just trying, for short unbearable moments, to imagine what it would be like to be there: in a hijacked plane, in the burning towers, in police and rescue teams, trying to imagine being a partner, kid, or parent of someone lost in this unspeakable disaster. I also tried to get in the heads of those who designed this catastrophe. What did they see that let them pass by everything that's precious to all other human beings? What caused their conviction that the most important thing was to create a unique disaster with the help of all their resources, learning to be a pilot just for this, sacrificing their lives to cause so much pain. What did they lose? What is it they wanted to save or regain? What did America, what did the Free World do to them that turned them into clearly thinking monsters, engaging their creativity and intelligence for this disgusting plan? There is no conflict, no aggression without broken bonds, without people feeling left alone in despair, stripped of their possessions and their human dignity. I've never seen an aggressive person who didn't feel abandoned, misunderstood, or not seen.

If we learn from this, we cannot simply call for punishment and retaliation. We have to ask ourselves which other signs, which softer cries we didn't hear. We pray for the souls of those who perished in the flames and the rubble and for those they loved and were loved by. Let's pray also for those who have to make decisions in this important stage of history. Let's explore if and when we didn't listen, satisfied as we were with ourselves and our lives, where our love was restricted to those close to us. In this world of short communication lines, we cannot afford to just condemn the others because they're not like us, because they hold different values. There are people who ask questions about how we use our power, power exercised by a civilization in which a small number of Western democracies drain the resources of the earth, keep other nations poor, and pollute the air, the water, and the soil. Some people, some nations are blinded with rage now, and we can expect to meet more of this rage if we don't hear their voices and don't love them, too.

Let's pray that our world leaders will react wisely, that they read the meaning of the signs behind this relentless violence and that they will work together for a world that's not only free in the sense that we so eagerly use the word, but also for a world that's free of poverty and dehumanizing conditions for all humankind.

Willem Lammers, Maienfeld, Switzerland

We are the eye-witnesses of the latest paroxysm of violence, a monstrous link in a chain, with origins buried deep in humanity's past: Israel and the occupied territories, the King David Hotel bombing, Nazi concentration camps, the Versailles treaty, the killing fields in France, the Napoleonic wars and back into the mist of history and forward to the massacre of native Americans, slavery, the killing fields of Cambodia and Rwanda, the genocide of Guatemalan peasants, and the drug wars in Colombia—to name only a few. The morning after Sept 11 it seems that the people in high office and the media are backing away from an "eye-for-an-eye, hunting down and crushing the cowardly vermin, kill, maim, revenge and retaliation talk" to pursue a measured discussion about finding the perpetrators of this horrendous crime and bringing them to justice.

We in transactional analysis have been concerned with violence for years, starting with a conference on violence in the seventies, an aborted anti-violence campaign in the nineties (which arguably inspired our Sydney conference about reconciliation), a special issue of the *TAJ* on violence, and next year's joint EATA and ITAA conference in Utrecht with the theme "Violence: Let's TAlk." I am convinced that we have important and powerful tools with which we can help break the chains of violence and contribute to finding options to deal with events such as this in an effective, nonviolent, or minimally violent manner. We have an understanding of

how scripts—violence scripts among them—are passed down the generations and the crucial role of the Critical Parent in that process. We know how to interrupt violent transactions and the options among which we can choose. We know that in games everyone plays every role so that the Persecutor will eventually be the Victim and vice versa. We know how the roles in the drama triangle interact with each other and the importance of exiting that destructive and potentially violent cycle. We understand that it is possible to exercise Adult control over our violent, destructive archeopsychic urges, and we know the importance of positive strokes and their power to modify the existential position of a person from not-OK to OK. We know that violence is a transactional event and we know about transactions and how to analyze them. With all this information we can help break the chain of violence as psychotherapists, consultants, counselors, and educators and in our lives, families, workplaces, towns and cities, and eventually, hopefully, our country and world. We have the information and the responsibility to try. Let's commit ourselves to that goal; perhaps tiny piece by tiny piece, we can make a difference.

Claude Steiner, Berkeley, California, USA

My heart agrees with so many of the caring, reasonable, and humane remarks I have read on the Forum discussion list. Another voice within me also asks: If someone is attacking me physically, at what point shall I defend myself physically? If a client is about to attack someone physically, at what point shall I involve the police to stop the violence? At what point would it have been reasonable and appropriate to declare war on Hitler and stop his violence? The Rhineland, Sudetenland, Austria, Poland, when? At what point would it have been reasonable and urgent to attack Yugoslavia in order to stop the genocide in Kosova? At what point is it reasonable and appropriate for any country that is attacked physically to protect itself by physical means? At what point do we need a world that will step in and stop physical violence by using violence or the threat of violence? I do not ask these questions lightly or with any sense of sarcasm. I am profoundly shaken by the attack on New York and Washington, DC, and I am interested to know what you would do or not do to protect yourself, those whom you love, and your fellow inhabitants from physical attack.

Ted Novey, Glenview, Illinois, USA

I want to share my shock, terror, horror, and sorrow with everyone else, and especially our TA colleagues in America. I felt an intense vulnerability as I watched the tragedy unfold. I just wanted to be with my loved ones. In those moments I knew with anxious intensity, as all those victims must have known, that what matters most is the loving feelings and the closeness of being with the ones who matter most to you. I knew, as I watched, that all our psyches had changed forever. I saw an interview with a woman from Afghanistan who asked us to hear their pleas—they are so poor, so bereft; she said they too had suffered for years in these ways—loss, bereavement, and ravaged by poverty and war. Today, I read they may bomb them. It feels unbearable that we may have to hear about even more deaths at the hands of rageful destroyers.

I dare, in moments, to feel hopeful that somehow we will find a way of sorting this out. One of the positive thing is that Bush is enlisting the world's support before action (and although the rhetoric is warlike, doesn't it have to be initially?). Those of us who do not want retaliation may be able to hold and contain those who do—not combatively, but with understanding that when you hurt, it is absolutely normal to want to hit back; it is, after all, part of grief. I also heard Bush say, "We will find our enemy in the shadows—we will hound them out and deal with them." How symbolic: The enemy is in our own psychological shadow, and he is quite unconsciously alluding to it. Maybe this process will involve us all in dealing with the shadow side in us all as nations—economically, culturally, materially, socially, racially. Practically, in Britain, that could simply begin with paying more tax, having less consumer power, and learning to lump it. But of course I jump to idealistic solutions, possible resolutions, to take me from the grief and powerlessness I feel and the underlying terror. There is comfort in connection.

Helena Hargaden, London, England

Dear ITAA: We send you our deep condolences in connection with this tragedy—the attack of the terrorists on the USA. We are indignant about the action of these villains and we support you in your struggle with terrorism.

Professor Rostislav Makushenko, St. Petersburg, Russia

I have been volunteering at the rescue site in the capacity of chaplain and mental health worker. In person the devastation is so much more that you can imagine when you watch it on TV. But the wonderful, amazing thing is the unbelievable energy, determination, unity, and love that is present among the people here. There are firefighters and other volunteers from all over the world, some from as far away as Russia, helping side by side, sometimes removing the rubble bucket by bucket. The firemen who have lost many of their brothers, friends, and sons are the most incredible men and women I have ever met. Last night, as I looked at the massive rubble and twisted steel and the thousands of volunteers attacking it with determination and energy beyond comprehension, I had the vision of good versus evil. I came home full of faith and hope that the good symbolized by the energy of the people there will triumph over the evil forces that did this terrible thing.

Edie Beaujon, New York, United States

My whole country is praying for all of you, especially for the victims and families. Until Friday, in every class at the university we started with a minute of silence. If there is anything that we could do for you, you all can count on us.

Cecilia Zugazaga Presidente, Asociación Internacional de Psicologos Eclécticos

The horrors of the last few days are the direct result of decades of horror and the precursor of horror to come. The ONLY way to stop these actions is for us and them to be transformed into we.

Alexis DiVincenti, New York, United States

I had a long conversation with my son as the morning the news broke. We often discuss world events as a way of being connected. Together we recalled that around 100,000 needless deaths occur every day, 40,000 of them being third world children, from lack of nutrition, hygiene, and basic health care. More die every day from AIDS in Southern Africa alone than died in the World Trade Towers. The difference is that in those faraway places, the same number will die tomorrow and the next day too. Against this background, we realize dramatic death on TV mesmerizes our Child, while our Adult knows that the quiet deaths all round the globe caused by the sucking of wealth from the poor nations into the rich simply goes on unnoticed. Terrorists are not born, they are made by very specific conditions. When we learn to feed, care for, and stroke the children of the third world and their families properly, instead of destroying their livelihoods through global "free" trade and leaving them to die in millions, only then will our world be safe, let alone just. I urge everyone to talk in terms of *perspective*. Think if this had been a nuclear action instead of some crashing airplanes. The scale of devastation would have been ten- or a hundred-fold more. This week has been a small warning. It can stimulate us to look at why so much of the world has ample reason to hate us in the West and to respond to the *causes* instead of joining the drama triangle of history once again. We are tied deeply and fundamentally to the suffering in the world. This means we can affect it by changing how we live our own lives.

Steve Biddulph, Australia

As transactional analysis students, as psychologists, and—in a word—as people who believe we may have a better world, we want to express to you and to all our American friends our deep sorrow in relation to the recent criminal and terrorist actions in the USA. Please accept our solidarity in this moment of grief, when your country has suffered such a brutal, ruthless, cowardly attack.

Guenia Bunchaft and Vanda Vasconcellos, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

We want to express our feelings of solidarity with you all and pray that you are all safe. We feel shocked and hope that healing and compassion will prevail through the pain, the irreparable loss, and the horrendous fear and strings of disasters that have shattered the peace of our world. As negativity increases we add our small part in sending love and fellowship at this time to all those affected immediately by the attacks and to our friends and colleagues in the United States.

Pearl Drego and Os Summerton, New Delhi, India

We are still in sadness, my family and friends. But our politicians and our media are programing us to be angry. When I'm ready to be angry, I'm sure I will be. At the moment I resent being told in so many ways that I am angry.

Jean Clarke, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA

We all need right now to do everything possible to prevent war and/or reprisals that will kill more innocent people and incite further payback to us. Paybacks don't stop violence. I feel so very sad for everyone who was killed and for all who loved them, especially those young firemen who died trying to save others. And I am not outraged because there is dancing and cheering in the streets by those who hate us. Remember the Gulf War. Young men, like our firemen, raced across the sand waving white flags and trying to surrender. We used our modern weapons to bury them alive, and bragged about it. And some of our people danced in the streets. Physicians from all over Europe have visited Iraq and reported that Iraq must have supplies of food and medicine; over 1,000,000 children have died because of our blockade. I would expect their parents to be dancing in the street. We are responsible for the holocaust and the starvation deaths in Colombia. We have supported terrible regimes in the Middle East. We are very guilty, as are the terrorists who killed our people. Einstein predicted that civilization would cease because our abilities to make war have so surpassed our abilities to make peace. Even if you personally like paybacks and want to "get" whole peoples for this crime committed against us, remember that, unless we make peace, we will never again feel safe.

Mary Goulding, San Francisco, California, United States

We are saddened and shocked about the terrorists' attack and this message is our way to put an arm around your shoulders. Our participation comes from our heart. Our children were especially fond of the Twin Towers, and this made them more aware of the drama and worried for our friends in the USA. We think of the people who died, the people who live in mourning and terror, and are worried for the military and political possible evolution.

Carlo and Rosalba Moiso, Rome, Italy

As a New Yorker who grew up in Manhattan, I felt deep sorrow over the deaths of so many innocent people. As I view it, because the intensity of hatred is stronger than love, love has to be multiplied via a community like ours before it can dissipate the intensity of hate by those who feel they need to kill to get their message across. There is now enough evidence to show that it is the absence of true connectedness with these individuals that can lead to escalated violence from the discounted, disenfranchised, disadvantaged, ignored individuals among them. I lit a candle in hope of more connectedness in the world that leads to our getting to really know who we are, and to be truly responsive to the needs of others.

Len Campos, Sacramento, California, USA

My personal shock about the events in New York and Washington and my compassion for people suffering from the attacks in the USA in general are huge. This does not take away that we need to see these horrible events in the wider context of our responsibility for cocreating a chain of violence over violence on a worldwide scale over years now. I hope that we (the Western world) will [seek] justice for the events in the United States by using (maybe long term) legal channels and not seek revenge and escalation in short-term military showoffs and paybacks.

I also hope that we can reflect on and research why we (the West) are so hated in many parts of the world. We see ourselves so much as do-gooders but have a blind spot for the shadow of our behavior and our freedom and the consequences for those in the world who cannot afford to buy this freedom. Two-thirds of the world or more only can look at all that we can do, buy, and consume. This part of globalization and the triumphalistic arrogance of the capitalist worldview are ruining forces that are in themselves violent in the world.

I feel touched by the fear on the faces of people in Arab countries in the TV reports. They fear being scapegoated by us, who claim to be the guardians of humanity. Watching the world media, I have a growing uncomfortable feeling about the creation of an public atmosphere of hatred. Right at this moment, the legitimation for a military action is created. A revengeful action will not increase love for us, only hatred toward us.

When will we learn that sharing our wealth and taking responsibility for the survival of the planet is the only way to prevent terrorism? And that fair trade and environmental awareness will make us much more loved? Any action to reach the path of justice is worthwhile. Write your leaders; tell them to stop thinking about military revenge and start building global justice.

Servaas van Beekum, Sydney, Australia

Dear U.S. Board members and staff: I was shocked and deeply saddened to wake this morning (NZ time) to news of the appalling hijackings and attacks in the U.S. As president I want to convey my sympathy and concern to you at this time.

Gordon Hewitt, Wellington, New Zealand

I want to tell you about the deep shock and horror we are feeling in England about the tragic events of yesterday. People here have experienced it at a personal level, as if it had happened to someone they know.

Tony Tilney, Sutton Coldfield, W. Midlands, England

***** Nominations Sought *****

Eric Berne Memorial Award
Deadline: 1 December 2001

Hedges Capers Humanitarian Award
Deadline: 1 January 2002

Muriel James Living Principles Award
Deadline: 1 January 2002

For more details, see www.itaa-net.org

SYDNEY CONFERENCE

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are in some oppressed groups and in some oppressor groups. She made a valuable distinction between monoculturalism (melting pot, assimilation, exclusion) and pluralism (salad bowl, diversity, inclusion). The first rejects differences and believes in the superiority of the dominant group, whereas the second appreciates difference and celebrates and uses similarities and differences at all four levels: personal, interpersonal, institutional/systemic, and cultural. Her model of resolving conflict suggests changing "either-or" into "both-and." In her conclusion, she suggested that reconciliation is about rehumanizing all of us, and that compassion also contains the rage and the pain.

On the second day of the conference, Gill Straker talked to us from the position of a white South African about "The Dream of Reconciliation: The Reality of Fragmentation." She challenged us by suggesting that maybe we as human beings have a tendency to slip toward aggression and that we therefore need to ask ourselves: What is it within myself that I need to reconcile? What have I disowned, put outside, split off? What is my relationship to power? We need to start the process of reconciliation wherever we find ourselves and to accept that we can injure another. She also described how the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission provided a forum in which the story there could be woven together and fantasies of revenge could be contained. In that context, forgiveness was granted by the commission, not by the victims.



Yikadi Digd & Dance on the opening night of the Sydney conference

The third keynote speaker was John Braithwaite, who talked about programs of restorative justice. Restorative justice looks at responsive regulation, a nonpunitive approach to dealing with young offenders. The programs use conferences that include victims, offenders, and members of the community who are in some way connected to the situation. The conference works toward an agreement rather than a punishment. Compliance with the agreements is voluntary but high, and rates of criminal reoffending are low. John asked, "Is it enough for an offender to believe he has done something wrong but is still OK as a person?" He suggested that some shame about oneself is necessary in serious crime, as long as it is not overwhelmingly despairing. This ties in with a comment by Gill Straker, who sees shame as part of the humanizing process, although it needs to be modulated.

Overall, the conference was characterized by a spirit of extraordinary generosity. The food—lunches and morning and afternoon refreshments—was outstanding. At the Saturday night dinner/dance there was much more than just a delicious buffet. The master of ceremonies, Elana Leigh, entertained us with stories, little competitions, and many prizes to be won. Other special conference gifts included a newsletter published each morning that contained reflections about the previous day and gave information about the day ahead.

The closing ceremony saw the return of Silvia Scott, who had opened the conference, along with all three keynote speakers. Together we reflected on the events of the past days and started to look beyond, beginning the journey of integration.

Charlotte Daellenbach lives in Christchurch, New Zealand, and is cochair of the ITAA Board of Certification. She can be reached at 25/28 Gloucester St., Christchurch 8001, New Zealand, or by email at c.daellenbach@ext.canterbury.ac.nz . □

EXAM CALENDAR

Exam	Exam Adm.	Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
CTA Oral	COC COC BOC BOC	Nov. 2, 2001 Nov. 16, 2001 Nov. 17, 2001 Jan. 14, 2002	Grenoble, France Neustadt, Germany Christchurch, N. Zealand Chennai, India	Aug. 1, 2001* Sept. 1, 2001* Aug. 17, 2001 Oct. 14, 2001
TSTA				
CTA Written	All Regions (Non-Europe)	Your choice	To be submitted to Regional Exam Coordinator after payment of $50 recording fee to T & C Council	Your choice
TEWs	PTSC PTSC	Nov. 17-19, 2001 July 1-3, 2002	Neustadt, Germany Utrecht, Netherlands	Jul. 17, 2001 March 1, 2002

* If COC CTA exam candidates are also doing the COC written case study, this must be submitted no later than six months ahead of the oral exam date. Full details and application papers can be obtained from the COC Language Group Coordinators.

Please Note: Exams are subject to availability of examiners and exam supervisors. BOC will not be responsible for expenses incurred where the unavailability of examiners or exam supervisors causes examinations to be canceled or postponed. To be an examiner for an ITAA/BOC exam, examiners must be at least a CTA for a CTA exam or a TSTA for a TSTA exam.

To make arrangements to take a BOC exam, contact the T&C Council, 436 14th Street, Suite 1301, Oakland, CA 94612-2710, USA. **To arrange to take a COC exam,** contact your EATA Language Coordinator. Check with the EATA office or the *EATA Newsletter* for the name of the appropriate Language Group Coordinator. **TSC Training Endorsement Workshop fee:** $395 payable in US dollars to T&C Council, c/o the T & C Council office, 436 14th Street, Suite 1301, Oakland, CA 94612-2710, USA. **COC Training Endorsement Workshop:** to take a COC TEW, contact the European TEW Coordinator, c/o the EATA office.

Congratulations to Successful Examinees



Successful TSTA and TTA Examinees in Sydney (from left): Yoen Ishiyama, Zoran Milivojevic, Anita Mountain, Margaret Bowater, and Carolyn Murray

Sydney, Australia—24 July 2001

TSTA and TTA
Zoran Milivojevic (clinical)—Serbia
Takanori Yoen Ishiyama (educational, TTA)—Japan
Margaret Bowater (clinical)—New Zealand
Anita Mountain (organizational)—England
Carolyn Murray (clinical)—New Zealand

Examiners
Charlotte Christoph-Lemke (chair)
Nancy Porter-Steele
Servaas van Beekum
Julie Hay (chair)
Gaylon Palmer
Roland Johnsson (chair)
Linda Gregory
Isabelle Crespelle (chair)
Gordon Law
Annika Bjork
Gordon Hewitt (chair)
Denton Roberts (chair)
Jean Illsley Clarke
Jan Grant (chair)
Elana Leigh (chair)
Geraldine Lakeland
Felipe Garcia
Sean Manning (chair)
Jan Coleman
Val Garfield

Supervisors
Valerie Redman
Anne Tucker
Suzanne Johnson
Curtis Fisher
Linda Hoeben
Sue Cornforth
Naoki Matsui
Judy Morris
Maurice Vaughan
Sue Paton

Translators
Tomoko Abe
Stan Sarac

Process Facilitators
Denton Roberts
Charlotte Daellenbach

Exam Supervisor
Charlotte Daellenbach

CTA
Susan Clarke (educational)—USA
Ya Ying Chen (clinical)—Taiwan
Mary S. Paananen (educational)—USA
Pierre Cloete (clinical)—South Africa
Yoshie Takeshima (educational)—Japan

Examiners
Rhae Hooper
Anne Turker
Suriyaprakash
Edie Beajon
Meredith Blackwell-Bell
Judy Morris
Valerie Redmond
Fran Parkin
Rhae Hooper
Naoki Matsui
Curtis Steele
Linda Hoeben

Chairs
P. K. Saru
Curt Fisher
Elaine Childs-Gowell
Bertram Christoph
Curtis Steele

Process Facilitator
Denton Roberts

Exam Supervisor
Geraldine Lakeland

Congratulations also the following individuals, who were endorsed after the Training Endorsement Workshop following the Sydney conference:
Rosemary Taylor (clinical)—Australia
Chris Davidson (organizational)—England
Mary Goodman (clinical)—Canada
Odette Reader (clinical)—Australia
Marion Wade (clinical)—New Zealand □



Successful CTA Examinees in Sydney (from left): Pierre Cloete, Mary Paananen, Ya Ying Chen, Susan Clarke, and Yoshie Takeshima

ONLY THROUGH TRANSFORMATION

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developed at least 500 years ago when Europeans designated "battlefields" as the acceptable arena for conflict. The "battlefield" in the 21st century, as we now see, could be the *entire globe!* This means at a fundamental level each citizen of each country will need to come to view war in a new way. We can start this process in the United States by acknowledging and rethinking the origins and current impacts of intragroup tensions in our own country.

As I witnessed the tragedies of the past week, my own response as a US citizen was complex. I was horrified and deeply saddened as I realized how many people were going to die and scared as I thought about family members who live and work in Manhattan and Washington, DC. Then I had a vivid memory from October 1969. After what was called a "riot" in my newly desegregated public high school in eastern North Carolina, National Guard troops were posted in each classroom for many months. This seems especially ludicrous to me now in light of the violence our nation and the world have witnessed this month as well as before and since 1969. Yet at the time, it was the realization of the "worse-case scenario" that had been anticipated for years by most whites in our community: If blacks and whites didn't stay in their respective places, with whites clearly on top, we would end up with racial violence. Blacks were feared as the aggressors, yet, ironically, as I recall, none of the National Guard–the only people who had guns–were black.

It was always clear to me that as an African American young adult who spoke out against injustice, I could be a target for these men and other government officials if I wasn't careful. I also knew that my brother, my friends, and I could be random targets because of the color of our skin, even if we didn't speak out. Such "racial profiling," as it is now called, was one of many "laws of the land" that we had to deal with growing up black in the 1950s in the US South. As the 1960s progressed and I became increasingly politically conscious, it also became clear that the US government defined political activism that involved attempts to change governmental policy toward groups as "a threat to national security," at least, and as "terrorism" at its extremes. Many of my friends and I lived with much pain and anger at being part of a country that professed "freedom of speech" in which we saw repeated injustice and *knew* that harm was inevitable if we "got out of line."

I talked this week with a divinity student colleague about the recent terrorists attacks; her response was very different. She grew up a middle-class white American in rural Maine, raised to believe that the United States was a free and open society and that anyone who worked hard could get ahead. As a teen she participated in many social events for soldiers who came through her town on their way to and from military missions to protect our soil from the "evils of communism." She did not even fully know that segregation was occurring in the South until the late 1960s and had no clue about its continuing impact. As she has become aware of injustices both within our society and across the world, it has been an often painful and wrenching process to reconcile her earlier views with what she sees around her.

As I listen to commentary and emerging US responses to the events in New York and Washington, my core feeling is deep sadness. The leadership of our country has learned little or nothing about an effective process of reconciliation from the civic struggles that we still have on our own shores. Further, we are not humbled enough by this current crisis to ask ourselves what alternative strategies might exist to create long-term solutions in this world conflict. Rather, our governmental discourse reflects the same ideology toward the "terrorists" internationally as has typically been our position against "dissidents" at home. If we continue on this path, doesn't World War III seem inevitable? Do our military leaders think that there *can* actually be a "winner" of the next full-scale conflict?

So what are alternatives? This is, of course, an extremely complex question. It is clear, though, that the solutions involve conflict negotiations and actions that are transformative to both parties. I offer the following thoughts for consideration.

The United States must accept that we are viewed as using our power inappropriately in much of the rest of the world. We will not like hearing a good deal of what will be said, *and* our defensiveness as a nation is *denial* of our impact. Much of US "foreign policy" is based on an ideology of "helping" those less fortunate than we. Yet if our "help" is experienced as oppressive, we have a responsibility to understand that. We must also come to grips with the fact that much of our policy is also designed to further our own interests, be they economic, security, or otherwise. My work over the past 25 years has been helping people and organizations change systemic power imbalances. Over and over it has become apparent that *it is those with the most economic, historical, psychological, and social power who have to see first the impact of how they use this power over others in order for transformative solutions to emerge.* Otherwise, those with less power have to organize and demand that their conditions be heard. This dynamic often leads such groups to try to get heard "by any means necessary." Those with more power perceive this response as aggression. They then retaliate and the cycle continues, sometimes with escalating conflicts and sometimes with more subversive responses.



We need to create a vision for world peace that recognizes the contribution of each group to a common civilization. This vision should encourage different lifestyles, languages, and convictions. There also needs to be a commitment to deal cooperatively with common concerns and to create the ongoing conditions for harmony and respect within a culturally pluralistic world. Such a vision could lead to effective decisions with respect to the elimination of massive war machines around the globe. It must begin with a *"peace curriculum"* that is developed by all nations and taught consistently and with enthusiasm to all.

We need to create the conditions for an intervention of the "spirit." The history of the ideological and military differences between the United States and the world are so wrought with tension that it will be difficult for either side to change course without the help of a power greater than any group of individuals. From a psychological perspective, we as humans need to know when to admit we are powerless in a situation in order for new possibilities to emerge. Whether or not we believe in "spirit" as individuals, we must accept that a power greater than our individual or collective logic can emerge, if we allow it. Call it positive "group think" even, if you will. There are many other worldviews from which to generate these conditions. All seem to share a spiritual core. We must take the time to understand them. Maori, Native Americans, Africans, Buddhists, and Aboriginals are among groups who have such rituals still available in their current cultural traditions. We must see ourselves as learners and trust that in the area of creating transformative interpersonal and group relations that allow effective problem solving, negotiating, and power sharing, our Western strategies of using power to get others to "do what is right" have the impact of being wrong.

This brings me full circle to the Sydney conference. The format was influenced by Maori and Aboriginal cultural approaches and spoke directly about the need for restorative justice and reparations as well as about a change in our collective human consciousness. Practical suggestions for how to reeducate ourselves were discussed, and examples of how such work is occurring in the field of criminal justice and in the rebuilding of South Africa were offered. These acknowledged that each of us can be part of the oppressor group, and that oppression is real and sets people up for differential access to resources and life chances.

As the conference unfolded, the ITAA board began to practice seeing how reconciliation that takes into account differential cultural roles can be healing for all. As US members of the association, it is our job to see how our behaviors can be oppressive in impact even as that has clearly not been our intention. We need to do this for ourselves and not wait for others to do it also. At the same time, European members are called upon to see how they are in such positions with respect to excluded groups within their own countries as well. As US citizens we need to own our differences and our unique position with respect to Europeans. I also suggest that our European colleagues explore their similarities to us as fellow "Westerners" with respect to much of the rest of the world. To reiterate, in any multicultural conflict resolution process, each party comes to learn something new. The process is not simple and it involves a willingness to explore different aspects of self (individual and collective) on both sides. And the process must be ongoing on a multitude of levels over a long period of time.

I believe the ITAA could play a crucial role in developing an effective psychology to add to the tools necessary to create a peaceful world. We have years of practice in developing a theory and practice that works cross culturally. I hope our association leadership will continue to act boldly to have us realize our potential to make a contribution. If not now, when? If not us, who? The prophetic words of Martin Luther King (written about the United States in the 1960s) bring me both comfort and fear about what happens if we don't listen this time: "I refuse to accept the cynical notion that nation after nation must spiral down a militaristic stairway into the hell of thermonuclear destruction. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality."

King did not live to keep inspiring us directly. On this Monday morning of Rosh Hashanah 2001, I sit on my deck in Boston and watch planes slowly come in and out of Logan airport, where just a week ago the two planes were hijacked that hit the World Trade Center towers. I ask myself, how will our collective life with respect to peace emerge as we "roll on"?

Peace.

Valerie Batts, PhD, is a long-time ITAA member and the executive director of VISIONS, *a nonprofit organization offering multicultural services to organizations, groups and individuals. She can be reached at 17 Spring Valley Rd., Arlington, MA 02476-8125, USA, or at office@visions.inc.com .*

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Keeping In Touch

REGION I—ASIA, AFRICA, THE PACIFIC

The 16th Annual Australasian Transactional Analysis Conference, hosted by the Western Pacific Association of Transactional Analysis, is planned for 13-17 November 2002 at the Rendezvous Observation City (www.rendezvoushotels.com) in Perth, Western Australia. The theme is "After Hello: Connection, Cooperation, Community." To submit a paper/workshop proposal, send a one-page abstract and contact details to Dr. David Malkin, PO Box 59, North Perth, W. Australia 6906. The deadline for proposals is 28 February 2002. Presentations should be either 1.5 or 3 hours in length.

Jong Sam Park, director of the Korea Institute of Transactional Analysis, reports that the institute held the 4th International Transactional Analysis Workshop in Seoul from 30 April to 4 May 2001. The meeting consisted of a two-day TA 101, a group psychotherapy workshop, and transactional analysis clinical supervision. Sean Manning, TSTA, and Geraldine Lakeland, TSTA, from New Zealand led the five days of workshops. Dr. Jong-Sam Park provided simultaneous translation. The TA 101 was attended by 140 people, while 70 people participated in the one-day transactional analysis group psychotherapy workshop. In addition, twelve CTA training candidates received clinical supervision during the gathering.



Participants (trainees) listen intently to simultaneous translation during the TA 101 at Senkong University in Seoul, Korea.

Michiko Fukazawa and Mary Goulding have been honored by being chosen as major presenters at the 2nd Pan-Pacific Brief Therapy Conference in Osaka, Japan, 2-4 November 2001. Fukazawa will discuss transactional analysis in brief psychotherapy. Goulding will speak on the use of transactional analysis-redecision therapy in brief treatment of adult clients who were victims of childhood sexual, physical, and/or emotional abuse. Other well-known US speakers are Michael Hoyt, author of several books on brief psychotherapy; Insoo Kim Berg, family therapist; and Michael Yapko, Ericksonian therapist. The 14 major presenters, representing various schools of brief psychotherapy, are from Japan, Korea, Canada, and the United States. In addition, 12 Japanese therapists will be part of a three-day symposium on brief therapy in Japan today. Except for the symposium, sessions will be translated into English, Japanese, and Korean.

REGION II—EUROPE

The Institute for Transactional Analysis (ITA) National Conference, "Living and Working in Groups," will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, from 4-7 April 2002. Alison Ayres writes, "I am coordinating the scientific program for this conference and want to reach out to presenters across Europe and America and beyond! The theme of this conference is: '*We are born into and live in groups, we develop in a family and with our peers, we learn to exist and relate within social groups at home and at work throughout our lives. In this conference we will explore the boundaries between self and the group. Who am I in the group? How do I establish my identity? How do I learn and grow within the group? How does transactional analysis inform us about the group process and experience?*' Our aim is to embrace all models of group process and behavior and link these to transactional analysis theory, and we invite presenters to use this theme in developing their workshops. My wish is that those who attend the meeting will have an experience of the transactional analysis community in all its richness and diversity and that we will welcome a truly international group at our national conference. All workshop presenters will receive a free copy of the conference papers (subject to the submission of a paper for their own workshop). For further information or to discuss a workshop presentation, contact me by telephone at 0131-667 8435 or email at alisonayres@ndirect.co.uk . If you have Internet access, visit our website at www.ita.org.uk for further information about the conference, to book the conference, and also to submit your workshop presentation not later than 30 November 2001. We urge you to use the workshop presentation form on the website; this reduces the workload for the committee. Or contact me at: ITA National Conference, c/o Alison Ayres, 21 Mayfield Road, Edinburgh, EH9 2NQ, Scotland."

Hélène Cadot served as translator for *Reprendre Contact avec l'Enfant: Analyse Transactionnelle et Psychotherapie Intégrative*, the French-language version of *Integrative Psychotherapy in Action* by Richard Erskine and Janet Moursund. The translation was published by InterEditions, Paris (ISBN: 2 10 0055240). Erskine and Moursund's book, originally published in 1988 by Sage Publications, has also been translated into German and Hungarian.

REGION III—NORTH AMERICA

Pam Levin is interested in receiving information, stories, and vignettes about the effects of using the developmental affirmations. She writes, "I especially need stories from a wide range of situations and locations, for example, using affirmations with clients, with yourself, in a classroom, organization, family, workshop, relationship, hospital setting, and so on. These stories will be used for a project I'm working on now. Please email me right away (perfectbones@pacific.net) with a paragraph or two. Include: (1) your name (which can be withheld from publication on request), (2) the location where the story took place (kitchen, classroom, workshop setting, etc., and also city, country), and (3) the approximate age of the person(s) in the story (e.g., two-year-old child, man in his eighties, etc). Thanks very much!"

ITAA Website

The ITAA website provides comprehensive information about every aspect of the ITAA. Recent additions to the site include links to upcoming international, national, and regional activities as well as membership criteria and an application form. In addition, the website now has a summary of the latest issue of *The Script*, and future plans include the Membership Directory (updated). If you would like your website to be linked from the ITAA site, please forward the site address (URL) to Elaine Frances at elaine@itaa-net.org . Please also forward to her any suggestions, feedback, and information for upcoming events. Please share the website address with nonmembers. The website is located at www.itaa-net.org .

Core Competencies Approved

After many years of hard work and dedication, the two sets of core competencies are complete and have been passed by both the PTSC (EATA) and the Training and Certification Council. This means that they will be adopted as the formal working documents. The next step is for these committees to create the new examination rating scale that will match the new core competencies. In the meantime, we will work with what we have and look forward to the next step. This is a significant step in training because it means that three out of four fields have a well-defined set of core competencies that help to differentiate the fields and give each one a sense of their own uniqueness and rigor.

World TA Conference 2002

Violence let's TAlk

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

World Transactional Analysis Conference 2002
Beatrix Gebouw (Conference Centre)
Utrecht, The Netherlands
Thursday – Sunday, 4—7 July

"Violence, Let's TAlk"

You are invited to submit your program ideas for consideration. Please provide all information requested below using this form or a copy as your information cover sheet. Presentation of new ideas will be given priority. **Deadline: 1 December 2001.**

Title of presentation _____

Name/Academic Credentials/TA certification (if not certified , please include the written endorsement of a certified transactional analyst) _____

Postal Address _____

_____

Telephone (home & work) _____

Fax _____ **Email** _____

Copresenter(s) (include name, credentials) _____

Objectives (what I hope to accomplish during my presentation) _____

Format: ❑ lecture ❑ discussion ❑ panel ❑ experiential ❑ other _____

Duration: ❑ 3 hours ❑ 1.5 hours ❑ 50 minutes

Field: ❑clinical ❑educational ❑organizational ❑counseling ❑ beyond TA fields

Support Groups: ❑ I am willing to facilitate 3 mornings groups (50 mins./ea)

Send proposal to NVTA Conference Office, PO Box 1197, 3800 BD Amersfoort, The Netherlands; phone: 31 33 472 17 64; fax: 31 33 475 91 29; email: nvta2002@planet.nl