the SCRIPT

INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONAL ANALYSIS ASSOCIATION

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Presidents' Meeting

Saturday 1 August 2015
12:45–1:45 pm

Darwin Room, The Menzies Hotel
Sydney, Australia

We cordially invites all leaders of national, regional, or specialist transactional analysis organizations to attend the Presidents' Meeting to be held during the 2015 ITAA/FTAA Conference in Sydney, Australia. If official leaders are not able to attend, their representatives are welcome. The theme for discussion will be

Organizational Partnership Agreements with the ITAA

We will be outlining the general ITAA policy for inter-organizational partnership and would like to open discussions with interested organizations on specific details and possibilities. All partnership agreements will be negotiated separately and will be designed so as not to conflict with existing interorganizational affiliations.

We are hoping for an interesting exchange of ideas as we together seek a way forward.

John Heath, ITAA President

C. Suriyaprakesh, ITAA President-Elect

Diane Salters, ITAA Vice President, Research and Innovation

Please let John Heath know if you or a representative will be able to attend by emailing him at johnheath105@gmail.com .

So What Happens Next? Experiences Following Publication of a TAJ Article

by Steff Oates



At around 9 years of age, I had an inspiring teacher, Miss Barclay, who set in motion how I might put my vivid imagination into words and play. She gave us the task of imagining telling the story of being a coin. She suggested exciting adventures we might have as we (the coin) passed from hand to hand.

When Robin and Laurie suggested I write this article, I sat with it for some time, and in doing so I personified my most recent article much like Miss Barclay had encouraged us to do with the coin. I realized I had done this with other pieces of writing too.

I talk regularly with other folks who write, and I find a common theme in our discussions: Their articles also have come to represent something very personal. Some have likened them to a baby, something waiting to be born, waiting to take a form that authors then put out into the world. Then they hold their breath to see what happens. It does seem to me that there is a process of impregnation (of ideas), then incubation while those ideas become embedded and toss themselves around, kicking harder sometimes than others and certainly inducing high and low mood and anxiety. Then comes the hard labor, the writing, and then, for some, the painful process of birth (to which I liken editing), and then after all that, being received by the community.

The beauty of that final birth process is that there is a ready team of hands-on editing folks in our community who are willing and eager to roll up their metaphorical sleeves and pitch in. I have yet to speak to a writer who doesn't eventually (though this can take a while) come to value the input from the peer review process, as well as how the *Transactional Analysis Journal* (*TAJ*) coeditors work with that, and finally Robin's skillful copyediting.

Then it's out there, on its own in the big wide international world of transactional analysis and beyond. By that time, I have usually received feedback from those most dear to me. Fortunately, I have a husband and friends who will offer a different point of view and question my assumptions in some ways. I then let go of what I've written into the wider world, not necessarily expecting any further exchange of ideas about it.

Some articles in the *TAJ* are presented as discussion papers, so the dialogue continues and is published. These are in the minority, although in my experience, the ongoing process in the life of a *TAJ* article has been enhanced now that the *Journal* is published and distributed by SAGE. We potentially have a much wider audience, and a quick check of your own name as author in the online *TAJ* archive will show other

Steff Oates, TSTA (P), is a psychotherapist, supervisor, and trainer from the north of England who also does training elsewhere in Europe. She is a member of the TAJ *editorial board and has served as a guest editor for several theme issues. She can be reached at lcfan@me.com .*

articles that have referenced your work. SAGE also monitors citations and is able to show the top 50 articles with work that has been cited and the 50 most read articles. It is fascinating to see what is being most read and referenced.

In my most recent article, I can see that I risked writing more from my own thoughts and ideas rather than mostly quoting others as I had done in earlier articles. I believe that because of the help of colleagues and the *TAJ* editing team, my writing has developed considerably since my first *TAJ* article in 2007, and I can now write more in my own voice. This has some benefits and also brings with it some vulnerability. In a recent discussion with a French colleague, I realized that she had a different way of representing the ideas with which I had been grappling. I thought, "Oh no! I gave my baby the wrong shade—bring it back so I can alter that! Oops, can't do that, too late, it's out there." I was delighted, however, to find that it has been selected for translation for the French TA journal, *Actualités*, a special honor, indeed, as many of my recent valuable peer discussions have been with French and Swiss colleagues.

I have also received a number of emails from colleagues and other readers across the globe letting me know how the article has reached them in one way or another. Some have been touched very personally as they resonated with the vignettes I used. Others are grappling with the limits of the therapy boundaries and whether we can/should help our clients beyond the frame.

Another colleague, who was not able to read a draft, was disturbed postpublication by something I had written in that article. My immediate feelings were of shame and insecurity. I spoke anxiously to myself: "Have I put something out there that folks will think is foolish, that will come back on me in years to come? Is my colleague correct that this is something that should have been picked up in the editorial process and questioned? Have I been irresponsible in putting my views into print?" Luckily, this colleague and I have the capacity to continue to debate about our differing views on authors' and editors' responsibilities with regard to what students may interpret and take as a standard way of working. Our exchanges are proving to offer a rich discussion about what information is put out there and how it may be used. This may well form the basis of a future article regarding our different passions and subjectivities and how we communicate these in a responsible way.

> *"I talk regularly with other folks who write, and I find a common theme in our discussions: Their articles also have come to represent something very personal. Some have likened them to a baby, something waiting to be born, waiting to take a form that authors then put out into the world."*

In a recent conversation with Giles Barrow, another *TAJ* Editorial Board member, we talked about this process of not knowing what happens after an article is published. Giles again likened it to producing a child. He said that often he is approached by someone with regard to an article he wrote long ago, and it hits him in a way that is similar to when someone greets him with "You're Rosie's dad, aren't you?" I too have had this experience: "Oh, you're Steff Oates, how is that woman you wrote about in the 'Finding Megan' article? How did the story end?" It seems that the people we choose to represent in our writing develop relationships with folks out there in the world, as do our articles.

In conclusion, I see writing for the *TAJ*, and writing in general, as a process of creation followed by offering it to the world and seeing what journey it takes. Thank you, Miss Barclay, for that image. I find it to be a deep learning process as I pay attention to what is noticed, what is not, what I may have misjudged, and how people make use of the ideas. I feel privileged to be part of this community, which is deeply committed to learning and conversing together, and I hope to continue to contribute as writer, peer reviewer, and sometimes guest editor for our valued journal.

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2015 DGTA Conference Focuses on the Future

by Christoph Seidenfus



Honoring newly certified transactional analysts who passed their CTA or TSTA exams in 2014-2015

On 1-3 May 2015 in Augsburg, a medium-size city in Bavaria, the 36th Annual Conference of the Deutschen Gesellschaft für Transaktionsanalyse (DGTA), the German TA Association, was held. To choose a venue with a history covering more than 2000 years for a conference with the theme "Thinking the Future—Creating the Change" might be considered a contradiction in terms. However, Augsburg has overcome many changes in its eventful history, so we as the team of conference organizers relied on that for inspiration.

As usual, the day before the official start of the conference was the occasion for meetings of most segments of the organization as well as networks and task forces. Although the main goal of these meetings is a formal one (mandatory meetings, elections, finance, etc.), a group representing the organizational applications of TA also offered something new. Thomas Steinert, a German Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst (O), reports that "a remarkable change with a new style and approach was implemented by the DGTA organizational members with a focus on (1) self-organizing teams to create and apply new approaches to projects and (2) an information-based developmental community. These groups only need acknowledgment by members—that is, they can work without approval procedures retarding their efforts—and reporting is done via social media and Internet platforms included in the DGTA website. There is no organized leadership structure, and everyone is committed to contributing to the whole. This experimental approach anticipates new ways of collaborating worldwide, allows for quick reaction times, is highly effective and transparent, and involves low-key buy-in without hurdles. It is about motivating oneself and doing something instead of being passive, a 'me' free of constraints, pressure, and necessities." This segment of the organization has a chairperson, but he or she will serve as a communication hub between those working on projects and members of the DGTA board. We will report on the results as time goes by.

As for the conference itself, about 600 people—many of them transactional analysts from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland—showed up for the two keynote speeches, more than 100 workshops, an exhibition of artists from among our members, and numerous opportunities for connecting, networking, and discussions.

Henning Schulze, chairperson of the DGTA board, opened the congress

Christoph Seidenfus is a Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst (O) who served as one of the organizers of the 2015 DGTA conference. He can be reached at office@ta-at-work.de .

with some words by Seneca from his treatment of ethics: "Calamitosus est animus futuri anxius" ["Unhappy are those who find themselves frightened about the future"]. In his speech, Henning linked consciousness about our own history and curiosity about what might come in the future and from this point of view deriving a catalogue of helpful mind frames and specific behavior patterns to actively manage the change.



DGTA President Prof. Dr. Henning Schulze delivering words of welcome

In his keynote, Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Huber, former Protestant Archbishop of Berlin and chairperson of the council of all German Protestants, focused on "Sustainability: Ethical Perspectives on Personal Behavior, Social Interaction, and Economic Action." He spoke about the necessity of maintaining an ethical orientation in times of increasing change to foster and maintain the quality of interpersonal contact and exchange. His main focus was on what human beings could and should do to sustain adequate reflection about what is right or wrong, thus building a bridge to one of our main TA concepts: mutual respect on the basis of OK-OK positions.

Andreas Steinle, a managing partner at Zukunftsinstitut, one of the most powerful future agencies in Germany, focused his keynote speech on future megatrends. He showed what influence megatrends such as changes in forms and means of mobility (the boom in biking, car sharing, slow traffic concepts, etc.), silver society (the elderly), the shift toward greater involvement of women in work/society/politics/etc., connectivity via new technologies in many areas of life, and new work (e.g., green jobs, service economy, flexicurity, energy grids, etc.) will gain. He also used an evocative metaphor in describing these trends as "an avalanche in slow motion."

Following the conference theme, "Thinking the Future—Creating the Change," we as organizers had applied some new rules. I should mention that the DGTA is structured in terms of the four fields of application—psychotherapy, counseling, education, and organizations, each in a subgroup with its own structure and chairperson. Until 2015, the process of organizing a conference was to invite all certified members to offer workshops, and the conference organizing committee chose those they thought would fit best. This year we decided to hand over the responsibility for these decisions to those with the most competence, that is, those from the fields of application. That caused an interesting reaction. On the one hand, colleagues in the four fields appreciated the chance to choose what mixture of workshops they wanted to represent them at the conference. On the other, they then had to do all the work of developing workshops, shaping the descriptions of them, and, at the end of the day, being responsible for the decision-making process about which workshop offers should be chosen.



Christoph Seidenfus

Because of restricted room capacities, we also tried out some new formats. In one of the largest rooms, four workshops took place simultaneously. After a 5-minute announcement at the beginning, participants went to one corner of the room for a 45-minute workshop, after which they could rotate to another workshop in another corner. All of these offerings dealt with leadership issues from different points of view, and more than 50 people joined this four-cornered workshop.

Overall, most of the conference workshops combined classical transactional analysis concepts and



Ulrich Dehner in his workshop on "Clearing Script Patterns With Introvision"



Sue Robinson (left) and Kimberly McClelland

USATAA Regional Conference

by Kimberly McClelland

The USA TA Association (USATAA) hosted a southeast/southwest gathering in historic Abilene, Texas, in March 2015. The theme was "Journey Down the Path to TA," and the event was informative, motivating, and fun. The gathering was coordinated by USATAA's southwest representative Sue Robinson, and the program was set up by Kimberly McClelland. Those of us who are old-timers enjoyed visiting with colleagues and reconnecting, and the new folks to transactional analysis were energized to learn more. We are planning on continuing the learning of TA by offering a Transactional Analysis Practitioner (TAP) certification program.

Chuck Holland began the day with a keynote address that provided a rich history of transactional analysis, including its importance in the therapeutic realm as well as in everyday life. Next we had three break-out sessions that offered participants a view of the power of transactional analysis. Catherine O'Brein, USTAA's General Coordinator, invited attendees to explore the Internet, especially what Google Hangout has to offer those who want to learn more about TA as well as a way to meet a new generation.

Katherine Sherrod, USATAA Southeast Coordinator, talked about transactional analysis and energy psychology, and Kimberly McClelland shared her work using TA and EMDR with children as a way to reduce their anxiety and fears.

We had a great lunch, during which an informative panel talked about how to start a private practice. The panelists shared about their own journeys, including how to get on insurance panels and market their practice, and described some of the obstacles they have overcome.

After lunch we returned to work, with Kimberly and Catherine talking about ethics for today's world. They shared information regarding the practice challenges presented by



Chuck Holland

new technologies. The magic shop, presented by Chuck, offered music and a journey down to the old West. The audience was invited into the magic shop, which engages the Child ego state in a safe and fun manner in a context in which real and lasting work occurs.

Kimberly coordinated the bookstore, which featured Vann Joines's books *TA Today* (with Ian Stewart) and *Personality Adaptations* and Steve Karpman's book *A Game Free Life*. After the talks, we enjoyed a lovely dinner at a famous steak house.

Kimberly B. McClelland, LCSW, is in private practice and seves as the program coordinator for USATAA. Contact her at shreveport_therapy@yahoo.com .

DGTA Conference

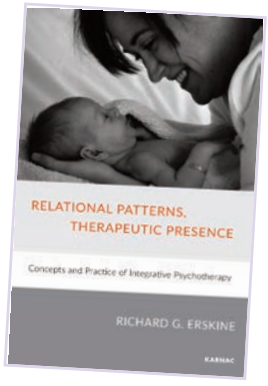
continued from page 5

their application according to the future issue. Flipping through the conference program, you could find, for example, "The Future Without Burnout," "Fostering Resilience in Organizations," "A Changing Society: New Challenges for Psychotherapy and Social Work," "How to Deal With Vision and Freedom of Action," "Learning—All the Time?" and "Come On! Be a Bit More Flexible!" In addition, numerous workshops focused on the meaning of supervision and coaching in the world of tomorrow.

There were other topics as well. Mark Widdowson from the United Kingdom reported on research in psychotherapy, German TSTA Ulrich Dehner shared his experiences in applying the introvision concept (a new technique in coaching), and German organizational TSTAs Rolf Balling and Christoph Seidenfus invited participants to work together on a "facelift" of DGTA strategy.

All in all, Augsburg offered a colorful collage of experiences, leaving us, the organizers, happy, proud, and exhausted!

Richard Erskine has a new book out: *Relational Patterns, Therapeutic Presence* (Karnac Books, 2015). The introduction and 21 chapters reflect the ongoing development and refinement of relational and integrative transactional analysis. Each chapter combines ideas from several theoretical frameworks, including TA, client-centered therapy, gestalt therapy, contemporary psychoanalysis, and psychoanalytic self psychology. The theory of life script serves as a unifying theme to elaborate the concepts of unconscious experience, attachment and relational patterns, the essentialness of contact in relationship, and the centrality of relational needs in the practice of psychotherapy. The book begins with eight philosophical assumptions essential to the practice of a relational and integrative transactional analysis, with a sensitivity to both normal developmental processes and the psychological compensations that occur when there has been prolonged neglect and psychological trauma. Several case presentations illustrate the use of phenomenological and historical inquiry, developmental and rhythmic attunement, and the importance of therapeutic presence.





Laurie Hawkes writes that after a few years' break, Dr. Philippe Wüthrich resumed organizing his interesting *festival des auteurs psy* (psych book authors' festival) in Nîmes, France. "This year I was fortunate to be invited again (my third time), and I am increasingly appreciative of this event, which brings together professionals (doctors, therapists, social workers, etc.), users of psychotherapy (normal people!), and authors who have recently written a book and will be "competent and friendly," as announced on the website. There are lectures, workshops, and informal meeting moments, including conversations between authors over meals that offer opportunities to discover other approaches and between authors and people in therapy or wondering about therapy. For instance, during a break, I had an interesting discussion with two people representing the Association Française des Troubles Obsessionnels Compulsifs, the French association for OCD. The association is always looking for good therapists who will welcome people with OCD. On another break, I talked with two musicians whom I had noticed playing their instruments. They had Parkinson's disease (I never would have guessed) and were there to let people know about the self-help Parkinson's groups. The 'FAP,' as it is called, is an unusual event centered on bibliotherapy and a generous undertaking, since Dr. Wüthrich and his team organize all of it for no profit other than keeping their association going—a huge amount of work

TAJ Theme Issues

"The Practitioner's Vulnerability: Professionalism and Protection"
Guest Editors: Steff Oates and Ann Heathcote
Deadline: 1 January 2016

"The Sense and Nonsense of Research in the Human Sciences"
Coeditors: Bill Cornell and Mark Widdowson
Deadline: 1 July 2016

Please make sure to follow the submission requirements posted here. Email manuscripts to *TAJ* Managing Editor Robin Fryer, MSW, at robinfryer@aol.com



Participants of the exam preparation workshop with Sari van Poelje and Gloria Noriega at Intact Institute in Budapest, Hungary, 10-12 April 2015

for the good of patients and professionals alike!" (For more information, you can visit their website at http://festivaldesauteurspsy.com or their Facebook page.)

Fran Parkin writes to let people know about the TA Residential Training Workshop to be held 7-13 November 2015 at Silverstream Retreat in the Hutt Valley, New Zealand. The workshop is a multi-level training in transactional analysis that has been offered biannually over the last 20 years. As part of this tradition, tuition is provided voluntarily by the trainers to keep the costs as low as possible. This year the six-night event offers training for trainees and practitioners at all levels, including CTAs and PTSTAs, in a four-track structure. The first track will be for those enrolled in a CTA training course, the second will focus on exam preparation for both written and oral CTA exams, the third will be open to CTAs or TA practitioners who have completed five or more years of training, and the fourth will provide training for PTSTAs. Each day, time will be spent in a large process group to build community through heightened awareness and dialogue, to think together, and for each individual to gain a deeper knowing of self and others. The training is aimed primarily at psychotherapists, but trainees from all four fields are welcome. There will be opportunities for practice CTA and TSTA exams and space for teaching presentations from PTSTAs/TSTAs with panel discussions. For accommodations/fees, contact Janet Redmond at janetredmond@gmail.com; for training tracks/program, contact Jo Stuthridge at jstuthridge@xtra.co.nz; for transport/venue contact Fran Parkin at fran.parkin@clear.net.nz .

Welcome to New Members

MAY 2015

Suresh Babu, India
Bruno de Raemy, Switzerland
Florian Filipp, Germany
Helena Hošpel, Slovenia
Olukemi Davo Erinfolami, Nigeria
Ikuko Onoe, Japan
Neha Raju, India
Jill Rutherford, UK
Kate Sawallisch, UK
Christine Joan Shigeeda, New Zealand
Richard Spearnock, USA
Linda Weijers, Netherlands
Remo Dello Ioio, Italy
Karl Ruloff, Switzerland

Anne Clotilde Ziégler, CTA-P, writes that on 10 June 2015, "I spent the evening at the Café des Dames in Paris, France, to present my recent book, *Pervers narcissiques, bas les masques!* [Perverse Narcissists, Down With Your Masks!] thanks to an association that organizes events where authors discuss their books. The atmosphere was warm and relaxed, as befits a little Parisian café in a working-class neighborhood. The small basement room allowed for only 30 participants, which facilitated discussions and questions. My subject is not a fun one. What we call *perverse narcissists* in France are very destructive people for whom others are only instruments or things created for their sole use and pleasure and meant to feed the endless needs



of their unhealthy narcissism. The relationship they develop with their prey is what we call *emprise*, a sort of taking over of the other's mind. To maintain their power over their love partner or colleague or even their children, they use manipulation to subtly maintain a terribly effective state of stress that keeps the person constantly off balance. They alternate seduction and sadistic attacks, which are often denied or discounted by the environment. The book aims to help victims identify such dynamics and protect themselves. The evening was a great opportunity to talk about transactional analysis and how it can help people understand their own experience, something I have enjoyed doing for 30 years in the TA world!" Anne is a psychotherapist in private practice and a somato-psychopédagogue (a method for contacting and understanding one's own or a client's body).



Mumbai TA 101 participants (from right, front row): Rajbir Saini, Stella Sujan Bhattacharya, Dr. Tamanna Chellani, Pallavi Shah, and Anindya Shee; (back row): Jasmine Chandok, Prachi Bawari, C. Suriyaprakash, Bala Aiyaswamy, Jaseem Umar M, Dr. Rahul Malushte, and Arvind Subramanian

TA 101 in India's Maximum City, Mumbai! C. Suriyaprakash writes that "transactional analysis training for professional development in India has been mainly concentrated in the southern peninsula ever since the 1970s when Fr. George Kandathil opened the Institute for Counselling and Transactional Analysis (ICTA) in Cochin, Kerala. His first-generation trainees fanned out to the neighboring states of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, and now transactional analysis training is flourishing in cities such as Coimbatore, Chennai, and Bangalore. Most of it is in the fields of psychotherapy and counseling. Relations Institute of Development, which I cofounded, launched the TA for OD program in Bangalore 6 years ago and in Coimbatore 3 years ago. It has been my dream and mission

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to bring transactional analysis training in the organizational field to the central and northern parts of India. Thus we launched the TA for OD program 2 years ago in Mumbai and Delhi, the former of which is considered the business and financial capital of India. Both groups of trainees have developed a keen interest in and commitment to the professional development of transactional analysis in these regions, and some of them have appeared for the Diploma given by the South Asian Association of Transactional Analysts (SAATA). The group in Mumbai is entering its third year in 2015, and on their initiative I ran a TA 101 there on 13-14 June. It was a cozy group of committed and keenly interested participants from varied walks of life: corporate managers, doctors, freelance trainers, consultants, and an engineering student. The diverse backgrounds of the participants meant that varied perspectives on work and family life were brought to the table so that they could discuss and explore their experiences and learn from each other. It was a rich learning experience for me to share that special space with them as a fellow traveler on their journey of self-discovery. Many of them have evinced interest in continuing their TA journey by enrolling for the second TA for OD program in Mumbai later this year. I look forward to the way this ripple will gain momentum as a wave in the years to come!"

The 18th USATAA Winter Gathering will be held 23-30 January 2016 at Frenchman's Cove, Port Antonio, Jamaica. The Gathering is a conference that combines retreat, learning, natural beauty, and warm friendships in a self-organizing community. Participants meet each day for a week to present their ideas, research, and techniques; explore their next steps in personal development; and relax in the charm and warmth of Frenchman's Cove, a classic Jamaica property dotted with villas by the ocean. Prior knowledge of transactional analysis is not required. For details, contact Lucy Freedman at jamaica@usataa.org .

TA Conferences Worldwide

9-11 July 2015:
Rome, Italy.
EATA Conference: First TA Research and Theory Development Conference.
Contact: www.eatanews.org

29 July–1 August 2015:
Sydney, Australia.
ITAA/FTAA Conference. Contact: www.2015taconference.org

30 September–3 October 2015:
Lima, Peru.
XXXII Latin American Congress of Transactional Analysis (CONGLAT 2015). Contact: www.conglatperu2015.com or conglat2015@gmail.com

3-4 October 2015:
La Rochelle, France.
National IFAT Conference. Contact: www.ifat.net

7-9 July 2016:
Geneva, Switzerland.
EATA 40th Anniversary Congress.
Contact: www.eatanews.org

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EXAM CALENDAR

Exam Date	Exam	Cert. Body	Location	Application Deadline
7-8 Jul 2015	CTA	COC	Rome, Italy	*
28-29 Jul 2015	CTA	IBOC	Sydney, Australia	28 Apr 2015
6-7 Nov 2015	CTA	COC	Venue Louvain La Neuve, Belgium	*
13-14 Nov 2015	CTA	COC	Roesrath, Germany	*
7-8 Jul 2015	TSTA	COC	Rome, Italy	7 Jan 2015
28-29 Jul 2015	TSTA	IBOC	Sydney, Australia	28 Jan 2015
6-7 Nov 2015	TSTA	COC	Venue Louvain La Neuve, Belgium	6 May 2015
13-14 Nov 2015	TSTA	COC	Roesrath, Germany	13 May 2015
13-15 Jul 2015	TEW	COC	Rome, Italy	*
2-4 Aug 2015	TEW	IBOC	Sydney, Australia	2 Apr 2015
5-7 Dec 2015	TEW	COC	TBA	*
9-11 Dec 2015	TEW	COC	TBA	*
19-21 Mar 2016	TEW	COC	TBA	*
11-13 Jul 2016	TEW	COC	Geneva, Switzerland	*
2-4 Dec 2016	TEW	COC	TBA	*

* For CTA and TEW deadlines see the EATA Handbook or contact the EATA Supervising Examiner.

For more information about IBOC exams, see www.itaaworld.org .
For further information on COC exams, see www.eatanews.org/examinations/ .

Come together
the power of group dynamics

2015 Sydney ITAA/FTAA Conference

29 July - 1 August | The Menzies Hotel | www.2015taconference.org

Key Information

Conference website: www.2015taconference.org

Conference Facebook page (for frequent updates on conference preparation): www.facebook.com/pages/ITAA-Conference-2015-Sydney/298228757035196

Register today at www.2015taconference.org/the-conference/registration

Key Dates

28-29 July: TA 101, Exams

29 July-1 August: ITAA Conference (starts the evening of 29 July **with a cocktail reception)**

2 August: Postconference Workshops

2-4 August: TEW

Come Together—Beyond the Conference

The conference theme, "Come Together: The Power of Group Dynamics," represents so much of what will make this a conference to remember—most of all, the fact that it requires our whole community to bring it to life.

Whether you can attend or not, how the key conference themes are relayed back to the wider TA community and how we seek to understand what this exchange of minds represents for the evolution of transactional analysis will be central in ensuring that this conference becomes a key moment in our collective life, acknowledged for the way it melds the roots of transactional analysis with contemporary thinking and practice.

It's not too late to secure your spot at the conference so you can directly participate in the many groups in which we will explore, challenge, and learn from and with each other. And then you can become a voice for taking the outcomes of the conference back into your own respective networks.

Focus on the Friday Symposia

At this year's conference, the second day will be split into four miniconferences, each focusing on one of the four fields of transactional analysis. This is an opportunity to take a deep dive into these fields with thought leaders who will work together to ensure you are challenged and engaged and that you walk away with new insights with which to further your application of transactional analysis.

Psychotherapy Symposium

This is a space for the psychotherapy community to come together and reflect on the value of groups in the context of this profession. We have emerged out of a tradition that was group focused and moved toward more individual treatment. Does this mirror a larger psychotherapy community that has perhaps become less community minded and more individualistic? How does

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this affect who we are as psychotherapists? These and many other questions will be addressed by chair Elana Leigh along with presenters Bill Cornell, Farhad Dahal, Andrew Samuels, Keith Tudor, and Jo Stuthridge.

Counseling Symposium

This symposium will be structured flexibly, with room for discussion, exploration, and play. We are a multicultural group, which will bring richness and diversity to the event. The day will start with a panel discussion, after which each presenter will offer a segment to be followed, at day's end, with a plenary session.

- **Jan Grant** (symposium chair) will present a keynote address on counseling in today's social context.
- **Anna Chandy** will run a miniworkshop on cultural awareness and how cultural influences play out in the counseling context.
- **Rosemary Napper** will explore the impact of the group and its culture on the individual.
- **Margaret Bowater** will describe how transactional analysis fits well with action methods in counseling, dreamwork, coaching, and educational groups doing role work because it has clear goals and clear contracts around time, cost, and flexibility.

Education Symposium

Participants will assess and appraise the tools and options offered and worked with throughout the day in order to enhance their own practice as educators; adopt effective interventions; determine the learning of their audience, whether they are individuals or part of a larger system or group; and understand their own communication patterns. They will leave equipped with a model of positive communication and healthy interpersonal skills. This symposium will be interactive, so participants will have many opportunities to share and explore education across all groups in our communities and societies. Panel members will expand on their particular areas of work within the symposium.

- **Karen Pratt** will relate to the psychological level of contracting and its significance with organizational relationship systems and training.
- **Susannah Temple** will describe how the functional fluency model can be used within the educational arena.
- **Rhae Hooper** (symposium chair) will deliver an experience on real group dynamics. She will describe bringing Berne into the training room or classroom, including the impact of internal and external forces, the significance of the group leader, and Tuckman's group stages and how they relate to transactional analysis theory.

Organizational Symposium

You are invited to be part of this exciting day, which promises to provide learning layers as individuals, professionals, and team members through the lenses of roles, work dynamics, change, leadership perspectives, and organizational systems. Groups at work will be the focus of this experiential day, which will offer a combination of a panel discussion, mircolearning labs, reflections of the group at work, and application of concepts into real work situations. Chair Mandy Lacy and presenters Thomas Steinert, Servaas van Beekum, Sari van Poelje, and C. Suriyaprakash will consider microlearning topics such as:

- The three levels of leadership
- Failure and loss—tapping into the physis in organizations
- Develop the self-steering organization of the future
- Technology change and adoption: what goes on?

Find out more about the day and the facilitators and start engaging with us now on https://organisationalsymposia.wordpress.com