THE Script

VOL. 55 NO. 6 | JUNE 2025

IN THIS ISSUE

2025 ITAA Research Award 1

In Memoriam: John Dusay 3

More on Rebranding 6

BOD Strategy 7

2025 AGM 7

On Ethics 8

Modernizing Exams 10

April TEW 12

IBOC News 13

2025 WTAC 14

Roland Johnsson Honored With 2025 ITAA Research Award



It is with great pleasure **we acknowledge Roland Johnsson for his well-deserved 2025 ITAA Research Award for his longstanding contribution to research in transactional analysis**, including the dissemination of TA within the academic and scientific communities and its highly valuable impact on TA psychotherapy practice.

The specific work cited for his award is his doctoral dissertation for the psychology department of Lund University in Sweden. It is based on three empirical studies published in 2011 as *Transactional Analysis Psychotherapy: Three Methods Describing a Transactional Analysis Group Therapy* (https://lup.lub.lu.se/search/publication/2175324). It has ranked as a top dissertation on Lund University Publications and secured the second position across all faculties at the university and first within the Faculty of Social Sciences. This high level of interest has continued for the past 10 years, and with over 36,000 downloads, Johnsson now holds the third spot university wide as well as remaining number one in the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Psychology Department. Johnsson's dissertation is also available on ResearchGate, where it has reached almost 13,000 downloads, making it one of the most widely read research articles by TA researchers published on the platform.

ITAA Award Ceremonies in Montpellier

This year the **ITAA award ceremonies will take place on Friday 8 August at 7 pm at the conference center.** These will include the 2025 Eric Berne Memorial Award to Keith Tudor, the 2025 ITAA Research Award to Roland Johnsson, the 2025 Service Awards to Michelle Thomé and John Oates, and the plaque for the 2024 Eric Berne Memorial Award to Zefiro Mellacqua. **We hope you will join us in honoring and celebrating these individuals** for their outstanding contributions to the ITAA and the transactional analysis community worldwide.

itaa
INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONAL ANALYSIS ASSOCIATION

Johnsson's dissertation significantly contributes to transactional analysis's impact on practice through an in-depth analysis of key TA practices: client assessment, therapeutic methods, and the therapeutic alliance. His research establishes a foundation for understanding effective, replicable TA techniques and their real-world applications. **Among the key contributions of his study are the following:**

- Study I evaluates the reliability and validity of the Script Questionnaire, a diagnostic tool central to TA.
- Study II identifies specific therapeutic techniques and interventions, confirming their reliability and distinguishing TA-typical methods.
- Study III examines the affective dimension of the therapeutic alliance, highlighting its role in fostering emotional connection and therapy progress.

These studies enhance TA's credibility by emphasizing reliability, standardization, and evidence-based practice. The integration of qualitative (discourse analysis) and quantitative (statistical reliability) methods ensures a comprehensive perspective, mirroring the balance therapists maintain between structured tools and client-centered approaches.

Johnsson's year-long, videotaped TA group therapy study provides a practical model for group settings, offering insights into group dynamics, contracts, and interaction patterns. The research aligns theory with practice by identifying TA's "active ingredients," such as feeling contact and mutual negotiation, which refine therapeutic techniques and improve client outcomes.

Overall, Johnsson's dissertation bridges theory and application, offering evidence-based strategies that enhance TA's impact on client emotional awareness, cognitive shifts, and behavioral change. His work advances TA as a credible, replicable therapeutic approach and a robust tool for promoting personal growth and autonomy. It exemplifies the profound integration of rigorous academic research and practical application in transactional analysis. His research has gained exceptional academic visibility and dissemination, establishing itself as a cornerstone in the TA scientific community. His studies have directly influenced TA practices by validating diagnostic tools, refining therapeutic methods, and exploring the relational dynamics central to therapy outcomes. His emphasis on both qualitative and quantitative approaches ensures that practitioners can rely on his work to guide evidence-based applications in real-world therapy.

With a career spanning over 5 decades, Johnsson has contributed to TA as a psychologist, psychotherapist, supervisor, educator, and leader. His involvement in training programs, international conferences, and academic collaborations has promoted TA's global reach. Notably, his role in EATA and ITAA initiatives and his Visiting Professorship in China have furthered the alignment of TA practice with academic research. His achievements underscore his role in bridging the gap between TA research and practice. His ongoing dedication to mentoring, peer reviewing, and guiding new researchers ensures a lasting impact on the field. Johnsson's exceptional contributions to the advancement, dissemination, and application of transactional analysis psychotherapy make him a deserving recipient of the ITAA Research Award. His work not only honors the field's scientific rigor but also ensures its continued relevance and accessibility to practitioners and clients worldwide.

Roland Johnsson will receive his award plaque during the Montpellier World TA Conference this August. Congratulations can be sent to him directly at roland@livsterapi.se .

Conferences & Events

8–10 August 2025
World TA Conference
Montpellier, France

20-21 September 2025
SAATA Conference
Chennai, India

31 January–8 February 2026
NATAA Gathering
Frenchman's Cove,
Port Antonio, Jamaica
programs@nataa.net

July 20–26 2026
NATAA Gathering
Villa Maria Del Mar,
Santa Cruz, California, USA
programs@nataa.net

the SCRIPT

Newsletter of the International Transactional Analysis Association
ITAA, 2700 E. Foothill Blvd., Suite 209, Pasadena, CA 91107 USA
email: info@itaaworld.com
website: www.itaaworld.com
Editor: Laurie Hawkes
Managing Editor: Robin Fryer
Desktop Publishing: lockwood design

Send all copy to: robinfryer@aol.com

Deadlines—15th of the month prior to the month of publication (e.g., 15 June for the July issue)

Publication of articles and advertising in *The Script* does not imply endorsement by the newsletter, the editors, or the ITAA.

The Script (ISSN 0164-7393) is published monthly by the International Transactional Analysis Association. For information on membership, visit www.itaaworld.com or contact the ITAA at the above address.

© 2025 International Transactional Analysis Association, Inc.

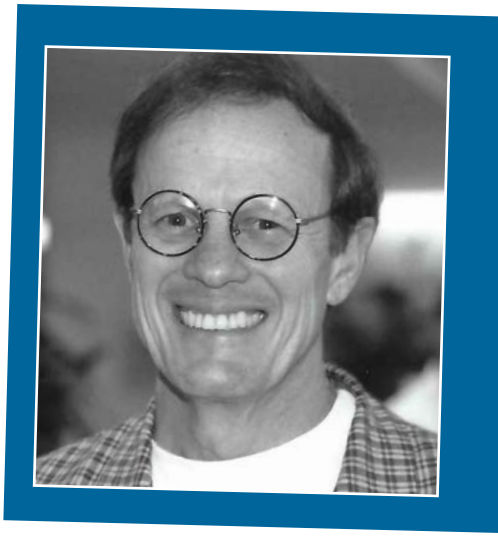
John (Jack) Dusay

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of John Dusay, MD, at the age of 89 on 27 April 2025 at his home in San Francisco. Jack was a close colleague of Eric Berne in the early days of TA, a member of the San Francisco Social Psychiatry Seminars, and eventually the fourth president of the ITAA from 1974–1975. His concept of the egogram won him the third Eric Berne Memorial Scientific Award in 1973, and it went on to become part of the foundational TA canon. Jack had a long career as a psychiatrist in San Francisco and also traveled around the world teaching and training in TA. We send our condolences to his family, especially his wife, Linda Holbrook, and offer here a few remembrances about Jack.

Steve Karpman: I first met Jack when I was teaching group therapy to psychiatric residents at UCSF. He introduced me to Eric Berne and the 202 Seminar, which changed my life forever for the better, with opportunities for writing theory, wonderful new friendships, and a life of traveling the globe doing workshops, just as he did. Together as best friends we did the 1960s dating scene, including Esalen Hot Springs and elsewhere, and developed real estate business interests. We once planned to open a coffee shop in the Haight-Ashbury district of San Francisco for the hippies. We helped build the foundation of the ITAA committee structure leading up to Jack's election as president in 1974, and he appointed me to chair both the publications and the conference committees. We stayed in touch all these years, talking just last year of personal issues. I will miss his lifelong friendship and offer my deepest condolences to his wife and family.

Chris Boyd: My associations with Jack Dusay were mainly during my years as president of the Eric Berne Seminar. He always gave great presentations that I would describe with his egogram as high in both Adult and Free Child, portraying his unique combination of TA and gestalt. He was also a skilled athlete. I saw him on the slopes at Squaw Valley where he had a second home. He played on his college golf team and later in life played tennis as well. I believe he was one of a kind and a great asset to TA. A life well lived!

Adrienne Lee: I was so sad and sorry to hear about Jack. I remember him coming to my house in Nottingham many years ago. What a lovely gentleman he was. I teach his egogram



theory six times a year or more on my 101s. New generations of transactional analysts are flourishing, but it is important to give tribute to those who are our ancestors.

Richard Erskine: Jack Dusay was an amazing man, always dashing and articulate. When I joined the ITAA in 1972 he welcomed me and encouraged my professional development through our cooperating in doing workshops together. During Jack's presidency, the ITAA grew in both theory development and membership. I have fond memories of our driving around San Francisco in his sports car, attending conferences in several countries, and enjoying fine wine together. I have a deep appre-



Eric Berne in Vienna with colleagues at the 1968 International Congress of Group Psychotherapy (from left): Jack Dusay, Claude Steiner, Eric, and Pam Blum

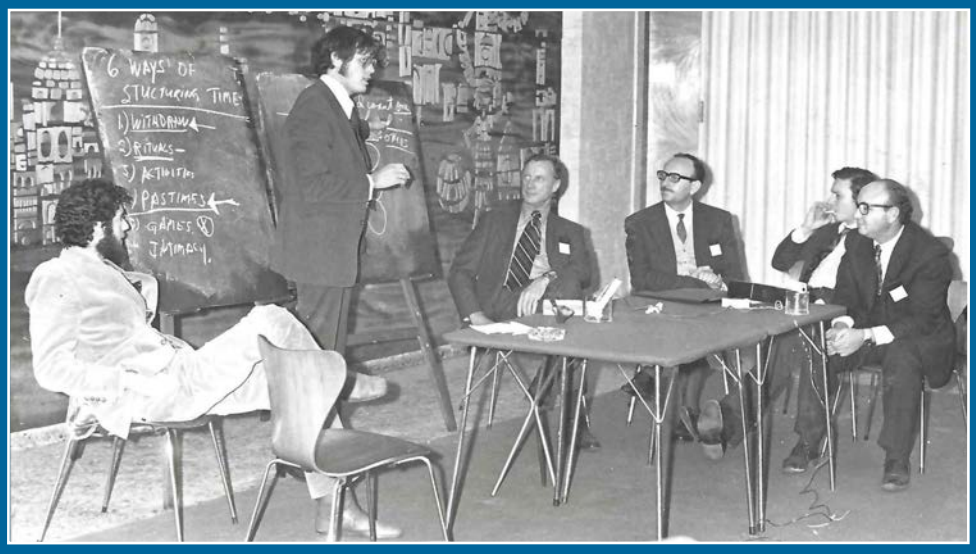
ciation for what he has given me and what he contributed to the dissemination of transactional analysis and the International Transactional Analysis Association.

Felipe Garcia: I was sad to hear of Jack's death. He was a wonderful man, teacher, and friend. I met him when I attended my first ITAA conference in the early 1970s when he was president. He was like a rock star on the stage holding court. His theory of the egogram was very useful in relationship therapy. He was a great host, often having parties for conference attendees at his Victorian home in San Francisco. He was warm and welcoming. I remember many happy times with him at conferences around the world. I will miss him.

Taibi Kahler: Jack was an early and lasting TA icon and hero to me. He was the embodiment of the essence of longevity for TA associations: OK-OK behavior.

Izumi Kadomoto: I remember the mid-summer in 2013. As a stroke of appreciation for my 1.5 years of volunteer work on the conference committee, Jack gave me a "souvenir": a beautiful slender glass. When I saw his gentle, warm smile, a new image of Jack as colleague and elder, alongside the great Dr. Dusay of the great TA, emerged in my mind. It was the moment I truly felt like I was a part of the TA community. In Japan, it is believed that when someone passes away, they journey to another world. I hope that Jack, in that world, is welcomed by the smiles of those who came before him.

Cheryl Leong: I remember my preteen years, sitting in awe during one of Dr. Dusay's workshops in Singapore in the early 1990s. I recall the excitement of filling out his questionnaire and sketching my first egogram, but what left the deepest impression was his distinctive voice as he introduced the "constancy hypothesis." He explained, with clarity and conviction, that when the energy in one ego state increases, another must decrease to compensate—a principle that would quietly but profoundly shape the course of my life. I could not have foreseen the impact of his words, but the awareness that I could intentionally cultivate the ego states I wished to strengthen became a guiding force. I am filled with immense gratitude for the enduring influence of Dr. Dusay's teachings, both personally and professionally.



Jack Dusay teaching at the TA Seminar in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1971 (from left: Steven Karpman, Jack, then ITAA President Ken Everts, Roberto Kertesz, unknown, Cecilio Kernan



Jack Dusay and his wife Linda (center) with Japanese group visiting Mt. Fuji in 2017

Yumiko Kawai, former chairperson of the Japan TA Association: When we invited Dr. Dusay as the keynote speaker for the annual conference of the Japan Transactional Analysis Association in October 2017, he kindly attended together with his wife. The late Chie Shigeta, TSTA(P), served as the interpreter, and the event was lively and engaging. The following day, a group of volunteers accompanied Dr. and Mrs. Dusay on a memorable trip to Mt. Fuji, filled with Free Child energy. It was a truly unforgettable three days.

Ichiro Hirose, Chairperson, Japan Transactional Analysis Association: We were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Dusay. We extend our deepest condolences and express our heartfelt sympathy. May he rest in peace. Dr. Dusay's contributions to transactional analysis theory are irreplaceable. In particular, we wish to continue honoring his ideas on the egogram with the utmost respect.

Keiko Hoshino, ITAA Asia-Pacific Regional Representative: In Japan, the egogram continues to hold a significant place in research on TA. Even counselors, therapists, and corporate professionals who have not formally studied TA are often familiar with the egogram. The unique assessment method known as the Tokyo University Egogram questionnaire (TEG), developed with Dr. Dusay, is widely used by mental health professionals. I still vividly remember Dr. and Mrs. Dusay traveling around Japan affectionately together, and how he demonstrated couples therapy at a conference.

Tomoko Abe: When Jack Dusay visited Japan for a TA seminar hosted by the Japan TA Association, we experienced heartfelt and inspiring egogram learning from Jack and his wife Linda. We also shared a Mt. Fuji tour together. His warmth and passion touched us deeply.

Rokki Sato: I offer my condolences to Dr. Dusay, whom I would like to call "Mr. Egogram." He was the creator of the egogram, a concept developed to make the personality theory of transactional analysis (TA), which contributes to building interpersonal relationships, accessible and usable for many people. The egogram has deeply and widely influenced the fields of business training, human resource development, counseling, and consulting.

Condolences may be sent to Jack's wife, Linda Dusay, at linda.holbrook@gmail.com .

TAJ Theme Issues

"Research in the Social Sciences: Contexts, Challenges, and Worldviews"
Coeditors: Helen Rowland and Andy Williams
Deadline: 1 August 2025

"Radical Psychiatry: Revisiting and Revitalizing TA's Critical Tradition for Contemporary Challenges"
Coeditors: Keith Tudor and Karen Minikin
Deadline: 1 February 2026

Please follow the submission requirements posted here.

Submit manuscripts to *TAJ* Managing Editor Robin Fryer at robinfryer@aol.com

More About Rebranding

Dear Editor:

I was intrigued by the article in the May *Script* by Srinath Nadathur but somewhat surprised by the simplicity of the offered solution. I can relate to the author's experience of others' oblivion to transactional analysis (TA), particularly among the lay community, while sometimes sensing even a derogatory stance toward TA within the broader professional community. However, I am reserved about the suggestion that the name "transactional analysis" is the reason for its lack of wider recognition. Let me give a few reasons for this, limiting myself predominantly to the field of psychotherapy.

As I have elaborated (Zivkovic, 2023), it is hard not to see the parallel between the lack of recognition of TA within the wider psychotherapeutic community, on the one hand, and Berne's own lack of recognition by the psychoanalytic community, on the other. This parallel extends: We can acknowledge that the development of TA was Berne's response to the lack of recognition that he felt, resulting in the formation of a TA community that began seeking recognition within the wider community. For instance, the San Francisco Social Psychiatry Seminars seem to have also served the purpose of "preaching to the choir" about how wonderful and special TA is. Meanwhile, the constant yearning for external recognition—let us not forget that Berne remained devoted to psychoanalysis throughout his life—seemed to simmer beneath the surface of this self-appraisal. The result is the TA collective identity split between self-absorption and the need for external approval, while often denying this need.

Ales Zivkovic can be reached at ales@zivkovic.uk .

I wonder if part of the reason for TA's lack of recognition may lie in how we, as the TA community, engage with societal issues. Although there is much discussion about political, social, and cultural topics, a glance through *Transactional Analysis Journal* (*TAJ*) articles suggests they are written by the TA community for the TA community. Conversely, I rarely see TA used as a tool for increasing awareness and helping solve some of the challenging questions of the present time by addressing external audiences—beyond our community.

Additionally, as someone actively involved in policymaking, I see a significant gap between TA practice and also the size of the TA community and the amount of research conducted. As many of our professionals work predominantly in private practice, the shift from the long-standing empirically supported treatment (EST) paradigm governing evidence-based treatments (EBTs) to practice-based evidence (PBE) increases our potential as a community to contribute to the evidence base of TA.

Nevertheless, although the gap between research and practice has historically been wide throughout psychotherapy, and TA is no exception, it is worth mentioning the indirect contribution TA training (and training standards) makes to this gap and subsequently to the lack of TA's recognition. Although it may seem years ago, McHugh and Barlow (2010) concluded that the lack of dissemination and implementation of evidence-based treatment in training programs adversely affect clinicians' future competence. This issue persists to this day and may require reflection within TA as well. How do our training, accreditation, and certification standards incorporate the crucial need for effective and persistent dissemination of an evidence base to our trainees? How is this crucial need reflected in examination and certification standards for CTA qualification? How much knowledge of training in evidence-based practices—those related to TA but also beyond—do we expect our TSTA candidates to have?

The suggestion of a name change intuitively reminds me of Eric Berne's own name change, leading me to a question of whether he achieved what he pursued. I don't know about Berne, but I am somewhat unconvinced that this is the way forward for TA. Gaining traction as a credible evidence-based science may be a safer bet.

References

McHugh, R. K., & Barlow, D. H. (2010). The dissemination and implementation of evidence-based psychological treatments: A review of current efforts. *American Psychologist*, 65(2), 73–84.

Zivkovic, A. (2023). OKness revised: Analysis and evolution of Berne's concept of OKness, the basic positions, and the related reenactments of Berne's internal world in the transactional analysis community. *Transactional Analysis Journal*, 53(3), 286–300.

ITAA Strategic Course – Outlook and Invitation to Dialogue

As an international professional association for transactional analysis, we are facing important decisions. **To ensure our relevance, strengthen our global impact, and further expand the benefits for our members, the board has formulated four strategic goals that will guide our work in the coming years:**

1. **Strengthen membership growth and engagement.** We want to build a vibrant, diverse community in which members worldwide are actively involved and feel supported in their professional development.
2. **Establish the ITAA as the global standard for TA certification.** Our goal is to offer high-quality, internationally recognized, inclusive learning and certification formats across all levels of training.
3. **Increase global visibility and relevance through partnerships and brand building.** Through targeted collaborations, research communication, and clear positioning, we aim to increase the reach and impact of transactional analysis internationally.
4. **Design efficient and inclusive organizational structures.** We are committed to transparent governance, modern systems, and an inclusive culture to ensure our ability to act and our sustainability.

These goals are the starting point for a dialogue with you, our members. **We will explain this in more detail at the AGM and look forward to your ideas and feedback.**

Thorsten Geck, President ITAA (president@itaaworld.com), *and Marguerite Sacco, President Elect* (deputy-president@itaaworld.com)

Annual General Membership Meeting—Save the Date!

This year we will conduct the ITAA Annual General Membership meeting (AGM) during the 2025 World TA Conference in Montpellier, France. The date is 9 August 2025 from 8–8:50 am CEST (or 6am–6:50 UTC). (This year the celebration of the 2025 ITAA awards will occur at a different time: see page 1 of this *Script*.) **The ITAA Board of Directors invites members to attend this meeting in person or online if attending in person is not possible.**

Agenda:

- Welcome to members and visitors
- Adoption of the minutes of the 2024 AGM
- Presentation and confirmation of the budget
- Report of the board with a focus on the strategy for the future. (Information about the activities of the past year will be shared ahead of the meeting.)
- Changes in the board

Registration: For us to plan the event, we need you to register for it. Watch for an ITAA email in the next few weeks with a link to register. You will receive a Zoom invitation link closer to the date.

Logistics: We will use the Zoom online meeting platform for hosting the online part of this event. You can download the application free from the website: https://www.zoom.us

To participate in the Zoom meeting: You must have a signed "Consent to Electronic Transmissions" form on file with the ITAA. Individuals with consent forms on file and who are ITAA members in good standing as of 30 June 2025 (the "Record Date") are entitled to vote.

Tolerance and Intolerance

by John Evans

I have been reading about tolerance and was interested to find that intolerance is mentioned more frequently than tolerance when I searched for both terms in the *Transactional Analysis Journal* (*TAJ*) (although neither concept features frequently). The clearest *TAJ* reference to tolerance is from Richard Erskine (2008), who included it as the first of eight principles of relational group psychotherapy: "Tolerance includes allowing one's self to be impacted by the other person so that we seriously accept the other's frustration, choice, agency, or anger as significant" (p. 32).

On the face of it, Erskine's definition of tolerance seems clear enough and has an ethical ring to it. In the treatment center where I work, group psychotherapy is an important part of the program and "be tolerant" is one of the ground rules that participants are urged to abide by.

Looking at tolerance from a transactional analysis perspective in ego state terms, we might understand tolerance as being a function of the integrating Adult. Being overly intolerant could be seen as a Parent contamination, and being too tolerant would perhaps be a Child ego state adaptation. However, tolerance is problematic in some instances—for example, tolerating unreasonable behavior and then being damaged by it—and sometimes intolerance is useful—for example, refusing to tolerate people doing things that are damaging and requiring them to stop. It is important to recognize that tolerance and intolerance are both double-edged concepts.

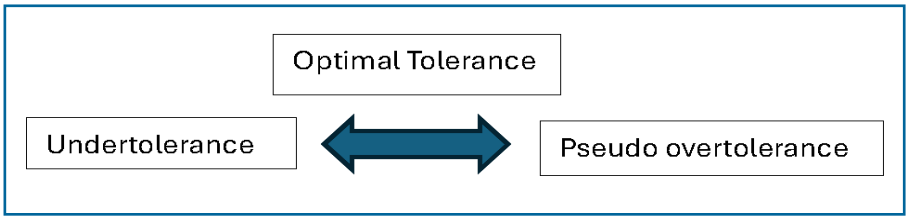
Perhaps a model of "optimal tolerance" such as that suggested by Weinberg's "circumplex model" can be helpful.

> Moderate amounts of tolerance are healthy, and contribute to the development of a democratic, inclusive and pro-human rights society, while high levels of tolerance and intolerance are unhealthy and can create more polarization and division.
> (Weinberg, 2025, p. 217)

My experience in recent years has led me to believe there has been a general shift toward unhealthy intolerance ("under-tolerance" in Weinberg's model). The causes are multiple and interlinked: political narratives, the economic environment, and "supercharging" provided by social media: At times I see a polarizing, distrustful feedback loop in operation.



John Evans can be reached at jevans883@yahoo.co.nz .



When we look closely at the concepts of tolerance and intolerance and examine them in relation to the concept of power, we find major complexities, and ethical considerations emerge strongly. Farhad Dalal (2013) illustrated this complexity well in his paper "The Struggle to Live and Let Live":

> We will see revealed a powerful asymmetry when tolerance is practiced by the more powerful in contrast to the less powerful. … In sum the tolerance of the underdog is continual and invisible, whilst the occasional dispensations of the more powerful are noticed and applauded. (p. 166)

The list of ITAA's five ethical principles—respect, empowerment, protection, responsibility, and commitment in relationship—does not specifically include tolerance. However, when we think of respect, for example, healthy tolerance (and intolerance) is relevant, and in my view it is also relevant to the other principles. So how do we experience tolerance and intolerance, and how do they inform our ethical stance?

References

Dalal, F. (2013). The struggle to live and let live. *Ata: Journal of Psychotherapy Aotearoa New Zealand, 17*(2), 159–172.

Erskine, R. (2008). Cooperation, relationship, and change. *Transactional Analysis Jounal, 38*(1), 31–35. https://doi.org/10.1177/036215370803800105

Weinberg, H. (2025). Between tolerance and intolerance: Political correctness and populism. In A. Berman & G. Ofer (Eds.), *Tolerance—A concept in crisis*. Routledge

Free-Access Article Available From the April 2025 *TAJ*

From the April 2025 *Transactional Analysis Journal*, the free-access article is "A Relational Transactional Analysis Approach in Learning and Education: Some Explorations" by Trudi Newton.



The article describes how relational transactional analysis is a fairly new term, but in education and learning theory its antecedents are long and influential. Connections between experiential learning theory and eight principles of relational transactional analysis are explored to identify the latter's place in the educational field and ask what educational transactional analysis can contribute to the further development of the relational approach. The original version of this article appeared in January 2012 in *Actualités en Analyse Transactionnelle* (No. 141) with the title "L'A.T. Relationnelle dans l'éducation et les processus d'apprentissage. Invitation à l'exploration." It is published in the *TAJ*, revised and updated, with the kind permission of the Institut Français d'Analyse Transactionnelle (IFAT).

We encourage all *TAJ* readers to read this article and to use this important opportunity to encourage your colleagues and friends to learn more about contemporary transactional analysis. You will find the free-access article from the April issue available on the Taylor & Francis *TAJ* website (accessible via the ITAA website). Look for the green checkmark in the lower right corner.

Welcome to New Members

MARCH 2025

Tatiana Agibalova, Russia
Gulim Aimagambetova, Kazakhstan
Annalia Arcangeli, Italy
Avantika Bhatnagar, India
Victoria Bolam, United Kingdom
Jane Cooper, United Kingdom
Anne Fragnière, Switzerland
Puren Gedikoglu, Turkey
Anita Holland, United Kingdom
Sabah Holmes, United Kingdom
Elizabeth Howells, United Kingdom
Natalie James-Crumlish, United Kingdom
Anna Kabakova, Bulgaria
Hatice Karatepe Öztürk, Turkey
Milan Koković, Serbia
Asel Kurmanaliyeva, Kazakhstan
Ben Macqueen, United Kingdom
Jo McCall, United Kingdom
Shyam Narayan, India
Lika Nozadze, Georgia
Shinya Ogawa, Japan
Patrick Parr, United Kingdom
Mayuri Patel, United Kingdom
Dhanya Pillai, India
Christianne Pollock, United Kingdom
Anca Popa, United Kingdom
Ashok Riehm, Germany
Scott Roberts, United Kingdom
Sasha Stennett, United Kingdom
Andjelija Stojanovic, Serbia
Oleksandra Tieliehina, Ukraine
Alona Volkova, Ukraine
Xiaohong Zeng, China

PSC News

TAWCS Project Proposal: Modernizing Exams for the Next Generation

This proposal is a joint TAWCS (TA World Council of Standards) **initiative developed in collaboration between the International Transactional Analysis Association (ITAA) and the European Association for Transactional Analysis (EATA)** through the combined efforts of their respective presidents and committees: the ITAA Professional Standards Committee (PSC) and International Board of Certification (IBOC) and the EATA Professional Training and Standards Committee (PTSC) and Commission of Certification (COC). **This collective leadership reflects a shared commitment to evolving our assessment systems in ways that are inclusive, future-oriented, and aligned with the values of transactional analysis worldwide.**

Why Are We Doing This?

The current Certified Transactional Analyst (CTA) exam system has served our community for many years, but it is no longer fit for purpose in a changing world. It was designed at a time when in-person exams, academic-style assessments, and a one-size-fits-all approach were the norm. Today, our members come from diverse cultural backgrounds, have different learning styles, and live in widely varying economic and geographic contexts. It is time to rethink how we assess competence and readiness in a way that better reflects our values and supports all members to succeed.

In recent years, the processes have become more complex and appear to be drifting away from their original purpose—assessing clinical competence—toward academic performance. We believe that exams should serve as a gateway, not a barrier, to professional practice. They should reflect real-world skills, be inclusive of neurodiverse and nontraditional learners, and be sustainable in the long term.

Our Vision

We want to cocreate a modern, globally accessible exam system that is inclusive, sustainable, and supportive. This means designing assessments that are fair, flexible, and relevant to the professional roles our candidates will take on. We aim to develop something that works not just for the next few years, but for the next generation.

Key Concerns With the Current System

- Although learning needs and cultural contexts vary widely, the current system does not adequately support this diversity, making it inaccessible for some.
- There are currently limited or no alternative pathways to accommodate neurodiversity and other differing learning requirements, which restricts accessibility and fairness.
- All EATA oral exams are currently held in person, which raises questions about cost, environmental

Defining the Acceptable Use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) in TA Exams

AI is increasingly present in our lives, raising ethical and existential questions due to its expanding capabilities. Many educational institutions worldwide have updated their policies on the acceptable use of AI, and the TA community needs to do the same. **In a joint initiative, EATA/PTSC and ITAA/PSC have asked James Longwell, PTSTA(O), to lead the development of an AI acceptable-use policy specifically for the examination process.** The aim of this policy is **to ensure fairness and integrity, providing a clear framework for how AI tools can and should be used in TA examinations. James invites anyone interested in contributing their perspectives and expertise** to this important development **to contact him at** jamesalongwell@gmail.com.

impact, and accessibility—especially when compared with ITAA's broader use of online formats. This has led some to question consistency and equity across systems.

- Rising costs are making in-person exams increasingly challenging to sustain in their current form, even with fee increases.
- There is no intention to remove in-person options; rather, the goal is to explore how both in-person and online formats can be offered in ways that are equitable, flexible, and financially viable for all involved.

Aims of the Project

The project's core aim is to create a system that works for everyone. This includes:

- Making assessments more accessible to a wider range of candidates
- Embedding principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) at every stage
- Designing an exam process that is adaptable, technologically supported, and globally viable
- Building an assessment culture that encourages deep learning and growth rather than surface performance or fear of failure

Objectives

- Engage Stakeholders Worldwide: We will consult widely with trainers, trainees, examiners, and other professionals from different regions, cultures, and levels of experience.
- Embed DEIA Principles: We aim to remove barriers to participation, particularly for underrepresented or marginalized groups.
- Focus on Sustainability: By exploring digital formats and reducing travel and associated costs, we want to create an environmentally responsible model for the future.
- Test and Iterate: We will prototype new assessment formats and test them in different regions to understand what works.

Who Can Be Involved?

We are inviting individuals who:

- Are ITAA or EATA members or professionally engaged in education or assessment
- Have a commitment to inclusive and accessible education
- Represent diverse roles: trainees, examiners, educators, or members of underrepresented communities
- Bring experience in areas such as digital exams, educational design, or inclusive practices
- Are willing to collaborate, contribute, and commit time to consultations, feedback sessions, and pilot testing

Questions Guiding This Work

Throughout the process, we will be asking:

- What is the true purpose of exams in both educational and professional contexts?
- Do exams as they are currently designed genuinely reflect competence and readiness?
- How do exams affect candidates' motivation, mental health, and development?
- What role does equity play in our current systems, and how can we do better?
- Could alternative forms of assessment—such as portfolios, supervised practice, or digital methods—better capture the qualities we value?

These questions are not just theoretical—they will shape how we move forward. This is a chance to redesign our assessment process from the ground up, ensuring it is robust, inclusive, and aligned with the values of transactional analysis.

Why It Matters

This project is about more than updating procedures. It is about reimagining how we recognize readiness for professional practice, support lifelong learning, and uphold the ethical and philosophical values that sit at the heart of our work. We are asking our community to take part in shaping a better, fairer, more future-ready system.

Join the Conversation – 20 June Online Trainers' Meeting

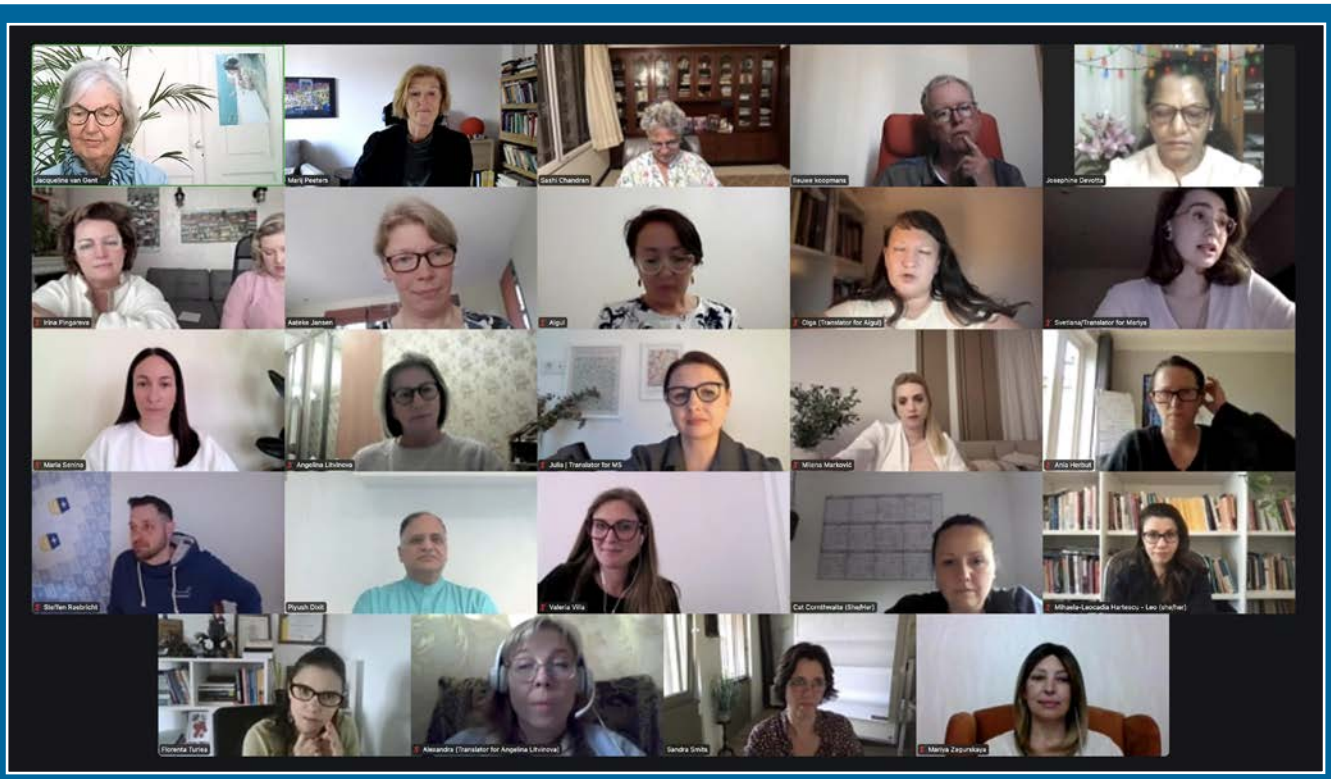
We are excited to officially launch this project at our upcoming international online trainers' meeting on 20 June. This will be a space to begin gathering your ideas, wishes, questions—and even your bold or "out of the box" suggestions—as we shape the future of exams together. Whether you are curious, cautious, or keen to contribute, your voice matters. **If you have not signed up yet, we warmly invite you to do so—we would love to see you there.**

Here is the sign-up link: https://forms.gle/j6BVUbpc5oZ8YL1j9 .

Successful and Lively Online TEW

The IBOC organized an inspiring TEW on 25-27 April 2025. Since the last TEW was held a year ago, we had a full house of 16 participants and 5 translators from different parts of the world: India, Russia, Kazakhstan, Italy, Serbia, Germany, Romania, France, United Kingdom, and The Netherlands. Thanks to the brilliant translators, we worked smoothly across the various language barriers. And now there are 16 talented people ready to sign a TSTA contract and start training future generations of students in the theory and practice of TA. Congratulations to all of them!

Many thanks to the TEW staff members, Sashi Chandran (India), Lieuwe Koopmans (The Netherlands), and Marij Peeters (The Netherlands), who readily jumped in when Sandor Antal (Hungary) had to withdraw shortly before the TEW started because of sudden serious physical problems, which are now, fortunately, gradually improving. Due to Sandor's withdrawal, the staff was rather lopsided with the emphasis on The Netherlands. We



TEW Staff and Participants (from left) (top row) Staff: Jacqueline van Gent (Coordinator, TSTA-C), Marij Peeters (TSTA-C), Sashi Chandran (TSTA-E), Lieuwe Koopmans (TSTA-O); Josephine Devotta (C); (row 2): Irina Pingareva (P), Aateke Jansen (O), Aigul Moldaberganova (P), Olga translator, and Svetlana translator; (row 3) Maria Senina (P), Angelina Litvinova (P), Julia translator, Milena Markovic (P), and Ania Herbut (P); (row 4) Steffen Raebricht (O), Piyush Dixit (C), Valeria Villa (P), Cat Cornthwaite (E), and Mihaela-Leocadia Hartescu (P); (row 5) Florenta Turlea (P), Alexandra translator, Sandra Smits (O), and Mariya Zagurskaya

hope that at the next TEWs there will again be a truly international staff. Our great thanks also to Tin Vanderhoeven, who provided us with tremendous technical support throughout the entire TEW.

With this report, I end my role as TEW coordinator due to personal family circumstances. It was an honor to serve in this capacity!

Jacqueline van Gent

Exams in October

Our next set of CTA and TSTA exams will be held 9-11 October 2025. Look out for the e-mail "Call for Examiners," because we hope to gather a large community for these 3 days and expect quite a rise in the number of CTA and TSTA candidates. In the email we are announcing some changes in the time structure of the exam days, including an additional mandatory examiners' briefing on 6 October (8am UK time). The changes are designed to provide more time in the first half of the first exam day and a longer time between briefings and the first exam time slot. We are planning for only one exam slot on Thursday, two exam slots on Friday, and two exam slots on Saturday. Please see the email for details. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

As IBOC Cochairs we know that not getting a place in the nearest TEW is disappointing and frustrating. We are working on how to meet the demand (e.g., increasing the number of participants). Before, we often had just enough candidates to fill one TEW a year, then two. Our system needs time to adjust to the welcome increase in CTAs wanting to become PTSTAs. We will keep you informed.

New TEW Coordinator

We are happy to announce that on 1 June, the IBOC welcomed new TEW coordinator Marina Rajan Joseph (TSTA-E). Thank you, Marina, for taking on this important task! We look forward to working together.



Marina Rajan Joseph

We are grateful for Jacqueline van Gent's work as TEW coordinator for the past 2 years. Thank you, Jacqueline, for your time and dedication, for staying a month longer, and for guaranteeing a thorough handover to Marina. We are also thankful that our work for the IBOC runs smoothly based on all of the thinking, efforts, and clear structure in documentation that you did in your time as IBOC cochair with Sue Eusden. We wish you and your loved ones all the best.



Jacqueline van Gent

IBOC Exam Calendar

Type	Exam Date	Location	Application Deadline
CTA	9-11 Oct 2025	Online	9 Jul 2025
TSTA	9-11 Oct 2025	Online	CLOSED
CTA	5-7 March 2026	Online	5 Dec 2025
TSTA	5-7 March 2026	Online	5 Sept 2025
CTA	1-3 Oct 2026	Online	1 July 2026
TSTA	1-3 Oct 2026	Online	1 April 2026

IBOC TEW Calendar

Type	TEW Date	Location	Application Deadline	TPO Deadline
TEW	28–30 Nov 2025	Online	CLOSED	CLOSED
TEW	24–26 Apr 2026	Online	CLOSED	24 Oct 2025
TEW	27–29 Nov 2026	Online	CLOSED	27 May 2026

TEW Note: All TEWs for 2025 and 2026 are currently full. If you wish to get on the waiting list for any openings that develop, please contact Maria Rajan Joseph at iboc_tew-coordinator@itaaworld .

Note: Written exams can be submitted anytime throughout the year.

Please send applications for exams and TEW to the IBOC administrator: iboc@itaaworld.org . For the EATA exam calendar, please refer to: https://eatanews.org/exams/#coc-calendar and for the EATA TEW calendar, go to: https://eatanews.org/tew-calendar/?highlight=TEW%20calendar

WORLD TRANSACTIONAL ANALYSIS CONFERENCE 2025 MONTPELLIER
LEGACY - LEGITIMACY - IDENTITY

"Exploring Legacy, Legitimacy, and Identity: Transactional Analysis in a Changing World"

8–10 August 2025 | Montpellier, France

Dear Transactional Analysis Colleagues and Friends:

We are delighted by the enthusiastic response to the upcoming World Transactional Analysis Conference (WTAC) taking place this year in Montpellier, France! With 731 tickets already sold, we're truly looking forward to welcoming a vibrant and diverse global TA community. Participants currently registered represent 46 countries from around the world, a true celebration of international connection and collaboration in our fields.

As we approach our final preparations, we want to inform you that **ticket sales will close on 30 June 2025.** We are also considering limiting capacity to 900 participants, which means **only a limited number of spots remain**. If you haven't booked your ticket yet, we warmly encourage you to secure your place now to avoid disappointment.

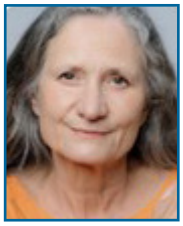
Book your ticket today: https://wtac2025.ifat-asso.org/ticket/

Don't miss this exceptional opportunity to connect, learn, and grow with transactional analysis practitioners from around the world. We can't wait to welcome you!

Warm regards,
Jean-Luc Boyer,
IFAT President & Organizing/Conference Chair WTAC 2025
and the WTAC 2025 Organizing Committee

Keynote Speakers


William Cornell


Isabelle Filliozat


Sailaja Manacha

Debate Chairs


Karen Pratt


Lucy Freedman

WTAC website: https://wtac2025.ifat-asso.org

WTAC ticketing: https://my.weezevent.com/world-ta-conference-france-2025

Accommodation Options: https://loom.ly/ELcsb6E

Gala Party Tickets: https://loom.ly/egwS_Ng