



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY AND PSYCHODRAMA

ASGPP Tele'Gram

December 2019
Monthly TELE'GRAM
Since June, 2018

"Our move toward international sociometry is motivated by the state of affairs of our world, a situation about which behavioral scientists must help acquire knowledge if they are to discharge their universal responsibility to science, to humanity, to their nations, and to themselves... We are dedicated to the internationalism of science - not only in word, but also in action. The building of intercultural bridges presupposes the growth of a body of knowledge." (*Moreno, J.L. (1956). Editorial. International Journal of Sociometry. Beacon, NY, Beacon Press*)

Dear ASGPP Members,
Welcome to the December 2019 Tele'Gram!

The Tele'gram is issued through e-blast at the beginning of each month. Its purpose is to connect with everyone in the ASGPP on a regular basis - the council, the committees, and all members. As always, this issue will give you a lot of information about the many activities in the organization and will invite everyone to participate in committees and projects, to make suggestions, and, in general, to keep in touch with each other as a community.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

Thank you to those who attended the November 13th, 2019 Zoom Membership Meeting!

As a result of our conversation, next time the meeting will be focused on the topic of '**Increasing ASGPP Membership**'. We hope to be able to engage a larger group of members to attend and bring their ideas and enthusiasm to this important matter. The Council and the Membership Committee will inform attendees about the current efforts and hopefully, together, we will be able to widen our strategies as a collective project. **SAVE THE DATE:** The next Zoom Membership meeting will be held on Thursday, February 6th, 2020, 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Eastern Time. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to asgpp@asgpp.org and put in the subject line, "February 6, 2020 Membership Zoom Meeting".

The council is preparing to send to all of you a report concerning the decisions made on the recommendations for best practices, created by the Task Force Committee. As we already announced, many of the recommendations will require changes in the organizational bylaws.

This month we will introduce the 2020 ASGPP conference registration on our new, modern and customer friendly Website!

Your Council www.asgpp.org/pdf/Ex%20Council%202019-20%20R.pdf

FROM THE ASGPP COMMITTEES:

*** From the FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Student Membership Fundraising Event:**

A new STUDENT MEMBERSHIP fundraising event was announced on our social media and via e-blast. The proceeds will allow for eligible graduate students to join ASGPP as new members and become part of our community! With our help, they will have the opportunity to bring their energy and enthusiasm to ASGPP; and learn about the method.

Our goal is to raise \$6,500+ and ADD at least 100 STUDENT-MEMBERS in 2020! Any donation amount is deeply appreciated! As ASGPP is a tax exempt, non-profit, charitable organization that falls under section 501(c)(3), your

donations will be considered deductible contributions for your taxes

How can you help?

a/ Please consider making a donation to ASGPP on our Facebook page,

<https://www.facebook.com/ASGPP.National/>, or on our website, here:

<https://asgpp.org/donate.php>

b/ Create your own Facebook fundraiser and share it with your friends. Specific instructions on how to set up a Facebook Fundraiser have been emailed to you. If you need the information again, contact aidahernandez25@gmail.com.

c/ If you prefer, you can also send a check (write on the memo line of the check "Student Membership Donation"), made out to ASGPP, PO Box 1654, Merchantville, NJ 08109-9998.

We kicked-off this campaign on December 3rd - #GivingTuesday, an international day of charitable (non-profit) giving. By the end of the day we raised almost 16% of our goal! (Facebook + Website) - \$1075 out of \$6,500 were donated. Thank you to the first donors, *Daniela Simmons, Paula De Franco, Colleen Baratka, Aida Hernandez, Rhona Case, Eric Gidseg; and our international member from Hong Kong, Lee Ming Wai Joannes!*

In addition, thank you to Marlo Archer, Janell Adair and Scott Giacomucci, each of whom started their own fundraising event for ASGPP general operations!

Scholarship Fund for Student Participants at the 2020 ASGPP Conference:

Three (3) options for donating to the fund for student participants will be included on the registration form for those of you who would like to help:

a/ \$30 for one day participation of students registered at the conference (choosing from the workshops that are still open);

b/ \$90 for all three days participation of students registered at the conference (choosing from the workshops that are still open);

c/ Donate any amount to be applied as a scholarship for regular students' registrations (choosing from all workshops available at the time)

Amazon Smile - a Way to Give!

As the Holidays are approaching, when you use www.smile.amazon.com to shop on Amazon, you can give to the ASGPP. No matter what you are shopping for, a portion of your purchase will be donated. **No extra purchase required!** The more people shop through www.smile.amazon.com, the more money the ASGPP will receive.

Here's what to do:

1. Go to www.smile.amazon.com and either log into the account you already have with Amazon or create an account.
2. Then, follow the instructions to select "ASGPP Inc" as your charity.
3. Every time you shop, go to smile.amazon.com. Portions of your purchases will help support the ASGPP.

Fundraising Committee chair: Aida Hernandez, aidahernandez25@gmail.com

*** [ASGPP RESEARCH FUND](#)**

ASGPP Research Grants: Applications by January 31st, 2020

On May 25th, 2012, Erica Hollander, PhD, JD, TEP and Nancy Kirsner, PhD, TEP, started a Research Fund, restricted to the specific purpose of supporting research in Psychodrama, Sociometry, and Group Psychotherapy by members of ASGPP who are at least certified at the CP level. The money is to be distributed on the basis of competitive applications by those eligible, to be weighed by a review committee.

The Research Fund Review Committee is now accepting the first round of grant applications. The committee will consider and weigh applications for research design. Recipients of support will be required by contract to present progress reports on the research at the 2021 ASGPP conference, attending the conference at the researcher's own expense. Any publications to which supported research contributes should acknowledge ASGPP support.

Deadline for submitting applications: **January 31st, 2020**

For an application form, contact **Erica Hollander**

at erica.hollander@icloud.com

*** [From the RESEARCH COMMITTEE:](#)**

The Research Committee is organizing a research panel focused on the evidence-based of psychodrama as a psychotherapy for the upcoming Chicago conference. The event will be held Saturday morning and is titled:

"International Research Panel: Celebrating David Kipper's Legacy and Warming-up to New Research in Sociometry, Psychodrama, and Group Psychotherapy".

If you wish to join the ASGPP Research Listserve, and to participate in ongoing discussions, collaborations, sharing of resources and ideas on research, please

visit the ASGPP 'About Us' page, <http://asgpp.org/about-asgpp.php>, and look at the bottom for the options on how to join.

Research Committee Co-chairs: Scott Giacomucci at Scott@sgiacomucci.com and Rob Pramann at utahSSCCC@aol.com

* **From the PROFESSIONAL LIAISON COMMITTEE:**

The Professional Liaison Committee is actively drafting a "Best Practices" document for teaching psychodrama in university settings. This document is focused on the role transition from "psychodrama trainer" to "psychodrama professor" and hopes to offer insight for trainers who wish to teach psychodrama electives at their local colleges and universities. Any psychodrama trainers with experience teaching psychodrama in academia who would like to contribute to these standards can write to the committee's chair *Scott Giacomucci* at Scott@SGiacomucci.com

* **From the EDUCATION COMMITTEE:**

The Executive Council launched last month a new ASGPP Committee - Education Committee with the purpose of initiating and providing opportunities for learning, new sociometric connections and additional benefit for the ASGPP members. Exciting projects are in front of us. At this time, we are announcing:

Education Committee Project #1: ASGPP Members' Special Interest Groups
Purpose: New opportunities for connecting on base of similar interests for educational and professional support.

How is it going to work?

Everyone who is interested is invited to go to

<https://forms.gle/RwBftD8XxbspnsN8A> where you may indicate your interest in joining a group. We have offered many options, and you can also list your interest under "other".

The Education Committee will connect people when they express a similar interest. The groups will be encouraged to work independently via an online platform of choice or phone, e-mail, etc. Each group will meet on their own terms and time and communicates with the Education Committee as needed.

Note: The groups are for ASGPP members, both domestic and international.

Education Committee Founding Members: Daniela Simmons, Cathy Nugent and Carol Feldman Bass

* **From the MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:**

Welcome to the new ASGPP members: Svoboda Gagarova, Bulgaria; Shirley Bravo, Fort Worth, TX; Michael Kenny, Dallas, TX; Vania Macrohon, Miami, FL; Robert Gatto, East Hampton, NY; Laura Greer, Baltimore, MD.

Training institutes and organizations can now join the ASGPP as ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBER. The application for organizational membership is here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf_ifij71F52jVMpS-Sit6afZna6OWJIU2zOdhffHkgmmx2gg/viewform

For payment options, please contact our National office at asgpp@asgpp.org.

Membership Committee co-chairs: Marianne Shapiro,

marianneshapiro1@gmail.com and Serap Kantarci, serapkantarci@gmail.com

* **From the PUBLICITY AND SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE:**

The Committee needs your help to spread the word about our 2020 Conference. Please tell your students about it, post information on your social media, talk it up at any conferences you attend this Fall/Winter or groups you belong to. Conference flyers and "Save the Date for 2020" postcards are available upon request. The ASGPP Facebook page is now followed by over 4,500 people from the United States and internationally. If you are on Instagram, please follow us there as well! Please share our posts to your own personal and professional pages on social media - that will greatly extend our visibility!

Publicity and Social Media Committee chair, Patty Phelps, pplhelps@pacbell.net

* **From the PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:**

Psychodrama Press is the ASGPP Publishing House. There are two items offered, at this time, for purchase on our website: <https://asgpp.org/asgpp-resources.php>
The Warm Up Box by Carl Hollander and *Jacob Levy Moreno 1889-1974* by René Marineau

Some very exciting upcoming news will be announced soon!

Visit the ASGPP Library on our website: <https://asgpp.org/asgpp-resources.php>

The library contains a collection of books, articles and videos that lay out the central ideas of psychodrama. Stay tuned as the library is expanding as new articles, books and videos are being added to the collection.

Publications Committee chair: Daniela Simmons, dsimmons@asgpp.org

*** From the SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:**

This year's Zerka T. Moreno International Scholarship application process has ended. The Scholarship Committee received forty three (43) applications from around the world. The committee picked two of them by a lottery. The two recipients will need to confirm their participation by January 1, 2020. All other applicants have been reached as well.

NOTE: The Scholarship Committee chair, Mary Anna Palmer announced on Facebook a Fundraising event for her Birthday, with a goal to raise funds for at least one additional International participant. There are already sufficient funds for a third international scholarship and Marianne is still fundraising for another one.

If you would like to contribute, please go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/2470538023219209/>

In addition, ASGPP Announced for the 2020 ASGPP Conference:

* *History Keepers Scholarship*

* *General Scholarship*

You can find the criteria for the History Keepers and the General Scholarships on the ASGPP website, here: <https://asgpp.org/2020conf/scholarships.html>.

Applications are due by January 3, 2020 and the scholarship committee will notify this year's recipients by January 15, 2020. We are asking scholarship recipients to assist us at the conference as volunteers.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO ONE OF THE TWO SCHOLARSHIP

CATEGORIES, PLEASE GO TO: <https://asgpp.org/donate.php>,

Please contact asgpp@asgpp.org with any questions.

Scholarship Committee chair, Mary Anna Palmer, psychodramacenter@gmail.com

*** From the INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE:**

Two exciting upcoming events to share this month:

Friday, January 31st, 2020 - Zoom ASGPP Tele Café:

On Friday, January 31st, Marcia Karp, one of the leading psychodramatists in the world and a student and close friend of Jacob and Zerka Moreno, will be hosting the Tele Café from her home in the UK. *We are expecting a large group of colleagues from the USA and around the world, who would like to connect and are interested in the ASGPP's activities, to join.* To RSVP please email us at international@asgpp.org by January 28, 2019. You will receive the zoom invitation via email.

Thursday, April 2nd, 2020 - Face-to-face ASGPP Tele Café:

Join us in Chicago as we take the Tele Cafe on the road for sightseeing and a live encounter at a local cafe. This will be the premiere of an annual 'Tele Café Road Trip!' Wherever the conference, the Tele Café will have a pop-up close by. Save the date in your conference social calendar and be part of history for this first-time experience. To assure your participation, please reserve your spot during the conference registration process. The \$25 fee will cover sightseeing transportation and hot drinks and sweets at the café.

International Committee chair, Mark Wentworth, mark@colourforlife.com

*** 2020 Conference**

Registration information coming in days! The 2020 Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, Chicago (1800 E Golf Rd, Schaumburg, IL 60173). Information on room reservations will be available in a few days. For the conference participants, a guest room rate per night is \$120. The dates of the conference are April 1-4, 2020, with a pre-conference on Wednesday, April 1, 2019 and the main conference on April 2-4, 2020 (Thursday - Saturday).

Mentoring Program: This is a new feature this year, where participants can be paired with a member of the ASGPP to have guidance on navigating the conference. If you are interested, check the box on your registration form, or ask our Administrative Assistant about this program!

The Conference this year is organized by a well-structured Steering Committee with sub-committees for specific tasks, consisting of colleagues from the Chicago Psychodrama community and colleagues who have been engaged in conference organizing in previous years. A 3-members Council Liaison Committee has also been formed to represent the Steering Sub-committees. Everyone is working with

enthusiasm and creativity, and we are expecting an exciting 2020 conference! We hope to see you there!

Conference Liaison Committee: Janell Adair, janelladair@gmail.com; John Skandalis, jskandalis@yahoo.com and Carol Feldman Bass, carol@socialdynamix.net

Wishing you wonderful Holidays with families and friends!

The TELE'GRAM Editors,
Daniela Simmons, PhD, TEP
Patty Phelps, PhD
asgpp@asgpp.org

P.S. The name Tele'Gram (with apostrophe between Tele & Gram) was created to provide an original meaning and the J.L. Moreno term of 'tele' - "An inter-personal experience, growing out from person to person ... and gradually developing the sense for inter-personal relations". The term 'telegram' is an Americanism dating back to the mid-1800s and comes from the Greek tēle, "at a distance" and gram, "something written". (Moreno J.L. & Jennings H.H. (1938), Statistics of Social Configurations. Sociometry. 1. P. 363)

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