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PERSPECTIVE

How Can New Therapists Best Handle the Evolution of Their Social Identity?

by Bernadette Py



Because the vast majority of us human beings—regardless of our profession—have multiplied our profiles on the Web (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.), what might be the impact of such exposure on the transference aspect of the therapeutic relationship? More precisely, for those of us who are currently making or are about to make the transition from a job in which social media presence is essential to a psychotherapy practice, are there any guidelines and possibly some sound advice we should follow?

I personally have worked as a communication and PR professional for the past 30 years. As a result, my name, some of my professional accomplishments, my posts (including some personal photographic material) are now embedded in these sprawling giant networks. It seems to me they are rather easily accessible to potential clients, whether they are computer geeks or not, who might be interested in finding out more about me.

Because deleting social network profiles or search engine referencing can actually be a long and difficult process, I have tried to identify a few of the elements needed to answer these questions:

- How might clients be impacted by easy access to their therapist's social identity?

- When a person becomes a psychotherapist as a second career, how can he or she best handle the development of his or her online profile?
- Is it a good thing for psychotherapists to be present on social networks and are there boundaries that should not be exceeded?

I set out to interview several experienced psychotherapists as well as supervisors. Here I will try to synthesize our exchanges and add a few personal observations and conclusions in the hope that these will generate further commentary and reactions and open up an interesting discussion.

First of all, my interactions with experienced therapists lead me to believe that, while it is undoubtedly desirable to be a smooth projection surface to facilitate the establishment of the transference relationship and to limit psychological games as much as possible, it is rather unrealistic to believe that we therapists can be 100% "smooth," which in French psychotherapy lingo means to have nothing sticking out that would prevent clients from projecting whatever they need to onto

us. Even if we receive our clients in a neutral environment, devoid of any personal photos or objects, it is highly likely that they will see us through such things as our physical posture, our clothes, and the way we groom ourselves (hairstyle, makeup, jewelry, etc.). And in a way, this is probably a good thing. To quote French psychoanalyst Gérard Bonnet (1997, 3 February), "The major difference between a psychoanalyst and a psychotherapist is that the psychotherapist is a real person." Although there is an obvious need to work within a frame, allowing a few personal elements to rise to the surface might not prove automatically harmful, especially because that material can be elaborated on and analyzed during therapy sessions.

When one changes careers to become a psychotherapist, I am tempted to believe that questions about how to best handle the evolu-

tion of one's online social identity are a reflection of how difficult this transition is for the person involved. After several years of training during which one is torn between a professional activity that pays the rent and the new vocation to which one aspires, it can be understandably difficult to let one go and embrace the other in a heartbeat!

When we reach that stage, it is likely that we all have to determine our own answers to some of these personal questions: Who are we at this particular time of transition? How do we wish to present ourselves? What is our essence? And this will obviously be reflected in how we choose to present ourselves on social networks.

More simply, I think that this particular moment would be the right time to choose what to emphasize and not simply to pile more positions, training, and experiences onto the same LinkedIn profile, for example. These choices will testify to our own personal evolution, to our capacity to make the transition and position ourselves as a therapist, to stand our newly acquired ground. Similarly, it seems wise to exercise vigilance with regard to the impact of Facebook posts, both past and present, because they remain easily accessible in spite of various privacy and security systems offered by the network.

All the experienced therapists with whom I talked shared the same opinion regarding new technologies, the Internet, and social networks. These days, it is unrealistic to believe that one can do entirely without these new communication tools. As a result, it is probably wiser to look at them in a positive way in order to make the best possible use of them and to set our own limits with clear judgment. One


therapist might benefit from search engine indexing of his own website; another might decide not to work with clients on Skype because she does not think she can be effective that way.

To summarize what I learned from professional psychotherapists:

- Prune one's LinkedIn profile to clearly position oneself as a psychotherapist
- Take care about the nature of one's Facebook posts (avoid personal photos, intimate details or declarations)
- Do not accept one's clients as Facebook friends because this will likely undermine the therapeutic relationship and frame
- If a client mentions your previous professional experience, use his interest as material to be elaborated on in the psychotherapy

I think it is the winding road of our entire life journey—previous professional experiences included—that has led us to this new therapist vocation. The wealth of our comprehensive life experience is one of our many assets. Let us not deny any part of it because to do so would mean we are denying a part of ourselves.

Reference

Bonnet, G. (1997). *Psychanalyse et/ou psychothérapie?* [Psychoanalysis and/or psychotherapy?]. Year-long seminar November 1996-June 1997, organized by Ecole de Propédeutique à la Connaissance de l'Inconscient [School for Introductory Knowledge of the Unconscious], Paris, France. 

After an initial career in communication, Bernadette Py is just starting her own psychotherapy practice in Paris. She can be reached via email at bernadette@bpyconsulting.com.

the SCRIPT

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2843 Hopyard Rd., Suite 155
Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
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Research Team of Educational Transactional Analysis Active in Poland

by Jarosław Jagieta

The Zespół Badawczy Edukacyjnej Analizy Transakcyjnej [Research Team of Educational Transactional Analysis] was established in 2010 in the Faculty of Pedagogy at Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, Poland. It is the only research institution of its kind in the country. The team's main objectives include:

- Conducting research in the field of educational transactional analysis
- Popularizing the concepts of Eric Berne and his followers
- Publishing the *Edukacyjna Analiza Transakcyjna* [Educational Transactional Analysis Journal]
- Conducting training and workshops devoted to transactional analysis
- Cooperating with organizations and institutions interested in transactional analysis

We also maintain a website at www.eat.ajd.czyst.pl

The Research Team belongs to the Polish Integrative Transactional Analysis Association, which is affiliated with the European Association for Transactional Analysis (EATA).

Members of the Team

Jarosław Jagieta, is an associate professor at Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa and Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, a social pedagogue, and a psychotherapist. He is the author or editor of 12 books and more than 100 articles, most of which are devoted to transactional analysis.

Ana Pierzchała, PhD, is a reader in the Faculty of Pedagogy at Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, a pedagogue, a pedagogical therapist, and a job adviser. Her doctoral dissertation investigated the concept of passivity in transactional analysis, and her research interests revolve around pedagogical therapy of students with dyslexia, ADHD, and problem behavior as well as practical applications of transactional analysis in education. She is the author of a book and about 20 articles in the area of transactional analysis.



(From the left): Zbigniew Wieczorek, Dorota Gębuś, Jarosław Jagieta, Zbigniew Łęski, Edyta Widawska, Ana Pierzchała, and Adrianna Sarnat-Ciastko

Adrianna Sarnat-Ciastko, PhD, is a reader in the Faculty of Pedagogy at Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, a pedagogue, and a political scientist.

Dorota Gębuś, PhD, a reader in the Faculty of Pedagogy at Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, a pedagogue, and a sociologist. She completed postgraduate studies in behavioral therapy pathology and neurolinguistic programming therapy and training in effective communication, negotiation, resolving conflicts, and working with groups. Her research interests include art education, the techniques of intellectual

work, interpersonal communication, problems of the modern family, and educational transactional analysis.

Zbigniew Łęski, PhD, is a reader in the Faculty of Pedagogy at Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa and a pedagogue. He specializes in educational technology, media education, and issues connected with pedagogical aspects of information technology. He is the author of articles on transactional analysis.

Edyta Widawska, PhD, is a reader in the Faculty of Pedagogy and Psychology at University of Silesia in Katowice, a pedagogue, and a sociologist. She is a social animator and soft-skills trainer. Her research interests include social animation and mediation and human rights, which she develops by research, teaching, and in cooperation with nongovernmental organizations in Poland and abroad.

Zbigniew Wieczorek, PhD, is a reader in the Faculty of Pedagogy at Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, a pedagogue, and a sociologist. For 15 years he has conducted assertiveness training and communication skills workshops. His professional interests focus on social communication and different approaches (including TA) toward the application of therapeutic techniques in the process of self-development and learning new behaviors.

About the Educational Transactional Analysis Journal

The *Edukacyjna Analiza Transakcyjna* [Educational Transactional Analysis Journal] is aimed at educators, teachers, psychologists, and people dealing with transactional analysis in theory and practice. It is designed to serve as a source of inspiration for all those who are beginning their adventure with Berne's concepts and have already

recognized its potential. The first issue was published in 2012. The guiding principle for its editorial team was to create a journal embracing a wide range of perspectives about the theory and practical applications of transactional analysis in education. Thus, the main objective of the journal is the exchange of ideas related to:

- Using transactional analysis concepts in the theory of education and child rearing
- Using educational transactional analysis in practical work with children, youth, and adults
- Analyzing communication between teachers and students and considering the significance of life script in the educational process
- Preventing negative phenomena in the school environment through the interpretation of games
- Looking at other issues linked with widely understood educational phenomena and inspirations

Recent Activities and Publications

In January 2014, Zbigniew Wieczorek and Zbigniew Łęski conducted a workshop for students of an agricultural technical high school in Hanczowa on assertiveness, personal communication, and media education.

In August 2014, Jarosław Jagieła conducted a 2-day transactional analysis workshop in Warsaw for art school teachers from all over Poland.

In February 2015 our team took part in a workshop organized by the Polskie Integratywne Towarzystwo Analizy Transakcyjnej (Polish Integrative Association of TA) entitled "Various Learning Styles and Methods in Connection with TA," which was conducted by Dr. Sylvia Schachner, a member of EATA.

In July 2015 two books written by Jarosław Jagieła were published in the series Biblioteka EAT (the Library of Educational Transactional Analysis): *Słownik terminów i pojęć badawczych nad edukacją* [The Dictionary of Qualitative Research in Education] and *Dlaczego analiza transakcyjna?* [Why Transactional Analysis?].

In September 2015 Adrianna Sarnat-Ciastko's book titled *Tutoring w polskiej szkole* [Tutoring in a Polish School]. It is based on her doctoral dissertation, for which she was granted a reward for the best PhD dissertation in educational diagnosis by the Zarząd Główny Polskiego Towarzystwa Diagnostyki Edukacyjnej [Board of the Polish Association of Educational Diagnosis].

Also in September 2015 the team participated in a conference organized by the Polskie Towarzystwo Diagnostyki Edukacyjnej [Polish Association of Educational Diagnosis] in Bydgoszcz at Kazimierz Wielki University. Among our presentations were the following: Edyta Widawska on "The Diagnosis of Students' Educational Needs," Anna Pierzchała on "A Concept of Transactional Discounting in the Analysis of Educational Reality: Diagnosis and Examples of Application," Adriana Sarnat-Ciastko on "Constructing and Applying 'The Kaleidoscope of School Situations': A Set of Research Tools for Educating Transactional Analysts," Zbigniew Łęski on "Transactional Games at Schools in Students' Memories," Dorota Gębuś on "Students' and Teachers' Personality Structures: The Analysis of I-Ego States on the Basis of Selected Situations at School," Zbigniew Wieczorek on "The Application of Projective Tools in TA," and Jarosław Jagieła on "Why TA? On the Application of TA in Education." 📍

Responses to Call for Social Action

Dear Suriya:

I read your article in the January *Script* this morning. It touched me deeply—so beautifully, passionately written. I wanted to cheer, and I wanted to cry. You have issued a call, an invitation, and a challenge to our members. Thank you so very much. Our world is in so much trouble (we can add to the list of tragedies the massive floods and tornadoes in the American Midwest and South that displaced millions of people during the holidays) with the violence that is inundating our communities and countries. There cannot be too many calls for decency and responsibility.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Bill Cornell
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Dear Suriya:

We met briefly in San Francisco when you were still president elect. I have just read your article in the January 2016 issue of *The Script* and wanted to respond with strong support! Thank you so much for putting social responsibility on the front cover. I really appreciated your words and the use of your position to say them to our community.

I also want to let you know that I am the chair of the diversity and social responsibility committee for the United Kingdom Association for Transactional Analysis (UKATA). I am hoping to engage folks here with the challenges we face in this realm. Are there such committees for the South Asian Association of Transactional Analysts (SAATA) or for ITAA? If so, I was wondering if it

would be good for us to connect up. We have a UKATA newsletter that comes out every quarter called *The Transactional Analyst* and have started a regular column in it about these issues. I have just submitted a piece entitled "Diversity and Social Responsibility: Request for Shared Training Experiences" for the next issue. I'm sharing it with you to offer you some insight as to the sort of challenges we face with diversity in transactional analysis in the UK. Much of this is relevant for the field of psychotherapy, but I think it also applies across all fields.

Happy new year, and I hope you are enjoying your time in office!

Best wishes,
Karen Minikin
Hailsham, East Sussex
United Kingdom

Editors' Note: Efforts are underway to reenliven the group started in 2010 by Len Campos called *Transactional Analysts for Social Responsibility (TAFSR)*. If you are interested in joining, please write to Suriya at suriya.sunshine@gmail.com.

Hi Suriya:

I enjoyed reading your article "Reaching Out in Difficult Times" in the January *Script*. It was well written and to the point. I hope transactional analysts will take your message seriously. As you know, I've spent years trying to get that word out to TA folks, even suggesting that we get out of our four-cornered fields box and into the real world community where transactional analysis can be used to address social problems. I believe doing so

represents social transactional analysis, the fifth field of TA.

Thanks for acknowledging my formation of Transactional Analysts for Social Responsibility (TAFSR), which lasted 3 years and fizzled out for lack of leadership support. It was to be replaced by a special section on social responsibility in *The Script*, but that didn't last long either. The saying that 3% of people do most of the work of social change while 97% remain passively "hopeful" about it is still valid. Perhaps that's just human nature.

You will note that recently I have focused my TAJ articles and conference workshops on the application of TA to social problems such as racism, social conflicts, and war. These have included contributions on rededication therapy and social justice (2010), beyond script destiny (2010), cultivating cultures of courage with TA (2012), the power of social TA (2013), a transactional analytic view of war and peace (2014), ending the game of war with the help of TA (2014), and cultural scripting for forever wars (2015). I would like to see other authors take up similar topics at our conferences and in our publications worldwide and then let the rest of us know about their work.

I also stay active locally in the Sacramento, California, action groups such as Therapists for Social Responsibility and the Peace Action Network. Again, thanks for your article in *The Script*. May it have the influence it deserves.

Warm regards,
Leonard Campos
Roseville, California, USA

EATA CONFERENCE 2016

July 7-9 - Geneva - Switzerland

IDENTITY · INTEGRATION · BOUNDARIES



2016 EATA Conference to Focus on “Identity, Integration, Boundaries”

by Sylvie Monin

The 2016 conference of the European Association for Transactional Analysis will focus on a theme that is deeply relevant in our troubled times: “Identity, Integration, Boundaries.” This 40th anniversary conference, cosponsored with Association Suisse d’Analyse Transactionnelle-Suisse-Romande (ASAT-SR), will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, 7-9 July.


Today, with increasing numbers of migrants in Europe and elsewhere around the world, there is a sense of rising anxiety and insecurity as well as fear of the other and differences. This conference will focus on what our transactional analysis community has to offer in the face of such tremendous changes and how we as transactional analysts can take on our social responsibility. In Geneva we will reflect on questions such as these: How can we encourage mutual respect in the face of growing anxiety and insecurity and in the midst of multiple frames of refer-

ence? How do we find our bearings in a world that is constantly changing? How can we protect our integrity individually and as communities or countries while integrating people from many cultures? What are the needs of people to link their cultural, social, and political script with the cultural, social, and political script of the country to which they migrate?

Our aim is to consider these questions by involving practitioners from different fields of specialization and modalities along with key experts and speakers. Among the keynote speakers are the following:

Françoise Sironi is a psychologist, psychotherapist, lecturer in clinical and pathological psychology (University Paris 8 Vincennes Saint-Denis), and an expert in the psychology of criminals/war criminals. She has served as an expert witness for various international and national penal courts. Her research is based on clinical experience with victims of torture, massacres, genocide, and political violence. She also created a new clinical/therapeutic field and approach called geopolitical clinical psychology.

Catherine Wihtol de Wenden is a political scientist and jurist and was the first in France to place international migration in the context of political science and international relations. She has worked on issues related to European migration, including migration from East to West after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the development of European policy on migration and asylum, the part of Islam in the definition of citizenship, civil community life within immigrant populations, the global and globalized approach of migrations in relation to the theme of opening and closing borders, and the global and globalized governance of migrations.

You can read more about these speakers and the conference in general at <http://www.eata2016.org>, including the symposia in each field of specialization scheduled for Friday 8 July. 

Sylvie Monin is the project lead for the 2016 EATA Conference. She can be reached at sylvie.monin@bluewin.ch.

**Early-bird
registration
deadline:
2 May 2016**

Evan Sherrard

With sadness we mourn the death of Evan Sherrard, the founder of transactional analysis in Auckland, New Zealand. He died in hospital on 20 October 2015, aged almost 81, and was honored at a huge funeral at St. Luke's, Remuera, where he was still part of the ministry team.

Evan was a man of tremendous vision and energy. After his ordination as a Presbyterian minister in Dunedin, he took his wife and two children to Houston, Texas, for 2 years of training in clinical pastoral education and theology. They returned to Dunedin, where he set up a counseling service, the Cameron Centre. Realizing he needed more training, he took the family back to the United States for 5 years in Michigan, where he gained high qualifications in chaplaincy supervision, adult education, and transactional analysis, including a month's training with Bob and Mary Goulding in rededication therapy.

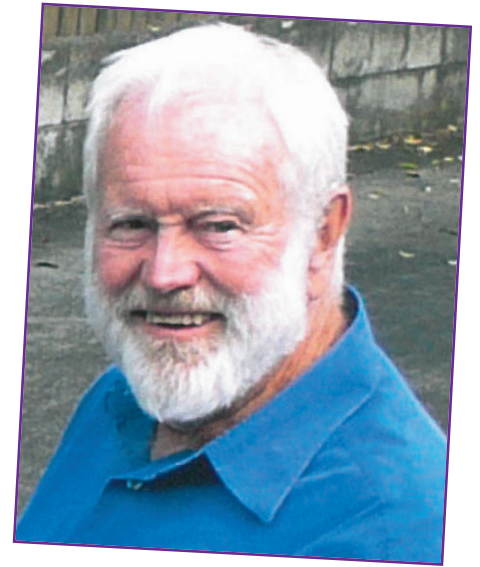
Back in New Zealand, Evan was invited to set up a community service in Auckland, which he called the Human Development Team (HDT). They set about providing skilled training and supervision for a wide range of community services and invited a series of overseas trainers to offer workshops, especially in

transactional analysis, psychodrama, and gestalt. When the HDT first offered an internship in counseling and psychotherapy in 1984, I was lucky to be one of that training group and later became a member of the team.

Evan linked with the other emerging TA leaders in New Zealand, all training under Ian McDougall and then Robin Maslen to become TSTAs. From about 1991 on they met together every 2 years in a week-long multilevel residential event organized by Charlotte Daellenbach in which the TSTAs gave their time for free to coach the rising PTSTAs, who themselves led groups of CTAs in training. This structure has continued successfully while evolving with circumstances.

Evan brought a number of ITAA leaders to New Zealand, including Muriel James and the Gouldings. In 1992 he chaired the international ITAA conference held in Auckland, and by 1996 Evan had qualified as a TSTA himself while training concurrently in psychodrama. He was also much involved in ethical issues for the church.

During the 1990s, Evan helped to set up the psychotherapy department at Auckland Institute of Technology, where he taught a rigorous 2-year TA course for several years.



He put energy into helping to lift the standards of the New Zealand Association of Psychotherapists and was later elected a Life Member. In 2000 he was a founding codirector of the Auckland TA Training Institute, leading it till 2014.

Through all of this, his wife Isabelle, was a strong support, especially when their daughter Susan suffered an accident that left her a quadriplegic. Between them, they helped Susan to create a remarkable life of her own. And the family supported Evan through his own health crises with cancer and heart surgery during the last 20 years.

We all miss Evan's warm-hearted presence, his cheeky humor, his perceptiveness and care for those who were suffering, his willingness to confront injustice, and his commitment to working for a better society. A book about his life and work is being produced by Keith Tudor and Jonathan Fay. 5

Our thanks to Margaret Bowater, TSTA (P), for these reflections; email mbowater@clear.net.nz.

Call for ITAA Board Nominations

The following position is open for nominations. *Deadline: 31 May 2016.*

Regional Trustee (nomination and election only by members of the region):

■ European region (2017-2019)


Nominations require the name and consent signature of the nominee (it may be yourself), the name of the person making the nomination, and the name of the person seconding the nomination. To be eligible for nomination, trustees may not have already served two consecutive terms of office in any position on the board. Position statements (charters) that describe the function and selection criteria for each of the officer positions are available from ITAA Secretary Mandy Lacy at mandy@lacyconsulting.net. Nomi-

nees are encouraged to read and understand these before accepting nomination.

Send nominations to ITAA Nominations Chair Sumithra Sharatkumar at sumithrask@gmail.com.

Those who accept nomination to the above position must email a written statement and digital photo to the nominations chair as soon as possible and no later than the 31 May deadline. Statements should be a maximum of 250 words.

Election Procedures: As per the ITAA bylaws (revised 1996), if there is no more than one candidate per position, there will be no ballot, and the results of the election will be announced in *The Script* newsletter. An unopposed candidate will take up his or her position following the annual general meeting (AGM). If there is more than one nominee for a position, a ballot will be sent to all voting members within 60 days of the close of nominations. The deadline for return of ballots is 60 days from the date of mailing. The results of the election will be announced to the candidates within 30 days after the election results are determined and to the voting membership as soon as practical thereafter. The winning candidate will take up his or her position on 1 January 2017.

If you have not already submitted a Consent to Use of Electronic Transmissions so that you are eligible to vote electronically in case of a ballot, we urge you to do so immediately by visiting [here](#). 

TAJ Theme Issues

“The Sense and Nonsense of Research in the Human Sciences”

Coeditors: Bill Cornell and Mark Widdowson
Deadline: 1 July 2016

“Gender, Sexuality, and Identity”

Coeditors: Brad McLean and Bill Cornell
Deadline: 1 January 2017

Please follow the submission requirements posted [here](#). Email manuscripts to TAJ Managing Editor Robin Fryer, MSW, at robinfryer@aol.com.

Welcome to New Members

OCTOBER 2015

Philip Anthony, UK
Lisa Armitage, UK
Sonja Billmann, Germany
Jackie Charman, UK
Michael DeYoung, USA
Michelle Giesbert, Netherlands
Joe Holmes, UK
Monika Knausenberger, Australia
Aya Konoike, Japan
Michaela Kopruch, New Zealand
Wahada Majid, UK
Hirashi Matsumura, Japan
Peter Milnes, Australia
Deborah Moore, UK
Susan Norman, UK
Mark Pope, New Zealand
Anastasia Rosen-Jones, USA
Paul Schulten, Netherlands
Bojana Škoric, Serbia
Cath Townley, UK
Hans Van Elk, Netherlands
Ingrid Vienings, UK
Richard Youell, UK

NOVEMBER 2015

Elizabeth Bradshaw, UK
Nea Clark, UK
Philip Crolla, UK
Jane Fligelstone, UK
Astrid Hooghiem, Netherlands
Jutta Leerink, Netherlands
Dymphna Loneragan, UK
Alejandro Meza Sumari, Peru
Veronique Raingeval, UK
Anjana Rajani, UK
Frans Rensen, Netherlands
Froukje Willering, Netherlands

DECEMBER 2015

Byum Hyun Ahn, Korea
Deborah Durkin, UK
Lynn Esslemont, UK
Martin Madern, Netherlands
Fenno Meijer, Netherlands
Manon Moret, Netherlands
Rizwana Nulwala, India
Fenya Ten Kortenaar, Netherlands
Raissa Verdult, Netherlands
John Williams, UK

A. Geethan writes about a 3-day workshop in Chennai, India, in October 2015 sponsored by Nibbana Institute for Organisational Development entitled “Leadership Coaching and Organizational Development” with Bernd Schmid from Germany. The workshop was the culmination of an exchange of organizational development experience over the past 3 years between Bernd Schmid and Geethan, the head of Nibbana. The workshop drew a sizeable audience that included senior managers from leading organizations and upcoming entrepreneurs. The focus was on building a learning culture in organizations, and participants were exposed to radically new concepts about leadership and organizational development by Bernd. (The workshop was videotaped and is available [here](#).) During the workshop, a book titled *The Guided Journey of a Caterpillar*, coauthored by Bernd and Geethan, was released. It describes how Bernd mentored Geethan to develop a systemic frame of reference when working with organizations. The book release event was organized by Madras Management Association, one of the prestigious management associations in India, and was attended by more than 200 people. Mr. Chandramohan, Managing Director of Hatsun Agro Products, the largest private dairy in India, was the chief guest. (An e-copy of the book is being released shortly.)



Congratulations to the Ecole d'Analyse Transactionnelle-Paris-Ile de France, Psychothérapie (School of Transactional Analysis for Paris and the Paris Area, Psychotherapy), which celebrated its 20th anniversary on 28 November 2015. Shown here are the faculty (from left, front row): Anne Noé, Françoise Tachker-Brun, Laurie Hawkes, and Isabelle Crespelle; (back row from left): Catherine Gérard, Georges Escribano, France Brécard, Nicole Pagnod-Rossiaux, Nathalie Deffontaines, and Jean Maquet.



At the book launch for The Guided Journey of a Caterpillar (from left): Gr Capt Vijayakumar (Executive Director of Madras Management Association), Bernd Schmid, Mr Chandramohan, and Geethan



Participants of Chennai workshop with Bernd Schmid (front row center)

Successful Exams Held in St. Petersburg, Russia, and Nivelles, Belgium

St. Petersburg Exams

by Elena Soboleva

I am pleased to report that the EATA Council of Certification (COC) exams held in St. Petersburg, Russia, in November 2015 were a big success, with more than 20 EATA examiners and candidates participating from Russia, Holland, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Ukraine, and Switzerland. We felt brave to hold these exams in our complex world, and we learned a lot, including that it possible to organize exams in Russia in spite of some obstacles. I want to thank COC chair Sue Eusden and EATA observer Alessandra Pierini for their kind support as I coordinated the exams from Russia. Thanks also to:

Examiners: Marijke Arendsen Hein (TSTA-P, C, Holland), Hanna Parhodko (PTSTA-P, Ukraine), Boris Volodin (PTSTA-P, Russia), Barbara Repinc Zupancic (PTSTA-P, Slovenia), Paula Dishman (PTSTA-P, UK), Liselotte Fassbind-Kech (TSTA-C, Switzerland), Dmitri Shustov (TSTA-P, Russia), Armelle Brunot (PTSTA-P, France), Ekaterina Bulgakova (PTSTA-P, Ukraine), Diana Kononova (PTSTA-P, Russia), and Nadezhda Zujkova (PTSTA-P, Russia).



(From left): Boris Volodin (PTSTA-P, examiner), Dina Kononova (PTSTA-P, examiner), Dmitri Shustov (TSTA-P, examiner), Tatiana Agibalova (new CTA-P), Ludmila Sjoholm (PTSTA-P), Alevtina Kravtsova (new CTA-P), Tatiana Sizikova (TSTA-P), Victoria Dvoynishnikova (new CTA-P), Vladimir Goussakovski (TSTA-P), Elena Soboleva (TSTA-P), and Nadezhda Zuykova (PTSTA-P, examiner)

The President of SITA Elena Gamzina and members of the council Marina Sokovnina, Alevtina Kravtsova (who was also a candidate), Victoria Trofimova, Inna Kochurova, and Elena Soboleva

Volunteers: Tatiana Williams, Irina Beliavtsova, and Jlia Gradova

Translators: Anna Filinskaya, Sergey Makov, Oksana Nizhevskaya, Alexander Shustov, and Elena Smolonogina

Our new CTAs are Tatiana Agibalova, Alevtina Kravtsova, and Victoria

Dvoynishnikova of Russia and Zarina Sevalneva of Ukraine.

Reflecting on the exams, new CTA Zarina Sevalneva (Ukraine) writes, "I want to thank the SITA Council for organizing the exams. You were the first to show the way for new TA opportunities for Eastern Europe and created a safe space for open communications and removed language barriers. Through your courage to be the first professional organization to care for and recognize us candidates, I felt safe, relevant, and important."



(From left): Tatiana Agibalova (new CTA-P), Sue Eusden, Zorina Sevalneva (new CTA-P), and Elena Soboleva

Examiner Boris Volodin of Russia writes, "This is one of the most important events in my professional life, a wonderful process that was incredible in its personal and professional depth."

fied my thoughts about my role as a TA person in the world and how I can influence the lives of others from an OK-OK position. The exams were a chance to see how people from different countries, cultures,

Barbara Repinc Zupancic of Slovenia offered, "Our Russian colleagues did a great job. Unfortunately, while we were there the plane from St. Petersburg crashed in Egypt, so the city was in mourning. Seeing people there grieving intensi-

language groups, religions, and habits can create a positive exam atmosphere. These exams were also a historic moment for EATA because they were the first held in Russia."

Elena Gamzina, President of SITA, says, "The idea to organize EATA exams in Russia was brought to the SITA Council by Elena Soboleva, our delegate to EATA. I am thrilled that SITA could accomplish the exams so successfully and happy that all the candidates passed!"

Special thanks to Marijke Arendsen Hein and Liselotte Fassbind-Kech for the workshops they offered in conjunction with the exams. It was also helpful for the trainees who hope to take their exams in the future to participate in a mock exam. We have all lived a wonderful exam experience!



South Asian Transactional Analysis Conference Hosted by Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) 2-4 September 2016 🐦 Dhaka, Bangladesh

For more information: www.askbd.org/ask/

The South Asian Association of Transactional Analysts (SAATA), in partnership with Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK), is pleased to sponsor the 2016 South Asian Transactional Analysis Conference in Dhaka. The hope is to inspire and provide opportunities for professional growth and development and to showcase practicing TA therapists in this part of the world to an international TA community. IBOC examinations will take place on 1 September 2016. The conference is open to all aspirants of personal and professional growth and change: therapists, counselors, physicians, educators, consultants, trainers, corporate executives, coaches, parents, students, and others. The program will include a preconference institute and exams, plenaries/keynote speeches, lectures, workshops, and poster presentations. In addition, the annual ITAA Board of Trustees meeting and the annual general meetings of the ITAA and the SAATA will occur in conjunction with the conference.

The IBOC exams in Dhaka will be held on 1 September 2016. They will be limited to 2 TSTA and 4-6 CTA candidates. Please apply early if you are interested in being examined there.

Nivelles Exams

Participants in the 6-7 Nivelles, Belgium, COC exams, including the first CTAs in Poland (bottom from left): Florence Van Loon (CTA-P), Sander Reinalda (TSTA-C), Yannick Quenet (TSTA-P), Isabelle Taquin (organizer for TSTA level, TSTA-P), Linda Hoeben (TSTA-P), Anne Hueschens (TSTA-E); (second row seated from left): Marleen Dehondt (president of Vita, the other Belgian association for the Flemish language, who was there as a translator), Virginie Vassas (CTA-O), Gwenola Prêcheur (CTA-O), Alicia Smelkowska (new Polish CTA-P); (standing from left): Jill Hunt (EATA observer), Monique Maystadt (TSTA-P, organizer for CTA level), Brigitte Evrard (TSTA-P, process facilitator, English), Véronique Guelfucci (TSTA-E, process facilitator, French), Myriam Ladeuze (CTA-P), Yves Miglietti (CTA-C), Louise Robinson (CTA-P), Anna Fraczek (new Polish CTA-P), Huguette Lanèque (CTA-O), Izabella Bobrowska (new Polish CTA-P), Carole Bishop Jones (CTA-P), Danijela Kodzic (CTA-P). Also successful but had already left so is not in the photo: Claude Lesaffre (CTA-O).



EXAM CALENDAR

Exam Date	Exam	Cert. Body	Location	Application Deadline
30-31 Mar 2016	CTA	COC	Hinkley, UK	*
5-6 Jul 2016	CTA	COC	Geneva, Switzerland	*
1 Sep 2016	CTA	BOC	Dhaka, Bangladesh	1 June 2016+
10-11 Nov 2016	CTA	COC	Koln-Rösrath, Germany	*
10-11 Nov 2016	CTA	COC	Montpellier, France	*
24 Nov 2016	CTA	IBOC	Auckland, New Zealand	24 Aug 2016
9-10 Nov 2017	CTA	COC	Koln-Rösrath, Germany	*

30-31 Mar 2016	TSTA	COC	Hinkley, UK	30 Sep 2015
5-6 Jul 2016	TSTA	COC	Geneva, Switzerland	5 Jan 2016
1 Sep 2016	TSTA	BOC	Dhaka, Bangladesh	1 Mar 2016 +
10-11 Nov 2016	TSTA	COC	Koln-Rösrath, Germany	10 May 2016
10-11 Nov 2016	TSTA	COC	Montpellier, France	10 May 2016
9-10 Nov 2017	TSTA	COC	Koln-Rösrath, Germany	9 May 2017

19-21 Mar 2016	TEW	COC	Krakow, Poland	*
11-13 Jul 2016	TEW	COC	Geneva, Switzerland	*
4-6 Sep 2016	TEW	IBOC	Dhaka, Bangladesh	4 May 2016
2-4 Dec 2016	TEW	COC	TBA	*

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

+ The IBOC exams in Dhaka will be limited to 2 TSTA and 4-6 CTA candidates. Please apply early if you are interested in being examined there.

For more information about IBOC exams, see www.itaaworld.org.

For further information on COC exams, see www.eatanews.org/examinations/.



The first three Certified Transactional Analysts (psychotherapy) in Poland, all trainees of Dominique Dye, who passed their exams in Nivelles, Belgium, on 6-7 November 2015 (from left): Alicia Smelkowska (CTA-P), Dominique Dye (TSTA-P), Anna Fraczek (CTA-P), Izabella Bobrowska (CTA-P), and Agata Ribay (TA trainee and translator)