

**VOL. 46 NO. 6
JUNE 2016**

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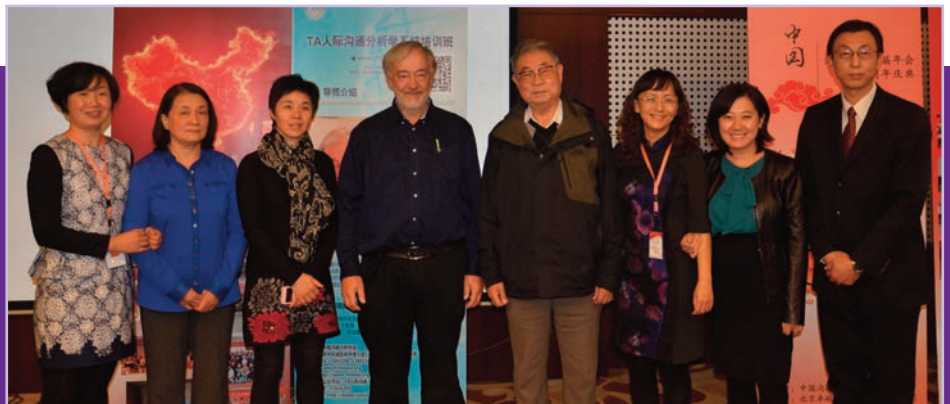
CONFERENCE AFTERWARD

First Annual China Transactional Analysis Association Conference

by Chen Lei and Xu Lili

On 24 October 2015 we welcomed participants to the first conference of the China Transactional Analysis Association (CTAA) and to our celebration of the 10th anniversary of TA training in mainland China! Since starting the training here in 2005, transactional analysis has developed steadily, overcoming many hardships. We are endlessly grateful to our teacher Thomas Ohlsson, to those involved in forming the association, and to the organizers who created this beautiful day, the theme of which was "Open, United, Adult, Winning Together."

Honored guests at the conference included professor Liu Fuyuan, professor Yang Mei, professor Tian Guoxiu, and other distinguished psychologists who gave short speeches and shared their rich experiences and deep learning. Among the special guests was our indispensable, esteemed, and beloved teacher Thomas. Over 10 years he has spread TA to more than ten provinces all over China, a big contribution that has taken much mental and physical effort. We are all moved by this gentle TA veteran who has such a steadfast and loving heart.



(from left) Xu Lili, Yang Mei, Tian Guoxiu, Thomas Ohlsson, Liu Fuyuan, Chen Lei, Zhou Sili, and Zhang Bin



Participants at first annual Chinese TA Association conference

Before opening the conference, we watched a short video about the last 10 years put together by the association's Teacher Chen Xin. Professor Liu, Teacher Yang, and Teacher Tian excitedly discussed the old pictures shown in the video with Teacher Thomas. Many students found their faces in the photos, which brought back happy memories.

After introductions made by the Secretary General of the China TA Association Zhang Bin, CTAA President Ms. Chen Lei reviewed 10 years of TA development here. After meeting Teacher Thomas in 2011, she began organizing TA training and initiated the CTAA. During the past 5 years, three groups of basic-level TA consultants graduated; a TA training structure was set up; and much experience was gained in the practical application and promotion of TA. At present, CTAA not only continues to develop systematic training and group work in counseling and psychotherapy but is also active in promoting transactional analysis in schools, hospitals, organizations, and institutions.

The former director of Tongren Hospital and chair of the Beijing Mental Health Association, professor Liu Fuyuan, recalled organizing the first TA course in 2005 and meeting Thomas. Describing the last 10 years of TA development in China, Tian Guoxiu, associate dean at the Institute of Political Science and Law at Capital Normal University, used the word "amazing." Teacher Thomas has taught transactional analysis on the mainland since 2005 after TA was introduced into China by Teacher Yang Mei. Beijing Mental Health Association's President Liu

Fuyuan, its Secretary General Liao Yaming, and Teacher Zhao Mei arranged the first TA 101 course in China, which was taught by Thomas.

Teacher Tian Guoxiu and Teacher Cheng Peng, vice-chief at Beijing Golden Eagle Cultural Company, took the TA training in 2006-2008 taught by Teacher Thomas and his colleagues Teacher Roland Johnson and Teacher Annika Björk from the Institute for Life Therapy (ILT) in Malmö, Sweden. Then Teacher Lin Guirui of the Beijing Association for Higher Education of Counsellors organized a system of TA training for teachers at colleges and universities, which was taught by Thomas. When Ms. Chen Lei started TA training and established CTAA in 2012, she took over TA's relay baton. Each of these people found their own way to promote TA's development.

Following this recitation of TA's history in China, Teacher Yang Mei and Teacher Thomas gave their keynote speeches.

Yang Mei, Psychology Professor of Capital University of Economy and Trade, Registered Supervisor of the Chinese Association for Psychologists, graduate of the first 3-year TA training program in China in 2008, gave her keynote speech on "Notes on Building Bridges." She recalled

the **SCRIPT**

Newsletter of the International Transactional Analysis Association

5932 Corte Cerritos
Pleasanton, CA 94566-5880, USA
Fax: 925-600-8112
Email: info@itaaworld.org
Website: www.itaaworld.org

Editors: Laurie Hawkes and Steff Oates
Managing Editor: Robin Fryer
Desktop Publishing: lockwood design

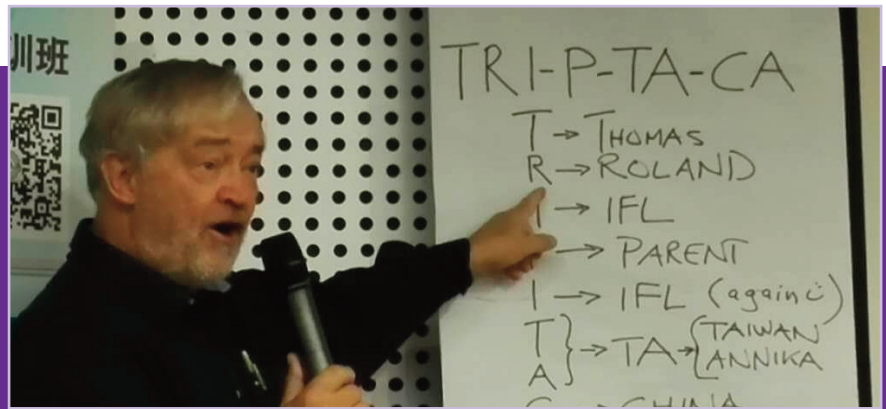
Deadlines—15th of the month prior to the month of publication (e.g., 15 June for the July issue)

Advertising: Twelfth page: \$50; sixth page: \$100; third page: \$200; half page: \$300; full page: \$400. Publication of advertising in *The Script* does not imply endorsement by the newsletter, the editor, or the ITAA.

The Script (ISSN 0164-7393) is published monthly by the International Transactional Analysis Association. For information on membership, visit www.itaaworld.org or contact the ITAA at the above address. © 2016 International Transactional Analysis Association, Inc.

how she first met Thomas at an international conference in Beijing in 2004. After that, she worked hard to promote TA together with Teachers Zhao Mei and Liao Yaming. Teacher Yang shared how she and Thomas cooperated to write the first Chinese textbook on TA (published in 2013). Teacher Yang said she never thought CTAA would achieve so much so quickly: study groups online and offline, salons, seminars, even stand-up comedy. She expressed her heartfelt admiration for President Chen Lei, vice-president Xu Lili, and the competency of the conference team.

The second keynote speech was given by Thomas Ohlsson, who has his doctorate in psychology from Swedish Lund University and is a licensed clinical psychologist, licensed psychotherapist, and an ITAA and EATA Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst (psychotherapy). In “Notes on Journey to the East,” he gave a long opening statement in Chinese, which surprised everyone and led to warm applause! (Thomas studied Chinese language and history for many years, eventually receiving a bachelor’s degree in both from Lund University.) He said that since he traveled west when he was 18 to study in America, going to China to teach TA was to travel east. He referred to China’s classic novel “Notes on Journey to the West,” in which the monk Sanzang was sent west to collect the holy Buddhist scriptures. Thomas wrote out the English name for Sanzang, “Tripitaka,” in which he found TA, PAC, T (Thomas), R (Roland), A (Annika), I (IFL), T (Taiwan), and C (China). He said it must mean that Thomas, Roland, and Annika were supposed to travel east to deliver TA (which Tripitaka forgot to fetch to China). Thomas said that



Thomas Ohlsson explains links to the name Tripitaka

his travels east began in the 1980s when he started teaching TA in Taiwan, which he did for 20 years. Then, for the past 10 years, he has traveled to mainland China to continue his teaching.

Teacher Thomas continued his keynote by playing several minutes of Swedish music, which conveyed the theme of loving meeting and melancholy parting. Full of feelings, Thomas recalled meaningful and touching episodes from the past 10 years of introducing and teaching TA in mainland China. At the end of his speech, Thomas played a song by Deng Lijun based on a 1000-year old poem by Su Shi about meeting and parting, an eternal theme for humankind. Sweden and China are separated by thousands of miles, but people’s feelings are the same. Thank you, Teacher Thomas, for using 10 years of your life to fly 41 times to and from mainland China to spread TA! The distance you have traveled could have taken you from Earth to the moon and back!

Following Thomas’s keynote, there were applied theme presentations that provided many stimulating learning experiences. Several presenters shared their experiences of using TA in their respective fields.

The following paragraphs give a taste of seven teachers’ theme presentations.

Yang Mei, Registered Supervisor of the Chinese Association for Psychologists, Professor of Capital University of Economy and Trade, discussed “Introducing TA Into Chinese University Curriculum of Psychology.” When she teaches psychology to new college students, Teacher Yang gives them a strong emotional orientation to becoming “future citizens, ambassadors and new parents.” She offers an elective course at Beijing University and at Beijing Normal University disseminating TA theory and tools.

Xu Lili, Vice-President of the Chinese TA Association, registered psychology teacher, MA in psychology at China Science Academy, shared on the topic of “Using TA in Organizations.” Teacher Xu, who has many years of experience training in organizations, shared about various aspects of organizational work.

Yang Haibo, senior playwright, graduate of the first TA training program in China, imagery dialogue natural pearl-level counselor, shared on “How to Use Imagery Root-Seeking Techniques in Decontamination Work.” As a playwright, Teacher

Yang has studied humanity, history, society, and psychology. In recent years, he and his wife, Ms. Zhao Yancheng, have devoted themselves to individual psychological counseling. By sharing early feelings and feelings from later on, as well as using the method of intentionally seeking one's roots, one can find the original feelings and gradually achieve decontamination.

Tian Juan, China applied TA consultant, psychological counselor, MA in psychology from Beijing Normal University, editor of a higher education publishing company, talked about "How to Use TA in Education of Parents with Children Aged 0–6 Years." Being pregnant with her second child, Teacher Tian Juan has personal experience of using TA to raise children. She blended TA techniques and parent education beautifully and used ego states, time structure, and strokes to give examples.

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Zhou Sili, chairperson of the China TA Association's committee for counseling and psychotherapy, PhD in psychology from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, lecturer at China Women's University in Beijing, discussed "Children's Stories Are Deceptive: Script Illusions of Clients in TA Therapy." Teacher Sili has been Teacher Thomas's interpreter and student for 10 years and has devoted herself to applying TA in counseling and therapy. She is in the final stages of translating Eric Berne's book *What Do You Say After You Say Hello?*

Liang Xiuli, applied TA consultant, head nurse of the Department of

Cosmetic Plastic Surgery at the Military Police Hospital in Beijing, head of staff, presented on "Using TA in the Area of Medical Treatment." Guided by Ms. Zheng Yanfang, Teacher Liang and her colleagues at the Beijing Military Police Hospital introduced TA techniques in supervising the hospital's 700 staff and found TA concepts useful in medical consultations and communication, including managing doctor-patient communication conflicts, training nurses to provide better patient care, and helping management solve personnel allocation problems.

Shi Meng, applied TA consultant, psychology teacher in Harbin for 14 years, Harbin Daoli District Psychology Teaching and Research member, and Heilongjiang province TV program guest speaker, discussed "Being a Vigorous and Committed Promoter of TA." Being CTAA's partner in the northeast for more than 2 years, Teacher Shi Meng arranged several TA courses in Harbin and set up TA reading groups, family study groups, and regular weekly TA salons to spread TA ideas.

At the end of the presentations, CTAA President Chen Lei spoke about TA's development and future applications in China and looked ahead in four directions: theory training, practical training, spreading TA, and teacher certification. The association will continue to promote Teacher Thomas's systematic training programs and to improve established study systems while working to spread TA all over China. 

Chen Lei and the CTAA can be reached at amy@chinata.org.



South Asian Transactional Analysis Conference

Hosted by Ain o Salish
Kendra (ASK)

2-4 September 2016
Dhaka, Bangladesh

For more information,
visit the ASK website:
www.askbd.org/ask/
IBOC Examinations:
31 August - 1 September 2016

The annual ITAA Board of Trustees meeting and annual general meetings of the ITAA and the SAATA will occur in conjunction with the conference.

Creating With Fairy-Tale Wool

by Cinzia Chiesa

I discovered carded wool, or as I call it, “fairy-tale wool,” 15 years ago. Ever since, I have used it not only for creative purposes but also to test its potential in various relational areas, including psychotherapy and training with children and adults.

Fairy-tale wool is similar to soft cotton wool, which can be dyed with natural colors, take shape if wadded up, be felted with water, and be transformed into ultrafine threads and transparent, almost imperceptible weaves if gently stretched be-

tween the fingers. It is a pliable, inviting material that changes depending on the person who uses it.

One of my most inspiring professional experiences was using fairy-tale wool in a workshop inspired by Claude Steiner’s (1977) story *The*

Original Warm

Fuzzy Tale. The warm fuzzies were the core of this encounter and emotional storytelling for a group of 5- to 9-year-old children. All the children closed their eyes and touched a piece of wool, feeling its texture and noting their impressions. This preliminary exploration was followed by the exchange of small pieces of wool among the children, caresses, nonverbal acknowledgment, and experimentation with proximity and contact. The children then used these brief

sensory dialogues as a stimulus for depicting their experience on sheets of felt.

This workshop demonstrates some of the reasons I consider the use of fairy-tale wool important, including the centrality of touch, the importance of the encounter between self and other and self and a malleable material, and the creative experience that gives rise to the construction of objects and narratives.

In experiencing contact with fairy-tale wool, where touch is fundamental, individuals use their hands to



Some of the children's wool stories



A little girl discovering fairy-tale wool



Carded wool figures of mothers and children

create a conduit between their inner self and the outer world, allowing them to transform their emotions and feelings into actions and tangible objects.

Tactile perception develops in the first months of life in the womb and is the channel of contact between the mother and the child from birth on. This sensorial channel conveys body memories recorded in the script protocol related to the first experiences of touching and being touched and the pleasant or unpleasant sensations associated with those experiences.

As psychoanalyst Mimma Della Cagnoletta (2010) described, three creative/artistic processes emerge in the use of fairy-tale wool: (1) concentration of the body, in which tactile experimentation—touch, movement, and the rhythm of the body—prevails; (2) shaping, by which form is given to the material and objects with which the individual interacts; and (3) symbolic narrative, wherein the search for meaning is key, and elements of the artistic project are connected to elements of the individual's


personal story. These three processes are part of a path of development and correspond to passages of growth, although once the process of symbolic narrative has been reached, the other two processes persist and can be used simultaneously.

In my own artistic experience, when I touch and transform fairy-tale wool, I feel that the energy of my Child is alive, and I sense a deep, intimate need to search for forms and substances that closely reflect what I am feeling and facing at that moment in my life. Examples of this include creations that I crafted after

the birth of my second child. They depict mothers with children and families that are reorganizing boundaries and bonds.

I see artistic objects as a form of communication, a method of connecting ourselves to others, and a means of transforming our inner domain into something concrete and shareable. I believe that the artistic process of creating physical objects has other roles as well. The artistic process repairs, allowing us to tap into our creative potential—or physis, as Berne (1949) would say—in order to reconstruct and transform experiences of suffering. The artistic process also plays a synthesizing role, by which, within the boundaries of the creative process, polarities and dichotomies share the same space; this opens up dialogue and comparison in order to achieve balance in the physical object that is created. Finally, the artistic process also has the function of containing, giving a voice and visibility to emotions within a well-defined and protective framework.

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Cinzia Chiesa is a psychologist, psychotherapist, and Provisional Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst (psychotherapy) who lives and works in Milan, Italy. She is part of the board of the Centro di Psicologia e Analisi Transazionale (CPAT) and a member of the Cooperativa Sociale Terrenuove. Her main clinical interests are in the area of child development and parenting, and she works with children, adolescents, and their families. Cinzia is also a member of the editorial boards of the Italian journal *Quaderni di Psicologia, analisi transazionale e scienze umane* and the *Transactional Analysis Journal*, in which she has published articles on play therapy, sand therapy, and creativity as way of working with children. In 2014 she published her first picture book, *o-1 Tutto inizia*, which is dedicated to her two sons and is about the first moments and months of life. Cinzia can be reached at cinzia_chiesa@tiscali.it.

People Don't Kill People: TA Manifesto 2016

by Anne de Graaf

We, the signatories of the manifesto published on page 8, share great worries about recent acts of violence around the world and also about the reaction of the authorities involved. By means of this manifesto, we want to call for reflection in order to avoid further hurt and bloodshed.

Among others, the keynote speakers at the 2015 EATA conference in Rome, Italy, told us gently that we in the transactional analysis community are too inward looking. We agree and think it is time to show where we stand.

The manifesto, which is reprinted on page 8 and also on the web at www.ta-manifesto2016.org, has been translated into French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, and Arabic. We are mindful that we do not want to take a political stand and do not want to mix up our private enterprises with this initiative. We want as many transactional analysis professionals as possible to sign.

The manifesto is to be published in TA publications all around the world. Here is where we need your help. The more people who sign this manifesto, the more impact it can have.

We hope you will add your signature to it. Your support comes with a small price. We ask each of the signatories to contribute at least €35/\$40, with no upper limit. We will use the money to publish the manifesto in relevant non-TA magazines. If the money stands in the way of you signing, just donate whatever you can.

Every signatory listed under the manifesto to this point is now contacting a first round of people whom we think will support our idea. Gradually, we will widen the network. You can help: Ask TA professionals in your network to contribute by signing the manifesto and paying the fee.

To join in this effort, visit us online at www.ta-manifesto2016.org, where you will find all the information you need to sign, donate, and spread the message. We will be 100% transparent in how your money is used.

If you need additional information, you can contact us at this email: info@ta-manifesto2016.org.

We hope you will join us.

Anne de Graaf, TSTA
(organizational), can be reached at
anne@ta-academie.nl.

See page 8 for the Manifesto.

Editors' Note: We appreciate the efforts of individual members to address important social needs and issues of social responsibility, and the ITAA is not in a position to support or endorse specific activities or initiatives. We recognize that ideas vary about how to best make a positive impact in the world and that talking about the difficult, often wrenching realities we face worldwide can raise strong feelings and opinions. This manifesto represents an initiative put forward by a group of transactional analysts and does not represent the view of any group other than the signatories. As evidenced by other articles we have published in this column, we are interested in ways that transaction analysts are working to positively impact our world and welcome news of other initiatives and/or ideas. We view *The Script* as a place in which a variety of views can be expressed.

The Manifesto

Part of the Solution?

We are professionals working with transactional analysis (TA) on a daily basis. TA is known for its belief in the possibility of growth and change. We, the signatories of this manifesto, share great worries about recent acts of violence all over the world (in Beirut, Mumbai, Paris, San Bernardino, Brussels, Lahore, etc.) and about the reaction of the authorities involved (e.g., proclaiming that we are at war, etc.). This manifesto intends to draw attention to the various forms of collateral damage that come with these actions and reactions. We are also shocked by our own responses to these escalating events. By means of this manifesto, we call for reflection in order to avoid further hurt and bloodshed.

Those signing this manifesto realize that within transactional analysis, the definition of a bystander is “someone who does not become involved when someone else needs help” (Clarkson, 1996; see also Jacobs, 1987). Instead of being bystanders, we choose to be participants and not to leave this moment in history in the hands of others. The point of raising our voices, however, is—in the words of Petruska Clarkson—“not to posit a final answer to intricate human dilemmas, but to question the lie that there in fact is any such position as that of innocent bystander.” Witnessing this immense problem, we want to be part of some kind of solution.

People Don’t Kill People

Former International Transactional Analysis Association President George Kohlrieser (2006) describes, in the first chapter of his book *Hostage at the Table*, the story of a grandmother and her granddaughter who survived a brutal raid by what the police later called a psychopathic murderer. They did so by treating the man who attacked them with kindness and respect. This disarmed him both literally and figuratively. We wholeheartedly agree with Kohlrieser when he writes, “The fact is that people don’t kill people; they kill

things and objects.” In order to assassinate others, you must first rob them of their humanity. If people don’t kill people, how did we get into a situation in which we all seem to forget we are human beings, members of one of the races of homo sapiens, men, women, children? If people don’t kill people, what happened to us that made us all begin to reify our fellow inhabitants of the planet Earth? If people don’t kill people, where on earth did we all get off track? What happened to kindness and respect?

We Are Afraid

We deliberately do not want to talk about us and them, good and bad, knowing and not knowing, terrorists and counterterrorists, cops and robbers. We believe that the questions raised by Friedrich Glasl, a German authority on conflict, deliver a more accessible path. He suggests we start asking ourselves, “Am I (are we) fanning the flames?” And then that we consider, “How can I (we) behave constructively rather than attack and avoid others?” We want to give these questions serious consideration because we believe we’re in this together. We cocreated this mess. (Cocreation is not the same as collaboration!) We would like to see the situation we are in as a (psychological) game “hors catégorie” (Cornell et al., 2016). Hundreds of people—perpetrators and victims—have died. Thousands of people—again, perpetrators and victims—have been wounded. Millions of people—perpetrators and victims—are afraid. We are afraid. This fear creates a vicious circle (a game). It is time to do whatever is possible to break this cycle.

Victim of Profiling?

What are we afraid of? As we said, there is much collateral damage to regret. We notice a tendency toward what is called “profiling people.” In profiling, one uses personal characteristics or behavior patterns to make generalizations about someone. For instance, we are aware that any other human being we meet who has the (imagined) characteristics of someone from the Middle East or North Africa is easily seen as a potential threat. We do not want that. We are more or

less all victims of the violence that is going on. To profile people in such a way feels like a violation of their and our autonomy. Without being naïve, we want to meet other people uninhibited, regardless of their race, gender, class, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or other aspects of what they look like or where they come from. We want to encounter others with an open mind and a welcoming heart. It scares us that that capability in us seems to be in decline. Although it seems to happen to us, it is not a natural disaster. We need to turn this around.

Stop Escalation and Dehumanization

Eric Berne, as described on the cover of his famous book *Games People Play*, wanted “to expose the secret plays and unconscious maneuvers that rule [we want to add “and ruin”] our intimate lives.” One thing is clear: For the benefit of all involved, this game needs to stop! One way to do this is to expose the game for what it really is. Friedrich Glasl writes about the escalation of conflict in human relations by pointing at “the gradual intensification of a conflict as a downward movement.” He warns that “this escalation progressively activates deeper and more subconscious levels in people (and in groups) until these people (or groups) completely lose their self-control.” Are we standing at the threshold of losing self-control? At any rate, we feel we are losing. The process of escalation often involves depriving others of their humanity. This may begin with “forgetting” their name in order to talk about “that bastard,” “those idiots,” or even “those animals,” whereas in the animal world it is rare that a member of a species kills one of its own.

We Can Do Better

Transactional analysis, as a theory of social intercourse, is known for its belief in the possibility of growth and change. We witness people changing their minds, their behavior, and their lives on a daily basis. We as human beings can do so much better. We can do better by being

continued on page 9



Ragini Rao (center seated) with group at TA 101 in Kawai, Rajasthan

New Postal Address for the ITAA

Effective 1 June, the new postal address for the ITAA is 5932 Corte Cerritos, Pleasanton, CA 94566-5880, USA. Mail to the old address will continue to be forwarded until 1 August.

Ragini Rao writes, “I had an opportunity to conduct several two-day TA 101s in October 2015 in three remote locations in India. This was part of a contract I had signed with an organization that has thermal power plants in these locations. The participants were junior and middle-level engineers working in the plants. The focus was primarily on self-discovery and understanding how one’s behavior impacts others. Although most participants were familiar with and had a basic knowledge of English, their ability to speak and understand it is limited. Hence, most of the explanation had to be done in Hindi. My own ability to not only speak Hindi but also think in Hindi proved extremely beneficial. (I was born and lived the first 24 years of my life in New Delhi, where the local language is Hindi.) I used stories, narratives, and Hindi movie clips to explain concepts such as ego states, transactions, and strokes. What really appealed to me most about the participants was their simplicity and openness to sharing their feelings, thoughts, and views. The highlight was their enthusiastic sharing (in response to a set of questions I had given them) about their scripts and connecting them to Indian mythological stories. Overall, these were very satisfying experiences for me. And management received such good feedback about the program that they invited me to return, so I did the same class in February 2016 for another set of engineers.”

The Manifesto

continued from page 8

more aware of where we start dehumanizing—big, in the political arena, or small, at home or at work. People don’t kill people! As long as we keep seeing the other—every human being—as one of our own, there is hope for our future together on our wonderful planet.

Words can create a reality that is harmful for all of us. Let us all start minding our words. The English rock band Roxy Music (Ferry & Manzanera, 1979) ends their famous song called “Manifesto” with these words:

Hold out when you’re in doubt
Question what you see
And when you find an answer
Bring it home to me.

We could not agree more!

To join us, please visit
www.ta-manifesto2016.org.

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Keep Your Membership Account Updated!

by Chitra Ravi

I have been the ITAA regional representative for India-Asia since 2014. I took on this role in order to explore new possibilities for the region and to maximize the benefits of ITAA membership for people here. With these goals in mind, I solicited suggestions via email from the region's members.

Apart from minor queries and issues that were quickly resolved, I received emails from some members saying that they had not received their hard copies of the *Transactional Analysis Journal* for 1-2 years. I thought this might be due to an oversight by the ITAA and/or SAGE Publications and so contacted everyone in the region to see if others were having the same problem. I was surprised to learn that as many as 43 members were missing many of the *TAJs*.

Efforts to resolve this unfortunate situation led to a long, overwhelming exercise involving multiple emails going back and forth between the region's members and me as well as between SAGE and me. Bill Cornell, John Heath, C.

Suriyaprakash, Diane Salters, Janet Chin, and Robin Fryer were all involved in many of these email exchanges.

Finally, in March 2016, SAGE sent the missing back copies to all affected members. I was thrilled to receive mails from many people saying that they had received their back copies successfully.

I was also disappointed to receive mails from 14 members whose issues were still pending.

This meant that again we went back and forth on emails to reconfirm addresses, contact numbers, and so on. Quite often, the reason people had not received their *TAJs* was that they had simply not updated their addresses or rectified wrongly entered addresses. Fixing this proved quite costly for the ITAA and SAGE because they had to resend a particular consignment.

I am writing this article to share my experience and to highlight the importance of members consistently keeping the ITAA office updated about any change of status or contact details. I also urge members to keep in touch with their regional



representative to maximize benefits that are available to them before problems escalate.

Please check your entry in our database at least yearly when you renew your membership (or more often if you move or something changes) to ensure that your address and contact information are correct. Log on to itaaworld.org to access your account. We will be mailing out the next *TAJ* to those entitled to a hard copy, and the correct address is crucial to you receiving it.

In the future, requests for back copies of the *Transactional Analysis Journal* will be honored only up to 6 months after an issue is mailed, so check your account listing often and let us know immediately if you are missing a particular issue. 5

Chitra Ravi can be reached at
chitra.seed@gmail.com.

Nominees for the Position of European Representative to the ITAA Board of Trustees

Because there are multiple nominees for the position of European representative to the board of trustees, there will be an election. As per the ITAA bylaws, only European members will receive ballots to vote in this election. We urge all European members to make sure they have a "Consent to Electronic Communications" on file with the ITAA ([click here](#)). In addition, please note the election guidelines published on page 12.

Vladimir Goussakovski, PhD, is a Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst (psychotherapy) who lives and works in St. Petersburg, Russia. He has a psychotherapy practice and does TA training and supervision in Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Armenia. Vladimir is a founding member of the St. Petersburg Institute of TA (SITA), the first Russian TA association affiliated with EATA, and served as SITA president from 2001 to 2005. He is interested in cultural differences and experienced them while studying TA abroad and establishing ongoing TA training in different countries. In 2010 he served as an EATA Committee of Certification member and organized research about problems of TA training and certification in Eastern Europe. From 2011 to 2015 Vladimir served as ITAA Vice President (Operations). He has also served as ITAA Conference Committee Chair and was involved in the organization of the ITAA and World TA Con-



ferences in Bilbao, Chennai, Osaka, San Francisco, and Sydney. He continues to serve in this role and is helping to plan the 2017 World TA Conference in Berlin. Vladimir sees Europe as a center of TA development and a region in which many ITAA members live and work. As European representative, he would look for ways that the ITAA could serve its European members without competing and/or overlapping roles with other TA organizations. This would possibly include world conferences, common training standards, joint research and publications projects, and sharing information and services. He is also committed to keeping close contact with members and exploring their needs.

Alessandra Pierini, PhD, is a psychologist, psychotherapist, and Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst (psychotherapy) who lives and works in Rome, Italy. She is the editor of an Italian TA journal and the founder of the Physis Training Institute in Rome. Because the ITAA has greatly contributed to her professional growth, she would like to express her gratitude by offering her services, passion, and competence as the European representative.



Alessandra has been involved with her national TA association since 2003 as an executive committee member and later as president. She served as EATA Supervising Examin-

er (2010-2015) and worked to improve the quality of the evaluation process and to keep the standard of TA certification high. As a result of that role, she knows a good deal about the state of TA in Europe. Since becoming involved in TA in 1992, she has worked to spread it in Italy and Europe by attending conferences, running workshops, and participating in exams. Alessandra is interested in different ways of thinking about and using TA and how they can cooperate and enrich one another. She views the ITAA as an active international TA community that cares about members' needs, is democratic, and that embodies the values of TA. Her goals as regional representative will include: being a bridge between ITAA and European members, facilitating communications between European members and the ITAA, (3) promoting the ITAA among Europeans, and (4) promoting effectiveness, cohesion, and recognition in the TA community. She would be honored to serve as European representative.

Thomas Steinert, Dipl. Psych, Dipl. Admin, is a Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst (organizational) and a 25-year member of the ITAA who lives in Hanover, Germany. He has actively supported the ITAA since he joined and is the coauthor of two organizational books. Currently, he is the chair of the Eric Berne Memorial Award Committee



and cochair of the ITAA Ethics Committee. In the German TA association and internationally he works as a public promoter for the organizational field. He was honored to be asked to run for the position of European representative to the ITAA board, and to seek support and direction from European ITAA members, he put 11 questions to them. Their answers suggest clear tasks for the European representative: develop the ITAA into a transparent, modern, interconnecting, servicing, inclusive network organization; affiliate strongly as an international organization with all national and regional organizations for project involvement; and have a transparent target list, direct member communication, and reports with feedback. Thomas views these answers as a personal imperative mandate that he feels obliged to follow if he is elected. He considers them absolutely binding. He will be highly committed to win all activists in the ITAA and in international TA networks for these goals and to cooperate with all regions based in the board of trustees to realize some ambitious tasks. He is convinced the ITAA has a great place in

our international communities of transactional analysts and their organizations and hopes to work toward these goals together.

ITAA Election Campaign Guidelines

I. Preamble.

These guidelines are intended to assist in maintaining a spirit of collegiality and essential fairness in all ITAA elections and to keep the amount of campaigning and electioneering for the offices of president-elect, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and membership on the board of trustees within established procedures.

II. Endorsement of Candidates

A. Individual members may endorse candidates for elected positions within the ITAA provided that such endorsement makes clear that it represents the personal view of the endorser.

1. If such personal endorsements are made by individuals holding an elected, appointed, or honored position within the ITAA (or related positions in affiliate

organizations), such individuals may not mention their position within the organization as part of the endorsement.

B. ITAA affiliate organizations may not endorse any candidate for election.

C. ITAA resources or the resources of an affiliate organization may not be used for the purpose of supporting any one candidate over another.

D. The electioneering use of newspaper or journal advertisements is prohibited.

E. The association's newsletter may be used to report the candidacy of members and election results provided that the report is included as a news article and all candidates for a nominated position are represented.

F. The staff of the ITAA are to refrain from electioneering in any form, including making personal statements regarding the qualifications of any candidate.

III. Campaign Statements

A. Candidates may make written statements to appear in the ITAA printed election booklet. Such state-

ITAA Membership Meeting and Proxy Form

Members are urged to attend the 1 September 2016 membership meeting at 18:00 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. If you cannot attend, please fill out the proxy form below. The ITAA Bylaws state that the quorum for conducting business at the membership meeting is 50 voting members or 5% of the qualified voting membership, whichever is smaller. Please sign and send the form to the ITAA Secretary Mandy Lacy at mandy@lacyconsulting.net by 15 August 2016 or file it with her at least 30 minutes before the scheduled time of the meeting. This general proxy will only be used to establish a quorum.

Proxy Vote Form

I (please print) _____ herewith assign my proxy vote to the secretary of the ITAA or to (print name) _____ to be used only to establish a quorum at the membership meeting of the International Transactional Analysis Association, convening on 1 September at 18:00 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ments will be confined to a discussion of issues facing transactional analysis and the ITAA as well as a personal biographical sketch. Statements made by nominees for president-elect may not exceed 400 words; for other nominees statements may not exceed 250 words.

IV. Campaign Spending and Membership Appeal

A. Mass mailings on the part of a candidate for elected position or on behalf of that candidate by other individuals or organizations is prohibited. While it is appropriate for nominees to elected positions within the ITAA to communicate their platforms and qualifications to the membership, mass mailings are deemed inappropriate because they create the possibility of unfair economic advantage for some nominees.

1. Individual personal letters or phone calls to friends and colleagues are appropriate.
2. Form letters or "Dear Colleague"-type letters sent by an individual, a group of individuals, or an affiliate organization to a group of persons on a mailing list are not acceptable practice.

V. Dissemination of Information on Electioneering

- A. The campaign procedures are to be published in the June issue of the *Script* newsletter at the same time and along with the announcement of the nominating committee's selection of candidates for election.
- B. The ITAA central office will mail a copy of the election campaign guidelines to each candidate at the time their nomination is official. ⑤

EXAM CALENDAR

Exam Date	Exam	Cert. Body	Location	Application Deadline
5-6 Jul 2016	CTA	COC	Geneva, Switzerland	*
31 Aug-1 Sept 2016	CTA	BOC	Dhaka, Bangladesh	31 May 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	*
5-6 Jul 2016	TSTA	COC	Geneva, Switzerland	5 Jan 2016
31 Aug-1 Sep 2016	TSTA	IBOC	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
11-13 Jul 2016	TEW	COC	Geneva, Switzerland	*
2-4 Dec 2016	TEW	COC	TBA	*

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

+ 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/.

TA Conferences Worldwide

11 June 2016:

Edinburgh, Scotland.
International Association of Relational Transactional Analysis Conference. Contact: www.relationalta.com.

7-9 July 2016:

Geneva, Switzerland. EATA 40th Anniversary Congress.
Contact: www.eatanews.org

2-4 September 2016:

Dhaka, Bangladesh.
South Asian Association of Transactional Analysts Conference. Contact: www.askbd.org/ask/

24-27 November 2016:

Auckland, New Zealand.
ANZTAA Conference. Contact: <https://nztaa.org.nz/index.php?page=conference2016>

27-29 July 2017:

Berlin, Germany.
World TA Conference.

TAJ Theme Issues

"The Sense & Nonsense of Research in the Human Sciences"

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

"Gender, Sexuality, & Identity"

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

Submission requirements [here](#). Email manuscripts to robinfryer@aol.com.