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Questions for a New Year

by Elana Leigh

By way of marking the beginning of a new decade, I trek in the mountains of Kerala, India. As I leave behind the internal and external clutter of my life and meet myself, I observe with curiosity where and how my mind naturally travels when she is free. A sense of exhilaration emerges that I often miss in my daily life. How is it I wander to be in the world, do the work I do, and yet do not have a mind that is free to wander and wonder?

Over the days I notice where my attention and interest goes. I listen to an audio book about a young woman who traces her grandmother's history. It leads me to connect with my South African family and reflect on my long relationship with India and this community of people who have, over the years, become family.

Among these reflections I am constantly pulled back to the soaring temperatures and fires in Australia, my home now, and I experience how my relationship with nature is forever changed. I am no longer able to take her existence for granted. I cannot mindlessly use and usurp nature for my hedonistic needs; I must account for the required reciprocity, which is to feed and protect in return. My aware-



"I long for transparent, open conversations that are not about power, competition, territory, colonial sensibilities, or any such binary-creating defenses."

ness of the human trait to use someone /something until we no longer need them/it emerges. Perhaps this is our human vulnerability—to exploit—and perhaps it is these dispensable ways that are haunting us.

This question of dispensability leads me to think of the ITAA, which has a long, rich, and varied history. From being a central international association with thousands of members to today being

significantly smaller with a less central role, perhaps this evolution, paradoxically, reflects the attainment of Berne's vision of spreading transactional analysis around the globe. Certainly it is the case that today's regional and national associations are strongly autonomous, competent, and professional.

Thus, among the challenges facing the ITAA at this point in its history are questions of sustainability and relevance. How relevant is the ITAA to its members around the world? What role can we most usefully play? What identity would be most meaningful for the ITAA to hold within the international TA community? The hope is that we can ask and seek to answer such questions from a curious, nondefensive place. Are we dealing with a question of dispensability or one of evolution?

The way we value our history will influence our responses to these dilemmas and questions, and that

"As we reignite ourselves as a community invested in social justice and action in ways that are congruent with our values and philosophy, our strength shines through and perhaps the question of survival changes."

valuing or lack thereof may create and inform very different answers. I am not a politician or a strategist, rather, perhaps, more of a romantic idealist lost in translation or in my personal history. I long for transparent, open conversations that are not about power, competition, territory, colonial sensibilities, or any such binary-creating defenses.

Perhaps these questions are not the sole responsibility of the ITAA but for all world members of the

TA community. Does the ITAA have meaning for the transactional analyst in a village in India, a rural town in Romania, a city in Japan, South America, the USA, Korea, China, the United Kingdom, and the many places in the world where TA is loved and practiced? And as we reignite ourselves as a community invested in social justice and action in ways that are congruent with our values and philosophy, our strength shines through and perhaps the question of survival changes.

I wish you all a good year, and thank you to all who have sent your love and prayers to the land and people of Australia. 🇺🇸

ITAA President Elana Leigh can be reached at elanaleigh23@gmail.com.

Results of ITAA Officer and Board Nominations

The nominations for ITAA Board of Trustees officers and regional representatives resulted in the following:

President-Elect:

Chitra Ravi and Julie Hay
(election to be held)

Vice President Development:

Deepak Dhananjaya

Secretary: Rema Gridihar

Australasia Regional

Representative:

Jo Frasca and Anne Tucker
(election to be held)

India/Asia Regional

Representative:

Prathitha Gangadharan

Deepak and Prathitha will both continue on the board for another 3-year term, and Rema will join the

board at the end of the annual general membership meeting in July. There will be a ballot sent to all ITAA members for the president-elect position and a ballot to all members of the Australasian region for the regional representative position. Details about the two elections will be announced in the March 2020 *Script*. 🇺🇸

Membership Dues Payment Options

The options for paying your ITAA membership dues now include Pay Pal and wire transfer. Please contact Ken Fogleman at ken@itaa-net.org for details.

the SCRIPT

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Gordon Law

Gordon Law, *TSTA* (psychotherapy), was a beloved leader of the transactional analysis community in the United Kingdom. He died in Malvern Community Hospital on 2 December 2019 and is mourned by his wife Cally, his six children and 13 grandchildren, and many friends and colleagues in the TA community. A memorial will be held on 7 March from 1.30–4.00 at the Mount Pleasant Hotel, Malvern, for the celebration of his life.

TRIBUTES

Gordon was my first TA trainer and supervisor, and he remained my lifelong teacher and became a dear friend. We first met when I attended a TA 101 to learn more TA for my work as a teacher. A year or so later, I found myself in the bizarre position of holding an abandoned therapy group of six people whose primary therapist had absconded leaving a load of debts behind him. I rang Gordon in a panic, and he immediately replied, “Don’t worry. I will lead the next group session and you will be my cotherapist.” That was how I started as a trainee psychotherapist, apprenticed directly to a master. It was an unexpected and wonderful way to learn.

Gordon was one of the founder members of the ITA (UK), and TA remained his core approach, although he was always interested in what was going on around the fringes of TA and beyond. He was interested in the work of Cathexis and brought Jacqui and Shea Schiff to the UK. Later he invited Ken Mellor over to share his ideas and experiences of integrating Cathexis and redecision approaches. He led me into Eriksonian hypnosis, NLP, meditation, and Ken Wilber’s theories, always appealing to my sense of exploration and adventure.

As a therapist, Gordon would take on people whom most therapists would not accept. His capacity for deep unconditional regard and tough boundaries was extraordinary. I learned to trust that even when he appeared asleep—a feature of the narcolepsy that was his lifelong challenge—a significant part of his brain remained wide awake. Any major shift in energy within a group would have him instantly alert and making a useful intervention. His Little Professor was highly acute, and he encouraged me to use and value my own,



while, of course, also having a good Adult in charge. Gordon was a clear thinker and loved an intellectual challenge. His values were also well thought through and integrated into his life. So it is not surprising that he received the Muriel James Living Principles award in 2016. He also served on the ethics committees of the ITA (UK), UKCP, and the ITAA. As ITAA President, I found him tough to work with sometimes. But he always had good reasons for the challenges he threw my way, and our interactions were always fruitful. I valued his wisdom and rigor.

Gordon was born in Johannesburg and left South Africa finally in 1971, a few years later than me but for similar reasons of political opposition to white supremacy. This shared history gave a particular strength to the bond between us. I miss him deeply and retain a sense of strong connection. Hamba Kahle ou kêrel. Go well old chap!

(A mix of Zulu and Afrikaans that Gordon and I loved to slip into.)

*Diane Salters
Simon's Town, South Africa*

I first met Gordon in 1975 when a few of us who had discovered transactional analysis gathered to found the first national TA association in the UK (then ITA, now UKATA). I remember his measured, loud voice and his dominant presence and how he always spoke up for good sense and sound practice. I worked alongside him on many committees and always respected his willingness to tell his truth and ensure that we did not get swept along by unnecessary bureaucracy.

Gordon represented the ITA at the Rugby Conference (which became the UK Council for Psychotherapy), thus ensuring that TA was respected as a psychotherapeutic modality in the UK. He was dedicated, well informed, and had the gravitas that ensured that he was taken seriously by other professionals. He was a man of integrity and good mind, and with his flowing white hair and beard looked much like the storybook pictures of God. We often joked with him about this, but he was humble about his miracles and always had a twinkle in his eye.

I went to many conference workshops he presented, including some in the early 1970s and 1980s where

he ran Cathexis-type reparenting workshops with contracted regressions (I think my 5-year-old self still sees him as a father), the provocative Asklepion game exercise (I don't know many people who have the courage to run one of those groups), and many others on his own developments of TA theory. He developed theory based on a spiritual perspective and had an ability to integrate complex ideas and weave them into new patterns of thinking and new models. He was a familiar, solid presence at our TA conferences, exams, and trainers meetings for more than 40 years and will be greatly missed. Thank you, Gordon.

*Adrienne Lee
Nottingham, United Kingdom*

When Gordon died, a living light went out in the TA world. Many of us immediately felt the loss, for he had touched hundreds of us, leaving a trail of gratitude behind him in the hearts of those of us lucky enough to have known him. I met him in 1981 during my first trip to the UK. I had only recently received my Teaching Membership in the USA. My sponsor was Jacqui Schiff, and I had hoped to find English people who might be interested in learning more about the Cathexis Institute's ways of working. I had also already started to develop new ways of doing the work and was keen to test them in practice. With his long beard and hair and deep voice, Gordon had an immediate impact on me that brought "Gandalf the Grey" to mind. We immediately blended into a wide-ranging and stimulating relationship that lasted 38 years. The list of things we did together in that time is huge, my gratitude and love for him just as great. Gordon organized many events for me.

Hundreds of people attended them, many returning yearly. His style was always relaxed, efficient, good natured, and persistent in making sure the next year was in the diary. Real treats were times we spent with Cally and the children, talking to Gordon about astronomy, having him to stay in Australia, and sharing our writing projects. Several times Gordon asked me if I was interested in reading and commenting on his manuscripts. I relished the opportunity and shared it by asking him to read some of my writing too. These exchanges highlighted our special trust in and respect for one another. He would also ask me from time to time, "Are you doing any writing?" In fact, he asked that during our last telephone call before he died. My brother was caring for me to the end.

*Ken Mellor
Seymour, Australia*

TAJ Theme Issues

"Concepts of Cure"

Editor: Helen Rowland and
Guest Editor Ales Zivkovic
Deadline: 1 May 2020

"What Went Wrong and Why? Cathexis Theory and Reparenting Reexamined"

Coeditors: William F. Cornell and
Diana Deaconu
Deadline: 1 November 2020

Please follow the submission requirements posted [here](#).

Email manuscripts to
TAJ Managing Editor Robin Fryer,
MSW, at robinfryer@aol.com.

I was shocked to learn that Gordon had died. It seems like only yesterday that he was guiding me through my role as a consultant to someone going through the ITAA ethics procedure. I met Gordon in Paris over 35 years ago when he was on the board for my first (failed) CTA (O) exam. Since then, Gordon and I have been at so many of the same TA events that it will seem strange that he will not be there in Birmingham in July. My memories with him include listening to him playing the bagpipes at conferences while wearing a kilt. I am sad that others in the TA community will now not be able to experience his contribution first hand but confident that he has left a significant legacy through his TA work.

*Julie Hay
Hertford, United Kingdom*

Some of his colleagues from his peer group hosted by Ian Stewart wrote: "Gordon was kind, warm, witty, often challenging, and sometimes infuriating but never invisible with his white beard, shoulder-length hair, and fedora. He was a passionate, deep thinker attuned to spiritual matters and dedicated to good ethical practice."

Trainees, supervisees, and mentees originally from IMPACT, his training institute that closed a few years ago, added, "A great transactional analyst willing to embrace current developments. He was an empathetic trainer and supervisor and full of compassion for clients' needs. He gave much to the TA world and was a wonderful example of a generous and professional practitioner. A wise, kind, and empathetic mentor in tune with his trainees. He was supportive of their individuality and their development of personal skills. He contributed to TA role theory, particularly the development of the

relationship between the drama and autonomy triangles, forming the contact cube, which featured in his book *Mind, Body, Soul and Spirit in Transactional Analysis: An Integral Approach to Relationships* (IMPACT, 2006). He was a keen amateur

astronomer, building at least two telescopes and modifying trailers to transport them to less light-polluted locations in and near the Malvern Hills and receiving recognition for his observations. He will be missed by all." 📍

Important Information and Reminders for Members . . .

- Please check your entry in our database to ensure your address is correct. Log on to itaaworld.org to access your account.
- Please add admin@itaaworld.org to your address book so that ITAA emails to you do not end up in your spam or junk folder and you miss out on important messages.
- When paying your ITAA membership dues, please click on the "ITAA Membership Join or Renew" link and not the "Donate" button. Click on the "Donate" button only for making a donation to the Eric Berne Fund, the Scholarship Fund, or the TAlent fund. If you have any questions, contact Ken Fogleman at ken@itaa-net.org.
- If you have received a TA certificate from a group other than the IBOC in the last few years, please email a copy of it to iboc@itaaworld.org. We would like to be sure our files are up to date.
- For full information about IBOC and COC exams, check the ITAA website at <http://itaaworld.org/training-and-certification-transactional-analysis>

EXAM CALENDAR

Exam Date	Exam	Cert. Body	Location	Application Deadline
14-15 Jul 2020	CTA	COC	Birmingham, UK	*
25 Sep 2020	CTA	IBOC	Bangalore, India	25 Jun 2020
14-15 Jul 2020	TSTA	COC	Birmingham, UK	*
21-23 Mar 2020	TEW	COC	Bilbao, Spain (waiting list)	20 Jul 2019/ 20 Sep 2019**
20-22 Jul 2020	TEW	COC	Birmingham, UK	19 Oct 2019/ 19 Jan 2020**

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

** First deadline for applying for exam; second for submitting the Training Proposal Outline

For more information about IBOC exams, see [here](#).

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

Special TAJ on Educational Perspectives Now Out

The January 2020 TAJ theme issue on “New Perspectives in Educational Transactional Analysis” was published in mid December and is available online at the Routledge/Taylor & Francis website. Jointly edited by guest editor Giles Barrow and TAJ Coeditor Diana Deaconu, this journal offers a stimulating look at the state of educational transactional analysis from some of the most respected experts in the field as well as some new authors to the TAJ.

In their “Letter From the Coeditors,” Diana and Giles write about how one aim of the recent Raleigh conference

was to reconnect transactional analysis with the social radicalism of its early days. A recurring message from key presenters was that education is central to establishing the kind of communities in which social justice might flourish. This reminded us that educational TA is done in public; it is work that is witnessed. We think this has significant implications, one of which is that there is an exquisite tension between the public purpose—however that might be defined—and

the transformational, intimate impact that education can have on the individual. Associated with this tension for the educator to manage is the balancing of external expectations—regulation, validation, accreditation, and qualification—with the cultivation of individual development, which is rarely linear, predictable, or efficient.

... Over the past 15 years, the education field has seen a shift in concerns from professional identity and competence toward more existential questions about education: How does education exist and what are the implications for educators? Being an educator (as opposed to doing education) appears as an important theme for thoughtful practitioners and is featured in several contributions in this issue. We have wondered why this might be the case, and this has led us to recognize that as a theme, it is beginning to preoccupy educators, including those we meet outside of the TA community. Perhaps this theme has



emerged because of a general technocratic movement in education, in which managerialism, standardization, and homogenization take precedence. Apart from the fact that those tendencies are arguably anti-educational, they also render the practitioner an “operative,” that is, a replaceable factor in a system designed to efficiently deliver outcomes. The interest, or drive, to reclaim who we are as educators, and a quest to define and declare the purpose of education, may feel more acute during such a time of ambivalence.

Included in this issue are the following:

continued on page 10

Ethics and Professional Practice

by Jan Grant

I have been in private practice as a counselor for over 30 years, and for the past year, I've also been a member of the ITAA Ethics Committee. I have also taught in a counseling degree program for 25 years. One of the subjects I taught was social, legal, and ethical issues. In my course we explored what ethics is. In essence, it is a branch of philosophy that helps direct us to know what we ought to do. It involves a process of self-reflection and an ability to make well-informed, conscious decisions. At the heart of being ethical as a counselor is keeping in mind the client's welfare. As human beings, we also bring our own morals and values to the counseling relationship. Even after many years in practice, there are still times when something occurs with a client that is ethically challenging. Knowing and integrating our code of ethics and professional practices is crucial for practitioners, and in my experience, an ongoing issue.

In this article, I will share an example of contract termination from my practice and how I used our code of ethics to make sense of my decisions and to look at what I learned. I am interested in my own process as I start to write. I feel somewhat exposed and some sense of shame,



that I should have been able to foresee what happened.

A 31-year-old man, whom I will call Adam, came to see me because he wanted to “rewrite his narrative” and come to terms with his sexuality. He had a background of abuse and neglect, particularly from his mother. He also had a history of drug use when he was younger. He had been to counseling before, was studying psychology, and until a few months previous had stayed clean. He was almost finished with his studies and was doing well academically. What precipitated this round of counseling was that he had been on a “bender” (an extended period of drug use) and wound up in hospital. It had scared him. He was not using when he came to see me.

I was clear with Adam that I was not a drug and alcohol counselor. He was OK with that, and our initial contract was to work together for three sessions and then review how we were doing. He found it hard to trust people, and he felt he could trust me. After three sessions, Adam wanted to continue working with me, and we did so for the next 6 months. He graduated from his degree program and obtained a part-time job. He was doing well. He began to explore his sexuality and come to terms with the fact that he was gay. He struggled with a looming birthday because that was often a time when his mother made contact, which he always found traumatic. He got through the birthday and started to go on some dates with men. Our relationship came to a head when he started to use drugs again and wanted someone to “hold” him through those times. I felt strongly that this was not a role I could undertake, and I was concerned for his safety. I felt ethically compromised. He chose to end our working relationship.

Thinking about this case now, I ask myself if I should have taken this client on. Probably not. This is easy to say with hindsight. Was it obvious at the time that these dilemmas would occur? Clearly not. Did I have a

signed contract with him? Yes, I did. However, it says nothing about drug taking. Perhaps it should have.

How does our code of ethics help us to think through such dilemmas? I look at clause 1: “An ITAA member acknowledges the dignity of all humanity regardless of physiological, psychological or economic status.” I felt like I was doing this with Adam.

“Even after many years in practice, there are still times when something occurs with a client that is ethically challenging. Knowing and integrating our code of ethics and professional practices is crucial for practitioners, and in my experience, an ongoing issue.”

Then I look at clause 4: “The ethical practice of transactional analysis involves entering into an informed contractual relationship with a client which the member of the ITAA and the client should have the competence and intent to fulfill. When a client is unable or unwilling to function autonomously and responsibly within this contractual relationship, the member of the ITAA must resolve the relationship in such a way as to bring no harm to the client.”

I thought I had established a clear contract with Adam by being clear

Jan Grant, BEd, MEd (Adult Ed), CTA (E, C), TSTA (E, C), Certified Imago Therapist, PACFA-accredited supervisor, lives in Sydney, where she runs a private counseling practice. She also runs TA training in Japan, New Zealand, and India. Jan can be reached at jan-grant@optusnet.com.au.

A Tribute to Gordon Law From the Ethics Committee

Having worked alongside Gordon Law as cochair of the ITAA Ethics Committee, I wish to extend my condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues [see page 3 for more on Gordon’s passing]. Gordon’s amazing eye for detail, sharp wit, and extensive TA knowledge made an impression on me. My stint with him occurred at a particularly tumultuous time for the ITAA and the ethics committee, and I appreciated him for his partnership, leadership, steadfastness, and devotion. Farewell, Gordon.

With sadness, Alex van Oostveen, Cochair, ITAA Ethics Committee

that drug and alcohol counseling was not my specialty. With hindsight, I think I should not have taken him on in the first place because his trauma history and drug taking were interconnected. I intended to fulfill the contract, but I did not have the expertise. Even though he was not using when he first came to see me, I should have realized that he might go back to using at some point. He had also intended to fulfill the contract but that was compromised when he felt stressed and went back to using.

At a personal level, I could not find the place within myself to do what he wanted me to do: accompany him while he went back into using drugs. I shared this dilemma with Adam, and I wish I could say that we were able to resolve it comfortably. But it was very difficult. He felt disappointed and experienced me as letting him down. I felt very concerned for him. I gave him a few names of other therapists with experience in drug and alcohol treatment, but he was not keen to pursue any of them.

It felt impossible to resolve this relationship “in such a way as to bring

no harm to the client.” I think about him and wonder how he is doing. I still feel concerned about him. I imagine that he still feels like I let him down. I wonder if other counselors have had similar experiences. Is it always possible to terminate contracts satisfactorily? 🤔

TA Conferences Worldwide

29 February 2020:

Newton Rigg, Penrith, UK.
TA Cumbria Conference.

Contact:

<https://tacumbria.co.uk/>

16-18 July 2020:

Birmingham, United Kingdom.
2020 World TA Conference.

Contact:

www.taworldconf2020.com/

29-31 July 2021:

Daegu, Korea.

ITAA/KTAC TA Conference.

Contact: srahn08@hanmail.net

2019 UKATA National Conference

by Lin Cheung

My first national conference was at York probably back in 2005 or 2006, which seems like a long time ago. I was relatively new to TA at that time and still in training. I can remember being a bit apprehensive about going and then when I got there feeling surprised by the number of people, the level of activity, and the energy. There were moments when it felt a little overwhelming. But it was also exciting to feel a sense of community and belonging, the sense of people having a common language to think and learn together.

Move forward a bit more than a decade to the 2019 national conference of the United Kingdom Association for Transactional Analysis (UKATA) held on 10-12 May in Birmingham on the theme of “Attachment and Autonomy: Celebrating Psychological Health.” This time I had the privilege of being the CTA exam supervisor for the first time. I love our exam process, which I think, in the main, is a robust and effective system to assess competence. One of the delights this year was that there were several European candidates taking CTA exams in the fields of organizational work and counseling, another example of our community thinking and learning

together using our common language of transactional analysis. Each year at the exams I am struck by the generosity in our community as experienced colleagues gather together to give their time to exams and their goodwill and desire to create a collegial and supportive environment to provide an opportunity in which candidates can show themselves.

As for the conference itself, it was well attended, lively, and exciting. As in York all those years ago, I still find I need to manage the stimulation of lots of people, engagement, and things to think about. I do that mostly by taking space for myself, moving in and out as my energy dictates—apart from the keynote and annual general membership meeting. What a great keynote by Judy Yellin! It was well researched, interesting, lively, and stimulating, with some

fascinating perspectives on attachment material that have energized me to look more at theory outside of TA. I think it is useful for us as practitioners when we step outside our theoretical frame of reference and can bring ideas and theory back into transactional analysis. When we compare what we do to others and find something that resonates, it is often because there is something in the other’s work that we would like to find in our own.



UKATA keynoter Judy Yellin (left) and conference committee member Jan Baker



John Renwick and Karen Cesarano enjoy a break during the UKATA Conference

Then there was the exciting program of workshops and the challenge of deciding which to attend. On Saturday I attended Carol Wain's workshop on spirituality and religion. Carol is a good friend, and we have been on a similar path for several years. It was great to hear her present on a topic that I know is of significance to many. I am also an artist and have been discovering my own spirituality and its link to creativity and artistic expression, the way the unknown within us emerges in its many different forms. For me, this is about connection to others, humanity, and history.

Saturday afternoon I went to Barbara Clarkson's workshop on fairytales. It was interesting to hear her perspective on this material born

Lin Cheung, PTSTA (P), is a supervisor and trainer with a private practice in Buxton and Stockport. She can be reached at lincheung@btinternet.com.

out of some recent workshops she had attended. We went deep, with careful attention paid to safety. One of the most impactful elements of this session was thinking about the stories we did not like and why. All in all, it was a moving and significant experience.

Also significant for me in the delightful smorgasbord

of the conference was an enjoyable evening of music (the band once again a delight), dancing, talking, eating good food, and meeting old friends. I was happy to see someone whom I had not been in contact with

"I think it is useful for us as practitioners when we step outside our theoretical frame of reference and can bring ideas and theory back into transactional analysis. When we compare what we do to others and find something that resonates, it is often because there is something in the other's work that we would like to find in our own."

for a few years and who had been my CTA exam buddy. It was also good to hear about the sterling work that the UKATA committees undertake on behalf of the membership, another example of the generosity of colleagues in giving time and expertise for the benefit of our organization and community.

I find I enjoy conferences more each time I go. The mixture of work and play, and work that is serious play, is one of enrichment and satisfaction. And seeing old friends and making new ones? Bring it on! 🍷

Special TAJ on Educational Perspective

continued from page 6

- "I Write to Right Something: One Clinician's Development of Theory and Therapeutic Action" by Ray Little [EBMA Acceptance Speech]
- "Polarities in Education: Revisiting 'Gift or Commodity'" by Trudi Newton
- "An Inquiry Into the Experience of the Dyslexic Transactional Analysis Psychotherapist" by Jan Baker and Mark Widdowson
- "Cocreative Transformational Learning as a Way to Break Out of Script" by Paul Robinson
- "Experiencing Liminality: An Educational Perspective" by Giles Barrow with Kate Shaw, Caroline Harvey, Arabella Hardy, Amy Kelly, and Judith Bodenham
- "Emergence of the Educational Transactional Analyst" by Karen Pratt
- "A Fruitless Attempt to Cultivate Physis" by Lieuwe Koopmans
- "The Rediscovery of Teaching:" Gert J. J. Biesta by Beatrijs Dijkman [Book Review Essay] 🍷

Warning About Spam Email to ITAA Members

On 15 January 2020, we were alerted to the fact that a fraudulent email was sent to some ITAA members. We immediately sent the following email to all members: “We have noticed that members have received an email asking to disclose their personal details on a form—the email seems to be representing ITAA—however, if you closely notice the sender email ID is info2@itaaworld.org (it’s inauthentic). We are engaging with our technical team to tighten our security system. Please ignore such emails and check for authenticity of the sender’s email address; when in doubt, please write to admin@itaaworld.org to validate. The ITAA does not request members to disclose any personal information through any other forms/medium except through membership directory registration. We would give sufficient notice in *The Script* newsletter and/or by email sent by authorized emails in case we need any information from

members.” We urge members to be vigilant and careful in answering any emails purportedly received by the ITAA or any organization, and do not click on links unless you have confirmed that an email is genuine. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact ITAA Vice President of Development Deepak Dhananjaya at deepak.dhananjaya@gmail.com.

Photo Permission in the Age of the GDPR

Now that the GDPR is fully in force, the ITAA is aware that to include photos of members from the European region in any of our publications or on our website, we must have written permission from everyone shown in the picture. Recognizing that European members may show up in photos from anywhere in the world, we are applying the GDPR requirements to all photos unless it can be confirmed that there are no Europeans in them. We always appreciate receiving photos—especially for *The Script*—of your travels, programs, and events in the global TA community, but going forward, please make sure to obtain permission from all the individuals in any photos that you send to us. Such permission will now routinely be requested, for example, at all IBOC exams so that we can publish photos of successful examinees. If you would like a copy of the form used for this purpose (which you can then adapt for use at workshops, conferences, etc.), please contact Janet Chin at iboc@itaaworld.org.

The ITAA Is GDPR Compliant

The ITAA strives to maintain international standards of data privacy and protection. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a compliance requirement for all the data we collect from members residing in the European region. We have made sure our website and data management are in compliance with the GDPR. We have put together a document called the “data privacy document,” which contains details about the information we collect, the reason we collect it, and the storage medium of that data. This document also contains information on your rights as members to the data we collect from you and communication channels to reach out in case of dissatisfaction about data handling. This has been a sensitive, important, and successful project in collaboration with the ITAA Board of Trustees and our legal team. I thank Diane Salters and Elana Leigh, who engaged with our lawyer to shape this document. If you have any questions, please feel free to write to us, and we will be happy to respond. A link to the official privacy document can be found in the “News and Announcements” section on the home page of the ITAA website or by clicking here: <https://tinyurl.com/tec5c5y>.

Deepak Dhananjaya, ITAA Vice President Development, can be reached at deepak.dhananjaya@gmail.com.

2019 TAJ Bound Volume Now Out

The 2019 bound TAJ was mailed in December. If you do not receive yours by early February, please check your mailing address on the ITAA website to make sure it is accurate. If not, please update. If it is, contact Janet Chin at janet@itaaworld.org to check if you were on the list to receive the bound volume.



World Transactional Analysis Conference 2020

Expanding the TA Map – Sharing Learning Across Our Fields

16-18 July 2020 - Metropole Hotel, Birmingham, UK

Cosponsored by UKATA, IARTA, and the IDTA on behalf of the ITAA, EATA, and FTAA

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Conference Update

Since the “big advertisement” about the World TA Conference 2020 appeared here last month, we have seen an exciting increase in the number of bookings coming in each day, so don’t delay registering if you are planning to attend. We are well over halfway to capacity. We also have 83 presenter proposals already, and by the time you read this, several of those will have been accepted because the scientific committee has been working hard for some time now.

As you will have seen in the January *Script*, we have already attended to issues around climate change and social ecology, booking the venue, negotiating special bedroom fees, travel arrangements and visas, events running alongside the conference (including association business meetings, exams, and the TEW), presenter proposals and setting up the scientific committee, keynote presenters, social evenings, early morning caucuses, postconference workshops, a precon-

ference TA 101, sponsorship opportunities, and because we are in the UK, giving some advice about the likely weather conditions. We are now moving on to consider what we can offer for partners and children who may be coming with participants (arranging childcare in the UK is complex and expensive because of the legal requirements); finding volunteers to manage registration and look after presenters during the conference; setting up a bookstore in ways that will make it easy for non-UK-based authors to have their books on display; how best to manage recordings of (appropriate) sessions so that those who cannot afford to travel to the UK can still participate; how to help potential supervisors and supervisees be in touch with each other; and whatever else we are bound to be asked about over the coming months.

Over half of the presenter slots are already filled, so if you want to present, send your proposal in soon. The deadline is the end of March!

If you have not already booked, we urge you to do it soon! If you have not already offered a presenter proposal and want to, do it soon! If you are thinking of contributing to the social evenings—demonstrating your talent, teaching us your national dance, performing during karaoke—let us know soon! If you are willing to be an interpreter, contact us soon!

Go to www.taworldconf2020.com/ for the latest information, to make a booking, submit a proposal, contact us about anything, or sign up for updates through Twitter, Facebook, or LinkedIn.

We hope to see you in Birmingham!

Julie, Susan, Lynda, Carol, Heidi, and Sandra of the Organizing Committee