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President's Report Six Months Have Passed So Quickly!

by Chitra Ravi

Hello and greetings and good wishes to all and welcome to 2023!

These past 6 months have seen the ITAA Board of Trustees (BOT) work well together, garnering support and strength from each other, holding integrity in arriving at some tough decisions, and trusting our collective wisdom. We have been buzzing with energy to see how best we can respond to critical and urgent issues as well as exploring new initiatives that can provide long-term solidity for ITAA. It has been deeply satisfying to see that while each board member holds ownership of their respective portfolio, the others easily join in to provide clarity and depth to the various tasks and initiatives.

With a sense of pride and deep respect for each member of the board as well as the different ITAA Committees, the ITAA office staff, and our managing editor, I share some of the significant tasks and initiatives that were our focus over the past 6 months.

Our collaboration with EATA continues to be strong, and EATA President Sylvia Schachner and I continue to meet and explore initiatives together. We both value the shared space to voice our thoughts, compare notes, and explore possibilities together.

■ **President-Elect Thorsten Geck chaired the restructure task team** comprised of him, me, and Past ITAA President Elana Leigh.

❖ Followed the nonbinding vote of confidence at the ITAA Annual General Membership (AGM) meeting and outlined with the lawyer, we took the next steps in founding a professional association.



- ❖ The groundwork included learning how the transition might go ahead in terms of adjusting the bylaws and providing the membership with a draft of the bylaws of a professional association.
- ❖ The activities of the task team were described in two *Script* articles. Following our invitation to respond to the project, a few positive and curious comments came in. We expect more questions and comments after the next important step.
- ❖ In mid-January, a ballot was sent to the membership so that they could vote on the proposed restructure. This will be followed by the option of having a conversation or Q&A with members of the task team.
- ❖ Ballots must be returned by mid-March, and depending on the results, the ITAA BOT will pursue founding the professional association and restructuring the departments of our association

according to the needs of the membership.

■ **Signing our contract with Huntington Association Management** (HAM) was one of the key tasks that was urgently needed following the departure of Susan Lockwood as the ITAA Administrator.

- ❖ **Lucy Freedman, North American Representative** to the ITAA Board, was significantly involved and worked intensively along with Susan to find new ways to fill this important position and to manage the many things Susan was doing. Lucy reflects that working with me, Thorsten, John Oates, Michelle Thomé, and Michael Harsh was a great collaborative experience that led to finally signing a contract with HAM.

- ❖ **Jenveva Guzman and Stella Cosso** have taken on the ITAA administrative and bookkeeping duties with the support of Susan Lockwood, who worked with them to help them become sufficiently settled.

- ❖ **Jenveva, as the new ITAA Administrator**, has begun working to simplify our systems. For example, forms like the Consent for Electronic Transmissions form and the Student Verification form can now be filled out online instead of having to be downloaded, printed, filled out, scanned, and sent via email to the ITAA office.

- ❖ **Stella, as the ITAA Accounting Resource**, has settled well into her role and has reconciled all accounts and sent the 2022 year-end financials to the board. She has also made entries in Quickbooks, updated all our systems and banks with our new address and contact details, and

changed the signatories on the bank and investment accounts.

■ **Robin Fryer, our managing editor**, continues to ensure that *The Script* newsletter and the *Transactional Analysis Journal* are published in good order and on time. She is also an important resource for us regarding the history and functioning of the organization.

“I value the faith, trust, and support of the membership in motivating us to carry out our initiatives and tasks. Finally, I urge those who are keen to be a part of the ITAA governance to write to us.”

■ **Suriyaprakash C., Vice President Professional Standards**, has established a strong working relationship with Professional Standards Committee (PSC) cochairs Giles Barrow and Karen Pratt and International Board of Certification (IBOC) cochairs Sue Eusden and Jacqueline van Gent, and they have been working well as a team organizing online exams and updating the *Training and Certification Handbook*. A highly stimulating project initiated by the PSC that seeks a new vision for the training and certification process is underway (see page 4 of this *Script*).

■ **Steff Oates, Vice President Research and Innovation**, has spearheaded a cosponsored project of ITAA and EATA with 3 People in Your Head to offer podcasts. In 2023 a podcast quality assurance team will be established, and podcasts will be produced with ITAA/EATA sponsorship. Three further seminars also shared by EATA/ITAA have been scheduled. The ITAA Routledge/Taylor and Francis Liaison Committee welcomed a new portfolio manager for the *TAJ*, and the *Script* editorial

the SCRIPT

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team is working with the BOT to establish a clear editorial policy.

■ **John Oates, Treasurer**, worked with Susan Lockwood in 2022 to bringing ITAA's financial accounts up to date. He also had a significant part in the discussions leading to the appointment of Huntington Association Management Services.

■ **Michelle Thomé, our Vice President Development**, is working with Peggie Chan from HAM on developing the current (C3) website and the later (C6) website. Along with ITAA Secretary Rema Giridhar, Jenneva Guzman, and our regional representatives, the membership committee is being reinstated. In the last 6 months we have increased ITAA's participation in social media. Instagram (@itaa_world), Twitter (@itaaworld), and Facebook (facebook.com/ITAAworld) are the platforms chosen for the association to use to be digitally closer to the international TA community. **Paula Rodrigues, our regional representative for Central/South America and the Caribbean**, is a part of and supports the Communications Committee.

■ **Sylvie Monin, our Vice President Operations**, and the conference committee, along with the conference team of EATA, have begun working to organize the 2024 World Conference (see page 9 in this *Script*).

■ **ITAA Secretary Rema Giridhar** is committed to supporting each board member in simplifying their initiatives. Rema is a part of various committees and is holding the chair positions of the Nominations Committee and the Membership Committee.

■ **The regional representatives** contribute by being the single point of contact for members from each of their regions, and they each hold positions as the chair or members of various committees and task teams.

❖ **Anne Tucker, Regional Representative for Australia and New Zealand**, is also the chair of the Bylaws Committee. She has worked on the ITAA Policy and Procedures Manual to ensure that all policies and procedures are included. This is vital, especially with the restructure, and will offer a sound foundation for the organization and will facilitate its growth and thriving, with a focus on being "constructive" rather than trying to "fit" with old structures.


❖ **Cristina Caizzi, Regional Representative for Europe**, initiated a support platform for individuals who are suffering in times of need, sorrow, distress, and fear. This space will help us share the resources of our community to offer support in the form of supervision, therapy, and education (see page 12 of this *Script*).

❖ **Marguerite Sacco, Regional Representative for Africa and the Middle East**, is the chair of a task team that focuses on initiating conversations, articles, and webinars to consider the effects of global events on our members, including events such as war and environmental catastrophe, and

the appropriate response of the ITAA in such cases.

❖ **Prathitha Gangadharan, Regional Representative for Asia-Pacific**, is active on many committees and task teams. She reflects that her experience of being on the board in the last 6 months has been unlike any other time. Various issues that were being talked about and dealt with involved an intense and active engagement, with no conversation that was avoided. Since this is the last year of her tenure, she looks back with mixed feelings.

I value the faith, trust, and support of the membership in motivating us to carry out our initiatives and tasks. Finally, I urge those who are keen to be a part of the ITAA governance to write to us.

ITAA President Chitra Ravi on behalf of the ITAA Board of Trustees. Chitra can be reached at chitra.seed@gmail.com. 

Chuck Holland Has Passed Away

We learned recently that long-time ITAA and USATAA member Chuck Holland died on 12 December of heart problems. A memorial service was held on 7 January, his birthday. We are planning a longer In Memoriam piece about Chuck in an upcoming *Script*.



Webinar Recordings Available Online

Ethics Committee webinar:

"From the Intrapsychic to the Systemic: Evolving Ethical Thinking"
27 October 2022

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CctEW-5H5-0>

This recording will be posted for a limited time, so be sure to watch it soon.

Next Steps in New Directions in Education, Accreditation, and Certification: Introducing a Global Conversation

by Giles Barrow, Sue Eusden, Jacqueline van Gent, and Karen Pratt

In this article, we set out our thinking for initiating a global conversation with regard to reimagining training, certification, and accreditation of transactional analysts. The emphasis at this point is on setting out the framework for such an exercise and not an exploration of what such a new vision of professional development might eventually look like. In preparing this article, we have been especially mindful of the December 2022 *Script* piece “New Directions in Education, Accreditation, and Certification,” in which the underpinning values and principles of a new perspective were offered. Following in the spirit of that paper, we here are offering a model to establish a sufficiently inclusive dialogue that can inform and shape the creation of a different approach to professional development.

The two committees, the International Board of Certification (IBOC) and the Professional Standards Committee (PSC), hold responsibilities for training and certification and are aligned to ITAA in its current formation as a membership organization. We offer this paper in the



context of the ongoing wider discussion and proposals to re-form the ITAA as a new professional association. We are mindful that this is an important time organizationally and understand that the development of training and certification will need to account for a potentially significant change from a membership to a professional organization.

At the heart of our vision for revising accreditation arrangements is the notion of a global conversation in

which a wide range of voices can be heard and different perspectives canvassed and represented. The first concern we have is to intentionally start the process with as diverse a lens as possible, and we envisage three components underpinning the initiation of these conversations:

- 1. Content:** principles and practice founded in the “New Directions” paper

2. **Process and People:** eldership, leadership, membership
3. **Format:** multifaceted online options

Content

First, the earlier values paper, “New Directions,” provides the broad parameters of the content of the conversation.

Second, in terms of the process, we are inspired by the notion of being “good ancestors” (Krznic, 2020). In other words, what we have in mind in the coming couple of years will be created to serve future generations of transactional analysts. To create the conditions by which this might be possible, we are suggesting that three generations of our international community are engaged in the process: eldership, leadership, and membership. The important point is that we do not want to set up arrangements that exclude, from the outset, significant groups in the community. Clearly, we also want to ensure diversity in terms of other dimensions, including those from across the regions, those socially and economically disadvantaged, and those representative of specific groups, including ecological practitioners, the neurodivergent, and the educationally diverse.

Process and People

We see the three generations as follows:

Eldership: These are individuals who have been long-standing members in the ITAA community and who have probably led TA institutes or training programs. They are likely to have published materials, presented at conferences and webinars, and be generally known beyond their immediate field or region. They may be stepping back from active

leadership roles and/or in semi/full retirement. These people will have less vested interest in a specific institute and have a broader life in the TA community. They are likely to be TSTAs.

Leadership: These are individuals who carry responsibilities for running TA institutes and training programs and who are committed to supporting practitioners in completing their TA accreditation. These persons may be actively contributing to the wider community through writing, coordinating TA events and operations, being involved in regional associations, and developing innovation. We are including not only those in established positions of leadership but also those emerging leaders in TA training and certification. It is likely that this group will include both TSTAs and PSTAs.

“At the heart of our vision for revising accreditation arrangements is the notion of a global conversation in which a wide range of voices can be heard and different perspectives canvassed and represented.”

Membership: This includes individuals who are in training, those who are considering embarking on formal training, and any other ITAA members who have an interest in and enthusiasm for re-visioning TA training and certification. These individuals may have a specific interest, for example, with regard to ecological practice, neurodivergence, or social action. They may also be people who have relevant experience from outside of TA regarding training, assessment, and examination. We anticipate that this group will be comprised of CTAs, those with CTA

contracts, and others not involved in formal TA training.

Formats

In addition to inviting a wide range of perspectives and focusing on the values paper as the foundation of the conversation, we also anticipate using a number of formats through which to engage in conversation. At this stage we envisage that this will include at least one core working group, occasional webinars, online surveys, and smaller task groups on specific topics.

First Stage

As the group holding overall responsibility for the revision, the PSC will provide the framework for the process. Therefore, we propose that a “conversation council” be established that will shape and oversee the program of re-visioning. A tempting option is for the chairpersons of the PSC and the IBOC to simply invite a range of individuals to join such a group. However, we are aware that this will result in a “closed” group and restrictive process in that we will have already predetermined the kind of perspectives on which the wider conversation is based, even if we seek out what we believe to be a diverse group. So, to avoid this we will approach the regional representatives on the ITAA Board of Trustees and ask them to offer a handful of names of those who might be considered part of the three domains of eldership, leadership, and membership. We will also approach the regional exam coordinators (RECs) for their input. We assume that all those who become involved are ITAA members, and we also intend for there to be representation of all four fields of application. We may also consider getting insights from outside of the

TA community. Individuals will have to be familiar with and generally aligned to the values and principles presented in the “New Directions” paper. **The specific invitation is as follows:**

Would you be willing to be considered as part of the re-visioning exercise looking at TA training and certification over the following year? The commitment at this stage is yet to be determined in the first meetings. Would you be prepared to come along and be part of this initial process?

We anticipate that the initial process of compiling names can be completed by March 2023, and the first such gathering will be by the end of April 2023.

At this point, it is not possible to entirely map out the subsequent steps to the re-visioning process. However, it is anticipated that after the first meeting(s), a further paper detailing terms of reference can be presented to the Board of Trustees and to ITAA members via *The Script*. **We expect that key areas for decision making will be:**

- Deciding what themes are most important and challenging that emerge from the “New Directions” paper
- Plans by which to address the identified themes/challenges
- Arrangements by which conversations and responses are coordinated by the council

PSC Cochairs Giles Barrow and Karen Pratt and IBOC Cochairs Sue Eusden and Jacqueline van Gent

Reference

Krznicar, R. (2020). *The good ancestor: How to think long term in a short-term world*. Penguin, Random House.

IBOC Exam Calendar

Type	Exam Date	Location	Application Deadline
CTA	23-25 Mar 2023	ONLINE	closed
TSTA	23-25 Mar 2023	ONLINE	closed
CTA	27 Jul 2023	Suffolk, UK	27 Apr 2023
CTA	5-7 Oct 2023	ONLINE	5 July 2023
TSTA	5-7 Oct 2023	ONLINE	5 April 2023
CTA	21-23 Mar 2024	ONLINE	21 Dec 2023
TSTA	21-23 Mar 2024	ONLINE	21 Sep 2023
CTA	3-5 Oct 2024	ONLINE	3 Jul 2024
TSTA	3-5 Oct 2024	ONLINE	3 Apr 2024

IBOC TEW Calendar

Type	TEW Date	Location	Application Deadline	TPO Deadline
TEW	31 Mar -2 Apr 2023	ONLINE	closed	closed
TEW	27-29 Oct 2023	ONLINE	27 Feb 2023	27 Apr 2023
TEW	12-14 Apr 2024	ONLINE	12 Aug 2023	12 Oct 2023
TEW	25-27 Oct 2024	ONLINE	25 Feb 2024	25 Apr 2024

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

Please send applications for exams and TEW to the IBOC administrator: iboc@itaaworld.org

For the EATA exam calendar, please refer to: <https://eatanews.org/exams/#coc-calendar> and for the EATA TEW calendar, go to: <https://eatanews.org/ta-training-2/#tew-calendar>

TAJ Theme Issues

“Leadership”

Coeditors: Sue Eusden and Giles Barrow | Deadline: 1 August 2023

“Intimacy and Creativity Within the Real Self: Revisiting Berne’s Secret Garden”

Coeditors: Edward T. Novak and Karen Minikin | Deadline: 1 February 2024

“Relationships in Love, Play, and Work”

Coeditors: Brad McLean and Helen Rowland | Deadline: 1 August 2024

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

SAVE THE DATE:
4TH JULY 2023

INTERNATIONAL TRAINERS MEETING
IN DUBLIN
CHALLENGES/ CHANGES/ CHANCES
OF TA TRAINING IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

ALL TA TRAINERS FROM EATA AND ITAA ARE INVITED AND WELCOMED!
REGISTRATION WILL BE OPEN BEGINNING OF FEBRUARY!

(MEETING HOTEL NON YET FIXED NOW - WILL BE PUBLISHED SOON)

Invitation to Bid on the 2024 TA World Conference

With great pleasure, the combined associations of ITAA and EATA invite your association to bid on hosting the 2024 TA World Conference, which is to be held as usual in July-August.

A tradition that began with the signing of a joint contract in 2007, the TA World Conference brings together the collaboration and cooperation of both ITAA and EATA (previously FTAA too), two of the worldwide transactional analysis associations. It is an opportunity to showcase your part of the world and to introduce your transactional analysts to a wide variety of keynote speakers, workshop presenters, authors, and key figures in the TA world. And the TA World Conference provides a wonderful opportunity for transactional analysts from other parts of the world to visit you.

To date, there have been four highly successful world conferences: the first in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2008; the second in Bilbao, Spain, in 2011; the third in San Francisco, USA, in 2014; and the fourth in Berlin, Germany, in 2017. The local associations in each of those areas were wonderful hosts to visitors from all over the world.

The combined organizations' energy, enthusiasm, and willingness to help raise the profile of TA in your region is a wonderful opportunity. **Please contact Vladimir Goussakovski, ITAA Conference Committee Chair, at v.gusakovski@gmail.com and Aleksandra Djuric, EATA Vice-President, at aleksdjuric@yahoo.com to obtain the form for presenting a bid and any further information.**

We look forward to receiving your expressions of interest!

ITAA President Chitra Ravi and EATA President Sylvia Schachner



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FEBRUARY 2023

THE SCRIPT

Dancing in the OK-OK Box: A Visual Metaphor of the Flow From Pathology to Health

by Karen Pratt



In response to Newton's article in the November 2022 issue of *The Script*, I was inspired to write a short piece based on her framework of answering two questions: What do I want to say, and why do I want to say it?

Let me start with the second question: Why do I want to say it? I have previously described the OK-OK Communication model in *The Script* (July 2011) and the *TAJ* (Pratt & Mbaligontsi, 2014). This initially

grew out of my work with community care workers in South Africa. It helped make transactional analysis impactful and relevant to that group of people doing important work in their communities. All these years later, I still find people being impacted by this framework, especially when I add in the visual of the drama triangle (Karpman, 1968) and the winner's circle (adapted from Choy, 1990). My vision and motivation is to make TA useful rather than merely accurate, a phrase that I believe came from James Allen many years ago. Solid theory is important, and having it offered in a way that is easily accessible and useful in peoples' personal and professional lives feels equally important.

What do I want to say?

The OK-OK communication model is a visual metaphor for how being in the OK-OK box invites flexibility around the functional ego states. The OK-OK box is another way of representing the integrating Adult (Tudor, 2003). The playful metaphor of dancing in the box and dipping into the four positive modes of Par-

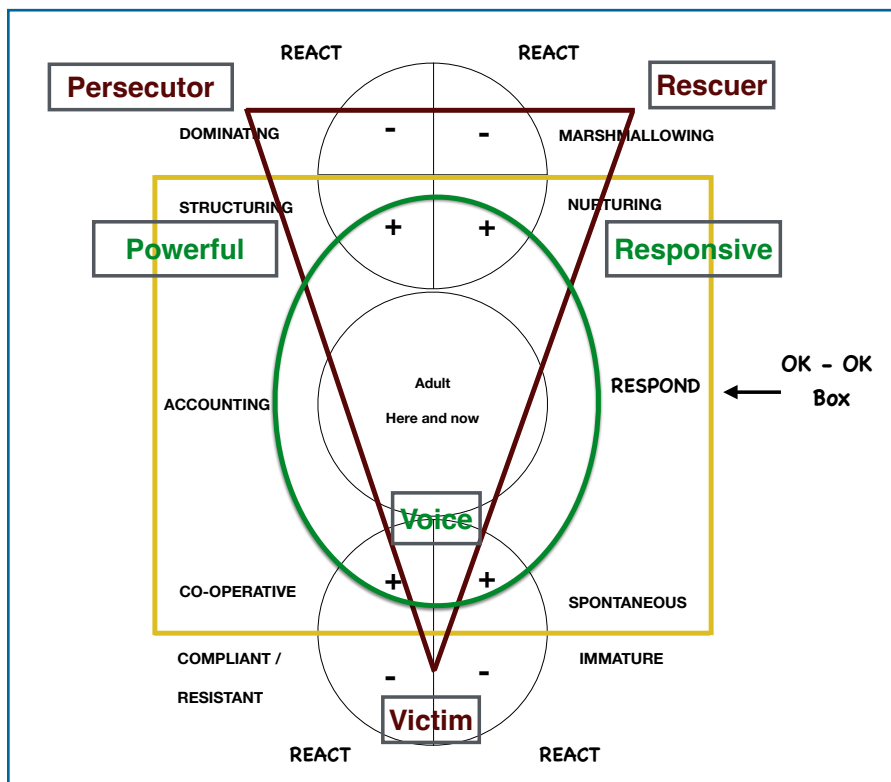


Figure 1. The OK-OK Communication Model

continued on page 9

Exciting New Eco-TA Issue of the TAJ Now Available

We are pleased to announce that the January 2023 *Transactional Analysis Journal (TAJ)* with the theme of “Ego-Transactional Analysis” was published online in mid-January.

In their “Letter From the Coeditors,” Giles Barrow, Hayley Marshall, and Sylvie Monin wrote:

It was on the eve of the lockdown [due to COVID-19] in the United

Kingdom (UK) that we were just about to run a workshop on eco-TA. The group had met once in person, and we were anticipating meeting for a second time at Giles’s small holding in Suffolk. With just 12 hours notice, the decision had to be made either to transfer the program to an online format or cancel because travel was prohibited. It seemed so incongruous to switch from outdoor work to the virtual space, but what

emerged was a remarkable experience in which individuals from all over the UK took themselves outside to develop deep relationships with their own places.

Perhaps there was no better time to draw attention to the vital and immediate importance of interconnection than the context of a global crisis originating in our collective dis-

continued on page 10

Dancing in the OK-OK Box

continued from page 8

ent and Child (structuring, nurturing, cooperative, and spontaneous) with present-centered choice and flexibility gives people permission to fully inhabit their ever-pulsating and changing integrating Adult.

By overlaying with first the drama triangle and then the winner’s circle, people easily get a visual metaphor of the internal structural ego state dynamics that come into play. The drama triangle fits outside the OK-OK box. Communication and relationships from this space are based in there-and-then outdated script experiences and tend to be patterns of familiar reactions. The winner’s circle brings things into the OK-OK box. Communication and relationships from this space are in the integrating Adult, fully present, and using here-and-now creative

options of how to respond authentically and compassionately to serve the best shared intention of all.

The point of developmental learning can then be metaphorically envisioned as “crossing the line,” that is, shifting from the negative modes of Parent and Child playing out drama triangle dynamics to step into the OK-OK box to begin to live into the winner’s circle alternatives. The circle shape indicates the flow between all three aspects of the winner’s circle: being appropriately responsive, or powerful, or voicing what needs to be named, a flow and dance of inner awareness that leads to communication that is present centered, nuanced, authentic, and meaningful for each shared moment.

References

Choy, A. (1990). The winner’s triangle. *Transactional Analysis Journal*, 20(1), 40–46. <https://doi.org/10.1177/036215379002000105>


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Karpman, S. (1968). Fairy tales and script drama analysis. *Transactional Analysis Bulletin*, 7(26), 39–43.

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Tudor, K. (2003). The neopsyche: The integrating adult ego state. In C. Sills & H. Hargaden (Eds.), *Ego states (Key concepts in transactional analysis: Contemporary views)* (pp. 201–231). Worth. 

Karen Pratt, *Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst (education)*, can be reached at info@tamatters.co.za.

connection from the planet on which our lives depend. Huge losses, desperate bereavements, inequalities, innovations, and opportunities combined into a widespread liminal experience that provided the kind of fertile ground that gives rise to shifts in frames of reference.

We have since been greatly impacted by the initial wave of enthusiasm and critique for introducing the ecological dynamic into the TA community, and this special issue signifies the importance and urgency of its arrival.

In the selection and format of this issue we have set out to parallel a couple of ideas developed by relational trauma specialist Merete Holm Brantbjerg (2008) and widely used in our own ecological practice, namely *resourcing* and *dosing*. Those already familiar with this way of working understand that when we shift our practice outdoors, there is a substantial resource to be found in terms of the energetic agency located in the phenomenon of the natural environment. Likewise, although the ecological factor has tended to be overlooked within TA, just “outside” there are significant resources in the wide-ranging theory and practices within ecopsychology, ecotherapy, holistic education, and sustainability. Our intention in this issue is to open the door and welcome some of this fertile resource into the interiority of our TA world.

Similarly, when we as ecological practitioners step outside, we practice dosing, which refers to the careful calibration of contact with the potency of the more-than-human, thus supporting the human navigation of potential overwhelm in relation to an external resource. Likewise, here we have created an ordering of contributions that sets a path for the reader that gradually increases the exposure to the think-

ing and practical implications of ecological work.

We know that many readers are already working outdoors, especially since and because of the global pandemic. Our hope is that this issue is timely in meeting the curiosity and questioning of those taking their first steps into the ecological domain. For those who are more experienced, we hope to offer sufficient provocation to fuel a deepening of practice and perhaps to develop a wider theoretical base from which to cultivate a more thorough transactional analytic understanding of the ecological dynamic.

The articles in this issue include the following:

“Revisiting Ecological Transactional Analysis: Emerging Perspectives” by Giles Barrow and Hayley Marshall

“Ecotherapy Practice: Perceived Obstacles and Solutions, Positions and Experience” by Selina Clare and Keith Tudor

“To Be Nature: A New Permission for an Emergent Ecological Approach” by Sean Henn


“Growing Well: Providing Secure Attachment and Reconnection to Physis Through Eco-TA and Farming” by Beren Aldridge

“The Maternal: An Integral Part of Eco-TA” by Emma Haynes

“Making New Meaning With Eco-TA: Using the Aggregate Script Helix to Explore the Contribution of Place to Script Development” by Rebecca Elston

“A Place for the Ecological Third: Eco-TA in Therapeutic Practice” by Hayley Marshall

Reference

Brantbjerg, M. H. (2008). *Resource oriented skill training as a psychotherapeutic method* (T. Christensen, B. Picton, & M. H. Brantbjerg, Trans.). Bodydynamic. http://moaiku.dk/moaikuenglish/englishlitterature/articles_pdf/a4/ROST_BP_2.2.A4.pdf 

Free-Access January TAJ Article on “Revisiting Ecological Transactional Analysis”

The article “Revisiting Ecological Transactional Analysis: Emerging Perspectives” by Giles Barrow and Hayley Marshall from the January 2023 theme issue of the TAJ on eco-TA is now available for free access/download.

The authors offer a retrospective look at the initial phase in the development of ecological transactional analysis. They consider a range of critical observations, challenges, and opportunities to further evolve the idea of an ecological perspective on TA theory and practice. Themes addressed include the relationship between eco-TA and climate change activism, accounting for diversity and inclusion in ecological work, the issue of leadership and authority in eco-TA, the complexity of language in articulating beyond the human perspective, and the distinction between indoor and outdoor practices. The authors offer a new concept—the ecological mind—which is designed to support the evolution of eco-TA and invite readers to reflect on practice and professional identity. This free access offers an important opportunity to encourage your colleagues and friends to learn more about contemporary transactional analysis, so please let them know they can read/download the article [here](#).

You Are Invited to the Next EATA/ITAA Webinar

The EATA/ITAA Webinar Committee cordially invites you to a 90-minute webinar during which you will meet with colleagues from within and beyond the global transactional analysis community. In this webinar participants will have a chance to reflect individually and in small groups on what is evoked in us when we come up against destructive aspects of our own and others' psyches. Diana Deaconu will draw on transgenerational trauma theory and the work of Elaine Scarry, whose book *The Body in Pain: The Making and Unmaking of the World* (Oxford University Press, 1995) raises wonderings about how to develop ways to maintain or restore connections with humanity in situations of intense violence and destructiveness. **Diana will pose questions such as:**

- Is this a private endeavor, a collective effort, or both?
- Does the capacity to restore or maintain the connection to humanity lie in the power of our imagination and/or the capacity to transform grief?



ENGAGING WITH DESTRUCTIVENESS
MEETING DISTURBING ASPECTS OF EXPERIENCE FROM A PLACE OF CURIOSITY INSTEAD OF REACTIVITY
with Diana Deaconu

15
FEBRUARY
11 AM
UTC

  ITAA-EATA Joint Webinar

11

FEBRUARY 2023

THE SCRIPT



Diana Deaconu is a Certified Transactional Analyst who works as a psychotherapist in private practice in Bucharest, Romania. She has a master's degree in anthropology and served

for many years as an editor of the *Transactional Analysis Journal*.

The webinar is open to practitioners from all fields of application. The times are as follows:

Wednesday 15 February 2023

11.00 GMT/UTC (UK)	08.00 BRT (Brazil)
13.00 EET (Romania)	20.00 JST (Japan)
12.00 CET (Central Europe)	06.00 EST (USA)
16.30 IST (India)	03.00 PST (USA)

To book your place for the webinar, [click here](#).

We are looking forward to seeing you there.

EATA/ITAA Webinar Committee 

ITAA Changes: Your Vote Is Important

In the January issue of *The Script*, we announced that **we were preparing an election for voting on the possible restructuring of the association.** The members are to decide whether to mandate the ITAA Board of Trustees to form a professional association. A professional association can, among other things, actively promote the business interests of its members.

The ballot by which ITAA members can vote on this change was sent out by email (and by postal mail to those who have not given their consent to be contacted electronically). Our service provider, Huntington Association Management, invited members to vote using an electronic survey.

You as members will vote on whether:

- To instruct the ITAA Board of Trustees to form a professional association. This association will be called the International Transactional Analysis Association (ITAA).
- The current ITAA should be called the ITAA Foundation in the future.

This means a change in the bylaws, so—in accordance with our current bylaws—**we have set the closing date for voting to 60 days into the future. Thus you have plenty of time to consider** the possible look of the ITAA (Foundation, the ITAA as it is now) constitution and the possible look of the constitution for the professional association.

Important: You are not deciding on the future bylaws. We will adapt both to the needs of the members and also coordinate the proposals with the membership.

If you have any questions, write to us at restructure-itaa@use.start-mail.com. The task team (Chitra Ravi, Elana Leigh, and Thorsten Geck) will be available for an online meeting on two dates in February to answer your questions.

On behalf of the task group, I want to thank my colleagues on the ITAA Board of Trustees for their support and discussion. It is important to hear many voices and take in different perspectives.

We look forward to your reactions. Please vote!

ITAA President-Elect Thorsten Geck for the Task Team 

ITAA Is Developing a Support Platform for Members to Offer Services to Those in Need

The ITAA seeks to support its members, not just in times of joy and peace, but also in times of distress and difficulties. We know how important it is for people to feel heard, seen, and recognized. This has always been our mission as transactional analysts. It is rooted in our philosophy, in our vision, and in our hearts.

In the last few years, and especially in the last few months, we have gone through many circumstances that threatened our sense of security (the pandemic, the war in Ukraine, etc.) and made us feel unsafe and sometimes lost. In response, some of us in our worldwide community have been further challenged in our lives, and some have had to face a fear of death for themselves and their loved ones. These events have deeply impacted our lives.

That is why the **ITAA wants to offer a support platform for those people who are suffering in these times of need, sorrow, and fear. This platform/space is meant to offer supervision/therapy/education to those who are in distress and who request it.**


This space is for sharing the resources in our community. Whoever is willing to offer therapy (trainees, psychotherapists) or supervision/training (PTSTAs,



Cristina Caizzi

TSTAs) in the form of group or individual supervision, seminars, and workshops, especially on the themes of managing post-traumatic stress responses and stress reduction strategies, can **contact Cristina Caizzi, the ITAA Board of Trustees Regional Representative for Europe**, who will be in charge of coordinating these activities. She can be reached at cristinacaizzi@gmail.com.

In responding to this announcement, please send a brief outline of what you would like to offer and a brief biography of yourself.

We look forward to hearing from many of you. 

Cristina Caizzi can be reached at cristinacaizzi@gmail.com.

New Contact Information for the ITAA

Now that Huntington Association Management is working with us to manage most aspects of our staffing needs, we will be using their postal address and phone as follows:

ITAA

2700 E. Foothill Blvd. Suite 209
Pasadena, California 91107, USA
phone: 626-689-4810.

The email will remain the same:
info@itaaworld.org.

Events and Reminders Calendar

- 7-8 July 2023 Annual In-Person Board of Trustees Meeting
- 29 July 2023 ITAA Annual General Membership (AGM) Meeting (online)
- 1 August 2023 Deadline TAJ theme issue on “Leadership”
- 1 February 2024 Deadline TAJ theme issue on “Intimacy and Creativity: Revisiting Berne’s Secret Garden”
- 1 August 2024 Deadline TAJ theme issue on “Relationships in Love, Play, and Work”

For more details about these and other events, visit the ITAA website at www.itaaworld.org.

2022 TAJ Bound Volume Is Available

The 2022 bound volume of the *Transactional Analysis Journal* was mailed in late December. Those members who are entitled to copies based on their membership category should receive them by 1 April 2023. If you have not yet received your 2022 bound volume by then, please check with Jenneva Guzman at info@itaaworld.org to make sure you were on the list to receive a copy. Please include your mailing address and phone number, and if you are due a copy, the office will request a replacement of the 2022 bound TAJ on your behalf.



New Members

DECEMBER 2022

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Jen Beaver, United Kingdom | Maria Oller Snell, United Kingdom |
| Manon Bongers, Netherlands | Maria Petrova, Ukraine |
| Christopher Dold, United Kingdom | Gayle Rice, United Kingdom |
| Sebastian Fogg, United Kingdom | Beatrice Roncato, Italy |
| Morana Kristek, Serbia | Robin Titheradge, United Kingdom |
| Natalia Lopatina, Russia | Tatiana van Rijswijk-Koot, Netherlands |
| Danielle Melief, Netherlands | Ruma Verma, United Kingdom |
| Sunita Nathan, India | Thomas Wehrs, Germany |

Being Ethically Minded: When and How Do We Think About Ethical Issues?

by Tomoko Abe

When and how do we think about ethical issues? Are they rare, making the need to think about ethics rather infrequent? I want to suggest here that as TA practitioners, trainers, and supervisors, we need to keep ethics in our awareness as a continuous safeguard for our work: for our own well-being and that of our clients.

I think each one of us is vulnerable to reacting to certain stimuli by moving away from the OK-OK position and responding in a way that reflects our own script issues. This can happen in the blink of an eye, and we may not even realize the door to a game has opened. Being a professional TA practitioner means remaining alert to every transaction because we know that the psychological level of a transaction determines the outcome. If we notice ourselves going into a racket feeling, that is a signal that our OK-OK position has been temporarily lost. This

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is a good moment to return to the contract (one of our fundamental principles) and check what is happening. The contractual method is one way of ensuring ethical practice.

It is also helpful to maintain the core TA philosophical assumptions: People are OK, everyone has the capacity to think, people decide their own destiny, and these decisions can be changed (Berne, 1966).

The ITAA Code of Ethics and the Code of Professional Practice are sets of guidelines, not rules, and they provide a useful framework when any practitioner is experiencing some kind of conflict or dilemma.

They are intended to offer a way to think about a problem situation. They are not intended to offer solutions or judgments. Supervision provides a safe space in which to talk about any concerns we may have and decide how to proceed.

The current ITAA Ethics Committee seeks to encourage practitioners at all levels to use these Codes of Ethics and Practice to support them in being ethically minded. The Complaints Procedure is currently being reviewed, with the aim of minimizing any parental tone and maximizing the integrating Adult functioning of professionals.

None of us is immune to making ethical mistakes. It is something that we all need to keep in mind as a professional. And it is necessary to have the tension of noticing our own delicate awareness; we are all vulnerable.

Reference

Berne, E. (1966). *Group treatment*. Grove Press. 