
Section II

Childhood & Adolescence

Spring 2005 Newsletter

President's Message

I would first like to thank you for your continued support and for your involvement in Section II. As the incoming President, I look forward to carrying on and expanding on the exciting activities and ideas already put into action by our **Past President, Peter Carnochan, PhD**, and our talented Section II board along with the support of our active membership.

Over my two-year term, I hope to create **local, grassroots communities** across the various Division 39 locales comprised of child therapists who collaborate together in creating a vibrant, intellectually stimulating environment focusing on the clinical and theoretical issues specific to child psychotherapy. This kind of collaboration would involve hosting **local conferences, assembling peer supervision & reading groups**, and organizing resources among the various child psychoanalytic programs. My goal is to not only organize ourselves at the local level, but, in doing so, to move closer towards building a more **cohesive child community nationally and internationally**.

This past April, **Section II hosted a lively Round Table Discussion entitled, "Ms. Freud and Mrs. Klein, Where Have We Come?"** And on the heels of a tremendously successful Section II-sponsored half-day conference in **New York City** in October, 2004, **"Dead or Alive; Boredom & Creativity in Child Psychotherapy"**, we have put together weekly peer supervision groups, a child interest group that meets several times a year to discuss contemporary child-related topics, and are in the process of collaborating with the Journal of Infant, Child, and Adolescent Psychotherapy as well as local psychoanalytic institutes in assembling a full weekend child conference to be held in 2007.

In addition, Section II is cultivating relationships with other child psychoanalytic organizations/institutions such as the **Association for Child Psychoanalysis (ACP)** and **Tavistock** in London, England. Section II members in **San Francisco, CA, and Chicago, IL**, are in the process of planning child

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conferences and developing child-interest groups in these cities as well. After a successful trip to the Tavistock Clinic in London in June, 2004, we have decided to make this a bi-annual trip and are beginning to plan our next trip for June, 2006, in which we will arrange to attend seminars and supervision in an effort to continue our dialogue and enrich our own perspectives. Lastly, we are beginning to put together a **Contemporary Child Therapy Syllabus** comprised of the written works of Section II members with the hopes of developing a seminar or course that could be taught at some of the local Division 39 institutes.

As of June 1, 2005, **Section II's listserv** will resume its identity as an interactive list to which all members of the Section II community will be able to post messages. At the moment, the list is one-way, announcement only.

Before June 1, please inform the Section II office if there has been a change in your email address. And, if you wish not to participate in the interactive list, but still wish to receive announcements regarding Section II activities, please contact the office by sending an email to: div39secii@verizon.net

This coming year we will distribute the third edition of the **Section II Directory**

of Child Clinicians to the entire Division 39 membership. This directory brings members to the national attention of the mental health community as a resource for referrals.

You will find enclosed with this letter a summary of the Invited Section II Panel from the 25th Annual Spring Meeting of Division 39 held in New York City in April, 2005. We have also enclosed a copy of the minutes from the most recent Section II Board meeting so that you may be more informed as to what is taking place in our Section.

Section II is committed to bringing child work out of the margins of the analytic community. Your membership in Section II is invaluable to sustaining this work.

If you have not done so already, please fill out a membership renewal form (one is enclosed), enclose your membership dues, and return your directory information by August 1, 2005.

With Thanks,

Christopher Bonovitz, PsyD
President, Section II

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Section II, Division 39 Panel, 2005

At this year's Division 39 conference in New York, Section II presented an invited panel called "Ms. Freud and Mrs. Klein, How Far Have We Come?: A Roundtable Discussion of Child Treatment Over the Last Quarter Century." The members of the panel were Toni Heineman, Diane Ehrensaft, Richard Ruth, Peter Carnochan, and Christopher Bonovitz. During the course of the event the panel took up the issue of how the training and practice of child psychotherapy has changed over the last 25 years.

The more senior members of the panel recounted beginning their training in the days prior to managed care. At that time lengthy inpatient stays were common place and ego psychology was the dominant theoretical paradigm. The panelists suggested that at that time the role of trauma in disturbance was under-appreciated.

The panel also discussed how the influence of the Kleinian tradition and the emergence of the relational school of analytic thought have reshaped the field. The panel was well attended and the discussion with the audience was spirited.

Section II Board Meeting Minutes- April 16, 2005. New York City

Board members present: Larry Zelnick, Jill Bellinson, Peter Carnochan, Chris Bonovitz, Sophie Lovinger, Sam Weisman, Isabelle Reiniger, Susan Fabrick, Diane Ehrensaft, Toni Heineman, Richard Ruth.

Guests: Dolores Morris, Christine Kieffer, Robin Donath (candidate representative), Todd Germain, Michael Axelman, Liz Winship.

I. Introduction of new board members: Sam Weisman, curriculum committee. Susan Fabrick, Secretary and nominations. Isabelle Reiniger, outreach.

II. Dolores Morris introduced herself and urged the section to support her candidacy for APA Council of Representatives.

III. President's Report: Chris Bonovitz thanked Peter Carnochan for doing such a wonderful job as president. He noted Peter's presidency saw the growth in membership of the section as well as the publication of the member's Directory (Thanks to Toni Heineman), and he leaves the section with a strong foundation. Chris hopes to keep the momentum going by starting local section II groups across the country to build an active community of child therapists.

IV. Conference Report: Jill Bellinson organized a one day conference in New York City, entitled; Dead or Alive: Boredom and Creativity in Child psychotherapy. Speakers from different

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theoretical perspectives talked about how to bring life back into their work. The conference was well attended (80 people), and produced 20 new members for the section as well as encouraging old members to pay their dues. The conference got very good reviews and made a profit of \$2100. Christine Kieffer is planning a conference of this type in Chicago for 2006, and Peter Carnochan has formed a conference steering group in San Francisco. There was discussion of possible topics and formats, as well as the possibility of seed money from the section and financial help from APA. A mailing list of attendees was compiled and used to form a section II child interest group in NYC out of which a reading group and two peer supervision groups have been formed.

V. Tavistock: Peter Carnochan reported on the Section II sponsored trip to the Tavistock in London. Although there were some problems with organization on the Tavistock end, the group attended classes and received supervision from Ann Alvarez and Michael Feldman. Participants enjoyed the trip and felt it was worthwhile. The plan is to offer this trip every 2 years. Peter Carnochan and Ian Miller will put this together.

VI. Membership Committee

Report: Diane Ehrensaft reports that the Section has been able to maintain enough members to keep its Division 39 standing. The division requirement is that a section must have a membership of 150 over a 2 year period. The current new or renewed membership is 125. There are 21 members from 2004 that will count towards the total, and 51 members who have not yet renewed. It was decided these 51 will be divided up among the board members and called personally, to encourage them to renew their membership. All section II members must belong to Division 39 which is open to all

licensed mental health professionals. In addition, all section II members who are psychologists must also belong to

Another membership directory is due out this year, which was, and is a major incentive for members to join. Sam Weisman, pointed out that Division 39 has gone to a computer based directory, but Dr. Ehrensaft responded that the Section membership is expecting a paper directory this year. It was agreed that the Section would move towards using a computer based directory for financial reasons as well as for ease of updating.

VII. Division 39

Board Report: Richard Ruth, Section II representative to the Division 39 Board, reported on division activities as well as the Division's involvement with APA. APA is planning a conference on immigration in 2006 in conjunction with the National Multicultural Summit. Division 39 is very active in the planning of this conference. Dr. Ruth, along with other board members, met with the president of APA and was able to discuss with him the special concerns of children. The board of Division 39 has endorsed several candidates running for APA board positions. These candidates are not psychoanalysts, but are friendly to us.

Dr. Ruth then discussed the APA task force on "evidence based practice." There are several Division 39 members on this task force, who are working to change the terms of this debate, to reflect psychoanalytic thinking and practice. He urged the members of Section II to go on-line to [APA.org / members only section](http://APA.org/members-only), to read up on, and voice opinions about this issue, reminding us to identify ourselves as Division 39 members. Chris Bonovitz suggested that the Section consider forming a political action group. The Division is also looking into ways to keep membership up as

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well as to generate interest in psychoanalysis. The Board is in the process of creating a list of analytically oriented internships. Dr Ruth concluded by stating that Section II is well respected and appreciated by the Board for our cooperation as well as our willingness to follow through. We are considered a power base within the division.

VIII. Treasurer's report: Sophie Lovinger reports that the Section is in good shape financially. There is about \$2700 in the checking account, and \$12,000 in the short term investment fund. \$2000 is still owed for the NYC conference, so after expenses there is about \$12,000 in the bank. Dr. Lovinger reports that expenses generally run about \$1000 per year, but that the Section saved money this year by not hosting a reception at the Spring Division meeting. The reception cost about \$750 last year. There was then a discussion about financing section sponsored conferences. How much seed money will be given, a work sheet to plan budgets for conferences. Dr. Lovinger suggested that a finance committee be formed to address these issues. Jill Bellinson offered to join Dr. Lovinger on the Finance Committee. Dr. Bonovitz noted that the section was in very good shape financially. Dr. Lovinger replied that due to an increase in membership (due largely to the success of the directory), and also to careful expenditures, the section had turned its financial situation around.

IX. Section II Reception: It was noted that we did not sponsor a reception this year at Division 39. There is a history of sharing with Section 3 and 9, but this did not happen this year. Although the section saved money by not hosting a

reception, it was felt that it is an important event. Larry Zelnick suggested that we might consider being more ambitious by not only hosting a reception, but also giving an award, or honoring someone. There was discussion about the possibility of honoring people at both ends of the career line, an award for an outstanding member of the section as well as an award for a dissertation or other scholarly paper.

Toni Heineman, Jill Bellinson, Diane Ehrensaft, and Michael Axelman have volunteered to plan a reception for next year's meeting in Philadelphia. The committee will consider the issue of awards, how many, and whether there will be a cash prize or plaque. They will also consider the location of the reception. Dr. Heineman reported that in San Francisco, the section gave a reception at an outside location. The guests were pleased, and it was considerably less expensive. Chris Bonovitz offered his parent's home as a possible location. They will also explore the idea of cutting expenses by sharing with another section (perhaps section 8, family.)

X. Listserv: Chris Bonovitz reports that he would like the section to have an interactive listserv so that members can speak to one another, or comment on papers as a way to develop community, but states that his two tries have backfired. Many section members complained when they were inundated by unwanted emails. Larry Zelnick presented several options: An announcement only listserv (that will not allow response); an interactive listserv with a moderator to filter out long, inappropriate, or irrelevant messages (this moderator would need to devote several hours a week to the job, and is probably prohibitively expensive and cumbersome); and a true interactive listserv. Dr. Zelnick has volunteered to help move to

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a more interactive style, and suggests that we notify members of the advent of the interactive listserv and give them the option to opt out.

It was decided that the President, Chris Bonovitz, would send an email to section members, welcoming them to Section II. This message will contain minutes from the board meeting in NYC, a reminder to renew membership in order to remain in the directory, and a report on the panels given by Section members at the conference. Both Peter Carnochan and Richard Ruth felt that it would be helpful to give members a sense of the theoretical and clinical relevance of Section II. The email will also contain a notice that as of June 1, 2005 all members will be included in the interactive listserv unless they notify Veronica that they do not wish to be included. Toni Heineman noted that the reports on the relevant conference panels would be a good jumping off point for interactive discussion, a good first opportunity to begin a dialogue with the membership on issues of importance.

XI: Neuropsychology:

Liz Winship stated that she is looking forward to the formation of a study group on combination therapies. Treatments that utilize both psychotherapeutic and "brain retraining" techniques will be explored. Diane Ehrensaft says that these treatments are already common in California.

XII: Upcoming Events: Chris Bonovitz announced that the American Association for Child Psychoanalysis (a very conservative organization that still requires a minimum of 4x week psychoanalysis with children), will be having a conference in Denver in April of 2006. They are interested in having a dialogue

with Section II, and have invited us to their conference. In addition, they have invited an individual from the Section to submit a case demonstrating how we work. They will form a panel to discuss the case at the conference. Chris stresses that this is an opportunity to form a relationship.

Kirkland Vaughns of JICAP has proposed organizing an inter-institute child conference in 2 or 3 years in New York City. He would also like for Section II to be involved. This project is just at the committee forming stage. No topic has been chosen yet.

Richard Ruth has offered to be in charge of putting together next year's invited panel at Division 39 in Philadelphia. He also encourages more members of the Section to submit papers and additional panels.

XIII: Nominations committee:

Susan Fabrick has joined Toni Heineman in chairing the nominations committee. After ascertaining where current board members are in their cycle, to determine how many seats will need to be filled, the committee will be sending around a call for nominations. Elections will be conducted in the fall. An Advisory Board will be formed for past board members who want to stay involved with the board, but who would no longer have voting power in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Fabrick, Section II