



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Florence, Italy, May 27-30th, 2010

The Society for the Exploration of Psychotherapy Integration (SEPI) invites submissions for the 26th Annual Conference to be held in Florence Italy May 27-30th, 2010. Our conference site will be the Gran Hotel Mediterraneo, situated in central Florence. This year the 26th international meeting will also serve as the 4th SEPI-Italy Conference. One conference housed in one venue and with one theme.

SEPI is an international organization that is aimed at integration across theoretical perspectives on psychotherapy. SEPI provides a community for clinicians and scholars who wish to explore the limitations of a single school perspective and a forum for those interested in learning alternative ways of working with difficult clinical issues.

CONFERENCE THEME

The title of this year's conference is:

One or many sciences for psychotherapy: what constitutes evidence?

This title serves as the overarching theme for the conference this year; we aim to inspire contributions that address the issue of what constitutes evidence in psychotherapy. Many in our field strongly support the idea that there is only one science for all areas of enquiry, whereas many others challenge that idea in favour of a multiplicity of scientific approaches. Nobody disputes, however, the necessity of building our practice on some sort of evidence. The questions that contributors are invited to address are therefore: What does evidence mean in psychotherapy? Does any theoretical persuasion produce its own specific evidence, or is there some kind of superordinate evidence? Is the evidence brought about by experiments and measures the only one that deserves to be called scientific, or can clinical practice generate scientific evidence in its own right? What has an integrative approach to say about evidence? Contributors may also wish to consider other topics related to the broad theme of science and evidence. You are also welcome to submit presentations that are not directly related to the conference theme but bear on the larger theme of psychotherapy integration.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

December 15, 2009. Submissions should be submitted using only an electronic submission form available on-line at the SEPI website (<http://www.sepiweb.org>). The programme committee will send notices of acceptance by February 10, 2010. Please be aware that simultaneous translation will be available only in the plenary sessions. We will try to arrange for a limited number of sequential translations (consecutive interpreting). Information about this process will be accessible on the SEPI website in the near future.

PROGRAMME FORMAT

We hope to attract clinicians and scholars (from all psychotherapy traditions, as well as from other academic disciplines) who do not typically attend SEPI conferences, and who, while not necessarily identifying themselves as integrative in practice, may be attracted to the opportunity to discuss various issues related to psychotherapy integration.

The programme will consist of plenary panels, workshops, symposia and discussion groups that address themes related to psychotherapy integration. Two central plenaries will feature invited speakers.

SEPI is particularly devoted to facilitating dialogue among participants. All presentations should allocate ample time for audience participation and discussion.

We also encourage the use of videotape sessions, verbatim transcriptions, demonstrations, case presentations, or other methods that ground the dialogue, clarify practical considerations, and demonstrate clinical application.

TYPES OF PRESENTATIONS

The following descriptions indicate the session formats that are possible for submissions.

PAPERS (20 min.)

Papers are formal presentations submitted by individuals. A paper may or may not be part of a panel. Papers that are not part of a panel will be assigned a specific slot by the organizing committee.

SYMPOSIA (75 min.)

A symposium is a formal presentation session. Symposia may include 3-4 papers and a discussant. Each symposium must also have a chairperson who will introduce the presenters and topics, monitor time allotments and chair audience participation.

DISCUSSION GROUPS (60 min.)

A discussion group, or conversation hour, may be scheduled at any time during the convention. Please note that the chairperson of each discussion group is responsible for confirming individuals' participation and for organizing all aspects of the presentation.

MINI WORKSHOPS (90 – 120 min.)

Workshops are designed primarily for applied and practitioner audiences and focus on skills development or experiential involvement. A workshop "summary sheet" (overview of the topic) and handouts (if applicable) should be available to potential participants. Only a limited number of mini-workshops will be possible during the convention.

PRE CONVENTION WORKSHOPS (half day.)

A half-day workshop can be scheduled on the day preceding the conference to allow participants to learn about and explore a particular approach in more depth. Workshop pro-

posals will be approved by the SEPI organizing committee before being accepted for the conference.

Note: If you wish to make a submission for the conference program but are having difficulties fitting it into the described session formats contact the conference chairs. It may be possible to accommodate another format.

CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

When making your conference submission, please note that it is generally assumed that you will present in English. Please be reassured, however, that perfect grammatical English is NOT a requirement. However, being well understandable to English speakers is required for presentations in English. Still, if you prefer to present in Italian note this clearly on your submission. There will be simultaneous translation in the main hall, and sequential translation, when possible, in the other rooms. Slides in both English and Italian are encouraged and will be greatly appreciated but are not required.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Just follow the instructions at the SEPI website posted at : <http://www.sepiweb.org>

STUDENTS STIPENDS AND SEPI MEMBERSHIP

A limited number of stipends are available to defray partial costs for students who will be presenting at the conference. In order to qualify for a student stipend, you must be the first author and presenter of the paper, as well as a SEPI member (please contact Dr. George Stricker at geostricker@gmail.com for membership information or become a member online at the SEPI website). If you or a member of your panel wishes to be considered for such a stipend, please contact Dr Stricker directly at the above email with your request. .

PLEASE NOTE

The programme will include papers, symposia, discussion groups, mini workshops and pre-conference workshops (as detailed in the above). There is a limit of two submissions per first author regardless of submission type. (There is no limit on other forms of participation such as a discussant or moderator or co-author of a paper). Presenters will be subject to the usual registration fee for the conference. Presenters will also be asked to submit a copy of their CV. Submissions must be drafted in English.

Programme Committee

Professor Maria Gilbert (Co-chair, London), Tullio Carere-Comes, M.D. (Co-chair, Bergamo), Paolo Migone, M.D., (Parma), Antonio Vasco Branco (Lisbon), Alberta Pos, Ph.D. (Toronto), Michael Basseches, Ph.D. (Boston), Professor Vanja Orlans (London).