

2nd Workshop organized by the Research Subcommittee for Clinical, Conceptual, Historical and Epistemological Research of the International Psychoanalytical Association

in cooperation with the **Research Committee of the German Psychoanalytical Association**

September 29- October 2, 2008
Sigmund-Freud-Institut
Frankfurt a.M.
Germany

***The Relationship between Clinical and Extraclinical Research in
Psychoanalysis***
Methodological and Epistemological Considerations

We are pleased to invite you to the 2nd Workshop organized by the Research Subcommittee for Clinical, Conceptual, Historical and Epistemological Research of the IPA in Frankfurt September 29-October 2, 2008. The workshop is organized in cooperation with the Research Committee of the German Psychoanalytical Association.

The aims of the workshop are to deepen the discussion on the relationship between clinical and extraclinical research in psychoanalysis and to support young researchers in their ongoing research projects in this field. Clinical research, the so called „Junktim - research“, the inseparable bond between „curing and research“ within the psychoanalytical setting (Freud 1927), still is the heart of psychoanalytic research. Most of the insights and knowledge on unconscious functioning of the mind has been discovered in the specific form of „field research“ of psychoanalysis, i.e. the intensive observation of patients or groups of patients in psychoanalytic treatments. However, there is more and more criticism regarding this form of psychoanalytic research: It is claimed that this psychoanalytic understanding of science does not correspond to „science per se“ (as e.g. applied in experimental, controlled studies). These claims are often based on a naive but powerful idealization of natural science, whose triumph over the human and social sciences is celebrated. Therefore the aims of the workshop are:

- 1) Discussion of the epistemological arguments important for the ongoing debate on the scientific status of contemporary psychoanalysis. We have the opportunity to discuss this with one of the internationally leading experts on the field of epistemology, Prof. Michael Hampe, University of Zurich, who will join us as staff member.
- 2) Critical reflection on how clinical and extraclinical research can be combined in adequate ways in different research projects. All the staff members are chairs of ongoing large projects with different models combining clinical and extraclinical research (see below).
- 3) Discussion of how young researchers in the field of psychoanalysis can bridge the gap of clinical psychoanalysis and extraclinical psychoanalysis while writing their doctoral theses. The workshop will offer the possibility to discuss open questions concerning the combination of clinical and extraclinical research in ongoing individual research projects.

The workshop takes place after the International Conference „Ambivalence of the Technological Advances in Medicine“ in honour of the 100th birthday of Alexander Mitscherlich (September 26-28, 2008). At this conference the results of a large

psychoanalytical and interdisciplinary study „Ethical Dilemma Due to Prenatal and Genetic Diagnostics“ (EDIG) will be presented (see attached programme).

Preliminary Programme

Monday September 29, 2008:

Clinical and Extraclinical Research within the Frame of an interdisciplinary EU Study on Ethical Dilemma Due to Prenatal and Genetic Diagnostics

Introduction: Marianne Leuzinger-Bohleber (Coordinator of EDIG, staff, Ffm), Discussant: Sverre Varvin (Oslo, staff, Stephan Hau, Linkshöping (staff); Tamara Fischmann, Frankfurt, staff)

Presentations and individual consultations of different doctoral theses of young psychoanalytical colleagues in EDIG

Thursday September 30, 2008:

Clinical and Extraclinical Traumaresearch in Psychoanalysis

Introduction : Sverre Varvin, Oslo (staff); Discussant: Georg Bruns, (Bremen, staff)

Presentations and individual consultations of research done by applicants

Wednesday, October, 2008:

Clinical and Extraclinical Research on Depression

Introduction : Presentation of the Therapy Comparison Study on Depression (LAC):

Heinrich Deserno (Frankfurt, staff), Ulrich Bahrke (Frankfurt, staff), Tomas Plänkers (Frankfurt, staff)

Presentations and individual consultations of research done by applicants

Thursday, October, 2:

Epistemological perspectives on Clinical and Extraclinical Research in Psychoanalysis

Introduction: Michael Hampe (Zürich, staff), Discussant: Ilse Grubrich-Simitis (Frankfurt, staff, invited); Hans Georg Bruns, Bremen, staff)

Presentations and individual consultations of research done by applicants

Applications have to be sent to the Chair of the Research Subcommittee or the Chair of the Research Committee of the German Psychoanalytical Association:

Prof. Dr. Marianne Leuzinger-Bohleber, Sigmund-Freud-Institute, Myliusstr. 20, D- 60488

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Prof. Dr. med. George Bruns, Schubertstr. 54, D-28209 Bremen

GJ.Bruns@t-online.de

Applications have to be handed in until September 1, 2008

They should contain a 5 page summary of the research project which would be presented at the workshop, short CV

The number of participants is limited to 20.