Psychotherapy Department

APsaA's Psychotherapy Department serves as an umbrella for a variety of activities related to psychoanalytic psychotherapy. These include supporting educational meetings and continuing education related to psychotherapy at the APsaA national meetings. The Psychotherapy Department also functions as a liaison between local psychotherapy training programs and the national organization. It supports outreach to psychotherapists and provides educational opportunities through ongoing discussion groups and workshops at the national meetings. Additionally, it promotes the growth and development of psychodynamic psychotherapy training programs.

Mission of the Department:
- To promote psychoanalytic psychotherapy as an integral dimension of psychoanalysis.
- To strengthen the interface between the two modes of therapy in terms of theory, education, practice and identity.

The Psychotherapy Department consists of the following Committees:

**Psychotherapy Department Advisory Committee:** The Committee serves as an umbrella function for the Department in organizing and overseeing activities within the Association and outreach beyond the Association. The Committee is chaired by the Department Chair(s) and is comprised of the committee chairs of all constituent Department Committees (Psychotherapist Associates, Committee on Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Training Programs, Psychotherapy E-Newsletter Editor) and additional involved parties. The functions of the Committee include serving in an advisory capacity to the Department Chair(s) in relation to the Department’s business and new initiatives; working as a planning group for new projects and initiatives; and providing the oversight for new initiatives and outreach.

**Committee on Psychotherapist Associates:** A Committee whose goal is to represent the interest of those affiliated with APsaA as a Psychotherapist Associate (PA’s), to coordinate Psychotherapist Associate sponsored events at the annual meetings, and to offer assistance to local psychotherapy programs. The Committee works to promote the activities of APsaA’s Psychotherapist Associates to an expanding group of psychotherapists. See mission statement below.

**Mission Statement:** The Committee on Psychotherapist Associates’ primary task is to advance psychodynamic psychotherapy via education, outreach and networking opportunities for psychodynamic psychotherapists. We provide psychotherapy associates with educational programming, an online and printed national directory, an active psychotherapist associate list serve, referral opportunities, and reduced meeting registration fees. Continuing education programs include a twice yearly Discussion Group, “Psychotherapist Associates Present;” and the Committee-Sponsored
Workshop on “The Business of Practice: Building and Maintaining a Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Practice.”

The Committee collaborates with other APsaA groups, including the fellowship program, psychoanalytic foundation, public information committee, research department and student/resident associates. We distribute information about local psychotherapy training/education and psychoanalytically oriented organizations. We aim to increase psychotherapist associate membership and participation in APsaA, because psychodynamic psychotherapy practice is integral to the future of this organization as well as psychoanalysis.

Committee on Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Training Programs (COPPTP):
This Committee acts as a liaison between the American Psychoanalytic Association and local postgraduate psychodynamic psychotherapy training programs. It organizes a Workshop on Psychotherapy Training Programs of the American Psychoanalytic Association, which serves as an opportunity for APsaA and non-APsaA psychotherapy training programs to meet for discussion of both educational and organizational issues.

The Psychotherapy Department sponsors several ongoing events at APsaA’s National Meetings including:

- **Psychotherapist Associates Discussion Group: Psychotherapist Associates Present.** A Closer Look at the Process and Effectiveness of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy
- **Psychotherapist Associates Committee-Sponsored Workshop: The Business of Practice.** Building and Maintaining a Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Practice
- **Committee on Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Training Programs: Committee-Sponsored Workshop.** This workshop provides an opportunity for representatives from psychodynamic psychotherapy training programs to meet and discuss educational and organizational issues.
- **Two-Day Clinical Workshop: Psychotherapy Technique and Process** - Offers participants an unusual opportunity to investigate the process of psychoanalytic psychotherapy in depth.

In addition, psychotherapists will find there are many sessions of special interest to them at APsaA’s National Meetings.

For more information and to learn how you can get involved within the Psychotherapy Department, please contact Ralph Beaumont, M.D., Department chair.

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