

November 2018

## report form the professional activities division

Board Lead: Joanna Lee

I have been the Board Lead for Professional Activities since my election to the Board in March 2015. The Committees/groups in the Division are as follows:

### scientific and applications (sci-app) committee and associated committees/groups:

Chair Sci App Committee: Tim Fox.

Sub Committees/groups and their chairs/convenors (in alphabetical order)

Audiences with Authors: Committee functions as a collective.

British Journal of Psychotherapy (BJP): Editor: Ann Scott.

Clinical seminars on Diversity and Sexuality: Juliet Newbiggin

ICAPA: Meryl McCartney (interim rep)

Jung Forum: Julian Masters

PPA Forum: Deborah Abrahams and Poul Rohleder

South London Group: Serena Heller

Research Committee: Merged with the Sci-App Committee

A new **bpf** Sci-App committee was convened in the Spring 2018 when Tim Fox generously offered to take on the role of chair. For several years there had not been a **bpf** Scientific Committee and scientific life had contracted to an unacceptable level. During that time I had co-ordinated a Scientific Group with representatives from relevant sections across the **bpf**. The group met termly. Its function was both to support those organising events, address any issues arising for example around publicity, and to importance of Scientific Life alive. I was delighted when this nascent Scientific Committee gave birth to a full Committee. Most of those in the original scientific group continued on the Sci-App Committee and Tim invited others. Thus an active committee quickly sprang into action under Tim's leadership and, to date has met 3 times. Tim and the committee are committed to providing a rich scientific programme for members that represents their diverse interests of members including the application of scientific ideas in the statutory and voluntary sectors, and in the Arts and other areas of social and political life. The Committee believes that, while taking into account the financial challenges facing the **bpf**, the health and creativity of the organisations scientific life is an indicator of its health and vitality. A major challenge and one that needs attention, is developing and being able to use an IT system fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century so that meetings can reach all members and possibly be available as pod casts. I will not elaborate as Tim is writing a full report on the work of the committee and its future plans which will be available on the web site.

If anyone has an idea for a scientific meeting or event or would like to organise one please contact Tim who will be happy to discuss it.

On behalf of the Board and members I would like to thank Tim for his dedication and hard work in convening the Sci-App Committee and, despite the challenges pushing forward with a rich and varied programme to the benefit of everyone. I would also like to thank all the committee chairs/convenors, committee members and office staff for their contribution and work in organising events.

## new reflections

Chair of the editorial Board: Mary Pat Campbell

The first copy of New Reflections was published just before the AGM last year and was well received. A second copy was published in the summer. Since then, in view of the *bpf's* financial situation and the urgent need to cut expenditure the cost of a hard copy has come under scrutiny. In view of these concerns and uncertainty about future publications, I regretfully report that the editorial Board decided to stand down though would hope to reconvene at a later date. While this will be a significant loss to the membership I appreciate the Committee's situation. I hope that the matter will be followed up by appropriate Lead once the new structure (see P4 below) is in place. A final electronic version of the magazine will be published probably between the AGM and before Christmas.

I would like to thank Mary Pat and her editorial Board for the hard work and creativity they put into regularly publishing New Reflections since the merge in 2013 with articles, news, comment and reviews by members for members.

*Please see the chairs report below.*

## Report to the AGM from the chair, New Reflection Board

Following a recent meeting of the New Reflections Editorial Committee, it was regretfully decided that the committee's work will 'pause', as requested by CEO Mike Owen on the one hand, and the committee's own conclusions on the other. The cost of producing a high quality hardcopy magazine, as in the last two editions, is currently too expensive.

After five years of producing the magazine, four years as an e-magazine, and one year producing a pilot of two editions in hard copy format, the committee is unsure of the commitment and interest expressed, both from the CEO / *bpf's* finances on the one hand, and the membership on the other.

As we have gathered enough material for what would have been the Winter 2018 edition, and to honour the work already put in by members in their articles for this edition, we are requesting that Marketing manager Hanna Sosnowska circulate this electronically to the membership, after the AGM and before Christmas.

The current committee will stand down once the material envisaged for the winter edition is sent out to the membership. We hope it will reconvene at a later date when there is more scope, commitment and backing for such a magazine.

## the art committee

Chair: Linda Pethwick

The Art Committee continues to put on regular exhibitions at Mapsbury Road which are there for all to enjoy. From January to June there was a major exhibition by Penny Elder, 17 of the paintings were sold. See review by Linda Pethwick in the Summer edition of New Reflections. In July and August we were able to enjoy work by Mary Cunnell. This exhibition was dismantled for the redecoration of the Burnett Room but is shortly due be re-hung, albeit with attention to reducing any damage to repainted walls to a minimum! Next year an exhibition of Linda Brown's work is being planned. It should be noted that Penny, Mary and Linda are all *bpf* members.

I would like to thank Linda, her Committee and others involved for their work in organising these exhibitions. I think the exhibitions are important both in giving members space to show their work and for members to see and appreciate it and for what the exhibitions they add to the ambiance of our professional home.

## career progression/post graduate education committees

BJAA Postgraduate Committee (includes Senior Membership selection and appointment of Training Analysts and Supervisors), Chair: Ann Foden

IPCAPA: Meryl McCartney (Interim Lead)

IPCAPA Training Therapists Committee: Marianne Parsons

PPA Post-Qualifying Course Committee: Caroline Schenk

PPA TT (Training Therapists) Committee: Ora Dresner

While the work of the individual Committees delivering postgraduate education courses, progression to senior membership and the approval of TT/A's and supervisors continues, the development of a *bpf* Career progression/post graduate education committee is work in progress. To put this in context, in the Spring of 2017 a Task Group to look at Career Progression/Postgraduate Education in the *bpf* was convened by the Board. This was following a report from the NRDC which expressed concern about the lack of post graduate education/career progression pathways in the *bpf* particularly for members from outside London, also a lack of transparency and independent appeals procedures.

The task group reported to the Board in Sept 2017 and all the recommendations were accepted. Things then went on hold pending the outcome of the GR though some of the recommendations are already being taken forward, for example the PPA post graduate seminars and the development of procedures when concerns are raised. A key recommendation was that there should be a *bpf* Career Progression/ Postgraduate Education Committee. It was envisaged that such a committee would hold an overview of postgraduate education/career progress pathways across the *bpf*, be a forum for cross fertilisation of ideas about developments needed etc. and ensure equal access and transparency. It was also felt that having broadly defined career pathways, available for all to see, could be attractive to potential trainees. I am currently assessing the function and role of such a committee within the new structure, how it would dovetail with the Sci-App Committee and the Associations, especially their Post graduate Committees. I envisage that the composition of the committee would be broadly be similar to that of the task group with

representatives from the post qualifying courses, Training therapists committees, the NRDC, and at least one recently qualified member and senior member. If anyone would be interest in developing this work, in particular taking on the roll of chair please let me know.

I would like to thank the chairs and Committee members for all their dedicated work over this challenging year and also for their active participation in the Governance Review.

## the future

Following the Governance review the Lead for the Division will no longer be a member of the board but will report to the board via the Operations Committee which will come into being In January 2019. The role of Leads on the Operational Committee and their appointment will be discussed over the next few months. My vision for the division is that it will continue to develop services for members and member involvement creating a stimulating professional home for everyone including graduates of the psychodynamic and National trainings and those, maybe just a few, who consider themselves non-aligned.

Joanna Lee