



DAY RESIDUE

A joint publication of NYSP and the Society of NYSP.

May 2009

MARYAM N. RAZAVI, EDITOR
SELMA HOLM, ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Note from the editor's desk:

Dear colleagues, Society members have been very active, presenting interesting concepts to the profession, making us better known and of course making us very proud. This is your newsletter and collectively you wrote it. It has been my pleasure to talk to some of you in preparing the DR. Please give me your feedback about the format or content. What would you like to see in future editions? Any suggestions?

CONGRATULATIONS FERNANDO!

Fernando Maldonado who received his MSW from NYU in 82, completed the NYSP Clinical Psychoanalytic-Psychotherapy Program in December 2008. Fernando stated he is very grateful for the support and guidance he received from his instructors, supervisors, and fellow students. He also mentioned that his studies have immensely enhanced his therapeutic skills in treatment approaches used in managed-care settings. He is currently working on getting his LCSW, and his goal is to continue serving the Spanish-speaking population and to establish a private practice in the Bronx in the near future.

Fernando, we are more than delighted to have you in the profession.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR PSYCHOANALYSIS IN CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK

AAPCSW recently held its eleventh national conference at the downtown Marriott Hotel in New York City, entitled: Memory, Myth and Meaning in a Time of Turmoil. Our NYSP community was very well represented, both on the planning committee as well as presenters, moderators, and attendees.

Joyce Edwards presented: *Parental Idealization of Adopted Children in Families where Adopted and Biological Children Grow up Together*, and *Diana Siskind* was the discussant.

Sharon Farber moderated: *Under the Knife: Women and Cosmetic Surgery*.

Sheila Felberbaum presented a paper entitled: *Memory and Meaning in a Psychotherapist's Life*.

Kate Gorman co-presented a paper entitled: *Parental Narcissism Manifested in Childhood Boredom and the Inability to Play*.

Jane Hall participated on a panel entitled: *Psychoanalytic Myth with Memory and Meaning: We Can and Should All Get Along*.

Lynn Lawrence moderated, "Influence of a Charismatic Antisocial Cult Leader: Psychotherapy with an Ex-cultist Prosecuted for Criminal Behavior."

Diana Siskind was the discussant for the paper, *Keeping the Baby in Mind: Attachment and Reflective Functioning*.

Iris Sugarman moderated a paper entitled: *Becoming Really Old: The Indignities*, by Ruth Lax.

Patsy Turrini was the discussant for the paper, *Psychology with Older Adults*, presented by Renee Goldman.

Patsy Turrini presented: *Preverbal Reconstruction: Memory and Reviving Good Objects*.

Yvonne Young moderated a paper by Roberta Ann Shechter entitled: *Writing about the Clinical Experience*.

Yvonne Young and Diana Siskind, served on the Planning Committee; *Myrna Ram and Carol Thea* were on the Planning Committee and co-chaired the Hospitality Committee, hosting the Saturday night special dinner event at City Hall restaurant that was extremely well attended. *NYSPP can be very proud of our tremendous contribution and participation in this very important conference in the psychoanalytic community!*

Myrna Ram & Carol Thea

NEWS FROM JANE HALL

Jane Hall has been very busy. She reported “I will be leading a roundtable discussion at the IPA meetings in Chicago on July 31 titled **The Closed Mind**. On the panel will be Leo Rangell, Kenneth Eisold, and Garcia Baradacco (from Argentina). We will explore why so many cling to their theories and find it so difficult to say things like: ‘I never thought about it that way’ or ‘You make an interesting point, let me think about that.’ Searching out the roots of the closed mind and thinking about how to be more open-minded is our goal.

I presented on a panel at NYFS on Analytic Identity in December, 2008, **Relinquishing orthodoxy: one analyst’s personal journey**.

Psychoanalytic Review: vol. 95 (5) is my most recent article.”

NEWS FROM CHRISTINE MACDONALD

Christine MacDonald will present the paper she wrote to complete her psychoanalytic psychotherapy program at NYSPP at the International Conference for the Advanced Professional Practice of Clinical Social Work (ICAPP) in San Francisco in July 2009. The paper is entitled: **Watching Star Trek on My Uncle’s Knee: Fantasy as a Tool for Mutual Growth**. Christina is also the fiction editor for **Beyond the Couch**, an online journal of the American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work (AAPCSW).

NYSPP SCIENTIFIC MEETING

Sunday, March 29, 2009 the NYSPP community gathered at the Lighthouse International to hear a fellow graduate and member of the community, Dr. Joseph Cattano, Ph.D., LCSW, CASAC, speak about a paper he wrote entitled **Traveling into Cyberspace: The Effects of the Internet and Computer Games Upon Fantasy Process and the Developing Ego**.

The Board Members of The Society of NYSPP were pleased that they were able to have one of our own alumni be the keynote speaker at our annual Spring Scientific Seminar. As in previous years, the turnout was high, the coffee was hot, and the food plentiful! Attendees enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to listen, learn and eventually discuss phenomena that, with the ubiquitous presence of technology in most everyone’s lives, are likely occurring in every therapist’s office in most, if not all, communities. The seminar served as a place where colleagues and professionals were able to come together and think about these issues as they relate to psychoanalytic work that we do.

Joan Levar

SUMMER READING : BOOKS RECOMMENDED BY COLLEAGUES

Christine MacDonald recommends the novel **Netherland** by Joseph O’Neill. She writes “It is an elegant, beautifully written book about loss and grief and the healing of it after 9/11. It is funny and warm and sad. The setting is the boroughs of NYC and the details and characters are a delightful love letter to our enduring city.

Sheila Felberbaum recommends the following books which “have provided me with many hours of enjoyable reading”:

Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese, an excellent novel about the personal and professional lives of twin boys born into a community of doctors in Africa.

The Piano Teacher by Janice K. Lee a good story set in “war-torn Hong Kong during the invasion of the Japanese.”

Mistress of the Art of Death a gripping and exciting tale that combines the television program CSI with medieval English history.

Iris Sugarman has been enjoying the Pulitzer Prize winner of 2000, **The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay** by Michael Chabon.

Jane Hall writes: “A really funny spoof of psychoanalysts is **Mayhem** by Christopher Bollas. I laughed out loud from cover to cover.”

Marcia Westra was touched by **My Father’s Secret War**, by Lucinda Franks. Her father was on secret assignments during WWII and the book tells a poignant story about how it affected him psychologically. It also tracks the relationship of daughter and father as she gets him to gradually open up about events. The mix of history, trauma, and relationship between father and daughter is very moving. “Having had a wonderful dad myself, it moved me to tears at the end, as she claimed that he was her hero at the beginning and then again at the end of his life.”

Revolution in Mind by George Makari is a big book which I put away but am enjoying second time around.

From Selma Holm, “if you seek enchantment and revel in fantasy and historiography, then **The Enchantress of Florence** can be your long, slow read. Salman Rushdie’s novel will also provide delicious opportunity to plumb psychoanalytic concepts on your way from the Mughal empire to 15th century Florence.”

KINDLE

I received a “Kindle”, an electronic reader from Amazon.com for my birthday and find it such a joy. Besides being able to secure a book in minutes you can preview it without cost, get reviews and a feature that I love for my book club. It allows you to save quotes and write comments in a section entitled “clippings”. Most books cost \$10.00 to purchase, less than discount stores and the process is so “Green”.

I guess I have just written a personal review of the Kindle you can use.

Happy Reading,

Sheila Felberbaum

THEATRE

Several of our members including Carol Thea and Sheila Felberbaum have seen **Next to Normal** and recommend it. Carol writes: “I liked **Next to Normal** very much. I thought it well directed, sung and very moving. It did feel like a “busman’s holiday”. The director is prominent and had directed “Rent” which is a clue to this contemporary opera--a combination of Rent and Spring Awakening.

MOVIE

Wendy and Lucy: A Tale of Alienation and Connection

A small film, token characters, lots of stillness, rich for symbolism, primary thinking and attachment theory. Wendy is homeless/has left home, headed for Alaska. Wendy finds dog. Now Wendy has an attachment partner. Car breaks down, Wendy needs to feed dog (let alone herself). Wendy brings car to auto repair shop and can't pay for repairs. II. Wendy leaves car on street, anchors dog; enters grocery, surveys edibles, surreptitiously slips cans of dogwood into her garments, is apprehended, ridiculed and arrested. Wendy exhorts the police, "my dog, my dog" and is not listened to. When she is released from jail, Lucy has disappeared. III. Now there is a benevolent security guard who agrees to be Wendy's "base," while she connects with the animal shelter. In the meantime, there is a frightening night in the forest. Then, the animal shelter telephones Wendy (on the kindly security guard's phone) and advises her where to go to find her dog. Lucy had been rescued and now runs, off-leash, in a well-kept suburban yard. Wendy throws an object for Lucy to retrieve and bring to Wendy. IV. Wendy kisses Lucy through the mail fence. Wendy hops onto a freight car and heads for Alaska. She has provided for her dog. The separation and individuation are in process. We see Wendy's face in the doorway of the freight-car.

Selma Holm

PSYCHOANALYTIC LITERARY GROUP

Members: Linda Halperin, Maryam Razavi, Regine Podrizki, Ellen Henschel, Vicki Finkel, Sandra Parness, and Lucille Spira, Facilitator. We welcome Rose Latino as a new member.

Our psychoanalytic book group focuses on deepening our awareness of the work of a selected author. This year we read three novels by Edith Wharton along with several articles that elaborated on aspects of her life and work. The group explored unrequited love and longing, social snobbery, prejudice, envy and jealousy, along with sado-masochistic object relations as they appeared as themes. Briefly comparing Wharton to Proust, whom we studied last year, we decided one major difference is that she does not use humor as a force in her work. We saw her as a straight-forward story teller sticking closely to the narrative of her storyline; she does not move from a specific subject such as love to a more general theory or philosophy as is the case with Proust. Yet, she does portray a number of her characters very poignantly and dramatically. The group seemed to agree that Edith Wharton does not provide deep insight into her characters who, like some of our patients, are not particularly reflective; this leaves much more to the reader's imagination. Most members agreed that Wharton's characters and themes are relevant to today's readers and may be of particular interest to therapists.

Next we will turn our attention to Henry James, friend and mentor of Wharton.

Henry James

We will start with a fictionalized version of James' life: **The Master** by Colm Toibin. Our reference points-- love, longing and the type of relationships portrayed--will guide our discussion as we examine the work and compare the author's vision to concepts from psychoanalytic theory. As we familiarize ourselves more with James the author, we will likely turn to one of his works to see how he weaves themes and experiences from his life into his stories. Hopefully, we will find much to question and discuss about the characters and situations in which they are placed.

Please join us for a discussion of a contemporary writer's empathic introspection into the life and work of Henry James **The Master**. For continuity we might begin with a brief discussion of the "handout" from our last meeting--Edith Wharton--published in Harper's Magazine

Book: *The Master* (Short listed for the Man Booker Prize: one of the 10 Best NY Times 2004)

Author: Colm Toibin

Publisher: Scribner (Paperback) 338 pages.

Date: June 15, 2009 Monday 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM.

Place: Lucille Spira's Office: 52 East 61 Street (Between Park and Madison)

Phone: 212-371-1550

RSVP: As soon as you receive the Day Residue

Lucille Spira

NEW FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION REQUIREMENT

The Federal Trade Commission has taken the position that because physicians defer collection of fees for services (such as, I guess, sending out a bill at the end of the month, or filing insurance claims) that physicians are CREDITORS who are therefore subject to the so-called “Red Flags Rule” which is intended to prevent identity theft in credit institutions.

Starting May 1, unless more recent protests to the FTC are effective, physicians, psychologist, Social Workers in private practice, will need to comply with the Rule. This applies to ALL practitioners, not just those who are “covered entities” for HIPAA purposes.

In practice, what this means is that each practitioner MUST have a written policy on file spelling out how that practitioner will deal with any incident which could result in identity theft. If you take this seriously enough to want to comply with the requirement, then you should check with your local professional organization to see if they have a sample document you can use. (The New York State Psychiatric Association [NYSPA] has provided a specimen document for the use of its members to comply with this Rule.) According to NYSPA:

“One might not customarily include health care providers in a list of lending institutions. However, the FTC has taken the position that this broad definition of creditor includes health care providers who allow payment for medical services subsequent to the provision of services, either by billing on a monthly basis, or by deferring payment of patient co-pays or coinsurance amounts until payment of claim by an insurance carrier...

“As stated above, many physicians provide services on an ongoing basis and bill patients at the end of the month. Under the Rule as currently written, this common practice could be construed to create a personal account between the physician and patient which is designed to accommodate multiple payments and transactions over time. Using this analysis, one might argue that physicians who bill for their services offer and maintain covered accounts. In addition, clinical records maintained by healthcare providers are also at high risk for identity theft because they include medical information, personal information and, often, insurance coverage information.

“In September, 2008, the American Medical Association, along with the APA and 25 other medical specialty associations, sent a letter to the FTC urging that physicians be exempt from complying with the Rule because they are not traditionally viewed as financial institutions or creditors and the Rule does not specifically apply to health care providers. The AMA also noted that health care providers are already subject to extensive privacy and security requirements under HIPAA that are similar to the Rule’s identity theft provisions. The AMA requested that the FTC issue a legal guidance document supporting its view that health care providers must comply with the Rule. However, the FTC did not formally respond to the AMA letter and has otherwise remained silent on the issue. Therefore, all physicians and health care providers are well advised to take action to comply with the Rule in advance of the May 1, 2009 deadline...”

Needless to say, there have been numerous other protests of this FTC interpretation, but so far as I know the FTC has dug in on its intent to begin enforcing the Rule for physicians as of May 1.

Ed Fancher

PAST OPEN HOUSE/CLINICAL PRESENTATION

On Sunday April 19th, Miriam Pierce hosted an “Open House” and a clinical presentation. The paper, entitled “ My Space - Your Space: Negotiating Adolescent Relationships on the Internet”, was presented by Rose Latino, co-director of our Child and Adolescent Program. Rose presented her thoughts about the interplay of adolescent’s working through their normal developmental challenges and how the use of email, texting, and instant messaging might be affecting them.

We had a large turnout with lively, thought provoking discussions on the subject. Everyone listening shared clinical and personal experiences and we explored the pathological and normal affects of electronic communications.

The Society of NYSPP thanks Rose.

Esther Amini

FUTURE OPEN HOUSE

Our last Open house this spring will be on Monday, June 22 at 7:30 PM. As usual we ask our membership to help in recruitment and let interested colleagues know about our open house and the excellent advanced training at NYSPP . We will also hold an open house in September. Look for fliers in the mail and e-mail. RSVP: Carmen 718-397-5280

Carol Thea

SOCIETY'S PROGRAM FROM OCTOBER '09 TO APRIL '10

Thursdays, Beginning October 15, 2009

“The Monthly Book Club”

Hosted by: Selma Holm, LCSW

Place: 605 West 113th Street (Apt. 51), New York City

Time: 7:30 PM

RSVP: Selma Holm 212-663-7160

and Carmen: 718-397-5280

Sunday, October 11, 2009

“Does Advice Giving Have Psychiatric Respectability?”

Presenter: Renee Goldman, CSW

Place: 171 East 89th Street (Apt. 14 -B), New York City

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 PM

RSVP: Carmen 718-397-5280

Sunday, November 15, 2009

“Working With Adopted Children and Their Parents”

Presenter: Diana Siskind, LCSW

Place: Myrna Ram's home - 422 East 72nd Street (Apt. 26 - E), New York City

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 PM

RSVP: Carmen 718-397-5280

Sunday, January 17, 2010

“The Meaning of Money”

Presenter: Myrna Ram, LCSW

Place: 422 East 72nd Street (Apt. 26 - E), New York City

RSVP: Carmen 718-397-5280

Sunday, February 28, 2010

“Relationships Between Adult Daughters and Their Mothers”

Presenter: Maryam Razavi, Ph.D., LCSW

Place: 80 Central Park West at 68th Street (Apt. 12-F), New York City

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 PM

RSVP: Carmen 718-397-5280

Sunday, April 18, 2010

“Revisiting Winnicott’s ‘There is no baby without a mother.’”

We will also view the film:”The Story of the Weeping Camel”

Presenter: Miriam Pierce, LCSW

Place: 165 West End Avenue at 68th Street (Apt. 18-D), New York City

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 PM

RSVP: Carmen 718-397-5280

Esther Amini

PSYCHOANALYTIC ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING

Several of you have asked how to arrange to get PEP. This is a CD ROM program that allows one to download almost all psychoanalytic journals from 1924 through 2005. It also offers a lot of books including the entire Standard Edition of Freud. The program which is very expensive for an individual is available for members of psychoanalytic groups.

If EVERYONE in the Society of NYSPP agreed to subscribe, the fee might be \$60 per year. But this is quite unlikely.

Another route to subscribing to PEP is through, Division 39, the Division of Psychoanalysis of the American Psychological Association, which accepts Social Workers as Affiliate members for dues of \$95 a year. They may then get PEP for \$55 per year, and receive the excellent quarterly journal/newsletter Psychologist-Psychoanalyst (where I have published frequently over the past several years).

For those who want PEP, this is a reasonable approach.

Ed Fancher

MENTALIZATION – A NEW CONCEPT OR A NEW WORD?

Drs. Peter Fonagy and Anthony Bateman of University College London developed mentalization-based treatment for the borderline personality disorder. According to their theory, mentalization develops when a parent or primary caregiver helps a young child convert a physical experience such as crying into a conscious thoughts or feeling, such as sadness, through “marked contingent mirroring” of the emotion. A response that is both marked-exaggerated or slightly distorted-and contingent-accurate and responsive, enables the infant to better understand an experience. Three mechanisms can derail healthy growth in the capacity to mentalize:

Developmental deficits - Caregivers don’t develop a strong emotional bond, or the caregiver does not adequately mirror the child’s emotions to help the child contain or soothe the distress.

Defensive measure - Some patients who were abused or traumatized in childhood might avoid mentalization as a self-protective measure, so that they do not have to acknowledge the malicious thoughts of an abusive figure.

Biological factors - Genetic changes or developmental strains that alter brain function may affect the stress response system, cause volatile moods, and in other ways disrupt the neural circuitry that links emotion and thought.

Harvard Mental Health Letter – April 2009

PSYCHOANALYSIS AND ARCHITECTURE

Psychoanalytic thought can occur familiarly and be generated in most areas of human life, but is unexpected in theories of architecture. Professor Lorens Holm posits psychoanalytic theory in architectural theory, in his new book **Brunelleschi Lacan, LeCorbusier** (London: Routledge, 2009). The text explains the similarity between the inner world of the psyche and the outer world of space, by proposing a psychoanalytic interpretation of the 15th C. Florentine architect Brunelleschi's demonstration of perspective. In turn, Dr. Holm uses the architectural discourse of space to elaborate the key Lacanian and Freudian accounts of the subject of perception.

Dr. Holm is Reader in Architecture and Director of the History/Theory program at the School of Architecture, University of Dundee, as well as Director of the interdisciplinary Geddes Institute for Urban Research. He has initiated previous explorations into architecture-and-psychoanalysis in papers published in scholarly journals.

Selma Holm

THE SOCIAL WORK LICENSING CRISES

The licensing issue remains a thorn in the side of both Institutes and LMSW's. Waiting over two-three years for their LCSW credential, some clinicians have lost their jobs, many more can't find new employment, some new and old social workers are so frustrated they are leaving the profession, and others have given up on New York State altogether and moved to New Jersey where they have been able to receive their LCSW. The future of training Institutes is at risk and adequate delivery of services to the community is compromised.

The Problem

The Office of Professions (OP) at the State Education Department (SED) responsible for licensure began implementing new statutes and regulations regarding social work licensure in September 2004. At that time, social work became a licensed profession and the old CSW credential was split into two separate licenses: the Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW), and the Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW). What emerged were a plethora of unforeseen and unintended consequences due to changes in licensure law and the execution of those new regulations. Three basic conflicts between different bodies of law became evident. 1. Corporate practice law: NYS restricts the formation of corporations through which professional services are provided and only similarly credentialed professionals can form corporate structures together. 2. Labor Law as it pertains to supervision: definitions of supervision become scrutinized in that one cannot pay one's supervisor directly. 3. Scope of practice issues between the LMSW and the LCSW: LMSW's under new licensure law are not permitted to do clinical work.

From September 2004 forward, LMSW's were no longer able to gain their LCSW credential through supervised experience gained in Institutes, private practice, or any settings other than NYS Office of Mental Health or Article 31 Clinics as they had been previously able to do. The problem was--no one knew that. It wasn't until 2007 that people started receiving letters from the State denying their supervised experience as credit toward their LCSW because it was not in an "approved setting." The SED OP website continued to publish information stating that private practice was a valid setting for gaining experience credit toward LCSW providing it was supervised by an LCSW up until June of 2008. After June 6, 2008, the SED OP website was altered to state that LMSW's were not permitted to be in private practice.

Since this crisis began almost three years ago, many LMSW's have lost their jobs and/or were forced to shut down their private practice in order to be compliant with SED's current reading of the regulation. Much of the clinical work being done by LMSW's came to a standstill in the Institute community. The amount of lost compensation and revenue for clinicians and Institutes is something that will need to be documented at some point.

To further complicate matters, there is another "sunsetting" exemption of the old law and regulations that is due to take place on 1/1/2010. This new regulation would mean that after 1/1/10 all agencies and clinics performing clinical services will only be permitted to hire and retain LCSW's to provide those clinical services. As it stands now, a great deal of the services at clinics are performed by LMSW's and supervised by LCSW's. It has always been a challenge for agencies to retain a trained work force and pay for the traditional staffing practices. Hiring only LCSW's will not only be cost prohibitive (especially now in a time of recessionary budget cuts), but will also be difficult because of the dwindling supply of LCSW's on the market. More importantly for the individual practitioner, how will the LMSW's obtain their requisite 3 years of clinical training in an "approved setting" to apply for the LCSW if other statutes prohibit them from working in that

capacity at all. The tentacles of the current execution of the statute and regulatory law are far-reaching, contradictory and dysfunctional. No one thoroughly thought through the implementation of these new laws prior to 2004, with deleterious results in multiple settings, on multiple levels, for multiple parties.

The impact of this crisis on the delivery of services to the community is something that should not be minimized. At a time when people need services the most - loss of jobs, benefits, homes, etc. - agencies are being forced to make staffing cuts because of funding issues. How then are they to be expected to hire LCSW's exclusively when they don't have enough money to keep the LMSW's they have now?

The Institutes, because of their tradition of low fee psychotherapy, have performed a valuable service to those individuals who do not have health insurance and/or do not qualify for low-income-based health insurance. This has historically included a large artist, student, and free-lance population. Many of the clinics and referral services have come to a standstill since they have been unable to refer any of their patients to LMSW candidates. At a time when Institutes are hurting for students to begin with—they are now unable to retain LMSW students who cannot earn credit toward their LCSW. Fewer people attending Institutes affect the professional standard of practice. It has long been understood that quality supervision and training happens at Institutes not OMH agencies or social work schools. The SED has ironically contributed to the instability of the profession as a whole and compromised the delivery of services to a particularly vulnerable population.

What has been done about it?

In a community famous for its inability to get along, the Institutes have come together and formed an Alliance to advocate on their behalf in Albany. The Alliance of Psychotherapy Training Institutes has retained an attorney to work in the capacity of government relations (i.e., lobbying not litigation) to negotiate a resolution to the problem that takes into consideration their interests.

The NYS Coalition of LMSW's had retained an attorney several months before the Alliance came into existence and has been working diligently since then on an array of matters affecting both LMSW's and the profession as a whole.

The Alliance and the Coalition have made steady progress in getting all parties to the negotiating table and obtaining agreement from the State in principle to resolve a host of issues that require immediate clarity and remedy. The formation of the Coalition and the Alliance itself helped to underscore the urgency of the matter and has moved the process along at what could only be considered light speed for the State bureaucratic system. Unfortunately, we are now likely to experience further delays due to the recessionary budget cuts and staffing cutbacks at the SED.

While there are reasons to be hopeful, we are far from realizing substantive results from the State to fully resolve this industry-wide crisis on its various levels of impact: LMSW's, clinics, agencies, Institutes, non-profit organizations, University counseling centers, et al.

Where we stand now

LMSW's

In late January 2009 the Committee on the Professions (COP) authorized its staff to re-review applicants for licensure who were formerly denied supervised private practice experience toward their LCSW credential. These applicants would need to submit this new COP form to the SED. The COP form was not made available by the SED until mid-March 2009. Now it seems that there are additional problems with this form and those applicants that submitted them are now being asked for additional documentation.

Agencies

The Governor has recently proposed an extension of the "sunsetting" exemption for non-LCSW practicing clinicians at agencies to 6/1/10. The hope is that the legislative process will work out a more permanent and realistic solution to this particular problem in that interim period while the legislature is in session.

Institutes

The issues of non-exempt agencies and non-approved settings have still not been resolved. However, the SED is reported to be working on a registration process whereby Institutes will be able to become authorized to provide supervised clinical experience for LMSW's.

What this means for NYSPP

The good news is that the SED has proposed this registration process which will enable Institutes to be considered authorized and approved settings for training LMSW's and granting them experience credit toward their LCSW. However, it also raises the question of what precisely the registration process will entail for Institutes and whether referral services like NYSPP's would be considered a qualifying entity to register.

Secondly, the law does not allow for supervision that is paid for by the supervisee. All compensation for supervision must be made by the Institute and set up as part of the tuition and fees for all students up front.

Thirdly, how long will it take for the State to set up this registration process and then to implement it? They have been talking about doing this for months now and yet there is still nothing in writing from the State. Meanwhile another new academic year is virtually upon us. Attracting LMSW candidates to the Institutes remains a problem. Will the Institutes be able to survive until the SED gets this straightened out? These questions remain an urgent concern for the Institute community and the professional community at large.

One final note- all who care about the future of the profession would do well to make a donation to either the Coalition or the Alliance toward their legal expenses. The work done thus far would not have been possible without the attorneys that have been working long hours for little pay. The Coalition is nearly out of money and will not be able to continue to pay their legal fees for much longer. Contact www.nyscoalitionoflmsws.org for more information.

Rebecca Fadil

A special thanks to Rebecca Fadil for generously giving of her time to attend the various necessary meetings and keeping us informed.

The editor