

President's Column

“A cold coming we had of it, just the worse time of the year for a journey.”

These words from the poem by John Betjamen 'The Journey of the Magi' rang true for those members of the Executive Board and Extended Board who travelled across snow-drenched Europe to meet together over the weekend in an 'experiment' in Amsterdam, at the beginning of March.

Some of us were delayed for hours at airports because of freezing fog and snow storms. One colleague had to stay overnight in a hotel in Frankfurt because all aeroplanes were grounded and onward flights cancelled. She arrived a day late to make her valued contribution to the 'experiment'.

We travelled by plane, train and automobile from nine different countries to experiment with nurturing the continued evolution of EAGT by attending to its business in a new way – as a United General Board.

Historically, and of necessity the work of EAGT has been carried out primarily by the Executive Board and Extended Board meeting separately. This structural inequality in the way EAGT is managed seems 'out of step' with the recent development of EAGT. The growth in membership of individuals and institutes from countries from central and eastern Europe has shifted the focus within EAGT from being almost exclusively and solely in Western Europe to include the whole of Europe. The 8th conference in Prague had colleagues from 26 European countries

and with almost 500 participants was the largest gathering yet in the history of EAGT.

Some colleagues from countries with struggling economies travel by car for several days in order to get to EAGT conferences and meetings. Some fly in from countries outside mainland Europe to identify with us and feel a part of the wider gestalt community. Some come from countries where current restrictive practice makes it difficult or virtually impossible to practice freely as a gestalt therapist. Colleagues from every country that seeks to identify with EAGT and support its purposes need to feel heard and be represented at the heart of our decision making.

To move further toward this goal we met for the 'experiment' in Amsterdam. Like any experiment we wondered had we graded it too high? Could a larger gathering of people work as effectively as a small Executive Board of 7? Would we work through all the agenda?

Well, I am delighted to write that we completed the business a little ahead of schedule and took time to break into small groups to envision the future of EAGT and share our hopes for gestalt. Later in the evening we had dinner together ending with a spontaneous outburst of singing during which the EAGT Office Manager revealed even more of her many talents!

The combined executive and extended board functioned well partly because we had first hand access to information about the position of Ge-

stalt psychotherapy in different countries and also because we were able to draw on the combined wisdom of more colleagues with their rich and varied experience and backgrounds.

We plan to repeat the 'experiment' again when we meet in Krakow later this year. If a combined meeting is once again helpful and supportive for the management and functioning of EAGT then we will invite you, the EAGT members to consider at the General Meeting in 2007 whether we might change the statutes to include representation from every nation on a new and enlarged General Board. While this will mean the end of a separate Executive Board and Extended Board, an Executive Committee made up primarily of officers will still be needed to continue to take responsibility for day to day management of EAGT.

The Board are looking forward to holding the next Annual General Meeting in Krakow and to supporting the great work that our colleagues from Poland are doing to promote and develop gestalt therapy in their country.

Here in the United Kingdom we are getting closer to state regulation of psychotherapy by 2008 and so far the signs are very good that all major schools of psychotherapy will be regulated and none excluded. It further appears likely that psychotherapy will be accepted as an independent profession and not dependent upon psychology or psychiatry, but instead on the level and standard of training in psychotherapy.

I hope to see you in Krakow.

Ken Evans, EAGT President

€AGT Financial Report

Previous years we have sent you a complete financial report. But, in order to save money and paper, we publish this year, and years to come, in our Newsletter:

- an estimate of last year;
- the official numbers of last year;
- the estimate of this year.

However, if you would like to receive a complete report, just write your name and complete address in an email and type in the subject *fi-*

nancial report, to our office manager Marga, and she will see to it that you will receive a complete report in your letter box.

The figures of 2005 speak for themselves. As you can see the official numbers of 2005 show a loss of € 2.129,44. The loss is mainly due to the non-payment of several members. The estimate of 2006 shows a small profit of € 735,-. The surplus on the estimate will be added to the reserves

of EAGT in 2007. In view of the commitments we have as an organisation, is a deposit with a minimal balance of € 15.000,- desirable.

Bas Lokerse, treasurer

	Estimate 2005		Official numbers 2005		Estimate 2006	
	Inc. 2005	Exp. 2005	Inc. 2005	Exp.2005	Inc. 2006	Exp.2006
Executive Board (costs travelling)		€ 5.000,00		€ 4.472,81		€ 5.500,00
Executive Board (costs accommodation)		€ 4.950,00		€ 11.037,83		€ 6.000,00
Executive Board (costs meetings)		€ 1.000,00		€ 295,12		€ 350,00
Extended Board (costs travelling)		€ 2.500,00		€ 2.063,71		€ 2.500,00
Extended Board (costs accommodation)		€ 1.500,00		€ 574,10		€ 1.500,00
Bank costs		€ 500,00		€ 449,92		€ 500,00
Remaining costs		€ 50,00		€ 562,95		€ 250,00
Costs secretary		€ 2.000,00				€ 350,00
Costs treasurer		€ 100,00				
Total costs office manager		€ 9.000,00		€ 9.115,79		€ 12.500,00
Desk costs		€ 1.500,00		€ 527,18		€ 600,00
Postage		€ 300,00		€ 1.283,95		€ 750,00
Newsletter		€ 1.000,00		€ 500,00		€ 500,00
Mailing costs		€ 2.000,00		€ 868,88		€ 500,00
Costs Training Standard Comm.				€ 1.306,24		€ 1.500,00
Costs Ethic Comm.		€ 500,00				
Website		€ 400,00		€ 26,45		€ 800,00
Costs writers conference		€ 1.000,00		€ 437,50		€ 800,00
EAP/NAP fee		€ 1.060,00		€ 1.074,50		€ 800,00
Membership fee 2003			€ 770,00			
Membership fee 2004	€ 3.500,00		€ 2.185,00		€ 1.690,00	
Membership fee 2005	€ 31.395,00		€ 28.742,49		€ 1.765,00	
Membership fee 2006					€ 30.500,00	
Membership fee advance			€ 160,00		€ 160,00	
ECP	€ 200,00		€ 100,00		€ 150,00	
Accreditation fee			€ 1.000,00		€ 2.000,00	
Donations			€ 1.600,00	€ 2.500,00		
Advertisement			€ 250,00		€ 100,00	
Service charge			€ 160,00		€ 100,00	
Loss & Profit calculation		€ 735,00	€ 2.129,44		€ 765,00	
	€ 35.095,00	€ 35.095,00	€ 37.096,93	€ 37.096,93	€ 36.465,00	€ 36.465,00

The Ethics Committee

Currently, the members of the Ethics Committee are involved in the Accreditation Procedures of training institutes throughout Europe. Training institutes apply for accreditation through the EAGT. One of the important considerations for accreditation is whether an institute has an ethics code and a complaints and appeals procedure that comply with those of the EAGT.

The Ethics committee has had considerable experience in creating such a code and complaints and appeals procedures for the EAGT, and therefore the committee members are offering their expertise in their recommendations to institutes that have already applied for accreditation or will be doing so in the future. Questions regarding the making of a new code and/or procedures, or the revision of an existing code, may be directed to the Ethics Committee.

At this time, there have not been any official complaints registered with the secretary of the EAGT. This is an encouraging development in the workings of the EAGT, but will give little information to the committee members in their future task of revising the code. The code is required to be revised every five years according to the regulations, which means that the revision will need to be voted on at the General Meeting in 2008.

Since the committee comprises only three members, we are asking those that are interested in participating in the fascinating and necessary work of the committee to candidate themselves for the General Meeting in September in Krakow, Poland.

The Ethics Committee;

Dick Lompa, Synnoeve Joerstad and Lynda Osborne.

News from the Training Standards Committee

We have two new accredited institutes, one from France (Ecole Parisienne de Gestalt) and one from the Netherlands (Kempler Instituut). They are already published on our renewed homepage. I congratulate and hope this will stimulate others to send in their documents for accreditation as well. But please don't forget that **all institutes – current members of EAGT – have to ask for accreditation before November 2007** otherwise your institute will lose membership in EAGT.

We kindly ask of you to not wait at the (very) last moment. The TSC is not able to deal with all procedures at the same time, we are thankful for having the possibility to scrutinize one by one and as soon as possible.

Accredited institutes will get the right to issue the EAGT certificate together with the diploma of the institute. If an Institute asks for accreditation from EAP at the same time, they will get also the right to issue ECP's together with the diploma.

Trainees of EAGT-institutes, that are not accredited by the end of next year, will have the possibility to become EAGT members only until the end of 2008. After that date they will have to fulfil the new standards, which is only guaranteed with the accreditation of the institute.

So it is an act of responsibility of institutes to get accredited in order to give their certified members the opportunity to join EAGT. The accreditation procedure is well described in a paper, that is available for downloading on our website.

Experiences with the before mentioned accreditation procedure are good. The three visited institutes did not experience the procedure as an inspection. On the contrary, they ex-

perienced it as an enriching procedure with lots of good feedback and/or suggestions to continue their teaching program on a high level.

The TSC will only appoint visiting experts that are fully independent from the institute. Fully independent means that a visiting expert has never taught at the institute he will visit nor for a competitive institute in the country s/he will visit. Experts are well-respected senior trainers in their own country and have an own training and teaching experiences of at least 10 years.

I am still waiting for several National Organisations to send in their procedures like: statutes, code of ethics, complaints- and appeal procedure. Periodically we need to be updated with and check on the papers of NOGT's in order to become and/or stay an official EAGT NOGT. Please read also our accreditation paper – where it is mentioned – but also the criteria's for a NOGT. The executive board has decided that all NOGT's have to renew their accreditation (as NOGT) every 5 years. As soon as they are accredited they will get an EAGT certificate. NOGT's play important roles, for example:

- they are involved in the accreditation procedure of institutes in their own country as well as in the process of issuing ECP's on behalf of EAGT.
- they guarantee good standards of gestalt education on the level of EAGT in their country.

If institutes and/or NOGT's have questions about these matters, please do not hesitate to contact me. My e-mail address is:

pschulthess@goldnet.ch

Peter Schulthess, Chair of the TSC and vice-president of EAGT

New Members 2005-2006

In 2005 and 2006 the EAGT Executive Committee welcomed a lot of new members, as you will notice in this Newsletter. Of course we are very pleased by this. We need new members since we want to grow more and more.

As secretary of the Executive Committee it is an important part of my job to process the application forms for individual members. It is the Executive Committee who decides about full membership or associate membership. We do so in our meetings twice a year. I only make a proposal. To do so, I consult our delegates in the various countries and I am supported also by Marga Berends, our office manager.

Once more I welcome all our new members on behalf of the Executive Committee. I want to thank the applicants for their patience (which they sometimes do need) and all the others for their help.

Joppie Bakker,
Secretary Executive Committee

New members 2005

Arthur Dombrovsky, Latvia (FM)
Ladislav Dvorak, Czech Republic (FM)
Gry Martinsen, Norway (FM)
Hans Petter Frydenberg, Norway (FM)
Valerie Randle, U.K. (FM)
Jean Marie Robine, France (FM)
Lynda White Petterson, Norway (FM)
Els Boumans, Netherlands (FM)
Natalya Ivanovna Olifirovich, Belarus (FM)
Igor Pogodin, Belarus (FM)
FeIG - Federazione Italiana Gestalt, Italy (FM)
Israeli Gestalt Therapy Association, Israel (AM)
Kempler Instituut, The Netherlands (AM)
Association of Russian-language Gestalt Institutes (ARGI), Russian Federation (AM)
Greek Gestalt Foundation, Greece (AM)

Accredited Training Institutes 2005

GPTIM - Gestalt Psychotherapy Training Institute Malta, Malta (Accredited member)

New members 2006

Sevasti Chatzopoulou, Greece (FM)
Ioanna Kalota, Greece (FM)
Melina Makridou, Greece (FM)
Kerasia Triantafyllou, Greece (FM)
Joaquin Blix Formoso, Spain (FM)
RIGA Gestalt Insititute, Latvia (AM)
Belarus Gestalt Institute Minsk, Belarus (AM)
Maria Farmaki, Greece (FM)
Antonia Konstantinidou, Greece (FM)
Katia Hatzilakou, Greece (FM)
Eleni Karanassou, Greece (FM)
Martin Konecny, Czech Republic (FM)
Fotini Mavoglou, Greece (FM)

Androniki Giagkou, Greece (FM)
Dimitra Georgospoulou, Greece (FM)
Irene Kiletsi, Greece (FM)
Zagrafou Mersini, Greece (FM)
Katerina Manolaki, Greece (FM)
Judy Graham, United Kingdom (FM)
Mariangela Triarico, Greece (FM)

Altered Memberships 2006 (from AM to FM)

Sanja Bratina, Yugoslavia
Dusanka Jovanovic, Yugoslavia
Marija Krivacic, Yugoslavia
Gordana Micovic, Yugoslavia
Marina Pjescic, Yugoslavia
Marija Stefanovic, Yugoslavia
Anna Maria Paroli, Luxembourg

Accredited Training Institutes 2006

Kempler Institute, The Netherlands, accredited FM
Ecole Parisienne Gestalt (EPG), France, accredited FM

State of affairs per December 2005:

New members:

In total we registered 30 new members; subdivided in 6 organizational and 24 individual members.

Cancellations:

In total there were 27 cancellations; 9 official cancellations and 18 were excluded.

Marga Berends, Office manager

Dr. Reinhard Fuhr

Deceased at December 16th, 2005

I was really shocked to experience that Reinhard Fuhr had passed away. I recall our bygone days at the DVG-meetings one morning at the swimming pool – we both enjoyed our quiet moments in the middle of all movements.

In my opinion Reinhard was a straight and reliable man. It is incomprehensible he passed away that early.

I experienced him as a wise, upright and independent human being, who always fully showed his willingness for the case: Gestalt therapy. Whenever we debated with one another, it was always with respect to content and reasonable.

After Heik Portele's departure Reinhard took over the leading as an editor and publisher of the GESTALT-THERAPIE from 1991 till 1996

and he warranted the high quality of published materials. In this function he also was a part of the board of directors during the before mentioned period.

I can lively recall how he at the first board of directors meeting insisted that all board members personally get acquainted before actually starting labour. It was this personal way of being which impressed me and which I liked.

Together with his wife Martina Gremmler-Fuhr he published many Gestalt articles as well as well read books like "Gestalt Ansatz" but also as a co-publisher in the book "Handbuch der Gestalttherapie".

These books contributed to the theoretical and practical development of German Gestalt Therapy in gen-

eral. For me Reinhard Fuhr was – and I'm putting this mildly – an involved educationist. He taught what he lived. His sudden death is a big hole in our middle.

Victor Chu

Jan 2006

The EAGT board repeats this recall, written by Victor Chu and adds her gratefulness for the work Reinhard Fuhr has done during his life for our association during his too short life as a board member.

For the board

Daan van Baalen

A G E N D A

for the Annual General Meeting in Krakow (Poland)

September 30th, 2006

- Welcome
- Minutes of last AGM Surrey September 2005
- Matters arising
- Reports of Officers:
 - President
 - Chair of Extended Board
 - External Relations Officer
 - Vice President & Chair of Training Standards
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Chair of Ethics
- Reports from Special Committees:
 - Organisations
 - Education and Children
 - Social Responsibility
- Change in statutes under Associate Members: to enable Gestalt therapists who have retired from practice, but wish to remain a part of the Gestalt community in Europe, to be Associate Members
- News and views from different nations: members from all nations to share what is happening in the profession of psychotherapy in their country.
- EAGT Conference in Athens 2007
- AOB

*Do you want
to be added to our mailing list?
Just mail me your email address!*

On regular basis we forward interesting information via email. Therefore I would like to have your email address on my mailing list. Just write a short email to Marga (office manager):

eagtooffice@planet.nl
(don't forget to add my email address to your list of contacts, otherwise your spam program will see my email as spam).

Did you move or are you considering to move?

Please don't forget to send me your new address. You can send it per regular mail to:

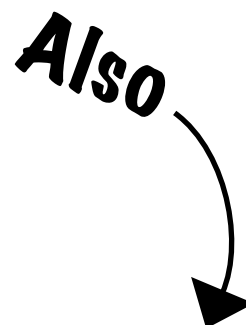
EAGT office
c/o Marga Berends
Noorderdiep 304
9521 BL Nieuw Buinen
The Netherlands,
or via e-mail to
eagtooffice@planet.nl

Advertisement rates

To advertise in our Newsletter:

1/4 page	€ 100
1/2 page	€ 175
Full page	€ 250

E-mail your ad to
eagtooffice@planet.nl



EAGT Membership Blues??

If we haven't received your 2006 membership fee, **please catch up!** You can pay your fee via:

- *internet- or electronic banking;*
- *send cash money* to EAGT office, c/o Marga Berends, Noorderdiep 304, 9521 BL Nieuw Buinen, The Netherlands;
- *signed cheque payable in euros*
– *bank transfer / remittance.*

Whatever way you choose for paying, you should pay all costs involved with that payment!

VOTING CARD

Enclosed with the Newsletter I have sent you a voting card. According to our statutes (section 5.2) our Full Members have the right to vote under the reservation that they have fully paid their fee for 2006. Fully paid up members who are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting may exercise their right to vote by notifying the EAGT office manager or EAGT secretary in writing at least 21 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting and designate a proxy (section 5.6).

The enclosed voting card can only be used for the coming Annual General Meeting, which this year will be held in **Krakow, Poland at September 30th, 2006**. Next year I will send you a new voting card. Please bring your voting card if you're intending to attend our Annual General Meeting.

————— *Marga Berends* – office manager —————



AAGT – 8th International Conference for Gestalt Therapy
9-13 August 2006, Vancouver, Canada
Preconference workshops 7-9 August

Come to beautiful Vancouver, beside the Pacific Ocean and join an international community of Gestalt practitioners, who will provide didactic and experiential presentations, symposia, and panels based on formal papers, active research, theory and clinical practice.

The keynote address will be given by

Erving Polster, Ph.D.

He will show how we may continually address everyday, non-pathological needs of people, describing these procedures and their theoretical underpinnings.

names of presenters

Gary Yontef, Daniel J. Bloom, Marion Schirling, Ed Harris, Niela Miller, Tom Mraz, Richard Kitzler, Sharon Warwick, John Harris, Victor Daniels, Peter Mortola, Peter Philippson, Eva Gold, Lisa Houston, Sylvia Fleming Crocker, Stella Resnick, Franklyn Wepner, Susan Friedberg, Razi Ghaemmagaham Farahani, Patricia Wehr, Maryanne Nichols, Susan Gregory, Richard Erskine, Rob Tyson, Perry Klepner, Philip Brownell, Talia Levine Bar Yoseph, Nahida Hadeesh, Kailish Tuli, Claire Asherson Bartram, Allan Singer, Marilyn Myles, Carl Hodges, Philip Lichtenberg, Linda Curran, Bea Mackay, Warren Weir, Patricia J. Tucker, Tine Van Wijk, Stephen Zahm, Ann Teachworth, Ruella Frank, Jack Neggerman, Lester P. Wyman, Arie Cohen, John Harris, Judith Brown, Anne MacLean, Ansel Woldt, Peter Cole, Frank Staemmler, Jay Levin, Lynn Williams, Seishi Harada, Philip Brownell, Siobhán Conway-Hicks, Ann Bowman, Judy Graham, Gail Feinstein, Joan Cole, Seán Gaffney, Daniel Schiff, Bud Feder, Isabel Frederickson, Joseph Handlon, Bob Wendlinger, Ekaterina Nikitina, Victor Bogomolov, Karen K. Humphrey, Stephanie Glickman, Peter Cole and Daisy Reese

some titles of the more than fifty workshops and presentations

“Relational Gestalt Therapy”, “Clarifying Gestalt’s Language”, “Daring to Be Me”, “Working With Forgiveness”, ‘The Street’, “Learning From the Experience of Childhood”, “Mirror Neurons, Intersubjectivity & Groupwork”, “Gestalt Therapy & Buddhist Psychology”, “A Dramatic Approach to Dreamwork”, “Embodying the Future”, “Making the Invisible Visible”, “Two-chair Technique”, “The Quiet Warrior”, “A Gestalt Therapist Teaches Singing”

For details and registration please go to
www.aagt.org



9th European Conference of Gestalt Therapy

EXPLORING HUMAN CONFLICT

6 - 9 September 2007
Athens - Greece



UNDER THE AUSPKES OF



LOCAL ORGANISING INSTITUTE



To find out more about the 9th European Conference of Gestalt Therapy, please visit

www.gestaltconferenceathens.gr

The EAGT Newsletter is a collaboration between
the EAGT Board and Lars Berg, lars@egenart.info