

Biographies & Presentation Summaries

Presenters

Ronald Britton

Presentation

In psychoanalytic terms the post-depressive position I have called PS(n+1) is a period of de-integration, moral, and conceptual uncertainty. Epitomised by uncertainty it can be the source of the next big idea or it can be a consequence of cognitive vandalism with the aim of nihilistic triumphalism. Psychoanalytic practice with individuals often requires us to know which is which on a small scale. Nature is not confused but we might be: Chaos theory provides us with an opportunity to see that randomness may be incalculable by us but not unstructured.

Biography

Ronald Britton is a well-known international psychoanalytic writer who has lectured widely in Europe and North and South America. He is a former President of the British Psychoanalytical Society and a Vice-President of the International Psychoanalytical Association (IPA). He has a predominantly clinical approach but also a special interest in the relationship of psychoanalysis to literature, philosophy and theology. He was given the IPA Award for Outstanding Scientific Achievement in 2013 and the Sigourney Award for Outstanding Psychoanalytic Contributions in 2014.

Catalina Bronstein

Presentation

The wish to know about 'reality' and 'truth' relates to both external and internal reality. Curiosity is at the basis of truth seeking and essential for development. I will be addressing the connection between the desire to know about external and internal reality (*epistemophilic* instinct and Bion's K link) with the infant's curiosity about the body as I think that the first attempt at exploring reality is connected to the maternal body. Infantile curiosity becomes particularly active around puberty but can sometimes arouse profound anxieties when it can be affected by both fear of what is there to be known and/or by anxieties about intrusion and damage to both self and object. The need to control and even cancel curiosity in adolescence can lead to a 'lockdown' state of mind.

Biography

Prof Catalina Bronstein MD is visiting professor at University College London and Training and Supervising analyst of the British Psychoanalytical Society. She is a child and adolescent and adult psychoanalyst. She is former London editor of the International Journal of Psychoanalysis and is currently on its Board. She is a member of the Publications Committee of the IPA. She has published many papers and chapters and has edited Kleinian Theory. A Contemporary Perspective and co-edited The New Klein-Lacan Dialogues, Attacks on Linking Revisited and On Freud's "The Uncanny". She is a former President of the British Psychoanalytical Society. Catalina Bronstein works in London in private practice and at the Brent Adolescent Centre.

Alex Datnow & Margaret Rustin

Presentation

Work with seriously disturbed children can expose us in graphic ways to awareness of the great pain they face in getting to know themselves. We shall present a case example which shows the struggle of a boy who fought with the help of his therapist to find out more of the truth while powerfully drawn to evade it.

Biographies

Alex Datnow is a Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist in Doctoral Training. Her clinical training posts specialise in psychoanalytic psychotherapy with adolescents and children with autism, in the Adolescent & Young Adult Service at the Tavistock Clinic and Mosaic CAMHS, an integrated service for families in Camden. She has worked in education settings to support the mental health needs of primary and secondary school children. Her professional background includes delivery of a wide range of cultural change and diversity programmes across public and corporate sector organisations.

Margaret Rustin is an Honorary Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust. She was Head of Child Psychotherapy at the Tavistock 1986-2009, and was elected as Dean of Postgraduate Studies at the Tavistock 1993-99, and subsequently Chair of the Professional Committee. She continues to teach at the Tavistock and the British Psychoanalytical Society and in many countries across the globe. She received the first award for an Outstanding Contribution to Psychoanalytic Education from the British Psychoanalytic Council in 2009. In 2005 she was made an Honorary Affiliate Member of the British Psychoanalytic Society, and in 2015 she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Education from the University of East London. She has held a number of visiting academic appointments at universities in the UK and elsewhere. Her publications include many journal articles and books, and she is currently preparing a volume of her selected papers from her over 50 years of work as a child psychotherapist.

Peter Fonagy

Presentation

Peter Fonagy will present empirical research findings and research inspired thinking on the role of social relationships and the experience of being understood in opening our minds to new knowledge, the evolutionary importance of shared beliefs about truth, and the implications of these ideas for our understanding of how authority and communities of knowledge are established and undermined.

Biography

Peter Fonagy, PhD, FMedSci, FBA, FAcSS, OBE, Professor of Contemporary Psychoanalysis and Developmental Science and Head of the Division of Psychology and Language Sciences at UCL; Programme Director for Mental Health, UCLPartners; Chief Executive of The Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families; Consultant to the Child and Family Program at the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston; and holds visiting professorships at Yale and Harvard Medical Schools. His clinical and research interests centre on issues of early attachment relationships, social cognition, borderline personality disorder and violence. A major focus of his contribution has been an innovative research-based psychodynamic therapeutic approach, mentalization-based treatment, which was developed in collaboration with a number of clinical sites in the UK and USA. He has published over 600 scientific papers, 250 chapters, and authored or co-authored 19 books. He is a Fellow of the British Academy, the Academy of Medical Sciences, and the Academy of Social Sciences. He has received Lifetime Achievement Awards from the British Psychological Society, the International Society for the Study of Personality Disorder and in 2015 was the first UK recipient of the British Academy Wiley Prize for Outstanding Achievements in Psychology.

George Gergely

Presentation

Since Descartes, the dominant view of the function of the uniquely human capacity for rational thinking, reasoning, and argumentation was assumed to seek and discover truth and to form true beliefs about reality. Paradoxically to this view psychologists have long realised and extensively documented that humans are liable to produce and accept incoherent and non-rational reasons to justify their own or others' beliefs and often provide ill-formed and illogical arguments to justify their actions. A recent evolutionary based approach to the evolved function of human reasoning (see Mercier and Sperber: *The Enigma of Reasoning*) sheds new light on and helps to explain the paradoxical nature of human reasoning and belief formation by radically rejecting the Cartesian view that the primary function of reasoning is to seek and discover the truth and to form true beliefs. The core idea of Sperber's Argumentative theory of reasoning is that the capacity for providing reasons and justifications for one's beliefs and actions has evolved to

persuade others to change their beliefs and to embrace instead one's own beliefs: in short, to establish shared beliefs with others through communication. To come to hold shared beliefs with other members of one's social community is the primary motivational drive that serves the adaptive function of cooperation, coalition formation, and affiliation in human social groups even at the expense of forming true beliefs. In my talk I'll illustrate the far-reaching implications of this theory for current developmental research of the social and communicative determinants of young children's belief formation and the dangers of credulity induced by ostensive communication by adult caregivers, the role of basic epistemic trust and the development of epistemic vigilance to avoid and deal with communicative abuse. I will illustrate with clinical vignettes the traumatic reality-distorting consequences for the child's developing representation of his social or reputational self concept due to self-serving misuse of exploitative communication that results in epistemic abuse by distorting the child's primary beliefs about his self as seen and evaluated by others leading to severely dysfunctional social relationships.

Biography

György Gergely, Ph.D., D.Sc., is a CEU Professor at the Department of Cognitive Science at Central European University (CEU) in Budapest and Vienna and co-founder of CEU's Cognitive Developmental Center since 2008. He finished his graduate studies at University College London and Columbia University, New York (PhD, 1986). He also completed a clinical graduate training at HIETE University, Budapest, becoming a certified clinical child psychologist in 1997. In 2007 he became an Academic Research Faculty Member at UCL/The Anna Freud Centre, and since 2009 he is Honorary Full Member of the Hungarian Psychoanalytic Association. He is a member of the Academia Europaea. In his scientific work he aims to integrate his clinical interest in psychoanalytic theory, and mentalization-based psychotherapy with his research on self-development, attachment, affect-regulation, and the early development of communication and mindreading. He has published extensively in areas ranging from developmental science, cognitive neuroscience, cognitive and socio-emotional development, comparative psychology, mentalization and developmental psychopathology, and clinical disorders of the social mind in peer-reviewed scientific journals. His current research focuses on the evolved design of the 'social mind' and its core mechanisms for social cooperation and communicative mindreading. In his clinical research he investigates dysfunctions of mind monitoring in Autism Spectrum Disorder and Borderline Personality Disorder. Currently, he is Principal Investigator on the ERC's Synergy Project Grant (#609819) on "Constructing Social Minds: Coordination, Communication, and Cultural Transmission".

Carine Minne

Presentation

I will describe cases, where catastrophic violent acting out in the context of the patients suffering from severe mental disorders, has led to them initially presenting with amnesia, denial, disavowal, dissociation or, at times, deception. I will illustrate how these different presentations can change

over the course of treatment and how such defences can protect homicidal patients from suicidality.

Biography

Dr. Carine Minne is a Psychoanalyst at the British Society and a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. She trained as a forensic psychiatrist and psychotherapist, bringing these specialties together in her posting as Consultant Psychiatrist at the Portman Clinic, (Tavistock & Portman NHS F Trust) and Broadmoor Hospital (West London NHS Trust). She is President of the International Association for Forensic Psychotherapy and chairs the IPA community committee on Violence. Her focus for the last 25 years has been mainly on providing psychoanalytic treatments for patients who have acted violently or are troubled by sexual perversions.

Daniel Pick

Presentation

How might modern psychoanalytic and other perspectives on 'truth-seeking and its discontents' inform or challenge one another? In this brief talk, Daniel explores the idea of 'the captive mind' in Cold-War times. He juxtaposes notable psychoanalytic reflections with commentaries found in philosophy, literature, and history. He also suggests why past ideas about hidden persuasion, group think, brainwashing and compliance, by Orwell, Arendt, Milosz, and others might continue to have such resonance now.

Biography

Daniel Pick read English at the University of Cambridge, before taking a PhD in History. He is a fellow of the British Psychoanalytical Society and a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. He has presented a variety of radio documentaries for the BBC and is the author of numerous articles and several books on modern cultural history, psychoanalysis, and the history of the human sciences. These include *Faces of Degeneration* (CUP, 1989), *Svengali's Web* (Yale University Press, 2000), *The Pursuit of the Nazi Mind* (OUP, 2012), and as co-editor, *Psychoanalysis in the Age of Totalitarianism* (Routledge, 2016). He is also an associate editor of *History Workshop Journal*. Daniel has taught a variety of courses in the field of modern cultural and intellectual history, history of ideas, the human sciences, and political thought. He has designed and taught specialist courses on psychology and fascism, Cold War debates about brainwashing and hidden persuasion, the history of psychoanalysis and psychiatry, Victorian evolutionary theory, eugenics and social Darwinism, fin-de-siècle literature, and the history of cultural attitudes to crime, sexuality, and madness. He currently holds a Senior Investigator grant from the Wellcome Trust for this project, entitled 'Hidden Persuaders': Brainwashing, Culture, Clinical Knowledge and the Cold War Human Sciences, c. 1950-1990'.

Eli Zaretsky

Presentation

Drawing especially on Freud's Group Psychology I will discuss the role of mass psychology in such forms as nationalism and populism in global politics since the French Revolution.

Biography

Eli Zaretsky is Professor of History at The New School for Social Research. He has taught at Lang College since 1999. His interests are in twentieth century cultural history, the theory and history of capitalism (especially its social and cultural dimensions), and the history of the family. His most recent book is *Political Freud*, published in 2015 by Cambridge University Press. His earlier work includes *Secrets of the Soul: A Social and Cultural History of Psychoanalysis* and *Why America Needs a Left*. He is the editor of *The Polish Peasant* in Europe and America; and of *Capitalism, the Family and Personal Life*.

Discussants

Michael Feldman

Biography

Dr Feldman is a Training Analyst and Distinguished Fellow of the British Psychoanalytical Society. He trained in medicine at University College London and later worked as a psychiatrist and psychotherapist at the Maudsley Hospital, teaching and supervising psychiatric trainees. For several years he has been in private psychoanalytic practice and involved in teaching and supervision at the Institute in London, and in several centres in Europe and North America. He studied with Hanna Segal, Herbert Rosenfeld and Betty Joseph, and he is particularly interested in the problems of psychoanalytic technique. He has written a number of papers addressing some of these issues, a selection of which have been published in his book, *Doubt, Conviction and the Analytic Process*.

Lily Ford

Biography

Lily Ford is a filmmaker and historian. She works with the Derek Jarman Lab at Birkbeck producing feature length documentaries and teaching. She produced *The Seasons in Quincy: Four Portraits of John Berger* (2016) and has directed and edited films on painting and history.

Michael Rustin

Biography

Michael Rustin is Professor of Sociology at the University of East London, a Visiting Professor at the Tavistock Clinic and at the University of Essex, and an Associate of the British Psychoanalytical Society. He has had a substantial role in developing postgraduate academic study at the Tavistock. Michael has a long-standing interest in psychoanalysis, and its relation to politics. He has been involved in the academic accreditation of psychoanalytic programmes at the Tavistock Clinic and the University of East London over many years, including a substantial programme of doctoral research in Child Psychotherapy. His books include 'The Good Society and the Inner World' (1991), 'Reason and Unreason' (2001), 'Narratives of Love and Loss: Studies in Modern Children's Fiction' (1989/2002), 'Mirror to Nature: Drama Psychoanalysis and Society' (2002) both with Margaret Rustin, and 'The Inner World of Doctor Who: Psychoanalytic Reflections in Time and Space', with Ian MacRury. He co-edited 'Social Defences against Anxiety' with David Armstrong (2016) and with Margaret Rustin is co-author of 'Reading Klein' (2017).

Virginia Ungar

Biography

Virginia Ungar M.D., Training Analyst at the Buenos Aires Psychoanalytic Association (APdeBA). She lives and practices in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She specializes in child and adolescent analysis, was the former Chair of the IPA's Child and Adolescent Psychoanalysis Committee (COCAP) and of the Committee for Integrated Training. She was given the Platinum Konex Award for Psychoanalysis in 2016. She is currently the President of the International Psychoanalytic Association (for the period July 2017- July 2021).

Jeanne Wolff-Bernstein

Biography

Jeanne Wolff Bernstein is past president and supervising and personal analyst at PINC (Psychoanalytic Institute of Northern California). She is on the faculty at PINC, at the NYU Postdoctoral Program, New York and at The Wiener Arbeitskreis für Psychoanalyse (WAP) where she is also a member of the Board. She was the 2008 Fulbright Freud Visiting Scholar in Psychoanalysis at the Freud Museum, Vienna, Austria. She is the head of the Scientific Advisory Council of the Sigmund Freud Museum, Vienna. She has published articles on the interfaces between psychoanalysis, the visual arts and film. Her most recent publications include, *Beyond the Bedrock* in *Good Enough Endings*, (2010) ed. by Jill Salberg, Routledge Press and *The space of transition between Winnicott and Lacan* in *Between Winnicott and Lacan*, (2011) ed. by Lewis Kirshner, Routledge Press and the section on *Jacques Lacan* in *The Textbook of Psychoanalysis* (2012) as well as *Living between two languages: A Bi-focal Perspective*, in *Immigration in Psychoanalysis*, (2016) Routledge. Her book on Edouard Manet, *Framing the Past and the Gaze*, is forthcoming.

Chairs

Elizabeth Allison

Biography

Liz Allison is the Director of the Psychoanalysis Unit at University College London. She is a psychoanalyst and Member of the British Psychoanalytical Society. She supervises students on both the Psychoanalysis Unit's Doctoral Programme and the MSc in Theoretical Psychoanalysis. She has taught on various UCL Masters courses, including the MSc in Theoretical Psychoanalysis, the MSc in Psychoanalytic Developmental Psychology and the MA in Gender, Society and Representation. She is a member of the Editorial Board of Routledge's *New Library of Psychoanalysis* and an Associate Member of the Editorial Board of the *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*. With Peter Fonagy and Mary Target she is Editor of Karnac's *Developments in Psychoanalysis* book series. She is currently serving as External Examiner for Westminster Pastoral Foundation's Masters courses (accredited by the University of Roehampton). With colleagues she recently co-authored the second edition of *What Works for Whom? A Critical Review of Treatments for Children and Adolescents* (New York: Guilford, 2014). Before her clinical training she was the Unit's Publications Editor. She received her doctorate in English Literature from Oxford University, and she maintains an interest in fostering mutually productive dialogue between psychoanalysis and the humanities.

Chloe Campbell

Biography

Dr Chloe Campbell is Deputy Director of the Psychoanalysis Unit. Her research interests include mentalizing, epistemic trust and attachment theory. Recent publications include 'What we have changed our minds about: Part 1. Borderline personality disorder as a limitation of resilience,' 'What we have changed our minds about: Part 2. Borderline personality disorder, epistemic trust and the developmental significance of social communication' in *Borderline Personality Disorder and Emotion Dysregulation*. She is series co-editor, with Dr Liz Allison, of the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families/Routledge Best Practice Series. Dr Campbell was educated at Cambridge, LSE and SOAS. She has a PhD in History and has published a book on the history of eugenic thought, on the basis of her doctoral research. She is particularly interested in pursuing the interdisciplinary implications of recent theoretical developments in the area of epistemic trust, culture and psychopathology.

David Taylor

Biography

David Taylor is a Training & Supervising analyst of the British Psychoanalytical Society (BPAS). Throughout his career his central work has been that of a practicing psychoanalyst seeing five times weekly cases. As well as his Visiting Professorship at UCL, where he organises the annual psychoanalysis conference each December, he is an Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist & Psychotherapist at the Tavistock & Portman NHS Trust where he held several roles including that of medical director, head of adult services and clinical director of the Tavistock Adult Depression Study (TADS) for which he was responsible from its inception onwards. He wrote the manual for the psychoanalytic psychotherapy tested in TADS; also used in the German LAC trial. He is a trustee of the Melanie Klein Trust. His other current roles include chair of the IPA's Clinical Research Committee and Member of the Board & Council of the BPAS with special responsibility for research and academic links. He supervises in Heidelberg, Vienna and Washington and has lectured and taught widely. His more recent papers include discussions of the value of the later works of Bion and the relationship between clinical and empirical forms of enquiry. As well as ongoing studies of depression, his current writing includes studies of the relationship between real and ideal objects and the nature of anxiety hysteria.