From The Director...

"Restoring humanity to life"

Dear ISEPP members and friends,

2017 Membership Drive
Between October and December we are having a membership drive for new 2017 members. For those of you who are not currently members, please take the time to review the benefits of signing up now for 2017. In addition to the benefits listed at http://psychintegrity.org/joinrenew/, if you join us now, you will receive: 1) extended membership through the end of 2017; 2) all three issues of 2017 (Volume 19) of our peer-reviewed journal, Ethical Human Psychology and Psychiatry (EHPP), published by Springer Publishers; and 3) immediate online access to ALL current and past issues of EHPP. Join us now by going to http://psychintegrity.org/joinrenew/!

The more I think about the conference theme of "Individuals Matter", the more I realize how scientistic approaches to understanding the human condition have stereotyped people and perpetuate the myth of mental illness. Scientific experimentation, especially of the randomized controlled trial type, boils individuals down to averages. In a way, it makes caricatures out of individual people, similar to how a certain class or group of people are.

The Advance
Mary Vieten, Ph.D., Director of ISEPP’s Operation Speak Up, is starting a new program called "The Advance". It is based on her non-medical, non-clinical, non-drug concept of helping veterans and military members who suffer from the traumas of war. Mary and several of her colleagues are putting the finishing touches on
launching the program. It conceptualizes post-traumatic reactions as natural human responses to horrific experiences, not pathological reactions that need treatment. It uses the power of human connection and understanding in its attempts to assist those traumatically affected to reintegrate back into society. Look for more developments about The Advance at our ISEPP website.

**Tortuous Twisted Thinking (TTT)**

Starting with the upcoming edition of the ISEPP Bulletin, we will have a new column entitled, "Tortuous Twisted Thinking". It is intended to highlight the absurd reasoning and linguistic gymnastics engaged in by the defenders of the current mental health system in their struggle to have it make sense. The idea came to me after reading an American Psychiatric Association paper on personality disorders back in April, after which it felt like my head exploded!

"Until now, DSM has organized clinical assessment into five areas, or axes, addressing the different aspects and impact of disorders. This multiaxial system was introduced in part to solve a problem that no longer exists: Certain disorders, like personality disorders, received inadequate clinical and research focus. As a consequence, these disorders were designated to Axis II to ensure they received greater attention. However, the axis system was seen by some clinicians as burdensome and time consuming. Given that there is no fundamental difference between disorders described on DSM–IV's Axis I and Axis II, DSM–5 has shifted to a single axis system."

Please keep an eye out for these kinds of TTT, and consider writing a short piece about it for the Bulletin. You can send these and any other article, announcement, poem, or any other kind of item of importance to ISEPP.
membership, to Dominick Riccio, Ph.D., the ISEPP Bulletin Editor-in-Chief.

**MISS Foundation Training**

ISEPP's Joanne Cacciatore, Ph.D., has offered training to any ISEPP practitioner interested in bereavement. If you are interested in working with traumatic grief (death of child, suicide, homicide, combat related primarily), then please consider becoming one of the MISS Foundation’s Compassionate Bereavement Care Providers. Once you complete the course, you go on a list of "green" (nonmedicalized) providers. The MISS Foundation NEEDS way more people to whom they can refer their clients around the world!

If you are interested, contact Joanne. The next training will be held in Sedona, AZ on March 2-5, 2017 with 30 CEUs. See more about this program [here](#).

As always, I ask that you all share this newsletter and other ISEPP information through your social networking sites. Also, make sure to visit our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. Feel free to contact me at [docruby@me.com](mailto:docruby@me.com) or 301-646-6022 if you have any questions or suggestions.

Best wishes,

Chuck