Letter from the Program Chair

As I write, we are making final preparations for our move to new quarters. At the end of this summer, our program is moving to a new space on the main campus of GWU. Specifically, we will be in Old Main, an historic structure at 1922 F Street, NW, opposite GW President Knapp’s residence. While our space in the European Union building has served us well for almost 10 years, this new space allow for growth. New improvements will include dedicated rooms for group therapy and child therapy, observation rooms, the ability to tape therapy, greater separation of clinic and office spaces, a reception area, and modern classrooms.

Yet, we seek further improvements to the program, and for this we request your assistance. We would like to purchase modern technologies to assist our student psychologists in their work. In particular, we seek funding for:

—New computer software to facilitate patient scheduling, record keeping and storage; and
—A new phone system that will allow each therapist to have his or her own voice message system.

And so, we reach out to you, our friends and graduates, with a request for you to contribute to these program enhancements. A gift from you will help us continue to improve the training of future psychologists and provide top-notch services to our community. Donations to the GWU Center Clinic are completely tax-deductible. Thank you for considering a donation at this pivotal time in the program’s history. With your continued help, this community remains vibrant and strong. If you can help, please contact Patrick Cody at 202-247-0170 or pcody@gwu.edu.

Sincerely,

Dorothy E. Holmes, Ph.D., ABPP (Clinical Psychology)

Photo above: Michelle Graham and Karthik Gunnia review a scientific poster that they and other students presented at the 2009 meeting of the American Psychoanalytic Association.
**Recent Program Developments**

Our Clinic added several **new external psychotherapy groups** in the past year, including:

- A transgender support group at the GWU Speech and Hearing Clinic;
- A “Healthy Relationships” group for homeless mothers at Bright Beginnings therapeutic pre-school in Northeast Washington, DC;
- A “Transitions” group for senior citizens at St. Mary’s Court residence in Foggy Bottom

Through collaborations with the CUA School of Social work and the GWU Department of Psychiatry, we are adding a **social work extern** in the Center Clinic this coming year. In addition, students working in our clinic have access to consultations with GWU **psychiatric residents**.

This coming fall we will **co-list a course** on **school psychology** with the GWU Education Department. The action represents a step towards developing a program that would help meet the special needs of DC public schools.

Beginning this fall, our program will add **Assessment Practica** for all second year students. In these “Pracs,” students will discuss their assessment cases, in both the fall and spring semesters. The Pracs will be led by faculty members. These new Pracs in the second year curriculum will be in addition to intensive labs in the first year. This new approach is aimed at enhanced learning of basic skills (i.e., mastery of the referral process; scoring mastery; focused writing to answer referral questions). Through an intensified focus on basic skills development in the program, we aim to reduce the amount of basic education that supervisors will need to provide (e.g., scoring).

In the interest of ensuring prompt clinical utility of psychological assessments, we have developed a **Preliminary Findings Form** that will address referral questions as soon as possible after instruments have been scored and discussed with supervisors. Supervisors and students will both sign this preliminary report.

**Affiliate sites** and the Center Clinic provide the backbone of clinical practice in our program. **New** affiliate sites include: **Safe Haven**, aiding former offenders and sex workers in recovery; **New Expectations** and **New Generations**, working with pregnant, homeless teens, and formerly homeless mothers reuniting with their children, respectively; the **GWU Weight Management Program**, working with people with eating disorders; the **Phillips School**, working with children with multiple disabilities; and, the **DC Superior Courts**, working with divorcing parents in child custody disputes. **Thank you to all** our affiliate sites for helping to train our students.

Our program has active **listservs** for Alumni, Supervisors and Affiliate Sites. Want in? E-mail **pcody@gwu.edu**.

**Top Psychologists:** the July 2009 *Washingtonian* magazine recognized alumni Deborah Curry and Michael Oberschneider; Adjunct and Clinical Faculty members Richard Fritsch, Charles Parks, and Pavel Snejnevski, and Program Director Dorothy E. Holmes, as top clinical psychologists in Washington, DC. Congratulations all!
Have You Heard? (Student and Faculty News…)

Each of our rising third year students who desired an Externship found a good placement. Each of our departing third year students matched or found a good Internship placement. Congratulations!

On the way to their internships out west, Justin Higa and Bethany Schaer became engaged.

Lara Masri presented a paper at the recent Division 39 meeting in San Diego. The topic was reconciling her political views, Arab identity, and emerging identity as a psychodynamic psychologist. Jacqueline Martone presented a research poster on the impact of neurocognitive disabilities and resiliency on quality of life in children with Neurofibromatosis Type 1 at the Neurofibromatosis Conference in Portland in June. Both start internships this fall.

In October, Prof. Paul Gedo will present a paper, "The psychodynamic meanings of delusions of badness," at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Psychological Treatments of Schizophrenias and Other Psychoses, U.S. Chapter.

Prof. Dorothy Holmes’ commentary, “The Election of the First African-American President: A Psychoanalytic Perspective” will appear in the fall, 2009 edition of In the Loop, the newsletter of the Baltimore Washington Center for Psychoanalysis.

Prof. Loring Ingraham published a book chapter (Genetic risk for schizophrenia: Findings from the longitudinal high-risk studies) with an international team of colleagues: www.springer.com/biomed/human+genetics/book/978-0-387-76726-0

Prof. Cheri Marmarosh wrote a lead article in the Journal of Clinical Psychology, addressing “The Real Relationship in Psychotherapy” and how it relates to attachment, transference, and outcome.

Alum Matthew Merced has finished his term as Chief Postdoctoral Fellow in the Center for Professional Psychology. After serving superbly for two years, he is setting up a private practice in Washington, DC. He also will teach one class in our program as well undergrad psychology.

Supervisor and faculty member Joe Gorin has formed Joseph Gorin and Associates with two graduates of the program, Claudia Rodriguez and Melanie Schettler (who completes her internship in October). They do neuropsychological evaluations, psychoeducational evaluations, immigration-related evaluations and psychotherapy.

Students Jane Keat and Hilary Roscoe recently won Columbian Women Scholarships for 2009-2010. Kathryn Bieri and Janina Brandt won a Samuels Foundation Fellowship for Psychoanalytic Research.

Students from the program attended a symposium at the Austrian Embassy this past November on the 150th anniversary of the birth of Sigmund Freud (photo, right). Prof. Richard Ruth was a featured presenter.
What our Graduates are Up To

Julie Bindeman wrote a book review and interview about child care in Washington Parent magazine. The next The Maryland Psychologist (September/October issue) will feature an article by her on work/life balance.

William Braun graduated this past January from the New York Psychoanalytic Institute and is now a practicing psychoanalyst in private practice in New York City. Currently, he is in child and adolescent analytic training, and teaching and supervising for the Psychology Internship program at New York Psychoanalytic Institute and at Lenox Hill hospital.

Jada Cade (formerly Jada Fink) is on the faculty at San Diego State University, wrote a grant for suicide awareness on college campuses, and produced several video podcasts for the school's website. She and her husband just had their first baby, too, and she is now away from work for the first time since she started at GW in 2001.


Hillary DeGuerney Clark is President of the Affiliate Council for the American Psychoanalytic Association.

David Cueva is working at the PTSD Program of the DC Veterans' Affairs Medical Center.

Jessica Orenstein Hunter moved to Northern Virginia from southern California and is working in a private group practice in Fairfax. She is licensed in California and Virginia and is working with adults, adolescents, older adults in individual, couples and family work. She has been married for two years.

Andrew Martin is administering a Facebook group for alumni. Search for “GW PsyD” and e-mail Andrew to request to join!

Michael Oberschneider was recognized in Washingtonian magazine (July 2009) as a "Top Psychologist" for assessment and therapy with children and adolescents. He was the only clinical psychologist recognized by the Washingtonian in all of Loudoun County. He also wrote an article on stress and the economy for The Washington Post this past summer that was later syndicated worldwide, and was featured on News Channel 8's Let's Talk Live, discussing the effects of stress during the recession.

Rebecca Resnik has added son Jay, 9 months, to Harry, who is three. She is licensed in Maryland and Virginia and will open an office for her group practice, Mindwell, in Bethesda, MD, later this year.

Juliet Ross is production editor of the journal Psychoanalytic Perspectives. All are invited to submit papers (for anonymous peer review) at www.psychperspectives.com.

Former Professor and alum Allison St. John’s baby boy, Mathew, is now one year old and daughter Sophie is three. She is now licensed in Maryland and is opening a private practice in Chevy Chase, Md.
WE ARE MOVING
ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2009
THE CENTER CLINIC IS MOVING

TO 1922 F STREET, NW
GROUND FLOOR
USE THE 20TH ST. ENTRANCE
Under the Center Clinic Awning

From Foggy Bottom Metro: Cross 23rd Street; continue on I Street. Take a right on 20th Street, and then a left on F St. Our building is on the right.

From Farragut North or Farragut West: Walk south (towards downtown) on 17th Street. Take a right on F Street. Our building is on the left at the corner of 20th Street.

Metro bus: The # 31 bus line stops at the corner of 21st and F, NW. The #80 bus stops at 18th and F, NW.

THE CLINIC WILL BE CLOSED AUGUST 24–30...
...And will reopen September 1st in our new location.