INTERNATIONAL HUMAN SCIENCE RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

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Editor: Steen Halling, PhD Phone: (206) 296-5392

 $Fax: \hspace{0.1cm} (206)\hspace{0.1cm} 296\text{-}2141 \hspace{0.5cm} e\text{-mail:} \hspace{0.1cm} shalling@\hspace{0.1cm} seattleu.edu$

Copy Editor: Rebecca Severson

Production Editor: Ada Fetters

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*DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO FALL 2010 NEWSLETTER: October 15, 2010

Please email Dr. Steen Halling if your email address changes.

Our Newsletter is available online!

Note from the Editor

This coming year will be the first time that the HSR Conference has been hosted by for a second time by the same university. Some of you may remember that Seattle University hosted the conference in 1988. We are delighted (and somewhat daunted, as well) by the prospect of organizing the conference once again. In 1988 everything was done by mail—no websites to make the task easier or harder (I am not sure which word is more apt). In any case, we hope that many of you will be able to attend the conference (details below).

Steen Halling

- This will be the last edition that we will send out in hard copy. If you are currently receiving a hard copy, please make sure that send us your email address so that you will be notified when the 2010 newsletter becomes available.
- Please pass the newsletter on to interested colleagues via e-mail or any other means—it is free to anyone who wants to receive it.
- If your email address changes, please let us know.

Report on the 2009 Conference, Molde University College, Molde, Norway



Greetings from the Conference Organizer

A warm thank you to all who participated in the 2009 International Human Science Conference and a special thank to the keynote presenters Patricia Benner, Gunn Engelsrud, Amedeo Giorgi, and Dan Zahavi for their presentation of a dynamic and living phenomenological perspective and methodology. You all helped make it such a successful event and it was a pleasure for us to meet you. There were 12 countries represented from Europe, Asia, Africa, South and North America and Australia. The parallel sessions represented a multitude of perspectives that were inspiring and stimulating; phenomena in care, education, philosophy and theoretical and methodological issues. In addition to the presentations, a special session in form of a dialogue among key notes was held at the end of the conference where variations in considerations and reflections about the conference theme were addressed. The keynote presentations and the dialogue were video recorded and will be available on the conference website later.



[Peter Ashworth, Amedeo Giorgi, Dan Zahavi, and Arne Collen in Molde]

Again, many thanks for making the 28th IHSRC conference such a special event where the past and the beginning of our future were brought together. Hope to see you all next year in Seattle!

Report on the Business Meeting:

There were expressions of appreciation to the organizers of the conference for creating such a well organized conference; the music performance every day, flowers, well- organized IT support and daily information were especially appreciated.

Steen Halling gave a brief presentation on the forthcoming 2010 conference at Seattle University, Seattle USA, August 4-8. The conference theme will be "Giving Voice to Experience." (See below for details). Linda Finlay proposed London, UK for the conference in 2011, and Bernd Jager proposed Montréal, Canada, or 2012. Both of these offers were gratefully accepted.

Solfrid Vatne Molde University College

Information on the 2010 Conference, August 4-8, Seattle University, Seattle, Washington, USA

Call for Papers

Abstracts are due on February 15, 2010

The theme for the 29th International Human Science Research Conference is "Giving Voice to Experience."

We invite attendees to explore the possibilities and challenges that come with giving voice to experience. From the humanities to the human sciences, scholars face the dilemma of how to do justice to experiences that can become known through language, but are so much more than language itself. When we succeed, the experiences we apprehend and convey bring forth opportunities for rediscovery and renewal. When we fail, these same experiences can become sources of frustration, misrepresentation, or silence. As scholars and practitioners, many of us

find ourselves at both ends of this continuum, and learn much from these experiences. Please consider sharing what you have learned by joining us in this important conversation. And, of course, presentations on other themes are also welcome.

Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words for single presentations and 400 words for panel presentations. As is usually the case, individual presentations will be allotted 40 minutes, including time for discussion. Panel presentations are given 80 minutes.

Conference Fees and Accommodations: We have made every effort to keep the conference as affordable as possible. The registration fee (which includes a wine and cheese reception on Wednesday evening, August 4 and refreshments during breaks) is \$ 200 per person and \$ 75 for students. Meals and accommodations are extra, but inexpensive rooms and small apartments are available on campus. Meals on and off campus are quite affordable.

Invited Keynotes:

The keynote speakers will address the conference theme from three distinct but interrelated perspectives. Our speakers are a philosopher, a documentary filmmaker and physician, and a psychologist:

James Risser is Professor of Philosophy and Director of the University Honors Program at Seattle University. He received his Ph.D. from Duquesne University in 1978. He has served as Executive Co-Director of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP) and is currently on the Board of Directors for the Collegium Phaenomenologicum. He is also the Associate Editor of Research in Phenomenology. His published works include Hermeneutics and the Voice of the Other: Re-reading Gadamer's Philosophical Hermeneutics (1997) and Heidegger Toward the Turn: Essays on the Work of the 1930s (1999) and he is coeditor of American Continental Philosophy (2000). He has just completed his latest project: The Life of Understanding: Platonic Gestures for a Hermeneutics after Gadamer. Professor Risser's presentation is entitled "On Language and Experience in the Understanding of Life."

Delaney Ruston is an award winning documentary film maker and a practicing physican; she received her MD from Stanford University Medical Center and completed a Medicine Residency and Fellowship in Medical Ethics at the University of California at San Francisco. She works three days a week at the Pike Market Medical Clinic in Seattle, which serves many homeless people. Her most recent film project, *Unlisted: A story of Schizophrenia*, is a documentary about her late father. This project was supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Other films include *Crossroads, The Intersection of Pain and Addiction, Crisis and Control: What is the Role of psychiatric Advance Directives*, and the forthcoming *Where in the World is Mental Health*, which is being filmed in several countries, including China and France.

Jonathan A. Smith is Professor in Psychology at Birbeck University of London; his D. Phil in Psychology is from University of Oxford. Jonathan Smith is the creator of "Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis," one of the best known approaches to qualitative research in the United Kingdom and elsewhere, and he has done numerous workshops on this approach. His book *Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis: Theory, Method and Research* (with Paul Flowers and Michael Larkin) has just been published by SAGE. Previously, he has edited *Qualitative Psychology: A Practical Guide to Research Methods* and co-edited *Rethinking Methods in Psychology*. As a researcher he has focused on issues of health and identity and has received numerous research grants. Smith is on the editorial board of *Qualitative Research in*

Psychology, and Qualitative Studies in Health and Well-Being.

Seattle University:



Seattle University (founded 1891) is an independent, Jesuit University with about 7300 students. It has strong emphasis on liberal and interdisciplinary education. The Psychology Department has had a distinctive MA program in existential-phenomenological therapeutic psychology (started in 1981) and has an undergraduate program that values dialogue among different approaches to psychology.

<u>Conference website</u> (includes information re housing).

This website is a work in progress and more information will be added in the next month or so.

Seattle, Washington:



Situated on the northwest coast of the United States, less than a two hour drive below the Canadian border, Seattle is easy to get to from the rest of the world. There are non-stop flights to Seattle from Amsterdam, Beijing, Frankfurt, London, Paris, New York, Osaka (starting in June, 2010), Seoul, Taipei, Tokyo, and Toronto. By late 2009 there will be a train running directly from the airport to downtown Seattle, which is about a mile from Seattle University. The link below will take to you to the website for the 2010 conference and in turn it has links to sites with information about the city. The weather in August is generally warm (but not too warm), sunny, and dry. As the picture, above, shows Seattle is near some spectacular mountains and is right on the water (Puget Sound).

2011 Conference, London, UK

The International Human Sciences Research Conference 2011 will be hosted by The Open University. The Open University is Europe's leading distance-learning higher education institution with over 200,000 students worldwide and ranked one of the top 50 UK universities for its research quality. The conference will be hosted by Dr. Darren Langdridge and Dr. Linda Finlay with full details of the conference to be made available on a dedicated website in due course. The conference will be held in London, UK at Regent's College from the 27th July to 30th July 2011. Accommodations are available at Regent's. The conference theme is 'intertwining body-self-world', though paper submissions on other topics will of course be welcome. We look forward to seeing you all in London in 2011.

2012 Conference, University of Quebéc, Montréal, Canada

The conference is expected to be held June 25-29th, and the conference will be in a downtown location, with accommodations available nearby at the university. The University of Québec in Montréal is one of the largest universities in Canada, with about 40,000 students and numerous doctoral programs. The psychology department has five professors who are humanistically or phenomenologically oriented. The city of Montréal is an exciting cultural center with very good

public transportation, and with affordable prices. The conference organizers include Bernd Jager and Christian Thiboutot.

Tenure track faculty position at the University of West Georgia

The Department of Psychology at the University of West Georgia announces at least one tenure-track faculty position to commence fall 2010. The department houses dynamic undergraduate, masters, and doctoral degree programs, and engages an integrative approach with roots in humanistic, existential/phenomenological, transpersonal, depth, critical, and feminist psychologies. We emphasize human science and other qualitative research methods, clinical interests creatively informed by broader social sensibilities, social justice approaches to intervention, and studies in consciousness and spirituality. Please send vita, three letters of recommendation, sample publications, and a description of your vision for psychology to: Dr. Jeannette Diaz-Laplante or Dr. Lisa Osbeck, Department of Psychology, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA, 30118. Review of applications will begin January 4, 2010. The University of West Georgia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

Book Notes

Richard Alapack (2009). Sorrow's Profiles: Death, Grief and Crisis in the Family [London: Karnac, pp. 370, € 24.99, ISBN 9781855756212]. This book addresses issue of death, sorrow and grief and the question of how one can navigate these difficult issues and how one might grow as a person in this process. The author deals with grief not just as an individual issue but as a family affair and a happening that affects an entire community. This book discusses grief as a "protracted moment" and as interpersonally modulated.

Linda Finlay and Ken Evans (2009). Relational-centred Research for Psychotherapists: Exploring Meanings and Experience [New York: Wiley, 272 pp. \$ 49.95 pp]. ISBN 978-0-470-99777-2

Carrying out research has become increasingly important for psychotherapists in clinical practice. This book addresses this need by providing a practical introduction to developing relational-centered qualitative research. Advocating a qualitative human science research approach to explore lived experience, the examples mirror relational-centered practice by placing the emphasis on conducting research with participants, not on them. Finlay and Evans demonstrate that many of the familiar clinical skills, values, and interests of therapists - such as empathy, interviewing skills, reflexive interpretation, and inferential thinking - are, in fact, transferable to the research domain, while knowledge of research processes and findings can further enhance therapy practice. This book is eminently useful, highly readable, and humanistic in the best and deepest sense of the word.

Amedeo P. Giorgi (2009). The Descriptive Phenomenological Approach in Psychology: A Modified Husserlian Approach [Pittsburgh, PA: Duquesne University Press, pp. 275; \$ 25 pp]. Giorgi's long awaited book provides a readable, carefully thought out, and concise discussion of phenomenological psychology as a theoretical perspective, a way of doing research, and as a tradition rooted in phenomenological philosophy, especially Husserl. He discusses the qualitative

research tradition in psychology (William James through Robert Coles), and exemplifies the nature of his phenomenological method by applying it to the experience of jealousy. This book will be indispensable for anyone who wants to understand the theory and practice of phenomenologically based research.

Steen Halling's (2008) <u>Intimacy, Transcendence, and Psychology: Closeness and Openness in Everyday Life</u> [New York: Palgrave] is now available in paperback for \$ 28.

Kirk J. Schneider (2009). Awakening to Awe: Personal Stories of Profound Transformation [Lanham, MD: Rowan & Littlefield, pp 170; \$ 26.95 paper; \$ 65 cloth]. Schneider, who has written a great deal about existential psychology, focuses on the stories of people who through the cultivation of awe (and wonder and humility) have transformed their lives. Stories include those of an ex-gang member who becomes a gang mediator, an ex-drug addict who becomes a healer, and a cancer sufferer who becomes a spiritual seeker. The book includes discussion of the role of awe in areas such as child rearing, political activism, and aging.

Kirk J. Schneider and Orah T. Krug (2009). Existential-humanistic therapy. [Washington, DC: APA Books, pp. 176, \$ 24.95 paper.. ISBN 978-1-4338-0462-5]. The authors provide an in-depth survey of contemporary existential-humanistic theory, practice and research, and show its relevance for a broad range of ethnic and diagnostic populations. Major theorists within the movement, such as Rollo May and James Bugental are discussed, as are the major political and economic challenges that someone practicing within this orientation faces.

Eva Marie Simms (2008). The Child in the World: Embodiment, Time and Language in Early Childhood [Detroit: Wayne State University Press, pp. 264, \$ 29.95 paper. ISBN 9780814333754]. Simms builds a bridge between continental philosophers, who tend to overlook child existence, and developmental psychologists, who often fail to consider the philosophical assumptions underlying their work. She examines key experiences of childhood with special attention to the non-dualistic nature of the child's consciousness and the understanding that there is more to the child's experiences than cognitive processes. In chapters that proceed from infancy to early childhood, Simms considers how children live their embodiment, coexist with others, experience and the spaces and places of their neighborhoods, have deeply felt relations to things, grasp time intuitively and often in contradiction to adult clock-time, and are transformed by the mystery of the symbolic order of play and language. Of interest to general readers, parents, educators, and students in the social sciences.

Jonathan A. Smith, Paul Flowers, and Michael Larkin (2009). Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis: Theory, Method and Research [Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE, pp. 232, \$ 39.95 paper, \$ 99.95 hardcover].

IPA is a widely used method in qualitative inquiry. This useful and carefully organized text covers its theoretical foundations and provides a detailed guide to conducting IPA research. Extended worked examples from the authors' own studies in health, sexuality, psychological distress and identity illustrate the breadth and depth of IPA research. Each of the chapters also offers a guide to other good exemplars of IPA research in the designated area. The final section of the book considers how IPA connects with other contemporary qualitative approaches like discourse and narrative analysis and how it addresses issues to do with validity. The book is written in an accessible style and will be very useful to students and researchers in psychology and related disciplines in the health and social sciences.

Joseph Wronka (2008) <u>Human Rights and Social Justice: Social Action for the Helping</u> Professionals

[Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE, pp. 376, \$ 39.95 paper; \$ 69.95 hardcover]. Includes instructor resources on CD.

This book provides both historical and philosophical perspectives on human rights principles, with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the centerpiece and summarizes core principles of other major human rights documents, such as international conventions on: Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR); and the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Wronka views social justice as a struggle, advocates a multi-pronged approach dealing with whole, at-risk, and clinical populations to promote physical and mental well-being and eradicate social and individual pathology, and calls for the creation of a human rights culture, which is a "lived awareness" of human rights principles in mind, heart, and body. This impassioned and accessible book is intended for scholars, activists, and practitioners.

Links/Connections

Center for Applied Phenomenological Research at the University of Tennessee

The Center represents scholars from a variety of disciplines including psychology, philosophy, nursing, and literature. The focus is on utilizing phenomenological and other qualitative methods to gain a better understanding of human experience.

Center for Interpretive and Qualitative Research.

Located at Duquesne University, this center has as its purpose the exploration and development of interpretive and qualitative methods.

Encyclopaideia: Journal of Phenomenology and Education

This is an international, peer-reviewed journal that publishes articles representing the philosophical tradition of phenomenology and its connection with education. Articles about conceptual, theoretical, methodological, empirical and ethical issues in education are welcome. Contributions are accepted both in Italian and English. The journal is published by the University of Bologna.

Environmental and Architectural Phenomenology (EAP)

This newsletter has been in existence for twenty years. Edited by David Seamon, the newsletter is published three times a year. EAP is a forum and clearing house for research and design that incorporates a qualitative approach to environmental and architectural experience. Back issues are now available on the website.

Existential-Humanistic Institute, San Francisco, USA. According to its web site, edited by Kirk Schneider, the goal of the institute "is to support both existentially and humanistically informed psychologies and psychotherapies throughout the world." Its newsletter is on its web site as well as a bibliography, a listing of workshops and events, and a directory of related links.

Gendlin On-line Library Launched

In mid-October the Focusing Institute launched a powerful new web-based resource containing over 100 of Eugene Gendlin's works from 1950 to present. Gendlin is distinguished among philosophers and psychologists for his articulation of the link between logic and felt understanding, which he calls the *Philosophy of Implicit Entry*. Included in the library are published articles, chapters, monographs, and many unpublished articles and conference presentations, all available for free download. In some instances several chapters from his books or a special introduction to them are available. Gendlin's books are also listed in the library and can be purchased from the Focusing Institute or elsewhere. The library is a great resource for the Human Sciences.

<u>Human Science Research Studies</u>. This web site, which was stated in 2001, provides published (in the form of articles, chapters, monographs, or books, but not dissertations) English language human science research studies, that is, research that is within the phenomenological and hermeneutical/interpretive traditions, broadly defined. This web site is made possible by the support of Peter Brawley of artfulsoftware who is kindly donating his services.

The content of the web site was published in the winter 2003 edition of the Journal of Humanistic Psychology. If you know of studies that are not listed, send the complete reference information (APA format) to <u>Dr. Steen Halling</u>.

<u>Indo-Pacific Journal of Phenomenology.</u> This is a peer reviewed interdisciplinary on-line journal intended to provide scholars in the southern hemisphere with an avenue through which they can express their scholarship. The journal is an initiative of the Phenomenology Research Group based at Edith Cowan University in Western Australia. There are now four editions of available.

<u>Initiative in Phenomenological Practice</u>. This is a new web site and it is described as an "international network connecting anyone who is interested in the ongoingly open possibility of phenomenology by carrying out original phenomenological investigations of any theme, in any context, and using a variety of phenomenological methods."

<u>Institute of Health and Community Studies at Bournemouth</u> University in the UK launched its new Centre for Qualitative Research on September 9th, 2003.

International Journal of Existential Psychology and Psychotherapy—IJEPP is the official organ of the **International Society for Existential Psychology and Psychotherapy.** It is <u>published online</u>.

<u>International Network of Personal Meaning</u>—is related to both of the above. It is a multidisciplinary, learned society, dedicated to the advancement of knowledge on the vital role of meaning in mental and physical health, spiritual development and other areas of life. It was founded by Dr. Paul Wong and is located in Langley, BC, Canada.

Interest Group on "First Person Science"

This is their statement of purpose:

"Some of us are forming a group to bring together the many kinds of knowledge that now exist about human beings. We are envisioning the possibility of a 'first person science' which should develop along with the two current sciences, 1) the reductive physical sciences, and 2) holistic ecology. Many kinds of knowledge about human beings could easily give rise to testable variables, or have already done so. Social policies, currently based only on the two existing

sciences, need a third science to go along with the other two." For more information, please contact Gene Gendlin:

Michigan School of Professional Psychology, Michigan, USA

Clark Moustakas, founding member of the Humanistic Psychology movement and originator of Heuristic Research established the *Michigan School of Professional Psychology*, formerly the Center for Humanistic Studies, in 1981. MiSPP offers Masters and PsyD degrees in clinical psychology, emphasizing existential-humanistic principles and clinical application.

Network for Research on Experiential Psychotherapies (NREP)

This web site is devoted to the purpose of stimulating research on experiential/humanistic psychotherapies. It has been founded to provide an overview of the whole range of experiential therapy research. It seeks to foster dialogue among researchers and to provide support for new researchers.

Newsletter of Phenomenology—this free weekly newsletter provides information about what is going on in the world of phenomenology, including information about conferences and workshops, lectures, new books. You can <u>subscribe</u> and <u>submit content</u> via e-mail.

Phenomenology Online

This site provides public access to articles, monographs, and other materials discussing and exemplifying phenomenological research. It is edited by Max van Manen. The site has access to numerous full-text articles, including many from the journal <u>Phenomenology + Pedagogy</u>

Saybrook Graduate School and Research Center

Located in San Francisco, this program offers MA and PhD degrees and has a long-standing tradition of emphasis on phenomenological and humanistic psychology.

Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center at Duquesne University—this web site has almost all of the abstracts of the psychology dissertations done at Duquesne University, University of Dallas, and a number from Georgia State University and the Saybrook Institute. The dissertations cover a vast spectrum of topics including hopelessness, forgiveness, depression, infidelity, magic and science, psychotherapy, eating disorders, and many more:

<u>Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences</u>—SPHS encourages the application of phenomenological methodology to specific investigations within the human sciences. You are invited to join SPHS in its effort to achieve a deeper understanding of and engagement with the Life-World. SPHS holds its meetings in conjunction with SPEP (Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy).

Dr. Hiroshi Yasunaga gave the keynote address at the 2002 conference in Tokyo, Japan. His keynote address, "O. S. Wauchope's Possible Contributions to the Next Generation: Pattern, Pattern Reversal, and the Phantom Theory" is available online.