

PROPOSAL TO HOST THE 2016 WAPCEPC CONFERENCE

SUBMITTED BY

THE NEW YORK PERSON CENTERED RESOURCE CENTER

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Vintage photo of NYPCRC Office Site

“Your team did a wonderful job hosting ADPCA 2007. Your committee was thoughtful, generous, available, and responsible. I felt that the committee's agility and care left participants comfortable and free to maximize the opportunities of the conference and New York City.”

Kathy Moon, ADPCA 2007 Presenter

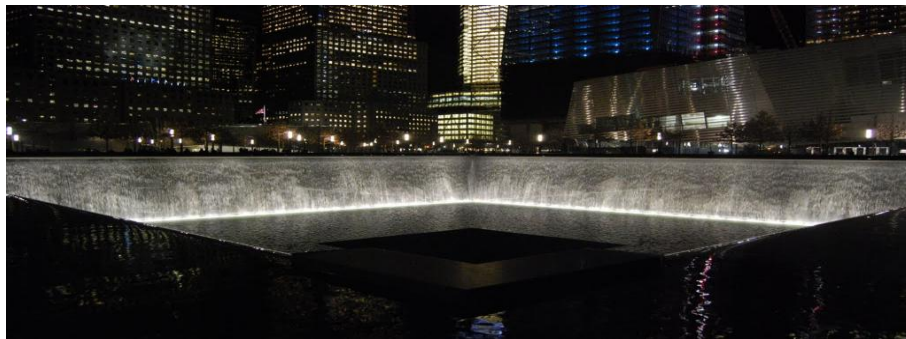
The New York Person Centered Resource Center (NYPCRC) proposes to host the 2016 World Association for Person Centered and Experiential Psychotherapy and Counseling (WAPCEPC) biennial conference in New York City, New York, United States. In 2007, NYPCRC hosted the annual Association for the Development of the Person Centered Approach (ADPCA) conference here in New York City. This conference was highly successful with a record number of participants from all over the world, generating significant profits for the ADPCA. NYPCRC believes we can replicate our success in 2016 because New York City is an ideal destination for international travelers, especially those coming from Europe. Additionally, this conference would come at an important time as we need help creating awareness and momentum for the Person Centered Approach in New York City and the United States as whole. Currently mental health graduate students in the United States who are interested in the Person Centered Approach do not have access to a professional and scientifically minded international Person Centered organization. Hosting the 2016 conference in New York City would give us the opportunity to introduce the wide range of Person Centered theorizing to students from all over the United States, thereby giving birth to a new generation of US based Person Centered clinicians.

Proposed Site:



Actual view from the conference space at the NYU Kimmel Center

Drawing upon the same location and housing resources engaged for the 2007 ADPCA conference, we plan to retain New York University's Kimmel Center (<http://www.nyu.edu/life/resources-and-services/kimmel-center.html>) as the conference site. We plan to draw upon the NYU dorms for low cost accommodations in New York City, as well as local area hotels for additional accommodations. All of these accommodations are in walking distance to the conference site. The conference site and accommodations are all handicapped accessible and have onsite cafeterias. The site is located in New York City's Greenwich Village, overlooking Washington Square Park; therefore there are many world-renowned venues for food and entertainment in the area. Some well regarded points of interest include: the National September 11th Memorial, Blue Note Jazz club, The New Museum, the "Sex and the City" walking tour, Broadway and Off-Broadway shows, as well as many shops for clothing, books, and gifts. Additionally, there is easy access from JFK, LaGuardia, and Newark airports to the conference site, and the site is central to all forms of public transportation.



National September 11th Memorial



The NYU Kimmel Center

Special Needs Requirements:

Recognizing that accessibility is a crucial aspect of WAPCEPC conferences, we plan to setup a “Special Needs Committee” to access the accessibility and availability of every aspect of the conference to ensure that people of all walks of life can fully engage this conference.

Proposed Theme:

For the conference theme we recommend the title “Questioning the Medical Model in Mental Health.” The medical model can be understood as the traditional approach to the diagnosis and treatment of illness as practiced by mental health clinicians around the world. Inherent in the medical model, the clinician focuses on the defect, or dysfunction, within the patient, using a problem-solving approach. The medical model is thus mainly focused on the physical and biological aspects of specific diseases and conditions. The medical model drives research and theorizing about physical or psychological difficulties on a basis of symptomatology. Questioning the medical model raises many important issues concerning the causes and origins of mental illness. Issues such as: diagnosis, psychopharmacology, educational requirements, and what are useful psychotherapeutic techniques come to the forefront when considering the medical model being applied to mental illness.

Additionally, we plan to have a special symposium focusing on the historical facts surrounding Carl Roger’s student days in New York City where he studied at both Columbia University and at the Union Theological Seminary.

Core Committee Members:



Sarton Weinraub, M.A., Ph.D.

Dr. Weinraub is as a licensed Clinical Psychologist and the Director of the New York Person Centered Resource Center in New York City. Dr. Weinraub completed his Graduate studies at Saybrook University where his Dissertation Chair was Arthur Bohart.



Elvira M. Medus, LCSW

Mrs. Medus was trained in the Person Centered Approach at Holos Capital in Argentina. Currently, Mrs. Medus is a licensed Clinical Social Worker trained at Columbia University in New York City. Mrs. Medus is Assistant Director of the New York Person Centered Resource Center.



Mark Rodgers, MA

Mr. Rodgers was trained in the Person Centered Approach in the UK at Metanoia Institute. Currently, Mr. Rodgers works as a Person Centered business practitioner in New York.

Scientific Committee Coordinators:

Jeffrey Cornelius-White, Ph.D.

Arthur Bohart, Ph.D.

Additional Committee Members:



Dr. Peter Breggin (www.breggin.com)

Dr. Breggin is a world-renowned alternative Psychiatrist, and he has already confirmed that he can be a keynote speaker. Dr. Breggin has written many books on the dangerous of psychiatric medication and in 2012 he will release a new book educating non-medical practitioners how to help their clients withdraw from dangerous psychiatric medications. In his new book Dr. Breggin describes using a “Person Centered Approach” with his psychiatric clients.

New York Person-Centered Resource Center staff and associates



- Caroline Beretta, MA
- Chin Teoh, Psy.D.
- Edwin Kahn, Ph.D.
- Gerti Schoen, MA
- Ivonne Depascual, MA
- Jerold Bozarth, Ph.D.
- Lilian Ostrovsky, LCSW
- Nick Helbich, Ph.D., LMSW
- Sandy Chamson, Ph.D.
- Sara Moran, MA
- Sarah Walker Solis, MA

Proposal Representatives at the 2012 10th Conference in Antwerp, Belgium:

- Florentina Palada, Ph.D.
- Georgeta Niculescu, Ph.D.

Competencies:

Our committee is competent in all the necessary areas including: administration, finances, publicity, cross-cultural aspects of hosting an international conference, and scientific programming. Drawing upon the experience we gained hosting the 2007 ADPCA conference we understand what is necessary to administer a conference of this size and we believe we can expect record conference participation for the WAPCEPC in New York City. We know that time is our greatest asset and the key to administering a conference of this size is to work steadily over a long period of time, thereby assuring that each action builds upon a strong and goal-directed base.

Regarding financial matters, we have learned that we will need to setup a separate legal entity with separate bank accounts as well as credit card accepting mechanisms to handle all incoming and outgoing money for the conference. Regarding scholarships, we understand there is a great need and that the ability to help individuals from developing nations attend the conference is a high priority for the WAPCEPC.

Regarding publicity, we understand there are many well-regarded and unique avenues for publicizing a conference of this magnitude. We need to draw upon the experience of past hosts as well as our US based resources that we know are necessary for creating momentum here in New York City. We also know that having the conference in a major US city like New York is a wonderful draw for people all over the world who are interested in vacationing here as well as partaking in the conference.

Regarding the cross-cultural aspects of the conference, living and working in New York City, we are proud of the significant diversity we encounter daily where individuals from all over the world and from many economic levels, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations and religions come into contact. That said, we understand that coming to New York City, and the United States as a whole, will be a new experience for many conference participants and therefore a “Cross-Cultural Committee” will be established to advise on all aspects of the conference.

Finally, we want to make it clear that we take the scientific side of this conference very seriously. Therefore we have asked two of the best academic members of our US Person-Centered community (Jeffrey Cornelius-White, Ph.D. and Arthur Bohart, Ph.D.) to act as our “Scientific Committee Coordinators.” Following their direction we plan to establish a rich and diverse Scientific Committee that is comprised of researchers from all regions and branches of the WAPCEPC community.

We are open to any and all requirements, suggestions, or changes necessary to help us host the 2016 WAPCEPC conference here in New York City. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

The New York Person Centered Resource Center, March, 2012