

August 2023, Volume 23 Issue 2



# Encounter

*The digital newsletter of the World Association for Person Centered and Experiential Psychotherapy and Counseling*

## Message from your Editors

Dear members, welcome to Encounter, the WAPCEPC newsletter.

We think you will find interesting pieces in this issue.

You can read all that has been going on for the Board members in the update from the Board beginning on page 3.

Alexandro Vallidis has written an update of the PCE 2024 Conference.

New information about grants will be available in the Autumn.

We also have a PCE Europe update

PCE North America announces a Carl Rogers and Person-Centered and Experiential Reading Group, which will begin its second year this September, 2023.

We are happy to announce a new section of the newsletter!

Jeff Cornelius –White writes about his experience as a PCEP Journal co-editor.

Thank you, Jeff! We hope we'll have the voice of more people who has been working in the WA organization.

You will also find have information on several upcoming events on page 7

**Lidia Fogliati**

**Stephanie Hutchinson**

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## **UPDATE FROM YOUR BOARD**

Your Board has been doing a tremendous amount of work alongside collaborators from the general membership. Below is a summary of what has been happening and what has been decided in the past few months.

### **BANK ACCOUNT**

Chair Brian Rodgers put a huge amount of time and effort into finding a solution to our banking woes after ZKB in Switzerland decided to close our bank account. The ideal future solution is to have a bank account in Austria, as this is where we are registered, however this is a process that will take some time to set up. In the meantime we have a temporary fix which sees us using online bank WISE for our transactional account. The remainder of our funds (approximately 50,000 euros) have been deposited into a holding account courtesy of PCE Europe. We very much appreciate their support in helping us out in this way.

### **WEBSITE**

We hope by now you will have noticed that our new improved website is now live! It's a very exciting development that has been a long time coming and we very much hope you enjoy it. We have added Google translate so that it is more accessible to all our membership. The version of G-Translate we are using allows us to manually edit the translations, so please let us know if you notice anything that needs attention. The feedback we have received so far has been very positive and we welcome any comments and/or suggestions from the membership. Please email us at [board@pce-world.org](mailto:board@pce-world.org)

### **PCEP JOURNAL**

The new contract with our publisher Taylor & Francis has now been finalized and signed. We will be offering members online only access from 2024 but there will be the opportunity to continue to receive a print copy if wished – this will be via a direct contract with Taylor & Francis. We will be in touch again via direct email in a month or two, to explain the process but in the meantime, do contact the board with any queries.

### **PCE SYMPOSIUM – Welcoming Polyphony in a Changing World.**

WAPCEPC and PCE Europe will be delivering a joint presentation at the September Symposium in Athens. The presentation will highlight the work of the two organisations, both of which are committed to supporting and promoting the polyphony (having many sounds or voices) of person centred and experiential approaches in a changing world. Over the last quarter of a century, both organisations have been involved in furthering the humanisation of interpersonal and social relationships in individual, societal and cultural life, especially in the areas of counselling and psychotherapy. The presentation will be an opportunity to engage with board members of both associations, to find out more about what the organisations do, how they operate, the work they are currently undertaking, the benefits of being a member, and how you can become involved.

### **BOARD RESIGNATION**

It is with regret that the Board has accepted the resignation of Sophia Balamoutsou as of August 2023. Sophia has been a Board member since July 2020 and in that time has been hugely involved with the PCE Literature team and latterly has been a driving force in the establishment of our Grants process.

We very much appreciate her efforts in her time with the Board and understand her reasons for wishing to step back.

### **EXPANDED ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT ROLE**

Sophia's resignation from the Board is the second this year which means we are now operating as a Board of six. We are in discussions about whether to co-opt a new member (as permitted by the statutes) however we feel that the resignations speak to a common theme for Board members: that of overwhelm. There has been a huge amount of administrative issues to deal with as a Board in the past few years and it means that while dealing with trying to keep the organization ticking over, Board members struggle to find the time and energy to improve and expand on what we offer as an organization.

We have long been supported by an administrative person, the ever helpful Di English, however she will be retiring from the role at the end of 2023 and

we have come to realise that a greater level of support is now necessary. We also need to focus on opening a bank account in Austria and this requires that an organization member is resident there. Thus the Board has made the decision to invest in an expanded administrative role and advertise this in Austria. We hope to proceed with this initiative within the next few months.

### **PCE & Me**

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, we are launching a feature on our website called PCE & Me. This is an opportunity to share something of your journey to and with the person centred approach and foster connections. We have now formulated a set of questions and you are welcome to submit your answers to us via email to [social@pce-world.org](mailto:social@pce-world.org). Equally one of the Board would happily ask these questions over a recorded Zoom conversation and then create a written version. We request that you also submit a photo of yourself to accompany your contribution.

- 1) How did you discover the Person Centred Approach / how did the PCA find you?***
- 2) What drew you to it?***
- 3) How does the PCA help you navigate challenges in your professional life?***
- 4) How does the PCA help you navigate challenges in your personal life?***
- 5) anything else you would like to add.***

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have regarding our update. [board@pce-world.org](mailto:board@pce-world.org).

## **GRANTS**

We are planning to launch the Grants in the final quarter of 2023. You will soon receive a direct email with the announcement and the deadline for applications.

## MEMBERSHIP WORKING GROUP

Following the General Assembly in 2022, the Membership Working Group has been busy exploring options for changes to the Association's membership structure. We are now seeking your feedback via a survey on five different proposals, as well as your reasons for and experience of being a member of WAPCEPC. We aim to use your feedback to further refine the proposals and gain a better understanding of what members are wanting from the Association.

The survey is organized into three sections and should take no more than 15 minutes in total to complete. All responses to this survey are anonymous, and we will not collect any personal data or other identifying information.

The links below will take you to different language versions of the survey. Please note that these have been machine translated from the English language version. You can also change language at any time during the survey using the option at the top right of the survey.

English: [https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1Z9404O34ylaX0q](https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1Z9404O34ylaX0q)

Deutsch: [https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1Z9404O34ylaX0q?Q\\_Language=DE](https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1Z9404O34ylaX0q?Q_Language=DE)

Español: [https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1Z9404O34ylaX0q?Q\\_Language=ES-ES](https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1Z9404O34ylaX0q?Q_Language=ES-ES)

Français: [https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1Z9404O34ylaX0q?Q\\_Language=FR](https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1Z9404O34ylaX0q?Q_Language=FR)

Português: [https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1Z9404O34ylaX0q?Q\\_Language=PT](https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1Z9404O34ylaX0q?Q_Language=PT)

日本語: [https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1Z9404O34ylaX0q?Q\\_Language=JA](https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1Z9404O34ylaX0q?Q_Language=JA)

If you have any concerns or comments regarding the survey, please contact the WAPCEPC Board by email: [board@pce-world.org](mailto:board@pce-world.org). We very much appreciate your engagement with this process.

Membership Working Group

## **INCREASING COLLABORATION WITH AND BETWEEN PCE & SUB-ORIENTATIONS**

In response to the Board's call for Agenda Items for the GA in 2022, Germain Lietaer proposed that the following be discussed in the GA:

*"I have the impression that some suborientations (FOT; EFT) have the tendency to go their own way with only very few of their members becoming WAPCEPC member.*

*The core essence of our PCEparadigm is and has always been (since the first conference in 1988) to integrate the different wings/voices into one broad paradigm.*

*I think this is important to survive in the academic world (as one of the 4 big paradigms: psychoanalytic, behavior, systems and person centered/experiential). It is also very fruitful as a forum for dialogue on theory and practice."*

The question:

**How can we find a way to combine the activities and conferences of sub-orientations with their integration into the "united colours" of PCE?"**

The Board is now forming a working group of members to explore and establish networking opportunities between the "united colours" of PCE organizations, including options for combining activities and conferences. Please inform us if you would like to participate by sending an email to: [alex.vallidis@hotmail.com](mailto:alex.vallidis@hotmail.com)

## **WHAT'S NEW IN RELATION TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PCE WORLD CONFERENCE IN ATHENS? (9 – 13 September 2024)**

The scientific committee of the conference has decided on the persons who will be invited to give keynote speeches, daily workshops (pre-conference), and semi-plenary speeches after voting.

The cooperation of the PCE 2024 organizing committee with the Online Events resulted in the dates and topics of the online meetings that will precede the conference in order to provoke thoughts and warm up the participants for the main event.

1. January 2024 - Theme - Crisis and Fragility
2. March 2024 - Training in PCE and more
3. May 2024 - Culture and supervision

The PCE 2024 organizing committee wishes to cooperate with the PCE 2026 organizing committee, continuing the good practice established at the level of cooperation with the Danish PCE 2022 organizing committee. The first meeting will be held in September.

The conference website will be available in the near future where the keynote speakers and the conference program will be announced.

Stay tuned for more...

**Alexandros Vallidis (member of organizing committee)**



## **PCE EUROPE UPDATE**

Our General Assembly in July attracted a great deal of interest and several crucial points were discussed and finalised. Among other topics, the new board was elected and has already started to work on several projects. For more information on our current board members, please see: [Current Board | PCE Europe \(pce-europe.org\)](#).

Another important change was the modification of our statutes: in accordance with the decision of the WAPCEPC General Assembly in Copenhagen in 2022, it has now also been deleted in the statutes of PCE Europe that every organisational member of PCE Europe must be an organisational member of WAPCEPC. There is now no obligation in either direction, of course dual membership is very welcome.

Just over a year ago, PCE Europe opened itself up to individual members and so far we have almost 100 individual members, some of them already being active in our various working groups and committees.

As always, we work with EAP (European Association for Psychotherapy) on an ongoing basis, engaging in project work and committees. Our attention at this time is primarily directed toward developing competency descriptions specific to our modality, as well as assessing whether recent changes to the EAP's certification description document may affect our members.

And last but not least, we are happy to announce that the 2023 PCE Symposium in Athens, Greece, is now fully booked! We are looking forward to meeting many of our PCE and WAPCEPC colleagues during the various meetings and lunch or coffee!

We are now recruiting location for our 2025 symposium and will update in due time.

## **PC & E NORTH AMERICA UPDATE**

Our Carl Rogers and Person-Centered and Experiential Reading Group will begin its second year this September, 2023. This group will meet monthly in New York City to discuss assigned readings related to Carl Rogers, the person-centered approach, experiential psychotherapies and other tribes of Humanistic psychotherapy. This reading group is limited to mental health professionals interested in studying historic and current professional writing on Carl Rogers, the person-centered approach, as well as other related theories or groups known as experiential approaches. For more information email **Sarton Weinraub**, [sartonw@gmail.com](mailto:sartonw@gmail.com)

## **NEW SECTION OF THE NEWSLETTER**

We thought it could be interesting to include the voice of some people who have been working for WAPCEPC, and have them share their experience. So we asked the journal editors.

Here is Jeff Cornelius- White's voice:

### **My Experience as a Co-Editor**

Lidia Fogliati on behalf of the WAPCEPC Board invited the co-editors to share about their experience as a co-editor, and I accepted. I began as a co-editor in about 2015. At the PCE 2016 conference, my orientation was complete as our editors meeting and a shadowing period helped me to better understand what was involved. In reality, I am still learning as the processes and creativity involved in shepherding the journal during constant change do not cease.

The best parts of my experience have been getting to know the many other people involved with the journal, including most obviously the other co-editors (currently Maria Kefalopoulou, Rhonda Goldman, and Susan Stephen) but also members of the changing WAPCEPC Board, staff at Taylor & Francis, other editors (reviews, associate, former, or special issue editors), editorial board members and other reviewers, authors, and other interested parties, including WAPCEPC members and prospective authors, reviewers, or editors. I am challenged and comforted by the wealth of personality and expertise that I witness through the filter of my role as a co-editor. I am especially grateful to my co-editors with whom I work closely and with whom relationships grow as I serve longer with them. Getting to know them better at periodic meetings, especially in person at PCE conferences has been crucial to this relationship growth. As relationships are central to our approach, I'm grateful for these experiences.

Professionally, I have learned to better read, compose, edit, and understand writing by being a co-editor. While I continue to have various shortcomings, they are smoothed out by colleagues who help me in these regards. There is nothing like reading submissions and reviews to help build one's capacity to understand professional writing and of course learning about person-centered and experiential psychotherapies. Learning to improve how we learn is an element that Rogers emphasized as a way to adapt to the increasingly rapid pace of change we experience.

Functionally, there are several tasks as a co-editor that relate to publication of a work, such as responding to inquiries, screening submissions, shepherding submissions through the review process through correspondence with potential reviewers, actual reviewers, and authors, walking authors through rejections, revisions, and acceptances, moving manuscripts into production, working with abstract translations, assigning works to an issue. There are other tasks related to works that are published including access, promotion, utilization, and permissions. There are tasks related to the leadership of the journal in terms of special issue topic generation, input on contract negotiations between the WAPCEPC Board and

the publisher, promotion of the journal, planning for the future, recruitment and selection of others to help with the journal, and reporting to the Board, General Assembly, and membership (such as through the newsletter!).

I am sure there is more that I left out, but hopefully you get a little bit of the flavor of what it is like to be a co-editor and what is involved with the journal from reading about my experience. Please reach out to a co-editor whenever you have questions or input! You can learn more about the co-editors and the journal at <https://www.pce-world.org/pcep-journal/editors.html>.

**Jeff Cornelius -White**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

1) 17th and 3rd International PCA Encounter Group –Samothrace 21 September 2023.

2) 5th PCE Europe Symposium 21st-24th September 2023 Athens – Greece

<https://pcesymposium2023.com/>

3) Argentine Workshop. September 29-30, October 1, Buenos Aires, Argentina

PCE-7 Presenta:  
**EL ARTE DEL ENCUENTRO**

Dr. Claudio Rud  
Lic. Viviana Rey

Una experiencia de exploración y aprendizaje en la práctica del Counseling y la Psicoterapia desde el Acercamiento Centrado en la Persona

**29-30 de Septiembre y 1 de Octubre**

Viernes 29/9 de 18 a 21 hs  
Sábado 30/9 de 9 a 17.30 hs  
Domingo 1/10 de 9 a 16.30 hs

Lugar: Fundación Columbia de Conciencia y Energía  
J.L. Borges 2500, CABA

INFORMES E INSCRIPCIÓN: [formacion@pce7.com.ar](mailto:formacion@pce7.com.ar)

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4) ADPCA 2024 Conference Aurora, USA, and online — July 24-28, 2024

The 2024 conference team is thrilled to announce that next year's annual meeting will be held in Aurora, USA and online. Further details will be posted in due course. If you are interested in presenting a workshop, please email Amanda Goldman ([eastauroracounseling1@gmail.com](mailto:eastauroracounseling1@gmail.com)). Presentations can be offered in person in Aurora or from anywhere in the world via Zoom.