LETTER FROM THE ISH PRESIDENT

Dear ISH Member and Constituent Society Representative, an important decision was made this last July by the ISH Board of Directors: the ISH XIX International Congress that was originally scheduled to be held in Melbourne, Australia, will instead take place in Bremen, Germany on October 17-21, 2012.

This decision to relocate the Congress was taken with much regret and sorrow. We all loved the idea to be in Australia, and particularly in Melbourne, where the ISH Congress has already taken place twice (in 1979 and in 1994). Despite these considerations, the great majority of the Board expressed a firm decision. In these cases it is difficult to understand thoroughly the individual reasons of each Board member for the vote, but I think the decision was mostly due to the financial worries that today are so frightening, and not only in our field.

Bernhard Trenkle (MEG), that is as well a Board Member and the ISH Council of Representatives Chairperson, demonstrated not to be discouraged by the difficult situation, and generously offered his personal and societal support. He gave to the Board all the requested guarantees, thanks to a very solid staff with a long lasting experience in organizing International Congresses (one was in Hamburg, with more than 6,000 participants from all over the world).

Bernhard’s proposal appeared to be very relieving, and the proposed location in Bremen, a very attractive and human sized city in North Germany, related with music and art, appeared to be a nice solution for a Congress that wants to be a scientific meeting place among hypnotists from all over the world.

The Newsletter

Another important moment of ISH activities is the opening of an ISH Newsletter. Thanks to Consuelo Casula and to Greg Coman, we now have a space for exchanges and news that will inform, on a regular basis, about ISH and its
Constituent Societies and Individual members. Reports from Institutes, interviews, books, events, will create a stream that will easily bring the readers into the world of hypnosis. More than just offering information, we expect a gradual development of a network that can establish reciprocal contact at a distance, and develop new connections and bridges of understanding.

The Committees
A number of Committees are beginning their functioning, and a wide range of initiatives are under construction. Some of them are Institutional Committees like the one chaired by Bernhard Trenkle that takes care of Membership, that is working to open the door to new and qualified Individual Members and Constituent Societies; and the one chaired by Eric Vermetten that will take care of Nominations and Elections. Julie Linden, Matthias Mende and Greg Coman are working on Policy and Procedures, to inspect ISH Statute and By-Laws and see if some of the rules need to be updated or clarified. The Code of Ethics seems as well to need some refinement, and to work on this important issue an Ethics Committee has been appointed: Consuelo Casula and Greg Coman are in charge of it. Since research is considered one of ISH priorities, a Research Committee has been established and Giuseppe De Benedittis will use his specific competence to chair it. Another key aspect is considered Education and Training, and this Committee is guided by Matthias Mende, Claude Virot and David Wark. Certainly essential to the present time and contingency is a Financial Committee that given his great experience in the field is chaired by Brian Allen.

History
The present ISH Board is strongly convinced of the determinant role a good knowledge of the historical roots of both the Society and of hypnosis in general plays in building a better future. We made the choice to retain memories and make them available to hypnotists of all generations. Julie Linden, is serving as a chair to this committee, and you can find a beautiful and appealing description she has made up for us, portraying ISH’s birth framed in the wider context of the scientific (and human revolutions) of the last few centuries (see: http://www.ish-hypnosis.org/ish-history.htm).

Since we consider this an open chapter, all of you are asked to contribute any historical offerings that are relevant to ISH and to the field of hypnosis. Particularly the Constituent Societies are invited to send a description of their Society’s history, so that the empty spaces could be filled and the entire picture of the world hypnosis could be recomposed piece by piece.

Finally let me remind you to be prepared to participate and to present in Bremen. Save the dates of October 17-21, 2012 and be ready for the call of papers that will soon take place. You will find more detailed and updated information on the ISH website: www.ish-hypnosis.org or you may contact ISH by mail at: contact@ish-hypnosis.org

Camillo Loriedo, MD, PhD
ISH President

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS
This is the first issue of the ISH Newsletter since the election of the new board. It will be a bi-annual newsletter with a format that includes several sessions: news from other societies and from the committees; book reviews; interviews with a master; introducing new constituent societies. In particular, each issue will contain news from our umbrella societies, such as the M. Erickson Foundation, ASCH, ESH as well as from some of the ISH constituent societies. For this issue We obtained the kind collaboration of J. Zeig, T. Robles and M. Mende. I hope in the next issues others will inform our readers about their activities.

Each chair of the various committees will present the state of the art of their job and also a new constituent society will introduce itself.

Each issue will review at least two new books accompanied by a brief interview with the authors and will provide information about future hypnosis related conferences around the world.

The mission of this newsletter is to build bridges among the constituent societies so that each individual member can create a stronger sense of belonging to an international society so as to facilitate networking. For this reason your cooperation is important. Each constituent society and each individual member is invited to give the newsletter his/her contribution. We look forward to receiving your news from around the world.

Please contact either of us with your contribution at consuelocasula@gmail.com or gcoman@nags.org.au
The Milton H. Erickson Foundation, Inc, is a federal nonprofit corporation, formed to promote and advance the contributions to the health sciences made by the late Milton H. Erickson, MD.

Training opportunities
The Milton H. Erickson Foundation organizes International Congresses on Ericksonian Approaches to Hypnosis and Psychotherapy; the Brief Therapy Conferences; the Couples Conferences, the Evolution of Psychotherapy Conferences (and in 1994 jointly sponsored the European Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference in Hamburg, Germany). The Phoenix Intensive Programs, with Fundamental, Intermediate and Advanced (supervision) levels, are available to qualified professionals and are held regularly. Regional workshops and the Intensive Programs are announced in the Foundation’s Newsletter. The Foundation provides training/supervision for professionals. Our upcoming project involves establishing a comprehensive training center in conjunction with Southwest Behavioral at new offices in Phoenix.

Erickson archives and the Erickson home
In December 1980, the Foundation began collecting audiotapes, videotapes and historical material on Dr. Erickson for the Erickson Archives. The goal is to have a central repository of historical material on Erickson. More than 300 hours of videotape and audiotape have been donated to the Foundation. In 2010, the Foundation purchased the Erickson family home with the goal of maintaining the property, and especially Dr. Erickson’s office. Audio and video recordings The Milton H. Erickson Foundation has available for purchase professionally recorded audio recordings from its meetings. Also available are professionally produced videos of clinical demonstrations. The Milton

H. Erickson Foundation press
In addition to books and CD-ROMs, the Foundation Press distributes recordings of lectures by Milton H. Erickson from the 1950s and 1960s, as well as training DVDs featuring hypnotic inductions conducted by Dr. Erickson, and discussed by Dr. Jeffrey Zeig. There is also a series of DVDs on the Fundamentals of Ericksonian Hypnotherapy. The major project undertaken by The Press is the publication of the Collected Works of Milton H. Erickson, a multi-volume series of Dr. Erickson’s published and unpublished papers, lectures, seminars, and workshops, verbatim case studies and analyses.

Foundation newsletter
The Milton H. Erickson Foundation publishes a newsletter for professionals three times a year to inform its readers of the activities of the Foundation. It is mailed to subscribers throughout the U.S. and available by download outside the U.S. Business and subscription matters should be directed to the Erickson Foundation at 3606 N. 24th St., Phoenix, AZ 85016-6500; or newsletter@erickson-foundation.org. www.erickson-foundation.org
www.ericksonfoundationstore.com

Jeff Zeig, Phd, President of Ericksonian Foundation

CENTRO ERICKSONIANO DE MEXICO

Teresa Robles
Modern Hypnosis has appeared in Mexico around 1930 when a group of physicians began to
study and to practice it at the Army’s Hospital, in Mexico City. They used to read the available bibliography and then to discuss on it at regular sessions. Then, they applied what they had learned, working in a team in order to support one another. They used hypnosis in minor and major surgeries. Their students created a group for continuing their legacy that disappeared during the 90’s. In 1986, Jeffrey K. Zeig visited Guadalajara, in Mexico, and offered a Seminar in Ericksonian Hypnosis. One year later Teresa Robles participated, for the first time, as Faculty, at the Congress of the Milton H. Erickson Foundation Inc. Next March she was invited with a group of Latin American Health Professionals to teach at the Clinic of the Foundation and some months later, the first Ericksonian Institute was founded in Mexico City. The Milton H. Erickson Institute of Mexico City was the first one in Mexico and the second in Latin America.

The members of this Institute were so active teaching hypnosis that, in 2010, their students have already constituted 17 Ericksonian Institutes in México. In 1996 was founded the Mexican Society of Hypnosis that became a Constituent Society of the ISH for few years and in 1999 the Ericksonian Center of Mexico that also became a member of the ISH until now.

The Ericksonian Center of Mexico, calls itself “a place for getting together and for sharing ideas”. It has been visited by a lot of teachers from all around the world. The Ericksonian Center of Mexico is certified by the Mexican Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) and recognized for the high level of its research and trainings. One of its most important programs is a Master Degree in Ericksonian Psychotherapy registered at the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health in Mexico that is taught in ten cities around Mexico.

The Ericksonian Center of Mexico has been the organizer of the XVII International Congress of the ISH in 2006, in Acapulco. It collaborates with a great number of governmental programs for the support and development of the poorest groups and communities in the country.

**Teresa Robles, PhD**
**Directora General**
**Grupo Centro Ericksonian de México**

**CENTRO ERICKSONIANO DE BRAZIL**

At the same time in which the International Society of Hypnosis was founded, the Brazilian Society of Hypnosis was also born (in the 50’s). One of the Founders was Dr. David Akstein who has moved to the United States where he has published several books and articles.

Forty years later, known professionals from the United States, Mexico and abroad, began to visit Brazil and to teach Ericksonian Hypnosis. Among they were: Jeffrey K. Zeig, Betty Alice Erickson, Ernest Rossi, Stephen Gilligan, Marilia Baker, Teresa Robles, Consuelo Casula. At the same time Dr. Erickson’s and other Ericksonian’s writings have been translated and published in Portuguese.

The result is that today, there are fourteen Ericksonian Institutes in Brazil, together with the first Brazilian Society of Hypnosis and other national and regional societies.

More than fifteen years ago, Hypnosis has been approved by Brazilian authorities as a technique that can be utilized by health professionals in their practice; is part of official post graduate programs in several universities. In fact, the Master Program in Ericksonian Psychotherapy of the Ericksonian Center of Mexico, has been taught in Belo Horizonte together with the Milton H. Erickson Institute of this city. The Ericksonian Center of Mexico and the MHE of Petropolis have a three years Post Graduate course in one of the most important hospitals in the country: La Santa Casa de Misericordia do Rio de Janeiro. We can see that Hypnosis is in a period of great development today in Brazil, as in Mexico.

**Teresa Robles, PhD**

**AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF HYPNOSIS (ASH)**

**Greg Conan**

In February 2010, the membership of the Australian Society of Hypnosis passed an historic motion at its Annual General Meeting to widen the membership. Since its inception in the 1970’s, the membership of ASH was limited to three professions: medical practitioners, dentists and psychologists. At the time, government legislation in all
Australian states and territories prohibited the practice of hypnosis by anyone other than registered practitioners of these three professions.

Since then, times have certainly changed, and the training and practice of hypnosis in Australia has been deregulated in most jurisdictions. In keeping with the changing times, the current Federal Council, the governing body of ASH conducted a Special General Meeting, inviting all members to vote, either in person or via proxy, on whether to widen the membership.

A careful balance had to be achieved in choosing which professions to allow into our training program and membership. Priority was given to several factors, including focus on health practice, possession of a tertiary qualification, existence of a discipline specific registration body and acceptability of the current ASH membership. In the end, the Australian Government made it easier for us. Changes to the registration bodies of health professions in Australia have seen the creation of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, created by the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009, which will come into effect on 1 July 2010. This law means that for the first time in Australia, 10 health professions will be regulated by nationally consistent legislation.

The current disciplines for which membership and training in ASH are now available are:
- Medical Practitioners
- Dentists
- Psychologists
- Nurses
- Physiotherapists
- Speech Pathologists
- Chiropractors
- Optometrists
- Occupational Therapists
- Podiatrists
- Social Workers
- Osteopaths

The Federal Council will soon meet to discuss and plan mechanisms to promote our membership and training opportunities amongst the members of all eligible disciplines.

Greg Coman, PhD, ISH Board of Representatives

NEWS FROM COMMITTEES

Education and training

Professionalism in clinical hypnosis depends mostly on the quality of hypnotic training. Hypnosis professionals are working in a field infiltrated by individuals of dubious backgrounds who practice lay-hypnosis and sell it as magical cures.

ISH takes pride in being the only worldwide operating hypnosis society adhering to very strict professional standards. The newly founded education committee will be dedicated to two goals:

1. Initiating a discussion process among ISH Constituent Societies leading to agreed-upon standards what a professional training in clinical hypnosis should entail in the areas of medical/dental hypnosis, hypnosis as an adjunct to psychotherapy and hypnosis-psychotherapy as a modality.

2. Communicating to healthcare professionals, government institutions and the public the benefits of clinical hypnosis as an integral part of mainstream medicine and psychology as well as a proper education on the risks of hypnosis.

In my dual function as Chair of the ISH Education Committee and as President of the European Society of Hypnosis, there will be considerable synergies we can take advantage of. ESH has been promoting the idea of identifying professional hypnosis training standards for a number of years by collecting information on existing syllabi of ESH Constituent Societies. The process has led to a recommendation of training criteria that will allow degree holders of ESH Constituent Societies to acquire the ECH, the European Certificate of Hypnosis.

The criteria developed for ESH cannot just simply be copied into ISH, as worldwide differences in healthcare legislature, specialties of hypnotic practice and cultural backgrounds have to be taken into account. However, as it was shown for European hypnosis society, this can be managed successfully!

Matthias Mende, PhD
Chair ISH Education Committee
President European Society of Hypnosis

Research

1. Medline and PsychInfo
   Review of the most salient published research on hypnosis.
2. Identifying trending research
areas.
3. Establishing guidelines for hypnosis methods research.
4. Establishing guidelines for hypnosis evidence-based clinical research
5. Disseminating information on research projects, workshops, congresses, etc.
6. Proposal for innovative research lines.

Giuseppe de Benedittis, MD, PhD
Vice-Chairperson Council of Representatives

Policy and Procedure

Julie Linden

The International Society of Hypnosis is in the process of updating its website. Creating a page that would describe the history of ISH was of particular interest. The chair of the history committee contacted many esteemed colleagues of ISH and asked their assistance in this endeavor. These included: Eva Banyai, Areed Barabasz, Peter Bloom, Walter Bongartz, Mel Gravitz, Camillo Loriedo, Karen Olness, Emily Orne, Burkhard Peter, David Spiegel, John Watkins and Per Olaf Wikstrom. These were all clinicians and researchers who have had both a strong interest in hypnosis and its history. Many of these professionals responded to the request, sending articles as well as personal memories of their experiences with the society. A page is now posted on the website about ISH’s history. In addition the web invites others with remembrances and information to contact ISH.

In addition, the committee has written to each of the ISH constituent societies and asked them to supply a brief history about their society. In this way, it is hoped that ISH can continue to provide information on the long and rich history of clinical hypnosis around the world.

The next project of the history committee will be to compile a list of past presidents of ISH dating from the ISCEH’s founding president, Bernard Raginsky.

Julie Linden, PhD ISH President Elect

History

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Julie Linden

Membership

Bernhard Trenkle

As Chairperson of the Council of Representatives and Chair of the Membership Committee my goal is to connect and reconnect the constituent societies with ISH. Especially the internationally leading colleagues such as Board Members of constituent societies, teachers and trainers, researchers, and book authors should be member of ISH, and stay in contact with and profit from the rich knowledge and combined international expertise. My plan is to connect with the constituent societies to document the situation in the respective countries (number of members, ongoing activities, etc.) Maybe we can also start to develop something like a “Who is Who” of the Inter-national Hypnosis
World.

Bernhard Trenkle
Chairperson of the Council of Representatives and Chair of the Membership Committee

Ethical

Consuelo Casula

ISH and its constituent societies are struggling to protect their reputation as a group of serious professionals working in the health care system to help their patients to solve their problems and alleviate their pain.

ISH has its code of ethics which must be adhered to in order to become a member. The new committee has the commitment to protect the code of ethics from the misleading incursions and illusionary seduction of lay hypnotists. The new committee intends to start research among the constituent societies about what their board members teach students regarding ethics, moral stance and loyalty to the code of conduct in their society. In particular our research aims at discovering what specific attitudes hypnotherapists should have and what values they need to respect.

A new questionnaire will be prepared and sent to the individual members to monitor how each hypnotist follow his/her own code of honor and what the values s/he respects in his/her professional and personal life.

We intend to prepare and send the questionnaires as soon as possible in order to obtain results for the next ISH congress. I thank all of you in advance for your cooperation.

Consuelo Casula and Greg Coman

Interview with Dabney Ewin

How did you come up with this brilliant idea of writing such an interesting and helpful book?

The idea was easy. This is my 40th year teaching hypnosis at Tulane University. Through the years, when I encountered a "Pearl of Wisdom" I would jot it down to be sure to pass it on to my students. Finally, I was having it copied at FedEx with a spiral binder, but it was costing me $6.00 a copy. The logical thing to do was to publish it, and let them buy it.

Did you have a particular aim to achieve in writing it?

The aim, obviously, was to teach my students early what I had accumulated so slowly over the years.

What kind of feedback are you obtaining so far, are you satisfied with the result until now?

The feedback so far is surprisingly good. It is being translated into German and Japanese. Crown Publishing notified me that at the recent ASCH meeting they sold more copies than they have ever sold of a single book at the annual meeting.

Do you have a new project?
I detest writing because of hunting for all those references. But I do like ‘having written.’ I think I could write a useful "Little book" about rapid hypnoanalysis using ideomotor signals, but I am presently stuck with my published book on the subject. They wanted a big book, and priced it out of the market, and there have been very few sales in four years.

Consuelo Casula

The Salmon of Knowledge: Stories for Work, Life, the Dark Shadow, and One Self, Nick Owen. Crown, House Publishing Limited

Anyone who already knows Owen’s previous books, will be happy to read more anecdotes, stories, and metaphors in his lat-est book. The title, The Salmon of Knowledge, comes from an ancient Celtic story with two complementary characters. One is an old man who represents the rational, calculating and tactical mind, as well as the hard work and strong will necessary to achieve the goal. The complementary character is a young man who represents youthful innocence and who wins in the critical moment with his intuitive awakened mind, knowing instinctively what to do and seeing beyond the surface of things.

In this book, the author shows the connection and integration between reason and intuition, so that the reader will enhance his/her wise awareness through stories, spiritual pathways and anecdotes from contemporary science. The stories give suggestions about how to reach a better understanding of the human condition since they deal with universal values, life and death, work and love, one and others, dark shadow and enlightenment. This book will not only enrich the readers’ repertoire of stories but also give a moment to take a step back and look at ourselves with serenity, to smile at our ridiculousness, and to open ourselves to new possibilities of honesty and truth.

Interview with Nick Owen

Nick Owen

How did you start utilizing metaphors during your teaching seminars?

Many years ago I started using stories-as-metaphors in my teaching. Primarily this was to entertain, to make a link, to encourage reflection, to suggest that participants might make a particular connection, and for other similar reasons. I was amazed at the positive responses the story-metaphors evoked both in terms of engagement and memorability. I also noticed how these stories could easily elicit both a collective trance state in the group, and a particular reaction in certain individuals for whom a story touched a specific presenting issue in their personal lives. Most of all, I began using stories and metaphors in my work because I have always been enthralled by them.

What do you think is the main function of metaphor?

I think there are many answers to this question. The one that emerges in this moment for me is that story-as-metaphor speaks to both the rational and intuitive minds. Because story validates the cognitive world of thought, there is little or no resistance to a deeper connection with the somatic and intuitive minds, and even beyond that to an integration with the generative field of creativity and energy that binds all life together. Thus story-as-metaphor enables each of us to become aware of possibilities and perspectives that lie beyond our normal experience and awareness, and to develop new practices [rather than techniques] for our own personal development.
THE NEXT ESH CONGRESS, ISTANBUL, 2011

"In August 2011, the XIIth Congress of the European Society of Hypnosis will be held by the Turkish Society of Medical Hypnosis. This time the ESH Congress will be in the city of Istanbul that is the intersecting point of many cultures. The title of this congress is “Transcending The Mind-Body Bridge By Hypnosis, and the motto is: “LET’S MEET WHERE THE CONTINENTS MEET: ISTANBUL; LET’S MEET WHERE BODY AND MIND MEET: HYPNOSIS”.

We will be together in Istanbul, from August 16 to 20, 2011. There will be a stimulating program of workshops and a program of scientific papers, invited and keynote addresses from the leaders in the field of hypnosis. We expect that the location of Istanbul will be an opportunity to bring an extended multinational attendance. We would like to host all of our colleagues from ISH and ESH to share knowledge and to improve understanding between hypnotic approaches through entertaining social programs. For further information about the congress and the program, as well as registration go to our website or the website of the Congress Secretariat: http://www.hypnosis2011.com.

You can also contact Dr. Ali Ozden Ozturk
auchozturk@gmail.com; and Bahadir Gelis bahgelis@hotmail.com.

Dr. Ali Ozden Ozturk, Congress President

The 6th German-Nepalese Medical and Psychotherapy Congress
May 2-6, 2011, Kathmandu
May 8-12, 2011, Pokhara

The main topics of this unique congress are: Hypnosis, Pain, Trauma, Rehabilitation, Ayurvedic Medicine and Shamanism. The first congress was held around 1985 and started off as a joint venture between German and Nepalese colleagues. Some of the leading European experts in hypnosis have already taught at these congresses and will continue to do so. At the next congress our Nepalese colleagues and some international professionals will present on the above-mentioned topics. Faculty members and congress participants will experience this fascinating country in diverse ways. The programme in Kathmandu will be mainly in English and the programme in Pokhara will be mainly in German. Additionally, congress participants will have the rare possibility to visit fascinating places such as Tibet, Mustang, Bhutan, Sikkhim, etc.

The 5th congress in 2008 was attended by more than 250 attendees from western countries as well as Nepalese colleagues. Many well known international professionals have already taught in Nepal, such as Mark Jensen, Maggie Phillips, Woltemade Hartman, Eric and Lori Greenleaf, Jane Parsons-Fein, Betty-Alice Erickson, etc.

One year ahead of the conference more than 130 colleagues plus faculty members from all over the world have already registered. With the financial surplus of the congress we will be able to continue supporting Nepalese medical and educational projects. Participants will receive detailed information about the congress, accommodation, travel and tourist programmes. Information/Registration available at: The Milton Erickson Institute of Rottweil, Bahnhofstr. 4, 78628 Rottweil, Germany.

Homepage: www.nepal-tagung.de
email: kontakt@meg-rottweil.deHypnosis
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**Hypnosis Conference and Congress Information**

- **Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis**
  - Hyatt, Harborside Hotel, Boston Massachusetts, USA
  - 10-14 November 2010

- **Quebec Society of Hypnosis**
  - 2010 Congress
  - Montreal, Canada,
  - 20 November 2010
  - [http://www.sqh.info](http://www.sqh.info)

- **American Society of Clinical Hypnosis**
  - Mind and Matter: Innovations in Hypnosis
  - Rio Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, USA
  - 4-8 March 2011
  - [http://www/asch.net](http://www/asch.net)

- **European Society of Hypnosis**
  - Istanbul, Turkey
  - 16-20 August 2011
  - Contact also
  - [http://www.esh-hypnosis.org](http://www.esh-hypnosis.org)

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**If you want to contact ISH Central Office go to**

- [https://www.ish-hypnosis.org](https://www.ish-hypnosis.org)
- or e-mail
- contact@ish-hypnosis.org
- or info@ish-web.org

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This is the first issue of the ISHNEWSLETTER of the new ISH Board of Directors, and we would like to receive your comments, contributions, ideas, news and proposals. The aim of the newsletter is to create bridges of understanding between you and us, between each individual member and each constituent society and ISH. We wait for your collaboration.