

2024 IFTA CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

14:00-17:00

Registration Open

Registration Desk
located on 3rd floor

Thursday, April 11, 2024

08:00-16:00

Registration Open

Registration Desk
located on 3rd floor

09:30-11:15

Opening Ceremony and Plenary Panelists

The Hall

11:15-12:00

Recess break and Networking

12:00-12:45

Presentations/workshops

Room

Hostile helpers? A systemic reconsideration of professional relationships with young people caught up in crime

Room 301

Raphael Cadenhead-United Kingdom
Hilary Dixon-United Kingdom

This presentation critically examines the significance of the 'trusted relationship' concept in UK youth services, underscoring its often overlooked limitations for practitioners in the criminal justice field. We propose a fresh paradigm for addressing youth violence and criminal exploitation, drawing from key systemic concepts and insights from clinical practice.

45min

Integrating Intersectional Identities in Social Justice Supervision

Room 302

Karen Quek-USA

The presentation integrates social justice principles within supervision to elicit deeper conversations surrounding the social context and worldview of the therapeutic-supervisory team. Specifically, it explores the intersectional identities of the supervisory-dyad, supervisor self-evaluation, and supervisee processes. It will be didactic and conversational, with guidelines for clinical application

45min

Once upon a time there was a little boy who, at night, urinated in every home vase.

Room 304

Martine Nisse-France

The boy had a silent older sister and a father who hit him every morning. The mother called the social service. I immediately called a therapist, who quickly cured the boy. The sister immediately fled, leaving me speechless in the face of this unprecedented situation. Palo Alto School HELP!

45min

Founders

Multigenerational Transmission of Trauma Symptoms: Process Factors - Risk and Protective

Room 701

Randy Braley-USA

Little research by investigators is to be found, focused on systemic trauma assessment and intervention tools for clinicians. The diagnosis of multigenerational trauma and symptom transmission begins with construction of the family genogram. The genogram is a comprehensive assessment instrument for gathering copious amounts of information in a concise manner.

45min

Accommodating the Satir Model Within Context

Room 704

Jessica Leith-USA

This presentation examines the cross cultural implementation of the Satir Model, using empirical and clinical support to accommodate many of the primary interventions in the model with clients in various contexts.

45min

Co-research: a qualitative study on co-research as quality and evaluation method

Room 705

Anette Axelsson-Sweden
Ann-Charlotte Reich-Sweden

The method is developed by Tom Andersen, professor of social psychiatry from northern Norway.

20min

12:00-12:20

Enhancing Healing Through Words: The Power of Creative Bibliotherapy Alongside Face-to-Face Therapy

Room 705

Cheli Bolless-Israel

Five years ago, I started using Creative Bibliotherapy as a complimentary tool to face to face therapy. During the years I expanded the use of the tool along three dimensions: different types of writing, ages and treatments (individual / couple). I'll elaborate on various cases and conclude with my insights

20min

12:25-12:45

Navigating Societal Marginalisation in Therapy : an exploration of the Journey of Unaccompanied Refugee Young People & their Therapist		Room 706
<i>Máire Stedman-United Kingdom</i>	Is it possible to construct a narrative across cultures, spiritual belief systems, and life experiences in the context of a culture, which excludes and dehumanises? • The significance of a trusting relationship • Cultural and spiritual influences facilitating or hindering coping efforts • The use we make of particular models for understanding young people's experiences will determine the kind of therapy that we provide	45min
How to use Satir model meditation in family counseling		Room 707
<i>Jane Huang-China</i>	The use of Satir model meditation in family counseling will help counselors to tap the yearning of the family members, bring about the deeper and more effective changes. This lecture will show you how and let you experience the meditation.	45min Mandarin
12:45-13:45	Light Lunch	Basement
13:45-14:30	Presentations/workshops	Room
Socioculturally Attuned Family Therapy: Honoring Culture While Challenging Oppression		Room 301
<i>J. Maria Bermudez-USA Desiree Seponski-USA Bertranna Muruthi-USA</i>	Equitable and just family therapy requires third order thinking and change. The aim of this workshop is to review socioculturally attuned family therapy as a way to navigate systemic change and manage the tension of honoring cultural values and traditions while interrupting and challenging oppressive relationships and societal systems.	45min
Systemic Meta-Framework for Integrative Practice: Clinical and Teaching Tool		Room 302
<i>Kate Owen-Australia Leonie White-Australia</i>	The QIFT Systemic Meta-Framework for Integrative Practice (White & Owen, 2022) is an innovative map for clinicians to guide individualized integrative psychotherapy drawing on clinician's way of being with clients, systemic alliance, assessment, and formulation informed by a decision-making perspective. Applications to teaching and supervision will be highlighted.	45min
Salvador Minuchin: The Use of Failures to Drive Family Change and Theory Development		Room 304
<i>Yoel Elizur-Israel</i>	Minuchin's approach to collaborative change and the use of therapy failures to stimulate theory development will be demonstrated with video and cases from our co-authored book "Institutionalizing madness: Families, therapy and society". Our long-term follow-ups have implications for family systems therapy during the 21st century.	45min Founders
Perspectives of Religious Leaders on Gender Identity Change Efforts: Ramifications for Therapy		Room 701
<i>Christi McGeorge-USA Katelyn Coburn-USA</i>	Given the religious groundings behind the practice of gender identity change efforts, we explored the beliefs of Christian religious leaders about this practice and their understanding of marginalized gender identities. Nineteen religious leaders from diverse Christian traditions were interviewed. Queer theory-informed thematic analysis was used to analyze the data.	45min
Exploring Reflecting Team Interventions to Enrich Theory of Mind Skills for Deaf Adults		Room 704
<i>Louise Munro-Australia Sigrid Macdonald-Australia</i>	We present a novel intervention for Deaf adults for whom language deprivation has resulted in compromised theory of mind skills. We describe a format where reflecting teams can be used to enrich language and social experience in non-pathologising, culturally affirmative ways for Deaf people and their families	45min
Family Systemic Assessment Method for Substance Users		Room 705
<i>María de Lourdes De la O Chávez-Mexico</i>	The "Family Systemic Assessment Method for Substance Users" is an original design created for the purpose of a Doctoral dissertation research. The Method served two main purposes: to obtain scientific knowledge related to integrative family systemic transgenerational factors associated with substance use; and to obtain an idiographic diagnostic assessment device.	20min 13:45-14:05

Systemic Family therapy in the Queensland Foster Care System: An Integrative practice Model		Room 705
<i>Rachel Jones-Australia</i>	Systemic Family therapy in the Queensland Foster Care System: implementation of Integrative Practice as a purposeful intervention implemented with complex “family” systems (expanding the traditional concept of family to include all relevant stakeholders for a child), to improve the overall wellbeing of children in Queensland out of home care contexts.	20min 14:10-14:30
Helping high school teachers learn about family therapy		Room 706
<i>Chaolu Quan-China</i> <i>Xin Quan-USA</i>	from October of 2022 to June of 2023, with the help of me, six high school teachers learned family therapy. The textbook is Family Therapy by Michael P. Nicholes The learning methods are self-study and coaching. During the process, Scott Johnson gave us lot of help.	20min 13:45-14:05
Unrealistic expectations: Considerations for the family therapist’s role in reunification after trauma perpetrated by adults on their children		Room 706
<i>Shantay Mines-USA</i>	This brief presentation will discuss the ethical, legal, and mental health considerations of trauma reintegration services for youth in the foster care system.	20min 14:10-14:30
Sino-American Family Therapy: Unique Family Dilemmas and Treatment Approaches in the Chinese Context Part 1		Room 707
<i>John Miller-China and Sino-American Family Therapy Institute (SAFTI) students and graduates</i>	Contemporary family therapy originated in Western cultures, and is now being exported throughout China where it has proven to very popular. This presentation will describe some of the common family therapy issues in the Chinese context, as well as unique treatment strategies informed by Chinese cultural values.	45min Mandarin
14:45-15:30	Presentations/workshops	
The Evolution of the Milan Approach		Room 301
<i>Umberta Telfener-Italy</i> <i>Vincenzo de Bustis Ficarola-Italy</i>	The presenters intend to show the main evolution of the Milan Approach after the death of Luigi Boscolo and Gianfranco Cecchin, the two founders. The teachers of the Milan school have continued proposing a second order process with some specific features that will be considered	45min
Black Love, Black Hate: Exploring infidelity and intimacy in Black coupled relationships: Clinical Considerations		Room 302
<i>Carmilla Solomon-USA</i>	Presenter will showcase unique needs for working with black couples coping with infidelity and intimacy. Practical clinical considerations for working with clients' lived experience of systemic racism, client history of incarceration, and socio-economic obstacles of black U.S. clients will be highlighted	45min
Unfolding the Layers of Identity: An Integrative Approach to the Tripartite Personas in Family Therapy		Room 304
<i>Anna Svetchnikov-USA</i>	A journey through the groundbreaking Tripartite Personas Approach in Family Therapy. This integrative theory offers a new lens to view the individual through single, couples, and family personas, leading to a more holistic understanding of self-expression and relationships. Gain practical strategies to incorporate this approach into your therapeutic practice.	45min Founders
An Analysis of the Claims of Six Popular Models in the “Golden Age” of Couple Therapy		Room 701
<i>Adam Fisher-USA</i> <i>Elisabeth Bennet-USA</i> <i>Emma Myers-USA</i>	The popularity of couple therapy has proliferated—a majority of therapists now work with couples. This presentation will provide an overview of six popular models of couple therapy, exploring the “claims” of each approach. An example of an integrative framework for conceptualization and intervention across models will also be provided	45min
Treating Postpartum Depression in Fathers		Room 704
<i>Brandon Eddy-USA</i> <i>Vaida Kazlauskaite-USA</i> <i>Sara Jordan-USA</i>	Postpartum depression (PPD) occurs in approximately 10% of fathers and can have devastating consequences for individuals, couples, and families. This presentation will help participants learn to recognize the symptoms of PPD and provide guidance on how to effectively treat fathers who suffer from postpartum depression.	45min

Systemic family therapy approaches for young adults with chronic suicidality in Singapore		Room 705
<i>Ka Man Cheang-Singapore</i>	In this brief presentation, the presenter will illustrate the "entry points" and "effects" of systemic therapy approaches in four adults below 30 years of age (and their families) in Singapore whose chronic suicidality did not remit with mainstream psychiatry treatment.	20min 14:45-15:05
Clinical Considerations for Engaging Family Members in Treatment for Substance Use		Room 705
<i>Jessica Chou-USA</i>	This presentation will examine potential facilitators and barriers to family member involvement in substance use treatment. Preliminary findings from an original mixed methods research study examining outreach techniques among family members for women with opioid use will be presented. Clinical considerations for delivering outreach techniques will be discussed.	20min 15:10-15:30
Refugee settlement workers: Understanding the wounded healers		Room 706
<i>Narumi Taniguchi-Canada</i>	In this presentation, we will discuss findings from a mixed methods research study on professional quality of life and overall psychological well-being of settlement workers who work with refugees. Results highlighted a web of secondary trauma, burnout, compassion satisfaction, and responsibility in which these settlement workers are caught in.	20min 14:45-15:05
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Sino-American Family Therapy: Unique Family Dilemmas and Treatment Approaches in the Chinese Context Part 2		Room 707
<i>John Miller-China and Sino-American Family Therapy Institute (SAFTI) students and graduates</i>	Contemporary family therapy originated in Western cultures, and is now being exported throughout China where it has proven to very popular. This presentation will describe some of the common family therapy issues in the Chinese context, as well as unique treatment strategies informed by Chinese cultural values.	45min Mandarin
15:30-16:15	Recess Break (big break)	
16:15-17:00	Presentations/workshops	Room
Best Minds: How Allen Ginsberg Made Revolutionary Poetry from Madness		Room 301
<i>Stevan Weine-USA</i>	A revelatory look at how Beat poet Allen Ginsberg transformed experiences of mental illness and madness in his family into some of the most powerful and widely read poems of the twentieth century. Ginsberg let Stevan Weine interview him and gave access to his most private papers including psychiatric records.	45min
Managing Triangles in Clinical Practice: In the Family and in Wider Systems		Room 302
<i>Linda MacKay-Australia</i>	Dr Murray Bowen developed the triangle concept in his seminal work with families 70 years ago. This video case presentation focuses on its direct relevance today in work with couples and families and the importance of the neutrality of the therapist in managing the interlocking triangles that are inevitably mobilised.	45min
An Extra Language		Room 304
<i>Ady van Doornik-Netherlands</i>	As a therapist, you can create an overview and new insights for your clients with the methodology of An Extra Language. It is a powerful tool to give direction to your questions during the therapyprocess. An Extra Language focuses on visualising the internal and external reality of the client.	45min
Working with the Trauma of Parental Alienation		Room 701
<i>Chip Chimera-United Kingdom</i>	Using Attachment Narrative Therapy which integrates modern attachment theory and systemic narrative practice this presentation demonstrates work with high conflict post separation families in the UK. Current neurobiological understandings of the impact on children's developing brains is integrated. Guidance for intervention is given. A practice example will be discussed.	45min

Expressive Family Therapy Reveals What Words Conceal: Inclusive Systemic Interventions <i>Daniel Sweeney-USA</i>	Despite the importance of systemic family therapy, family members from all developmental levels are often left out of the process. Expressive family therapy is inclusive – it “levels the playing field” for all family members, and developmental levels are honored when all are treated as equal members of the system.	Room 704 45min
Starting New Dialogue: The Enduring Concepts of Satir’s Human Validation Process Model, A Qualitative Study <i>Carson Outler-USA</i> <i>Marroquin-USA</i>	<i>Crystal</i> The purpose of this project is to create a conceptual framework for Satir’s Human Validation Process Model. In an effort to understand the more nuanced and enduring concepts, interventions, and techniques of this model, the current study aims to determine what parts of the model transcend its initial utilization.	Room 705 20min 16:15-16:35 Founders
Motivational Interviewing (MI) as a Framework for Coaching/Providing Feedback to Therapists and Physicians in an Integrated Setting <i>Michael Olson-USA</i>	In a multi-disciplinary learning environment, physician and therapist trainees are faced with the task of "clinical behavior change" that meets specific milestones and competencies. Motivational interviewing (MI) is a framework well suited for supervisory coaching and providing feedback to encourage learner self-efficacy and confidence to change.	Room 705 20min 16:40-17:00
Chinese culture related issues encountered in social work family treatment <i>Li-yu Song-Taiwan</i>	This study explored the Chinese cultural issues in working with high-risk families. The findings revealed related issues such as the 'face issue', covering family problems, differential association, gender family work division, self-depreciation, authoritarian child discipline, etc. Culture-embedded strategies are needed to serve these families better.	Room 706 20min 16:15-16:35
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The application of Bowen family systems theory to difficult cases in schools in Tokyo <i>Marie Yoshida-Japan</i>	This presentation will describe a multi-disciplinary collaboration team called “the children support team”, which utilizes principles from systems theory for assessment and solution-oriented casework to resolve difficult cases at schools in Tokyo. The presenter will show how Bowen family systems theory can be applied in the Japanese context.	Room 707 45min Japanese

Friday, April 12, 2024

08:00-16:30	Registration Open	Registration Desk located on 3rd floor
8:30 -9:15	Presentations/workshops	Room
1+1=3: Thinking Developmentally in Couples' Communication <i>Fiona O'Farrell-USA</i>	This workshop will address how therapists can address clients' communication discrepancies using the Developmental model developed by Ellyn Bader and Peter Pearson. The presenters will engage in a dialogue about their experience learning and adopting the Developmental Model and how it has shaped their understanding of couples' communication in therapy.	Room 301 45min
Adolescent trauma treatment in integrated primary care: A modified Delphi study <i>Jessica Stephen Premo-USA</i>	Childhood trauma can have negative health, social, and educational outcomes that extend into adulthood. Approximately 1 in 4 youth experience trauma. Unfortunately, no adolescent trauma interventions have been created for primary care settings (Glowa, Olson, & Johnson, 2016). This modified delphi study was designed to improve the treatment of adolescent trauma.	Room 302 45min

Systemic Clinical Supervision in Diverse Settings <i>William Northey-USA</i>		This opening workshop for the supervision track participants will consider how the context and setting impact the role, style, and responsibilities of systemic clinical supervisors. Participants will also reflect on the systemic interplay between supervisor, supervisee, clients, and clinical setting and the competencies necessary to be an effective systemic supervisor.	Room 304 45min Supervision
Community-Based Research Theories and Methods for Social Change <i>Bertranna Muruthi-USA</i> <i>J. Maria Bermudez-USA</i> <i>Desiree Seponski-USA</i>		Community-based participatory research ensures that research benefits community members to promote effective practice and policy change. The methods and theories of four community-based projects will be presented. Implications will be provided.	Room 701 45min
Two Sides of the Story: Creating Real Connection between Parents and Teens <i>Kerry Stutzman-USA Palmer</i> <i>Skudneski-USA</i>		Kerry and Palmer's work together was sparked by a devastating and staggering statistic: "40% of youth suicides are preceded by intense conflict with parents." This mother-son duo will share their Family CPR model that was created with the purpose of bettering family system dynamics and improving youth wellness.	Room 704 45min
Working Alliance Application in Mandated Employment Services <i>George Giuliani-Australia</i>		This presentation will report on Australian mixed method research on the application of Working Alliance theories and practice in mandated Employment Services. Australian contracted employment services and other conservative bureaucracies have emphasized a tough approach toward people experiencing unemployment. This research makes the case for a Relational Case Management model.	Room 705 20min 8:30-8:50
Relationship Needs Assessment and Help Seeking Behavior for Couples Intervention <i>John Jacob-USA</i>		Research shows that couples often seek professional help several years too late to save their relationship. Non-clinical couple-based assessment may serve as an impetus for moving couples into treatment sooner. This study evaluates use of a couples' interactive needs assessment for increasing motivation to seek couples-based treatment.	Room 705 20min 8:55-9:15
Couple, Marriage, and Family Therapists inclusion of Black Social Fathers in Family Therapy <i>Kevana Nixon-USA</i>		Its important that couple/marriage and family therapists (C/MFT's) operate from a culturally attuned lens. C/MFT's will expand their understanding of Black families to include Black social fathers in family therapy. This lecture will introduce C/MFT's how to integrate Black social fathers in practice.	Room 706 45min
POTT as Antiracist Training Framework in Couple and Family Therapy <i>Margaret MacLeod-USA Zain</i> <i>Shamoon-USA Anthony</i> <i>Pennant-USA Jennifer</i> <i>Sampson-USA</i>		Presentation will demonstrate application of Aponte's Person of the Therapist model in training programs as explicitly anti-racist and anti-oppressive way to train new clinicians. Best training practices will be demonstrated to examine third order thinking and change in the early development stages of becoming a therapist.	Room 707 45min
9:30-10:15		Presentations/workshops	Room
Combatting Hate: Conversations with Clinicians <i>Mudita Rastogi-USA Rosy</i> <i>Kim-USA Sarah</i> <i>Margulis-USA</i>		Hate crimes have surged in the U.S. following global events, affecting individuals and communities alike. Clinicians are central to treating trauma in individual survivors, identifiable community members, and the general public witnessing these events. This workshop will inspire reflection and empowerment to enact third-order change in therapy.	Room 301 45min
Life Staging® Supervision: applying a systemic, narrative and artistic approach <i>Elisabet Wollmén-Sweden</i>		A group sculpting model/philosophy embracing the embodied knowledge and non-verbal in interaction and relations. Beyond taking for granted ideas, prejudices and theories. Activating knowledge and skills that were always there but often silenced. "When the words are not in the way" what's there to see and hear?	Room 302 45min
Integrative Practice in Systemic Group Supervision: Growing Competence, Confidence and Adaptability			Room 304

<i>Leonie White-Australia</i>	<i>Kate</i>	An integrative practice framework for systemic group supervision will be presented as a map for navigating the complexity of combining different approaches to cater to clients' diversity, situation, and unique needs. The presentation will include interactive and self-reflective processes regarding group supervision and integrative practice.	45min Supervision
'Refining the Truths We Can Tell Each Other': Multi-Cultural Couples Therapy			Room 701
<i>Cadmona Hall-USA</i>	<i>Mali</i>	We present an analysis of an experiential couple's therapy session in which the therapist and supervision team join the clients in an open conversation about our dimensions of culture and how systems of oppression impact our lived experiences as women of color.	45min
<i>Sicora-USA</i>			
<i>Michelle Snow-USA</i>			
Practice Makes Progress: Deliberate Practice in Family Therapy			Room 704
<i>Adrian Blow-USA</i>		Supervisors play a critical role in practitioner development and supporting family therapy practice yet often receive little training to hone their supervision craft. This workshop will help supervisors, new or experienced, learn strategies to help themselves (help others) gain important systemic family therapy skills through Deliberate Practice learning activities.	45min
Overcoming Obstacles For a New Life: Case Study of a Cuban Refugee Family in Miami, Florida			Room 705
<i>Nelson Perez-USA</i>		Thousands of Cuban immigrants have migrated to the U.S. in recent years, with numbers continuing to rise. A case study explores the experiences of a refugee family who settled in Miami, detailing their challenges in Cuba, their arduous journey, and how they have adapted to their new life.	20min 9:30-9:50
Evaluation of an Affirmative Approach to Working with Incarcerated Sexual and Gender Minorities.			Room 705
<i>Castolina Haro-USA</i>		Incarcerated sexual and gender minority (SGM) individuals have a higher prevalence of mental health issues than their heterosexual counterparts. Utilizing the Minority Stress Model with an affirmative approach in group therapy can provide essential insight into experiences of SGM and best practices to support this population's mental health needs.	20min 9:55-10:15
"I don't even have time to catch my breath": Parental perspectives of the CPS parenting education programs in Taiwan			Room 706
<i>Wan-Juo Cheng-Taiwan</i>		This qualitative study aims to investigate perspectives of the parents mandated to the CPS parenting education program due to uses of corporal punishment to their children. The results indicate that parental reluctance to engage in the program may be explained by disjunctures between parents' actual practices and middle-class parenting.	45min English/Mandarin
Working with African American Families			Room 707
<i>Tiara Fennell-USA</i>		Given the historical racial trauma experienced by African Americans in the United States, engagement in mental health care systems has been complicated for this population. The systemic interventions to be presented intend to promote engagement and alliance-building between therapists and African American families.	45min
10:15-11:00		Recess Break	
11:00-11:45		Presentations/workshops	Room
Global Events: Navigating difficult conversations among educators and trainees			Room 301
<i>Mudita Rastogi-USA</i>		War, politics, and even court rulings are extremely divisive and stir deep emotions for us. Educators and students find themselves holding strong views that are challenging to exchange in a training setting. Participants will be invited to reflect on and share their best practices and strategies around navigating difficult conversations.	45min
El baile del amor: The cross-cultural dance of post-pandemic love			Room 302
<i>Deisy Amorin-Woods-Australia</i>		Couples communicate in a variety of ways due to diverse factors. While this is relevant to all couples, this issue becomes more complex for couples who originate from differing cultural and linguistic backgrounds. This presentation will explore factors influencing communication between partners from different cultures and languages.	45min

Supporting BIPOC students in Supervision and Promoting Self of the Supervisor Awareness		Room 304
<i>Dara Winley-USA Cadmona Hall-USA</i>	This presentation will provide insight on unique approaches needed for supervision support of BIPOC students and their success in the MFT program and field. The support received is directly connected to self-of-the-supervisor awareness and development and this presentation will provide recommendations to support culturally responsive supervision.	45min Supervision
How to use Satir model meditation in family counseling		Room 701
<i>Jane Huang-China</i>	The use of Satir model meditation in family counseling will help counselors to tap the yearning of the family members, bring about the deeper and more effective changes. This lecture will show you how and let you experience the meditation.	45min
Impact of Job Loss on Personal Identity and Family Life: A Phenomenological Study		Room 704
<i>Sebastian Perumbilly-USA</i>	This presentation explores the experience of job loss and its impact on workers' personal identity and family life. Using an Interpretive Phenomenological lens, this qualitative research project explores seven themes associated with the experience of job loss for individuals and families. The discussion focuses on clinical implications for family therapy.	45min
Effective techniques using body and touch in psychotherapy to promote holistic health		Room 705
<i>Jacqueline de Abreu-USA</i>	Most psychotherapeutic approaches and modalities, including family therapy, are based on verbal communication. The importance of body interventions and touch are minimized, despite being scientifically proven. They play an enormous role in healing emotional wounds. Learn five, multiculturally appropriate, effective interventions using body and touch for holistic healing results.	20min 11:00-11:20
Inclusion, Boundaries, and Grief: Working with LGBTQA+ Clients Experiencing Homelessness		Room 705
<i>Eugene Holowacz-USA</i>	The themes of inclusion, boundaries, and grief have been prevalent in my experience with working with homeless clients who are part of the LGBTQA+ community. My clients have reported that their fear of losing people keeps them in stressful relationships and friendships. This presentation discusses how to explore these topics.	20min 11:25-11:45
Sino-American Family Therapy: Unique Family Dilemmas and Treatment Approaches in the Chinese Context Part 1		Room 706
<i>John Miller-China and Sino-American Family Therapy Institute (SAFTI) students and graduates</i>	Contemporary family therapy originated in Western cultures, and is now being exported throughout China where it has proven to be very popular. This presentation will describe some of the common family therapy issues in the Chinese context, as well as unique treatment strategies informed by Chinese cultural values.	45min
What's coming up for me – a call for the need of person-of-the-therapist in supervision		Room 707
<i>Emily Emerson-USA</i>	Person-of-the-therapist training programs (POTT) have shown through multiple studies to increase student self-awareness and management of therapist anxiety in clinical work. This presentation is a call to action for increased integration of POTT into clinical supervision and examination of the benefits it can provide through supervision.	45min
12:00-12:45	Presentations/workshops	Room
Cultivating the "Person of the Educator": A Cornerstone for Enhanced Faculty Training		Room 301
<i>Jennifer Sampson-USA Margaret MacLeod-USA Anthony Pennant-USA Fiona O'Farrell-USA</i>	Explore the integral role of training faculty using "Person of the Educator" principles to sculpt future therapists. Highlight psychological safety, the right to fail, and a growth mindset	45min
Motivating Couples for Meaningful Change: SFT and ACT Fusion		Room 302
<i>Billie Tyler-USA</i>	Explore the interactional methodologies central to the integration of Solution Focused Therapy (SFT) and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) for client transformation. Acquire practical techniques, conflict resolution skills, and value-oriented strategies within diverse couple dynamics. Expand your therapeutic tool kit through this workshop.	45min
Supervising systemic practice within the NHS: pragmatic and contextual practices		Room 304

<i>Mark Rivett-United Kingdom</i>	This presentation, within the Supervision Strand, will explore the complexities of supervising systemic and family therapy practice within a publicly funded health service: the National Health Service in the UK.	45min Supervision
Multidynamic Relational Therapy <i>Anthony Pennant-USA</i>	This presentation will introduce a practical model of therapy known as Multidynamic Relational Therapy used to treat relationships that are reflective of the diversity of identities. This framework provides clinicians with clear interventions to create flexibility in relationships which will help address issues of power, intimacy, and societal expectations.	Room 701 45min
Embracing the Elephant in the Room: Broaching Techniques for Taboo Topics <i>Alexis Pizzulo-USA</i>	People seek therapy to grapple with the most uncomfortable aspects of their lives. Yet, when faced with the opportunity to discuss these topics directly, many therapists shy away out of apprehension or fear. This presentation explores methods and benefits of broaching taboo topics, with special attention to clients experiencing homelessness.	Room 704 45min
Integrated Behavioral Health and Reduction of Provider Burnout <i>Michele Smith-USA</i> <i>Hideki Wakabayashi-Japan</i>	Research around integrated behavioral health has historically focused on the benefits to patients and reduction of health care utilization. Recently, a benefit to physicians and other providers is being studied. This presentation highlights the potential protection for both physicians and therapists working in an integrated program.	Room 705 20min 12:00-12:20
The Process of Couples Healing from Infidelity: A Grounded Theory <i>Stephen Fife-USA</i>	This presentation highlights the results of a grounded theory study on the process of healing from infidelity. We developed a process model of healing that includes four stages: revelation of infidelity, initial reactions, stabilizing the relationship, and revitalizing the relationship. We will discuss the clinical implications and guidelines for therapists.	Room 705 20min 12:25-12:45
Sino-American Family Therapy: Unique Family Dilemmas and Treatment Approaches in the Chinese Context Part 2 <i>John Miller-China and Sino-American Family Therapy Institute (SAFTI) students and graduates</i>	Contemporary family therapy originated in Western cultures, and is now being exported throughout China where it has proven to very popular. This presentation will describe some of the common family therapy issues in the Chinese context, as well as unique treatment strategies informed by Chinese cultural values.	Room 706 45min
Arranged Marriages and Sexual Satisfaction in India: A Multi-contextual Perspective <i>Malavi Madhusudan-India</i>	This presentation will cover issues, contexts, interventions and case studies around sexual satisfaction in arranged marriages in heterosexual Indian couples. Interactive discussions and aids for therapist to help work with this population will further be included.	Room 707 45min
12:45-13:45	Light Lunch	Basement
13:30-14:30	Poster presentations	Basement
Introducing an innovative family science undergraduate course: USAD? Coping with Stress, Anxiety, and Depression <i>Adam Hedelund-USA</i> <i>Nicole Gerber-USA</i>	The U SAD course, which our poster will introduce and describe, expands and strengthens family science education by making mental health skills accessible to college students via an undergraduate family science class. Our poster will detail this innovative family science course, and outline next steps for empirical evaluation.	P1
Improving the Mental Health of College Students in Language Immersion Residence Programs		P2

Adam Fisher-USA Myers-USA	Emma	While living together in close systems akin to families—and speaking only their second language—students in language immersion residences may experience isolation and anxiety. This study examines wellbeing in these programs (Japanese, Chinese, and Korean). Meditation groups were conducted for each residence, with results showing mixed outcomes on wellbeing.	
The psychotherapy-family therapy-social work: Reintegrating juvenile delinquent into society			P3
Ohara Takaharu-Japan		Psychotherapy, family therapy and social work are connected.	Japanese
Can attachment buffer the risk of aggression for incels?			P4
Iliana Anaya-USA		Incels, are individuals who feel angry about their inability to form romantic relationships. Not all incels are violent, but some have committed acts of extreme violence. Attachment Theory is important to the study because it recognizes the theory of affect regulation and its impact on interpersonal relationships.	
Family Systems DBT a New Family Therapy Model			P5
Matthew Metcalf-USA		Dialectical Behavioral Therapy has been well documented in its ability to treat those with intense emotions. Family Systems Dialectical Behavioral therapy steps away from treating a single client and targets the family systems behaviors instead. DBT and family Systems therapy complement each other very well for families with intense emotions.	
The Initial Validation of the Power in Couple Relationships Scale			P6
Crystal Marroquin-USA		This study aimed to create and validate the Power in Couple Relationships Scale (PCRS). The implication for clinicians is that the PCRS can be used to help bring necessary awareness of power discrepancies to both clinicians and clients which can, in turn, lead to more equal relationships.	
Parent-child interaction classrooms that require therapeutic guidance -through parent-child interaction			P7
Chiemi Chiba-Japan		Although measures are being taken by the government to support people with severe disabilities, it has been discovered that mothers are actually struggling to raise their children. The results showed that support from peers who share the same worries about loneliness and anxiety about the future differed from normal childcare.	
Validation of the City Birth Trauma Scale within the Black Female Birthing Community			P8
Briana Roberts-USA Sydney Dion Lampkin-USA		Perinatal PTSD affects 3-4% of women in the US, with potentially higher rates seen in Black women. The City Birth Trauma Scale, a widely used measure, is questioned for validity within non-white American populations. This study aims to assess its efficacy with Black American women.	
Examining Self-Care: Context, Culture, and Socially Just Considerations			P9
Desiree Seponski-USA J. Maria Bermudez-USA Bertranna Muruthi-USA		This poster explores approaches to self-care when working with diverse families and promoting socially just systemic therapy. Domains of self-care are identified, examples are provided, and barriers including inequitable burdens, exacerbated distress, and lack of resources (time, money, safe spaces, culturally responsive methods) are identified.	
Symptoms of Emotional Regulation Rupture in Adult Sexual Assault Survivors and Trauma Recovery in Family Therapy			P10
Sung-Hsien Sun-Taiwan		This study, based on attachment theory, conducted qualitative interviews with five Taiwanese counselors to identify seven symptoms of emotional regulation rupture in adult survivors of sexual assault. Finally, it illustrates, through a practical case, how to rebuild attachment relationships in family therapy to facilitate the trauma recovery process.	English and Mandarin
Tongues of Love: EFT as a Framework for Enhancing Bilingual Couple Communication			P11

<i>Hitiura Anihia-USA</i>	Nearly 68 million individuals in the U.S. speak a non-English language at home, highlighting bilingualism's impact on relationships. Bilingual couples seek therapy for communication improvement. Language proficiency affects emotion expression and communication dynamics. We propose Emotionally Focused Therapy to address language complexities and meet relationship needs.	
Blank Space in Session? Shake it Off with Person-of-the-Therapist <i>Emily Emerson-USA</i>	Utilizing person-of-the-therapist concepts, specifically the utilization of self, I highlight how therapeutic use of her lyrics can open the door for clients looking to speak now.	P12
Spirituality as a protective factor for mental health in emerging adults <i>Olivia Crouch-USA</i>	Spirituality and religion serve as a protective factor for positive mental health in emerging adults (ages 18-25). When paired with mindfulness and self-compassion, the research shows those who identify as both religious and spiritual have a decrease in depressive symptoms and an increase in life satisfaction.	P13
Addressing Microaggressions & Ableism within the Therapy Setting: A Clinical Guideline <i>Ashley Collet-USA</i>	Learning how to identify and address microaggressions related to ableism in the therapy room to decrease negative outcomes for clients. Education, self of the therapist work, and supervision are ways to enable therapists to provide a culturally sensitive environment that is safe for clients of all abilities.	P14
Good Grief: A Review of Eastern and Western Cultural Responses to Death and Dying <i>Sydney Crane-USA</i> <i>Abigail Satterfield-USA</i>	The present study explored the unique and diverse experiential grief responses to death and dying and the contextual factors influencing the responses across cultures. The content analysis reviewed Eastern and Western cases of families' bereavement responses to the loss of a loved one.	P15
The Impact of Generational Trauma on Hispanic Families <i>Megara Escobedo-USA</i>	Generational trauma is a major source of emotional, psychological, and physical suffering in Hispanic families, perpetuated by unaddressed wounds, parenting approaches, and cultural narratives. Mental health professionals, informed about the economic, cultural, and familial factors within Hispanic families, can improve their practices to help break the cycle of familial trauma.	P16
Microanalysis of Face-to-Face Dialogue: A close Look at Formulations <i>Sara Jordan-USA</i> <i>Vaida Kazlauskaite-USA</i>	Using microanalysis of face-to-face dialogue (MFD) to examine what type of words providers/therapist summarize from clients/patients in interviews. Formulations (summaries of clients/patients) are studied using a rigorous process method (MFD) with high inter-analyst reliability. Results will be shared.	P17
Intercultural Couple Case Example: Promoting Culturally Relevant Therapeutic Relationships <i>Brittany Masangkay-USA</i> <i>Melissa Yzaguirre-USA</i>	This poster will highlight a systemic family therapist's role in fostering a positive therapeutic relationship when working with an interracial couple. A case example will be used to illustrate effective culturally relevant practices that can be utilized in treatment to promote positive therapeutic alliances when working with intercultural couples.	P18
Screening and Treating Pediatric Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Through a Relational Lens <i>Claudia Hindo-USA</i> <i>Sarah Margulis-USA</i>	Early diagnosis and appropriate treatments can reduce pediatric obsessive-compulsive disorder-related symptoms, relieving individuals of significant distress. Early detection combined with treatments involving a child's family helps to identify and understand obsessions in ways that can reduce or resolve compulsions and may prevent exacerbation of symptoms into adulthood.	P19
Love Across Cultures: Narrative Interventions for Asian-Hispanic Relationships. <i>Amy Lin-USA</i> <i>Karla Rica Picco-USA</i> <i>Megara Escobedo-USA</i>	This presentation aims to enhance the existing body of research on interracial marriage, particularly focusing on Asian-Hispanic couples. It delves into stressors impacting their relational satisfaction and examines how narrative therapy can provide valuable tools for successful cross-cultural relationship navigation.	P20

Exploring Family Dynamics of Bisexual Women in Heterosexual Relationships: A Literature Review <i>Jane Livingston-USA</i>	The literature review and research explore experiences of bisexual women in heterosexual relationships, illuminating the intersection of sexuality, family dynamics, and identity. Through narrative analysis, we aim to uncover their complex lives, offering insights into challenges and contributions to family systems.	P21
Master's Level Clinician Training in Microanalysis <i>Hollie Allen-USA</i>	This poster will provide an overview of student training in Microanalysis (MFD). The poster will include a description of the methodology, an overview of the 16-week training course, and the clinical applications as well as applications in other disciplines.	P22
The role OBGYNs have in perinatal mood disorders in moms of color <i>Darlyn Magana-USA</i>	The thesis research study is investigating the practices that OBGYNs are implementing to ensure moms of color are receiving the necessary education, screening, and treatment for perinatal mood disorders. In addition, researchers are assessing what strategies are being used to increase trust in the healthcare system.	P23
Are the Kids Alright? Helping Children Thrive Through Divorce Using Narrative Therapy <i>Allison Bonner-USA</i>	This poster presents relevant research demonstrating that children can thrive despite parental divorce. Previous research indicates potential protective factors for children of divorce, including skills that can lead to positive mental health outcomes in adult life. Potential narrative therapy interventions illustrate how clinicians can help clients develop these skills.	P24
The Impact of D-Day: A DQA on Assessing Infidelity Discovery Response <i>Jennah Hanson-Daley-USA</i> <i>Kathryn Wagner-USA</i>	Discovering infidelity can lead to distress for non-participating partners. The Impact of Event Scale-Revised has been used to assess for PTSD-like symptoms in this population. Using deductive qualitative analysis, we evaluate its appropriateness and suggest adaptations to better assess the trauma response from infidelity discovery.	P25
Disability Dynamics: Examining Sibling Relationships Where Disability is Present <i>Giselle Monterrosa-USA</i> <i>Bailey Faerber-USA</i>	This poster emphasizes the impacts of having a sibling with a disability on non-disabled siblings, stressing the importance for systemic therapy. Utilizing secondary data, we investigated emotional challenges, potential shame, and the shift of non-disabled siblings to caregiving roles. Concluding with therapeutic interventions promoting resilience within the family.	P26
The Association Between Adult Attachment Orientations and the Phenomenological Properties of Autobiographical Memory: Examining Actor-Partner Effects <i>Bahar Filiz-Turkey</i>	Explore links between adult attachment orientations and autobiographical memories in romantic relationships. With 108 couples, the study investigates the association, revealing patterns in emotional intensity and sharing. Findings, using the Actor-Partner Interdependence Model, shed light on direct partner effects, offering insights for clinical applications and advancing Attachment Theory.	P27
A Case Study on Family Therapy for a Korean Adolescent Experiencing Bullying <i>Tai-Young Park-Korea (Rep. of</i>	This study aims to examine the experiences of an adolescent who had suffered from peer victimization in the context of family conflict, and to explore the effective family therapy intervention strategies for resolving family conflict and peer victimization issues.	P28
Identifying with an Animal, SFBT Intervention for Families <i>Neeah Lofton-USA</i>	This poster demonstrates how family unit clients can envision themselves as their desired animals during therapy. The therapist uses Solution Focused Brief Therapy (SFBT) interventions to help clients become more of the characteristics associated with their chosen animal.	P29

<p><i>Jacqueline Mack-Harris-USA</i> <i>Aisha Swan-USA</i> <i>Keisha McLean-USA</i></p>	<p>The Workshop invites participants to embark on a transformative journey of self-discovery. They will craft personal timelines, exploring life events and emotions. Guided by trauma-informed techniques, they'll delve deep, asking mindful questions, fostering healing, and embracing growth. An empowering experience of self-awareness and resilience.</p>	<p>45min</p>
<p>An Integrative Interactional Approach to Functional Neurological Symptom Disorder: A Case Study <i>Linda Dennis-New Zealand</i></p>	<p>The prevailing approach to functional neurological symptom disorder (conversion disorder), consistent with the assumptions of the medical model, draws on a reductionist paradigm, which is of limited value to the family therapist. A case study will demonstrate how applying the integrative interactional approach provides new opportunities for treatment and support.</p>	<p>Room 302 45min</p>
<p>Attending to Issues of Social Justice in Clinical Supervision <i>April Nisan Ilkmen-USA</i> <i>De-Anna Harris-McKoy-USA</i></p>	<p>It is crucial to search for cultural remedies for families' problems rather than trying to impose therapeutic regularities that are strange to the family. This presentation will focus on how the supervision of marriage and family therapists can better attend to issues of social justice present in diverse clients' lives.</p>	<p>Room 304 45min Supervision</p>
<p>Internationalizing Clinical Education in Couple and Family Therapy: Faculty Perspectives <i>Sebastian Perumbilly-USA</i> <i>Tatiana Melendez-Rhodes-USA</i></p>	<p>This presentation explores the benefits and challenges of internationalization of clinical education in systemically-focused couple and family therapy programs. The presenters are faculty with bicultural background with the experience of teaching internationally-focused clinical courses. The discussion will focus on pedagogical and supervisory strategies for internationally-focused clinical education.</p>	<p>Room 701 45min</p>
<p>The National Center for Social Studies (NCSS) in Saudi Arabia: Contribution for Family Counseling Research and Publication <i>Nasser Aloud-Saudi Arabia</i></p>	<p>This presentation provides an overview of the National Center for Social Studies (NCSS) in Saudi Arabia. It seeks to review its pivotal role in promoting scientific research and publication in the field of family counseling in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.</p>	<p>Room 704 45min</p>
<p>Bonding and boundaries: stepfathers adapting to blended family life in Malta <i>Sue Vella-Malta</i></p>	<p>This presentation captures the findings of a qualitative study on blended families in Malta, from the stepfathers' perspectives. Their accounts, captured through narrative analysis, counter Mediterranean patriarchal stereotypes in their respondents' sensitivity to bonding with their stepchild; reflective boundary management; and shared responsibility for the quality of the couple relationship.</p>	<p>Room 705 20min 14:45-15:05</p>
<p>Family, Schools and Communities Engaged Together: Supporting Mental Health In Sierra Leone <i>Zephon Lister-USA</i></p>	<p>The Family, Schools and Communities Engaged Together program, is a task-shifting, family-centered, school-based intervention implemented in Sierra Leone. Overall, participants reported improvement in family functioning and mental health. Findings suggest using non-specialists within a school-based context may be useful in scaling-up mental health support.</p>	<p>Room 705 20min 15:10-15:30</p>
<p>Helping Ariel notice other stories <i>Keith Oulton-UK</i></p>	<p>This presentation shows how a Narrative lens and collaborative working allowed Ariel, (who experienced childhood sexual abuse) notice other stories of self and take action through reflection and writing create new empowered self with skills and agency.</p>	<p>Room 706 45min</p>
<p>The Body Remembers What the Mind Forgets:A Model For Quantum Healing of Cultural Trauma <i>Norma Lord-USA</i></p>	<p>Explore beyond Bowen and the theory of generational transmission to "A Model of Quantum Healing of Trauma "that explores genetic memory and the necessary processes needed to bring about healing and change to individuals, families and groups.</p>	<p>Room 707 45min</p>
<p>15:30-16:15</p>	<p>Recess Break</p>	
<p>16:15-17:00</p>	<p>Presentations/workshops</p>	<p>Room</p>

Two Homes -Two Lives Who should the children live with		Room 301
<i>Margaret Hodge-Australia</i> <i>Lilia Szarski-Australia</i>	Does practice change when working with court ordered families. What role does a court order place? What challenges and strategies are focused on children, in warring families. How the practice of court ordered therapy changes formulation, hypothesis and judgements about the parents and to support the children's best interests.	45min
“My Dad Told Me to Move Out”: Overcoming Thematic Barriers with Families of Adolescents who Run Away or Are Told to Leave Home		Room 302
<i>Natasha Slesnick-USA</i> <i>Caleb Cuthbertson-USA</i>	In the 1876 novel Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn's father locks Huck in the cabin, leaves and beats him when he returns. Huck leaves home because "he is tired of his confinement and fears the beatings will worsen." In this workshop, we will address themes told by modern-day runaways.	45min
Creating a Relational Foundation Using Intentional Transparency: MFT Supervision in Diverse Contexts		Room 304
<i>Jeff Chang-Canada</i>	MFT supervision requires supervisees to discuss clinical mistakes, ethical dilemmas, countertransference, and insecurities, under their supervisor's live or videorecorded evaluative gaze. Jeff will describe an onboarding process characterized by supervisor transparency to invite supervisees to reciprocate their supervisor's transparency and create a context for a productive supervisory relationship.	45min Supervision
Reflecting Team Supervision: From the Mirrored Room to the Digital Zoom		Room 701
<i>Leonie White-Australia</i> <i>Louise Munro-Australia</i>	We present an innovative transition to online reflecting team work, demonstrating logistics of online delivery. We describe a process that maintains the intent of reflecting teams, linking practice-to-theory and highlighting advantages. Participants will be offered a creative reflective team experience without rooms, mirrors, or face-to-face contact.	45min
Medical Family Therapy and Alcohol and Drug Treatment		Room 704
<i>Kristy Soloski-USA</i>	Alcohol and drug use can be discovered by an MFT working in general practice. The presenter will describe research-informed practices, provide case examples, and highlight core MedFT competencies essential to effective clinical conduct. Training will include education on diagnostics, drug classifications and effects, and level of care recommendations.	45min
The Continuum of Control and Freedom in Intimate Relationships: A Grounded Theory		Room 705
<i>Jason Whiting-USA</i>	Although coercion and violence are damaging, it is not always clear what types of behaviors are controlling in relationships. This study analyzed the accounts of partners to explore the continuum of behaviors that range from non-controlling, to influencing, to controlling. Implications for clinical interventions for control will be discussed.	20min 16:15-16:35
How blended families who identify as 'doing well' demonstrate resilience in difficult times		Room 705
<i>Angela Abela-Malta</i>	This presentation is about blended families who consider themselves as 'doing well'. In all seven heterosexual couples, 26 family members were interviewed. The study explores how resilience manifests itself in the stories of the various family members. Thematic narrative analyses capture the richness and complexity of the stories.	20min 16:40-17:00
The Application of Korean Integrative Family Therapy Model on Five Korean Sexless Couples		Room 706
<i>Tai-Young Park-Korea (Rep. of)</i>	This study explores the factors that contributed to the sexless problems of five Korean male clients who experienced sex as pressure which led to sexual dysfunction. The study examines the therapeutic intervention and effectiveness of Korean Integrative Family Therapy Model.	45min
First Session Magic: Use of Genograms to Deepen Family Assessment and Therapy		Room 707

Anna Bohlinger-USA

In this presentation, participants will learn about a method for structuring first family sessions using a genogram and observational analysis to develop systems grounded hypotheses for family dynamics, functions, and patterns. Particular attention will be paid to use of structured family assessment in short term settings, such partial hospitalization programs.

45min

Saturday, April 13, 2024

08:00-14:00

Registration Open

Registration Desk
located on 3rd floor

8:30 -9:15

Presentations/workshops

Room

Integrative Culinary Therapy

Racine Henry-USA

This workshop will be an experiential session to introduce clinicians to Integrative Culinary Therapy, an innovative approach to couples therapy which encourages cultural intimacy through cooking.

Room 301

45min

Social Justice from Start to Finish: Rethinking Systemic Family Therapy Diversity Training

Melissa Yzaguirre-USA

Chi-Fang Tseng-USA

This interactive workshop is designed for educators, supervisors, and trainers worldwide committed to advancing inclusive diversity training application. It provides an overview of essential concepts related to social justice and diversity curriculum models. Presenters will engage participants in experiential learning activities, applicable to systemic family therapy diversity education and training.

Room 302

45min

Social Trauma through the Prism of the Cultural Context

Tatiana Glebova-USA

Complex interrelationship between the cultural context and consequences of social trauma as well as after-trauma healing will be explored using the theoretical framework (the Model of Impact of Sociocultural Trauma on Relational Well-being) and artwork metaphors.

Room 304

45min

What we miss: The necessity of self of the therapist work with high-conflict divorce cases

Rachel Miller-USA

Estimates suggest that most high-conflict custody cases have a history of domestic violence. These families are commonly referred to therapy without disclosure of their history, leaving therapists susceptible to causing additional harm. This workshop explores this complex topic and provides an opportunity for self of the therapist work.

Room 701

45min

“Deliberate Practice” Theory with Sex Therapy (Part 1 of 2)

Sheila Addison-USA *Daniel
Stillwell-USA*

Sex therapy interventions require nuanced, skillful application to address diverse and sensitive concerns. Deliberate Practice – targeted skills improvement through iterative practice with immediate feedback – can significantly enhance clinical work. This workshop will overlay the principles of DP with sex therapy models from around the world.

Room 704

45min

Neurofeedback and systemic psychophysiology

*Katheryn Whittaker-Cayman
Islands*

Neurofeedback and systemic psychophysiology has begun to find its way in family therapy specifically in the US and is now making its way globally. Research has shown positive outcomes when Neurofeedback is applied to just one family member- This in turn has shown to increase positive family interaction.

Room 705

20min
8:55-9:15

Meta-analysis Study of the Effectiveness of Marriage and Relationship Education Programs

Manijeh Daneshpour-USA

Marriage and Relationship Education (MRE) programs aim to help couples acquire essential skills for building and maintaining healthy relationships and marriages. This meta-analysis explored the effectiveness of MRE programs focusing on diverse populations. It explored the impact and whether these programs genuinely contribute to forming and sustaining healthy relationships.

Room 706

45min

From Crisis to Control: Reserving the Distress of one-Dimensional Fertility in an African Family

Augustine Nwoye-South Africa

This presentation describes one instance in which an African couple's culturally-instigated distress could not be successfully addressed by drawing solely from the Euro-American family therapy tradition. The discussion highlights six steps taken to draw from the fertility awareness principles of reproductive medicine to control the distress.

Room 707

45min

9:30-10:15	Presentations/workshops		Room
Managing Difference from an Identity Lens <i>Sar Surmick-USA</i>	Identity Theory gives a lens to explore the fundamental question of, “Who are you?” and manage the common experience of, “You’re not who I thought”. Whether this difference is encountered in the family, couple, or individual, Identity theory provides the therapeutic tools to navigate our complex systems of being.		Room 301 45min
Is this self-care? When avoidance disguises as self-care and what we can do about it <i>Alba Nino-USA</i>	Self-care is crucial for therapists. However, self-caring activities can turn into avoidance coping, momentarily reducing anxiety but ultimately maintaining it. In this presentation, we'll examine self-care practices, their effectiveness, and alternatives. Suggestions for shifting to being self-caring and unconventional self-care practices will be offered.		Room 302 45min
The Quality of Sexual Communication as a Predictor of Satisfaction in Couple Relationships <i>Lilian Saage-Estonia</i>	"Effective sexual communication is pivotal for relationship satisfaction. While struggling couples often focus on sexuality, thriving ones balance it with various forms of intimacy. Specialists' comfort in addressing this topic is crucial, and the way professionals navigate these discussions is equally vital."		Room 304 45min
Attachment characteristics in primary and competing relationships <i>Elena Chebotareva-Russian Federation</i>	The study involved 75 respondents, married and having affairs outside their marriages. A comparison of attachment to a spouse and a lover was conducted. In general, in relationships with the primary partner more secure attachment styles are manifested, while relationships with a competing partner are more tense and contradictory.		Room 701 45min
“Deliberate Practice” Skill-Building with Sex Therapy (Part 2 of 2) <i>Daniel Stillwell-USA Sheila Addison-USA</i>	Sex therapy interventions require nuanced, skillful application to address clients' diverse and sensitive concerns. Deliberate Practice – targeted skills improvement through iterative practice with immediate feedback – can significantly enhance clinical work. This workshop will provide attendees with a brief experience of the application of DP to sex therapy skills.		Room 704 45min
The role of parental accommodation in childhood anxiety <i>Mandi Melendez-USA</i>	Parental accommodation is a notable feature of anxiety in children, as parents enable the child to avoid anxiety-inducing stimuli and provide positive external reinforcement in the form of attention and support. Family therapists may support the family with a focus on regulation and distress tolerance.		Room 705 20min 9:30-9:50
Hidden Challenges of Ulcerative Colitis and Its Systemic Impacts <i>Audrey Perez-USA</i>	This presentation delves into the hidden challenges of Ulcerative Colitis (UC) individuals. It emphasizes its impact on family systems, from stigma to re-narrating family roles. Further research is essential to highlight the lived experiences and real-life challenges to mitigate the adverse effects and improve their quality of life.		Room 705 20min 9:55-10:15
Accessing and Supporting a Child’s Grief: Theraplay® to Cope with a Cancer Diagnosis <i>Anita Mehta-Canada Sarah Burley-Canada</i>	A chronic illness diagnosis destabilizes the family system. Managing a child's reaction to a parent’s cancer diagnosis is often distressing for the whole family. Interventions related to play can be helpful for family therapists to assess, understand and offer support to the child(ren) and other family members.		Room 706 45min
Issues in Translating Western Family Therapy Literature into Chinese <i>Xin Quan-USA Chaolu Quan-China</i>	Appropriate translation of Western literature on Family Therapy into Chinese is critical for ensuring quality family therapy training in China. This study reviewed the Chinese version of several prevalent Western publications on Family Therapy to help clarify the common issues related to translating Western literature for Chinese family therapy trainees.		Room 707 45min
10:15-11:00	Recess Break		
11:00-11:45	Presentations/workshops		Room

Let's Talk About Sex Esteem®: Key Systemic Sex Therapy Skills Couples Therapists Can Integrate into <i>Sari Cooper-USA</i>	<p>Many general couples' therapists are unprepared when hearing the sexual dysfunction, erotic, kink, pornography and non-monogamy presenting issues with which modern partners of all ages are grappling. Certified Sex Therapist Sari Cooper offers an assessment utilizing a systemic bio-psychosocial-spiritual model for therapists increasing their professional Sex Esteem®.</p>	Room 301 45min
Tapping into our local wisdoms for emotional and relational healing <i>Alba Nino-USA</i> <i>Momoko Takeda-USA</i>	<p>We will expand the definition of "therapeutic" to include practices rooted in cultural traditions. Participants will embrace their local wisdom as resources to help individuals and families heal and thrive. To counteract colonizing tendencies in MFT dissemination, we will discuss how to adopt MFT practices while embracing our cultural richness.</p>	Room 302 45min
The application of Bowen family systems theory to difficult cases in schools in Tokyo <i>Marie Yoshida-Japan</i>	<p>This presentation will describe a multi-disciplinary collaboration team called "the children support team", which utilizes principles from systems theory for assessment and solution-oriented casework to resolve difficult cases at schools in Tokyo. The presenter will show how Bowen family systems theory can be applied in the Japanese context.</p>	Room 304 45min
Permission seeking practice 2024 – From a UK and Japanese's perspective <i>Karen Burgess-United Kingdom</i> <i>Yuriko Morino-Japan</i>	<p>We worked in a team at Child Mental Health Services in London (2004). From this work, the concepts of "Permission Seeking Practice" was born. It has a focus on power differences, and encourages the family to take charge. This practice influence's our current work in Japan and the UK</p>	Room 701 45min
Is Understanding Each Other Always An Advantage For Couples? <i>Valeria Ugazio-Italy</i>	<p>The implication of a study (Ugazio, Guarnieri & Anselmi, 2024) inspired by the Semantic Polarities Theory and the Shared Reality Theory will be discussed. Conducted with 20 couples, it confirms that the higher the semantic cohesion, the lower the couple conflict. However, a surprising result opens up intriguing therapeutic perspectives.</p>	Room 704 45min
Opportunities Missed: How Power Dynamics in Supervision Impact Supervisee Self-Disclosure <i>Jeremy Pierce-USA</i> <i>Jennah Hanson-Daley-USA</i>	<p>The effectiveness of clinical supervision is contingent upon the quality of the Supervisory Working Alliance (SWA), which includes supervisee disclosure of clinically pertinent self-of-the-therapist challenges. This presentation examines the effect of power differentials intrinsic to the SWA on this dynamic.</p>	Room 705 20min 11:00-11:20
Initiating the dialogue between infant mental health and family therapy: A qualitative inquiry & <i>Eliza Hartley-Australia</i>	<p>This qualitative study explored infant-family mental health experts' perspectives and experiences regarding the inclusion of infants in the family therapy setting.</p>	Room 705 20min 11:25-11:45
Incorporating Resilience Models in Clinical Training and Supervision <i>Christie Eppler-USA</i>	<p>Resilience is the ability to cope with and overcome adversity, to find purpose in challenges and change, and to prepare for the future by focusing on interconnections and personal strengths. This presentation will explore how concepts from resilience frameworks can be incorporated in clinical training and supervision.</p>	Room 706 45min
Rest Assured: A mnemonic approach to suicide intervention training <i>Hailey Arellano-USA</i>	<p>With suicide rates steadily increasing, licensing boards have mandated suicide intervention training for mental health practitioners. This presentation highlights the systemic nature of suicide intervention, emphasizing the impact of practitioner process on client outcomes. REST ASSURED is a mnemonic training resource for clinicians in higher education and clinical practice.</p>	Room 707 45min

12:00-12:45	Presentations/workshops	Room
IACSTE Accreditation Process		Room 301

<i>John Lawless-USA</i> <i>William Heibert-USA</i>	Members of the International Accreditation Commission for Systemic Therapy Education (IACSTE) will provide information for programs desiring accreditation as well as answer questions from programs already accredited.	45min
Using the Familiar in Unfamiliar places <i>Karen Story-Australia</i>	The Bouverie Walk-In Together telehealth family therapy service's important role in advancing the availability of accessible- evidence informed brief mental health care, integrating the Centre's advanced research of telehealth to family therapy, with the philosophy of walk-in methodologies, has radically transformed our service model.	Room 302 20min 12:00-12:20
Walk-in Together: A Pilot Study of a Walk-In Online Family Therapy Intervention <i>Eliza Hartley-Australia</i>	We developed a service, 'Walk-in Together', for families to access a once-off, online family therapy session that happens on the day they ask for it. Our pilot study findings revealed families found this service helpful in managing the presenting challenge or planning what further support they might need.	Room 302 20min 12:25- 12:45
Screen Use & Its Impact on the Family System <i>Amanda Owen-USA</i> <i>Nicole Massey-Hastings-USA</i>	This workshop will address the impact of screen use on the family system. Factors influencing screen use and family functioning will be explored. This workshop will explore clinical interventions, the importance of strengthening parental sensitivity to the child's experience, and models of boundary setting and skill development.	Room 304 45min
Parental Alienation: A systemic perspective on navigating dilemmas and complexities <i>Roberta Farrugia Debono-Malta</i>	Parental alienation is a complex concept. This presentation discusses its manifestation and potential misuse. It presents evidence-based interventions for mild to moderate alienation, delves into the controversy surrounding treatment for severe alienation. It offers recommendations to assist systemic practitioners navigate dilemmas in intervening with families facing alienation issues.	Room 701 45min
The educator-student relationship as a teaching tool: Isomorphism in educational settings <i>Kelly Shearer-USA</i>	This presentation explores how relational teaching can be used as an isomorphic process for training MFT students in relational skills essential to clinical practice. Five components of relational teaching-roles, responsivity, reflexivity, regulation, and repair - will be discussed with implications and suggestions for educational practice.	Room 704 45min
Mother2Mother Peer Mentorship Program: Reflections and Lessons Learned <i>Kayce Shepard-USA</i>	Mother-2-Mother is an 8-week peer mentorship program that uses a combination of structured mentorship and group discussions, to support character building, financial literacy, and workforce preparation. This presentation reflects on the experience of developing the M2M program and lessons learned since its inception.	Room 705 20min 12:00-12:20
Psychopathology in Nullity of Marriage Cases: what can the Relational-Symbolic Model contribute with? <i>Ricardo Peixoto-Portugal</i> <i>Fabrizia Raguso-Portugal</i>	Are classical Psychopathology and Psychiatry fit to detect relational and developmental causes in marriage nullity? The Relational-Symbolic Perspective offers a valuable contribution, allowing to detect and understand relational and developmental issues of the couple. We aim to understand the contribution of a relational approach in such cases.	Room 705 20min 12:25-12:45
Parental guidance at the integration programme in Norway <i>Elfrid Krossbakken-Norway</i>	Our presentation focus on social policy, regarding the obligatory parental support classes in the introduction programme in Norway and cost/benefits of such a commitment. We will also present the ongoing study, The national study Supported Parenting Interventions for Families with Refugee Background, to highlights some findings.	Room 706 45min
Working with the Families of Trans Youth		Room 707

<i>Sar Surmick-USA</i>	The number of Trans Youth is growing quickly. When a young person transitions, the whole family transitions with them. As Family Therapists it's imperative we're able to work with these families. Join us for discussion, techniques, concerns, and a robust Q&A session.	45min
12:45-13:45	Closing Lunch	Basement
13:45-14:30	Presentations/workshops	Room
Exploring the Relationship between Common Factors of Change and Chronic-Illness-Related Distress in		Room 301
<i>Afarin Rajaei-USA Reihaneh Mahdavishahri-USA</i>	This study examines the efficacy of teletherapy in reducing distress in women with chronic illnesses. Utilizing quantitative methods with 200 participants, it assesses the relationship between therapeutic factors and illness-related distress through the Common Factors of Change Scale and a modified Impact of Events Scale. Multiple regression analysis applied.	45min
Relational Ethics, Power, and Gender		Room 302
<i>Manijeh Daneshpour-USA</i>	This presentation focuses on the intersection of gender, power, and social justice within the global context. Social justice and men's and women's issues from biological, sociological, contextual, and ecological perspectives will be examined. It will cover global social justice for systemic therapy, training, and supervision.	45min
Hua-Wu-Shi-Family Therapy in Practice		Room 304
<i>Chew-Chung Wu-Taiwan Hong-shiow Yeh-Taiwan Joo-siang Tan-Malaysia Ya-ling Huang-Taiwan</i>	The presentation will introduce the case-based training process of Hua-Wu-Shi family therapy, a novel approach Dr. Chew-Chung Agnes Wu developed by incorporating Satir's theory and skills with consideration of Chinese cultural background in practice. It will be conducted by video presentation, speech, and group discussion.	45min
Experiences of ambiguous loss among family members of dementia patients in Japan: Cross-cultural		Room 701
<i>Tomoko Ogasawara-Japan</i>	This presentation demonstrates how and to what extent family members of dementia patients may experience "ambiguous loss" in the Japanese context, applying theories and of Pauline Boss (2015). The findings include cultural similarities and uniqueness drawn from a large-scale internet survey with a small interview study in Japan.	45min
What's up doc? How Work Stress Impacts Physician Relationships		Room 705
<i>Kathryn Wagner-USA</i>	One doctor dies by suicide in the US every day, the highest suicide rate among any profession (Anderson, 2019). Physician couple relationships can serve as a protective factor to physician psychological distress. Qualitative content analysis is used to understand the unique experiences in physician relationships in the U.S.	20min 13:45-14:05
How to work with families after adolescent attempted suicide		Room 705
<i>Juha Metelinen-Finland</i>	The family intervention model is developed from the ASSIP model and using Attachment Based Family Therapy Theory. The key factors are working with high risk, safety, and attachments. We believe that the parents and family are a very important safety net for the youth.	20min 14:10-14:30
Creating a Socially Just Therapeutic Space		Room 706
<i>Mialauni Griggs-USA</i>	Breaching the topic of social justice issues in the therapy room with clients can induce feelings of discomfort for clinicians. However, as systemic therapists, we have a responsibility to our clients to hold their authentic, lived experience or else we risk perpetuating a deafening silence around complex social issues.	45min
The Effects of Infidelity on the Sexual Relationship		Room 707
<i>Tina Timm-USA</i>	The effects of infidelity on the sexual relationship of the couple are often a neglected part of affair recovery. This presentation reviews four common clinical presentations of the possible effects of an affair on the sexual relationship of a couple. Case studies, assessment questions, and brief intervention suggestions are included.	45min
14:45-15:30	Presentations/workshops	
The German Research and Care Network CHIMPS-NET (Children of Mentally Ill Parents)		Room 301

Theresa Paumen-Germany Silke Wiegand-Grefe-Germany	CHIMPS-NET, a Germany-wide research and care network, has been implementing and evaluating four new forms of care (three face-to-face, one online) for families with mentally ill parents since 2020. Findings on both the families' burdens and their expectations of a family-based intervention are presented.	45min
The Stuck Case - a process for increasing students' clinical flexibility Robyn Elliott-Australia Sandy Jackson-Australia	This presentation describes a process utilising students' "stuck" points in clinical work to change, in vivo, patterns, adaptive in their families of origin, but which now limit their therapeutic flexibility. Thematic analysis of essays representing the impact of this process and the development of the therapist self is provided.	Room 302 45min
Sculpturing Techniques in Hua-Wu-Shi Family Therapy Chew-Chung Wu-Taiwan Hong-shiow Yeh-Taiwan Joo-siang Tan-Malaysia Ya-ling Huang-Taiwan	Hua-Wu-Shi family therapy is a novel approach Dr. Chew-Chung Wu developed by incorporating Virginia Satir's theory and skills with consideration of Chinese cultural background in practice. The workshop will invite audience participating in role playing to experience sculpturing techniques in Hua-Wu-Shi family therapy.	Room 304 45min
Cultural and Relational Beliefs in Meaning Making for Psychological Distress Within the African Canadian Diaspora Buuma Maisha-Canada	The communication will discuss our research participants' perceptions of psychological distress, including perceptions that would likely limit awareness and normalization of the distress viewed as a supernatural, abnormal, or simply unknown phenomenon. An integrative approach showcasing cultural, relational, and spiritual perspectives is recommended for therapy with the studied population.	Room 701 45min
Feeding Disturbances and Feeding Relationships in Families Nicole Massey-Hastings-USA	This workshop will address pediatric feeding disturbances and their impact on familial relationships. An evidence-based paradigm for assessing feeding disturbances, theoretical basis for understanding child development, and clinical interventions which facilitate healthy relationships will be presented. Trust based-models of parenting will also be explored in other familial disturbances.	Room 704 45min
Considerations and Recommendations For Working with Interpreters in Psychotherapeutic Settings Verenice Torres-USA	In today's diverse society, therapists can find themselves working with clients who do not speak their primary language. Yet, working with interpreters in psychotherapeutic settings is not often part of their clinical training. This presentation will highlight some challenges and best practices related to delivering therapy with an interpreter.	Room 705 20min 14:45-15:05
The Association Between Adult Attachment Orientations and the Pheomenological Properties of Autobiographical Memory: Examining Actor-Partner Effects Bahar Filiz-Turkey	This research investigates the connection between adult attachment orientations and characteristics of romantic relationship-related autobiographical memories. Analyzing 108 couples, results reveal links between attachment anxiety and emotional aspects of negative memories. Attachment avoidance correlates with distancing in positive memories. APIM unveils that males' anxiety influencing females' positive memory sharing.	Room 705 20min 15:10-15:30
Reducing trainee's shame in gatekeeping and remediation: Applying Aponte's POTT framework Rebecca Kenyon-USA Kelly Shearer-USA	Couple and Family Therapy supervisors and educators often struggle in their gatekeeping roles to support trainees' vulnerabilities while ensuring core competencies are met. This workshop will apply the Person of the Therapist Training philosophy as a means to mitigate trainee shame and increase effectiveness in the remediation process for gatekeeping.	Room 706 45min
Relational Responses to Shame: Moving Towards Acts of Resistance and Restoration		Room 707

Sharon Sng-Singapore	The presentation uses a case study method to describe the clinical principles in resisting the effects of shame on a person's emotions, behaviours and relationships. It highlights narrative ideas and the transforming interpersonal patterns (TIPs) that invites more healing interpersonal patterns and restoration for the survivors of interpersonal violence.	45min
15:30-16:15	Closing Recess Break	
16:15-17:00	Presentations/workshops	Room
Getting Published in Family Therapy Journals: Pitfalls and Possibilities		Room 301
Todd Edwards-USA	Do you have innovative ideas that you want to share with the family therapy community? Does the world of academic journals seem mysterious? Join the Editor of the International Journal of Systemic Therapy to learn about ways to navigate the publication process and translate your work into a published article.	45min
Afarin Rajaei-USA		
Trauma and the Body: Somatic Approaches to Working with Wounded Couples and Families		Room 302
Jake Johnson-USA	This workshop will define provide a systemic definition of trauma and note how it can impact our bodies. It will then explore how embodied trauma impacts one's intimate relationships. Various somatic approaches for treating the effects of trauma in our bodies and relationships will also be offered.	45min
RUPP Training Family Therapy and Systemic Practice		Room 304
Sovandara Kao-Cambodia	This presentation will discuss the development and application of family therapy in Cambodia, including the development of one of the first university based training programs in the country. Cultural issues relevant to therapy will be discussed.	45min
Changing Needs of Families Upon Foster Care Involvement: Vulnerabilities & Resilience		Room 705
Lenore McWey-USA	There are approximately 500,000 U.S. children in foster care and their parents are often required to participate in therapy after system involvement. We will reveal study results showing how families' needs change after foster care system involvement and what these changes mean for the therapists working with them.	20min
Carson Outler-USA		16:40-17:00
Cohabitation of Lesbians and Gay Men		Room 706
Cole Bankston-USA	Lesbian comedian Lea DeLaria jokes that on the second date, a lesbian brings a U-Haul, humorously suggesting rapid relationship progression. This stereotype, popular amongst lesbians, prompts questions about gender dynamics. Despite its humor, it sparks discussions on relationships, communication, and societal expectations, offering insights into gender roles and perceptions.	20min
		16:15-16:35
"They just don't understand": Walking alongside people with autism and their families in the counselling session		Room 706
Jo Stephens-Australia	Counsellors are privileged to work with autistic children and their families, as they discover their unique qualities and attributes. Upon diagnosis, families can be presented with deficit-based medical-model language from clinicians, which is detrimental to their wellbeing. A narrative therapeutic approach can promote positive change, connection and belonging.	20min
		16:40-17:00
Mental Health Counselors and DBT Skills Groups in Acute Inpatient Settings		Room 707
Melanie Agustin-USA	Dialectical Behavior Therapy is an evidenced-based psychotherapy anchoring acute inpatient programming. Designed by psychologists, patients develop/practice coping skills to manage presenting symptoms. Counselors co-facilitate group linking skills with Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. Programming strengthens collaboration with family caregivers, creating a transition of learned skills to home.	45min