



Photo by Lars Korvald

March 26th-28th 2026

# Bergen Norway



**International Family  
Therapy Association**



Photo by Girish Chouhan



Photo by Robin Strand

Photo by Robin Strand

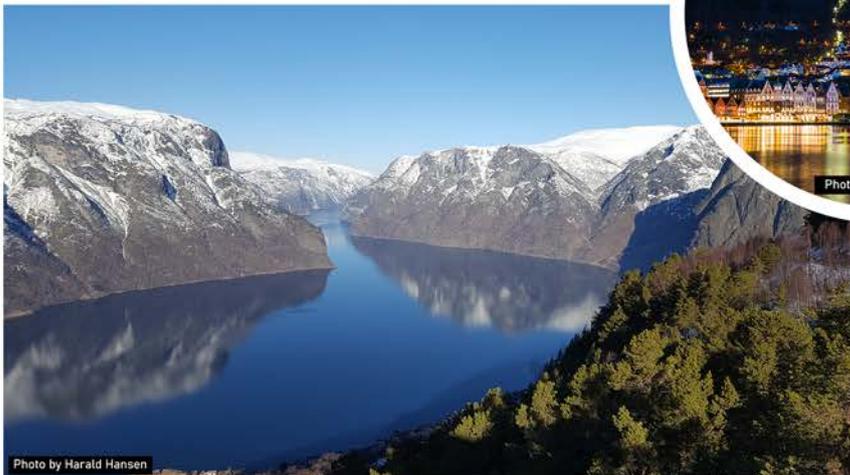


Photo by Harald Hansen

# WELCOME TO THE IFTA CONGRESS

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Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Bergen, Norway! This is the International Family Therapy Association's 2026 World Family Therapy Congress.

This is another of those rare and wonderful opportunities in which we can renew ourselves and enrich our practice skills in family therapy. The goal for the Congress, in a larger sense, is the same as it has been since IFTA was founded in 1987: Advancing family therapy worldwide by promoting research, education, sound practice, and promoting international cooperation. We hope that this Congress facilitates an exchange of knowledge and ideas that support the health and well-being of families and other human systems. The Congress provides magnificent opportunities for face-to-face sharing of ideas and networking with colleagues from various parts of the globe.

The 2026 Congress Committee invites family therapists to explore both new and familiar ways to assist families.

We live simultaneously in "one world" and many worlds. Thus, family therapy is a mutual, interactive process in which we learn new ways from colleagues from many lands. Communicating and networking among therapists from over 30 countries during this Congress will provide professional contacts and information to support the exchange of knowledge and the growth of family therapy in many countries.

We hope you will share and learn about dealing with old, familiar problems and new, unfamiliar challenges we may not have faced previously.

*Jake Johnson*

Jake Johnson Ph.D.

President

## WHAT IS IFTA?

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The International Family Therapy Association was an outgrowth of the East-West Bridging Congress conducted in Prague in 1987 with Virginia Satir and Donald Bloch as the Honorary Vice Presidents. After two years of organizational work including creating a Founding Board of Directors, with Virginia Satir on the Founding Board, IFTA launched its first World Family Therapy Congress in Dublin, Ireland, 1989.

Since then, IFTA has become the professional association for those interested in the field of marriage and family therapy throughout the world. As such, it is the only organization that provides unity for therapists from east to west, respecting traditional approaches and embracing the tradition of tomorrow.

# CONFERENCE CODE OF ETHICS

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World Family Therapy Congresses are a unique meeting place for the world-wide family of family therapists. The Congress Board desires that the experience of this Congress be one of the highlights of your year.

As we look forward to another exciting congress, we want to remind everyone that the World Family Therapy Congress is dedicated to providing a harassment-free experience for everyone regardless of factors such as sex, gender identity, and expression, sexual orientation, ability, physical appearance, body size, race, ethnicity, nationality, culture, or religion.

Harassment may take a variety of forms and in a variety of environments, including in-person or online. Attendees asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately. If a participant engages in harassing behavior, the congress organizers may take any action they deem appropriate, from warning the offender to expulsion from the congress. If you are being harassed or notice that someone else is being harassed, please contact a conference staff member immediately. Their names and pictures are listed in the Congress Program.

Congress staff will be happy to help participants contact hotel/venue security or local law enforcement, provide escorts, or otherwise assist those experiencing harassment to feel safe for the duration of the conference. We value you, your safety and your attendance.

We expect all conference participants to be professional, considerate, respectful and collaborative. Please silence mobile devices during presentations, do not interrupt others who are speaking, and avoid using shared wifi/bandwidth to download large files. DO NOT RECORD ANY LIVE DEMONSTRATION THERAPY WORKSHOPS.

We appreciate your help in making the World Family Therapy Congress the very best it can be.

## MISSION STATEMENT

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Adopted December 2005

The cornerstone of every society is the family. With the support of its members, the International Family Therapy Association (IFTA) provides international conferences to promote, strengthen and improve the quality of family therapy, the quality of relationships within families and to promote well being and peace within our world.

IFTA, working in a collaborative spirit with other professionals and organizations around the world who share its mission, also promotes continuing education for family therapy professionals in the development of international quality standards for marriage and family therapists in order that they may better assist families in the communities in which they serve.

## IFTA: CELEBRATING 30+ YEARS

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# PLENARY PANEL

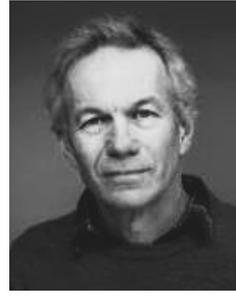
Sponsored by the Family Process Institute



**Hans Christian Michaelsen**  
President of the NFTO  
Chamber of EFTA  
And  
Vice President of EFTA



**Terhi Kotilainen**  
Member of EFTA's Social  
Justice Task Force  
And  
The editorial advisory board  
of the Family and Couple  
Therapy Journal of Finland



**Halvor De Flon**  
Associate professor  
And  
Director Master's program  
in Family Therapy and  
Systemic practice at VID  
Specialized University



**Lotta Beskow**  
Child and Adolescent  
psychiatrist  
And  
Psychotherapist at the child  
and Adolescent Psychiatry  
Department of Ystad  
Hospital

## BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

### JOURNAL OF FAMILY PSYCHOTHERAPY

As a member of IFTA you will receive a subscription to the Journal of Family Psychotherapy. This is the official journal of IFTA and is sent to you electronically as part of your membership fee and is available online.

### INTERNATIONAL CONNECTION

The online International Connection newsletter provides you with updates about the organization and additional articles written by members worldwide.

### FAMILY THERAPY E-NEWS

A Members Only Research E-News Forum is sent quarterly highlighting research in marriage and family therapy.

### WORLD FAMILY THERAPY CONGRESSES

A special World Congress discounted registration fee is available every year for members attending the annual World Family Therapy Congress. Networking is one of the highlights of an IFTA Congress; many Congress attendees say, "the best networking congress ever!"

### IFTA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

An IFTA Member Directory is available to members only by request.

### IFTA and IFTA CONGRESS WEB SITES

IFTA maintains a web site that contains information on upcoming World Family Therapy Congresses, Association information, news, and occasional articles.

## Wednesday, March 25, 2026

**14:00-17:00** Registration for Congress  
\*No meetings or workshops\*

## Thursday, March 26, 2026

**08:00-16:00** Registration Hours

**9:15** Opening Plenary: Sponsored by the



**-Master of Ceremonies:**

Jake Johnson, IFTA President

**-Welcome to Norway:**

Mirjam Ostevoid, Chairwoman,  
Norway Family Therapy Association

**-Congress Scholarships:**

Ozge Alkanat, IFTA Vice President

**-Announcements:**

Doug Tschopp, Congress Manager

**-Staff Introductions:**

Jake Johnson, IFTA President

**-Introduction of Panel:**

John Lawless, Program Chair

**11:15-12:00** Recess break and Networking

**12:00-12:45** Presentations/workshops

**12:45-13:45** Light Lunch

**13:45-14:30** Presentations/workshops

**14:45-15:30** Presentations/workshops

**15:30-16:15** Recess Break

**16:15-17:00** Presentations/workshops

## Friday, March 27, 2026

**08:00-16:30** Registration Hours

**08:30-09:15** Presentations/workshops

**09:30-10:15** Presentations/workshops

**10:15-11:00** Recess Break

**11:00-11:45** Presentations/workshops

**12:00-12:45** Presentations/workshops

**12:45-13:45** Light Lunch

**13:30-14:30** Poster Presentations

**14:45-15:30** Presentations/workshops

**15:30-16:15** Recess Break

**16:15-17:00** Presentations/workshops

## Saturday, March 28, 2026

**08:00-14:00** Registration Hours

**08:30-09:15** Presentations/workshops

**09:30-10:15** Presentations/workshops

**10:15-11:00** Recess Break

**11:00-11:45** Presentations/workshops

**12:00-12:45** Presentations/workshops

**12:45-13:45** Light Lunch

**13:45-14:30** Presentations/workshops

**14:45-15:30** Presentations/workshops

**15:30-16:15** Closing Break

**-Master of Ceremonies:**

Jake Johnson, IFTA President

Welcome to Bergen, Norway

**Bergen Norway March 26-28**

**IFTA 2026 World Family Therapy Congress**

## **SYSTEMIC SUPERVISION TRACK**

The Supervision Track at the 2026 World Family Therapy Congress meets the workshop requirements for IFTA's Certified Systemic Supervisor (CSS) credential. These six workshops (and others scattered throughout the program) fulfill the academic requirements of the CSS. The Supervision Track will take place on Friday March 27, 2026, beginning at 8:30 through 17:00.

**Karen Burgess & Prabashny Pillay (UK)**

Social Justice and Trauma-Informed Supervision (08:30-09:15)



**Roberta Farrugia Debono (Malta)**

Developmental Narratives of Experienced Systemic (09:30-10:15)



**Anne Grasaasen, Nicoletta Businaro, Siv Merete Myra,  
Sigurd Riste Andersen, and Ulf Axberg (Norway)**

Beyond Findings: How Research Shapes Our Live Supervisory Practice (11:00-11:45)



**Catherine Butler (UK)**

The Effectiveness of Systemic Supervision (12:00-12:45)



**Bill Northey (USA)**

What Good Am I? Confessions of a Systemic Meta-Supervisor (14:45-15:30)



**Bill Northey (USA) & Mark Rivett (UK)**

Supervising Systemically for Success: A Moderated Discussion (16:15-17:00)



# 2026 IFTA CONFERENCE PROGRAM

## Wednesday, March 25th, 2026

14:00-17:00

Registration Open

Registration Desk located on the second floor

## Thursday, March 26th, 2026

08:00-16:00

Registration Open

Registration Desk located on the second floor

09:15-11:15

Opening Ceremony and Plenary Panelists

Room 1 Dragefjellet

11:15-12:00

Recess Break and Networking

Ground floor lobby

12:00-12:45

Presentations/workshops

Room

### Navigating Societal Marginalisation in Therapy : an exploration of the Journey of Unaccompanied Refugee Young People & their Therapist

Room 2 Teatergaten

*Máire Stedman-United Kingdom*

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 therapy we provide is determined by models we use.

45min  
CE

### From Ego to Eco: A Theory U Framework for Parental Transformation

Room 3 Sydneshaugen

*Lior Somech-Israel*

This presentation introduces the first systematic adaptation of Theory U to parenting, offering an integrative framework for parental transformation in families coping with conduct disorders. The U shaped model integrates attachment, mentalization, and polyvagal theories, framing change as a developmental journey from reactive, ego based patterns to responsive, ecosystemic awareness.

45min

### Publishing Without Panic: A Therapist's Guide to Academic Journals

Room 11 Museplass

*Todd Edwards-USA  
Afarin Rajaei-USA*

This session offers practical guidance for therapists, students, and researchers seeking to publish their work in academic journals. Participants will explore common challenges in the publication process and learn accessible strategies for developing, submitting, and revising manuscripts while maintaining their clinical voice and systemic perspective.

45min

### "Mapping relationships with clarity—empowering therapists, inspiring couples, transforming connection."

Room 12 Strangehagen

*Lilian Saage-Estonia*

Discover a clear framework for mapping relationships that enhances therapist confidence and fosters couples' ownership of change. This session provides practical tools to assess, guide, and empower partners on their growth journey, supported by my book "Me, you and everything in between" and workbook, which introduces fresh, transformative therapeutic concepts.

45min

### Consent Under Extraction: SHIFTing AI Practices for Queer and Trans Care in Diverse Therapy Environments

Room 14 Tarnplass

*Kei Skeide-USA*

Using a new model to navigate conversations on AI, this talk examines consent and connection in systemic therapy for trans communities worldwide. The talk highlights refusal rights, data sovereignty, and linguistically legible consent, translating tech pessimism into everyday ethical practice across diverse jurisdictions and care settings.

45min

### The Evolved Nest: An Evolutionary, Neurobiological and Relationally Informed Family Therapy: Next Revolution

Room 15 Galgebakken

*Tracey Jane Johnston-United Kingdom  
Peter Robinson-United Kingdom*

This workshop aims to explore how integrating the Evolved Nest and Kinship Indigenous Worldview can significantly enhance Family Therapy. The workshop will outline nine practical ways for clinicians to assess and integrate the components of the Evolved Nest into Systemic Psychotherapy.

45min

### Self-Harm Experiences of Hong Kong Youth: Trauma, Coping and Implications

Room 4 Hodden

*Suet Kwan Wu-Hong Kong (China, SAR)*

This qualitative study explores the subjective experiences of self-harm behavior among Hong Kong youth aged 18 to 24. Through in-depth interviews, it examines trauma and subjective coping strategies, aiming to better understand and promote more effective professional interventions for young people facing self-harm challenges and their families.

20min  
12:00-12:20

### Evaluation of the Online TOGETHER Relationship and Financial Education Program for Couples

Room 4 Hodden

*Mariana Falconier-USA*

This study evaluated the online TOGETHER program in 604 couples. Multilevel models showed significant improvements in individual well-being and relationship functioning, comparable to the in-person program. Some outcomes were significantly different from the control group. Findings suggest the online program is as effective as the in-person version.

20min  
12:25-12:45

<b>Acculturation and Romantic Relationships: The Role of Push and Pull Factors</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Crystal Marroquin-USA</i> <i>Margaret Smith-USA</i> <i>Carson Outler-USA</i>	This study explores how acculturation and push-pull factors shape relational dynamics among Hispanic and Latinx individuals in romantic relationships, using a phenomenological approach. Findings aim to inform systemic practice, culturally responsive treatment, and policies supporting immigrant communities.	20min 12:00-12:20
<b>Honouring Difference: Neurodivergent-Informed Family Therapy for Systemic Change</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Justine Demaine-Australia</i>	Grounded in Satir's principle that "we are the same," this presentation integrates humanistic family therapy with neurodiversity scholarship. Centring relational safety, environmental attunement, and congruent communication, it shows how systemic change emerges when neurological diversity is honoured.	20min 12:25-12:45
12:45-13:45	Light Lunch	Ground floor lobby
13:45-14:30	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Family and Systemic Psychotherapy with People with medical Conditions: Evidence, practice and Developments</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Sarah Helps-United Kingdom</i> <i>Jenny Altschuler-United Kingdom</i>	In this workshop we describe the development of family and systemic psychotherapy for people with medical conditions. We review research, evidence-based practice and practice-based evidence regarding the use of systemic techniques and principles to support individuals, families and healthcare professionals through an often non-linear, harrowing journey.	45min CE
<b>Ethical and professional considerations of providing Reportable Family Therapy in the Australian Family Law Court System</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Sarah Elliott-Australia</i>	Family Therapy process can evoke complex ethical dilemmas in everyday practice. The provision of Reportable Family Therapy ordered through the Family Court requires wading through paradoxical themes, although basic to Family Therapy theory and required for family repair. How are Family Therapist's equipped to conceptualise this complexity?	45min
<b>Working with couples when conspiracy theories and disinformation are getting in the way</b>		Room 11 Museplass
<i>Kara Fletcher-Canada</i>	This workshop will consider the potential of integrating attachment theory and narrative frameworks when working with couples where one partner has begun to adopt conspiracy theories and disinformation. Data from a completed pilot study will be used to inform our discussion and the possibilities for intervention.	45min
<b>Therapeutic Alliance and Videoconferencing in SUD Treatment: Moderating Effects During COVID</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Seon Kim-USA</i>	This workshop explores how therapeutic alliance predicts treatment outcomes in substance use disorder care across in-person, videoconferencing, and hybrid modalities during COVID-19. Findings highlight implications for therapists using telehealth and strategies to strengthen alliance when working with clients in virtual or blended treatment settings.	45min
<b>Burnout in the Trenches: Unpacking the Systemic Forces Impacting Community Mental Health Clinicians</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>Tiara Fennell-USA</i>	This presentation explores community mental health clinicians' experiences of burnout through an interpretative phenomenological study. Using the Mental Health Systems Ecology model, it highlights systemic factors shaping clinician well-being and identifies opportunities for policy and practice reforms to strengthen mental health service delivery.	45min
<b>Deliberate Practice in Supervision</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Sheila Addison-USA</i>	Deliberate Practice, or iterative skill practice with immediate feedback, has been shown to enhance the acquisition and development of clinical skills for psychotherapy. This workshop will provide attendees with a brief experience of the application of DP principles to supervision.	45min
<b>Uncovering the Unexpected: Supporting Families Affected By Surprise DNA Discoveries</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Josephine Rabb-USA</i>	This presentation explores therapeutic approaches for families affected by surprise DNA discoveries, known as Misattributed Parentage Experiences (MPE). It will address emotional and relational challenges in the family system and offer practical strategies for clinicians to support clients and navigate difficult family conversations.	20min 13:45-14:05
<b>Shadowed: Sibling's Subjective Experiences with Mentally Ill Individuals During Adolescence in Hong Kong and The Implications</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Tung Ying Lam-Hong Kong (China, SAR)</i>	This study examines the impacts of growing up with a mentally ill sibling during adolescence in Hong Kong, revealing eroded self-concepts and post-traumatic growth in these "invisible children." Culturally sensitive, sibling-inclusive family therapy is suggested to address complicated grief and promote self-differentiation of these overlooked individuals.	20min 14:10-14:30

<b>Cross-Training MedFTs and Physicians in Brief MI and Biofeedback for Integrated Behavioral Health</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Michael Olson-USA</i>	This presentation outlines a cross-training model where MedFT and other mental health trainees and family medicine residents learn brief motivational interviewing and biofeedback, enhancing collaborative care in integrated behavioral health settings through co-visits, supervision, and shared skill development.	20min 13:45-14:05
<b>Innovative Pathways for Transforming Addiction Treatment Through Family Participation: Polish and Indian Perspectives</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Katarzyna Iwanicka -Poland</i> <i>Sebastian Perumbilly-USA</i>	This study explores the perspectives of 76 Polish and 93 Indian clinicians specializing in substance use disorder treatment. It examines their strategies for involving families, addresses socio-cultural challenges, stigma, and highlights culturally sensitive approaches to improve addiction treatment outcomes.	20min 14:10-14:30
14:45-15:30	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Sociocultural Attunement as a Compassionate Guide for Navigating Political Polarization</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Judith Maria Bermudez-USA</i>	Equitable and just family therapy requires third order thinking and change; however, most contexts are far from equitable and just. This workshop aims to examine how the tenets of socioculturally attuned family therapy can serve as a compassionate guide for managing the sociopolitical tension that negatively affects our lives.	45min
<b>Intergenerational Trauma in Refugee Families: Understanding, Resilience, and Healing</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Tanya Elez-Canada</i> <i>John Smyth-Canada</i> <i>Abdikheir Ahmed-Canada</i>	This interactive workshop explores the complex phenomenon of intergenerational trauma in refugee families, examining how trauma is transmitted across generations, the resilience factors that enable healing, and effective interventions to reduce its impact. Drawing on interdisciplinary research, participants will engage in reflective exercises and discussions to deepen understanding and practice.	45min CE
<b>Secure Your Scroll: How Attachment Styles Shape Social Media Use and Emotional Resilience</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Judith Brannon-USA</i>	Social media connects and challenges us, amplifying both belonging and stress. This workshop explores how attachment styles shape online engagement and mental wellbeing. Through an attachment theory lens, participants will gain insights and strategies to build emotional resilience, foster balance, and encourage healthier digital interactions in professional and personal life.	45min
<b>VERY RIGHT AND VERY ALONE: NAVIGATING DEFENSIVE BLOCKS IN EMOTIONALLY FOCUSED COUPLE THERAPY</b>		Room 11 Museplass
<i>Senem Zeytinoglu Saydam-Turkey</i> <i>Eleanor Riesen-Canada</i>	This presentation explores defensiveness through the lens of attachment theory and EFCT. Participants will learn to recognize the varied forms of defensiveness and understand the attachment strategies and relational cycles that sustain it. Emphasis will be placed on therapeutic interventions while gently accessing the underlying vulnerable emotions.	45min
<b>The Prefascist Personality and Its Ties to Authoritarian Parenting: Implications for Family Therapists</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Brendan Yukins-USA</i> <i>Marsha Vaughn-USA</i>	After the Holocaust, the American Jewish Committee funded research for sociologists and psychologists to solve prejudice. The team found "prefascist" biases learned within authoritarian households. These include authoritarian aggression, authoritarian submission, and conventionalism. We will analyze the concept's implications for family therapists and how to challenge those biases.	45min
<b>Rebuilding Together: Designing a Relationship Intervention for Couples Navigating Reentry</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>Amy Morgan-USA</i>	This session highlights Rebuilding Together, a couples-based program for couples impacted by incarceration. We present findings from qualitative interviews with couples navigating reentry, and invite dialogue on applying these insights to design a culturally responsive, trauma-informed intervention that strengthens couple relationships during the transition from incarceration to community.	45min
<b>Unwrapping the Lollipop 2.0: 10 seconds in and I am already sticky</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Agnieszka Tulowiecka-USA</i> <i>Danel Koonce-USA</i>	Therapists' and parents' ability to initiate sex talks is crucial for preparing youth for healthy sexual lives. Barriers like anxiety, shame, and lack of knowledge hinder communication. A national survey reveals effective strategies for therapists and parents to navigate this stage of development, fostering open and informed discussions.	45min
<b>Eco-Informed Supervision: Navigating Climate, Nature and Interconnected Crises</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Ari Bonagofski-USA</i> <i>Kevin Lyness-USA</i>	This presentation will discuss findings from a research project exploring eco-informed supervision. To support therapists facing and treating climate, nature, and interconnected crises, an overview of eco-informed supervision will be presented followed by practical applications and actionable recommendations for integrating an eco-informed perspective into existing supervision approaches.	20min 14:45-15:05

<b>Implications of physical space on the therapeutic relationship</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Kelsey Card-USA</i>	Review of recent literature from environmental psychology and related academic fields on the impact of physical space as it relates to therapy and the therapeutic relationship. Also includes a discussion of future implications of space (physical and virtual) on teletherapy.	20min 15:10-15:30
<b>Systemic Family Therapy Within Sociopolitical Crisis: Practitioner Roles and Shared Vulnerability</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Andrea Marinac-Croatia</i> <i>Ljubica Tasić Kennedy-Serbia</i>	This presentation explores family therapy with parents of students in Serbia amid political repression and social fragmentation. It shows how societal divisions shaped family bonds and how dialogue fostered emotional regulation, intergenerational understanding, and agency, while addressing therapists' ethical dilemmas as members of the affected community.	20min 14:45-15:05
<b>Divorce Discernment Counseling in Hong Kong: A Clinical Conceptual Framework with the 4Rs</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Wai Hung Wallace Tsang-Hong Kong (China, SAR)</i>	This presentation introduces a clinically adapted framework—the 4Rs Model—to guide Divorce Discernment Counselling practice within Hong Kong's socio-cultural landscape.	20min 15:10-15:30
15:30-16:15	Recess Break and Networking	Ground floor lobby
16:15-17:00	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>A Complicated Issue: Reasons for Entering Sex Work and the Meaning Behind It</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Ashley Bloomberg-USA</i> <i>Brandon Eddy-USA</i>	Sex work has existed globally for thousands of years. Although research on why individuals enter sex work is growing, misconceptions persist, particularly regarding women's motivations to enter sex work. This workshop will share the lived experiences of women who choose to enter sex work and the meaning behind it.	45min
<b>AI in the Clinical World: Navigating Challenges and Embracing Opportunities</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Afarin Rajaei-USA</i>	This session explores how artificial intelligence is shaping the clinical landscape. From diagnostic tools to therapeutic chatbots, AI presents both ethical dilemmas and practical opportunities. Participants will engage in discussion on how clinicians can critically and responsibly integrate AI into practice while maintaining relational, systemic, and culturally attuned care.	45min CE
<b>Beyond One Path: Systemic Reflections on Families in High Conflict</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Robin Glerum -Netherlands</i> <i>Jan Stokkebek-Norway</i>	Families in prolonged conflict after separation challenge both our understanding and our interventions. This presentation explores two contrasting yet complementary systemic approaches. Rather than presenting a singular solution, the presentation invites reflection on the multiplicity of therapeutic "ways in" to families in conflict.	45min
<b>"You're a Stranger in a Strange Land:" LGBTQ + Experiences of Being Othered in Emotionally Focused Couple Therapy</b>		Room 11 Museplass
<i>Caitlin Edwards-USA</i> <i>Robert Allan-United Kingdom</i> <i>Lekie Dwanyen- USA</i>	This presentation will describe LGBTQ + Emotionally Focused Therapy (EFT) clients' experiences and insights of feeling othered in therapy. We discuss how the process of othering relates to client identity development, therapeutic safety, and therapist education, qualities, and cultural humility. We conclude with recommendations for EFT practice and training.	45min
<b>Evaluating Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Techniques Used to Train Exceptional Athletes to Elite Success and Research Their Family Support Systems</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Mary Christine Ward-USA</i>	This presentation analyses using Cognitive Behavioral Therapy techniques to coach exceptional young athletes to exemplary performances. A qualitative research project is included examining how family behaviors impact athletes. Mary Ward, gymnastics coach (50 years) and therapist (30 years), combines both roles to explore navigation of the pressures of competition.	45min
<b>Quest Accepted: Teaching Family Systems Therapy through Video Games</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>Chris DaSambigiagio-Moore-USA</i> <i>Korinne Babel-USA</i>	This session explores how family systems theory can be taught and applied using popular video game narratives and mechanics. Participants will learn how to identify systems-related concepts in video gameplay and amplify them as metaphors to engage students and clients alike in understanding complex relational dynamics.	45min
<b>Littsint.no: A Free Multilingual Online Self-Help Portal for Trust-Based Parenting</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Steinar Sunde -Norway</i>	Littsint.no is a free, multilingual self-help portal offering research-based anger management guidance in 11 languages. Developed within family counseling, it helps parents shift from fear-based to trust-based parenting through films, exercises, and digital tools—empowering families worldwide with accessible, evidence-based support.	45min

**Autism and Relationships: BBIPOC Women's Personal Narratives**

Room 4 Hodden

*Amanda Alonzo-USA*

This presentation focuses on the relational experiences of BBIPOC women with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) through the critical disability theory. It explores ASD's impact on romantic connections, cultural influences, and therapeutic approaches, highlighting how both neurodivergence and societal relationship expectations shape these women's experiences

20min  
16:15-16:35**Navigating Distance and Digital Connection in Transnational African Migrant Families**

Room 4 Hodden

*Maria Marchetti-Mercer-South Africa*

This paper examines how transnational African families use ICTs to maintain connections across distances. Despite economic barriers and unequal access, migrant families creatively engage digital tools to sustain relationships. Importantly "distance" is socially constructed, shaped by resources and migration paths, inviting therapists to consider technology's role in migrant families.

20min  
16:40-17:00**Thriving Together: Healing Postpartum Distress as a Couple**

Room 5 Kjellersmauet

*Evdoxia Mpras-USA*

Considering the prevalence of postpartum adjustment distress and its impact on couple relationships and infants, clinicians must be able to identify maladaptive functioning in couple dynamics as they adapt to parenthood. This presentation will equip attendees to help couples find relief in the lifecycle stage of early parenthood.

20min  
16:15-16:35**An Exploration on How Religiosity Shapes Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors**

Room 5 Kjellersmauet

*Alexandria Herron-USA*

This study examined how religiosity influences approval of sexual behaviors beyond traditional sexual conservatism. Results suggest that highly religious individuals may express general acceptance of others' sexual behaviors while maintaining more conservative personal preferences, with gender differences and intrinsic religiosity correlating significantly with sexual attitudes.

20min  
16:40-17:00

08:00-16:30	Registration Open	Registration Desk located on the second floor
8:30 -9:15	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Social Justice and Trauma - informed Supervision</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Karen Burgess-United Kingdom</i> <i>Prabashny Pillay-United Kingdom</i>	To explore the impact of trauma on supervisors and supervisees and the stories around social justice that inform the positions we take In developing conversations about power in our supervisory positions we find versions of the self which fits our ethical stance and diminish the impact of burn out	45min Su- pervision
<b>Non-resident Mothers' Voice in Divorce</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>So So Josephine Ma-Hong Kong (China, SAR)</i>	This presentation examines non-resident motherhood through qualitative interviews with 6 mothers. Findings highlight resilience in redefining maternal roles amid shifting identities, co-parenting dynamics, and social stigma. Implications stress culturally attuned family therapy and trauma-informed approaches. Cooperative co-parenting and support systems for non-resident mothers are advocated.	45min CE
<b>Artificial Intelligence in Family Therapy: Enhancing Practice, Expanding Access, and Addressing Ethical Challenges</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Nasser Aloud-Saudi Arabia</i>	This paper provides an overview of how AI can shape the landscape of family therapy. It seeks to discuss the opportunities and risks of AI integration, highlighting the implications for family therapists, and reflecting on the ethical, clinical, and practical ramifications.	45min
<b>Not for the faint hearted: supervising high conflict</b>		Room 11 Musepass
<i>Chip Chimera-United Kingdom</i>	High post separation parental conflict is extremely stressful for workers and supervisors. How to help children who become invisible in the shadow of the conflict is a continual practice dilemma. This workshop aims to give supervisors and supervisees additional tools for dealing with the complexity of these difficult situations	45min
<b>Systemic and Ethical Dimensions of Decision Making in Assisted Reproductive Technology: Systemic Approaches for MFT's</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Claire Farrell-USA</i> <i>Nicole Massey-Hastings-USA</i>	Use of reproductive technologies to conceive uniquely impacts psychological and relational functioning. This presentation will examine stressors, key ethical dilemmas, identify gaps in the current research, and present systemic interventions that MFTs can use to support their clients as they navigate complex fertility journeys and decision making processes.	45min
<b>Stories that refuse to harm: Narrative Care with Medical Trauma</b>		Room 14 Tarnpass
<i>Danna Abraham-USA</i>	Stories that refuse to harm draws from White (1998) foundational ideas on how to respond to medical trauma avoiding re-traumatization. In the ICU for burned patients in Brazil, the workshop explores a real account of experience to help therapists support identity repair and develop their own moral commitments	45min
<b>Narrative-Informed Collaborative Care (NICC): A Systemic and Narrative Framework</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Nika Alakbarova-Azerbaijan</i>	The Narrative-Informed Collaborative Care (NICC) model integrates systemic, narrative, and collaborative approaches to enhance therapeutic and interdisciplinary care. Using perinatal case vignettes, this presentation demonstrates how NICC fosters narrative reconstruction, relational resilience, and culturally responsive collaboration across family and healthcare settings.	45min
<b>Enduring Partnerships in Later Life: Keys to Relationship Longevity</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Aida Jimenez-Puerto Rico</i>	This presentation examines factors sustaining long-term relationships in older adults through a qualitative study of couples married over 30 years. Key elements include love, intimacy, communication, adaptability, support, and forgiveness. Findings inform strategies to enhance relationship satisfaction and well-being in aging populations.	20min 8:30-8:50
<b>When Home is a Person: A Case Exploration on Psychotherapy with Young Couples Experiencing Homelessness</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Alexis Pizzulo-USA</i>	Romantic partnerships serve as important resources, offering emotional support, social connection, and financial stability. Yet, specific challenges posed by housing insecurity leave many young people uniquely underresourced, increasing the reliance and strain on their romantic partnerships. This case presentation will discuss considerations for cognitive therapy with young couples experiencing homelessness.	20min 8:55-9:15

<b>Systemically informed Psychoeducational Cohorts with At-Risk and Justice-Involved Populations</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Kelly Kendall-USA</i> <i>Brian Higginbotham-USA</i>	This session explores trauma-informed and systemically formed psychoeducational cohorts for at-risk and justice-involved populations, using CBT constructs to strengthen families, emotional regulation, and reconnection. Practical strategies, real-world examples, and experience demonstrate how group interventions promote resilience, hope, and long-term positive change in complex family systems.	20min 8:30-8:50
<b>An ontology of difference: Speculations on family therapy, difference and ethical realism</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Rolf Sundet-Norway</i>	Historically, research and practice of psychotherapy, including family therapy, have been conducted within conceptual frameworks defined in terms of theoretical models. With difference as the central arena of therapy, it will be argued that we still do not know what family therapy work can become.	20min 8:55-9:15
9:30-10:15	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Developmental Narratives of Experienced Systemic Supervisors</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Roberta Farrugia Debono-Malta</i>	This presentation explores systemic supervisors' developmental processes and their evolving sense of competence, addressing the lack of empirical research on supervisory growth. Using transformational learning and narrative analysis, 12 master supervisors' experiences will be examined. Preliminary findings and interactive reflections aim to illuminate supervisors' developmental paths and evolving professional identities.	45min Supervision
<b>Simple Yet Complex: What Makes Some Therapists More Effective Than Others?</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Anibal Torres Bernal-USA</i>	Why do some therapists consistently achieve better results than others? Research shows that treatment models explain surprisingly little about client outcomes. This session discusses and teaches practical, evidence-based relational skills to strengthen connections with and between clients to achieve better results in any therapeutic setting.	45min CE
<b>Holding Space: Culturally Responsive Therapy with LGBTQ+ Refugees</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>William Hutter-USA</i>	Working with LGBTQ+ refugees in therapy requires a specialized approach recognizes the unique challenges they face, due to their sexual orientation, gender identity and experiences as a refugee. This workshop will examine some of the key findings in providing therapy with LGBTQ+ refugees.	45min
<b>Research on EFST in a specialist mental health care clinic</b>		Room 11 Musepass
<i>Rune Zahl-Olsen-Norway</i>	In this presentation, we will introduce our research the recent years on Emotion-focused Skills Training for Parents (EFST) in a specialized mental health care clinic in southern Norway, Kristiansand.	45min
<b>Celebratory Views of Trans and Nonbinary Identities: Assistance from Christian Religious Leaders</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Christi McGeorge-USA</i>	Given the centrality of religious beliefs in shaping non-affirming perceptions of marginalized gender identities, this exploratory qualitative study interviewed Christian religious leaders with the hope of better supporting family therapists and families in developing affirming and celebratory views of transgender and nonbinary identities. Implications for family therapists are discussed.	45min
<b>A wounded man- how to forge masculinity and ignite passion</b>		Room 14 Tarnpass
<i>Joshua Legg-USA</i> <i>Chris Troutt-USA</i>	The rate of divorce in families with a special needs child may be as high as 87%. This presentation is geared toward equipping and supporting men who are parenting children from hard places to rise above their own wounds, to heal, move from surviving to thriving and becoming fully present.	45min
<b>Learning Reflective Skills: Self-Of-The-Therapist-Work in Family and Couple Therapy Trainings</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Terhi Kotilainen-Finland</i>	The workshop will present educational psychotherapy model for family and couple therapy trainings developed over 30 years of experience by the Family Therapy Trainers' Association of Central Finland. Model is linked to the theoretical and supervisory parts of training programme which highlight the importance of learning reflective skills in trainings.	45min
<b>The Psychological and Relational Impacts of Colorism: A Quantitative Study of Latino Adults</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Reyna Kot-USA</i>	This presentation introduces preliminary findings from a cross-sectional study of Latino adults investigating colorism, a type of discrimination based on skin tone, and how it shapes mental health, cultural identity, and family connectedness. Implications for family therapy and community practice will be presented.	20min 9:30-9:50
<b>LLMs and Love: Chinese Couples' Digital Relational Practices</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Meng Fang-China</i>	This brief presentation explores how Chinese couples use large language models (LLMs) to support daily coordination, reduce relational stress, and enhance communication. Through semi-structured interviews, the study highlights both benefits and concerns of LLM integration in intimate relationships in China.	20min 9:55-10:15

<b>POTT and Professional Accountability in a Tumultuous Time</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Rebecca Kenyon-USA</i> <i>Zain Shamoon-USA</i> <i>Margaret MacLeod-USA</i>	This presentation explores how Person-of-the-Therapist (POTT) reflexivity strengthens sociocultural attunement, ethical awareness, and therapist groundedness amid global unrest and inequity. Core components of the POTT model will demonstrate how therapists can sustain responsiveness and accountability across diverse client experiences in today's complex, rapidly changing world.	20min 9:30-9:50
<b>AI Tools for Group Facilitation: Enhancing Training for Family Therapists</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Kristel Scoresby-USA</i> <i>Blake Conley-USA</i>	This presentation explores how AI can support students and new clinicians in group therapy training. Using simulations and feedback tools, AI offers scalable and ethical practice environments. A proposed model integrates AI into therapy education, balancing technological innovation with oversight to prepare future practitioners for complex group dynamics.	20min 9:55-10:15
10:15-11:00	Recess Break and Networking	Ground floor lobby
11:00-11:45	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Beyond findings: how research shapes our live supervisory practice</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Anne Grasaasen-Norway</i> <i>Nicoletta Businaro-Norway</i> <i>Siv Merete Myra-Norway</i> <i>Sigurd Andersen-Norway</i> <i>Ulf Axberg-Sweden</i>	We organize this workshop inspired by interesting findings from two recent research projects on live supervision in family therapy training, focusing on both students' and supervisors' perspectives. We invite participants to share experiences on live supervision, and to collaboratively explore how these experiences may resonate with findings from our studies.	45min Supervision
<b>Beyond Conflict: A Quantitative Investigation of Coparenting, Gendered Economic Stress, and Child Adjustment After Divorce</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Reihaneh Mahdavishahri-USA</i> <i>Jennifer Patterson-USA</i>	The presenters share findings from their study of 300 divorced or separated parents, examining associations among cooperation, conflict, triangulation, parental stress, economic strain, and child well-being. Results highlight the importance of systemic and feminist family therapy approaches that address relational dynamics alongside broader social and economic inequities.	45min CE
<b>TiRevisiting Virginia Satir's Self Mandala: An Exploration of The Self Using Expressive Arts</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Karee Stosich-USA</i>	Core concepts of this workshop include exploring parts of the self through Virginia Satir's Self Mandala and Natalie Roger's expressive arts modality.	45min
<b>Intergenerational Healing: Creative Pathways to Overcome Trauma</b>		Room 11 Musepass
<i>Jacqueline Fonseca de Abreu-USA</i> <i>Dasha Abreu Tome-USA</i>	Intergenerational Healing: Creative Pathways to Overcome Trauma explores how families can collectively heal from generational trauma. Presented by a mother-daughter duo, this session introduces innovative, family-centered therapeutic approaches that stop the cycle of inherited pain, strengthen intergenerational bonds, and foster shared healing across age and experience.	45min
<b>Giving passion a field to practice: The uses of artistic creation in therapy and supervision.</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Edgardo Mrales-Arandes-Puerto Rico</i> <i>Alexandra Cintron-Oquendo-Puerto Rico</i> <i>Sole Torres Carroll-Puerto Rico</i>	This presentation explores how artistic passion and creation can serve as transformative resources in clinical supervision and therapy. Doctoral students and their supervisor will illustrate how their use facilitates the connection between identity, personal growth, and therapeutic skill development, enhancing the learning process in supervision and generating therapeutic change.	45min
<b>Navigating Difference Through Identity-Conscious Practice: Addressing Emotional Vulnerability and Advancing Epistemic Justice</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>Priscila Llamasa-USA</i>	Identity mismatches between therapists and clients create relational vulnerabilities that constrain therapeutic engagement and effectiveness. Drawing from the Identity-Conscious Psychotherapy Framework, this presentation details four practices—reflexivity, relational skills, trauma-informed practice, and cultural humility—that synergistically operationalize epistemic justice by challenging hierarchies and centering clients' lived experiences.	45min
<b>Knowledge and Attitude Programme (KAP) - Talks for Parents of Children with Disabilities</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Thomas Persson-Sweden</i>	Being the parent of a child with a disability usually means a lifestyle change with increased pressures and new demands. Parents are faced with specific parenting challenges and are assumed to need specialised support. KAP conversations is presented in a role play.	45min
<b>The Hagen Model: Collaborative Clinical Supervision in Family Counseling</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>David Martinson-USA</i>	Collaborative Clinical Supervision, initially implemented at Hagen Behandlingssenhets in Veldre, Norway, has been further developed as a proactive, post-modern, clinical supervision strategy to help novice family counselors implement a feedback milieu in their work with families in the suburbs of Philadelphia. This has relevance for today's clinical supervisors.	20min 11:00-11:20

**SYSTEMIC TRUST-BUILDING IN LEADERSHIP: THE TAORA FRAMEWORK FOR A RELATIONAL PRACTICE AND BURNOUT PREVENTION**

Room 4 Hodden

*Karianne Nguyen Knudsen-Norway* This presentation introduces the TAORA framework and its TILLITT/TRRUSTT model, a systemic leadership approach integrating trust, dialogue, structure, and ecology. Drawing on experiences from competence environments, it demonstrates how systemic trust-building can prevent burnout, strengthen relational resilience, and create sustainable cultures in both therapeutic and organizational contexts. 20min  
11:25-11:45

**From societal and family systems to psychopathology.**

Room 5 Kjellersmauet

*Alina Marin-Canada* Psychopathology is typically understood as an intraindividual phenomenon limited in its capacity to reflect systemic influences on mental health. This talk brings a clinical perspective on possible ways to expand its capacity to represent the phenomenological context of patients' stories and thus improve their care. 20min  
11:00-11:20

**From Sierra Leone to Kenya: Expanding Behavioral Health Capacity Through Teacher Training**

Room 5 Kjellersmauet

*Zephon Lister-USA*  
*Neeah Lofton-USA*  
*Roseana Diaz-Castillo-USA* This study explores a cascading task-shifting model to address global mental health treatment gaps in low-resource settings. Non-specialist trainers prepared Kenyan teachers to deliver behavioral health interventions with teachers, students and parents. Findings highlight feasibility, engagement, and adaptability, while noting supervision, contextual adaptation, and sustainability challenges. 20min  
11:25-11:45

12:00-12:45

Presentations/workshops

Room

**The effectiveness of systemic supervision**

Room 1 Dragefjellet

*Catherine Butler-United Kingdom* This talk explores whether systemic supervision improves client outcomes and seeks to identify the elements that contribute to its effectiveness. By reviewing existing English-language research, the talk will examine whether and how systemic supervision influences practitioner development and therapeutic effectiveness in client change and wellbeing. 45min  
Supervision

**The Mental Health and Resiliency of Family Therapists: Recognizing the Importance of Self-assessment and Attunement**

Room 2 Teatergaten

*Anita Mehta-Canada*  
*Sarah Burley-Canada* This presentation discusses challenges therapists experience related to their own emotional and psychological well-being as they consistently offer support to others. We emphasize the importance of paying attention to one's own mental health and use case studies to illustrate evidence-based strategies for navigating challenges to support resilience. 45min  
CE

**Systemic Therapy Meets Neurofeedback and EMDR: Advancing Integrative Clinical Practice**

Room 3 Sydneshaugen

*Katheryn Whittaker-United Kingdom*  
*Sarah Rose-Cayman Islands* This presentation introduces an integrative framework combining systemic therapy, Neurofeedback, and EMDR. Together, these modalities enhance trauma recovery, emotional regulation, and relational healing. Case examples illustrate how neurobiological recalibration and memory reprocessing align with systemic practice, offering clinicians practical strategies for multi-layered interventions that foster resilience and lasting change. 45min

**Genogram in Executive Coaching: Transgenerational Patterns and Their Impact on Professional Identity and Leadership**

Room 11 Museplass

*Carlos Temperini-Brazil* The genogram, a systemic family therapy tool, is applied in executive coaching to map transgenerational patterns, roles, and family loyalties that influence professional identity, career choices, and leadership styles. Its use enhances self-awareness, reframes narratives, and supports more authentic and integrated leadership development. 45min

**Culturally Attuned Structural Family Therapy: Promoting Social Justice with Global Majority and Unique Needs Communities**

Room 12 Strangehagen

*Anthony Pennant-USA* This workshop explores Structural Family Therapy (SFT), a model developed for families of color in the 1960s. It will teach SFT's core principles and social justice foundations, demonstrating their relevance. Participants will learn to apply SFT to dismantle systemic inequalities, addressing trauma, oppression, and migration through culturally attuned interventions. 45min

**Finding Hope in the Current Geo-Socio-Political Context: Self-Care for Clinicians, Supervisors, & Educators**

Room 14 Tarnplass

*Dana Stone-USA*  
*Shyrea Minton-USA* Critical self-reflection and acknowledgement of the intersection of one's personal identity factors and professional roles support clinicians, supervisors, and educators to recognize signs of burnout and compassion fatigue in a volatile geo-socio-political context. This workshop will offer ideas for grounded self-care practice to bolster hope. 45min

<b>Trauma-Informed Relational Therapy: Teaching Systemic Approaches in Trauma Education</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Maxine Notice-USA</i>	This session introduces a forthcoming textbook that bridges theory and practice in trauma-informed relational therapy. Concepts of case conceptualization and deliberate practice activities will be presented. This textbook offers educators and students an comprehensive, practice-oriented approach to integrating trauma-informed interventions and cultural sensitivity into family therapy training.	45min
<b>Engaging Loved Ones in the Recovery of Adolescents and Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Natasha Slesnick-USA</i> <i>Langston Myers-USA</i> <i>Alexis Pizzulo-USA</i> <i>Caleb Cuthbertson-USA</i>	Most unaccompanied youth (14-24 years) living on the streets report some contact with supportive others (SOs). Yet, efforts to engage SOs in their recovery are limited. In this presentation, the process for engaging SOs using Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT) and family systems therapy will be presented.	20min 12:00-12:20
<b>Longitudinal Integrated Behavioral Health Training for Family Medicine Residents</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Michele Smith-USA</i> <i>Alanna Perlin-USA</i>	Behavioral health interventions in medicine are often done by mental health providers. This project reviews the value to Family Medicine residents in having real-time training with a BH provider. This is done through pre-clinic coaching related to BH interventions, seeing patients together, and reviewing outcomes during precepting.	20min 12:25-12:45
<b>Science of Hope: Application of the Satir Model to Mental Health</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Darya Haitoglou-Greece</i>	This session presents PRISMA-based research on how Satir interventions reduce stress, anxiety, and depression across cultures. Dr. Haitoglou highlights short-term, measurable outcomes, links with neuroscience and parts/somatic work, and shows how the Satir Model offers a research-aligned, transformational approach to today's mental-health challenges.	20min 12:00-12:20
<b>Engaging Mothers in Supporting Husbands' Fatherhood in Chinese Families - A Co-parenting Intervention Group</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Wai Hung Wallace Tsang-Hong Kong (China, SAR)</i>	This is a pioneering project called 'CO-MUST', which is a co-parenting intervention group launched in Hong Kong. CO-MUST was designed to engage mothers in supporting their husbands in adopting positive co-parenting. The CO-MUST intervention protocol, clinical cases and outcomes will be presented in the presentation.	20min 12:25-12:45
12:45-13:45	Light Lunch	Ground floor lobby
13:30-14:30	Poster presentations	Room 1 Dragefjellet
<b>Weight Talk and Body Weight Perception Through the Lens of Attachment Theory</b>		P1
<i>Monica Osterbauer-USA</i>	This presentation explores how attachment theory can inform clinical understanding of weight talk and body weight perception in parent-child relationships, highlighting links to insecure attachment and emotional feeding. It offers a framework for clinicians and suggests future research directions within marriage and family therapy.	
<b>Needs and experiences with mental health services among parents involved with the child welfare system</b>		P2
<i>Marisa Luciano-USA</i> <i>Katie Spurling-USA</i> <i>Lenore McWey- USA</i>	This study's aim was to understand parents' experiences of therapy within the child welfare system (CWS) and present parents' mental health needs using data from a longitudinal study of families involved with CWS. Findings can help address research gaps on family therapy within the CWS and amplify parents' voices.	
<b>Being under a microscope: The dynamics of parent systems when navigating the child welfare system</b>		P3
<i>Katherine Spurling-USA</i> <i>Marisa Luciano-USA</i> <i>Lenore McWey-USA</i>	Findings of this study portray relationships of parental units navigating the child welfare system (CWS). The data are from a longitudinal, mixed-methods study of families involved in the CWS. Results can inform future research into parenting relationships and assist program and service development for parents involved with the CWS.	
<b>Echoes of Childhood: A Qualitative Study on ACEs and Co-Parenting Dynamics</b>		P4
<i>Dylann Lowery-USA</i> <i>Lenore McWey-USA</i>	This study explores how adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) shape co-parenting relationships. Using qualitative interviews with parents who report high ACE scores, the research examines how trauma histories influence co-parents' relational processes. Findings aim to deepen understanding of intergenerational trauma and inform strategies that strengthen family systems.	
<b>The supports of families involved with CPS matter for child mental health outcomes</b>		P5
<i>Lenore McWey-USA</i>	Families involved with child protective services (CPS) are required to complete many services. In general, strong safety nets help protect families against risks; however, few studies examine support configurations of families involved with CPS. This poster will show how different support profiles relate to child and family outcomes over time.	

<b>Organizational culture and stigma surrounding help-seeking behavior: Advancing Mental Health for Public Safety Personnel</b>		P6
<i>Roseana Diaz-Castillo-USA</i>	Public safety personnel (PSP) face elevated mental health risks but often avoid seeking support due to stigma and cultural barriers. This presentation examines how addressing stigma, fostering supportive workplace environments, and enhancing clinicians' understanding of PSP-specific experiences are essential to improving mental health and overall well-being.	
<b>Procreative desire discrepancy</b>		P7
<i>Taylor Ross-USA</i>	This poster explores the changes in reproductive desires over the past few decades, and educates clinicians on theoretical approaches and decision-making processes between partners who disagree on whether or not to have (more) children.	
<b>Child-Rearing Support for Mothers Participating in a Parent-Child Interaction Program Requiring Developmental Guidance</b>		P8
<i>Chiemi Chiba-Japan</i>	In Japan, various forms of support are provided for families raising children with congenital conditions or complications at birth. These include national legal systems, child-rearing support for children with medical or developmental needs, and support specifically directed at parents of children with severe disabilities.	
<b>Child-Rearing Support for Mothers Participating in a Parent-Child Interaction Program Requiring Developmental Guidance</b>		P9
<i>Chiemi Chiba-Japan</i> <i>Saki Goto-Japan</i>	In Japan, various forms of support are provided for families raising children with congenital conditions or complications at birth. These include national legal systems, child-rearing support for children with medical or developmental needs, and support specifically directed at parents of children with severe disabilities.	
<b>Analyzing the Trajectories of Delinquency to Criminal Behavior</b>		P10
<i>DeAnna Harris-McKoy-USA</i>	We use the life course perspective to analyze the trajectories of delinquency into criminal behavior and to explore when delinquent behavior peaks.	
<b>What Parents and Therapists Should Know About Hookup Culture and Emerging Adults' Intimacy</b>		P11
<i>Samuel Yu-USA</i> <i>Ashley Figueroa-USA</i>	Grounded in sexual script theory, this study examines how exposure to hookup culture shapes emerging adults' beliefs about intimacy and relationships. Gendered differences in coping and conformity motives highlight cultural pressures influencing sexual behavior. Findings provide context for parents and therapists to foster awareness and healthy conversations amid hookup culture.	
<b>Integrating Relationship Education to Strengthen Therapists and Their Clients</b>		P12
<i>Samuel Phelps-USA</i> <i>Brian Higginbotham-USA</i> <i>Kelly Kendall-USA</i>	Post-webinar data from the Utah Marriage Commission shows that professionals overwhelmingly report relationship education webinars benefit their professional practice. This poster explores these perceptions and discusses how relationship education can enhance professional effectiveness and client outcomes.	
<b>The Psychological Dynamics of International Marriage: Insights from Studies on Japan-US Couples</b>		P13
<i>Rie Yabuki-DiCorcia-Japan</i>	International marriage, defined as unions between different nationalities. Based on two decades of qualitative research on Japanese-American couples: globalization enabled cross-border intimacy; marital culture is negotiated amid national, linguistic, and religious differences; mobility reshapes careers and parenting; language asymmetries and class misrecognition drive divorce; value congruence sustains stability.	
<b>The Systems Intelligence (SQ) Measure: Evaluating Systemic Thinking and Practice</b>		P14
<i>Adam Fisher- USA</i>	This project develops and pilots the Systems Intelligence (SQ) Measure, which assesses an individuals' ability to understand and act within complex relational systems. Using vignettes and criterion-referenced coding, the study examines reliability, validity, and refinement across student and clinician samples to advance systemic thinking in research and clinical training.	
<b>Cultural Competency in Non-Native Bilingual Clinicians</b>		P15
<i>Brianna Arnold-USA</i> <i>Ashton Lofing-USA</i>	Presenters will discuss a qualitative content analysis exploring how bilingual mental health clinicians develop cultural competency while providing therapy in a second language. Themes will highlight strategies, challenges, and language influences shaping multicultural skill development, offering insight into how linguistic and cultural navigation impact therapeutic effectiveness and client connection.	
<b>Clinical Implications of Stress Family Typologies in a Diverse Community-Based Sample</b>		P16
<i>Elizabeth Wieling- USA</i> <i>Allan Tate- USA</i>	Chronic and acute stress are linked to biopsychosocial health yet little is known about stress variability. The current study characterized groups of stress variability in a diverse, community-based sample of parents (n=631) to identify stress typologies and to explore associations with individual and family wellbeing.	

<b>Narrative Exposure Therapy for Treating Complex Posttraumatic Stress</b>		P17
<i>Elizabeth Wieling-USA</i>	Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET) is an evidence-based treatment for trauma-spectrum disorders in survivors of complex trauma. The workshop will: (a) introduce theoretical underpinnings and exposure protocol; (b) discuss clinical implications for using multi-component NET + systemic models; and c) share dissemination and implementation strategies across community settings.	
<b>The Impact of Father-Daughter Relationships on Dating and Relationship Behaviors For African American Women : A Qualitative Analysis</b>		P18
<i>Neeah Lofton- USA</i>	This qualitative study explores how African American father-daughter relationships shape daughters' dating and relationship behaviors. Through interviews with 15 women (ages 18-26), eight key themes emerged, highlighting the father's role as a positive influence and role model in shaping romantic expectations and partner choices.	
<b>Love Hurts: When Relationships Reinforce Risk Among Homeless Youth</b>		P19
<i>Langston Myers-USA</i>	Youth experiencing homelessness exhibit high rates of substance use, often influenced by partner behaviors. This presentation explores how romantic relationships shape marijuana use among youth and discusses findings showing that partner use predicts higher individual use. Clinical implications emphasize relationship-focused, harm-reduction approaches to support youth stability and wellbeing.	
<b>Narrative Exposure Therapy for Treating Complex Posttraumatic Stress</b>		P20
<i>Elizabeth Wieling-USA</i>	Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET) is an evidence-based treatment for trauma-spectrum disorders in survivors of complex trauma. The workshop will: (a) introduce theoretical underpinnings and exposure protocol; (b) discuss clinical implications for using multi-component NET + systemic models; and c) share dissemination and implementation strategies across community settings.	
<b>Distinguishing Trauma-Related Responses from ADHD Symptomatology: The Critical Role of ACEs Screening in Accurate Diagnosis and Intervention</b>		P21
<i>FELICIA Payton-USA</i>	Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) can mimic ADHD symptoms, increasing risk of misdiagnosis and ineffective treatment. This session examines overlaps between trauma responses and ADHD, emphasizing accurate screening, trauma-informed assessment, and multidisciplinary collaboration. Clinicians will learn practical strategies and case-based insights to improve diagnostic accuracy, treatment planning.	
<b>Intersections of Care: A Latent Profile Analysis of Sandwiched Caregivers</b>		P22
<i>Carson Outler-USA</i> <i>Crystal Marroquin-USA</i>	This poster explores the lived experiences of "sandwiched caregivers" who care for both children and aging parents. Using latent profile analysis with a national sample, results identify caregiver subgroups and highlight how structural and relational forces shape caregiver stress and strain in multigenerational families.	
<b>Parental Involvement in Systemic Interventions for Learning Disabilities and Autism: The Case of the Greek Family</b>		P23
<i>Alexandra Kakoudaki- Greece</i>	This paper explores the necessity and usefulness of parental involvement in systemic interventions with children with learning disabilities and autism. Focusing on the Greek family, it highlights both strengths and challenges, shaped by cultural philosophy, parental responsibility, and the strong influence of extended family and kinship networks.	
<b>Evaluation of the TOGETHER program adaptation for LGBTQ+ relationships</b>		P24
<i>Mariana K Falconier-USA</i>	This presentation examines the adaptation of the evidence-based TOGETHER program for LGBTQ+ couples. Qualitative and quantitative findings suggest a successful adaptation that yielded improvements in relationship functioning, psychological distress, and financial communication. Implications for culturally responsive, couple-based financial and relational therapy will be discussed.	
<b>Reframing "Resistance" in Identity-Conscious Psychotherapy: From Pathology to Protection in Couple and Family Therapy</b>		P25
<i>Priscila Llamasa-USA</i>	This poster examines the concept of 'resistance' by tracing its colonial ideologies and reframing associated behaviors as clients safeguarding their cultural knowledge systems. Examples demonstrate how couple and family therapy concepts may pathologize culturally normative patterns and offer identity-conscious reframes grounded in epistemic justice.	
<b>Fostering Inclusivity for Clients with Disabilities: Universal Design in Family Therapy</b>		P26
<i>Kristel Scoresby-USA</i> <i>Priscila Llamasa-USA</i>	An estimated 1.3 billion people globally live with significant disability, yet family therapy spaces often perpetuate ableism through inaccessible design. This poster presents Universal Design principles for creating inclusive therapeutic environments. Four case examples illustrate implementation strategies across intake processes, physical spaces, and therapeutic materials—benefiting all clients.	

<b>AI in Systemic Family Therapy Education: A Co-Constructive Pedagogical Approach</b>		P27
<i>Blake Conley-USA Kristol Scoresby-USA</i>	This presentation offers an integrative model for harnessing AI in SFT pedagogy. Students engage AI to generate and co-analyze complex family case studies. This approach positions AI as a facilitator, supporting learners in recognizing systemic principles through the lens of peers and AI to create developed and appropriate assessments.	
<b>From Herd to Community: How horses and other animals may inspire hopeful journeys in residential childcare.</b>		P28
<i>Lisa Mellen-United Kingdom</i>	A reminder of the natural world, our relationships with ourselves and others -our place in the world. In working in residential childcare over the last 10 years, we highlight the value of bringing nature and animal assisted learning into the work in residential childcare for children and care professionals alike.	
<b>Electrical instability in Puerto Rico and its impact on families</b>		P29
<i>Aida L. Jiménez-Torres-Puerto Rico</i>	In Puerto Rico, recurring electrical instability has become a persistent structural barrier that undermines family well-being. This quantitative study examines the psychosocial and systemic effects of energy instability, emphasizing how these disruptions compound existing vulnerabilities and strain family relationships.	
<b>Healing Through Music: A Narrative Review of the Role of Music Therapy in Adolescent and Young Adult PTSD</b>		P30
<i>Ja'Nece Dickerson-USA David Lister-USA</i>	This narrative review examined 15 studies from the past decade on music therapy for adolescents and young adults with PTSD. Evidence indicates music therapy reduces symptoms such as anxiety and intrusive thoughts while fostering resilience and emotional regulation. Findings highlight its promise as an effective, youth-centered intervention.	
<b>Strategies to Enhance Relationship Quality in Dementia: A Scoping Review of Couple-Based Interventions</b>		P31
<i>Carlene Fider-USA Jonathan Lister-USA</i>	This scoping review synthesizes studies from 2014–2024 on interventions supporting couples affected by dementia. Strategies identified include shared activities, caregiver skill-building, and relationship reinforcement. Findings highlight both benefits and limitations, underscoring need for multifaceted, culturally responsive approaches to improve relationship quality, caregiver well-being, and patient life satisfaction.	
<b>Is It Just Common Couple's Conflict or Abuse?: Couples Therapists' Clinical Conceptualization and Experiences Treating Emotional Intimate Partner Violence</b>		P32
<i>Arina Borodkina-USA</i>	Our study explores how couple therapists conceptualize and treat emotional IPV in couples therapy. Using qualitative interviews, we examine therapists' assessments of emotional IPV and their clinical meaning-making process. Data collection is scheduled to begin in January 2026, with findings expected to inform IPV clinical training and research gaps.	
<b>From Family Systems to Social Justice: Understanding Resilience Among Asian American Sexual and Gender Minority Individuals</b>		P33
<i>Madeleine Fan- USA</i>	This presentation examines how family support shapes the psychological wellbeing of Asian American sexual and gender minorities and explores activism engagement as a protective factor. We explore considering cultural context and affirming intersecting identities when conceptualizing strengths and support needs, and in developing culturally responsive clinical approaches that foster resilience.	
<b>Romantic Relationship Dynamics and Self-Blame in Women with Autism</b>		P34
<i>Alexandria Herron-USA</i>	This study will compare self-blame in romantic relationships among autistic and neurotypical women. Using a sample of at least 150 participants, the study will explore whether autistic women experience higher levels of self-blame, offering insights to inform future research and interventions supporting relationship well-being for neurodiverse women.	
<b>Artificial Intelligence in Psychotherapy Training: Transcription, Analysis, and Supervised Learning</b>		P35
<i>Carlos Augusto Lopez Acevo-Mexico</i>	This poster evaluates the use of artificial intelligence for session transcription, clinical analysis, and supervised learning in postgraduate psychiatry and couple and family therapy programs. It explores educational benefits, ethical safeguards, and faculty-guided AI tutoring in real clinical training contexts.	
<b>The offer of free therapy sessions in the context of Systemic Training Program The example of Allilepidrasis IKE</b>		P36
<i>Eleni Aivalioti - Greece</i>	The socioeconomic conditions nowadays in Greece, deprive people of the opportunity to have psychotherapy as the public health system cannot respond to the plethora of requests for psychotherapy. Allilepidrasis IKE offers for free 5 systemic sessions to people who ask for help . Brief Solution Focused Model is used.	

<b>What Good Am I? Confessions of a Systemic Meta-Supervisor</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>William Northey-USA</i>	This workshop explores the vulnerable, often invisible work of meta-supervision. Through candid "confessions," participants examine systemic challenges in supervising supervisors, including parallel process, role confusion, and organizational pressures. Attendees will gain practical tools for shifting supervisory stance, navigating layered systems, and strengthening meta-supervisory effectiveness.	45min Supervision
<b>Couple and family therapy with clients facing financial distress: The knowledge base</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Joanna Rzadzowska-Norway</i> <i>Ingvild Stjernen Tisløv-Norway</i>	There are about a hundred papers written on therapy with low-income clients. What does this research teach us and where are the gaps in knowledge? We present studies we consider most useful to systemic practitioners to improve the help given to clients who face financial distress and low income.	45min CE
<b>How to use routine outcome monitoring in couple therapy</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Kristoffer James Whittaker-Norway</i> <i>Caroline Braathe-Norway</i> <i>Hege Theodorsen-Norway</i> <i>Halima Arshid-Norway</i>	This workshop presents findings from implementing routine outcome monitoring (ROM) in family counseling. Drawing on recorded sessions and therapist interviews, we explore how ROM informs clinical decision-making. Participants will gain practical insights into using ROM as a conversational tool to enhance therapeutic dialogue and facilitate change.	45min
<b>Beyond the Symptoms: Systemic Perspectives on Menopause and Late-Onset Bipolar Disorder.</b>		Room 11 Museplass
<i>Adél Ras-Coetzee-New Zealand</i> <i>Warwick Phipps-South Africa</i>	A case-based presentation demonstrating Systemic Theoretical thinking through the application of the Integrative Interactional Approach to Psychotherapy, offering diagnostic clarity between late-onset bipolar disorder and menopause as well as provide multi-layered treatment strategies for holistic care.	45min
<b>Family Stories of Substance Use and Recovery: Navigating Stigma, Stress, Love, and Complex Relationships</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Sari Kaarina Lindeman-Norway</i>	Explores how family therapy processes and narrative research perspectives contribute to substance use recovery for the whole family, stressing the importance of understanding family dynamics and providing professional support for long-term healing.	45min
<b>FASD and the Family System</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>Chris Troutt-USA</i>	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders are on the rise. As practitioners it's our duty to gain a better understanding on how this organic brain damage effects a person's life, and the families who love them. You will gain understanding of FASD and tools to help individuals and families thrive.	45min
<b>Collaborative-Dialogic Therapy: Contemporary Applications in a Polarized World</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Diane Gehart-USA</i>	Have you ever struggled to connect with someone whose worldview seems different from yours? In today's polarized, diverse, and rapidly changing world, such challenges are inevitable—whether in the therapy office, classroom, or community. Collaborative therapy offers a refreshing, humanizing approach to bridging these divides through dialogue that matters.	45min
<b>An introduction to the founders and systemic principles of EFT.</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Madison White-USA</i>	This presentation reviews the history and theoretical basis of Emotionally Focused Therapy. It focuses on how systemic theory guides EFT's process of transforming relational distress into secure emotional connections.	20min 14:45-15:05
<b>The Inside and Out of Triangles</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Deborah Watson-USA</i>	The concept of triangles and triangling will be discussed. According to Bowen (1988) triangles are everywhere and nobody is immune from triangling. As tension in a relationship system increases the equilibrium of triangles is interrupted and a predictable process of triangling begins creating insiders and outsiders of the triangles.	20min 15:10-15:30
<b>Whose Security Matters More? Self and Partner Attachment in Clinical Couples</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Lin Shi-USA</i>	Using 277 therapy-seeking couples, this study examined self and partner attachment insecurity as predictors of relationship satisfaction. Findings revealed gender differences: men's satisfaction reflected their own insecurity, while women's was influenced by both self and partner factors. Implications for tailoring interventions to attachment patterns are discussed.	20min 14:45-15:05
<b>Systemically Oriented Complex Early Childhood Developmental Diagnostics in a Transdisciplinary Team: The Bethesda KIDSz modell (Budapest)</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Katalin Topolánszky Zsinde-ly-Hungary</i>	The Bethesda KIDSz model introduces a systemic, transdisciplinary approach to early childhood developmental diagnostics. It views diagnostics as a relational, co-constructed process between families and professionals. Integrating medical, psychological, pedagogical, and therapeutic perspectives, the model promotes shared understanding, coherent planning, and family empowerment through collaboration.	20min 15:10-15:30

15:30-16:15	Recess Break and Networking	Ground floor lobby
16:15-17:00	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Supervising Systemically for Success: A Moderated Discussion</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>William Northey-USA</i> <i>Mark Rivett-USA</i>	In this closing workshop for the supervision track, we will consider how the research, experience, and theory influence systemic supervision. This interactive session will explore the impact of the ideas presented during the Supervision Track and how they will influence their supervisory practice, and dive deeper into the ideas posed.	45min Supervision
<b>A multi-family approach to children who have experienced domestic violence</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Asbjørn Andreas</i> <i>Heskestad-Norway</i> <i>Kristi Olsen-Norway</i>	The multi-family group in Kristiansand, Norway, is a treatment for children who have experienced domestic violence. It has run annually since 2005. Research and feedback show that this is an effective and meaningful way to meet children's trauma. We will present the way we work with this group.	45min CE
<b>Integrative Systemic Therapy: Next Steps When Models Don't Work</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Neil Venketramen-USA</i>	How can therapists meaningfully integrate diverse models of family therapy? This presentation offers Integrative Systemic Therapy (IST), a framework refined over five decades to bring cultural nuance and clinical depth to work with couples and families. Participants will gain insight into a flexible, practice-based method of integration.	45min
<b>The Therapist as a living instrument</b>		Room 11 Museplass
<i>Kristina Tollisen Aasen-Norway</i> <i>Jorund Birgitte Reme Jolstad-Norway</i>	How can we as therapists use ourselves more consciously within the therapeutic space? In this workshop we explore the therapist as a living instrument through empathic resonance, authentic connection and awareness of bodily signals. This is an invitation to listen with your whole being, through experiential exercises and reflection.	45min
<b>Systemic Family Therapy in a Shifting Global Political Climate</b>		Room 12 Strøghagen
<i>Judith Landau-USA</i>	Evidence-Based protocols developed from Transitional Family Therapy (TFT) will illustrate the utility of a resilience-based family approach. Training community peers can supplement the overburdened workforce and provide community members with a voice. The workshop will focus on interventions that provide the process to engage the family and community.	45min
<b>I'm On Hospice: A Children's Book for Processing &amp; Coping With A Terminal Illness</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>Sydney Crane-USA</i>	While receiving hospice care, children may encounter unfamiliar terms or struggle to articulate their questions. Through Riley's story, I'm On Hospice fosters developmentally appropriate dialogue, creating space for understanding, discussion, and emotional connection within the family and care team as they navigate the complexities of terminal illness.	45min
<b>The Lion Played Ball with the Dolphins: Creating Therapeutic Relationships with Children</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Deborah Montoya-USA</i>	This workshop will explore playful, art-filled ways to help children feel safe in therapy. We'll use our imaginations to create the beginning of safety in relationship. The land of make-believe can eventually open the door to the place where feelings, fears, and lived experiences are held.	45min
<b>Adult attachment, trait mindfulness, and sexual outcomes within the LGBT community</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Lauren Power-USA</i>	This study investigates the interplay between adult attachment, trait mindfulness, sexual desire, and sexual satisfaction, aiming to challenge heteronormative assumptions in family science while fostering inclusive, culturally responsive clinical practices that honor and amplify the diverse experiences of LGBT individuals, couples, and families.	20min 16:15-16:35
<b>"Experiences in Teaching Micro-therapeutic Skills in MFT Master/Doctoral Practicum Courses: A Constructivist-Narrative approach."</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Nelson Perez-USA</i>	This presentation describes the instructional strategies used by two family therapy educators to teach essential therapeutic micro-skills during MFT master's and doctoral internships. These instructors utilize a constructive narrative approach that emphasizes students' active engagement and collaborative development of effective dialogues and clinical practices	20min 16:40-17:00
<b>Perinatal Mental Health: the impact of infertility</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Tatjana Farley-USA</i> <i>Dylann Lowery-USA</i>	Perinatal mental health has experienced a shift in investment and interest. 13% of those who have given birth experience a mental disorder, but trauma is not always directly correlated to perinatal distress. It is important to understand the impact perinatal mental health and infertility have on interpersonal stress and relationships.	20min 16:15-16:35
<b>Reflexive Praxis for Systemic Change: Disrupting Power Through Therapeutic Self-Work</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Margaret MacLeod-USA</i> <i>Zain Shamoon-USA</i>	Reflexivity isn't just self-awareness—it's a tool for disrupting systems of harm. This workshop supports therapists in using reflexive praxis to engage power, dismantle complicity, and align their work with liberation across therapy, supervision, and community care.	20min 16:40-17:00

08:00-14:00	Registration Open	Registration Desk located on the second floor
8:30 -9:15	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Opacity and Ambivalence: Exploring transition for transgender people of color</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Kyung-In Lee-USA</i>	Bridging the works of existentialism and psychoanalytic schools of thought, the workshop explores the psycho-existential experiences of transgender people of color and the systems they inhabit. In doing so, the workshop looks to expand clinical and academic knowledge to illustrate how family therapy can provide liberatory and transformative care.	45min
<b>Strategic Family Therapy: An Idea Whose Tome has Come... Again</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Jeff Chang-Canada</i>	Strategic family therapy in the tradition of Haley and Madanes was once prominent in family therapy. Still typically taught as a "classic" model in theories courses, it has largely disappeared from the contemporary scene. Jeff will share a fresh look at strategic therapy and what it has to offer today.	45min CE
<b>The Role of Gendered Racism in Healing from Sexual Trauma for Black Women</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Danielle Samuel-USA</i> <i>Kevin Lyness- USA</i>	This workshop will highlight how gendered racism interplays with PTSD symptoms, self-perception, help-seeking behaviors, and healing for Black women following sexual trauma based on key findings from a mixed-methods study. Attendees will engage in discussion and knowledge-sharing on culturally responsive strategies and implications for systemic therapists.	45min
<b>Queer Dyads and Ethical Non-Monogamy: An Experiential Framework Integrating AEDP and IFS</b>		Room 11 Museplass
<i>Jennifer Patterson-USA</i>	This presentation introduces a theory of practice integrating AEDP and IFS in work with queer couples navigating ethical non-monogamy. Through an experiential lens, it highlights how emotional risk-taking, parts work, and relational safety can support identity attunement, connection, and relational growth without defaulting to normative models of care.	45min
<b>International Statement on 'sex addiction' and compulsive sexual behaviours</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Markie Twist-USA</i>	Statement on "sex addiction" by international team of scholars/clinicians, including presenter, in an international peer-reviewed journal will be presented. Purpose of statement to clarify scientific evidence on sexual compulsivity, in line with ICD-11 diagnostic criteria of compulsive sexual behaviour disorder. Implications for international systemic practices also provided.	45min
<b>Infidelity: A complex clinical challenge testing the therapist's knowledge and therapeutic skills</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>Ronny Fyllingen Johnsen-Norway</i>	In this dialogical workshop, I share 15 years of clinical experience with couples facing infidelity, focusing on two interventions: "The Mathematics of Loss and Regaining of Trust" and "The Doodle Model of Crisis and Sorrow" to navigate relational rupture. Inspiration: systemic therapy, psychoeducation and Cullbergs theories of crisis.	45min
<b>When families carry heavy burdens, it concerns us all.</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Trude Skoglund-Norway</i> <i>Merethe Linn-Norway</i>	As professionals, friends, or relatives, we meet families raising children with complex care needs. Understanding the balance between ordinary family life and the unique challenges of unpredictability, extra strain, worry, and grief helps us support each family's own path beyond typical development recognizing both the heavy and the bright.	45min
<b>"Utilizing the principles of the Circumplex Model to enhance understanding, provide support, and tailor effective interventions in Family Therapy."</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Vivian Kannemeyer-USA</i>	The Circumplex Model integrates principles from Family Systems Theory, Systems Theory, Family Therapy, and Communication Theory, creating a framework that helps clinicians to examine the dynamics within a family unit and linking symptoms to specific family types, increasing their ability to tailor interventions and treatment according to families specific needs.	20min 8:30-8:50
<b>"Trauma, Neurobiology, and Addiction: A Systemic Approach to Collegiate Education"</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Felicia Payton-USA</i>	This presentation examines the systemic and neurobiological effects of trauma, highlighting its long-term impact on the autonomic nervous system and its role in addiction and chronic health problems. This is to promote trauma-informed education at the college level, providing future educators with tools to recognize, prevent, and respond.	20min 8:55-9:15
<b>Educating and training systemic family therapy in a child and adolescent psychiatry setting</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Julie Noack Skærbæk-Denmark</i>	This presentation is about educating SFT in the setting of child and adolescent psychiatry in Region Sjælland, Denmark. It will be pointed why SFT is very relevant in today's child and adolescent psychiatry. Benefits and obstacles in teaching SFT in the context of psychiatry will be presented	20min 8:30-8:50

<b>Learning from Experience: Advice and Insights from Online Daters to New Users</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Lindsey Hawkins-USA</i>	Online daters were surveyed to share advice for those who are new to online dating. Utilizing thematic analysis of 4,000 responses, users emphasized safety, patience, and authenticity. Ranging from success stories to warnings, users discussed challenges and rewards, with implications for research, policy, and practice.	20min 8:55-9:15
9:30-10:15	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Using the 4 R's of Relational Teaching to Promote CFT Students' Development</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Kelly Duggan Shearer-USA</i>	Nurturing students' relational presence with clients is challenging when educators primarily focus on content or skill mastery. "The Relational Teaching Clock" explains how educational relationships can foster students' ability to form strong therapeutic relationships. Participants will discuss a case study and generate strategies for implementation in their setting.	45min
<b>Sino-American Family Therapy: Unique Family Dilemmas and Treatment Approaches in the Chinese Context</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>John Miller-China</i>	Family therapy originated in Western cultures, and is now flourishing throughout China. This presentation will explore special treatment approaches developed by students and graduates at the Sino-American Family Therapy Institute (SAFTI) to address Chinese family therapy issues in ways that fit with unique elements of the Chinese culture.	45min CE
<b>The "Curse" of the Mother-in-Law: Enmeshment and Power Struggles in an Indian Couple System</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Malavi Madhusudan-India</i>	This presentation will aim to understand the complex dynamics in an Indian family, regarding the in-law conflict. Intervention strategies using EFT and Transgenerational Therapy will be discussed. Prominent themes such as balancing emotional affection, deescalation and strengthening connection and attachment significance will be highlighted using clinical case vignettes.	45min
<b>Examining the Relationship Between Bicultural Stress and Mental Well-being Among Second-Generation Filipino Americans Living in the United States</b>		Room 11 Museplass
<i>Krista Parker-USA</i>	This workshop explores the influence of bicultural stress on mental health of second-generation Filipino Americans. Drawing from original research, research findings linking bicultural stress to depression, stress, and low self-esteem will be presented. Clinicians will be equipped with practical strategies for delivering culturally responsive care.	45min
<b>The Couple Financial Conflict Scale: A New Tool for Therapists</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Megan Ford-USA</i> <i>Christine Hargrove-USA</i> <i>Kristy Archuleta-USA</i>	This presentation introduces the Couple Financial Conflict Scale (CFCS), an eight-item tool grounded in Couples and Finances Theory, designed to assess financial conflict between partners. Attendees will explore the current state of relational-financial issues, the importance of relational-financial assessment, and applications of the CFCS in various settings.	45min
<b>Bateson and his discontents: Deleuzian thought and differences that make a difference</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>Maria Nichterlein-Australia</i>	This presentation explores the recursive resonances provided by an encounter between the anthropological and cybernetical investigations of Bateson, the biological and neurophysiological investigations of Maturana and the philosophical investigations of Deleuze. This process affirms a genuinely systemic gaze, which facilitates our engagement with the challenges of clinical work.	45min
<b>How to Help: Elevating Master level MFT Students to MFT Professionals</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>DeAnna Harris-McKoy-USA</i> <i>Racine Henry-USA</i>	Four MFT professors from three different universities will discuss pedagogical theories, assignments, and other student-centered activities they have used to help students become critical thinkers and professionals.	45min
<b>Utilizing EMDR in Couples Treatment: Bridging Research and Clinical Practice</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Reyna Kot-USA</i> <i>Zephon Lister-USA</i>	This workshop provides a scoping review on EMDR in couples therapy, highlighting applications such as conjoint trauma processing, sequential partner sessions, and integration with other approaches. Presenters will share clinical cases, including infidelity, rupture of trust, and childhood trauma, and invite reflection on incorporating EMDR into clinical practice with couples.	20min 9:30-9:50
<b>Leading with Compassion: Developing the Next Generation of Family Therapy Leaders in Aging Services</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Deborah Koons-Beauchamp-USA</i>	This session explores how family therapy principles inform compassionate leadership in aging services. Emphasizing interactional systems, it highlights how therapists can extend relational skills beyond the therapy room—supporting families, care teams, and communities facing the challenges of aging and intergenerational caregiving.	20min 9:55-10:15

<b>Promoting relationship satisfaction-The development and validation of the XY Theory Needs Assessment</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Kayce Shepard-USA</i> <i>John Jacob-USA</i>	This presentation reviews the development, validation, and clinical application of the XY Theory Needs Assessment, a tool designed to help clinicians and couples identify relational needs, communication patterns, and pathways toward greater relationship satisfaction.	20min 9:30-9:50
<b>Emotionally Focused Therapy and the Healing of Developmental Trauma in Couples and Family Systems</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Sarah Nashashibi-Greece</i>	This presentation explores how Emotionally Focused Therapy (EFT) supports healing developmental and relational trauma within couples and family systems. Drawing on clinical practice in Greece and internationally, it highlights key processes that foster emotional safety and resilience.	20min 9:55-10:15
10:15-11:00	Recess Break and Networking	Ground floor lobby
11:00-11:45	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Nothing is small. Nothing is big.</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Hans Christian Michaelsen-Norway</i>	The use of artistic references in therapy, teaching and supervision, and how art may connect to emotions, remembering, insight and new openings in therapy, training and supervision.	45min
<b>Teaching Counselors in Training to “Hear” the Family System</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Elizabeth Dennis-Hancock-USA</i> <i>Korinne Babel- USA</i>	Counselor education programs expose students to a variety of approaches to working with families. One challenge is how to honor the voices of each family member. During this experiential session, the presenters will explore ways to regulate the room and hear the trauma responses from family members at various ages.	45min CE
<b>From Aspiration to Accountability: Implementing a Pilot Programme for Ethical Supervision in Bermuda</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Latisha Lister-Burgess-Bermuda</i>	In Bermuda, most mental health professionals do not have a local regulatory body that provides oversight and licensing. This presentation discusses a pilot program launched in 2024, that provided participants with an accredited nonprofit management certificate, and personal development modules focused on emotional intelligence, ethical supervision and navigating dual relationships.	45min
<b>Self of the Therapist in the Satir Model: The Therapist’s Self as the Instrument of Transformational Change</b>		Room 11 Museplass
<i>Nesteren Gazioglu-Turkey</i> <i>Sibel Erenel-Turkey</i>	This presentation focuses on the use of self as an instrument of change within Satir Transformational Systemic Therapy. During the presentation through experiential exercises, participants will have a chance to develop self-awareness as a therapist, and develop and idea on how to bring congruence in professional practice.	45min
<b>Individuation in Families: A Jungian Path to Facilitate Connection and Autonomy</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Sebastian Perumbilly-USA</i> <i>Erica Lorentz-USA</i>	This presentation demonstrates how Jungian psychology enriches family systems therapy by fostering autonomy and connection in culturally grounded families. Using a Hispanic immigrant family case, it highlights shadow, archetypes, and individuation as tools for symbolic healing, cultural attunement, and transforming family conflict into opportunities for collective growth.	45min
<b>Contextual Therapy: A Unique Clinical Framework for Intervening with Adolescents and Emerging Adults</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>D. Scott Sibley-USA</i>	This workshop will teach participants how to incorporate a contextual therapy framework in their clinical work with adolescents and emerging adults (18-29 year-olds). The most basic tenets of contextual therapy such as fairness, entitlements, and relational ethics are highly applicable when working with adolescents and emerging adults clinically.	45min
<b>Competent Practice With Refugee Populations: Attending to Post-settlement Mental Health Needs</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Michelle Keller-USA</i> <i>Priscila Llamasa-USA</i>	Resettlement offers daunting challenges for refugees. This presentation draws from a scoping review and practitioner knowledge to advance understanding of refugees’ mental health needs, thereby promoting competency in assessment and treatment for individuals while framing supports for displaced families.	45min
<b>IsiXhosa-speaking Single Mothers’ Experiences of Intlawulo (Paying the Damages)</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Abraham Greeff-South Africa</i> <i>Caileen Lubbe-South Africa</i>	What are IsiXhosa-speaking single mothers’ experiences of intlawulo (paying the damages)? Participants were non-randomly recruited and data were collected through semi-structured interviews. Participants’ experiences varied (positively and/or negatively), and were often contingent upon whether their partners had acknowledged paternity and/or paid intlawulo to her family.	20min 11:00-11:20

<b>Supporting Divorcing Families in Singapore: Mandatory Co-Parenting Programme</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Nancy Ng-Singapore</i> <i>Charmaine Leong-Singapore</i>	Singapore's Mandatory Co-Parenting Programme provides e-learning and consultation for divorcing families. Analysis of 600+ participants at 6-month follow-up showed significant improvements in parent wellbeing, resilience, child functioning, and reduced co-parenting conflict. However, declining child-parent relationships highlight areas for improvement. Findings inform policy development.	20min 11:25-11:45
<b>The Embodied Therapist: Linking Physiology to Observed Systemic Skills</b>		Room 5 Kjellersmauet
<i>Adam Jones-USA</i>	This workshop discusses the connection between therapist physiology and observer rated systemic therapy skills. We present findings from a recent study with graduate students who completed the Facilitative Systemic Intervention Skills task by responding to challenging therapy scenarios. Implications for training therapist skills and physiological awareness will be discussed.	20min 11:00-11:20
12:00-12:45	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Synthesizing Grounding Practices with Systemic Therapy Dynamics</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Christie Eppler-USA</i>	This workshop integrates grounding practices with systemic therapy, including Milan-influenced techniques such as sequencing and circular questions. Through didactic, demonstration, and experiential methods, participants will explore how grounding enhances relational insight, supports regulation, and deepens systemic interventions for intimate partnerships and families.	45min
<b>Three Lenses, One Model: An Integrative Approach to Couples Therapy</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Timothy Donovan-USA</i>	This workshop explores the Developmental Model of Couples Therapy—an integrative approach rooted in differentiation, attachment theory, and neuroscience. Learn how this framework addresses attachment reactivity, emotional vulnerabilities, and communication patterns, helping couples move through conflict toward deeper connection and create the kind of relationship they desire.	45min CE
<b>Systemic and Interpersonal Trauma in Foster Care: Integrative Therapeutic Strategies</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Catherine Lewis-USA</i>	This workshop explores therapeutic strategies for families in foster care by centering both systemic and interpersonal trauma. Participants will consider how contextual factors shape family experiences and engagement with service providers. Video clips will illustrate the impact of these dynamics and demonstrate approaches that support compassionate collaboration and family reunification.	45min
<b>Response to ICE Raids: A Thematic Analysis of Community Conversations</b>		Room 11 Museplass
<i>Joanna Mendez-Pounds-USA</i> <i>Jennifer Bribiesca-USA</i> <i>McKenna Cape-USA</i> <i>Jade Roberts-USA</i>	Presenters will review a thematic analysis of community responses to ICE raids since the start of the Trump Administration. Presenters will discuss themes extracted from public commentary from BIPOC people who discuss their responses to ICE raids and their engagement with forum commentators. Implications for clinical practice discussed.	45min
<b>From Clinic to Classroom: Are MFT Doctoral Graduates Ready to Teach?</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Keri Grant-USA</i>	This session will discuss marriage and family therapy doctoral graduates perception of preparedness to be higher education faculty, and factors contributing to their perceptions. Implications are offered for current MFT administrators and faculty to enhance doctoral training and equip the next generation of educators.	45min
<b>Advancing Digital Competencies in Social Work Education: Insights, Innovations, and Practical Approaches</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>Mo Yuen Han-Hong Kong (China, SAR)</i>	This presentation explores digital competencies in social work education, highlighting a study on digital self-efficacy among social service practitioners. It emphasizes a Hong Kong course teaching digital skills using AI, VR, and metaverse, enhancing students' digital competence through innovative methods like digital games and virtual therapy for client needs.	45min
<b>Satir Human Validation Process Model: Applications to Indigenous Populations</b>		Room 15 Galgebakken
<i>Melita Quance-USA</i> <i>Li Hay-USA</i> <i>Ashley Rakela-USA</i>	This presentation explores whether the Satir Human Validation Process Model can be culturally responsive when applied to therapeutic work with Indigenous families while highlighting a case study with a family from the Lummi Nation that integrates ceremony, storytelling, family sculpting, family reconstruction, and an exploration of incongruent communication stances.	45min
<b>Self (of-the-therapist) Evaluation</b>		Room 4 Hodden
<i>Douglas McPhee-USA</i> <i>Heidi Swallow-USA</i>	"Am I good at my job? Am I providing effective therapy? How can I become better?" Therapists are consistently seeking to appraise their professional performance. Yet, holistic models to guide self-examination are scant. We offer a framework with which therapists can engage in self-evaluation.	20min 12:25-12:45

12:45-13:45	Light Lunch	Ground floor lobby
13:45-14:30	Presentations/workshops	Room
<b>Systemic Family Therapy in a Shifting Global Political Climate</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Kristen Benson-USA</i> <i>Saliha Bava-USA</i>	The changing political landscape across the globe has created concerns and challenges for systemic family therapists. This workshop will draw from collaborative dialogic practices to address how the political climate has impacted SFTs, explore strategies to mitigate concerns, and invite participants to share their clinical practice or training context.	45min
<b>Our emotional relation to things: Analyzing material realities in research and therapy.</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Joanna Rzadzowska-Norway</i>	Socioeconomic conditions and material possessions are a vital part of our lives. When our clients and research participants share experiences about their realities, how do we best understand what they communicate? In this presentation, we propose a "New materialist template" to analyze the connections between emotions, relations and material realities.	20min 13:45-14:05 CE
<b>Full-Time Children in China: Family Dynamics of Unemployed Co-Residence</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Meng Fang-China</i> <i>Mai Yu-China</i> <i>Yitong Wu-China</i>	Using a systemic perspective, this semi-structured interview study examines Chinese families in which unemployed adults (30+) live with parents as "full-time children." Thematic findings address role expectations, care/financial exchange, boundaries, stigma, and autonomy negotiations, with takeaways for clinicians working with these families and individuals.	20min 14:10-14:30 CE
<b>Bisexual Women in Heterosexual-Presenting Relationships: Mental Health Implications</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Rob McKinney-USA</i> <i>Lisa Bennett-USA</i> <i>Adam Fisher-USA</i>	This presentation explores the lived experiences of bisexual women in heterosexual-presenting relationships through data from semi-structured interviews. Couple therapy implications include: (a) consideration of partner dynamics; (b) seeking validation and navigating invalidation; and (c) bisexual identity development journey. Implications underscore the need for affirming, identity-informed couples therapy.	45min
<b>Decolonization of social work with indigenous peoples: Sami family therapy in the shadow of Norwegianization</b>		Room 11 Musepass
<i>Johan Inge Greff-Norway</i>	This presentation explores how social work can be decolonized through Sami family therapy. Rooted in the South Sami context and shaped by experiences of Norwegianization, it emphasizes nature, language, kinship, and historical awareness. Therapy promotes healing, identity, and cultural safety through systemic, restorative, and epistemologically diverse practice.	45min
<b>Understanding listening in a cultural and system therapy perspective</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Ruth Chayil Haraldseid-Norway</i> <i>Elin Okkenhaug Bratland-Norway</i>	Listening is viewed as one of the most important skills for therapists. This workshop is based on hermeneutics research to understand the nature of listening. The presenter will look at what it means in a western, family therapy setting, and compare it to how it's understood in other cultures.	45min
<b>Keeping it 100: Sexual Communication in LGBTQ+ and non-monogamous relationships</b>		Room 14 Tarnplass
<i>Rebecca Lucero Jones-USA</i> <i>Emily Morehead-USA</i> <i>Martinique Nicol-USA</i> <i>Alex Franklin-USA</i>	To date, most sexual communication research studies have focused on heterosexual couples. In our presentation, we highlight important variables that predict sexual and relational satisfaction in gender and sexual minorities, including non-monogamous relationships. We will share key practices of satisfied couples and discuss clinical applications of this research.	45min
14:45-15:30	Presentations/workshops	
<b>The Price of Erasure: Advancing Relational Wellbeing in the Face of Systemic Harm</b>		Room 1 Dragefjellet
<i>Wendell Scantbury-USA</i>	Political trends and the COVID-19 pandemic revisited profound systemic harm from historical traumas on minoritized families in the United States. This workshop applies systems thinking and critical family therapies to examine the relational consequences of devaluation. Participants will identify actionable, ethical responses to advance healing and relational well-being.	45min
<b>Reclaiming Narratives: A Multiple Family Narrative Therapy Model for Neurodivergent Chinese Children and Families</b>		Room 2 Teatergaten
<i>Tak-Mau Chan-Hong Kong</i>	Confucian values complicate experiences of Chinese families with neurodivergent children, risking marginalization. Integrating Narrative Therapy and Multiple Family Therapy empowers families to reframe identity through supportive communities. A four-week intervention with 90 families highlights neurodiversity affirmation, family agency, and cultural competence as key to healing and belonging.	45min CE

<b>Efficiency of Implementing Family Protection Policies in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: From the Perspective of Professional Social Work Practice</b>		Room 3 Sydneshaugen
<i>Raniah Aljohani-Saudi Arabia</i>	This study examined social workers' perceptions of roles, ethical standards, and policy implementation in family protection services. Using a descriptive design and questionnaire administered to 137 social workers, SPSS analysis identified challenges and emphasized the role of practice in strengthening services aligned with Saudi Vision 2030 nationally	45min
<b>From Resilience to Rupture: Understanding and Addressing Delayed-Onset Trauma Among Refugees After Resettlement</b>		Room 11 Musepllass
<i>Abdikheir Ahmed-Canada John Smyth-Canada Tanya Elez-Canada</i>	Many refugees initially appear well but later experience family and systemic ruptures as trauma resurfaces post-resettlement. Drawing on trauma-informed, culturally grounded, and family-systems approaches, the presentation examines early trauma assessment and systemic interventions that strengthen family resilience and prevent delayed-onset psychological distress among refugees.	45min
<b>Joining the dots: Connecting children with their families and facilitating conversations about sexual abuse</b>		Room 12 Strangehagen
<i>Keith O'Reilly-Ireland</i>	The workshop proposes to show the benefit of the family therapy team approach with families affected by sexual abuse with reference to a case example.	45min

# IFTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

IFTA is the professional association for those interested in marriage and family therapy throughout the world. As such, it is the only organization that provides unity for therapists from east to west, respecting traditional approaches and embracing the tradition of tomorrow.



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# CONGRESS LOYALTY DISCOUNT REGISTRATION RATE

If you are attending this 2026 World Family Therapy Congress, you are able to register for the 2027 World Congress in Adalaide, Australia at a Loyalty Discount Rate that will be announced at the Thursday morning plenary.

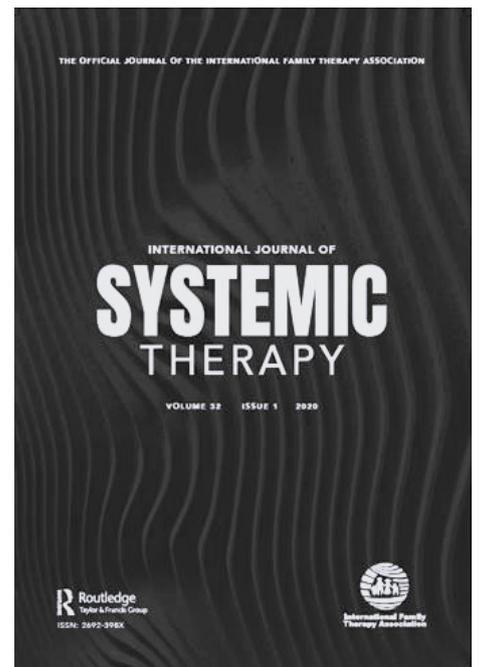
Stop by the IFTA Registration desk and we will help you register at the special price.

## IFTA'S INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SYSTEMIC THERAPY

The Journal is a unique, peer-reviewed journal designed for practicing clinicians as well as academics that offers empirical studies, treatment reports, theoretical discussion, and strategies in clinical practice from family psychotherapy scholars from around the world. The Journal offers empirical studies, program reports, strategies in clinical practice, and theoretical discussions and essays. Additional specialty sections include Family Therapy Around the World, Intervention Interchange, Family Therapy and Mental Health, and Media Reviews. The Journal also regularly publishes special issues on various topics guest-edited by experts in diverse areas of family psychotherapy. The Journal is editorially and administratively managed by IFTA, and published by Taylor & Francis.

The Journal Editor is Todd Edward, Ph.D., from the University of San Diego, CA. Look for his workshop.

A free subscription to the Journal is part of membership in IFTA. For more information, contact the IFTA Executive Director: [wjhiebert@aol.com](mailto:wjhiebert@aol.com).



## INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION COMMISSION FOR SYSTEMIC THERAPY EDUCATION

Created as a semi-autonomous body under the auspices of the International Family Therapy Association (IFTA), the International Accreditation Commission for Systemic Therapy Education (IACSTE) focuses on the development and implementation of quality standards for programs around the world that provide systemic therapy education and training. These standards are created to enhance the development of professionals who will be qualified to provide systemic therapy for individuals, couples, and families in the communities in which they live and work. Both Tier 1 (Primary) and Tier 2 (Advanced) sets of standards were created to enhance the development of professionals who will be qualified to provide systemic therapy for individuals, couples, and families in the communities in which they live and work.

**Congress attendees may request a consultation with Commission members here in Bergen. Contact the Registration Desk and ask them to contact William Hiebert for an appointment.**

The Standards and Application for accreditation are available at:  
<http://www.ifta-familytherapy.org/accreditation.php>

# Student Scholarship Winners

## Fatma Reid Scholarship

### Alexandra Cintrón Oquendo

Alexandra Cintrón Oquendo is a doctoral student in Clinical Psychology at The University of Puerto Rico in Rio Piedras, where she also earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. As a therapist in clinical training, she has worked in diverse settings, including a university clinic, community centers, and employee assistance programs. Throughout these experiences, she has been supervised under narrative, social constructionist, and systemic approaches. Currently, Alexandra is working on her doctoral dissertation, which examines the relationship between mistreatment during childbirth and postpartum depression among Puerto Rican mothers. Her academic and professional interests focus on maternal mental health, community service, and the use of creative resources in therapeutic work. Outside academia, she enjoys the arts, especially drawing with dry media such as charcoal.

## World Family Therapy Congress Student Scholarship



**Reyna Mejia Kot**  
Loma Linda University



**Dylann F. Lowery**  
Florida State University

# Loyalty Rate

**Attendees must register while at this  
years Congress to receive the rate.**

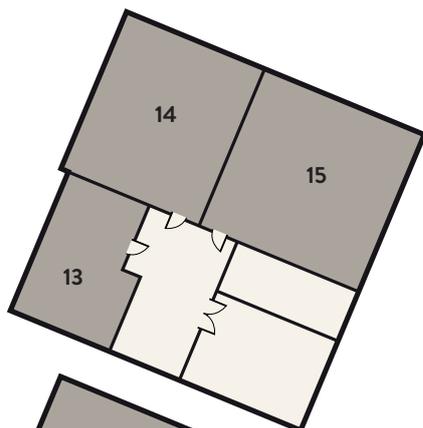
**\$800**

**Come to the registration desk to register.**

# Venue Map

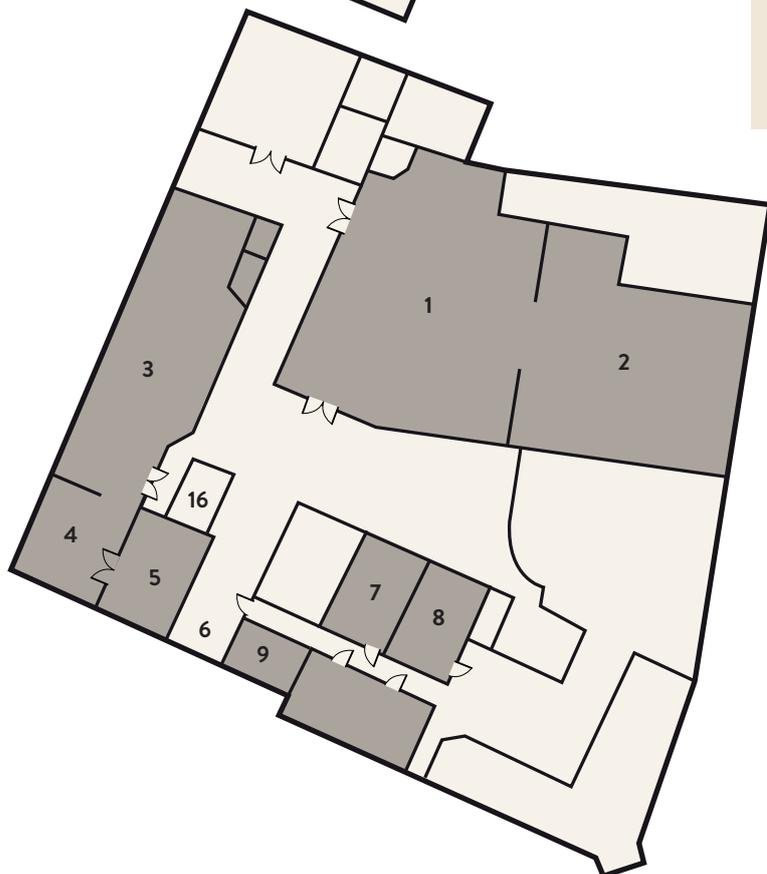
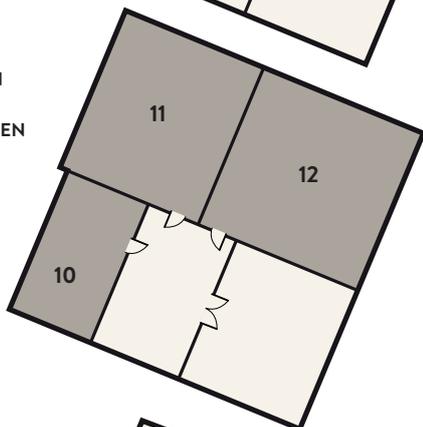
## ETASJE 4

- 13. KNØSESMAUET
- 14. TÅRNPLASS
- 15. GALGEBAKKEN



## ETASJE 3

- 10. VASKERELVEN
- 11. MUSÉPLASS
- 12. STRANGHAGEN



## HOTELLFAKTA

### ROM

- Totalt 262 rom
- Tilgjengelighetsrom: 7
- Allergivennlige rom: 90

### BELIGGENHET

- Avstand til togstasjon: 1,4 km
- Avstand til flyplass: 18 km
- Avstand til flybuss: 0,6 km
- Fløibanen: 1 km
- Aquarium: 1 km
- Bryggen Bergen: 1,5 km

### MØTEROM

- 21 små, mellomstore og store møterom
- Maksimum møtekapasitet: 700
- Bankettkapasitet: 560

### HOTELLFASILITETER

- Scandic SHOP 24 timer
- Klesvasktjeneste
- Kjæledyrvennlige rom
- Gratis Wi-Fi
- 24-timers sikkerhet

## ETASJE 2

- 1. DRAGEFJELLET
- 2. TEATERGATEN
- 3. SYDNESHAUGEN
- 4. HØDDEN
- 5. KJELLERSMAUET
- 6. KRINKELKROKEN
- 7. DOKKEN
- 8. BANEVEIEN
- 9. KLOSTERET
- 16. TOALETTER



Dette hotellet er Svanemerket, noe som innebærer at det har innfridd noen av verdens tøffeste miljøkrav for hoteller- og overnattingsbedrifter. Det betyr blant annet at hotellet har lavt energiforbruk, benytter kjemikalier med lav miljøbelastning og aktivt jobber med å redusere avfallsmengde og vannforbruk.

**Scandic**

2027 World Family Therapy Congress  
**Adelaide, Australia**

March 11th-13th 2027

More information available on our website soon!  
[www.ifta-congress.org](http://www.ifta-congress.org)

