FROM THE PRESIDENT:

**Shaping the Institute for a Sustainable Future**

Chicago architect Louis Sullivan famously stated, “Form ever follows function.” He meant that the shape of a building should reflect its purpose. Here at the Institute we have taken this principle seriously as we made revisions to our bylaws so that our governance structure better reflects the way our organization currently works.

Insuring formal policies reflect actual processes is one way to guarantee the long-term health of the organization. There are also new processes embedded in the changes that will help us to be more effective. For example, our new bylaws include changes in the way the President and Dean are selected; a Faculty Senate with elected representatives to advise and consult with the President and Board; and a closer to full-time role to allow the president to spend more time leading the organization.

These changes recognize that the Institute is a nonprofit organization with the Board of Trustees responsible for its finances, overall health and stability. Our primary mission is the education of mental health professionals as psychoanalysts and psychoanalytic psychotherapists. The faculty, which includes the Dean and President, are responsible for insuring the excellence and integrity of the educational programs. The Board and faculty have separate functions, but must work together to successfully accomplish our mission.

In addition to specifying roles and responsibilities and clarifying faculty leadership, the new policies will equip us to be more effective now and into the future. Our expectation is that these revisions will help us muster care, and assist more professionals to become proficient in harnessing principles of psychodynamic psychotherapy.

A new process for selecting the President and Dean was one of the revisions to the bylaws. With the resignation of Neal Spira as Dean, we had the opportunity to implement this new process. A Dean Selection Committee presented candidates to the President who made the final choice. Prudence Gourguechon, MD began her term as Dean in July. Prudy is a graduate of the Institute’s Psychoanalytic Education Program, a former president of the American Psychoanalytic Association, and, having closed her private practice after 35 years, a consultant to businesses and organizations. All these experiences will hold her in good stead as she assumes the role of Dean.

**FACULTY SENATE**

New Dean Prudy Gourguechon will coordinate closely with the Faculty Senate, created earlier this year to consult with and advise the president, dean and board. Earlier this year the faculty elected the following as members:

- Laura Eiskoff, MA, is a past director of the Erikson Institute
- Steven Flagel, MD, is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine
- Charles Jaffe, MD, is a Training and Supervising Analyst at the Institute and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Rush University Medical Center; he also serves on the board of the Chinese American Psychoanalytic Alliance
- Ann Kaplan, PhD, recently received the Institute Candidates’ Association 2019 Teacher of the Year award.
- Mark Levey, MD, is an affiliate faculty member at Rush University
- Kate Schechter, LCSW, PhD, directs the Chicago Center for Contemporary Psychotherapy, serves as Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Rush Medical College and previously was on the faculty of the Institute for Clinical Social Work.
- Molly Romer Witten, PhD is a Training and Supervising Analyst at the Institute

The Institute is grateful to them for their willingness to serve.
Faculty, students and friends of the Institute gathered Friday, June 14 to celebrate 31 graduates of the Fundamentals of Psychoanalytic Thought, Adult Psychotherapy, and Psychoanalytic Education programs.

Board Chair Bob Graham, representing both the board and also President Erika Schmidt who was unable to attend, recognized outgoing Dean Neal Spira and Associate Dean Leo Weinstein for their service to the Institute over the past five years.

“They’ve been thoughtful, caring and successful in their collaboration with colleagues and everybody at the Institute,” Graham said. “They’ve also been excellent sounding boards about every proposal. Neal and Leo thought things through and helped us reach decisions we needed to reach. As Erika stated in preparation for tonight, we’re very appreciative for that and also for their vision of psychoanalysis as revolutionary, individualistic and very powerful.”

Also recognized for service to the Institute was Dale Gody, outgoing director of the Exploring Psychoanalysis Program (Nancy Lawrenz has already taken leadership of the program, which is currently recruiting new students). The Institute Candidates’ Association, represented by Joann Dakota Cimo and Chris Rigling, named Ann Kaplan as Teacher of the Year.

There was also music, as Spira and Weinstein serenaded the group, and even led a singalong, on guitar.

See more photos at bit.ly/CPH19Grads.

President Erika Schmidt announced in June that Prudence Gourguechon, MD, will be the next Dean of the Chicago Psychoanalytic Institute, effective July 1.

Schmidt thanked outgoing Dean Neal Spira for his five years of service, recognizing his contribution to the substantial developments that have occurred at the Institute in that period, and welcomed Gourguechon.

“Prudy brings a broad perspective on psychoanalysis to the position of Dean along with a wealth of administrative and implementation experience,” Schmidt said. “She is eager to bring her extensive experience with psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic organizations to the challenges the Chicago Institute faces as we move forward.”

Among other qualifications, Gourguechon is a past president of the American Psychoanalytic Association (2008-2010), as well as serving in other leadership posts at APsaA. She is a 1994 graduate of the Institute’s Psychoanalytic Education Program.

Gourguechon noted Spira set an inspiring example to follow: “I hold Neal up as an ideal of good humor, positivity and sensibility and will strive to measure up to the high standard he has set,” she said. “I look forward to working with all of you – those I know well and those I hope to know well – faculty, board members, staff and students. Please call, email, text or stop me in the halls with any ideas or questions you have.”

The Institute also welcomed Celia Brickman, PhD as a new Adjunct Faculty member. Brickman is a psychotherapist at the Center for Religion & Psychotherapy of Chicago, where she has previously served as director of education and faculty member. The first edition of her book, Race in Psychoanalysis: Aboriginal Populations in the Mind, was nominated for a Gradiva award, and the book was featured at a Psychoanalysis Today session last year. More about her is at celiabrickman.com.

We also welcome two new board members. Rita Sussman, PhD is a therapist in private practice and a graduate of the Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy program. David Tartakoff, PhD, is professor emeritus in the Mathematics Department at University of Illinois at Chicago.

HUMAN. BEING.
Thank you to all who enjoyed a lovely spring evening at the University Club of Chicago to celebrate the work of the Chicago Psychoanalytic Institute and transformative value of psychoanalysis on May 15. Watch the video at chicagopsychoanalysis.org/content/benefit,

Support received at the benefit will continue to ensure the excellence of the Institute’s Education Programs and secure the Institute’s ability to offer mental health services through its Treatment Center.

We’re already working on next year’s benefit – if you have suggestions or ideas that you’d like us to consider, please be in touch with Director of Development Mary Mucci, mmucci@chicagoanalysis.org.

ESTATE PLANNING:
Leaving your Legacy

Saying goodbye is never easy, but good planning during your lifetime can give peace of mind during end of life, knowing your wishes are clear and will be followed by those you have designated as your representatives.

It is easy to put off the process when you aren’t sure who to choose to manage your affairs or how to determine who might be best, as well as emotional conflicts about how to divide assets among family, friends and charities. But if you do not have a will or trust that outlines your final wishes, the state, through the appointment of a probate judge, will make decisions for you about your assets and guardians for minor children. This can be costly, time consuming, and disruptive to your loved ones. It also may not be aligned with your wishes.

Estate planning is not generally a one and done proposition. In other words, things change over time. Marriages, divorces, deaths, new grandchildren, change of address, interests, and friends, can all influence your decisions and may indicate necessary changes to your documents. Most experts recommend a review of your documents every 3-5 years and when a major life change occurs.

If you haven’t started your planning process, or if you haven’t reviewed your documents in the last three years, take a moment to carve out some time on your calendar and get going.

A little bit of homework in finding the right attorney can make a big difference in ensuring that your documents accurately reflect your wishes and can be carried out without incident.

A good estate planning attorney will help you make the best decisions you can at this moment in time with the ability to review, update and change your mind at any time in the future. Choose a lawyer who has demonstrated the highest level of professionalism in wills and trust, estate planning and tax law.

You can use the estate planning process to honor the Institute by including the Chicago Psychoanalytic Institute in your plans. Contact Mary Mucci to learn more: 312.897.1424, mmucci@chicagoanalysis.org.
CONTINUING EDUCATION  Fall 2019

Watch for details on these and other continuing education courses and programs:

MENTAL HEALTH IN PRISONS: PSYCHOANALYTIC PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, October 26
Featuring presentations by Seidenberg Prize winners Stephanie Gangemi, LCSW and Elizabeth Kita, PhD plus a panel of national experts on mental-health-treatment in prisons.
Psychoanalytic thinking opens up a world of new opportunities for understanding the psychological needs and inner lives of a population that has too often been seen as “the other.”
In 2018, the Chicago Psychoanalytic Institute awarded a prize for papers applying psychoanalytic perspectives to the problem of mental health in prisons. A global audience of academics, therapists, and others submitted articles. Building on that work and the interest in and importance of the topic, the Institute is convening a gathering to discuss the issue this fall. The Institute gratefully recognizes the support of Dentons LLP in making the prize and this conference possible.

CONSULTATION GROUP: WORK WITH CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS, & FAMILIES
Led by Ann Kaplan, PhD
Fall 2019 start date TBA

CONSULTATION GROUP: WORK WITH ADULTS
Led by Leo Weinstein, MD
Beginning Friday, October 18

TREATING TRANS PATIENTS: CONTAINING COMPLEXITY AND EMBRACING EMBODIMENT
Led by Susan Vaughan, MD
Saturday, November 9