

# Connections

an ITP community newsletter Spring 2007

## TRAGIC DEATH OF ITP ALUMNA LARISSA KEET INSPIRES SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN HER NAME

Last January, members of the ITP Community were shocked to hear of the untimely death of beloved ITP alumna, Larissa Keet. Larissa died after she was hit by a truck while crossing a street in Nairobi, Kenya, last January. She was in Kenya to attend a meeting of the World Social Forum.

Larissa was tirelessly committed to the environment, world peace, women's rights and social justice. She looked for positive solutions, rather than simply protesting what she didn't like. In addition to being an alumna and supporter of ITP, she made many contributions to the world community, touching many lives. A board member at Acterra: Action for a Sustainable Earth, she was active in many community groups, including Hidden Villa, Common Ground, and the Foundation for Global Community. She was also in Raging Grannies of the San Francisco Peninsula and Los Altos Voices for Peace.

She worked in conflict resolution, participating in several international trips to the Middle East with the Compassionate Listening Project, devoted to peace-building through reconciliation dialogue. "Larissa embodied transpersonal values," says ITP Board Chair and alumna, Marilyn Manning (PhD '83). "She exemplified the impact ITP alumni can have in the world. Larissa was truly making the world a better place. Her death is a great loss for us all."



BELOVED ALUMNA, LARISSA KEET  
(1941-2007)

*Continued on page 3*



## A LETTER FROM NEW ITP PRESIDENT, DR. THOMAS POTTERFIELD

Dear Friends and ITP Supporters:

I am thrilled to be joining the ITP Community as president. Like you, I have long admired the quality of ITP's student and faculty research, its scholarly focus on transpersonal psychology, and its powerfully transformative educational model.

I am proud to become part of an institution that is grounded in timeless values that foster greater consciousness and compassion, as well as academic excellence. ITP students develop not just academic understanding and professional skills, but also character, awareness, compassion, and vision – qualities so needed in today's world.

As I prepare to begin my tenure of service to ITP, I want to thank each of you for your support of the school.

Your gifts to the annual fund, student scholarships, or to the ground breaking research of our extraordinary faculty and students have tremendous impact. Some of you have included ITP in your estate planning. Others have supported the institute by referring people to our counseling center, volunteering your time, or introducing us to potential donors.

Your generosity has enabled ITP to develop into a vital and creative community that contributes significantly to the alleviation of suffering and the realization of the highest aspects of human potential. You can be proud of what you have helped to create. I look forward to learning more about your desires for the school's future and to becoming your partner in bringing those desires into being.

Please join me in supporting ITP's continued growth, strengthening its academic vision, and encouraging its dynamic engagement with the greater community and the world.

Sincerely,

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Tragic Death of ITP Alumna  
Larissa Keet Inspires Scholarship Fund  
in her Name .....1

A Letter from New ITP President,  
*Dr. Thomas Potterfield* .....1

ITP Offers New Global Certificate in  
Coaching .....2

Giving from the Heart: *An Interview  
with Lou Dunn Diekemper* .....3

Faculty Spotlight on Arthur Hastings . . .4

Student Scholarships Now A Top  
Priority for ITP: *Efforts Redoubled for  
2nd Annual Online Auction* .....5

ITP Welcomes New President,  
*Dr. Thomas Potterfield* .....6

Board Spotlight on Lynn Myhal .....6

Student Spotlight on Sean Hatt .....7

ITP’s Center for the Divine Feminine  
Gets a New Director .....7

Alumni Association President  
Passes the Baton .....8

Alumni “Dip into the Well”  
with New Gatherings .....9

Alumni in the News .....9

Featured Alumnus: Dr. Mark Brady ...10

ClassNotes .....10

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Dear ITP Community:

It is with great pleasure that I offer you the third edition of Connections – a newsletter designed to keep you informed, connected and up-to-date on the world of ITP. We hope you will share our joys, our sorrows and our successes through this simple vehicle. Please feel free to contact me at [tbyars@itp.edu](mailto:tbyars@itp.edu) with any corrections, suggestions, or submissions, and please stay connected!

Warmly,



Tracy Byars  
(MATP '05)



TRACY BYARS

ITP OFFERS NEW GLOBAL CERTIFICATE  
IN COACHING

ALL ABOUT COACHING – ITP STYLE

Coaching of all varieties has exploded over the past ten years. Life coaching in particular is attractive to many because it’s proactive and delivers positive results. As the popularity of life coaching grows, more people are starting to ask, “What is life coaching, and how does it differ from therapy?”

“Coaching is the latest trend, and I wanted to know what it was all about,” says Paula Casella, a recent graduate of ITP’s new Global coaching program.

Life coaching is much like coaching sports. In sports the goals are clear and the techniques to accomplish them are learned by those playing them. The players attempt to perform as required, while the coach reviews the techniques with them, making sure they practice the right actions to accomplish the desired results. During a game, the coach watches to see if the proper techniques are applied, and motivates the players to perform them. The coach may also discover, and help the player overcome, any self-limiting beliefs.

Unlike therapy, coaching is directive, generative, and results oriented. Therapy often focuses on unresolved issues from the past, which affect an individual’s personality and behavior in the present. Rather than looking into the past to understand the present, coaching takes the client from the present moment forward. “As coaches, we’re looking at what obstacles the client is putting in the way of achieving the outcomes they say they want,” says Dr. Rosie Kuhn (PhD ‘01), coach, therapist, and facilitator of ITP’s Global Coaching Certificate program. “We deal only with the functional aspects of an individual... with accountability and integrity. Therapy is more about strengthening ego identity to help the client to become functional.”

Coaching works mainly with the conscious mind, and it works well with people who are eager to move to a higher level of functioning. These individuals seek focus and strategies and are motivated to act on their own behalf toward desired outcomes. They are willing to design their future, learn new skills, and seek more balance in their lives. They are willing to be courageous in the face of the unknown.

The client/coach relationship is cooperative. The client directs the focus, while the coach shares the tools that will evoke action on the part of the client. The intention is to generate new interpretations of how the client sees themselves in their life and in the world. Interpretations create thoughts, feeling, behaviors, actions and results – those we want and those we don’t want. Through the process of shifting interpretations we can shift the qualities of being we bring into any situation or environment. This evokes inspiration and transformation and enables the client to realize his or her desires.

“What I liked most about ITP’s coaching program is that it offered me a very applicable skill while honoring the transpersonal nature of our field,” says Casella. “As a teacher I tell people about facts. As a consultant I recommend, offer specific suggestions, and am heavily immersed in the process and outcome. As a Transpersonal Coach I am an agent facilitating the process so that the group or individual has full accountability for the process and outcome.”

Coaching, as taught at ITP at least, has a very spiritual aspect. “Is the client willing to step into their truth? That’s the spiritual aspect of it... It’s goal driven, but it’s faith driven too,” says Rosie. As a coach, when she can get her clients to articulate what is keeping them in a holding pattern, they begin to see how that choice is creating their reality. For transformation to occur, the client must be willing to engage in the conversation of how they’re creating/attracting what’s showing up in their lives. Their willingness to practice something different, to let go of the known for the unknown, is the spiritual aspect. Coaching supports people to take risks, to take that leap of faith.

For more information about ITP’s Global Coaching Certificate Program, including cost and registration information, contact [info@itp.edu](mailto:info@itp.edu).



ROSIE KUHN

## GIVING FROM THE HEART

### AN INTERVIEW WITH ALUMNA LOU DUNN DIEKEMPER



LOU DIEKEMPER

ITP Global Alumna Lou Dunn Diekemper (MATS '87) knows that older women can sometimes use a helping hand. So, in 1998, Ms. Diekemper established the *Diekemper Endowment for the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology* to provide scholarship support for women who are forty years and older, and in the Global Program. Ms. Diekemper felt her experience at ITP was life-changing. She wished to offer support and encouragement to older women students in the program.

This year, for the first time in several years, a student was chosen to receive the scholarship. Pat Nel, a South African woman, age sixty, accepted it, "with great surprise, pleasure, and gratitude." Pat has been in ITP's Global program for two years and was recently accepted into the third year Global PhD program. "Receiving this gift feels like a form of recognition as well as support to extend myself into the world," Pat said. "I am now more determined than ever to make a contribution."



PAT NEL

### A CONVERSATION WITH LOU DUNN DIEKEMPER:

**What was important to you about your ITP experience?**

I was in my 50's when I entered the Global Program at ITP. I got a certificate in 1986 and received a Masters in Transpersonal Studies in 1987. The program forced me to do a lot of things that I had never done before. For example, although I had attended a women's support group, I had never led one, so it really stretched me. The program was perfect for me because I have always loved to write, so writing papers was great. I enjoyed working with the faculty mentors who made every course interesting, and I particularly enjoyed the seminars where I could meet other people in the program.

My dissertation topic was on women, fifty-five and older. I saw that older women are faced with a lot of problems, and that many women, particularly women of color, can fall through the cracks.

**What moved you to start the endowed scholarship fund for ITP?**

I was in a position to do it. I was concerned about older women. I had started another fund for women in the Lubbock, Texas area to help women get a degree or a certificate at junior colleges, universities, or training to learn a means of supporting themselves. Then I started thinking about ITP and realized that older women students at ITP might need some financial help and encouragement. In our culture, we tend to see the older years as being of lesser value to individuals and society.

**What do you do now, and how does your ITP experience influence who you are today?**

I'm very involved in business, and my fourth book on aging is now at the publisher. It's a collection of essays, or reflections, on aging called *Let Us Share: A Conversation on Growing Older*. It really is a conversation. I want the reader to ask "Is this true for me?" or if the reader is younger, "Will this be true for me?"

My ITP experience very much influenced who I have become. I had always traveled a lot, always enjoyed different cultures, different ways of life, and different spiritual traditions. But even so, there were many things – such as Sufism and remote viewing – that ITP exposed me to. I am grateful for that and want to support older women to enjoy the same enriching experience I enjoyed at ITP.

**“My ITP experience very much influenced who I have become. I am grateful for that and want to support older women to enjoy the same enriching experience I enjoyed at ITP.”**

### TRAGIC DEATH OF ITP ALUMNA LARISSA KEET INSPIRES SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN HER NAME

*continued from page 1*

In response to the heartbreaking news of her death, alumnus Leon Pyle (PhD '88) and his wife Cathy DeForest founded the Larissa Keet Memorial Scholarship Fund with a significant donation. The fund is intended to honor Larissa's memory and to inspire and support ITP students wishing to work for peace, women's rights, social justice and environmental protection. So far, all funds collected have been matched by Larissa's estate.

Larissa's classmates, Leon Pyle, Nancy Sallan, and Donald Rothenberg recently reflected on Larissa:

*I met Larissa when I interviewed as a student candidate in the fall of 1980, and was struck by her compassionate, deep listening ability. Later, as members of the same class, I discovered that Larissa cared about everyone she met...Generous, kind, patient, and committed to causes she deemed important, Larissa was a model for me and many others. I learned from Larissa, and miss our intimate conversations. Thinking of her brings both a longing and a warm feeling to my heart.*

Leon Pyle (PhD '88)

*In 1991, I was completing my MATP at ITP. I received an ITP newsletter that included information about a trip to the Soviet Union in 1999 Larissa was co-leading. I signed up, and thus began a 17 year long friendship with a woman who had so many facets that she was as brilliant as a diamond. She always found ways to support my ideas and energy. Whether it was the care and nurturing of the planet, or her own organic diet and health, she had the spirit and the discipline to think locally, and globally – to take*

*Continued on page 4*

**TRAGIC DEATH OF ITP ALUMNA LARISSA KEET INSPIRES SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN HER NAME**

*continued from page 3*

*appropriate action in making the earth a more peaceful, integrated, and eco-sustained habitat for us all. Work well done, dear Larissa.*

Nancy Sallan, (MATP '91)

*I remember Larissa as Betty Lou Keet, and I will remember her by that beautiful name... We started together at ITP in 1980, where I see her in my mind's eye. She's organic, alive, ever present! I hear her voice, her laughter, her warmth and friendliness. We shared the 'pressure cooker' first two years of classes, group therapy, community meetings, workshops, aikido, everything! It was like we all lived together those two years, which makes ITP so special and totally unique in the world... We laughed, cried, hugged, sighed. Betty Lou was so warm and well-meaning, real and sincere. She was a beautiful being... one never forgets and is inspired by.*

Donald Rothenberg (PhD '87)

A gift to ITP for the Larissa Keet Memorial Scholarship Fund will honor the memory of Larissa as well as inspire and support students who wish to work for peace, women's rights, social justice and environmental protection, as Larissa did. Checks may be sent payable to ITP at 1069 East Meadow Circle, Palo Alto, CA 94303. Please indicate on the check, or in an accompanying note, that your gift is in memory of Larissa Keet. The family will be notified of each gift in memory of Larissa.

A memorial service honoring the life of Larissa Keet will be held Saturday, May 12, 2007 at Hidden Villa in Los Altos Hills. For details visit [conexions.org/larissa.html](http://conexions.org/larissa.html)

**FACULTY SPOTLIGHT ON ARTHUR HASTINGS  
PSYCHOMANTEUM RESEARCH RECEIVES FUNDING**

Dr. Arthur Hastings is a very modest and extremely effective faculty member. Not only has he developed the psychomanteum – a highly effective approach to healing bereavement – but he has also attracted significant funding from multiple sources in support of his research. One major anonymous donor has recently added \$24,000 to his initial \$100,000 gift in support of Arthur's work. The Fetzer Institute of Kalamazoo, Michigan, also recently chose to grant \$10,000 to ITP in support of Arthur's work.



DR. ARTHUR HASTINGS

Arthur explains "Participants in the psychomanteum are given the opportunity to move toward healing. People have many different reactions to the death of a loved one: love, grief, longing, guilt, anger, resentment, and more. There is no one way that people grieve, and all forms of grief are okay. Participants in the psychomanteum, even those with anger, pain, grief and sadness, are soothed through their experience. "I remember one participant who came in angry with his father for being so strict with the family," recounts Arthur. "In the psychomanteum, he saw the situation through his father's eyes and was able to forgive him."

More than half the participants feel they've had some kind of contact with their departed, most often through a mental conversation or feeling their presence. Sometimes it is visually or through touch. Sometimes the departed is not present, yet nine out of ten participants feel a sense of resolution. "We can't predict what will be the most healing experience," says Arthur. "We simply arrange it so an experience can occur that will be healing."

**The Psychomanteum Process:**

Anyone with unresolved feelings about the death of a loved one can volunteer for this three-hour process. Sessions are offered once every quarter on a weekend. A trained facilitator asks the participant to describe the person who died, their relationship with them and when, where and how they died. They are asked, "If you could speak to them, what would you like to say? If you could hear them, what would you like to hear?"

Participants then sit alone in a dark curtained booth about the size of a large closet, with a mirror at one end (tilted so the participants do not see their own reflection) and a big, comfy recliner in the center. They sit (or recline) there for forty-five minutes thinking about their deceased loved one. Some will see visual images, streams of light, or may feel touches or other bodily sensations. About 64-65% of participants feel they've connected with the person who has died. After they leave the booth, they review their experience with their facilitator.

The entire process is surrounded by research measures, i.e., before and after standard measures of bereavement, like need to communicate, sadness, grief, guilt, and unresolved feelings. Most show marked improvement. In fact, the results have been highly statistically significant – especially noteworthy for a three hour process. These results have been published in a professional journal, and presented at several conferences.

Are the contacts really the spirits of the deceased? This is an open question. "We don't interpret what people are experiencing. We allow the participants to decide for themselves," says Arthur. However, thanks to our donor, Arthur and his team of psychomanteum student researchers are now able to measure effects in the environment. With the recent additional funding, they will soon begin measuring environmental and physiological changes, including electromagnetic and geo-magnetic fields, changes in room temperature, infrared phenomena, galvanic skin response, and brain waves.

The psychomanteum's major benefactor remarks, "The discipline of the scientific approach is critical to getting other people to buy into what Arthur is doing, to get him more attention, more funding, and to build an audience and belief system around his work." This donor believes that there is more happening beyond "normal" reality than western science allows us to believe. He wonders, "Wouldn't it be great to verify participants' experiences through instrumentation and scientific measures? Our ability to develop sensors that measure what is going on is critical to getting the 'scientific' stamp of approval for this important work."

## STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS NOW A TOP PRIORITY FOR ITP

### EFFORTS REDOUBLED FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL ONLINE AUCTION

ITP has recently made student scholarships a top fundraising priority. In line with this priority it is doubling its efforts for its 2nd Annual Online Auction, from which proceeds go directly to scholarships. The Institute recognizes students' need for financial assistance, especially those within the full time PhD program. Federal Aid does not fully cover the costs of tuition, so private loans are needed to fill the gap. "ITP wants to help students with their financial needs wherever possible," says Interim President Charles Randall. "We've listened to the students and understand their needs. In response, a top fundraising priority is building our scholarship funds."

In addition to existing scholarships, four new scholarship funds have been established since late 2005.

"We're now gearing up for our 2nd Annual online auction to benefit student scholarships," says Auction Committee Chair and Board of Trustees member Lynn Myhal. "Last year was a great success, but we just barely got our feet wet. We were able to raise over \$10,000, even though outreach was limited. This year, we're increasing our outreach tenfold and hope to double our income."

Fundraising via online auction is relatively new. More and more schools and other nonprofit organizations are discovering it as a powerful fundraising tool. "Online auctions work because we're leveraging a powerful community to raise a significant amount of money for student scholarships, and we're using innovative technology and techniques to keep costs at an absolute minimum," says Lynn. When email messages about the auction are passed along to friends and family, the message spreads beyond the immediate ITP Community. "It's called 'viral' marketing," Lynn continues. "So when we send out an email about the auction, there's no telling how many people our message will reach!"

During last year's auction, several people caught the "auction bug" – setting "bid watches" to monitor bidding action on a specific item, or simply visiting the auction website repeatedly to place bids. Then they joined in the bidding frenzy as the hours and minutes ticked down to the close. One auction participant described the auction excitement:

*I just want to thank you for the unexpected entertainment that tracking the online auction has brought to me. The bidding has kept us enthralled for several weeks now...not to mention all the deals we have bid on). I can't wait until next year's auction...*

Online auctions can involve community members regardless of geography. ITP global students and alumni all over the world can participate. Although there are many services donated locally, there are also some items that can be shipped to winners. Lynn points out, "If you live far from ITP, you can ask the service businesses (restaurants, hairdressers, massage therapists, dry cleaners, etc.) that you normally patronize to donate to the cause. Then, even if you're the only bidder, you'll win the item knowing that you'd spend the money anyway. It's just going to ITP this time."

Donors and sponsors of the auction have found they receive exposure and generate new business by participating in the auction. A picture and description of the product or service is available for each auction item, and a live logo link can drive traffic to donor and sponsor sites. These features tie donors' businesses to ITP and its commitment to integrating body, mind, and spirit in its teachings.

The screenshot shows the ITP online auction website interface. At the top, it says "INSTITUTE OF TRANSPERSONAL PSYCHOLOGY" and "Welcome Tracy - Not Tracy?". Below that is a navigation bar with "HOME", "CATALOG", "WATCHES", "sign in", "prefs", "help", and "contact". A search bar is on the left. The main content area displays a list of auction items with columns for "TITLE", "VALUE", "HIGH BID", and "DONOR".

TITLE	VALUE	HIGH BID	DONOR
BodyTalk Session in Los Altos What do you get when you combine the wisdom of ad...	\$125.00		Brooke Baggett, L.A.C., C.R.P., P.A.P.P.
Bookkeeping & Payroll Services Two-hour bookkeeping session; includes an assess...	\$200.00		Jill Conway Bookkeeping
BRONZE - ITP Parking Space for a Quarter Running late again? This is your chance to have a...	Priceless		
Branch for 4 in Palo Alto Enjoy the Mediterranean cuisine in the warm and c...	\$200.00		Westin Palo Alto
Care of the Soul: A Guide for Cultivating Death and Sacredness in Everyday Life This wonderful book is considered to be one of the...	\$14.00		Lynn Myhal, ITP Trustee
Carnival 7-Night or 8-Night Caribbean Cruise in a Balcony Stateroom with Airfare for (2) The winning bidder will enjoy a balcony stateroom t...	\$4,591.00		
Celebratory Ritual by Kate and Jim Wolfe-Poor We will perform a Wiccan-style celebratory ritual...	Priceless		Kate and Jim Wolfe-Poor

GET IN ON THE AUCTION ACTION AT  
[WWW.ITP.CMARKET.COM!](http://WWW.ITP.CMARKET.COM)

## WANTED: BIDDERS, DONORS, AND SPONSORS

for the

2ND ANNUAL  
ITP ONLINE AUCTION

TO BENEFIT  
STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

LIVE ONLINE

APRIL 30 - MAY 18

[www.itp.cmarket.com](http://www.itp.cmarket.com)

The auction catalog is already up.  
CHECK IT OUT  
at [www.itp.cmarket.com!](http://www.itp.cmarket.com!)

Items include autographed books by ITP authors, rejuvenating getaways, professional services, and experiences that will enrich and enhance your lives. You will feel good knowing that the money you spend on these varied and valuable offerings will go to support student scholarships to ITP.

*What you can do:*

- Tell your friends, family, and community. Use the "Forward to a Friend" button on the auction webpage. Get everyone in on the auction action!
- Ask the businesses that support your life to donate. What might they like to donate, that will allow them free advertising?
- Think about what you can donate: your professional services, books, artifacts and antiquities you no longer use or need.
- Consider becoming a sponsor.
- Don't forget to bid on items when the auction opens. **Remember all proceeds for this event go toward student scholarships.**

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**ITP WELCOMES NEW PRESIDENT,  
DR. THOMAS POTTERFIELD**



DR. THOMAS POTTERFIELD

The ITP Board of Trustees is very pleased to welcome Dr. Thomas Potterfield as the next President of ITP. His tenure begins May 1, 2007. Tom brings to ITP a unique combination of proven leadership experience and demonstrated transpersonal values. He holds a Ph.D. in psychology from Saybrook Graduate School, where he studied Critical Theory and engaged spirituality with his mentor, Donald Rothberg. He has had an active spiritual life for many years and has practiced transpersonal values in his past corporate leadership roles.

Board of Trustees Chair, Marilyn Manning remarks, “All of us on the Board, as well as the faculty, staff, and students who met Tom during the interview process, unanimously agreed that he has the right combination of qualities, experience, and skills needed to take ITP to the next evolutionary level.”

Tom has a keen interest in innovative, humanistic workplace approaches, featured in the well received book he authored, *The Business of Employee Empowerment: Democracy and Ideology in the Workplace*. Endorsements of his work appear at [www.greenwood.com/catalog/Q261.aspx](http://www.greenwood.com/catalog/Q261.aspx)

Tom and his wife, Donna, are passionate supporters of several charities, including the Zambian Children’s Fund, an orphanage and school for AIDS orphans in Sambia and St. Michael’s Guatemala Project, an NGO serving the displaced Mayan population in Guatemala.

Tom fell in love with psychology as an undergrad and pursued a master’s degree in the field. One of his mentors at Seton Hall in New Jersey was Art Santucci, a humanist/transpersonal devotee. Following Art’s advice, Tom continued his education at Saybrook and earned a Ph.D. while working for a variety of consumer products companies in brand marketing and general management.

Tom, Donna and their two dogs, Marley and Belle, are moving here from New Hampshire, where he recently taught at Southern New Hampshire University, in its Department of Organizational Leadership. Prior to that, Tom had a 13- year career at Velcro USA, during which he rose through the ranks from New Business Development Manager to eventually become President of the \$250 million company of 1400 employees. He has served on several nonprofit boards, including United Way, Lutheran Social Services, and the Saybrook Graduate School board.

**BOARD SPOTLIGHT ON LYNN MYHAL**

Last year Board of Trustees member, Lynn Myhal, nearly single-handedly ran ITP’s first-ever online auction to benefit student scholarships. Lynn’s enthusiasm shines through as she explains, “The idea and passion to run an (online) auction last year came from my success running a silent auction at a private party, where I saw friends get excited and creative emptying their garages, offering their services, and having fun bidding. Oh, and we raised a lot of money for a small nonprofit charity! Add to that the power of the internet, and I knew we could raise scholarship money for ITP.”



LYNN MYHAL

Last year’s auction exceeded the goal of \$10,000, and provided the first-ever scholarships for incoming students. This year’s auction goal has doubled. Lynn says, “We’re increasing our auction outreach tenfold this year, sending notices by mail and email to 20,000 people, so we’re confident that we can double last year’s auction proceeds.”

In addition to heading up the online auction, Lynn also co-chairs the Board Academic Affairs Committee and serves as a member on the board’s Committee on Trustees. She served on the Presidential Search committee in 2006, and has previously served on the board’s Finance Committee.

Lynn’s 14 years’ experience in the federal government included leading individuals and teams in the US Navy, the FDA, and the CIA, as well as providing executive coaching, consulting and training for managers. Her educational background is in molecular biology, organization development, and integral coaching. She currently consults as principal of The Myhal Group, which provides executive coaching, leadership training, and OD services to corporate, public, and nonprofit clients, nationally and internationally. She is also an adjunct professor at JFK University.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT ON SEAN PATRICK HATT



SEAN PATRICK HATT

Last October, third-year Ph.D. student Sean Patrick Hatt received a \$5,000 grant from the Jernigan Family Foundation to support his dissertation research on the impact of ADHD on adolescent boys and their families. Deploying phenomenology as his primary research method, augmented by a technique known as Auto Photographic Ethnography, Sean hopes to illuminate this common childhood disorder and offer a more nuanced view of ADHD than is commonly found in the scientific literature. Sean's overarching hope is that psychology as a human science might help to discover new pathways toward healing this challenging disorder. With the grant funding he's received so far, Sean has been able to buy books, cameras and film to

support his research. He is also pursuing another opportunity for funding. Here's the inspiring story in Sean's own words:

It started with taking Bob Frager's and Jim Fadiman's class on affirming what you want to attract into your life, and with getting clear about what you want to do and be. I really took that seriously and thought deeply about all my work at ITP right from the beginning of my first year in the program – including my practicum, my research, my school work, everything.

I had a vision from the beginning that my research would be funded. I continue to hold that vision, and now I have the opportunity for more funding from CHADD, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of people affected by ADHD.

What truly enabled me to get the first grant was the incredible generosity of my mentor, Olga Louchakova. She saw the potential in me and lit a fire... well, there was already a fire going, but she threw gasoline on it! She encouraged me to get clear on what the project looked like, and she gave me a deadline – a very aggressive deadline. I had only two weeks to write an abstract for the International Human Sciences Research Conference (IHSRC). I would never have done it without her pushing me forward. I was scared to death, but I did it, and they accepted me. That helped me clarify and articulate my research. Not only did that experience put a conference presentation on my CV, it also put me a year ahead of schedule for my dissertation. I finished a draft of my proposal last summer.

Olga's pushing me was what made this happen. Then, success breeds success. It's a snowball effect. When talking with my friend Sadie Jernigan about what I was doing last summer, I was able to clearly articulate my project design and my passion for it shone through. I had no idea she had the means to help. I was just talking about what I was doing with a friend over dinner, but I was able to speak clearly to what my research is about and why I'm passionate about it.

I would not have received funding if I hadn't been able to clearly explain my research to Sadie, and I wouldn't have been able to do that if I hadn't stepped up to Olga's challenge and presented at the IHSRC Conference. When the Jernigan Foundation (started by Sadie's father, Frank, a recent Google retiree) asked for a presentation on my research, I was able to put it together quickly and easily, because I had already done a great PowerPoint for the conference. They liked what they saw, so they wrote a check.

In the end, I think the real credit goes to Olga for being such a great mentor and to Bob Frager and Jim Fadiman for introducing me to the concept of attracting what you want into your life. I feel blessed.

For more information about Sean's research, please visit [www.seanpatrickhatt.com](http://www.seanpatrickhatt.com).

## ITP'S CENTER FOR THE DIVINE FEMINE GETS A NEW DIRECTOR

The Center for the Divine Feminine (CDF) welcomes their new Executive Director, Valerie Sher, a recent graduate of ITP's residential doctoral program. Her life's work is guided by an underlying desire to create social and cultural change to reclaim the Feminine and to create a healthy balance of Masculine and Feminine energies in individuals and the world.

Valerie envisions the CDF as a hub for educational activities that increase awareness of the Divine Feminine as a spiritual force and embodied presence. "We want to offer programs that are comprehensive and provide historical foundations and practices from different cultural and spiritual traditions..." says Valerie. "...to create change and help individuals and communities balance the sacred Masculine and Feminine."

The CDF website will be the cornerstone of the Center. It will function as a robust resource, supporting CDF events and programs, while providing a forum for ongoing discussion of the history as well as various socio-political, feminist, and cultural views of the Divine Feminine, sacred sexuality, and the union of Masculine and Feminine. The site will include community resource lists, a bibliography, links to sacred Feminine websites and activities, and celebrations of the Divine Feminine.

The CDF is currently launching its 2007-2008 scholarship and funding program, a Spring speakers event, as well as formulating plans for the fall and beyond. Join us in welcoming Valerie. She invites you to share with her any ideas, visions, and hopes you have for the Center (email: [vsher@itp.edu](mailto:vsher@itp.edu)).



VALERIE SHER

**“What truly enabled me to get the grant was the incredible generosity of my mentor, Olga Louchakova. ...I would never have done it without her pushing me forward.”**

*Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive.*

— H.H. THE 14TH DALAI LAMA

#### YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

##### CONTACTS:

ITP has hired two new work study assistants for alumni relations. **Leigh Ann DiDomenico** (PhD, year 3) is updating the alumni database, reaching out to lost alumni, collecting email addresses and enrolling new Alumni Association members. **Sumana Danco** (MACP, year 3) is focusing on written communications including the website, directories and both hard copy and e-newsletters.

Please feel free to contact Leigh Ann or Sumana with any alumni relations questions or to update your contact info. We have often lost track of alumni, so PLEASE keep us informed when you change email addresses, phone numbers or addresses. Remember, providing us your email address saves paper and money!

#### ALUMNI RELATIONS ASSISTANTS:



Leigh Ann DiDomenico  
650-493-4430 x260  
alumni@itp.edu



Sumana Marjorie Danco  
650-493-4430 x293  
sdanco@itp.edu

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT PASSES BATON

### TWO NEW CO-PRESIDENTS PICK IT UP

After two and a half years as ITP Alumni Association President, Marie May (PhD '04) is passing the baton to two new co-presidents, Valentine McKay-Riddell (PhD '06) and Lisa J Ferguson Arthur (MACP '06). During her tenure, Marie created a vision and mission statement and a one to five-year strategic plan to keep the Association moving forward and in alignment with its values. She put in place policies and consistent practices to be carried on through the years, abolished membership dues, increased membership and member benefits, expanded and improved the alumni section of the ITP website, created the new ClassNotes column (see pages 10 and 11), and established a regular bi-annual printed newsletter (now appearing as this special Alumni section of "Connections"). Through all her many special Alumni events, personal meetings with alumni, and working with ITP management, Marie brought realness, integrity, excellence, vision, and passion. "Meeting many of you and being inspired by your brightness as human beings has far eclipsed my accomplishments as President. It has been a pleasure and an honor serving you," says Marie. "My job was easier because of the work and inspiration of my predecessors, Leanne McWaters and French Harris. Now, I look forward to seeing the fruition of several projects I started, as well as the unique contributions of Valentine and Lisa J as the next Alumni Association Co-Presidents."

When asked what moved her to accept the leadership role with the Alumni Association, new co-president Valentine McKay-Riddell shared, "One of the major concerns of soon-to-be and recent graduates, in any school, is loss of community. Students may feel this fear even more intensely when their studies are as deep and life-changing as at ITP. When, shortly after graduation, I was presented with the opportunity to stay connected to ITP as Co-President of the Alumni Association, I recognized not only a way to maintain the intimate community of the school, but also a way to strengthen the roots I put down here over six years ago."

Lisa J's decision to serve as co-president of the ITP Alumni Association came from her desire to be in communication with others who have shared the ITP experience. "I look forward to sharing this co-presidency with Valentine," remarked Lisa J. "I appreciate her interest in discovering new ways for ITP to have positive influence in the greater community and to continue to improve its programs." Valentine and Lisa J crossed paths during their time at ITP and enjoyed working together in several different settings.

As a recent ITP graduate, Lisa J has been working to bring the training she received at ITP into new settings. Through this process, she says it has become clear to her how much ITP alumni could support each other in making a meaningful difference in the community. Valentine observed, "Lisa J is committed to inclusivity and harmonious group process – to community-building. I'm delighted to be working with her."

As co-presidents of the Alumni Association, Valentine and Lisa J hope to extend their work as community-builders to engage with students, faculty and alumni to support not only the growth of individual students, but of ITP itself as a fully engaged and influential member of the local and global community. Lisa J says, "I look forward to getting to know many other ITP graduates and together enjoying a strong, integrated, supportive alumni community." Valentine adds, "I am grateful for the opportunity to serve my Alma Mater in this way."



MARIE MAY



VALENTINE MCKAY-RIDDELL



LISA J FERGUSON ARTHUR

## ALUMNI “DIP INTO THE WELL”

### WITH NEW GATHERINGS

Alumni are gathering all over the Bay Area and beyond to connect with others who share transpersonal values, to visit with old friends, and to meet new ones. The setting is intimate, ITP-style, with an informal sharing circle that allows everyone the opportunity to talk about what is most important in their lives today and to reminisce about their ITP experience.

Initiated by ITP Board Chair and Alumna, Marilyn Manning (PhD '83) and Marie May (PhD '04), the format is taking off. Two gatherings were held last November, one this April and more are in the works. (See Upcoming Events on page 12).

Attendees have been enthusiastic, many volunteering to host a gathering themselves. Louanne Ellison-Cole (PhD '03) found the Santa Cruz gathering “...inspiring and delightful to be with ITP friends and classmates,” and immediately volunteered to host one herself.

If you would like to host one of these gatherings in your area, please contact Kaleo Waxman at [kwaxman@itp.edu](mailto:kwaxman@itp.edu) or (650)493-4430, ext. 269.



Board member Christian von Bogdandy hosts the first “Alumni Gathering” in November, 2006



This cohort gathers on an annual basis. L-R Jim Upton, Barbara Morrill, Alzak Amiani, Maggie Smith, Greg Galanti, Susan Hall, Trudi Opitz, Diana Gross

## BITS AND BITES:

### ALUMNI, DON'T MISS OUT ON CAREER RESOURCE CENTER SERVICES:

- Resume/curriculum vita evaluation and consultation
- Resources for career development including useful websites, books, and job-search materials
- DVDs and printed materials from on-campus workshops
- Monthly newsletter

For more information, check out the CRC link on Docutek ([itp.docutek.com](http://itp.docutek.com)). Call 650-493-4430 x292, or email [CRC@itp.edu](mailto:CRC@itp.edu).

### JOIN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (FREE) AND GAIN ACCESS TO ITP'S NEW COMMUNITY WEB.

This password-protected website is our community-wide communications hub. Special features of interest to Alumni include:

**Alumni Lounge:** An open forum for alumni only. This is a place to connect with other alumni to network, update your classmates and friends on what's going on in your life, or start up a discussion on a topic of interest.

**Classifieds** feature sections such as For Sale, Housing, and a Services section, which is a dedicated space where you may offer your services to the entire ITP Community.

Once you've joined the Alumni Association, a username and password will be emailed to you with instructions on how to login to this exciting online ITP community. For more information and assistance, email [communityweb@itp.edu](mailto:communityweb@itp.edu).

## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS PH.D. ALUMNI PRESENT AT NEW ORLEANS APA CONFERENCE

Four alumni of the 2006 global doctoral program converged in New Orleans last August to participate in the American Psychological Association (APA) Conference. **Paul Broenen** of Minnesota, **Merry Coburn** of New York, **Aurora Hill** of Pennsylvania, and **Diane Rickards** of Canada presented their dissertation research and findings during a Student Poster Presentation and discussed the implications of their research for the field of transpersonal psychology. Themes were cultural awareness in white males, the transformational process of women Appalachian Trail thru-hikers, the experience of JOY through the memories of the women of one Pennsylvania Native American Indian community, and aspects of the feminine including the dark goddess revealed through WWII women spies, respectively.

Residential PhD alumna, **Sarah Burdge** (PhD '06), one of the Sydney Jourard Award winners for student research within the APA Division 32 (Humanistic Psychology), gave a brief presentation about her doctoral research. Her dissertation is entitled *The Relationship Between Spirituality and Peace Activism: Phenomenological Inquiry into the Experience of Peace Activists in Israel*. **Danielle Van Deventer**, (PhD '06) presented a poster on her doctoral research on *Transformational Volunteerism: Exploring Service as an Integral Component of Transpersonal Psychology*.

## MORE REASONS TO JOIN ITP'S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:

### 1. IT'S FREE!

Join online at <http://www.itp.edu/alumni.aMembershipApp.cfm> OR <http://tinyurl.com/jp88z> or send an email to [alumni@itp.edu](mailto:alumni@itp.edu)

### 2. IT COMES WITH SOME GREAT BENEFITS!

For a complete listing of Alumni Association Benefits and Services, please visit the Alumni section at [www.itp.edu](http://www.itp.edu).

### A note from the ITP Librarians:

"The ITP Library is pleased to welcome ITP Alumni Association members as library patrons. Library privileges for Alumni Association members include check-out and hold requests on books and audio/video materials. We will be happy to provide reference help and interlibrary loan services, as time permits. We can provide access to electronic databases from the library's Computer Lab on campus, for alumni, but not remote access, as we are limited by contractual and license agreements with our database vendors."

## HELP US KEEP IN TOUCH VIA EMAIL!

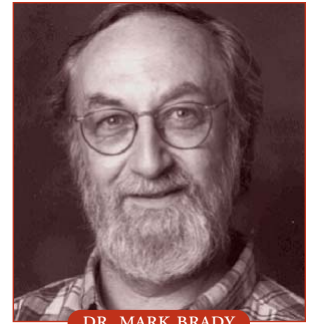
Please email us at [alumni@itp.edu](mailto:alumni@itp.edu) and help us stay in touch. You'll receive two Alumni Association and four Career Resource Center e-newsletters per year, plus important announcements such as the notice of ITP's new President, Dr. Thomas Potterfield. Don't miss out, send us an email today!

## FEATURED ALUMNUS: DR. MARK BRADY

"If you want to completely avoid the inherent conflict in being a therapist, find some other way to make a living. Then do the therapy for free."

Apparently, I took to heart this directive from Dr. Kathy Speeth, my clinical practicum teacher at ITP in 1980. Even though I did everything necessary to be eligible for clinical licensing, I ultimately decided not to sit for the exam. For the last 30 years instead, I've been earning a living "providing shelter for people" (another directive from a Sufi teacher in 1975!) and doing volunteer "consulting" at different nonprofits all around the peninsula.

Recently I discovered the single thread that has consistently run through my research, writing and volunteer activities – pediatric bereavement. It was out of the profound experiences of sitting with kids and parents who had lost loved ones at Kara, a grief counseling agency in Palo Alto, that I first decided to research and teach listening skills.



DR. MARK BRADY

**"Once a parent sees how effective practicing and learning one or two of the skills in this book is, it inspires their desire to learn more, not only for their child's sake, but for their own as well."**

Subsequently, I invited a group of hospice workers and death educators whom I deeply respected and admired to contribute pieces to my 2003 anthology, *The Wisdom of Listening*. The pediatric bereavement theme is also apparent in the work I'm currently doing with ITP Global Ph.D. students, and in the subsequent books I've published most recently, *A Little Book of Listening Skills* and *A Little Book of Parenting Skills* (You can download free review copies here: <http://www.paideiapartners.com/page4.html>).

Pediatric bereavement also fuels my current passion for research in interpersonal neurobiology, somatic psychology, and traumatology and underlies the research I'm doing for a new book with the working title, *The Body-Snatcher Syndrome: How Unresolved Trauma Fuels Untold Pain and Drama in Our Lives*. If this current path continues much

longer, and I continue to feel the excitement and the soul-stirring depths in living each day, the only ethical course of action for me will be to begin paying the "clients."

– Mark Brady

## CLASSNOTES

### 1980s

**Dr. John Amodeo** (PhD '81) is author of *The Authentic Heart: An Eightfold Path to Midlife Love* (2001) and *Love & Betrayal* (1994) and is coauthor of *Being Intimate* (Arkana/Penguin 1986). He has been a psychotherapist for 25 years, immersing himself in Buddhism and spiritual wisdom for over 30 years. Moreover, John is a faculty member of The Institute of Imaginal Studies and was a writer and contributing editor with *Yoga Journal* for ten years. He has been interviewed or written articles for publications that include *The Chicago Tribune* and *The Dallas Morning News*.

**Mara Lindstrom**, (MATP '81, aka **Beverly Alverson** or **Inger Crescent-Moon**) has had the same name for 23 years and is married to Dr. Philip Lindstrom (son of transpersonal psychologist and author, Aminah Raheem). They have a 16-year-old daughter, Lauren, and live in Santa Cruz where she has an MFT practice. She's excited about her body-oriented psychotherapy work and Byron Katie's work, and would love to see old school mates when you come to Santa Cruz.

**Marilyn Manning** (PhD '83) just released her new book, *The Communication Coach* (More

information at [www.TheConsultingTeam.com](http://www.TheConsultingTeam.com)), and was even more thrilled by the birth of her first grandchild, a healthy boy named Jasper (He'll be applying to ITP ASAP.) Marilyn continues to love her work as chair of the ITP Board of Trustees and welcomes your input ([m@theconsultingteam.com](mailto:m@theconsultingteam.com)) during these exciting times of change and growth. She is the internationally recognized author of seven business books and specializes in issues of Leadership, Teamwork, Conflict Mediation, Executive Coaching, Meeting Facilitation, Strategic Planning, and Communication, with 82% of her work repeat business.

**Nisha Zenoff** (PhD '86) recently moved back to Menlo Park after living on the Oregon coast and in Marin County. She is joyously married to Steve Tennis (wedding officiated in 2002 by former ITP faculty member, June Singer)! She has a transpersonal therapy practice in Menlo Park with adults and couples, where she has added EMDR to her process-oriented approach. She visited Joao de Deus (healer) in Brazil with ITP friends and colleagues, Flo and **John Mizelle** (MATP '84). They ran into **Emma Bragdon** (PhD '87) there! Nisha says some of her ITP friends are among the most important people in her life. "Life is full of blessings! I am deeply grateful."

**Ann Langley** (PhD '88) is in private practice in Redwood City with over 20 years experience as a Marriage Family Therapist. She is a fourth year candidate at the Psychoanalytic Institute of Northern San Francisco and is currently available for individual consultation/supervision to therapists. She is forming a consultation group (with clinical reading and case presentations) for therapists which will hold weekly meetings.

## 1990s

**Sister Marguerite Buchanan** (MATP '90) initiated a transition home for women newly released from incarceration three years ago called SVdP's Catherine's Center. It is located in San Mateo County and is sponsored by the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in collaboration with the Sisters of Mercy. It has already been very successful in reversing the recidivism rate of 80%. Women who complete the program do not return to incarceration, are reunited with their children and are becoming productive members of society. For more information, please e-mail [mbuchanan@mercyburl.org](mailto:mbuchanan@mercyburl.org).

For the last seven years, **Susan Hall** (MACP '92) has been specializing in Craniosacral Therapy and SomatoEmotional Release work – bodywork that integrates her ITP skills and knowledge with hands-on body therapy. She has a private practice in Menlo Park and is also teaching Craniosacral Therapy for The Body Therapy Center in Palo Alto, The Upledger Institute, and the Healing Arts Institute in Citrus Heights, CA. "With my partner John, I am also raising my wonderful son Gabriel, now 13 years old and thriving at Peninsula School. Life is very full and very good."

Since graduating from ITP, **Perrin Elisha** (MATP '99) received her doctoral degree in depth/clinical psychology from Pacifica Graduate Institute where her dissertation explored a special interest in the mind-body and spirit-matter relationship in psychoanalytic theory and practice. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor and National Board Certified Counselor in private practice and is completing her post-doctoral fellowship at the Wright Institute in Los Angeles where she works with adults with eating disorders. She has also worked with children and their families doing psychological assessment, play therapy, sand play therapy, and talk therapy.

## 2000s

**Sophie P. Giles** (PhD '00) enjoys her private practice in Los Gatos where she is a Licensed Psychologist with a Jungian orientation. She specializes in working with adults experiencing life transitions such as career change, divorce, remarriage, grief, and retirement and will be offering a class on dreamwork in Saratoga this fall. She enjoys relaxing with her two dogs and two cats.

**Marco Ho** (CERT '01) is living in Brazil where he has changed his career from banker to healer. He now works as a Life Coach Consultant, "serving as a sounding board and object of transference for hard working, stressed executives seeking happiness." He is also taking the four-year Barbara Brennan School of Healing course.

**Frank White** (PhD '02) is beginning his second year as a professor at Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, Montana. He is really enjoying mentoring and teaching, especially Theories of Consciousness and Brain Function, and Abnormal Psychology. He conducted a well-received in-service for fellow faculty and staff this year on Healthy Lifestyles and Choices. He and his wife, Carol-Lynne Toleno, met family and friends in Prague for three weeks this summer. Among his many interests, he is working on a couple of art pieces for his two daughters, in the art nouveau style.



Members of the entering Class of '88, L-R: Paula Yue, Barbara Morrill, Linda Anderson Riggenschach, Susan Hall, Diana Gross, Greg Galanti

Please send your ClassNotes news to [alumni@itp.edu](mailto:alumni@itp.edu). Feel free to include photos and let us know if we can post them via email newsletters, hardcopy newsletters, and/or the website!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR EVENTS DETAILS INCLUDING HOW TO REGISTER, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.ITP.EDU](http://WWW.ITP.EDU) AND CLICK ON EVENTS.

**ITP'S 2ND ANNUAL ONLINE AUCTION** benefiting student scholarships – live online April 30 - May 18. Location: [www.itp.cmarket.com](http://www.itp.cmarket.com)

**WELCOME RECEPTION** for new ITP President, Dr. Thomas Potterfield – Thursday May 10, 5 – 7 pm. Location: Sheraton Palo Alto, 625 El Camino Real. RSVP: [drosenthal@itp.edu](mailto:drosenthal@itp.edu)

**A PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THE ENNEAGRAM** with Mario Sikora, co-author of “Awareness to Action” –Friday May 11, 6 - 9 pm, and Saturday May 12, 9 am - 4:30 pm. Location: ITP, room TBA.

**TREATMENT OF TRAUMA: BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT** a colloquium with Fred Luskin, PhD, Benjamin Tong, PhD and Patricia Sohl, PhD – Monday May 14, 7:30 – 9:30 pm. Location: ITP, Great Sophia room.

**THIRD ANNUAL STUDENT AND ALUMNI PRESENTATION DAY** – Friday June 15, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm (light lunch served). Location: ITP, Great Sophia & Gaia rooms.

**GRADUATION CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION** – Saturday June 16, 1:00 pm. **NEW LOCATION:** Bayside Performing Arts Center 2025 Kehoe Avenue, San Mateo.

**ALUMNI GATHERING** – Sunday July 15, 2 – 4 pm. Location: The home of Alumna, Jeanine Wiater 1435 Ulloa Street, San Francisco. RSVP: [alumni@itp.edu](mailto:alumni@itp.edu)



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