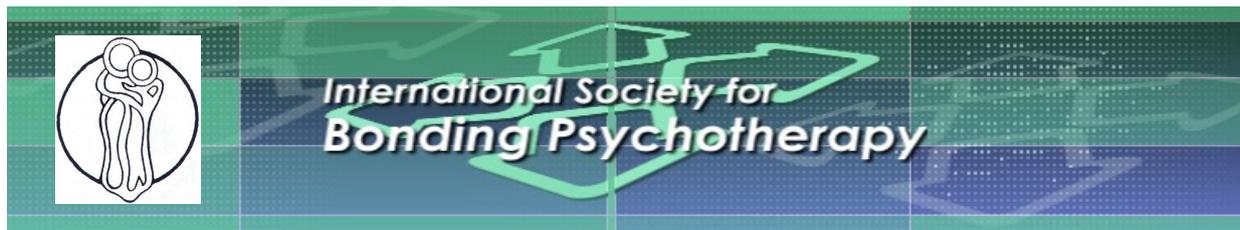


## From the President of ISBP, July-August 2010



Themes for this Newsletter:

- Report about our acceptance by EAP
- Forming of a *Training Standards Committee*
- Report about the ESBP meeting in Italy in May 2010
- The International Conference in 2011

***"A certain amount of opposition is a great help to a man.  
Kites rise against, not with the wind." - John Neal***

Dear colleagues,

After being asked to serve as President of the ESBP/ISBP in Bad Groenenbach last year, I took as my first and highest priority getting the European Society for Bonding Psychotherapy accepted by the European Association for Psychotherapy (EAP) as a European Wide Organization (EWO). This acceptance would mean that Bonding Psychotherapy is, in the eyes of the EAP, recognized as a scientifically based psychotherapy that is practiced European wide. It was then with great pleasure that we could announce (per email on 2.July) that we made it!

This was not an easy task. Moniek Van Deile and I spent an enormous amount of hours gathering information and preparing the written application, and our committee members and others from the Society gave generously of their time and energy to make this possible. In the name of the whole Society I want to thank the following individuals:

**Moniek Van Deile.** In case some of you did not know this, Moniek is not only our International Secretary; she is also a Society therapist. Moniek gave of her time and energy above and beyond the call of duty in this effort. She not only ordered and formatted all the documents so that the two reviewers from EAP would have an easier time understanding our method and our organization, but she also gave important input on what would make our presentation more convincing. Her knowing Bonding Psychotherapy from the inside was a great help.

### **Our Committee for the EAP Application:**

**Johan Maertens.** Johan started the whole EAP process back in 2001. He did the important and complex work of organizational restructuring that was a prerequisite to our applying to EAP; e.g. getting the ESBP registered as a non-profit European wide organization through Belgium law. He was a key advisor to me, encouraged and actively supported me, especially

at those times when I thought that we would never make it. Johan worked with Peter to help make the final version of the central *15 Questions* on the application.

**Peter Geerlings.** Peter worked with Johan to get the *15 Questions* in optimal form. Furthermore, he developed the extensive and up-to-date new Ethical Guidelines. He was available to consult on next steps, answers to the reviewers, etc.

**Martien Kooyman.** Martien contacted all the European chapters, gathering information about training in BP that was necessary for the EAP application. He was also constantly available for consultation about how to go on.

**Godehard Stadtmueller.** Godehard was another important advisor for me during the whole procedure. Most importantly, Godehard took the time and effort to join me in Bucharest in order to represent our case in person. As is his way, he was fully and professionally prepared, and supported me wonderfully in presenting our modality to a group of professionals who viewed our application with a good deal of skepticism.

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**Konni Stauss** was not a member of the committee, but his contribution was centrally important. First, that he did the Herculean task of writing a modern theory explaining Bonding Psychotherapy, a theory that is impressive both in its complexity and congruence with our practice, and that made our presentation as a scientifically based psychotherapy that much more convincing. Furthermore, Konni took the time and effort to apply his theory in giving us a first draft of answers to the 15 Questions. Finally, at my request, he wrote an intelligent response to the first reviewers question about the understanding of transference in Bonding Psychotherapy.

In my national chapter, Germany, **Michel Oppl** and in Belgium, **Patrick Vanassche**, gathered documents and attestations from various hospitals and institutions using BP. This was an onerous task, as Michel and Patrick have to keep nagging people to send in their documents. In Holland, and other countries individuals sent us what ever they had. Forgive me for not mentioning everyone by name, but be assured, your input is highly appreciated.

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*After announcing that the EAP had accepted us, we received many kind and appreciative responses from members of ESBP and ISBP. Here for your enjoyment are some of the replies. Taken together, they make up a kind of virtual victory party.*

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Dear Jeff and Godehart,  
You did both a great job for the future of Bonding psychotherapy. In my opinion it was being recognized or disappearing. You made the difference together on a most critical moment in our history, ESBP and ISBP will be grateful forever!!  
With a warm hug,  
Johan Maertens (Belgium)

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Dear Jeff and Godehard  
Congratulation that you have made it. I am very happy that we got the recognition of BP as an accepted method..  
Greetings, Konni

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Terrific!  
Very well done. Congratulations!!!!  
Inger (Sweden)

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*Congratulations to all of you who worked hard to get this recognition  
Hugs, Magda (Belgium)*

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Dear Jeff,  
Congratulations and thanks of those of us who have worked so long to make the process known, and effective for clients.  
Both Dan and your Dad are smiling with us, and we are all proud of you. It is a privilege to know you and to work with you as a and Godehard our heartfelt thanks! Love and Hugs, George ps,  
Thanks also for calling today to tell me. G (USA)colleague.  
The whole association owes you

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Dear friends,  
What a relief, what a great news.  
I'm very proud of all who offered so much time for the future of BP.  
I suggest a virtual group-hug...  
Thanks,  
Rob Olij (the Netherlands)

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*Dear Jeff, dear Moniek,  
Great news!  
Many thanks and congratulations to everybody involved into a great preparation work for EWO status!  
Bogdan Polajner, Slovenia*

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A very good news. I am very happy about it.  
Congratulations!  
Hugs,  
Teresa (Portugal)

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*Thank you, dear Moniek, for this beautiful information. I am very glad that the work of Jeff and Godehard was so successful. Best regards and greetings also for you!  
UWE (Germany)*

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Friends, congratulations and hugs.  
Manuel Sanches (Portugal)

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*Dear Moniek,  
thank you for transmission of this wonderful information. This acknowledge is a big step further on.  
Happiness and hugs  
Martin (Germany)*

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*Lieber Jeff,  
Herzlichen Glückwunsch zu diesem wichtigen Schritt der europ. Anerkennung der Bondingtherapie!  
Schade, daß Ingo das nicht mehr erleben kann, es hätte ihn sicher auch gefreut als Wertschätzung unser aller Arbeit in den letzten 30 Jahren. Danke für Dein unermüdliches Engagement in der Gesellschaft*

*Dir und Julia einen schönen Sommer,  
mit herzlichem Gruss,  
Adelheid  
Büro Dan-Casriël Institut  
Hirschmühle (Germany)*

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Wonderful news!! Thank you for sending it!!  
All best wishes, Jessica

*Even after all this time the sun never says to the earth, "You owe me," Look at what happens with a love like that-it lights the entire sky,---Hafiz*

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*Beste Moniek,  
Heel belangrijk, dat de EAP ons (eindelijk) heeft erkend.  
Het heeft gewerkt, dat we niet hebben opgegeven.  
Voor jou in het bijzonder is het een beloning voor het vele werk  
Een goede zomer!  
Martien (Netherlands)*

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good work Jeff.Congratulations.  
Nimet (Switserl.)

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*CONGRADULATIONS to everyone who worked so hard to make this happen/pull this off!  
Michael Hurney (USA)*

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Congratulations to all of you and ISBP Domingos Neto and the Portuguese Chapter

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*Dear Moniek,  
it means only happiness about your messages,  
Best greetings, Angela*

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Geweldig succes van iedereen die eraan heeft meegewerkt  
met vriendelijke groeten  
Peter (The Netherl.)

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*Fantastic! Thanks a lot for all your efforts and congratulations with this beautiful achievement!*  
*Warm greetings,*  
*Janneke Coolen (The Netherl.)*

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Dear Jeff and Godehard  
Fantastic!!  
Thank you for so much effort and wisdom in front of this very difficult test !  
*Congratulations!*  
*Patrick (Belgium)*

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*Geweldig, wat een grote stap laten wij elkaar feliciteren,*  
*Frank van Maastricht (Netherl.)*

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*Jeff, This is Great news. Congratulations to you all, as we all benefit. Thanks for your hard work on making this happen.*  
*Laurette (USA)*

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HERZLICHEN Glückwunsch an Euch beide, Jeff und Godehard sowie die anderen Helfer !!  
Mit diesem Schritt in die EAP sind wir als BP ein ganzes Stück weiter gekommen  
MhG  
Ulf (Germany)

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*Hoi Monique, wat een prachtig nieuws-wat fijn voor Jeff, Johan, Godehard en Konni die er zo hard voor gewerkt hebben-feesthugske,*  
*Rob (Netherlands)*

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I'm very glad to hear that EAP recognized BP as a scientifically based psychotherapy and gave it EWO status. A great work is done.  
Best regards,  
Saša (Slovenia)

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## Training Standards Committee

At the meeting in Italy this May (see the information below) I gave a short workshop asking the participants to consider their visions of the future of Bonding Psychotherapy. The recognition through the EAP is a great step, but where do we go from here?

Personally, this recognition has given me a great lift, a kind of renewed faith and trust in the Bonding Psychotherapy process. I have heard similar responses from colleague friends. Even one of my clients, after learning of the EAP success, commented: "now the hugs are official". I do hope that every one of you looks for ways to build on this step, improving your therapeutic practice, helping your national chapter to develop, and contributing wherever possible to the growth and improvement of Bonding Psychotherapy.

One step that I have already taken is to form a **Training Standards Committee**. In a written Board Meeting the ISBP Board approved the forming of such a committee, and they approved the appointment of Johan Maertens (who was nominated for this important job by Ginny Hurney and me) as the Chairman of this committee. The committee's work is to look into all aspects of training in Bonding Psychotherapy in order to improve the training of Bonding Psychotherapists.

Johan will soon form this committee, and sometime in September you can expect more news about this work from him.

All members are welcome to submit their ideas on what constitutes the basis of good training in Bonding Psychotherapy, but the Teaching Fellows will have the main responsibility of pooling their wisdom and experience in order to reach a consensus on such issues as: prerequisite to be admitted to training; minimums for self-experience, co-leadership, leadership under supervision; content and extent of theoretical work.

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## Report on the ESBP Meeting, 28 to 30 May, 2010 in Vittorio Veneto



*The meeting was well attended, and we had a full program. Here are some statistics:*

*We were with more than 45 people from 9 different countries : 1 Argentinean Member-2 Belgians-1 from Sweden- 11 from Germany + 1 partner for vacation -3 from the Netherlands+ 2 partners for vacation-2 members from Portugal- 2 from the US (President and partner)- more than 20 Italian members and 1 person from Canada, but living in Estonia.*

Some of the presenters have been kind enough to make their presentations available as pdf or power point presentations on our international website; take a look at [www.bondingpsychotherapy.com/conferences](http://www.bondingpsychotherapy.com/conferences).

- **How a BP group can be used as part of the treatment process with patients diagnosed with a psychotic disorder - *Ginny and Michael Hurney (USA)***
- **Bonding Psychotherapy Vision Workshop – *Jeff Gordon (Germany)***
- **The Healing Power of Forgiveness and Reconciliation – *Konni Stauss (Germany)***
- **Basic Emotions as the energy of Psychostructural development or basis of affect regulation - *Martin Johais (Germany)***

34 Members came together for the gala dinner, were Michael Hurney led us in singing "the Bonding Song" (about Doctor Dan)

### I WANT A HUG

**Chorus:**

*I want a hug, when you say hello,  
I want a hug, when it's time to go,  
I want a hug, cause I want you to know, I'm awfully fond of you,  
I want a hug, I want to feel you squeezin',  
I want a hug, what a wonderful feeling,  
I want a hug, it certainly seems like the natural thing to do.*



**Verses:**

Dan Casriel was a mighty friendly man, they said he was a teddy bear,  
He hugged his friends and his friends hugged him, anytime, anywhere,  
His patients would come to therapy, to drive their blues away,  
And sooner or later they'd feel a lot better, and this is what they'd say.

When the ethics committee heard about it, they got all annoyed,  
Cause hugging is sexual sublimation according to Dr. Freud,  
You can beat 'em down, you can hide 'em away, you can keep 'em quiet with drugs,  
You can scrap 'em and zap 'em with electro-shock, but you better not give 'em a hug.

So the boss said Dan clean out your desk your conduct's against the rules,  
Any deviation to standard clinical practice, could possibility get us sued,  
But Dan don't feel too bad with himself, he's really kind of proud

But he's sorry for the folks that he's leavin' behind where huggin' ain't allowed.

So Dan went out on his own and set up an institute,  
He hired Frankie and George, Mary and others, boy don't they look astute,  
People bonded on mats and screamed "I'm not perfect, but I'm good enough," and "no more shit,"  
They did temper tantrums, cried and laughed, and then they hugged a bit.

Now Dan is gone but his spirit lives on, and he sees that we're on the go,  
He sees a lot of people that he used to hug and new people that he don't know,  
He can hardly believe all the things that we've done, it puts him in a daze,  
But the thing that he gets the biggest kick out of, is when we shout this phrase.

## Vamos a Argentina!!!

The ISBP Board voted to accept the offer of the Argentine Chapter to host the International Conference for Bonding Psychotherapy in 2011. The conference will be held just outside of Buenos Aires from the 2d to the 4<sup>th</sup> of September. Ramon Vega has found a lovely meeting place for us, where we have conference rooms and the necessary technology for presentations, as well as food and lodging for all participants. Having a residential setting for our conference will maximize the possibilities of getting to know one another and sharing as a community.

Here are two photos of the center. If you wish to see more, just follow this link: <http://www.irenaika.com.ar/index.html>



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That is the news for now. I am always happy to hear from our members. If you have any questions or concerns about our organization, or you wish to give feedback regarding this Newsletter, email me at [jeffgordon@zentrumimkraichgau.de](mailto:jeffgordon@zentrumimkraichgau.de).

I wish each and every one of you the best.

Yours truly,

Jeff Gordon  
President, ISBP/ESBP

