

ISTP Newsletter

2018, Issue 1

Remarks from the President

Welcome to the first ISTP Newsletter of 2018. These are also my first 'remarks from the president', since I opted in the last ISTP Newsletter to introduce myself in the format of an interview (kindly organised by Basia Ellis and Evan Shillabeer). I would like to begin by stating that I am very proud to have the opportunity to act as President of ISTP, and to work closely with an inspiring group of colleagues both on the executive and beyond.

With the first and highly successful Tokyo 2017 event the best part of a year behind us, energies are currently being directed toward chapters new. It has now been officially decided that the next Conference will be held in the fabulous Danish city of Copenhagen, with a planned date of 19th – 23rd August, 2019 (to be confirmed). The conference is being conceived and planned by a local organising committee ably headed by Ditte Alexandra Winther-Lindqvist from Aarhus University. This group is in turn receiving guidance from an experienced conference planning committee drawn from the ISTP executive and headed by Antonia Larrain. The prospect of a conference in Copenhagen is exciting because for a number of years now Denmark has been amongst the most active and creative places for theoretical psychology, as is amply demonstrated by contributions at recent ISTP conferences. Our choice of biennial conference locations expresses our international nature as a Society. The last 8 conferences, for example, have taken us to Japan (Tokyo, 2015), Chile (Santiago, 2013), Greece (Thessaloniki, 2011), China (Nanjing, 2009),

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Professor Paul Stenner, ISTP President

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Canada (Toronto, 2007), South Africa (Cape Town, 2005) and Turkey (Istanbul, 2003). We plan to continue this weaving movement across and between continents, linking colleagues from Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western hemispheres. Please spread the word about this conference, and – since we know how time flies - start the countdown: 20, 19...

As those of you who have submitted chapters will know, the editing of a book based on Proceedings from the 2017 Conference is being led by Kyoko Murakami. I would like to thank Kyoko for taking on this important role, along with an editorial team including Tetsuya Kono, Jim Cresswell, Tania Zittoun and Susannah Mulvale. This will be the 15th ISTP volume, and we can be very proud of this ever-growing series of edited books. For those of you who are unable to access the hard copies, electronic versions of 5 of these volumes (2003 through to 2011) are freely available on the ISTP website which can be found at <https://istp.wildapricot.org>

If you have not yet done so, please do visit the new website. It has replaced our previous official website which was hosted for many years by our colleagues at the University of Calgary. The website is looking good thanks to the attentions of the ISTP Communications Officer, Constance De Saint

Laurent, and its contents are maintained and updated thanks to Susannah Mulvale. The website has a membership area that permits easy registration to the society, so you can encourage potential new ISTP members to visit and join. The email addresses of members are automatically added to an email list, and this list is now our primary way of contacting one another as a society. Please note that Constance has also set up social media accounts for the ISTP on Facebook and Twitter. If you are a user of these social media, please join in with these, which can be easily found with a search for 'international society for theoretical psychology'.

We have also set up a new society affiliation agreement between ISTP and the Sage Publications journal *Theory and Psychology*. This allows the ISTP and *Theory and Psychology* to mutually promote one another's activities, and it gives us good rates on the e-versions and hard-copies of the journal that are connected with our membership (see website). I would like to thank ISTP treasurer Jim Cresswell and *Theory and Psychology* Editor Kieran O'Doherty for facilitating this agreement, which includes a biennial Sage Student Travel Award of £200.

Finally, I would like to thank our Newsletter Editor Evan Shillabeer for putting together this excellent Newsletter, which I hope you will all enjoy reading.

ISTP 2019: Copenhagen



Dear All,

We are very pleased to announce the next ISTP Conference, taking place in The Danish School of Education, Aarhus University, Copenhagen Denmark, during 19-23 August 2019. The theme of the conference is: "Measured lives: Theoretical Psychology in an era of acceleration". With this theme we wish to stimulate debate and reflection regarding dominant forces in contemporary capitalist societies: the conception of humanity as something measurable and the quest for acceleration, efficiency, and optimization. Such rationalistic ideals are characteristic of our work practices, but also intertwined in our analogue and digital social relationships, and everyday lives. This may be a crucial part of increasing productivity, but the values and forms of governance emerging from the ethos of acceleration and efficiency may also play a role in inducing human suffering and in structuring that suffering as 'new pathologies' (e.g., stress, depression, fatigue, anxiety). Moreover, it seems obvious that manualization and standardization practices conflict with the complexity of human becoming, community and subjectivity in everyday life. Clearly, psychology is itself implicated in fragmented and contradictory ways, but as yet, there has been little reflection on the impact of these forces on psychological knowledge and practices or on how psychological knowledge and practices may serve the forces of acceleration. What then can theoretical psychology contribute to the issues that arise in an "Era of Acceleration"? We are honoured to be able to welcome Professor Hartmut Rosa as opening keynote in order to address this problem. The full theme description is available at the website along with call for papers with deadline late November 2018. See more at <http://conferences.au.dk/istp2019/>

The local organizing Committee is excited to welcoming you in Copenhagen at a time of the year with hopefully lovely weather and we are currently planning both the academic and social program. We will continuously update the ISTP 2019 conference website, as we are progressing with keeping up with the yearlong ISTP tradition and make the 18th biennial conference in Copenhagen an exciting and memorable event.

We have identified a new Hostel located in the Center of Copenhagen. The Hostel offers rooms and dorms at very reasonable prices. The booking can only be done by using their website, and we are not allowed to link to it from our University website. We therefore take this opportunity to recommend that you book a room/dorm already now as it is very popular and it is big enough to host us as a community. Campus can be reached by train in 10 minutes. <https://www.steelhousecopenhagen.com/>

We hope to see you in 2019
On behalf of the local organizing committee
Ditte Winther-Lindqvist (Chair)

ISTP Membership Information

We are inviting membership applications.

Membership dues can be paid by means of credit card, cheque, or bank transfer.

The full membership fee is \$155 for a year whilst the reduced fee is \$60 (\$45 for students).

To register, please visit our website

<https://istp.wildapricot.org/Membership-Application/>

Money generated from memberships make it possible for us to function as a society, offer students bursaries for ISTP conference attendance, award the Sigmund Koch Prize for best student member presentation, and facilitate the publication of conference proceedings- now also available in e-format.

From the Editor of Theory & Psychology



Now in my second year as editor of Theory & Psychology it has been a pleasure to see the insightful and thought provoking research being produced by theoretical psychologists from all over the world. I am also always pleased when I recognize the names of authors of manuscripts submitted to the journal as colleagues I have met at one or several ISTP conferences. Overall submissions to the journal remain strong and indeed seem to be increasing. Last year the journal received over 130 submissions and as of mid-May we have already received over 60 manuscript submissions this year.

The articles published in Theory & Psychology continue to span a wide range of topics and theoretical orientations. Particular topics of interest with several papers each in 2017 and 2018 have focused on indigenous psychologies, criticisms of positive psychology, and ongoing debates on measurement and the history of psychology. There are currently three special issues being developed that will appear over the course of the next year. The first is on the topic of *Psychology in the Social Imaginary of Neoliberalism*, edited by Wade Pickren. The papers in this issue will be based on a series of presentations given at last year's APA convention. The next special issue in the line-up is on the topic of *Psychology's epistemic project* with guest editors Lotte Hunice and Estrid Sørensen. Finally, guest editors Marcin Miłkowski and Mateusz Hohol are currently working on their special issue of *Mechanisms in Psychology: The Road towards Unity?*.

In conclusion, I would like to echo Professor Stam's call for members of ISTP to see Theory & Psychology as a natural home for their work. I will gladly respond to questions about ideas for articles or special issues.

Dr. Kieran O'Doherty
Editor, Theory & Psychology

Updates to our Privacy Policy

With the introduction in May 2018 of a new European privacy law (the GDPR) to improve privacy protection for members of the EU, we would like to inform you of the ways in which the International Society for Theoretical Psychology (ISTP) processes your personal data.

Personal data is collected and processed by the ISTP either as part of Membership subscriptions (i.e. if you are a member) or as part of Conference registration (some delegates may be non-members).

The ISTP collects personal information from members including:

- your name
- the name of the Department/School and University/educational institution in which you work, if relevant
- your postal address and/or email address, if you have provided us with these
- your membership subscriptions

In the case of membership subscriptions, these data are held securely and processed for administrative purposes, such as communicating with members about the Society's business (e.g. via the Newsletter) and maintaining the Society's records. To allow a period of continuation in which membership renewal notifications can be sent, along with relevant communications about the society's activities, this data will be stored and processed for up to two years after the date of subscription, after which it will be destroyed. ISTP has an Affiliation Agreement with Sage Publications, who publish the Journal *Theory and Psychology*. Full membership of ISTP includes print and online copies of *Theory and Psychology*, while reduced membership includes online access at an 80% discount. Sage also provide a £200 Student Travel Award for the Biennial Conference. ISTP's Affiliation Agreement with Sage authorizes Sage to process membership data in order to distribute copies of the Sage Journal *Theory and Psychology* to those who opt for Full Membership, to contact ISTP members for the purposes of explaining how to register for on-line access, and for other ISTP relevant business concerning *Theory and Psychology*.

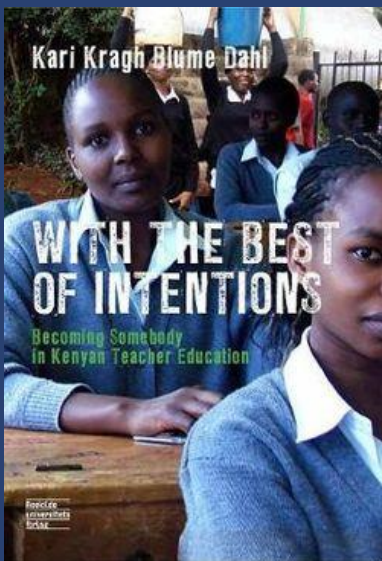
Listening Network

"This [online] network originates in Johanna Motzkau's work on listening in child protection practices, and the development of a participatory research method termed 'researching practice as process.'" This network relates to Motzkau's research presented in Tokyo in 2016. Please visit the network via [this link](#).

If you are not a member but have attended a recent ISTP Biennial Conference and have consented to use of your data, ISTP may have access to essentially the same data (name, email and terrestrial address and other data relevant to your registration). Following our Privacy Policy updated after the introduction of GDPR, this data will be held on a listserv which may be used for relevant communications about ISTP and its activities, until the next Biennial Conference, at which point it will either be updated (following Conference registration and / or subscription to Society Membership), or destroyed.

Should you at any time wish to review, revise or delete the details we hold about you, or should you have any queries concerning data protection including notifications of breaches, please contact the ISTP Secretary at: istp.society@gmail.com

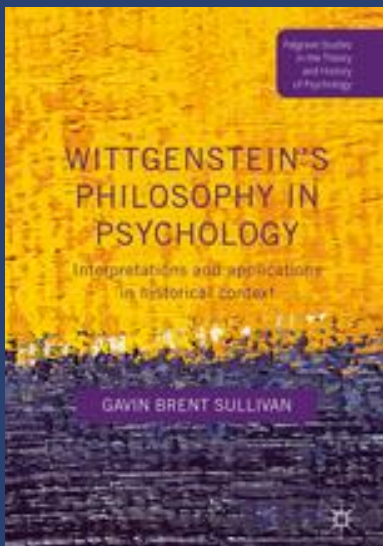
Hot off the Press!



With the Best of Intentions: Becoming Somebody in Kenyan Teacher Education

By Kari Kragh Blume Dahl

"Teacher training institutions are not just places with buildings, classrooms, tutors, textbooks, lesson plans, and exams. They are also spaces for growing up to become somebody and someone—a space where future teachers are shaped in complex local moral worlds. Author Kari Dahl provides a unique and rare look inside the reality of teacher education and schooling in Kenya today. Relying on the author's extensive immersion into the world of teacher training institutions, readers will become familiar with the complex array of concerns that condition the spaces for teachers in training, and thus shape what professional identity means in a stratified and diverse culture... It will interest researchers, educational planners, teachers, and students in the fields of teacher education, professional studies and international educational studies within social psychology, social anthropology, ethnography, and microsociology." Find out more [here](#).



Wittgenstein's Philosophy in Psychology: Interpretations and Applications in Historical Context

By Gavin Brent Sullivan

"Wittgenstein's Philosophy in Psychology engages with both critics and followers of the philosopher's work to demonstrate its enduring relevance to psychology today. Sullivan presents a novel examination of Wittgenstein's later writings by providing historical detail about the uptake, understanding and use of Wittgenstein's remarks and method in psychology and related areas of social science, examining persistent sources of conceptual confusion and showing how to apply his insights in investigations of collectives, social life, emotions, subjectivity, and development. In doing so, he reveals the value for psychologists in adopting a philosophical method of conceptual investigation to work through and become more reflexive about prominent theories, methods, therapies and practices in their respective, multiple fields and thereby create a resource for future theoretical, empirical and applied psychologists. This work will be of particular relevance to students and academics engaged in the history of psychology and to practitioners interested in understanding the continued importance of Wittgenstein's work within the practices of psychology." Find out more [here](#).

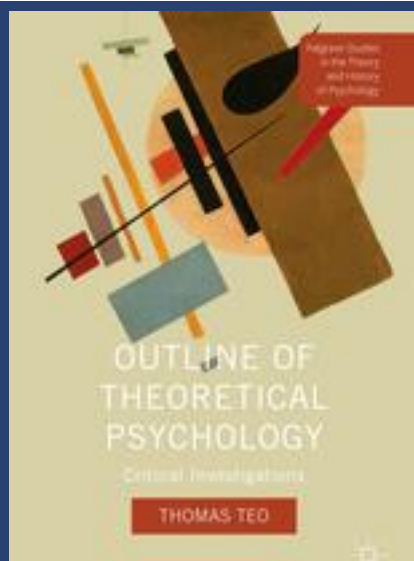


The Routledge International Handbook of Critical Positive Psychology

Edited by Nicholas J. L. Brown, Tim Lomas, Francisco Jose Eiroa-Orosa

"The book critically examines not only the scientific foundations of positive psychology, but also the sociocultural and political tenets on which the field rests. It evaluates the current field of knowledge and practice, and includes chapters analysing the methodological constructs of the field, as well as others that question what positive psychology actually means by ideas such as happiness or well-being. Taking the debate further, the book then discusses how positive psychology can be applied in a wider variety of settings than is presently the case, helping communities and individuals by acknowledging the reality of people's lives rather than adhering strictly to debateable theoretical constructs. Including contributions from disciplines ranging from psychoanalysis to existential therapy, theology to philosophy, and contributors from throughout the world, *The Routledge International Handbook of Critical Positive Psychology* will be enlightening reading for anyone interested in how psychology has sought to understand human well-being." Find out more [here](#).

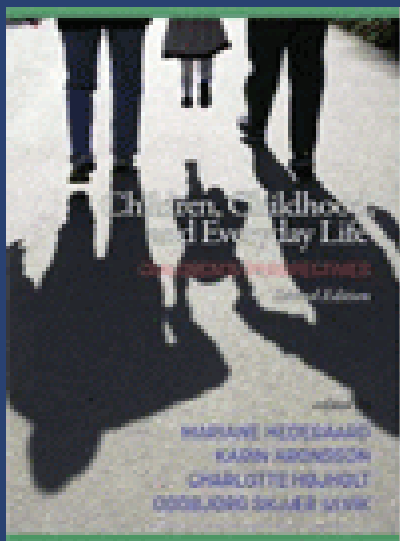
Hot off the Press!



Outline of Theoretical Psychology: Critical Investigations

By Thomas Teo

"Outline of Theoretical Psychology discusses basic philosophical problems in the discipline and profession of psychology. The author addresses such topics as what it means to be human in psychology; how psychological knowledge is possible and what it consists of; the role of social justice in psychology; and how aesthetic experience could help us to understand the human condition. Proposing possible solutions to a range of such issues, Thomas Teo situates theoretical questions within traditional branches of philosophical inquiry: ontology, epistemology, ethics, and aesthetics. This book argues that in order to improve psychology as a discipline and in practice, psychologists must reconceive the unit of psychological analysis, looking beyond individual capacity and even experience. By engaging with these basic philosophical problems, Teo demonstrates how psychology can avoid its common pitfalls and continue as a force for resistance and the good." Find out more [here](#).



Children, Childhood, and Everyday Life: Children's Perspectives, 2nd Edition

Edited by Mariane Hedegaard, Karin Aronsson, Charlotte Højholt, and Oddbjørg Skjaer Ulvik

"Traditional work on child development is often based on notions of an individual and decontextualized child. This volume involves a contribution to the rethinking of development: it presents a number of situated studies where children's perspectives are documented through their interactions with others in situated practices, in family life and school and across social contexts. This volume offers a toolkit for analyzing children's perspectives and participation over time...This anthology includes vignettes and case studies, with descriptions of children's actions in situated activity settings as well as illustrative transcripts from video-recorded social interaction...Moreover, it features interview data and narratives that include children's and youths' own reflections on their lives and experiences of the social demands of family and school. Find out more [here](#).



Imagining Collective Futures: Perspectives from Social, Cultural and Political Psychology

Edited by Constance de Saint-Laurent, Sandra Obradović, Kevin R. Carriere

"It is a commonly held assumption among cultural, social, and political psychologists that imagining the future of societies we live in has the potential to change how we think and act in the world. However little research has been devoted to whether this effect exists in collective imaginations, of social groups, communities and nations, for instance. This book explores the part that imagination and creativity play in the construction of collective futures, and the diversity of outlets in which these are presented, from fiction and cultural symbols to science and technology. The authors discuss this effect in social phenomena such as in intergroup conflict and social change, and focus on several cases studies to illustrate how the imagination of collective futures can guide social and political action. This book brings together theoretical and empirical contributions from cultural, social, and political psychology to offer insight into our constant (re)imagination of the societies in which we live" Find out more [here](#).

Hot off the Press!

PAUL STENNER &
MICHEL WEBER (EDS.)
Orpheus' Glance
Selected papers
on process psychology

Les éditions Chromatika

Orpheus' Glance: Selected Papers on Process Psychology

Edited by Paul Stenner and Michel Weber

"The Whitehead Psychology Nexus is an international open forum dedicated to the cross-examination of Alfred North Whitehead's "organic" or "process" philosophy and the various facets of the contemporary psychological field of research and debate. It seeks to mutually inform psychology and Whitehead scholarship by encouraging psychologists to research in a Whiteheadian atmosphere and Whitehead scholars to engage with psychology. Bold speculation balanced by "complete humility before logic, and before fact" (Process and Reality, 1929, corr. ed., p. 17) are especially valued. The WPN Workshops were launched in 2002 in Fontainebleau (France). The provocative papers gathered here are of two kinds: on the one hand, philosophical discussions of the present state of affairs in psychology lato sensu; and, on the other hand, critical studies of the relevance of the imaginative generalizations of Whitehead for psychology and of the impact of contemporary psychology on Whitehead's system of thought. Find out more [here](#).

LIMINALITY AND
EXPERIENCE
A TRANSDISCIPLINARY APPROACH
TO THE PSYCHOSOCIAL

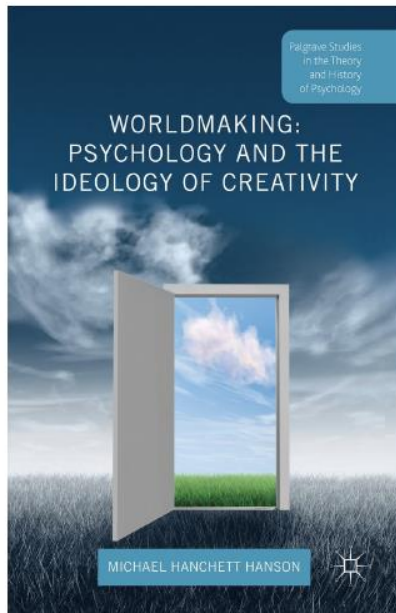


PAUL STENNER

Liminality and Experience: A Transdisciplinary Approach to the Psychosocial

By Paul Stenner

"This book breathes new life into the study of liminal experiences of transition and transformation, or 'becoming'. It brings fresh insight into affect and emotion, dream and imagination, and fabulation and symbolism by tracing their relation to experiences of liminality. The author proposes a distinctive theory of the relationship between psychology and the social sciences with much to share with the arts. Its premise is that psychosocial existence is not made of 'stuff' like building blocks, but of happenings and events in which the many elements that compose our lives are temporarily drawn together. The social is not a thing but a flow of processes, and our personal subjectivity is part of that flow, 'selves' being tightly interwoven with 'others'. But there are breaks and ruptures in the flow, and during these liminal occasions our experience unravels and is rewoven. This book puts such moments at the core of the psychosocial research agenda. Of transdisciplinary scope, it will appeal beyond psychosocial studies and social psychology to all scholars interested in the interface between experience and social (dis)order." Find out more [here](#).



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Palgrave Studies in the Theory and History of Psychology

Series Ed.: Th. Teo

Palgrave Studies in the Theory and History of Psychology publishes scholarly books that use historical and theoretical methods to critically examine the historical development and contemporary status of psychological concepts, methods, research, theories, and interventions. The books in the series are characterised by an emphasis on the concrete particulars of psychologists' scientific and professional practices, together with a critical examination of the assumptions that attend their use. These examinations are anchored in clear, accessible descriptions of what psychologists do and believe about their activities. All the books in the series share the general goal of advancing the scientific and professional practices of psychology and psychologists, even as they offer probing and detailed questioning and critical reconstructions of these practices.

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Recently published:

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Interpretations and Applications in Historical Context

V. Lux, S. Weigel (Eds.)

Empathy
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Note from the Editor

Evan Shillabeer

Graduate Student

University of Alberta, Canada

Thank you all for reading our latest newsletter, and a special thanks to all those who made contributions. As you can likely tell, we have made numerous recent changes to the newsletter, not in the least a new format. I would like to thank Constance Saint Laurent for her guidance and assistance with the changes to the format. Of course, I would like to hear from each of you regarding the format changes. Please let me know if you think this change is great, or how we can improve the newsletter in the future.

The ISTP newsletter is an important forum to share information relevant to the practice of theoretical psychology, such as recent book publications that may be of interest to fellow members and friends. Moreover, the newsletter is a space to exchange ideas and reflections among researchers. Going forward, I would like to encourage all our readers to consider writing up a short reflection on the experience of conducting theoretical research in psychology or perspectives on the status of the field. These kinds of contributions can help open dialogue among colleagues as we approach our next major conference in Copenhagen.

Please continue to also use the newsletter to advertise conferences, seminars, and workshops; information on pertinent job postings; and updates on recent events relevant to theory and psychology.

Please contact us at our new email address (newsletter.istp@gmail.com) if you would like to contribute to the ISTP newsletter or have any questions about this and/or future issues.

Best wishes,

Evan Shillabeer