

MPSI Recognition Event (June 9, 2023)

On the evening of Friday, June 9th, we gathered in downtown Minneapolis near the banks of the Mississippi to recognize the achievements of several distinguished members of the MPSI community and honor the recently departed Laurie Curtis, MSW, LICSW and David Stagner, MD. As shared by our gracious emcee for the evening, Michelle Meehan, "Dr. David Stagner was a prized and sought-after provider, mentor, supervisor and guidepost for many students, fellows, and colleagues over the years. And Laurie Curtis was a graduate of the Institute's first class in 1999 as well as part of the first Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Training Program."

During the evening, we also honored the grace, guidance, and patience of our Executive Director, Heidi Holste, whose leadership strengthens the structural integrity and operations of MPSI as a nonprofit organization. Nick Flier, our President, also received recognition for his tireless work of ushering the organization through further stages of growth by developing new policies and encouraging collaboration among the Society, Institute, and Psychotherapy Center.

We recognized the involvement and dedication of the volunteers that make up the MPI Education Committee: Bev Caruso (Secretary), Kim Rorie (Treasurer), and Helen Anthony (Progression Chair); and its Members at Large: Hal Steiger, Deb Boughton, Jeanne Bailey, Peter Grant, and Joan Lentz. We also recognized the work of the PPTP Committee: Rafael Cohen, Victoria Kohl, Michelle Meehan, Corbin Quinn, and Allison Ward.

In the last year, the Society welcomed a new Treasurer, MJ Mignogna, and several new members of the Programming Committee, including Simon Benarroch (Chair), Julian Ernst, Nadia Kolesski, and Danielle Kasprzak. We also recognized the essential efforts of the Center Advisory Committee, including Bridget Bender, Patricia Holdahl, Kate McRaith, and Corbin Quinn.

Helen Anthony presented certificates of graduation from the Institute to three exceptional Institute graduates. Svetlana Simovic, MD (in absentia) and Sean Hearn, MD, completed the Institute's adult psychoanalytic training as a physician. Valerie Penner, DSW, LICSW completed child and adolescent psychoanalytic training through the Western Regional Consortium in Child and Adolescent Psychoanalysis.

Victoria Kohl recognized PPTP certificate recipients for their completion of two years of PPTP and 60 hours of education. Recipients included Kailey Everett, Tracy Hess, Nadya Persaud, Corbin Quinn, and Richard Burns. In addition, 13 first year PPTP participants completed all three terms of the 2022-2023 program year. The PPTP will continue to offer a primarily online training program and include scheduled, in-person events each term.

Bev Caruso (Clinical Director) and Hal Steiger (Executive Director) of the MPSI Psychotherapy Center have also continued the work of the Center in training and mentoring fellows. The Year One fellows for 2022-2023 include Lydia Goblirsch, Nadia Hecker-O'Brien, Anders Jader,

Hannah Kaefer, and Jessica Levine. Special recognition was extended to Year Two fellows, Brian Nolan and Anna Weiland, for their dedication to continuing this work for a second year.

Hal Steiger introduced CrossCurrents, a new advanced clinical program taught by Hal Steiger and Ingrid Tucci. The following participants of the inaugural group were recognized for their completion of the program: Richard Burns, Rebekah Morse, Marya Samuelson, Brooke Anderson, Kelly Sternhagen, and Heather Smith.

While MPSI continues to navigate transitions and new directions with the discomfort brought by change, the Recognition Event made clear the contributions and dedication of its committees, board members, graduates, candidates, and fellows—together, a rich and diverse community of psychoanalytically-minded practitioners. Those in attendance reflected on the notable and rich experience of gathering in person. We look forward to additional opportunities to share space together, such as the Dieperink Prize Paper Presentation by Dr. Deborah Pollack Boughton on June 25, 2023 and the Fall Conference with Dr. Lynne Harkless on September 23, 2023.



Sean Hearn, MD receives a certificate of graduation from the Institute and shares his experiences of analytic training as a family physician.



Valerie Penner, DSW, LICSW shares a clinical moment as she receives a certificate of graduation from the Institute via the Western Regional Consortium in Child and Adolescent Psychoanalysis.



Victoria Kohl, MSW, LICSW recognizes graduates of the Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Training Program.



Members of the MPSI community find and connect with new colleagues. (Pictured above, from left: Richard Burns, Kelsey Menehan, and Nadia Kolesski)