

Dear Delegates of the EFPP group section

The board of the EFPP has recently been convening in Berlin to prepare for the upcoming delegates meeting in June which will go hand in glove with the EFPP four section conference. We have received abstracts from many of you wrestling with and contributing to the theme of the Berlin conference which is: "Beyond Babel? - on Sameness and Otherness".

At this meeting I will have to step down from my role as board member and chair of the group section. I have been in this role for the last eight years and was also very dedicated to my role. The book of the group section is in its advanced state. All twelve chapters are now undergoing proof reading and I hope to finish the task of editing it on summer 2015.

It is during this period of time that we had seven countries joining our section, and also a few other institutes from countries already members of the section. I am very proud of this. I have also visited some of the countries and worked there giving lectures or seminars. For this reason the board decided to nominate me now as the connection person with Eastern Europe countries, as a conjoint member of the board. In this role I will coordinate the issues arising and requirements of the Eastern European organizations.

I will also go on as the editor in chief of the EFPP Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Review.

Uri Levin from Israel was proposed by Ulrich Schultz-Venrath as a delegate to replace me and he has agreed to stand in as for the election as the second board member. Uri is a group analyst who won the first prize for the best paper of a candidate in Athens. He also wrote the last newsletter which you can read on our website. It goes without saying, that if you wish to endorse an alternative candidate, please say so ASAP and we will put him\her on the ballot paper.

At the same time the EFPP president Anne-Marie Schloesser will be up for election for a second term and I would personally wish to warmly endorse Anne-Marie. We are in the middle of an important structural and constitutional review in the EFPP and she is vital to bring these tasks to fruition. Again, it goes without saying, that if you wish to endorse an alternative candidate, please say so ASAP and we will put him\her on the ballot papers.

The president will soon send you specific proposals of the board to be discussed at the upcoming delegates meeting on June 24-25 in Berlin. The meeting will be followed as you know, by the four section conference between 26th-28th which will be taking place at the same venue. Please save the date for this important EFPP convention. I am very happy to let you know that there were about 170 abstracts sent for this conference, a huge number!! This shows the great interest that people have in the EFPP conferences. Of course not all of them were able to be included in the final program, but we have a very rich and intriguing program.

Please note that for this conference there is a reduced price for early bird Eastern European delegates. The reduced price for candidates is even lower. You will soon be able to see on the conference website the exact prices for early bird registration and for later registration.

If you have any queries in the meantime regarding the upcoming delegates meeting 2015 and/or conference please do not hesitate to let me know.

The next EFPP conference after this one will be on 2017. It will be a conjoint conference of the group section with the adult section. If you think that it will be possible to have the conference in your country, please let me know so that I can bring the proposal to the upcoming board meeting on January.

With very good wishes to all of you and seasons greeting

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