

## PAST DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURERS

November 6-7, 2009	Christopher A. Cullis, PhD
November 7-8, 2008	Dorothy L. Cheney, PhD Robert M. Seyfarth, PhD
November 2-3, 2007	Barbara Smuts, PhD
November 3-4, 2006	Christine Johnson, PhD
November 4-5, 2005	Mark Flinn, PhD
November 5-6, 2004	Laurence Frank, PhD
November 8-9, 2003	David Sloan Wilson, PhD
November 2-3, 2002	C. Sue Carter, PhD
November 3-4, 2001	Randolph Nesse, MD
November 11-12, 2000	John Morgan Allman, PhD
November 13-14, 1999	Anne Harrington, PhD
November 7-8, 1998	Barbara J. King, PhD
November 1-2, 1997	Deborah M. Gordon, PhD
November 2-3, 1996	Peter R. Grant, PhD and B. Rosemary Grant, PhD
November 11-12, 1995	James A. Shapiro, PhD
November 12-13, 1994	Mary Beth Saffo, PhD
November 13-14, 1993	Candace B. Pert, PhD
November 14-15, 1992	Stephen T. Emlen, PhD
November 9-10, 1991	Howard T. Odum, PhD
November 10-11, 1990	Lloyd Motz, PhD
November 4-5, 1989	Frans deWaal, PhD
November 12-13, 1988	John Bonner, PhD
November 7-8, 1987	Verner Suomi, PhD
November 8-9, 1986	Edward O. Wilson, PhD
October 19-20, 1985	Stephen Suomi, PhD
October 20-21, 1984	Melvin Konner, PhD
October 15-16, 1983	Roger Payne, PhD
November 13-14, 1982	George Stidworthy, PhD
November 7-8, 1981	Fred Hapgood
November 22-23, 1980	George Vaillant, MD
November 16-17, 1979	Paul MacLean, MD
October 27-28, 1978	Stephen Jay Gould, PhD
November 11-12, 1977	Elof Axel Carlson, PhD
October 21-22, 1976	Devra Kleiman, PhD
October 9-10, 1975	John B. Calhoun, PhD
October 31-Nov. 1, 1974	Roderick Gorney, MD
November 15-16, 1973	Anton B. Schmalz
November 2-3, 1972	James L. Framo, PhD
October 14-15, 1971	Walter Toman, PhD
October 29-30, 1970	Nathan W. Ackerman, MD
October 17-18, 1969	Salvador Minuchin, MD
November 1-2, 1968	Jay Haley, MA
November 3-4, 1967	Norman L. Paul, MD
October 29-30, 1966	Don D. Jackson, MD
May 13-14, 1966	Lyman Wynne, MD
May 7-8, 1965	Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy, MD

Bowen Center for the Study of the Family  
*Georgetown Family Center*

# 47<sup>th</sup> Symposium

on Family Theory & Family Psychotherapy  
November 5-6, 2010

## About the Symposium

This Symposium is the forty-seventh in a series begun in 1965. The Symposium is the most important annual meeting on Bowen theory and its applications because it brings together the liveliest minds in the Bowen network to present, question, and discuss the latest research and ideas. As always, the Symposium also features a Distinguished Guest Lecturer from another discipline whose research is relevant to Bowen theory. Bowen theory is not a fixed body of knowledge so it changes in response to new facts about human emotional functioning from many disciplines. The knowledge of the Distinguished Guest Lecturer is very important to keeping Bowen theory an open system.

## Distinguished Guest Lecturer: Peter Stearns, PhD

*Provost and Professor of History at George Mason University and Founder and Editor of the Journal of Social History.*

In 2003, Dr. Stearns published *Anxious Parents: A History of Modern Childrearing in America* which traces significant changes in adult-child relationships, particularly in the last several decades. Beginning in the 1920s, many American parents, and those who advised them, began to believe that children were physically and emotionally vulnerable which led not only to how matters were handled within the family but how parents responded in relationship to larger social institutions. *Anxious Parents* places Bowen theory's concept of societal emotional process in an invaluable historical context and provides a basis for thinking about appropriate reactions to pervasive worries in contemporary society.

## November 4, 2010

### The Clinical Conference

The Clinical Conference integrates theory and clinical practice. The day includes a lecture on a clinical topic, followed by videotaped clinical interviews and discussion. The Clinical Conference began in 1967 as a monthly videotaped interview project with families seen by Murray Bowen. Gradually, responsibility for the conference was transferred to the faculty of the Family Center. The unusual format of videotaping families who are invited to be present at this clinical day make this conference unique in the world of family theory and family psychotherapy.

### On the Process of Triangling and its Effects - Daniel V. Papero, PhD, MSW

A central concept in Bowen theory is triangling. It refers to a predictable process in a relationship system that reflects the level of differentiation of self of the participants and the intensity of the anxiety in the system. Clinical interviews will describe the process of triangling and demonstrate its effects in family systems.

### Conference Information

Thursday, November 4, 2010

9:30 AM - 3:30 PM Registration begins at 9:00 AM

The Clinical Conference will be held at the Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church in 3401 Nebraska Avenue NW, Washington, DC

Free parking on upper tier of lot (closest to the street)

Register online at [www.thebowencenter.org](http://www.thebowencenter.org) or by phone at 202-965-4400.

## FRIDAY • NOVEMBER 5, 2010

### THEORY

8:30 REGISTRATION

9:00 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION **Michael E. Kerr, MD**

9:10 NIMH RESEARCH AND THE ORIGIN OF FAMILY PSYCHOTHERAPY

**John F. Butler, PhD** Conceptualizing the family as an emotional unit and attempting to keep tensions within the research families were key factors in the development of family psychotherapy.

9:40 BOWEN THEORY: A COMPREHENSIVE NATURAL SYSTEMS THEORY

**LeAnn Howard, MSW** Studies of harvester ants may provide evidence for the fundamental life forces of individuality and togetherness in the functioning and evolution of insect colonies.

10:10 PANEL DISCUSSION

10:40 INTERMISSION/COFFEE

11:10 UNDERSTANDING MALE HOMOSEXUALITY

**Kent E. Webb, MSW** Investigation of 100 psychotherapy cases and an extensive literature review suggest that a natural systems perspective could provide a new understanding of male homosexuality.

11:40 BEREAVEMENT RESEARCH AS IT RELATES TO BOWEN THEORY

**Deloras Pemberton, PhD** Anxiety is the primary variable explaining the challenges bereaved individuals face. Supportive relationships are more useful for adapting to loss than an emphasis on emotional expression.

12:10 PANEL DISCUSSION

12:40 LUNCH BREAK

### CLINICAL RESEARCH

2:00 HAS PARENTING BECOME TOO DIFFICULT?

**Peter N. Stearns, PhD** Recent decades have shown a shift in the ways childhood and parenting have been experienced and perceived. Parents have lost confidence in the capability of their children and in their own parenting skills. The modern social context in the US and its impact on parenting will be highlighted.

3:15 INTERMISSION

3:30 THE FEAR FACTOR

**Peter N. Stearns, PhD** The 20th century pattern of parental anxiety is driven by the concept that children are fragile and parents are obliged to manage their children's lives and assure their happiness. A historical survey of popular media, "expert" childrearing manuals, and newspapers and journals shows how schooling, physical and emotional vulnerability, and the rise of commercialism has fueled the fear factor.

4:30 PANEL DISCUSSION

5:00 ADJOURNMENT

5:30 SPEAKERS' RECEPTION

### DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURER

All participants are invited to continue the dialogue with Dr. Stearns and other presenters and to enjoy beverages and light hors d'oeuvres

## SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 6, 2010

### ANXIETY AND REACTIVITY

8:30 USING THE COGNITIVE TO CONTROL THE "TWITCH"  
**Daniel V. Papero, PhD, MSW** Bowen theory's idea that the intellectual system can exert some control over emotional reactivity is being increasingly explicated by neuroscience.

9:00 PARENTING PROCESSES AND CHILDREN'S CARDIAC PHYSIOLOGY

**Elizabeth A. Skowron, PhD** Findings from a study suggests a relationship between maternal differentiation of self and children's cardiac physiology, and their ability to self-regulate.

9:30 CHRONIC ANXIETY, STRESS REACTIVITY, AND EPIGENETICS

**Robert J. Noone, PhD** Parent-offspring interactions can influence the offspring's gene expression in ways that affect his stress response systems. This epigenetic effect can persist into adulthood.

10:00 PANEL DISCUSSION

10:30 INTERMISSION/COFFEE

### DIFFERENTIATION

11:00 OBSERVING AND EVALUATING THE FAMILY PROJECTION PROCESS

**Lona Hardy, MSW** Report of a three generational study of two clinical families assesses the relationship between the intensity of a family's emotional focus on a child and the child's functioning.

11:30 VARIETIES OF FUNCTIONAL DIFFERENTIATION

**James E. Jones, PhD** Besides relationship factors, many non-relationship factors such as beliefs and all other anxiety-binding behaviors can influence functional level of differentiation.

12:00 PANEL DISCUSSION

12:30 LUNCH BREAK

### ARE INDIVIDUALITY AND DIFFERENTIATION SYNONYMOUS?

2:00 **MICHAEL E. KERR, MD** Human relationship systems function as if they are governed by two counterbalancing and opposing life forces: differentiation (individuality) and togetherness.

2:25 **RANDALL T. FROST, MDIV** The relationship of differentiation to the life forces of individuality and togetherness points to how both forces can be more or less integrated with higher brain centers.

2:50 PANEL DISCUSSION

3:15 INTERMISSION

### SYMPTOM DEVELOPMENT

3:30 METASTATIC BREAST CANCER AND THE FAMILY

**Joan Jurkowski, MS** Emotional isolation, anxiety, and the need for closer relationships were present in the family member diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer. The cancer was a wake-up call.

4:00 ANATOMY OF A SYMPTOM

**Kathleen B. Kerr, MSN, MA** The occurrence of thyroid cancer is examined by reviewing important family, work, and social systems for how elevated chronic anxiety contributed to the symptom intensifying.

4:30 PANEL DISCUSSION

5:00 ADJOURNMENT

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Conference Location

George Mason University Law Center  
(Original Building)  
3401 Fairfax Drive  
Arlington, VA 22201

## Accommodations

Marriott Key Bridge  
1401 Lee Highway  
Arlington, Virginia 22209  
703-524-6400

The Marriott Key Bridge is located within walking distance of the Rosslyn Metro Station which is on the Blue and Orange Line of the Washington Metro. Both of these lines travel directly to Reagan National Airport.

## Hotel Reservations

**A block of specially priced rooms is reserved through October 10th or until they have sold out.**

The special rate is \$149/night. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-676-2959 and asking for the **Bowen Center Room Block** at the **Key Bridge Marriott**.

You can register online by going to the Symposium page on the Bowen Center website ([www.thebowencenter.org/sympplaces](http://www.thebowencenter.org/sympplaces)) which links to the Key Bridge Marriott's home page with the group rate already displayed. Please enter your arrival date to begin the reservation process.

## Parking

On-site parking fee: \$5 hourly, \$17 daily

## Contact the Bowen Center

Phone: 202-965-4400 or 800-432-6882  
Fax: 202-965-1765  
Email: [info@thebowencenter.org](mailto:info@thebowencenter.org)  
Website: [www.thebowencenter.org](http://www.thebowencenter.org)

## Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

The Georgetown Family Center is an approved independent provider of CEU credit by the Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners, the District of Columbia Board of Social Work, and the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC).

**The Symposium** (November 5-6) provides a maximum of 12 hours of Category II CEUs for social workers and counselors.

**The Clinical Conference** (November 4) provides a maximum of 6 hours of Category I CEUs for social workers and counselors.

Visit us on the web at [www.thebowencenter.org](http://www.thebowencenter.org)  
To receive the latest Bowen Center information, please sign up for our monthly email newsletter at [www.thebowencenter.org](http://www.thebowencenter.org)

# 47<sup>th</sup> Symposium

**REGISTER** by fax, mail, or register online at [thebowencenter.org](http://thebowencenter.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please write your name and academic credentials as you would like them to appear on your name tag.*

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Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Conference Fees

The Symposium registration fee is refundable less a \$50 administrative charge before October 22nd.

Registration	\$435.00	_____
Postgraduate Program Trainee	\$300.00	_____
CEUs (circle one)		
Social Work or Counseling	\$15.00	_____
Symposium DVD set (8 disks)	\$275.00	_____

*Free shipping for US orders taken at the conference.*

## CLINICAL CONFERENCE

Registration	\$135.00	_____
Postgraduate Program Trainee	\$115.00	_____
Full-Time Student	\$40.00	_____
CEUs (circle one)		
Social Work or Counseling	\$15.00	_____

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to The Bowen Center.  
Outside the US, use a certified check or credit card.

Mail or fax this form with your payment to:

47<sup>th</sup> Family Symposium

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