

ISST

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SANDPLAY THERAPY

NEWSLETTER

The ISST Newsletter is an electronic publication e-mailed to all ISST members of National Societies and to Independent Members. It provides information about Jungian Sandplay Therapy as developed by ISST founder Dora Kalff. This method is practiced by certified ISST members of National Societies and by Independent Members throughout the world. The Newsletter aims to facilitate communication between all ISST members and to provide access to current research, events, and educational opportunities in the field of Sandplay Therapy. Please visit our website for information about education and training in Jungian Sandplay: www.isst-society.com

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SGSST: Maria Kendler

STA: Maria Ellen Chiaia

TSST: Grace Hong

JAST: Yasunobu Okada

ISST is the organization that connects you with the work of certified Sandplay Therapists around the world, who use Sandplay to help people of all ages to alleviate emotional pain, and improve their sense of emotional well-being, creativity and individuality. Jungian Sandplay is a symbolic, non-verbal method in keeping with C.G. Jung's goal that the therapeutic process leads us to become ourselves more fully.

ISST encourages the highest quality of sandplay therapy practice available, and disseminates information to the general public.

ISST represents more than 280 certified members around the world, and 11 National Societies.



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1: IN MEMORIUM: Dr. KAZUHIKO HIGUCHI (1927-2013)

JAST (Japanese Association of Sandplay Therapy) Yasunobu Okada & Takuji Natori

On 25th August 2013, **Dr. Kazuhiko Higuchi**, the vice president of ISST and one of the founding members, passed away from cancer of the large intestine. He is famous in Japan as one of the first generation of Jungian analysts in Japan together with the late **Hayao Kawai**. He was representative of the foundations for suicide prevention telephone counseling, **FIND** (Foundation of *Inochi no Denwa*) and **KIND** (Kyoto *Inochi no Denwa*), ex-president of Kyoto Bunkyo University, an emeritus professor of Doshisha University, and a pastor of Kyoto Marutamachi Church.

The funeral ceremonies were held at Kyoto Marutamachi Church in the evening of the 27th and in the morning of the 28th of August. Many colleagues, students, friends, and relatives gathered together, prayed for him, and remembered memories of the days with him.

As a board member of ISST, Dr. Higuchi always deeply wanted ISST to preserve the spirit of Dora Kalff and to function as a matrix of development and exchange where each member can help and learn from the other, respecting the history and soul of each member's culture. He had worked in many fields, such as sandplay therapy, dream analysis, Fantasy Group (imagination group work based on archetypal psychology, originated by him) and telephone counseling for suicide prevention. All areas of his work were based on archetypal psychology, whose mottoes are "stick to the image" and "care of soul."

His health condition didn't allow him to attend the board meeting and 22nd Congress of ISST in Venice in August 2013. However, his voice joined in the meeting via an international telephone call. Soon after the congress, we visited him in his home. He was pleased to know how successful, meaningful, and beautiful the congress was. From the second weekend of August, his physical condition suddenly got worse and he suffered from an uncomfortable feeling in his respiration. He was then hospitalized and took medicine to relieve the pain.

He passed away at 12:12 p.m. on August 25th, at the age of 86. At the last moment, his wife, his children and grandchildren were around his bed. His lungs were pushed by some amount of abdominal dropsy. Suddenly, his respiration became unstable and he went to heaven without serious pain. It was as if he breathed deeply for the last time.

His family is thankful for the flowers offered by ISST and Dr. Ruth Ammann. We also appreciate all the warmest messages of condolences from ISST members.

The first photograph is a snapshot of the funeral ceremony and the second one is the memorial place in his home by courtesy of Mrs. Ayako Higuchi.



2: LETTER FROM THE ISST PRESIDENTS RIE ROGERS MITCHELL & ALEXANDER ESTERHUYZEN

We are happy to report that ISST is running smoothly with the help of Treasurer Trudy Rankin, Administrative Secretary Hilary Vaughan, and ISST Board members. Thank you, Lenore, for editing another exceptional newsletter.

The ISST Board at the time of the Venice Congress consisted of 13 representatives from 10 countries and four officers (two presidents, vice-president and treasurer).

Highlights of the ISST Board Meeting, July 2013:

***Kate Loiseau** was welcomed as a new board member from the British-Irish Society.

*Deepest appreciation was expressed to **Ulrike Hinsch** (Germany), **Judy Zappacosta** (U.S.), and **Vanessa Prins-Goodman** (Netherlands) for their outstanding contributions to ISST during their service on the Board.

*Total number of ISST members: 284 (30 of these are Independent Members from countries without a National Society). During the past year, twenty-five (25) new members and eight (8) new teaching members have been certified.

Board Decisions:

*Dues are no longer required of founding members

*National Societies are asked to work with members who have financial difficulties in paying ISST dues.

*ISST will support Board representation from new National Societies that do not have sufficient funds, even though this may require ISST to use reserved funds.

*The Intensive Training Week will be held in August 2014, possibly in Asia.

*All current ISST final case readers were grandfathered as International Case Readers.

*To partially meet the requirements as a Teaching Member (TM), a member may now attend an ISST Congress (or National Congress at which TMs of other National Societies are present) and present a paper or publish an article in a sandplay or other journal.

*Candidates may now receive group supervision online under certain conditions (see website).

*Taiwan fulfilled the conditions to become an ISST National Society and was elected as our newest National member by the Board and General Assembly.

*Reports of National Societies, Presidents' Report, and Board Meeting minutes will be distributed to members via email.

We wish you a happy and fruitful New Year!

Rie and Alex

3: LETTER FROM ISST TREASURER, TRUDY RANKIN,

At the General Meeting for ISST membership at the ISST Congress in Venice in August, 2013, I was asked a very important question- I probably would have asked it myself a couple of years ago! The question was related to the budget and expenditures. "Could you explain how the Board uses the listed budget amount? The Board's expenditure seems to be the highest cost on the ISST budget." This deserves a current answer, based on my experience as ISST Treasurer for two years. Trust me- it has been an education for me in understanding international non-profit organizations.

The Board must meet once each year, and consists of elected members or appointed representatives of the National Societies. The statutes of ISST determine the make-up of the Board: depending on the size of the society, there can be either one or two representatives. Each National Society is expected to pay ½ of their representative's travel costs to the Board meeting. There are presently 11 National Societies, three of which are large enough to have two representatives to the Board. Normally, there are three full days of Board work scheduled at each yearly meeting, in order to carry on the work of this international community. As international relationships become more complicated, more education and dialogue is needed within the Board. All Board members continue to have responsibilities that they manage throughout the year pertaining to issues such as certification, planning future events, Board development, advising, financial management etc. All Board members provide these actions of the Board without remuneration. The Presidents receive a stipend for the level of work load that is demanded during and between Board meetings

The Board expenses for the 2013 Board meeting accommodated 16 participants for a three day Board meeting before the Congress. Exact budget figures are available to all ISST members in the financial report of the Board Minutes each year.

Costs of the Board meetings vary according to the local costs where the Board meeting and/or the Congress takes place. Until now there has been an International Congress once in two years. In alternate years when there is no Congress, the Board elects to have a meeting in a country with a developing interest in sandplay where costs are cheaper. One important benefit of this is the formation of a Sandplay Training Week at an affordable cost for Sandplay trainees of that country and surrounding countries. For example, in recent years, Board meetings combined with a Training Week took place in Bulgaria and Poland. The Presidents have a separate budget item for work requiring Independent Member support and development of societies. Again, these figures can be found in the Board Minutes.

Your dues provide the necessary income to maintain the budget of ISST. These dues have not been raised for several years, although cost of living has increased, as has the size of the ISST Board. Through the on-going development of membership and societies, the income defrays the cost. But, I am sure that you now realize that with the growth of Independent Member's numbers and more societies with membership on the Board, expenses rise as well. The Board will be addressing Board growth at the next Board meeting. All Board members will come with ideas for Board constitution from their societies.

Trudy Corry Rankin
ISST Treasurer

4. RECOLLECTIONS OF 2 BOARD MEMBERS ENDING THEIR 8-YEAR TERM: ULRIKE HINSCH, DGST, & JUDY ZAPPACOSTA, STA

Ulrike Hinsch, DGST: “From Rome to Venice: 8 years as an ISST Board Member”

In 2005 I joined the ISST Board, as the representative of DGST. During this time I attended 9 board meetings, 5 international conferences and 4 intensive training weeks:

- 2005 Rome Italy (Congress)
- 2006 Egmont aan Zee Holland (ITW)
- 2007 Cambridge Great Britain (Congress)
- 2008 Juquehy Brazil (ITW)
- 2009 Kyoto Japan (Congress)
- 2010 Pamporovo Bulgaria (ITW)
- 2011 Zurich and Ittingen Switzerland (Congress)
- 2012 Krakow and Pod Debami Poland (ITW)
- 2013 Venice San Servolo Italy (Congress)



San Lazzaro Venice 2013: photo by Ulrike Hinsch

I would like to thank all of the colleagues that I met during these years, for all the experiences and joint ventures that we had together. It enriched my life and my work. During these years ISST went through a significant development. And being part of this, I also did. In particular, I remember improving my English language skills! I would like to tell a bit about some of the history that I remember well:

In 2005 in Rome the ISST presidency had already been transferred from **Andreina Navone**, Italy to **Ruth Ammann**, Switzerland. The treasurer was **Nehama Baum**, Canada. **Vera von Braunbehrens** and **Sigrid Loewen** were the other German members (Sigrid as founding member of ISST since 1986). At that time ISST had 7 National Societies and about 150 members. During the following years the Board worked on new statutes and the Rules of Procedure were completed. These were translated into English, German and Italian, and printed in little booklets which replaced the “Blue Book”. Besides this important organizational work, Board members had begun to do a lot of traveling and teaching all over the world. This led to the decision to organize the first Intensive Training Week (ITW) to facilitate the development of groups of sandplay therapists in countries where national societies did not yet exist. The first ITW took place in the summer of 2006 in Holland, on the Dutch Northern Sea Beach and successfully brought together more than 40 participants and teachers from 15 countries for a very intensive and fruitful week of learning. Since then, the ITW is held every second year after the Board Meeting and each time it has been a new and wonderful experience that widened the sandplay experience for everyone. The ITW provided qualified teachers and also helped establish new National Societies as members of ISST (The Netherlands, Israel, Brazil). The ITW has been a forum that brings together individual sandplay candidates and members from everywhere in the world.

The ISST Board Meetings, International Training Weeks and Congresses took place in wonderful places: A former nuns convent near the Vatican in Rome, on the beach in Holland and Brazil, a traditional old English College and a huge modern one in Japan, in sites such as the mountains of Bulgaria, Poland and Switzerland and also at the famous “Psychologischer Club” in Zurich, Switzerland, founded 1916 by C. G. Jung. In 2013 the board meeting and conference was held on San Servolo, a little island opposite San Marco Venice which served as monastery from the 8th to 18th century and as a psychiatric hospital after that until 1978. Now it is a conference center and scientific and cultural exhibitions and events take place.

Some pictures of the last meeting and conference may visualize the beauty of these places and express my deepest gratitude to the International Sandplay Therapist Society.

Judy Zappacosta, STA: “Recollections of a Retiring Board Member”

It seems that an eight year term at the beginning of one’s tenure on the Board of ISST appears initially as a huge commitment in time and energy, however, as this eight year window closes, I am surprised by how quickly the time went by, how much work was accomplished, and the deep and abiding friendships that grew, even though we met only once year.

I remember when **Dora Kalff** explained one evening at Pajaro Dunes, on the Monterey Bay in California her vision for an international society, and what she hoped it would accomplish. At that time, she shared her concerns that although many were excited by the use of this new modality, there were few therapists who understood the deep level of training, commitment, and study that was required to become a sandplay therapist. She also understood that sandplay would grow, change, and that new ideas would emerge as the years went on. But she was clear, that the guidelines that were set up with the Founders, particularly the writing of two symbol papers and a full case study would support good training.

I believe she was right, and in the eight years I have served on the Board of ISST, we continue to wrestle with solid training guidelines, certification processes, and supporting growth of sandplay internationally. At the heart of this process, we have worked to support Dora’s initial vision, as well as also moving forward with meeting new expectations of those entering into training. I have enjoyed the diversity offered in discussions of each national society’s concerns, and have learned from each of my colleagues as they have expressed the needs and concerns from their particular country and viewpoint. At times, my ears were concurrently filled with German, Japanese, Italian, and English translations, but always, Ruth, Alexander, or Rie would remind us, “Please, in English, we must hear each other!” And so, we would defer to the common ground of English to hear and make decisions, even though for some of our board members, it stretched their ease in the moment to have to move away from their native languages.

Serving on the ISST board has offered me lessons in rapport, diplomacy, problem-solving, and creative thinking. It has held great moments of tension, and great moments of joy. I leave my tenure with great gratitude for the opportunity to serve STA and ISST. I believe we are all still serving the initial vision of **Dora Kalff**, and continue to hold each other to a high standard of integrity as we move forward and grow. I look forward to supporting more of my colleagues as they step forward to offer their time and energy to both their national and international organizations.



ISST Board Venice, 2013, From Left to Right: Sylvia Simonyi, Lenore Steinhardt, Vanessa Prins-Goodman, Milvia Talamini, Judy Zappacosta, Maria Chiaia, Trudy Rankin, Rie Rogers Mitchell, Rosa Napoliello, Alexander Esterhuyzen, Ana Maria Collichio, Ulrike Hinsch, Maria Kendler, Jorg Rasche, Kate Loiseau, Takuji Natori, Yasunobu Okada

5. NEWS FROM NATIONAL SOCIETIES
AISPT (The Italian Association for Sandplay Therapy)
President: Stefano Marinucci
ISST Board representatives: Rosa Napoliello & Milvia Talamini

ISST Congress, Venice, August 2013

With great satisfaction, AISPT and ISST can consider the Congress held in Venice a success, because of the large number of participants who came from different parts of the world, and for the great interest aroused by the lectures presented at the plenary session and in the afternoon seminars. This success can be traced back to different factors: first of all, there is increasingly great interest in Sandplay Therapy in different cultures and countries, and thus its diffusion around the world; second, the theme of the mask so dear to Jung, was so present in the context of emerging pathologies in a society where "image" is important, but also masks are a testimony to the spiritual collective elements transmitted from different cultures. Thirdly, the success of the conference can be linked to the place where it was held- Venice, a unique city in the world for its special beauty.



Trudy Rankin, Rie Rogers Mitchell, Alex Exterhuyzen

In the context of the conference, the interest in the lectures and seminars was also enhanced by exploration of the cultural sites of the city, including the exhibition of images of Jung's Red Book at the Art Biennale in Venice) and the charm of the island of San Servolo (the Congress venue), that activated an atmosphere of intense cultural exchange and pleasant meetings between members of the Congress, which culminated in the fascinating charm of a dance evening on the lagoon.

Activities of AISPT 2013-2014

In addition to the activities already reported in the previous News Letter, the following activities were added:

- * Project Sassari: diffusion of Sandplay Therapy in Sardinia through a program directed at health professionals in the city of Sassari
- * Organization of a two-year Master in Milan for psychotherapists and analysts
- * Organization of a four-year course of study for training with a specialization in Psychotherapy at the Don Gnocchi Institute in Rome.
- * Organization of the annual meeting between the research groups in the Italian region of Tuscany.
- * Organization of a Congress in Trapani in April 2013 titled "Images of Adolescence: Reflections drawn from Jungian clinical practice and experience with Sandplay Therapy "
- * The first issue of the **Sandplay Journal "Orme" in Italian and English** has been published online. The website is www.orme-aispt.it. In the early months of next year, the login credentials to the reserved area will be sent to all members of ISST.

*In the year 2014, the AISPT will open a clinical center in Rome

BISS (British and Irish Sandplay Society) ISST Board Representative: Kate Loiseau

This has been a particularly great year for BISS which rewarded ISST with three new members. **Eunice Stagg, Valeria Grishko, and Rebecca Miles.** Two of these members have now been voted on to the BISS Executive Committee. Our trainees have just completed their final year, of a two year core training cycle with BISS. We wish these nine students 'Good Luck' on their journey towards becoming ISST Members.

In July we held our biennial conference 'Change and Exchange' in London. Where old and new members came together and enjoyed a lovely weekend, which ended with Circle dancing outside on the lawn, underneath the light of the moon, which was great fun.

In the summer BISS had eight representatives present at the conference in Venice. All reported that it had been a wonderful experience, and made the most of visiting the Art Exhibitions, especially the Biennale where Jung's Red Book was on display.

CAST (Canadian Association of Sandplay Therapy)
ISST Board Representative: Sylvia Simonyi-Elmer

CAST will be co-hosting a conference with the British Columbia Play Therapy Association-

PLAY AND PROCESS: IN PLAY, SANDPLAY AND EXPRESSIVE THERAPIES

February 28 - March 2, 2014

UBC Robson Square, Vancouver, BC

All conference information and registrations on line at:

<http://www.bcpta-cast-conference2014.com/Welcome.html>

. 2014 CAST Programme Committee: Brenda Weinberg, Bea Donald, Barbara Dalziel

Ibtsandplay-Brazilian Sandplay Institute
INSTITUTO BRASILEIRO DE TERAPIA DE SANDPLAY
ISST Board Representative : Ana Maria Colicchio

The Brazilian institute – ibtsandplay – is ending the year of 2013 and some of its goals have been reached with some success. In March, ibtsandplay was recognized by the State Council for Psychology and that means we are legally authorized to develop the following activities in Sandplay: training, teaching (supervision and open courses), research, psychological treatment for poorer classes. This is another step we have achieved and complied with to work according to Brazilian laws.

The first group of candidates, composed of professionals with extensive experience in sandplay, participate in seminars and supervisions provided by the institute. Two of them have already written their final cases and symbol papers. Others are in the process of finishing their complementary training, writing the final case and symbol papers.

The ISST/ibtsandplay Rules of Procedure require an international reader from another ISST society. Those who are available to read the Brazilian papers, please contact me through the email amclsbrissa@terra.com.br

DGST (The German Society of Sandplay Therapy)**ISST Board Representative: Joerg Rasche**

Sandplay Therapy in Germany has a long tradition and is well known in all parts of our country, mostly in the south-west around Stuttgart – close to Switzerland. DGST today has about 120 members, among them 32 ISST members. Many of them are trainees and practitioners who still should write their final case reports for certification as Sandplay Therapists, hopefully in ISST.

Our training follows two models:

The Group model, with a (more or less) stable number of participants. Normally 8 weekends, over 2 years, after doing a personal Sandplay process, containing seminars and group supervision. The group training takes place in Apfelstetten (near Stuttgart) and Cologne.

The Module model: A curriculum of 10 main topics and units to be studied in weekend seminars with different speakers in different places. We are still elaborating on this training model on a national basis.

The Group model fosters a common and shared development of sandplay therapist identity. We learn mostly from others! The Module model is easier to arrange for many of our teaching members.

DGST is developing these training structures. **Mr. Feindt** (Cologne) developed a Study Book where the modules are documented and signed by the several speakers. **Linde von Keyserlingk**, former president of DGST, wrote a list of “musts” for the theoretical part of the training.

In the German sandplay scene, different streams are represented. In DGST we have some qualified Jungian Analysts (trained mostly in the C. G. Jung Institutes in Stuttgart, Munich or Berlin) as well as family therapists and therapists with a background in systemic or art therapy. We are still exploring the possibilities of combining Kalfian Sandplay with behaviouristic approaches e. g. in trauma therapy which is not easy because directive attitudes are not compatible with the “free and protected space”. Some of our members also use Sandplay in couple- and family therapy. This seems to be a very useful approach which should be elaborated more. Mutual awareness of the other’s emotions and feelings in the relationship can be deepened in couple sandplay settings. This could also be useful for therapeutic consultation of parents of autistic children – and of the children themselves. Some of our colleagues provide sandplay sessions for teachers resp. children in schools.

Teaching members of DGST are also engaged in Eastern Europe, in Poland, Ukraine, Latvia and Lithuania. In these countries there is a deep longing for qualified clinical and therapeutic techniques. This presents a problem as Sandplay in the sense of Dora Kalff is not a technique but an entire attitude to provide a protected space for deeper self experience both for the client as for the therapist. The empathic openness of the therapist is close to the “open heart and mind” of Jungian Analysis. My experience in these societies is that skills for this atmospheric and transformative experience are exactly what the people there need and want to develop. Sandplay with its triangulating structure and its impact on what we may call- the Mutual Mirror Neuron System, is a powerful contribution to the development of an empathic and responsible psyche. DGST today sponsors a training group in Ternopil (Ukraine) and assists in the development of the Polish groups. In Szczecin (Poland) a Sandplay conference organized by a local group was attended by more than 100 participants from all over Poland. The Szczecin group was trained by DGST teaching members, with the help of **Krzysztof Rutkowsky** (Krakow). The Latvian group developed by **Linde von Keyserlingk** in the last 15 years has formed a national society. In Kiev in 2011 I attended a conference on Child Therapy where I found another group of gifted sandplay therapists. DGST and the Swiss Society now edit the **Journal “Sandspieltherapy”** together. **Maria Kendler** is chief editor. Our next conference will take place in Switzerland 2014, a joint event of both societies.

ISTA (Israeli Sandplay Therapists Association) Dr. Bert Meltzer, President
ISST Board Representative: Lenore Steinhardt

At the ISST Congress in Venice, August 2013, three ISTA members— **Dr. Bert Meltzer, Rina Porat, and Lenore Steinhardt**, presented their papers on both the symbolic use of the term “Mask” and on the use of masks in Sandplay therapy. Seven other ISTA members and candidates attended the conference- **Edna Schori, Hana Eker, Tehila Shoham, Yael Bruno, Yossi Serebro, Amy Persky, and Rokaya Marzouk Abu-rekayek**. It was a great pleasure for all of us to enjoy the Sandplay conference which took place on the beautiful island of San Servolo, to enjoy Venice, and also to attend the Art Biennale which took place this year at the Giardini and Arsenale venues, as well as in many other sites around Venice. Of special interest to all was Jung’s Red Book, and its illustrations, that were displayed in the entry room of the Giardini.

The Tel Aviv Sandplay Training Program has begun the sixth two year group with 13 students. Quite a few past students have completed writing their two symbol papers, which is an added requirement for those who finish the theoretical training program. At the present time there is not enough Sandplay literature in Hebrew. A few ISTA members and others have been encouraged to write articles about Sandplay, some based on their symbol papers, for Hebrew publication.

NVST (Netherlands Sandplay Therapy Society)
ISST Board Representative: Dr. Jellemeike Hees- Stauthamer

The Dutch Association for Sandplay Therapy will have its 10 year anniversary in 2014 and we want to celebrate this with a special training day. **Dr. Martin Kalff** has agreed to come to the Netherlands on Saturday, 13 September 2014, to make this extra special. He will give a workshop on **Sandplay and Mindfulness**.

If you are nearby and wish to attend, please let us know. If necessary, we will find you a place to stay with one of our members.

We would hereby also like to announce that **Dr. Jellemeike Hees- Stauthamer** has been appointed as a Teaching Member, and also will represent the Dutch association on the ISST Board. Dr. Hees has been a member of the board of the NVST since 2004 as vice-chairperson. She succeeds our current chairperson, **Drs. Vanessa Prins-Goodman**.

We are also pleased to announce that **Drs. Odile van Embden -Wolff** was recently appointed as a Teaching Member.

Website: www.sandplaynederland.org

JAST (Japanese Association of Sandplay Therapy)
ISST Board Representative: Yasunobu Okada
Report: Teiko Totsuka

We are going to hold the 9th Sandplay Workshop at the Tokyo International Forum on 23rd November 2013. For my Japanese colleagues and Sandplay trainees, I will report on the case study which I presented at the ISST conference in Venice. **Dr Yasuhiro Suzuki**,(Jungian analyst, ISST, TM) will give a lecture and offer a response to my presentation with Jungian concepts. I hope the workshop will enrich the participant's imagination and help their clinical work.

STA (Sandplay Therapists of America)

ISST Board Representatives : Maria Ellen Chiaia & Judy Zappacosta,

Sandplay Therapists of America continues to work towards its upcoming conference scheduled for June 5-8, 2014, in Seattle, Washington. The title is, "*The Spirit of Story in Sandplay*" and will be dedicated to **Kay Bradley**. Brochure and Registration will be online in February, 2014. There is also a post-conference program on the Red Book with **Sonu Shamdasani**. The conference program includes both national and international presenters, and we look forward to a successful event.

The **Sandplay Therapy Institute (STI)** located in Florida continues into its second year of training with students who will now take up more complex issues in sandplay therapy and begin to present their work during consultation hours provided at the times of training. It is hoped that after completion of this two-year program, a new two year training will begin in Texas for a third generation of students. This program has allowed both local, national, and international students to gain further training and expertise that lead towards certification in STA and ISST.

The **Journal of Sandplay Therapy** outreaches to other areas of the world when our STA CST-T's travel and teach outside the U.S. and carry C.D.'s with them to students in Europe, Asia, and South Africa, as well as many other countries. This allows volumes of the journal to reach people and places who may otherwise find bulk mailing of the paper journal too expensive. The journal continues to entertain submissions both nationally and internationally. See the guidelines at the STA website. Our STA website is in the process of re-design, and we look forward to both a new look and format.

TSST : TAIWANESE SOCIETY FOR SANDPLAY THERAPY

ISST Board Representative: Grace Hong

It is with a great deal of gratitude that I, Grace Hong (梁 信惠), currently the only Teaching Member of, the Chair of, and the Representative of the TSST, share some important information regarding the TSST. First of all, we have five certified members and they are **Yuli Shih, Mon-Hsin Wang Flahive, Lun Fen Huang, Chih-An (Anne) Tang**, and myself- **Grace Hong** (representative of the TSST to the ISST board). From August 1st to August 5th, 2013, Yuli Shih, Chih-An Tang and I, along with three non-certified TSST members, Hui Jung Chi, Mon-Ju Yang, and Li-Li Chen, attended the ISST Congress in Venice. On August 3rd, we witnessed the pivotal voting of the ISST General Assembly that allowed the TSST to become a National Society of the ISST, the second National Society in Asia. We were in tears, extremely moved, and thankful.

The TSST was formed in 2002, and it currently has approximately sixty-five members. Since its inception, we have routinely invited teaching members of the ISST to come to Taiwan to conduct workshops, to give speeches and to do supervision. These teachers were **Kazuhiko Higuchi, Hayao Kawai, Yasuhiro Yamaka, Martin Kalff, Gretchen Hegeman, Sherry Shepherd, Kate Adams, Rie Rogers Mitchell, Harriet Friedman, Barbara Weller, Audrey Punnett, Liza Ravitz, and Alex Exterhuyzen**. This year, we have invited **Lauren Cunningham** and **Maria Chiaia** to come to Taiwan for two weeks, for a three-day workshop, group and individual supervisions, and co-teaching. They will also do co-supervisions with our certified members who are working toward their teaching statuses. The experience and wisdom these two women have about sandplay and Jungian work, will be of great help to our thriving sandplay community.

Presently, we have about thirty to forty trainees at various stages of their sandplay certification. About five to ten of them are near or very close to completing their goal of becoming certified. We are looking forward to dialoging with neighboring communities and sharing sandplay with others.

SGSST. (Swiss Society for Sandplay Therapy)**ISST Board Representative: Maria Kendler**

Since our General Assembly in June 2013, we have been preparing the next Sandplay Therapy Conference for all German speaking countries, in Beatenberg in the middle of the Swiss mountains. The theme will be “The Symbol and its Relationship to the Outer Reality.”

On 23rd November, we organized a day for professional exchange in the French part of Switzerland which was very well attended. **Martin Kalff**, **Bruno Hofstetter** and **Ruth Noël** talked about Sandplay in connection with neurosciences, and invited us to do exercises including the practice of mindfulness in our daily life as Sandplay therapists.

In Memorium: Catherine de Dardel: 1938-2013

The Swiss Society is very sad to announce that one of our founding members and former presidents, **Catherine de Dardel**, passed away on Monday, 2nd December 2013. Catherine was a student of **Dora Kalff** and she brought her enthusiasm of the pioneer period into her work with the patients and into the building up of the Swiss Society. She was especially active in bringing Sandplay to the French part of Switzerland. Her presence of clarity and warmth supported many individuals on their personal path. But furthermore she invested lots of her energy in creating networks, connections and groups of people who are interested in Sandplay. Thus, we are deeply thankful for the fruits of her initiatives that we try to carry on in our present commitment to Sandplay Therapy in Switzerland.

6. INTERNATIONAL EVENTS**Deborah Bedford-Strohm DGST: Report on Sandplay in South Africa**

I became involved in Sandplay in South Africa first through **Imme Thom’s Shongolollo Project** in Kruegersdorp, and then through the development of a full ISST training for therapists wanting to specialize in Sandplay according to Dora Kalff. **Imme Thom** was trained in Germany and presented her work in the township of Munsieville at two German Sandplay Symposiums and at the ISST conference in Rome. I visited the project in 2007, after other teachers, including **Sigrid Loewen** (Germany), **Eva Pattis** (Italy) and **Sachiko Reece** (USA) had been there, and was impressed by the effectiveness and appropriateness of this method in this context. Currently this approach - short term Jungian sandplay in a group setting in crisis or impoverished situations - is being further developed under the auspices of **Prof. Carien Lubbe-De Beer** at the University of Pretoria.

During a three month stay in 2009, I met **Braam Beetge**, who had organized a week of training with **Martin Kalff** in July of 2009. Since there was already a group of committed therapists wanting full training after Martin’s visit, Braam and I began to develop ideas for a full training and curriculum which could work in the South African context. This intensive course was taught by myself, **Ruth Ammann**, **Judy Zappacosta** and **Martin Kalff**. The training began in July 2011 and was completed in March of 2013. Braam continues to invite international teaching members yearly to the Johannesburg area. A second group in Johannesburg has been training for several years with **Barbara Turner** from the United States, organized by **Celia van Wyk**.

In September 2013, I started a full training in the Cape Town area, where I travel regularly also to insure the availability of group supervision and personal process. Since **Imme Thom** has moved to Hawaii, at the moment **Braam Beetge** is the only certified member in the country,. Four advanced candidates hope to be certified soon on the path to a national Sandplay society.

Krzysztof Rutkowski, IM ISST :

Report: International Scientific Conference in Szczecin, Poland, 22-23.11.2013

“Perspectives of Psychotherapy: Symbol, Body and Spirituality – Sandplay Therapy in the treatment of mental disorders and the support of development”

The year 2013 brought another important event for Sandplay therapy in Poland - after two courses and the ITW, the International Scientific Conference was held in Szczecin. It was organized by a group of 10 people, who in the last 3 years participated in a training directed by **Linde von Keyserlingk**, and at present they all are the members of DGST. The number of about 120 participants - doctors, psychologists, therapists and students shows the scale of the conference. The lecturers were members of ISST: **Rosa Napoliello, Lenore Steinhardt, Thomas Mantel, Joerg Rasche** and **Krzysztof Rutkowski**. Six two-hour lectures, two discussion groups as well as two group supervisions were carried out. In addition, before and after the conference day long psychotherapeutic workshops were held. The program gave the possibility for reflection and a lively exchange of views. At the same time we all had the opportunity to experience the warm hospitality and enthusiasm of the organizers - graduates of the second course given in Sandplay in Poland, and the great atmosphere of the Hotel Park where the conference was held.

It is also worth noting that the funds for the organization of the conference originated from funds targeted for Sandplay training in the EU project. The invited guests visited the "Laboratory of Psycho-education" Center, which offers three rooms fully equipped with sand-trays and figurines.

Appendix D, the application for certified membership, is now in PDF format and can be found on the ISST web-site in three languages: English, German and Italian. The application can be filled out via computer, rather than by hand, and emailed to Hilary Vaughan, ISST Administrator, after completion of membership requirements.

isstadmin@virginmedia.com

To all ISST members:

Please send your comments and suggestions about the

ISST Newsletter to:

Hilary Vaughan, ISST Administrator

isstadmin@virginmedia.com