

Group Relations Conference:

**Authority and Leadership in
Recovery from Mental Illness
and Addiction**



May 26-29, 2016

University of Chicago Center in Beijing
20th Floor, Culture Plaza
No. 59A Zhongguancun Street
Haidan District Beijing 100872
People's Republic of China

ORGANIZERS

China Association for Mental Health,
Division of Group Counseling and Group Therapy (China)
University of Chicago Center in Beijing (USA)

Presented by

Professor Fumin Fan
Division of Group Counseling and Group Therapy
China Association for Mental Health

Director: Jeffrey D. Roth, MD

Conference Associate Director: Suma Jacob, MD, PhD

Assistant Director for Administration: Mary Walker, PhD, MA, LPC

*An experiential conference in the Tavistock tradition, offering unique opportunity to study group
and organizational processes in a bilingual learning environment (Mandarin and English)*

OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL SPONSORS

- China American Psychoanalytic Alliance (China, USA)
- Chinese Association of Group Psychotherapy (China)
- China Association of Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment (China)
- Group Relations Australia (Australia)
- Institute of Mental Health, Beijing Medical University (China)
- International Leadership Alumni Conference (ILAC) (USA)
- International Yi Shu Expressive Arts Healing Research Center, Soochow University, Suzhou (China)
- Japanese Association of Group Psychotherapy (Japan)
- Mental Health Education and Counseling Center, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou (China)
- oezpa Institute GmbH – Akademie & Consulting (Germany)
- The Institute of Psychoanalytic Systems Psychotherapy (Japan)
- The Tavistock Institute (UK)
- University of Chicago, Department of Psychiatry (USA)

RATIONALE & AIMS: LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE

The group relations conference is an educational event whose primary task is to provide opportunities to study the exercise of authority through interpersonal, intergroup and institutional relations that develop within the conference itself as a temporary educational social system.

Effective leadership and the meaningful exercise of authority require more than intellectual and technical understanding. The Group Relations model in the Tavistock tradition provides a well-defined context within which to examine group-level forces and dynamics as they occur in the here-and-now. As people work in groups, families and other social systems, their participation takes on many different meanings—influencing thoughts, feelings and action. The confluence of individual meanings powerfully affects the identities, roles and authority we take on in groups, schools, organizations, institutions, communities and society.

Members of a group relations conference have the opportunity to directly experience:

- ◆ How people join and engage in group work, delegate and resist authority, and develop roles and reputations.
- ◆ How people contribute to and obstruct getting the group's work accomplished.
- ◆ How members of a group exercise authority, power and influence in meaningful and appropriate ways—both as leaders and as followers.
- ◆ Group collusion in the creation and enabling of maladaptive roles.
- ◆ Group support for recovery from these maladaptive roles.

In applying the learning from group relations conferences, having two or more people from the same organization attend the conference together is often useful.

CONFERENCE STAFF ROLES

- Act collectively as management.
- Take responsibility and authority to provide the boundary conditions to engage in the primary task of the conference.
- Play specific directorial, managerial and consultant roles.
- Offer interpretations and working hypotheses about what is happening in the here-and-now events.
- Contribute in whatever ways they believe will advance the work.

STRUCTURE & METHOD

This Conference is designed for individuals who wish to study the exercise of authority in groups and understand more about their own reactions to exercising and encountering authority, particularly in a cross-cultural context.

The Conference is organized as a sequence of group and inter-group interactions. Cultural interpreters with fluency in Mandarin and English will be available to facilitate learning.

Conference events include experiences in:

- ◆ **Small Group** - examines the life of a nine-member group as it unfolds. A consultant assists the group with the task.
- ◆ **Large Group** - consists of all Conference members with a team of consultants and meets to study its own behavior in the here-and-now in a situation in which face-to-face interaction is problematic or impossible.
- ◆ **Institutional Event** - members form their own groups to interact with other member groups and with staff. The primary task of the IE is to study authority, leadership, and overt/covert processes as groups evolve and interact in the here-and-now.
- ◆ **Review /Application Group** - consists of five to seven members with one or more consultants; provides opportunities for members to further reflect on their experiences and roles in the different Conference events and relate them to their work roles in community and institutional settings.
- ◆ **Mutual Support Meetings** - members and staff elect to attend open Workaholics Anonymous and/or Codependents Anonymous meetings. This provides an opportunity to compare and contrast the dynamics of a mutual support group with a small or large study group.

Please note: The conference is designed to provide an integrated experience. Learning occurs not only during individual conference events but also from their sequence and relationship to one another; therefore, membership entails a commitment to attend all events.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday May 26	Friday May 27	Saturday May 28	Sunday May 29
7:30 – 8:20 AM Registration			
8:30 - 8:55 AM Plenary Opening	8:30 – 9:45 AM Small Group 3	8:30 – 9:45 AM Small Group 4	8:30 – 9:45 AM Small Group 5
9:00 – 10:15 AM Small Group 1	10: 15– 11:30 AM Large Group 3	10:15-11:30 AM Large Group 4	10:15-11:30 AM Large Group 5
10:45 AM – 12noon Large Group 1	12noon – 1:00 PM Mutual Support Meeting 2 (Lunch Provided)	12noon – 1:00 PM Mutual Support Meeting 3 (Lunch Provided)	12noon – 1:00 PM Mutual Support Meeting 4 (Lunch Provided)
12:30-1:30 PM Mutual Support Meeting 1 (Lunch Provided)	1:30-2:30 PM Plenary & Institutional Event 1	1:30-2:30 PM Institutional Event 4	1:30-2:30 PM Plenary Conference Review
2:00 – 3:15 PM Small Group 2	2:45-3:45 PM Institutional Event 2	2:45 - 3:45 PM Institutional Event 5	3:00 – 4:00 PM Review/Application Group 4
3:45 – 5:00 PM Large Group 2	4:00 – 5:00 PM Institutional Event 3	4:00 – 5:00 PM Institutional Event Plenary Review	4:30 – 5:20 PM Member and Staff Social Hour
5:30 – 6:30 PM Review/Application Group 1	5:30 – 6:30 PM Review/Application Group 2	5:30 – 6:30 PM Review/Application Group 3	

REGISTRATION

Conference Registration: Enrollment will be limited to 54 members; early registration is advised. Applicants should complete the Conference Registration Form available at the conference web site: www.grouprelationsconference.com. The registration deadline is March 1, 2016.

Reference Letter: Experiential learning can sometimes be stressful. Therefore, individuals who are ill or experiencing a period of significant personal difficulty should forego attendance at this time. In addition to the completed Conference Registration Form, each applicant must provide a letter of reference from someone who can vouch for his or her capacity to participate in an intensive learning experience. The applicant is responsible for seeing that this letter is submitted prior to March 1, 2016. Letters should be sent by email to the conference email address: GRCBeijing@gmail.com.

Payment of Fees: Members applying from China may register for 3500 CNY, and members from outside of China may register for \$700 (US), payable to the University of Chicago Center in Beijing. For information regarding method of payment, contact the Assistant Director for Administration at GRCBeijing@gmail.com. Fees must be received by March 15, 2016.

Withdrawals and Cancellations: **Withdrawals after March 15, 2016 will not be refunded unless the position is filled by someone on a waiting list.**

Lodging: Members from out of town may wish to stay at a hotel near the conference site. Please contact the Assistant Director for Administration at the conference e-mail address (GRCBeijing@gmail.com) for more information.

Photography: A photographer will be present on May 26 at the Plenary Conference Opening Ceremony and/or on May 29 at the Social Hour and conference closing. Conference staff and members will be photographed for the University of Chicago Center in Beijing and its web site. Please contact the Assistant Director for Administration at the conference e-mail address (GRCBeijing@gmail.com) if you would prefer not to be included in group photographs.

AUTHORITY FOR THE CONFERENCE

This conference is sponsored by the University of Chicago Center in Beijing (USA), in collaboration with the Division of Group Counseling and Group Therapy of the China Association for Mental Health (China). Other sponsors include the China American Psychoanalytic Alliance (China, USA); the Chinese Association of Group Psychotherapy (China); the China Association of Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment (China); Group Relations Australia (Australia); the Institute of Mental Health of Beijing Medical University (China); the International Leadership Alumni Conference, ILAC (USA); International Yi Shu Expressive Arts Healing Research Center, Soochow University, Suzhou (China); the Japanese Association of Group Psychotherapy (Japan); the Mental Health Education and Counseling Center, Sun Yat-sen University, Gangzhou (China); oezpa Institute GmbH -Akademie & Consulting (Germany); the Institute of Psychoanalytic Systems Psychotherapy (Japan); the Tavistock Institute (UK); and the University of Chicago, Department of Psychiatry (USA).

The principles and methods of this Conference originated at the Center for Applied Social Research, Tavistock Institute of Human Relations, UK, under the leadership of the late A.K. Rice. The Washington School of Psychiatry and the Department of Psychiatry of Yale University Medical School introduced conferences using these principles and methods to the United States in 1965.

CONFERENCE STAFF

Directorate

Director: Jeffrey D. Roth, MD, FAGPA, FASAM. Lecturer, Psychiatry, University of Chicago Medical Center; Adjunct Faculty, Chicago School of Professional Psychology; Editor, Journal of Groups in Addiction and Recovery; Medical Director, Working Sobriety; Private Practice; Member and Past President, CCSGO; Associate, AKRI.

Conference Associate Director: Suma Jacob, MD, PhD. Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics; Board Certified General Adult, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist; Director of Autism Research at UMN; Adjunct Faculty of Mayo Clinic and University of Illinois at Chicago; Associate, AKRI.

Assistant Director for Administration: Mary Walker, PhD, MA, LPC. Licensed Professional Counselor at Personal Balance Counseling, Orland Park, IL; Instructor for Counseling@Northwestern and Clinical Lecturer in Psychology, The Family Institute at Northwestern University; Associate, AKRI; Associate Member, CCSGO.

Consulting Staff

Leslie Brissett, PhD. Team Member & Co-Director Dynamics at Board Level at Tavistock Institute of Human Relations.

Leigh Estabrook, PhD. Past President, A.K. Rice Institute; Professor and Dean Emerita, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Member, AKRI and Midwest Center, AKRI.

Seth Harkins, EdD. CEO, Philip J. Rock Center & School, Glen Ellyn, IL; Principal, Harkins Educational Consulting and Advocacy, Palatine, IL; Adjunct Professor, National Louis University, Chicago, IL; Board Member and Chairperson, Illinois Community and Residential Services Authority; Past President and Secretary, CCSGO; Associate, AKRI.

Suma Jacob, MD, PhD. Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics, Board Certified General Adult, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist; Director of Autism Research at UMN; Associate, AKRI.

Dannielle Kennedy, LICSW, PhD. Principal, WorkLab, Organizational Consulting and Applied Research; Psychotherapist, Private Practice, Cambridge, MA; Co-director 2012 Hauser Grant for Group Relations at Harvard University; Past-President and Board Member, Center for the Study of Groups and Social Systems, Boston; Associate, AKRI.

Ilana Litvin, MA, MSc. Clinical Psychologist; Psychotherapist; Organisational Consultant; Executive Coach and Supervisor in private practice; Past Chairperson, OFEK, Israel; Member, ISPSO; Member, OPUS.

Daniel Ming-Hui Hsu, PhD. Counselor, Chung Yuan Christian University, Taoyuan, Taiwan; Counseling Psychologist in Private Practice, Taipei, Taiwan; Member, New York Center for the Study of Groups, Organization and Social Systems; Associate, AKRI.

Brigid Nossal, PhD. Founder and Director, Consulting, National Institute of Organisation Dynamics Australia (NIODA), Senior Lecturer and Doctoral Supervisor. Founding member and past COM member, Group Relations Australia, Member, ISPSO, Member OPUS.

CONFERENCE STAFF (continued)

Hüseyin Özdemir, PhD, Dipl Oec. Director, oezpa GmbH, Germany/ Switzerland OD-Coaching-Programs and Group Relations Conferences; Member & Cooperating Partner International Coach Federation (ICF); Cooperating Partner Tavistock Institute of Human Relations, London; Director of ILAC (International Leadership Academy – a Cooperation of Business Schools and Academics).

Jeffrey D. Roth, MD, FAGPA, FASAM. Lecturer, Psychiatry, University of Chicago Medical Center; Adjunct Faculty, Chicago School of Professional Psychology; Editor, Journal of Groups in Addiction and Recovery; Medical Director, Working Sobriety; Private Practice; Member and Past President, CCSGO; Associate, AKRI.

Allan Shafer, MA (Clin Psych) D Litt et Phil. Clinical Psychologist, Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist & Socioanalyst in private practice, Melbourne, Australia; Senior Associate, Innovative Practice Organisational Consultants; Past President, Group Relations Australia.

Administration Team

Xiaohua Lu, EdD. Lecturer and Counselor, Group Counselor, Student's Mental Health Education Center, Beijing Jiaotong University; Certified Psychologist, Chinese Psychological Society.