1. NEWS

WELCOME TO ANYONE WHO IS RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST TIME.

The major item of interest is that our group is hosting the 17th International Congress on Personal Construct Psychology in Brisbane in July (16th-21st). Preparations are, as always, slower than is desirable, but are nevertheless moving forward.

We are particularly concerned to involve non-psychologists, as well as psychologists, and indeed the theme is intended to indicate this.

We also want to emphasise that this is NOT a conference principally for academics. Practitioners we anticipate will find it relevant. We hope that practitioners will use the flexible program possibilities to create some opportunities for discussion and interchange.

The venue for the conference is lovely, set in a nice garden, surrounded by bush. Families can be accommodated. There is easy access by car to amusement and theme parks, including, Dreamworld, Movie World, Sea World and Wet 'n' Wild at the gold coast, Lone Park koala sanctuary, and the Irwins' Australian Zoo on the sunshine coast.

Other news includes the fact that two of our members have recently led workshops in the UK – Richard Bell at the University of Hertfordshire and Miriam Stein at a weekend get together of the Personal Construct Association.

A conference is being held to honour the life and contributions of Michael Mahoney. I only received the information late, but its on 1-3 February. The title of the conference is "Facing Loss: Reconstructing Meaning, Reconstructing Self", and will feature several talks and an all day workshop by Dr. Robert Neimeyer.

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The next American network meeting will be held in Victoria, Canada in 2008.
2. INVITATION TO THE 17TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON PERSONAL CONSTRUCT PSYCHOLOGY

You are invited to the XVIIth International Congress on Personal Construct Psychology to be held in Brisbane, Australia from July 16th to 20th, 2007. More detailed information is available at http://www.pcp-net.org/brisbane2007/ That site will be updated as further information becomes available. Registration cost will be in the vicinity of $300.

About the Congress

Personal Construct Theory was developed by George Kelly (1905-1967), a clinical psychologist who was interested in personal meaning and choice. The congress in Brisbane, Australia will be the 17th bi-annual international congress organized to explore developments in PCT theory and practice. PCT conferences provide an opportunity for academics and practitioners, students and researchers from diverse backgrounds to share ideas regarding applications of PCT and related approaches. PCT and methods derived from it, have informed research and practice across a range of fields including education, counselling, business, the arts, architecture and religion. A common feature underpinning these diverse fields is personal construing, people generating meaning and making choices based on their personal experience.

The conference will be held in a bushland setting in subtropical Brisbane. Near Mt Cootha, the conference venue is 6 kms from the city centre and near the botanical gardens and panoramic venues of the Brisbane area. Brisbane is only one hour's drive from the famed beaches of the Gold and Sunshine Coasts. Hinterland areas with bushwalks are readily accessible and for those who like cities, Brisbane is the state capital, which still retains some of the laid-back Queensland approach to life. Brisbane has an international airport and all state capitals and tourist attractions such as the Great Barrier Reef or Uluru can be readily accessed from Brisbane.

A bushland setting captures some of the Australian experience and allows an interlude from busy schedules and an opportunity to meet leading figures in the field of PCT and mix with others interested in exploring the applications of Personal Construct Theory.

Conference Committee

Richard Bell, Paula Eustace, Heather Foster, Bob Green, Anne Fraser, Miriam Stein, Barbara Tooth, Beverly Walker, Bill Warren

Inquiries:-
regarding the programme should be directed to Richard Bell (rcb@unimelb.edu.au),
regarding the organisation and location of the congress to Bob Green (bgreen@dyson.brisnet.org.au).
Submissions of contributions are expected before 14th February 2007
Call for Contributions

Presentations are invited for The Seventeenth International Congress on Personal Construct Psychology to be held in Brisbane from Monday, July 16th to Friday, July 20th, 2007.

The title for this conference is **Personal Construct Theory - A Theory with Infinite Possibilities**, offering a broad canvas to those from all walks of life who use PCP in their practice, research and theorising.

The Organising Committee invites sole authors or first authors from a collaboration to submit proposals for papers. The standard presentation should be of 30 minutes duration, which includes time for questions and discussion.

Requests by presenters for different formats (eg poster, symposium, workshop) or longer durations, will however be considered by the committee.

Presenters are encouraged to have copies of their papers available for distribution at the conference.

Proposals should be made electronically and must include the following information:

- First author: Name, affiliation, postal and email addresses, phone and fax numbers
- Coauthor(s): Name, affiliation, postal and email addresses, phone and fax numbers of each coauthor
- Title of the proposal
- Abstract (maximum 100 words) to be included in the program (printed). Abstracts should be attached.
- Preferred format for your presentation. Please confirm in writing when you submit your abstract that your presentation conforms to the standard 30 minute ‘paper’ format. If you propose a different format, please make clear your proposal and presentation requirements

Please indicate your requirements for

- overhead transparency projector
- data projector (MS PowerPoint presentation)
- laptop computer with CD ROM
- other (specify)

The deadline for submission of abstracts is Wednesday, 14th February 2007 (Valentine's Day!).

Please download Abstract Submission Form and e-mail your submission with your abstract saved as a Word or .rtf file to:
Richard Bell: rcb@unimelb.edu.au
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ROSOTTI/WINTER/WATTS
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Chapter 15  Counselling after sexual assault: A personal construct model of the impact of counsellors’ responses to client disclosure CARTER/VIENY

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Chapter 19  When the unreal becomes real: An evaluation of personal construct group psychotherapy with survivors of breast cancer LANE/VINEY

Chapter 20  Personal construct group work with troubled adolescents TRUNECKOVA/VINEY

Section V  OTHER INTERVENTIONS, CLINICAL AND EDUCATIONAL

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Chapter 22  Movement in personal change: The practice of dance therapy CIPOLLETTA

Chapter 23  The posture of anticipation: Kelly and Alexander MILLS

Chapter 24  The art of writing: Embodiment and pre-verbal construing BURR

Price: $US31.50 & eligible for FREE Super Saver Shipping on orders over $25 FROM CONSTRUCTIVIST BOOKSHOP (see item 6, this newsletter).
4. PCP PAPERS ONLINE

You may be interested to know that there is a list of PCP papers that are available online at:
http://www.pcp-net.de/info/online.html
It would be of great help if you would inform us about other PCP papers on the Net that you might know of. Please notify Joern Scheer joern.scheer@joern-scheer.de

5. 2006 EDITION OF PERSONAL CONSTRUCT THEORY & PRACTICE

These articles are now available for access at:
http://www.pcp-net.org/journal/
If you want up-to-date articles as they are uploaded for 2007 then contact Joern and request to have access. No cost.

Woods, C. R.  Asking the entrepreneur: an enquiry into entrepreneurial behaviour.
Personal Construct Theory & Practice, 3, 1-11, 2006

Norton, J.
A depth psychology for our times: Integrating discourse and personal construct approaches.

Butler, R. J.
Investigating the content of core constructs.
Personal Construct Theory & Practice, 3, 27-33, 2006

Österlind, M.-L., Denicolo, P. M.
Extending the catalytic and transformative potential of grids using a congruent technique: An exemplar study of management development.
Personal Construct Theory & Practice, 3, 38-50, 2006

Raskin, J. D.  Don't cry for me George A. Kelly: Human involvement and the construing of personal construct psychology. Personal Construct Theory & Practice, 3, 50-61, 2006

Book Review
Mills, D. M.

Obituaries

6. BUYING CONSTRUCTIVIST BOOKS.
The Constructivist Psychology Network has revised and expanded its online bookstore. Check out the extensive listing of constructivist books by categories and author:

http://constructivistpsych.org/bookstore.html

7. WORKSHOP: MEANING MAKING IN REPERTORY GRID ELICITATION & ANALYSIS.
Led by Professor Martin Fromm (University Stuttgart) Wednesday, 28th February 2007, Cost: £60 Venue: University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, UK.

This workshop will begin with a brief review of how repertory grid methods are rooted in personal construct theory. This will be followed by a discussion of two different approaches to the analysis of grids, namely: the qualitative (‘storytelling’ approach) and the quantitative (‘statistical’ approach). The advantages and disadvantages of both approaches will be evaluated.

Different interview forms (from open formats like the full context form, to more structured grid formats with supplied elements and/or constructs) and their advantages and disadvantages will be examined.

The main focus of the day will be to look in detail at the analysis of repertory grids and the meanings (hypotheses) that can be extracted from them by different types of analysis. Both ‘eyeballing’ the grid and the interpretation of graphical plots produced by computer programs, will be considered. Finally, some typical applications of repertory grids will be looked at e.g. career decisions, personnel development, team building and evaluation of therapy processes.

For more details and an application form, please visit the following web page and select this workshop from the alphabetical list on the page:

http://www.health.herts.ac.uk/cpd/shortCourseCalendar/calender_m_course.html