

I also gave some reflections on the differences of those two organisations. You can find my introduction in the fish bowl at the EGATIN website.

The question of the certification was raised, a matter that has been on EFPP's group section agenda for years, especially moved forward by Rudolph Balmer.

The present chairman of EGATIN is also a delegate in EFPP and has together with Thor Kristian Island been a member of the working group for this certificate. Recently we went to the delegates meeting in Leuven, Belgium, where the final adjustments were accepted.

Very shortly: There are two types of certificate: a) All group training and b) Combined with Individual psychoanalytic training. The right to issue the certificate is given to Training Institutes, which can give group analytic training according to EGATIN's Essential Training Standards. Discussion of the implementation procedures can hopefully be concluded in Prague at the EFPP conference. EGATIN's position to the certificate has been a bit hesitating, because it has been difficult to put quality into the requirements and not just quantity, because of national varieties in requirements of training hours and because the political value of the certificate is different among the member organizations of EGATIN.

Not every institute will be interested in this certificate. On the other hand if it should be a help for some institutes, it would also be in the interest of EGATIN. EGATIN will still not be an accreditation organization, although it seems that the membership of EGATIN for some institutes also conveys a kind of accreditation according to the different categories.

The next study day will be in Heidelberg. It is not the first time we will be there, but this time it is a joint venture of the three German institutes in Heidelberg, Münster and GRAS

The theme is 'From fear to curiosity' and I hope that you all have got the programme, which also can be downloaded from the website.

After five years the chairman will step down and Zoe Voyatzaki from IGA, Athens will be the next president. Piroska Komlosi from Budapest will leave the committee. She has been in the committee for eight years and has for most of those years been the membership secretary, a post she has managed with great conscientiousness. Piroska has also been an important member in arranging the EGATIN study day in Budapest in 2007. I will take here the opportunity to thank her for her work in the committee.

There has been a discussion in the committee, if it was the time to take in new members. The chairman has argued for having an election of two members now, but a majority in the committee thought it would be better to wait to 2010.

I have begun in 2008 to send out information by mail to all delegates. That means that we more than ever are dependent on having all delegates' names and e-mail addresses. Communicating by mail give us an opportunity to give quicker and swifter information and contact compared to the snail mail. If you think that you have not been receiving all information you need, regarding minutes, study days, AGM etc. there is a good chance that you can find it at the web-site.

I have not - as intended - been able to translate the test battery, I have announced earlier. This has been due to the extensive work of translation, which we have underestimated, but also because of copyright

issues. Not copyright of the test battery as it is. It was so nicely and generous given to EGATIN from Norway, but the copyright of the tests included in the battery.

At the moment we will instead try to update you with important research results and articles, so you have a reference list if you need it in your training or in your argumentation with authorities. GAS has at the moment decided to make a full review of all empirical research and group psychotherapy effectiveness. We will put the report on the website, when the results are there.

As you all know, I have together with Bettina Fink and Paula Carvalho started a survey of the training Institutes in EGATIN, and we have now got responses and filed questionnaires from 25 Institutes. We are very pleased with that. Still we are interested in getting information from the remaining 5 institutes. The analyses will of course improve, if we can have 100% participation. So, you can still send in information about the training in your institutes, have you not done that all ready. The Questionnaire and guideline can be found on the web site.

I have only a short time left as chairman, and I can say it has been an exciting period. Looking back I think we have brought more consistency to EGATIN, which still gathers many interested people mostly from the European mainland to a succession of splendid arranged study days with very interesting themes (The Didactic Matrix, Rome 2005; Putting Group-Analytic Work into Writing, Copenhagen 2006; Applied Group Analysis - Challenges and Training, Budapest 2007; Transmitting Knowledge and Engendering Enthusiasm - EGATIN in the past, Present and Future, Oslo 2008; From Fear to Curiosity, Heidelberg 2009).

I have had many encouraging and thankful remarks from members and delegates and have found it interesting to participate at my ability in forming and helping institutes to go on or develop their training.

I hope I will see many of you in Heidelberg.

Kristian Valbak  
Chair of EGATIN

PS. Together with some few remarks on site, this letter will constitute the chairman's report for the AGM.

**COME TO  
HEIDELBERG 24-25 APRIL FOR THE STUDY DAYS 2009  
Theme: 'FROM FEAR TO CURIOSITY'**

See web-site [www.egatin.net](http://www.egatin.net) for full programme.

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