



2018 World Family Therapy Congress — March 8 – 10, 2018

IFTA's 2018 World Family Therapy Congress: Bangkok, Thailand

Two outstanding clinicians familiar with the therapeutic experience in working with families will keynote the 2018 World Family Congress provided by the International Family Therapy Association Congress in Bangkok, Thailand. Meeting at the Westin Grand Sukhumvit Hotel in Bangkok, March 8 - 10, 2018, hundreds of systemic therapist from over 25 countries will be attending the Congress.



In this issue....

- **Featured Workshops in Bangkok**

Virginia Satir & the 1st Family Therapy Training Program

When psychiatrist Don Jackson founded The Mental Research Institute (MRI), he invited Virginia Satir to be Director of the Family Therapy Training Program. Drawing from 123 surviving audio recordings of family therapy interviews, teaching seminars, lectures, print documents and photos, Satir's pioneering teaching of Conjoint Family Therapy will be a Featured Presentation at the 2018 World Family Therapy Congress.

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS



Zhao Xudong, M.D.
Thursday Plenary Address



Wendel Ray



David Hale



Joyce Ma, Ph.D.
Saturday Plenary Address

Shan Tate appointed to Board



With Joyce Ma elected to the IFTA position as President Elect, her position as a IFTA Board Member at Large was vacated. According to IFTA Nomination policy, the runner up, Shan Tate (United Kingdom), in the last election joins the Class of 2018 and completes her term.

IFTA & Social Networking

The use of social networking sites, LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter are part of the world and IFTA has group pages on them. For IFTA members on Facebook ([Facebook](#)) there is an IFTA Group. To join, search "International Family Therapy Association." Once you are on the IFTA group page, click on the link to join. The list is moderated so once you make a request, the group moderator will approve you.

! We now have over a 1032 Members of the IFTA Group !

IFTA also has a LinkedIn ([LinkedIn](#)) group. Similarly, search for the "International Family Therapy Association" group and request to become a member. As a member of the IFTA groups you can send messages to other IFTA members and network with people from around the world.

If you have any questions about the site or the program contact the IFTA Secretariat (iftasecretariat@aol.com).

IFTA Board of Directors, July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

Officers

President: Warwick Phipps, PhD, South Africa (2017-2019)
President-Elect: Joyce Ma, PhD, Hong Kong (2019-2021)
Past-President: Ruth Casabianca, PhD, Argentina (2015-2017)
Recording Secretary: Anna Low, MSocScc, Singapore (2014-2017)
Treasurer: Desiree Seponski, PhD, USA (2016-2018)

Members-at-Large

2015-2018 Term Ends June 30, 2018: Reggie Berger, PhD, Switzerland; Gloria Baldwin Schulta, MPS, Canada; Tamura Takeshi, MD, Japan; Shan Tate, MSW, UK.
2016-2019, Term Ends June 30, 2019: Ozge Alkanat, PhD, Turkey; Kathylyne Maki-Banmen, MS, Canada; Anibal Torres, PhD, USA.
2017-2020, Term Ends June 30, 2020: Dorothy Becvar, PhD, USA; Gun Kristina Drott-Englén, MSW, Sweden; Jake Johnson, Ph.D., USA.

Exciting Pre-Congress Tours

The Pre-Congress tours begin on Monday with the Best of Bangkok, Ayutthaya: Ancient Capital of Thailand, Damnern Saduak Floating Market and Rose Garden, Canal Tour, and others. Reservations can be made through the [hotel](#).



The International Connection is an e-newsletter of the International Family Therapy Association (IFTA) and is published twice yearly. The IFTA office is at IFTA, 1800 3rd Avenue, STE 512, Rock Island, IL 61201-8000 USA. Telephone: +309-786-4491; Fax +309-786-0205. William J. Hiebert, Editor and General Secretary, wjhiebert@aol.com Web site: www.ifta-familytherapy.org

Certified Family Therapist Announcement

In an effort to continue its mission to meet the needs of family therapists around the world, the International Family Therapy Association (IFTA) has created pathways for recognition of individuals who have met the education and training requirements established by the International Accreditation Commission for Systemic Therapy Education and Training (IACSTE).

Certified Family Therapist is a new clinical designation approved by the IFTA Board of Directors in 2014 and is designed to provide certification for family therapists who 1) currently operate in several countries simultaneously, 2) provide consultation or supervision in several different countries, or 3) who reside in countries without any professional certification.



The Certified Family Therapist designation is built on the standards established by the International Accreditation Commission for Systemic Therapy Education and Training (IACSTE). This new certification is open to individuals from different academic and clinical backgrounds. The application varies based on the country of residence of the therapist and the level of family therapy certification in that country.

Those desiring recognition may come from countries where:

- 1) There is certification or licensure that is similar to IACSTE's standards (such as in the USA or Canada and other countries)
- 2) Licensure or certification doesn't exist in applicant's country but whose training mirrors the IACSTE Standards

The Certified Family Therapist designation is separate from membership in IFTA and a therapist may or may not be a member of IFTA. Certification is renewable every three years and the fees for the certified status are based on the applicant's country of residence with the fees established based on the three-tier United Nations grid used by IFTA for determining membership fees.

Therapists world wide may apply to become a Certified Family Therapist by meeting the standards established by the International Commission for Systemic Therapy Education (IACSTE). Interested parties should go to [request an application from the IFTA General Secretary](#).



Association Information

2019 World Congress Opens in May

The 2019 Congress website will open in May at: <http://www.ifta-congress.org/>. The website will contain all of the information necessary for registration, abstract submission, and other details for Congress planning.

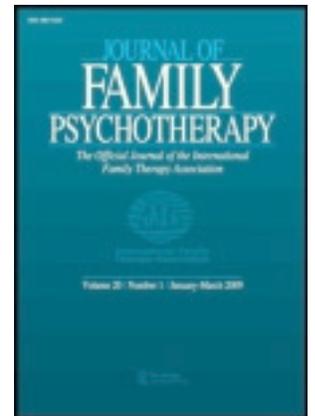
Proposal Deadline for 2019 is Sept. 30, 2018

The deadline for the 2019 Congress Proposals is earlier than ever in order to evaluate and respond to presenters earlier than in the past. If you are in an academic context, please be mindful that the deadline may occur before you return to school. [Submit your proposal now!](#)

Journal of Family Psychotherapy Online

Taylor and Francis' online site houses IFTA's Journal of Family Psychotherapy. The site can be accessed at www.tandfonline.com. Please contact Taylor and Francis for any difficulties in accessing the JFP: onlineaccesshelp@taylorandfrancis.com.

If you are a new member or renewed member, your IFTA subscription to JFP will be forwarded to Taylor and Francis quarterly. WATCH for an email from Taylor and Francis regarding how to access JFP.



Online Membership Renewal Tips

When renewing online, some members have had their credit card declined because of mistakes in entering the information. [Click here for some helpful tips for online credit card applications.](#)

IFTA General Secretary: William Hiebert, wjhiebert@aol.com



1) Congress staff 2) Welcome reception 3) IFTA board members Anibal Torres and Jake Johnson

International Accreditation Commission Address the Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards

The International Accreditation Commission for Systemic Therapy Education and Training (IACSTE) was invited to speak at the Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB) in St, Louis, MO, USA. The event was the annual meeting of the AMFTRB Board of Directors. The AMFTRB invited both the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE).

Dr. Dorothy Becvar, Chair of IACSTE, presented IACSTE's two levels of accreditation for marriage and family therapy training and education programs. The new classification system has two tiers: Tier 1 for Primary Training Programs and Tier 2 accreditation for Advanced Training Programs.

Tier 1 Accreditation is based on the demonstration that a program meets the minimum standards set forth by the International Commission for Systemic Therapy Education (IACSTE). Programs desiring to apply for recognition at this level should go to Tier 1 Application.

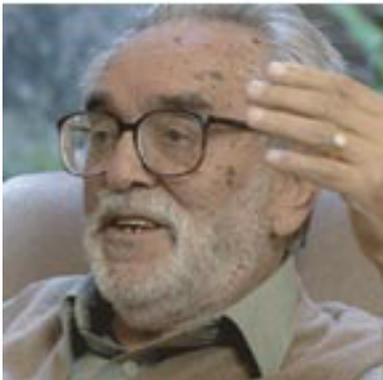
Tier 2 Accreditation is based on the demonstration that a program meets more advanced standards set forth by the International Commission for Systemic Therapy Education (IACSTE). Programs desiring to apply for recognition at this level should go to Tier 2 Application. Currently accredited programs by another accrediting body, e.g., COAMFTE, may use an accelerated process for IACSTE accreditation.

In speaking about this new level of accreditation, Dr. Becvar, Chair of the Commission said, "These advanced Standards serve to identify training programs that have a higher level of training while, at the same time, providing the basic or primary programs a model to work toward as family therapy develops in their own countries."

Tier 1 and Tier 2 Standards and Applications are available on the [IFTA website](#).

In Memoriam

Salvador Minuchin, MD., a renowned psychiatrist, who was noted for his structural model of family therapy, had outlived most of his contemporary family therapists, when he died at 96 at a nursing facility in Boca Raton, Florida. He was so well known that the mere mention that "Sal has died", would be enough for most family therapists and many other people around the world to know the news referred to Dr. Minuchin. He was one of the pioneers and leaders of the branch of family therapy that focused on bringing the family into therapy after starting with their child, as differentiated from the branch that started with a marital couple and added the family.



Salvador Minuchin. M.D.
1921- 2017

He was a native Argentinian, born October 13, 1921 in San Salvador, a town north of Buenos Aires. He earned a medical degree in 1947. He worked with children with diabetes and with entire families to help them get their anorexic daughters to eat properly. Later he migrated to Israel, where he practiced psychotherapy. In the 1950s he came to New York City, to the William Alanson White Institute, where he was introduced to the thinking and theories of Harry Sack Sullivan, a psychiatrist who influenced many clinicians who became family therapists.

Although he practiced therapy at several places and wrote books about some of the populations with whom he worked, he may be most known and appreciated by therapists for his teaching and training of family therapists at the Child Guidance Clinic in Philadelphia from 1965 to 1975. In 1981 he founded what became the Minuchin Clinic. He retired in 1996.

Dr. Minuchin was predeceased by his wife, the former Patricia Patrick, PhD, a developmental psychologist who died in 2015. He is survived by two children, Daniel Minuchin (Brooklyn, NY) and Jean Minuchin (Boca Raton, Florida), grandchildren, and a sister.

IFTA members may remember with pleasure Minuchin's appearance at the IFTA World Family Congresses:

- His birthday celebration in Jerusalem in 1996
- "Conversations Between Old Friends" at the 2013 IFTA Congress in Orlando, Florida, USA, a plenary session when Minuchin and Celia Faes Falicov, PhD., talked about his current thinking on changes and treatment approaches.

2018 World Family Therapy Congress Bangkok, Thailand Featured Presenters



John k. Miller

85% of the Earth's population reside

Family Therapy in the “Majority world” Creating and Adapting Models to Fit Non-Western Contexts

Most models of family therapy were developed in the West, where only 15% of the world's population resides. This presentation will explore, with case examples, the utility of adapting Western family therapy for “majority world” contexts where over 85% of the Earth's population reside

Most models of family therapy were developed in the West, where only 15% of the world's population resides. This presentation will explore, with case examples, the utility of adapting Western family therapy for “majority world” contexts where over

John Miller is a Professor at Fudan University in Shanghai, as well as an adjunct Professor at the Royal University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia. He is a past Fulbright Senior Research Scholar to China (2009-2010) and the founder of the Sino-American Family Therapy Institute (SAFTI). He has recently published several articles and a book chapter on subjects related to the presentation.



Susanna Wong Ip

Filial Piety, a legacy of Confucianism has become problem to family therapy in modern China.

Cultural differences between East and West may be confusing goals in family therapy. Filial Piety, a legacy of the Confucian tradition, highly regarded as a virtue in the traditional Chinese family, is suspected of reasons for depression, anxiety, and aggression.

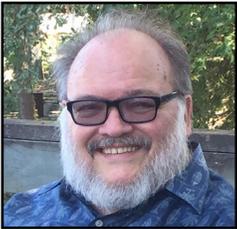
Susanna Wong Ip is a family therapist, trainer and supervisor. She travels frequently to China to conduct seminars, workshops and to train counselors. She is also a professor of Bethel Bible Seminary and Gratia Christian College.



Zhao Xudong, M.D.

Systemic Family Therapy: a useful therapeutic model for Chinese families

Chinese therapists have merged systemic family theories and traditional Chinese approaches to mental health leading to new and novel methods in clinical settings. In this workshop, Dr. Zhao will demonstrate some of these novel practices using video recordings of his clinical cases.



Wendel Ray

Virginia Satir, MSW, and the First Family Therapy Training Program: Celebrating Satir's 100th Birthday

When psychiatrist Don Jackson founded The Mental Research Institute (MRI), he invited Virginia Satir to be Director of the Family Therapy Training Program. Drawing from 123 surviving audio recordings of family therapy interviews, teaching seminars, lectures, print documents and photos, Satir's pioneering teaching of Conjoint Family Therapy will be a Featured Presentation at the 2018 World Family Therapy Congress.

Wendel A. Ray, Ph.D. is the Don D. Jackson Archivist and a professor in the Marriage and Family Therapy Program at the University of Louisiana, at Monroe, Louisiana, USA.



David Hale

David Hale, Ph.D. is the Director of the Online Systemic Studies Program in the Marriage and Family Therapy Program at the University of Louisiana, at Monroe, Louisiana, USA.



Anna Low

Becoming More Fully Human: Peace Within, Peace Between and Peace Among

At one of her workshops toward the end of her career, Virginia Satir (1916-1988) said, "I'm working now for something called - Becoming More Fully Human - so that we can bring together all of this information and make it a part of ourselves. I think peace in the world has to do with peace in the human being. My peace work is Peace Within - meaning harmony. Peace Between - meaning congruence. And Peace Among - meaning that everyone out there can be valued." In this presentation I will share my picture of, "bring together all of this information", that Virginia Satir referred to, plus suggestions for how we can "make it a part of ourselves", and for what? Hopefully, for world peace.

Anna Low is the founding President of the Satir Centre (Singapore). She has served as a Board Member of the International Family Therapy Association (IFTA) and is its current Recording Secretary. Anna is a Clinical Member of the Satir Institute of the Pacific and was a recipient of the Satir TST Leadership award in 2011 for her leadership and contribution to the development of the Satir Model in Singapore.

Anna obtained her Degree in Accountancy from the National University of Singapore and Masters degree in Counselling from the University of South Australia. She has also received extensive training in the Satir Model as a therapist, clinical supervisor and trainer. Anna is a Master Clinical Member and Approved Clinical Supervisor with the Singapore Association for Counselling and is also a Registered Social Service Professional in Singapore.