Cecile Rausch Herscovici, Ph.D., is Professor of the Masters Program in Family Studies at the Universidad del Salvador in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She is also a trained family therapist at the Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic (1981-1983) and was Director of the Division of Family and Marital Therapy of the Pediatric Department of the Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires from 1984 to 1993. She has been a consultant and an invited lecturer to training programs and seminars in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, United States, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay.

Since 1983, Dr. Herscovici is the Co-Director of TESIS (Systems Therapies), an institution dedicated to training family therapists and to the treatment of patients. Her work as a psychotherapist encompasses eating disorders, family and marital therapy, and individual therapy of adults and adolescents. She has specialized in the interface of organic illness and mental health, with great emphasis in the area of eating disorders, where she published and researched extensively.

She has been recently been designated Member of the Expert Consultation Group on the Classification of Feeding and Eating Disorders of the World Health Organization. She is also a Board Member of IFTA for ten years, a member of American Family Therapy Academy and of the Collaborative Family HealthCare Coalition, and

(continued on page 2)

Peter Fraenkel, Ph.D.

Peter Fraenkel, Ph.D., is the Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology, The City College of New York; Director, Ackerman Institute’s Center for Work and Family; and is in private practice in New York City, specializing in couple and family therapy He is the author of numerous publications on time, technology, work and family; collaborative community-based programs for homeless families and families that have survived domestic violence; integrative approaches and child sexual abuse. His research over the past 14 years has focused primarily on a mixed-method (qualitative and quantitative) examination of the challenges faced by families living in homeless shelters, including families living in shelters for families that have survived domestic violence, and their sources of resilience.

(continued on page 3)
Selected Publications by Dr. Herscovici


Kovalskys, I. Bay, L., Herscovici, CR; Berner, E.; prevalence of obesity in people 10 to 19 years in pediatric practice. Archives of Pediatrics, 101 (6) 441-447


Herscovici, CR Eating disorders in Spanish. The women, family and treatment. [Eating Disorders in Hispano-Americ. The

Pre-Congress Tentative Schedule

Morning
9:00—9:15 AM Welcome and Introduction: Jerry Gale, Facilitator
9:15—10:30 AM Panel Presentations and Discussion: Wayne Denton, Facilitator
The first two panel speakers give 15 minute perspectives on the dialog between research and practice and then Wayne facilitates panel and audience discussion.
· Cecile Herscovici & Michael Ungar
10:30—10:45 AM BREAK
10:45—12:00 PM Panel Presentations and Discussion: Ron Chenail, Facilitator
The second two panel speakers give 15 minute perspectives on the dialog between research and practice and then Ron facilitates panel and audience discussion.
· Peter Fraenkel & William Northey

12:00 - 1:15 PM LUNCH
Tables will be organized by research/practice themes so attendees can focus on particular aspects of the dialog.

Afternoon Tracks
Speakers focus either on research or practice and give a 45-minute presentation with 30 minutes of discussion. Congress attendees select presentations of their choice.
1:15 - 2:30 PM Practice Emphasis Track Presentation - Cecile Herscovici
OR... Research Emphasis Track Presentation - Michael Ungar
2:30 - 3:00 PM BREAK
3:00 - 4:15 PM Practice Emphasis Track Presentation - Peter Fraenkel
OR... Research Emphasis Track Presentation - William Northey
4:15 - 4:30 PM BREAK
4:30 - 5:30 PM Questions: Jerry Gale, Facilitator
Congress attendees reconvene as a large group and Jerry facilitates a discussion on research practice dialog in family therapy.
**Dr. Fraenkel Bio (cont...)**

This research is used to develop, implement, and evaluate multiple family group interventions designed to bolster family resilience and support parents’ efforts to obtain employment and housing. He also received the 2004 American Family Therapy Academy’s Award for Distinguished Contribution to Family Therapy Theory and Practice for their work on family-based treatment of incest, and he received AFTA’s 2012 award for Innovative Contribution to Family Therapy for his work in the area of time and couples, and resilience-strengthening programs for homeless families.

To download a number of Dr. Fraenkel’s presentation power points, go to this link:

http://www.syncyourrelationship.com/category/academic/

Some of the featured presentations include:

*Intimacy in the Age of Overwhelm: Helping Partners Get Back in Sync*

*Work and Family Life Mastering the Great Juggling Act*

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**Selected Publications by Dr. Fraenkel**

![Sync Your Relationship, Save Your Marriage](image1)

*Sync Your Relationship, Save Your Marriage*

*The Relational Trauma of Incest*

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**Research Recruitment Notices Wanted**

As IFTA members within the research community, we recognize the value of collecting data in a wide variety of forms and from a diverse population. One of the challenges, however, lies in the ability to recruit appropriate research participants. Networking options such as web-based discussion boards and listservs have allowed us to sample a wider population at a lower cost. In order to assist the research community, consider posting your links to recruitment for ongoing research within our Research E-forum. Please provide a brief description of the study, indication of its IRB approval, and information on how potential participants can take part. We appreciate your willingness to build a stronger research community!
Welcome to Clai’s Corner! This is the segment of the Research E-Form where we have the opportunity to highlight research that addresses international and/or multicultural perspectives within the field of family therapy. In the spotlight for this issue of E-Forum is a research article written by Kristy A. Brumfield from Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans, LA and Teresa M. Christensen from Regis University in Colorado entitled, “Discovering African American parents’ perceptions of play therapy: A phenomenological approach.” The focus of this research article was to explore African American parents’ thoughts about counseling, beliefs about the purpose of play and perceptions about play as a therapeutic agent in counseling.

I had the opportunity to contact Dr. Brumfield who is an assistant professor at Xavier University of Louisiana at New Orleans and in addition to her work as a counselor educator, has been a counselor in New Orleans for over ten years. Dr. Brumfield shared the motivation behind her choice of research topic, as well as what she felt were the three key points she wanted readers to take from the article. Dr. Brumfield responded:

“There were numerous factors influencing my decision to choose this research topic, the most prevalent being fear and history.

As a young African American professional pursuing training in play therapy I worried that African American parents might not be open to the intervention. I envisioned experiencing resistance from parents who I assumed might think I was just a glorified babysitter or that they’d think play was insufficient to address serious issues. These fears were supported by the literature regarding cultural stigma against counseling and life experiences with friends, family challenging the profession implying that "we" as African Americans didn’t go to counseling - we go to church. Fortunately my research did not support these fears, nor has my experience in the years since the conclusion of this research.”

Three important topics include recognition of the fact most parents intuitively want what is best for their children and African American parents are no exception. 100% of the parent participants were open to play therapy and counseling in general. However it cannot be overlooked that they all believed other African Americans would be hesitant; this suggests that the perceived impact of stigma may currently be stronger than the “real” impact. Most importantly helping professionals should thoroughly explain the process while striving to convey understanding and acceptance of potential clients since fear of judgment hindrance for clients who think the intervention is culturally "not for them."

Research and Clinical Implications

In addition to the main highlights in this article I have found that the information contained regarding the significance of the parents view of therapy being one of the primary indicators of the effectiveness of therapy to be beneficial. I am a therapist in training and recognize the importance of there being dialog around the primary caregivers’ beliefs, perceptions and expectations of therapy. Within the framework of play therapy this dialog may include some psychoeducation into the value, purpose and effectiveness of this therapeutic technique.

As mentioned in the article the children participating in the study were between four and twelve years of age. Also only two of the eight participants had children that had specifically engaged in play therapy. A focus of further study would be to conduct the same research with an African American population of families whose children have never participated in play therapy and whom have older children, such as adolescents participating in play therapy.

For more, see:
Journal of Family Psychotherapy

Edited By:
Terry S. Trepper, Ph.D.

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Review of A. Ellenwood and L. Brok’s Shake up: Moving beyond therapeutic impasses by de-constructing rigidified professional roles. Reviewed by Cathy M. Hudgins


2013 World Family Therapy Congress: LAST CHANCE! SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL NOW!

The 2013 World Family Therapy Congress will be held in Orlando, Florida, USA, February 20-23, 2013 at Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort! Check out the IFTA Congress website for updated information about submissions and registration: http://www.ifta-congress.org/

Register online now!

Participants interested in making presentations or poster displays are invited to submit an abstract. Proposals must be submitted via the congress website, between April 15 - September 15, 2012.

To submit, please click here: http://www.ifta-congress.org/abstract_submissions.php

Thank you to the Research Program Committee who is working on the Pre-Congress!

Wayne Denton, Ph.D.
Florida Sate University

Ron Chenail, Ph.D.
Nova Southeastern University

Jerry Gale, Ph.D.
University of Georgia

Nominate someone to be featured in a future issue!

This newsletter is designed to let you know what is going on with the IFTA and also to let you know what research is happening within the community. What research have you been working on? We want to know! Have you been involved in something noteworthy within the family therapy field? Tell us about it! If you want to be featured in one of our future newsletters, or if you know someone that should be featured in one of our future newsletters, please send information to: Katherine M. Hertlein, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Program Director, Marriage and Family Therapy Program, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 453045, Las Vegas, NV 89154-3045 Phone: (702) 895-3210 Fax: (702) 895-1869 katherine.hertlein@unlv.edu

International Family Therapy Association

We look forward to hearing from you!

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