



2019 World Family Therapy Congress — March 8 –10, 2019

IFTA's 2019 World Family Therapy Congress: Aberdeen, Scotland

Two outstanding clinicians familiar with the therapeutic needs around the world will keynote the 2019 World Family Congress in Aberdeen, Scotland. Meeting at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Convention Centre (AECC) March 28 - 30, hundreds of systemic therapist from over 30 countries will be attending the Congress. The Holiday Inn Express next door to the AECC will be the Congress Headquarters hotel.



Key Dates for the 2019 Congress

- **NOW** - Call for Proposals is Open
- **Sept. 30** - Deadline for Proposals
- **Oct. 21** - Early Bird registration ends

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS



Imelda Colgan McCarthy, PhD. is a systemic/social constructionist therapist. She is the Director of the PhD program Applied Social Science at University College Dublin.



Monica McGoldrick, MSW, PhD (h.c.), Director of the Multicultural Family Institute Teacher, author and family therapist. She has an international reputation as a trainer and author.



VisitAberdeenshire

VisitAberdeenshire has announced its support of the 2019 World Family Therapy Congress to be held in Aberdeen, Scotland, March 28 - 30, 2019. They wish every success for the 2019 World Family Therapy Congress in Scotland.

Changes to the IFTA Board of Directors

Changes usually occur annually on the Board of Directors. As members complete their terms and rotate off the Board, new faces appear or are not reelected after serving one three-year term.

This year, three individuals decided to remain on the Board for their second three-year terms: Reggie Berger, Ph.D., (Switzerland), Gloria Baldwin-Shultz, M.A. (Canada) and Shan Tate, MSA (United Kingdom). Takeshi Tamura leaves the Board after completing his term.

Exciting Family Therapy Developments in 2018 - 2019

Warwick Phipps, Ph.D., 2017 - 2019 IFTA President (South Africa)



Greetings family therapists all around the world! There are so many exciting developments going on in IFTA right now that trying to decide on what to talk about here is much like being at an amazing restaurant when you're going through the menu trying to make up your mind as to what you're going to order!

We're gearing up for the 2019 World Family Therapy Congress in Aberdeen, Scotland March 28-30. In Celebrating Family Therapy Around the World, the special focus will be on interactional methodologies and their impact in family therapy settings. I wonder how Gregory Bateson, Don D. Jackson, Jay Haley, and John Weakland would have reacted, following the publication of their landmark paper in Family Process in 1956 entitled, "Toward a Theory of Schizophrenia," to learn that some 63 years on a World Family Therapy Congress

would be convened to further understand, explore, and advance interactional methodologies and their impact within family therapy settings. Abstract proposals for this Congress are now streaming in and accommodation for the local hotels in Aberdeen, Scotland is filling up fast!

In March this year, at our previous Congress in Bangkok Thailand, I spoke about key developments occurring in family therapy internationally as well as in IFTA. One of these very special developments is IFTAs promulgation of international accreditation in family therapy. In response to a direct request from a family therapy association in Turkey for IFTA to provide international accreditation, IFTA formed the International Accreditation Commission for Systemic Therapy Education (IACSTE) in 2014. I was privileged to be invited to serve on the original Commission, chaired by leading international figure, Dorothy Becvar. At that time, it was not possible for me to anticipate the full force of this development and what was to come! IACSTE is not only providing international accreditation for family therapists as well as training institutions (or programs) around the world—at Tier 1 and Tier 2 levels—but now also for supervisors. This new category of accreditation, the details of which are still being finalised, means that supervisors from all around the world will now be able to apply to IACSTE for the internationally accredited designation Certified Systemic Supervisor! How's that for an exciting development?

Talking about other exciting developments, IFTA is hosting its 2nd Intensive Institute in Prague, Czech Republic just next month, October 18-19. The theme of this Institute is "Advancing Family and Systemic Therapy Worldwide: Innovations in Training, Supervision, and Practice." In addition to the potential for cutting edge inputs and learnings, the hours spent during this Institute will also count towards the total number of required hours, should you consider applying for international accreditation as a supervisor in family therapy. This Institute is limited to 80 people. So, if you would like to attend you should register quickly.

Developments such as the 2nd IFTA Institute in Prague, Czech Republic, the upcoming 2019 World Family Therapy Congress in Aberdeen, Scotland, and IACSTEs—world's first—provision of international accreditation for family therapists, training institutions/ programs, and now supervisors, are just something of what is happening in IFTA right now. Having said this, though, IFTA is really about you, the therapists, the trainers, and the supervisors in family therapy all around the world. As we interact together, we learn, we develop, we contribute, we give back and the field of family therapy grows. We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming 2nd IFTA Institute in Prague, Czech Republic, alternatively the 2019 World Family Therapy Congress in Aberdeen, Scotland!

Prague Institute on Supervision a First

IFTA will be holding its first-ever Institute on systemic supervision in Prague, October 18 and 19. The Institute theme is, Advancing Family and Systemic Therapy Worldwide: Innovations in Training, Supervision, and Practice. [Featured presenters will be William Northey and Dorothy Becvar.](#)



William Northey, Ph.D.



Dorothy Becvar, Ph.D.

This highly interactive institute will explore innovative approaches to advancing family and systemic therapy in a variety of clinical and cultural contexts. Lead by leaders in the field, participants will have the opportunity to identify the unique challenges and needs relative to advancement of systemic therapy in their practice and training settings. Over the course of two days, the presenters will focus on:

- Strategies to identify and assess clinical and training needs
- The development of systemic clinical competence
- The implementation of efficacious systems to train clinicians and deliver effective systemic interventions
- Successful tactics in delivering systemic therapy in diverse clinical contexts
- The importance of training, mentoring, and supervision within a systemic framework
- Practical and ethical approaches to training and supervision

Registration is still open with a group size limitation of 30. You may register [here](#).

Accreditation Commission Makes Application Changes

The International Accreditation Commission for Systemic Therapy Education (IACSTE) reviewed the application materials required of training programs seeking accreditation of their systemic therapy programs. The Commission's changes are incorporated in the new requirements for Tier 2, replacing Option A and Option B with one application package for all programs.

To further encourage universities to apply for accreditation, the Commission will be holding a workshop on the accreditation process during the 2019 World Family Therapy Congress in Aberdeen, Scotland, March 28 - 30.

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, MSocSc, 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; Takeshi Tamura, MD, Japan; Shan Tate, MSW, UK.

2016-2019, Term Ends June 30, 2019: Ozge Alkanat, PhD, Turkey; Kathlyne 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.

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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 Certified Family Therapist Application.

Association Information

2019 World Congress Proposals Being Sought

You can find the 2019 Congress website at: <http://www.ifta-congress.org/>. The website contains 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

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 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 1081 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).

Play at IFTA Conferences!

Photographs of IFTA's World Family Therapy Congresses are available for viewing. There is an easy way to access the photographs on the web.

Here are some of the photographs from the 2018 World Family Therapy Congress in Bangkok:



Go to the IFTA Congress website at: <http://www.ifta-congress.org/photos.php> and click [here](#) for past congress photographs.

Enjoy seeing images from the past conferences in Bangkok, Thailand (2018), Málaga, Spain (2017), Hawaii (2016), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2015), Panama City, Panama (2014), Orlando, Florida (2013); Vancouver, Canada (2012); Holland (2011); Buenos Aires, Argentina (2010), Portoroz, Slovenia (2009); Porto, Portugal (2008). Photographs from Congresses 2006 – 2001, go to [smugmug](#) : Iceland (2006); Washington, D.C. (2005); Istanbul, Turkey (2004); Bled, Slovenia (2003); Porto Alegre, Brazil (2001). Copies of many of the images are also available through our IFTA photographer, Pamela R. L. Lessing (e-mail: prlf@aol.com)

2019 World Family Therapy Congress Aberdeen, Scotland

March 28 - 30, 2019



The 2019 World Family Therapy Congress of the International Family Therapy Association will be held in Aberdeen, Scotland. We invite you to join colleagues from around the world at the Aberdeen Convention Centre and the Holiday Inn Hotels by the North Sea.

Like all IFTA Congresses, it will feature many approaches to a variety of problems and ways of coping with them. The congress aims to help heal hurting couples and families in various cultures.

Call for Proposals: OPEN NOW UNTIL September 30th

Proposals are sought for the in the following categories:

- Brief Presentation (20 minutes)
- Lectures/workshops (45 minutes)
- Poster Displays

Students

Students must send proof of student status (scan of student ID) to info@ifta-congress.org to receive a Promo code in order to register as a student.



The Official Language

of the meeting is English. All abstract submissions must be in English.

Proposal Information:

<http://ifta-congress.org/docs/GeneralGuidelines.pdf>
<http://ifta-congress.org/docs/StudentGuidlines.pdf>

Submit a Proposal:

www.ifta-conference.org

Plenary Speakers



IMELDA MCCARTHY, Ph.D.

Imelda McCarthy PhD has been a family therapist, supervisor, writer and international presenter for almost forty years. Her writings have been translated into nine languages and cover the areas of sexualised abuse, poverty, gender and spirituality. In addition to developing the 'Fifth Province Approach' with Nollaig Byrne and Philip Kearney, she has also spent over 25 years as an academic in the Social Sciences. Now, she works as a therapist and supervisor from her home under the rubric of, 'The Fifth Province Centre' where she also facilitates meditation groups (Fifth Province Sangha). For the past number of years she has been facilitating one and two-day retreats for those interested in meditation and consciousness evolution. Throughout her practices with meditation she has integrated her systemic and spiritual experiences

together with training alongside her teacher, Sri Vasudeva.



Monica McGoldrick M.S.W., Ph.D. (h.c.)

Monica McGoldrick, MSW, PhD (h.c.), Director of the Multicultural Family Institute Teacher, author and family therapist. She has an international reputation as a trainer and author. She is on the Clinical Faculty of the Psychiatry Department of the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Her books include *Ethnicity and Family Therapy* (3rd ed), *The Expanded Family Life Cycle* (5th ed. 2017), *Genograms* (3rd ed), *Living Beyond Loss* (2nd ed), *Re-Visioning Family Therapy: Race, Culture and Gender in Clinical Practice* (2nd ed), *Women in Families*, and *The Genogram Journey: Reconnecting with Your Family* (2nd ed of *You Can Go Home Again*, 2011). Her newest book the *Genogram Casebook* was published by W.W. Norton in 2016. She is also the author of a number of clinical videos available through www.psychotherapy.net.