



7 October 2007

Board of Administrators: Vitor Rodrigues; President, Bernadette Blin-Lery, Elena Francisc, Ingo Jahrsetz and Beata Bishop

Newsletter Editor: John Drew

EUROTAS NEWSLETTER No. 45

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1. Ninth Eurotas Conference in Freiburg, Germany, 20-23 September 2007 – a letter from our President

Last month another EUROTAS Conference was held, this time in Freiburg, Germany, organized by Ingo Jahrsetz and his team of lovely and dedicated people. It was the EUROTAS 9th Conference and the theme was “Forgiveness and Reconciliation: Towards an Enlightened World Culture. A Transpersonal View on Conflict, Terror and Love” - a big theme in several different ways. Indeed we had many different (great) views, from Philosophical to Social to Psychological, from analysis of the problems related to pain, fear and difficulty in forgiving, to testimonies and to ways for healing. All of this mingled with wonderful music. “As usual”, we also had humor, emotion and more music hosted by John Drew in the “Soul of Europe” party – a must for our future Conferences, if you have not been there yet.

Another country, this time Bulgaria, was welcomed in EUROTAS and we had people coming from lots of countries – including a group from the American Institute of Transpersonal Psychology. It was a pleasure witnessing again how people from different nationalities contributed, focusing minds and hearts upon the questions of ongoing inner and outer conflicts everywhere and how to find solutions. That is how I feel we must deal with global human consciousness: we search for differences because each other’s different views enrich our own. We do not try to level everything or make everything homogeneous but quite the opposite: we search for real orchestras that play with all kinds of instruments and voices instead of giving everybody the same drum. We are curious about others because they have different experiences and also share a lot with us and because being human is mostly about conscious experience and enriching human life is mostly enriching our experience.

So it was a pleasure meeting again “old” and “new” friends who demonstrated by their presence and attitude that they are world citizens. And world citizens can feel at home everywhere – even more when they are dealing with extremely important issues.

Want to know more? One way is most probably going to the Conference’s website and asking for lots of fast and nicely made DVDs with the talks we all presented and the music we all applauded.

I did feel at home once more, this time in Germany – and for that our hosts, Ingo and his team, were contributing with previous and ongoing hard work always with a smile, good organization and a very supporting attitude. Extremely easy for me to express gratitude...

2. Tenth EUROTAS Conference in Barcelona. October 2008

“The planet, culture and consciousness – developing humanity in the twenty first century” is the provisional title of the 10th EUROTAS Conference in Barcelona from 29 October 2 November 2008

Magda Sole and her team from Barcelona will prepare this with the enthusiastic support of the Board and many members of EUROTAS associations. In Spanish the title is "Planeta, desenvolupant la humanitat del S. XXI. Please put in your agenda now. We are so pleased that the annual conference goes from one European country to another each year enriching our Association and its members

3. Minutes of the Eurotas Delegate Meeting in Freiberg

The President welcomed delegates from 16 different countries to a full day of discussion about EUROTAS and its future.

1. Membership of EUROTAS

Membership is growing and the President urged those present to pay the dues for 2007-8 of €250 (Western countries) or €125 (Eastern countries) if possible at the meeting or to send them and any payments outstanding for 2006-7. Please would the Associations which have not paid fees transfer the money to the following bank account and copy the transfer to the President [psicosophos@mail.telepac.pt] for his records:

Portugal, Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria
Vitor Jose Fernandes Rodrigues (EUROTAS)
IBAN: PT50 0019 0044 0020 0044 8535 3
BIC: BBVAPTPL

2. New Members

There have been expressions of interest and intention to join from Ireland, Bosnia, Greece, Turkey and Estonia. Bulgaria represented by Marian Gospodinov and Constantin made a comprehensive presentation of their plans and activities and were unanimously welcomed as members of EUROTAS

3. Elections to the Board

Jason Wright and Vladimir Maykov retired from the Board. The President thanked them for their support over the past three years.. After some discussion, Beata Bishop (UK) and Ingo Jahrsetz (Germany) agreed to join the Board and were welcomed with a unanimous vote

4. World Congress on Psychology and Spirituality

Stuart Sovatsky talked about the International Transpersonal Conference to be held in India in January 2008. Details from www.WorldCongressPS2008.org

5. Formal Establishment of EUROTAS in Austria

It was agreed unanimously that Hans Peter Weidinger and the President would look to the establishment of EUROTAS formally in Austria (it was originally established 20 years ago in Switzerland) and that a Bank Account would be set up in Austria to receive subscriptions

6. East West Project.

Rumold Mol lead a discussion on the East-West Project and its future and it was agreed that he would look to making the East –West Project into a EUROTAS organisation

7. Proposed EUROPEAN Transpersonal Journal

While there was enthusiasm for the project it was accepted that the cost would be high. In the meantime, articles can be put on the Website – www.eurotas.org and contributions would be sought for this.

8. EUROTAS Website

It was agreed that this was a very useful contribution to communication among EUROTAS members. A Mark II website developed in Russia would replace the existing website in due course. Ingo Jahrsetz and Vladimir Maykov agreed to be responsible for this

9 What is Eurotas About?

A long discussion about what Eurotas is and what it could do

- a meeting point where we can share contacts
- a way to create bridges
- helping raise the level of world consciousness
- what we are doing for ourselves
- what we are doing for the world

It was agreed that the Newsletter provided communications among members. More activities of member Associations should be included in it and they were encouraged to write to the Newsletter Editor (John Drew – profdrew@eurotas.org) with material of one or two paragraphs.

10 Eurotas Forum

There is a Forum on the Eurotas website which could be used for a number of discussions – for example the proposal by Tanna to have a EUROTAS Elders forum Ingo Jahrsetz agreed to look at this

11. Certification of European Therapists

A number of therapists had now been certified and certificates had been prepared for presentation. The work of the Committee was welcomed and the material is available on the EUROTAS website under “articles”

12. Individual Membership of EUROTAS

It was agreed that individuals could become members of Eurotas and would pay a small subscription. The Board would agree any applications. The discussion was left open as regards fees and the Board will therefore use its discretion and put forward a proposal in Barcelona to be included in the byelaws.)

13 Vote of thanks to the Freiberg Team

The President thanked all those present for their contributions and urged them to write to him with proposals and offers to help. Delegates were unanimous that it had been a day full of energy for the future of EUROTAS and the President said on their behalf how much we were looking forward to the Conference and the excellent arrangements and planning that had gone into it.

14. Tenth Eurotas Conference in Barcelona Autumn 2008

Magda Sole and her team subsequently agreed that the next EUROTAS Conference would be held in Barcelona from 29 October to 2 November with the title:

“The planet, culture and consciousness – developing human nature in the twenty first century”

4. News from Portugal

Vitor Rodrigues writes:

As regards the Portuguese Association ALUBRAT, we have planned, to the end of this year, a talk and conference on the “creative management of stress with Sophrology”, by Branca Matos, 19 and 20 October; a presentation of the book “Parapsychology for the XXI century” by Sergio Razente and Nuno Ribeiro, 26 October; a talk and workshop on “dreams and self-development” by Sandra Gonçalves, 16 and 17 November; a “Dionysian” meeting with Mario Simoes (dinner and sharing), 24 November; and a talk and workshop by Vitor Rodrigues on “the path of the spiritual warrior”, 14 and 15 December. As you may see, quite a few activities and we are planning to keep up our pace in 2008.

5. British Psychological Society – new Committee

The new BPS Transpersonal Section committee is

Malcolm Walley – chairman
Tricia Whitehouse – secretary
Kendal Wrightson – treasurer

Contact details can be found on www.tran-scot.net and details of BPS on www.bps.org.uk

6. Australia - The Journal of Spirituality, Leadership and Management

Michelle Barker writes:

The Journal of Spirituality, Leadership and Management (JSLaM) is currently seeking contributions.

JSLaM is an online, applied, peer-reviewed journal. It aims to foster the understanding and integration of spirituality, leadership and management in organisations, communities and the natural world through networking, education and research. It explores the theoretical and applied elements underpinning the relationship between spirituality, leadership, and management, through three major dimensions: spirituality as it affects leadership and management of (a) organisations, (b) communities, and (c) the environment. JSLaM's particular focus is not conventional management consulting, nor is it individual spiritual paths or basic leadership principles. It is the confluence of all these.

JSLaM publishes the results of research, theoretical and conceptual developments, and examples of current practice, including techniques and skills that one can use to enhance understanding of spirituality in leadership and management. JSLaM is now seeking contributions in the form of:

- Refereed papers
- Case studies
- Book reviews
- General papers

For further information visit www.slam.net.au or contact the Editor, Dr Michelle Barker, at michelle@futureinitiatives.com.au.

7. A EUROTAS Council of Elders?

Tanna Jakubowicz-Mount wrote to a number of us after the Freiburg conference:

“Dear Friends, I'm writing to you out of gratitude for the wonderful Conference in Freiburg, which deepened our spiritual search for forgiving and reconciliation in a very friendly, supportive atmosphere. This special gathering and sharing proved to me, that together as a transpersonal community we have great healing, loving and creative forces to embrace a larger circle of European and World community.

I believe, we could gather and centre our wisdom and heart powers to contribute to the global healing and planetary awareness. I strongly believe that Spirit of Times is calling us to intensify our efforts, to gather critical mass and prevail. As far as I understand we need this great consciousness shift if we want support Life on this Planet. I suggest that for our next conference in Barcelona we focus on:

our contribution to consciousness evolution and planetary transformation. For instance: what do we mean by "Enlightened World Culture."? I ask you to ponder on it and exchange our thoughts.

I also propose that we introduce new and very old tradition of Council of Elders to begin our Conference. We could invite the most involved and experienced representatives of EUROTAS to sit in the Circle and share the most important insights and visions about planetary transformation or whatever we choose as a topic for this discussion, and then open our thinking up to the public for comments and questions. This way we could centre and focus our quest on the most important issues. Next we could have lectures and workshops developing and deepening questions and solutions suggested by the Elders. We could finish with an Open Space model of dialogue moderated by someone who is very experienced with public discussions.

As you know there is World Wisdom Council co-created by Ashok Gangadean. Let's support it with our hearts and minds!"

Please write to me with your thoughts

With love, Tanna

Tanna Jakubowicz-Mount [mandala@wisteria.pl]

8. John F. Kennedy/ Integral Institute Conference

On August 7th-10th, 2008, John F. Kennedy University, in association with Integral Institute, will host the inaugural biennial Integral Theory Conference, entitled Integral in Action: Serving Self, Community, and Kosmos . The conference will take place in Pleasant Hill, California. This will be the first major academic conference devoted to the field of integral theory and practice.

Attached to this email you will find a call for papers, including a more detailed description of the conference itself. If you are able, please forward this call to the members of the European Transpersonal Psychology Association. Feel free to forward this as well to other qualified persons you might be aware of.

If you have questions, please contact me at my email address, mforman30@usa.net

Sincerely yours,

Mark Forman, Ph.D.
Conference Co-Organizer
Assistant Professor
John F. Kennedy University
Department of Integral Studies

9. News from France, GRETT

Journeys of the Spirit – Les Voyages de l'Esprit
September 2007, 28 through 30
at Dourdan near Paris

This was a special conference. As ever these three days of sharing, exchange and reflection were a great opportunity to meet and forward our respective work and thoughts in the transpersonal field. This year we were able to bring together therapists, philosophers, doctors, poets, artists, engineers, singers, all workers in the field of the Buddhist, Christian and shamanism traditions attempting a transpersonal way of thought, way of life and way of healing.

Please contact the website www.irett.net for more details.

Those of you who were in the Loire Valley last year will remember with affection the joint GRETT/ EUROTAS conference and the dedication and delightful welcome of the GRETT team. We all hope for more international exchange and work programs. The last GRETT/ERUROTAS conference was a great opportunity to meet with our American colleagues and we hope that you will pass on the information about this conference.

Sinodies and p'tit Sinodies

Recently the GRETT has issued its latest "Sinodies" recollecting the 2005 conference on Art, creativity and transpersonal thought. Many authors have participated witnessing to the extraordinary transpersonal healing through art. You can order a copy at our main office

email : grett@wanadoo.fr

The next Sinodies will be on the wonderful Eurotas/GRETT event of 2006 on the "divine feminine. Please send in any material you have or wish to send. We have a team here able to translate your work in French.

The GRETT team also issues a p'tit Sinodies an interactive informative newsletter for our members

Conferences

This spring has closed the first conference cycle organised by GRETT. The theme this year was on relationships and transpersonal thought and our guests were Hedy and Yumi Schleiffer, Jean Delacroix and Barbara Schasseur. Next year we intend to receive Robert Dilt and Deborah Bacon, Richard Moss and Patrick Baudin. The theme has not yet been decided.

Salon Zen

As every year IRETT will participate. It is a great meeting place for people working for a new consciousness

Best Wishes

The GRETT team

10. News from Liverpool John Moores - Professor Les Lancaster

First, a brief apology for my absence from this year's conference. Whether by synchronistic means or not, the conference on Forgiving and Reconciliation clashed with the solemnest day in the Jewish calendar, Yom Kippur – a day specifically concerned with ... forgiveness and reconciliation! So maybe I was there in spirit if not in person! Anyway, I'm looking forward to Barcelona 2008.

I have been working with two colleagues I met at an earlier Eurotas conference, Harris Friedman and Glenn Hartelius, to set up a web site devoted to global discussion around transpersonal themes. Please visit the site we have established for the International Journal of Transpersonal Studies (<http://www.transpersonalstudies.org/>). The plan is that a linked site will serve to foster scholarly and more general debate around themes raised in the journal articles as well as other relevant topics. Watch out for its inauguration...!

Meanwhile, our work in transpersonal psychology at Liverpool John Moores University continues to expand. We have seen an increase in applications for PhDs by research. This is especially gratifying not only since it helps to consolidate our reputation as a research centre for transpersonal psychology but also because an increase in quality research is, I believe, the most important path towards further establishing the discipline as a major branch of academic psychology.

We have also seen an expansion in numbers studying on our online MSc programme in Consciousness & Transpersonal Psychology. In addition to attracting students from around the world, we have been able to encourage international scholars to engage online with the students. This undoubtedly enriches the students' experience, and enhances our credentials as offering a truly global programme. The Programme seems to be meeting a genuine need for scholarly exploration of the issues raised in both consciousness studies and transpersonal psychology.

For further information on programmes of study at Liverpool John Moores University, see www.ljmu.ac.uk/ctp. Les can be contacted at b.l.lancaster@ljmu.ac.uk.

Best wishes

Les

Prof. B. Les Lancaster
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Liverpool John Moores University Henry Cotton Campus Webster Street
Liverpool L3 2ET UK

11. Some thoughts from Marion Hubbard

Thank-you for the newsletter. I would like to contribute the following piece to anyone who might find it significant.

'Spiritual emergency' and the human psyche or 'human nature' The combination of Western scientific research with Eastern psychologies such as Buddhism has resulted in new concepts which shed light on the nature of the human personality or 'psyche' i.e. 'human nature'. Human nature is a social nature and the human organism is a social organism which can be characterised in terms of the biological needs for growth.

Human growth is a function of socialisation and therefore a function of the development of moral consciousness or 'conscience'. Complete development of human conscience depends on fulfilment of motives for natural human behaviour i.e. 'human needs'. As well as the obvious physiological needs, human needs include so-called 'lower' psychological needs for self-esteem - the 'ego needs' - and the so-called 'higher' psychological needs for development of the transpersonal or 'spiritual' dimension of the human psyche i.e. the spiritual needs or 'metaneeds'. The metaneeds are the subconscious needs for awareness of human values for living i.e. 'social values' or 'human values'. Human values are the moral values or universal spiritual values required for survival of the

species as a social species... moral justice, compassionate wisdom, universal love, knowledge as understanding, social responsibility or 'peace'... Awareness of human values results in heightened intuition and increased awareness of creative intelligence which is necessary for effective adaptation to changing social conditions i.e. 'adaptability'.

Human adaptability depends on evolution from the egocentric perspective to the transpersonal perspective of emotional maturity. Spiritual growth is usually gradual and fluid and results in 'spiritual awakening' or 'spiritual emergence'. If spiritual growth is blocked for any reason, the individual as a social organism is warned that their growth is in grave danger and that adjustments need to be made which are essential for adaptation and self-preservation. Consequently the transformation process becomes so rapid and dramatic that it is uncontrollable and reaches a point of crisis. The sensory experiences become so intense, chaotic and overwhelming that it is too distressing for the person to bear and they experience psychic overload. In this way spiritual emergence becomes a 'spiritual crisis', transformation crisis or 'spiritual emergency' - also known by many other names including transpersonal crisis, spiritual journey, hero's journey, spiritual awakening, kundalini awakening, enlightenment, shamanic crisis, psychotic-visionary episode, dark night of the soul, alchemical process and so on.

Spiritual emergency is a process of healing which is characterised by spontaneous alternative consciousness states or 'realities' and involves the positive transformation of the self. The person learns to grow beyond fear based ego-consciousness of cultural conditioning and the expectations of others. They evolve to a new level of awareness or 'higher consciousness state' of spiritual renewal and emotional liberation which allows for the discovery of ideas and behaviours in the affirmation of life of total well-being or 'high level wellness'. As a sign of health, spiritual emergency is a part of the human condition and a concern of so-called 'depth psychology' or 'transpersonal psychology'.

Best Wishes

Marion

marion hubbard [marionhubbard@hotmail.com]

12. Prayers and Meditation

On Oct 3, 2007, at 9:02 PM, Tanna Jakubowicz-Mount wrote:

Tanna write: Dear Ones Patrick is reminding us that we decided to set the meditation we've been talking about...every 1st day of the month at 9 pm? I offer the prayer from U.N. environmental Sabbath: "May the Holy Spirit guide us as we seek to heal and to

nurture the Earth and all its creatures, to live in the midst of creation, and to love one another as brothers and sisters with all life". you can offer yours....

with love, Tanna

Dear Tanna,

Thank you for the prayer. I did put a reminder on my portable for each 1st day of the month and I thought of you all the other day. Thank you Patrick! 1st of Oct is dedicated, internationally, to the fight against breast cancer. I was busy that day doing an event around Ken Wilber's book "Grace and Grit". But in the evening I thought of my EUROTAS family and I did say a prayer for all the women who were touched by this tough illness.

1st of November is dedicated to the fight against domestic violence and 1st of December (if I recall correctly) to the fight against AIDS

so, in our next EUROTAS/Transpersonal prayers each first day of the month let's bring in our hearts all these people who suffer...

I send you all my love,
Elena

13. World Congress on Psychology and Spirituality: India, January 2008

www.WorldCongressPS2008.org

The Congress preparations have accelerated with responses from over four-hundred people from thirty-six countries. Please email to stuartcs@jps.net your website address or plans for collaborative projects for posting to the moderated eBlog at the website to begin connecting with our Community.

Please contact Sanjay Goel at Sanjay24x7@gmail.com to book discounted hotel lodging and to schedule airport pick up upon arrival in Delhi. Temple tours can be booked with him as well.

Please contact stuartcs@jps.net for information on including your books etc. for sale in the bookstore.

The Stan and Christina Grof Honorary Holotropic Breathwork Session will be held Jan 3-4 and is accepting registrations at the website. The Jan 5 morning Yagya based on Aurobindo Integral Meditation on Fire Element with luncheon at Surya Farms Estate is accepting registrations at the website. All Presenters who have not yet sent in their photos, 50 word presentation descriptions and bios are kindly requested to do so. If we have not received your photo for posting to website by September 30, we will assume that your plans have changed and your presentation will not be included in the Programme.

Stuart Sovatsky, PhD, Congress Co-convenor
www.WorldCongressPS2008.org
<http://home.jps.net/~stuartcs/about.html>

14. International Conference- January 9th to 11th 2008

We at Sampurna Montfort College are organizing an International Conference in collaboration with the Centre for Diversity in Counseling and Psychotherapy, University of Toronto; and Bangalore University in January 2008.

The conference aims at creating a platform for exchanging knowledge and sharing experiences at an international level. Renowned experts from the United Kingdom, Canada, United States of America, South Africa and India will be presenting their work in the areas of counseling, psychotherapy, traditional healing practices within a context of multiculturalism and diversity.

Conference Secretariat

We invite counselors, psychotherapists, researchers, post graduate students and practitioners in related fields to present their work in the form of paper or poster presentations. Please also feel free to contact us if you would be interested in conducting workshops on related themes during the course of the conference.

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The most up-to-date information will be found on the conference website:
[Http://cdcp.oise.utoronto.ca/bangalore20](http://cdcp.oise.utoronto.ca/bangalore20)

15. Last Thoughts

Many of us who were with Ingo and his dedicated team have our thoughts still in Freiburg and we have left a little of our hearts there too. If you want to feel something of the atmosphere then look at the picture of the audience when Stuart Sovatsky played and sang with his colleagues "do you love me?" Send me an email - "photo please" and I will send you the photograph as I don't know how to attach it!

Please let me have information and news for your EUROTAS newsletter!

John Drew – Newsletter Editor