THE "NEW US"
THE DEVELOPING
THERAPEUTIC SYSTEMS

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THE CONFERENCE

The systems vision represents a revolution in the scientific world as well as for the understanding of human development and change. Through this perspective, therapeutic change is seen as less related to the therapist’s interventions but as emerging from the intersubjective system itself, from the “us”.

In this presentation, Lynn Preston and Ellen Shumsky look at the therapeutic process from this systems perspective and offer the view that each therapeutic dyad, each healing relatedness, is a unique living system with its own particular needs and challenges and its own developmental unfolding. With this perspective, the focus of attention is primarily on the growth of the partnership within which the individuals develop, rather than the more conventional focus of attending to the development and healing of the patient. The speakers propose that when our treatments are stuck and we have lost our way - when the avenues of exploring the patient’s experience are closed and attention to the analyst’s experience isn’t leading anywhere - we can tune into the dreads and needs of the therapeutic system (the “us”) as a third dimension of experience. The New Us is an ever-changing system out of which new self-experience emerges.

Through clinical stories, discussion and demonstration, Lynn Preston and Ellen Shumsky look at how the lens of the “us” or “us thinking” can open new attitudes and new therapeutic possibilities.
SOME OF THE SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE:

• A complexity view of agency and responsibility;
• The power of the language of “we”;  
• Attitudes as the hidden determining ingredient of the therapeutic process;  
• Improvisation as a language of “us-ness”;  
• The leading edge of the intersubjective field;  
• Cultivating an awareness of “the relational implicit”  
• How a systems lens can cultivate empathy for the partnership;  
• The interwoven dimensions of the “me” the “you” and the “us”.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

• Explain the concept and clinical usefulness of a systems vision;  
• Describe the concept of the therapeutic partnership development;  
• Analyze the nature of improvisational moments as “tipping points” in complex therapeutic systems;  
• Define the notions of the therapist’s authority and responsibility in a post-modern psychoanalytic perspective.
Lynn Preston, MA, MS, LP, is founding director of the Experiential Psychotherapy Project (formerly FORP) in New York, as well as faculty member of the Institute of Contemporary Psychotherapy (ICP), New York City. She has written on the subjects of implicit experience and the use of the analyst’s subjectivity. She has a special interest in experiential teaching, supervision and exploring the relationship between philosophy, theory and practice.

Ellen Shumsky, LCSW, LP, is faculty member and supervisor at the Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy and at the Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Study Center, both in NYC. She has co-authored numerous publications on the clinical application of relational theory and has presented both nationally and internationally on these subjects. She is in private practice in New York City.
Partial bibliography


The GEI is a professional association of psychotherapists who are practicing from an inter-subjective self psychological perspective. It offers an affiliative opportunity to therapists who would like to learn this particular approach. Our objectives include the continuing education of our members and the sharing of clinical experiences and reflections. The GEI is an institutional member of the International Association for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology (IAPSP).

The conference presented by Lynn Preston and Ellen Shumsky, our guest speakers of this year, is a peak moment in our annual activities.

To become a member of the GEI
Any psychologist, or psychotherapist with an OPQ permit is eligible. Students in a program leading to the practice of psychotherapy, as well as those in the process of obtaining a psychotherapist’s license are also eligible. The 2018 membership fee is 30$. You’ll be able to fill in your application at intersubjectivite.com, and pay either online or by mailing your check to the GEI address.

Members have access to more resources on the GEI website and benefit from reduced registration fees for our activities. All of the GEI activities are held in French except for the annual conference. To be included in the GEI mailing list and be informed of our activities, you can register at intersubjectivite.com.
REGISTRATION

Saturday September 22nd 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Le Nouvel Hôtel – room Dorchester / Maisonneuve
1740, René-Lévesque Blvd West, Montreal (Qc)
Guy-Concordia metro station nearby. On-street parking or indoor parking at the cost of 15$ (entrance on Saint-Mathieu Street).

Registration:
intersubjectivite.com.
Register online and make your payment securely online, or by mailing your check to the GEI address. If you have any difficulty completing your registration online, contact us at registrations@intersubjectivite.com, or call Maurice Carrier at 514-999-0838.

Refund Policy:
Registration cancellations in writing up to September 15th, 2018 will be refunded less a 25$ administration fee. We regret that no refunds can be allowed after that date.

Organizing Committee:
Sylvie Ledoux, administrator, Monique Dubé, administrator, Jean-François Bernard, administrator, and Annette Richard, president.

For more information:
intersubjectivite.com or Annette Richard president@intersubjectivite.com
GEI, 832 Bloomfield Ave, Outremont (Qc) H2V 3S6 514-277-6408

This conference is approved by the Ordre des psychologues du Québec for 6 hours of continuing education units (CEUs).
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Reception and registration Continental breakfast offered to the participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Introduction of speakers</td>
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<td>9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Presentation by Lynn Preston and Ellen Shumsky</td>
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<td>12:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>13:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Presentation by Lynn Preston and Ellen Shumsky</td>
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<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
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**Fees**

Lunch included *

**By September 8th**
- GEI Members: 235 $  
- Non-member: 260 $  
- Students**: 165 $

**After September 8th**
- GEI Members: 250 $  
- Non-member: 275 $  
- Students**: 180 $

* Lunch included for registrations completed by Tuesday September 18th, 2018  
** A proof of full-time university student status will be required at the registration desk.