

Taos Institute News

January 2007



Taos Institute Board of Directors

TRANSFORMATIVE DIALOGUES: A Summer Workshop Institute June 24-29, 2007



Taos Workshop Participants

Transformative Dialogues: Come to New Hampshire in June! — Bring the Family along for a Learning Vacation

By Sheila McNamee

This June we are hosting a special gathering, and we are very excited about it. We hope you will be too. In response to many of your suggestions, we have designed a week of learning, relating and relaxing in the seacoast area of New Hampshire. I am particularly excited about hosting the Taos family in my home town. We are offering a wide array of workshop opportunities throughout the week. Participants can register for two workshops: one in the first half of the week and another during the second half of the week. In addition to having intensive contact with other participants and the workshop leaders, everyone will have the opportunity to engage in cross-topic dialogue. Each day will offer plenary sessions, breaks, lunches, and shorter afternoon showcases that will bring everyone together in an expansive learning community.

Free time is also programmed so that families and friends can join with workshop participants. We are all invited to experience the wonders of New Hampshire's natural beauty and charm - through explorations of the sea, mountains, and quaint villages of New Hampshire. Sports activities, family vacation opportunities, and lively fellowship are all at your fingertips on the beautiful campus of the University of New Hampshire just minutes from the coast and mountains.

Please join us. We are looking forward to continuing the conversation in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

For more information and details visit:

WWW.TAOSINSTITUTECONFERENCE.NET

**Register by February 28th for
EARLY BIRD RATES**



Choose from the following workshops:

- **Re-constructing Inquiry (for inquiring adults)** with Sheila McNamee, Dian Marie Hosking
- **Appreciative Inquiry: Unlimited in Your Options** with Jane Watkins
- **Social Construction: Relational Theory and Practice** with Kenneth and Mary Gergen
- **Social Working: The Business of Community** with Sally St. George, Dan Wulff, Sylvia London
- **The Art of Positive Living** with Bob and Sharon Cottor
- **The Therapist as Coach** with Harlene Anderson
- **Social Construction Meets the Buddha** with Dian Marie Hosking and Diane Gehart
- **Evolving Perspectives on this Thing Called Psychotherapy** with Bob Cottor
- **Appreciative Leadership** with Jim Ludema
- **Improvisation: Creative Coordination in Organizations and Everyday Life** with Frank Barrett, Ken Gergen and Mary Gergen
- **Relational Practices in Education and Training** with Sheila McNamee, Sally St. George

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Beliefs without Boundaries

Kenneth Gergen

President, Board of Directors



One of the most important crises facing the world today is that of conflicting beliefs. Contrasting beliefs in religion, the political good, economics, the environment, and rights to ownership - among others - are everywhere apparent. Technologies are also available to permit any group of believers to move globally, and to inflict harm on those

who are "wrong," "evil," or "unjust." It is precisely in this context that I believe social constructionism delivers one of its most important messages: when we understand that all beliefs are constructed in relationships, the impulse to shed blood to protect the good is replaced by the desire for dialogue. For the constructionist, strong beliefs in a way of life or a religious creed grow naturally from our existence in relationships. That people are deeply nurtured and sustained by such beliefs is all to the good. Strong beliefs become threatening, however, when they become statements of the really real, the

truly true, or the ultimate good. Here they eliminate all other possibilities; they are beyond negotiation, which is to say, beyond further dialogue. In cases of conflicting beliefs, social construction places a premium on the restoration of dialogue. It is with deep hopes for the future that the Taos Institute advances the cause of Appreciative Inquiry, The Public Conversations Project, Narrative Mediation, the Coordinated Management of Meaning, the National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation, and related investments in peace through relationship.

Grants and Donations in 2006

The Taos Institute has received three very generous grants during the past year. In October 2005, we received a \$7,000 Dharma Fellowship grant from the family of Kuo Yu, a close friend of the Institute. This grant was first given to enable needy students to attend Taos Institute events and to participate in the PhD program. In addition, this grant funded the current project of updating of the Positive Aging Newsletter webpages. In Janu-

ary 2006, the Whitman Institute donated \$5,000 to support the development of a Handbook of Transformative Dialogue. This project, currently under way, will bring together dialogic practices used by groups around the world to reduce conflict and generate new forms of collaboration. Finally, through the effective work of Ken and Mary Gergen, the Institute received a \$25,000 grant from the Whitman Institute in December of 2006. This

grant will contribute to general operating expenses. It certainly was a beautiful gift for the Taos Institute. We are very appreciative for these special grants and offer our heartfelt gratitude to all of those who made them possible.

You too can support the Taos Institute:

www.taosinstitute.net/about/donate

Jane Watkins Joins the Board of Directors in 2006



We are thrilled to welcome **Jane Magruder Watkins** as our newest member of the Board of Directors. Jane brings with her 40 years of

working in the field of organization development. Jane has focused on experiential education and organization development particularly in non-profit humanitarian organizations. Her work in over 50 countries has provided the great gifts of friendships and caring communities throughout the world. Since the mid-1980's, she has worked with **David Cooperrider** (Taos founder and board member) to develop and

spread Appreciative Inquiry (AI) around the globe. As an early innovator in the use of Appreciative Inquiry, she has experimented with its application in all aspects of organizational life in multiple settings and cultures, as well as in personal growth and human development. She sees Appreciative Inquiry as a bridge that enables organizations, communities, individuals and couples to embrace the emerging paradigm, recreating themselves and their realities by imagining and living into their own unique visions of the future.

Jane has chaired the board of NTL Institute for Applied Behavioral Science and has held director level positions in two international development agencies, served on the direc-

tor's staff of the Action Agency, and has owned her own business. Jane is co-author with **Bernard Mohr** (Taos Advisory Board member) of the book, *Appreciative Inquiry: Change at the Speed of Imagination*.

She is a Founding Partner of AI Consulting and a principal in the firm of Appreciative Inquiry Unlimited with Taos Associate and Jane's husband **Ralph Kelly**. She teaches Appreciative Inquiry through NTL, the Taos Institute, in client organizations and for graduate programs around the world.

We look forward to the coming years with Jane contributing her gifts and talents to the Institute.

NEW ASSOCIATES IN 2006

The group of *Taos Associates* has grown to 60 strong, representing over 14 disciplines including therapy, social work, organization and development, and education from 13 nations. And we continue to grow! *Taos Associates* are a diverse group of practitioners and scholars who base their daily work, academic teaching, and writing in social constructionism. The individuals in this group have been invited to join with the Taos Board of Directors to continue to develop their ideas related to social constructionism

and practices and to share resources with other like-minded practitioners around the world.

TI Associates bring many gifts to the Taos Institute. They are creative in their application and forward-thinking in the development of social constructionist principles. Taos Institute Conferences and Associate Topic Sharing Calls are opportunities in which *Associates* can teach and exchange ideas with a variety of other professionals.

The Taos Institute is proud of its array of associations across the globe. These associations are necessary for the Taos Institute to do its work, that is, to create world change through the local endeavors of each *Taos Associate*. We are most grateful to our *Associates* for the many works they perform and for the gift of having such rewarding relationships with each of them.

Join us in welcoming the following colleagues as new *Associates* of the Taos Institute in 2006:

Arthur P. Bochner, University of South Florida, Department of Communications, abochner@cas.usf.edu

Ron Chenail, Nova Southeastern University, Family Therapy, ron@nova.edu

Joep C. de Jong, Director, BT Division of eLearning, and founding member of AI Consulting, Inc. The Netherlands, joepc@mac.com

Carolyn Ellis, University of South Florida, Department of Communications, cellis@cas.usf.edu

Carsten Hornstrup, MacMann Berg, Denmark ch@macmannberg.dk

Diane R. Gehart, California State University, Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling, dgehart@csun.edu

Lorraine Hedke, VITAS Innovative Hospice Care, Bereavement Services Manager, Inland Counties Program, San Bernardino, CA, Lhedtke1@aol.com

Sandra Kensen, Director of Studies, Sioo, Inter-University Centre for Organisational Change and Learning, Utrecht, kensen@sioo.nl

Ada Jo Mann, Consultant, Principal in Innovation Partners International, Washington, DC adajo@innovationpartners.com

Maureen McKenna, Organization Development Consultant, The SuMo Experience, Toronto, Canada maureenmckenna@sympatico.ca

Alain Robiolio, Architect and Family Therapist, Switzerland, robiolioavfranc@bluewin.ch

Sushma Sharma, Resonate Consulting, Mumbai, India, connect@resonateconsulting.com

John Winslade, California State University, San Bernardino, Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling, jwinslad@csusb.edu

Visit our webpage to meet these and the other TI Associates: taosinstitute.net/about/instituteassociates.

Honorary Associates

The position of Honorary Associate is awarded to those persons whose contributions have been unusually stimulating and inspiring. These individuals have been of exceptional importance in their contribution to the dialogues, practices and ideals of the Taos Institute. To these awardees we extend our deepest gratitude and esteem.

Tom Andersen, Professor of Social Psychiatry at the Institute of Community Medicine, Univ. of Tromsø, Norway

Warren Bennis, Distinguished Professor of Business Administration at the Univ. of Southern California and the founding chair of USC's Leadership Institute

Jerome Bruner, Noted Psychologist and Educator, New York University Law School

Lynn Hoffman, Leading Thinker and Practitioner in the field of Family Therapy and Systems Theory

Peggy Penn, Psychotherapist and Poet associated with the Ackerman Institute for Family Therapy

Theodore Sarbin, was Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Criminology at the University of California, Santa Cruz

John Shotter, Writer and Consultant based in London, and Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Communications, University of New Hampshire

Michael White, Psychotherapist, Dulwich Centre, Adelaide, Australia

2007 WORKSHOPS offered by Taos Founders, Board Members, and Associates

Social Constructionist Theory and Practice around the World

The Taos Institute is a non-profit educational institution. The workshop offerings for 2007 are given by our board members, the advisory board members and our associates and reflect their interests, practices and gifts. All workshop content is in alignment with social construction ideas and is grounded in its theory and practices.

The presenters of the workshops are Founders, members of the Taos Institute Board, Advisors, Associates or Friends of the Institute. Each workshop is individually sponsored and managed by the presenters. All questions regarding content and registration for a particular workshop should be directed to the contact person identified with each workshop. As a service to our colleagues, we list their workshops here.

For a full listing and workshop descriptions visit www.taosinstitute.net

Jan. 18, 19, 30, Feb. 6, Mar 2: Strength-based Approaches to Organizational and Personal Change: The Theory and Practice of Appreciative Inquiry, with Anne Radford and Julian Rizzello, Central London

Jan. 30- Feb 2, Appreciative Inquiry: From Principles to Practice, with Sallie Lee and Colette Herrick, Salt Lake City, UT

Feb. 5-8, Appreciative Inquiry Summit, with Jim Ludema and Mike Mantel, Chicago, IL

March 1-4, Appreciative Inquiry: From Principles to Practice, with Bernard Mohr and Sallie Lee, Sydney, Australia

March 11-13, Advanced Appreciative Inquiry: A Workshop for Enhancing Your Capacity to Design and Facilitate Complex AI Initiatives, with Bernard Mohr and Sallie Lee, Sydney, Australia

March 12-16, Foundations of Appreciative Inquiry, with Amanda Trosten-Bloom and Jim Ludema, Boulder, CO

March 16-18, Appreciative Parenting: Applying the Principles of AI in Your Family, with Dawn Dole, Jen Hetzel Silbert, and Ada Jo Mann, Delray Beach, FL.

March 26-29, Appreciative Inquiry Foundations Workshop: Igniting and Sustaining Positive Change in Organizations and Communities, with Joanne Daykin and Catherine McKenna, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

May 7-10, Appreciative Leadership Development Program, with Diana Whitney and Jim Ludema, Chicago, IL

May 8, Becoming a Narrative Practitioner: Introduction - Living Stories, with Madelyn Blair and Paul Costello, Washington DC

May 9-10, Becoming a Narrative Practitioner: Exploring the Story— Narrative Techniques to Enhance Appreciative Inquiry (two days), with Madelyn Blair and Paul Costello, Washington DC

June 19-22, Leading Positive Organizational Innovation: The Principles & Practice of Appreciative Inquiry, with Bernard Mohr and Sallie Lee, Portland, OR

June 16-17 (Pre-Institute workshops) and **June 17-22,** Adventures in Postmodern Social Construction Philosophy and Practices: Therapy, Organizations, Education and Research— International Summer Institute, with Harlene Anderson, Playa Del Carmen, Mexico

June 24-29, TRANSFORMATIVE DIALOGUES: A Taos Institute Summer Workshop Series, with the Taos Institute Board and Associates, Durham, New Hampshire

June 25-27, The Advanced AI Practitioner's Clinic, with Bernard Mohr and Jen Hetzel Silbert, Portland, OR

July 18-21, Being AI: A Spiritual Retreat for Change Agents, with Diana Whitney, Chapel Hill, NC

August 27-30, Appreciative Inquiry Creativity Salon, with Diana Whitney and James Nave, Taos, NM

Sept. 23-28, The Writing Salon: featuring former US poet Laureate Billy Collins, with Diana Whitney, Allegra Huston, James Nave, and Jack Smith, Catalunya, Spain

October 8-10, Advances in Appreciative Inquiry, with Diana Whitney and Jim Ludema, Chapel Hill, NC

October 26-28, 2007, Social Construction: Relational Theory and Transformative Practice, with Sheila McNamee and Harlene Anderson, Durham, NH

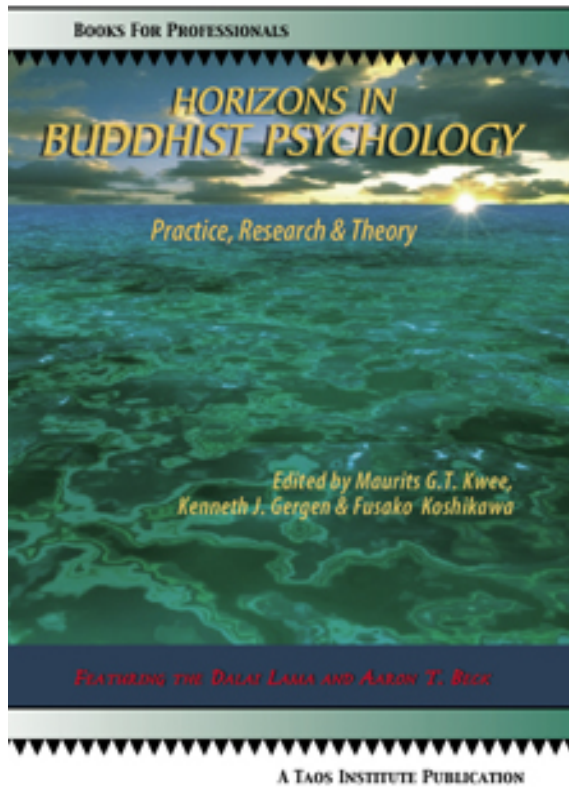
October 29-Nov 2, Foundations of Appreciative Inquiry, with Diana Whitney, Jim Ludema, and Alan Henderson, Chicago, IL

November 15-17, Appreciative Inquiry Summit, with Amanda Trosten-Bloom, Tish Wilson, and Barbara Lewis, Denver, CO

For workshop descriptions and registration information visit: WWW.TAOSINSTITUTE.NET

Taos Institute Publications

presents our newest book in the *Books for Professionals* series...



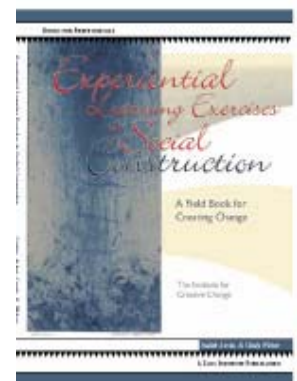
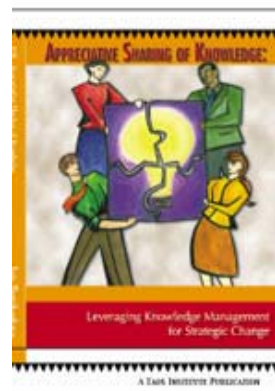
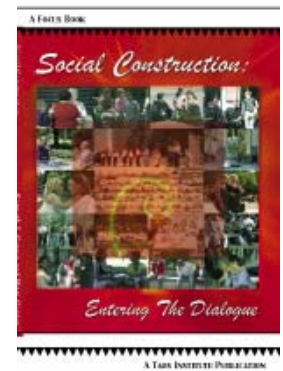
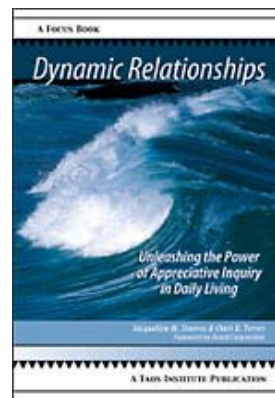
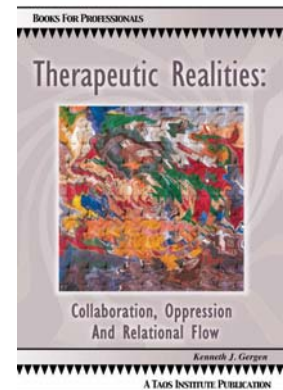
Edited by Maurits G.T. Kwee, Kenneth J. Gergen and Fusako Koshikawa

This book is for those who are interested in Buddhist teachings and all who seek routes to growth in human well-being, particularly therapists, coaches, and scientists. It is a vanguard work that sets a cultural revolution in motion by bringing the fruits of the Buddhist heritage together with contemporary therapy, systematic research, and postmodern thought. The volume contains 28 chapters by 38 contributors from 12 countries, and introduces a range of useful practices, evidence of their efficacy, and integrative theoretical deliberations. Its contents move toward a climax called New Buddhist Psychology.

\$40 plus shipping and handling (volume discounts

ISBN: 0-9712312-6-5

BOOKS for You



The Taos Institute has many books and resources for sale. A portion of all sales benefits the Taos Institute directly.

Please visit

www.taosinstitutepublications.net

for other titles, descriptions and to order online using our secure shopping cart.

Taos-Tilburg Ph.D. Program Students Graduate



In formal ceremonies at Tilburg University in The Netherlands, two outstanding dissertations were awarded the PhD in Social Science.

Myra Virgil (center, left image), from

Hamilton, Bermuda, successfully defended her dissertation, *The Relational Realization of Policy in Practice, Negotiating a Narrative Community of Race, Gender, and Other Privileged Identities*.

Liesbeth Gerritsen (center, right image), from Portland, Oregon, followed in a successful defense of her work, *Metaphors of the Organization, Discourse in Public and Private Worlds*.



The ceremonies were followed by gala festivities.

To view the dissertations, see:

www.taosinstitute.net/tilburg/tilburgdissertations

To read more about the PHD program visit:

<http://www.taosinstitute.net/tilburg/tilburg.html>



Sheila McNamee and Harlene Anderson's Fall 2006 Workshop Social Construction, Relational Theory and Transformative Practices

Taos Institute founders, **Sheila McNamee** and **Harlene Anderson** convened their annual *Social Construction, Relational Theory and Transformative Practices* workshop in Durham, New Hampshire in October. Bringing their breadth of experiences together, the workshop introduced social construction and

relational practices to participants new to social construction as well as helping those familiar with it deepen their understandings and practices. The workshop focused on the practical application of constructionist ideas in organizations, therapy, education, and community development. The mix of participants from the therapy world, the business world and the Taos Institute/Tilburg University doctoral program made for an inspiring

learning experience. Join in the next workshop with **Ken and Mary Gergen**: **June 24-26, 2007** or

Sheila and Harlene:

October 26-28, 2007.



Dissertations of Interest - Online

www.taosinstitute.net/resources/dissertations.html

The Taos Institute website now has a page which features Noteworthy Dissertations. We have been reviewing numerous dissertations from around the world that have used social constructionist ideas in substance or form or both. We continue to be fascinated by these truly creative efforts from a variety of disciplines and written in various languages. Dissertations are

posted in their full-text format and in their originating language. We believe that providing this platform for social constructionist academic work will encourage scholars everywhere to pursue these ideas in their own unique ways and to make these works available in the most accessible way currently possible.

We encourage those who have composed such works or who are aware of such works composed by others to contact us to discuss the possibility of posting them on our webpage.

Email **Dan Wulff** at:
mftprofs@insightbb.com

New Publications by the Taos Family

Collaborative Therapy: Relationships and Conversations that Make a Difference

Collaborative Therapy: Relationships and Conversations that Make a Difference, co-edited by Harlene Anderson (TI board member) and Diane Gehart (TI Associate)

Collaborative Therapy brings together a rich and diverse collection of applications, innovations, and expansions of many postmodern social construction assumptions. It includes the works of a wide variety of professionals from varied disciplines, contexts, and cultures who detail what they actually do in their everyday practices. It demonstrates and documents the versatility and extension of the collaborative approach (Collaborative Language Systems) to

the domains of therapy with individuals, couples, families, and groups as well as its application in larger social arenas such as education, research, organizations, communities, businesses, and other kinds of relationship systems.

As the number of postmodern and related philosophical and theoretical contributions to the psychotherapy and broader social science literature grows, so too is its appeal and a recognition of its relevance. Many of these writings suggest practical applications, yet there is a gap in the literature between explanations of assumptions and in-depth accounts of the many forms of everyday practice that flow from them. **Collaborative Therapy** bridges this gap.

In reading **Collaborative Therapy**, you are joining a rich and on-going dialogue between a community of collaborative practitioners from around the world. Harlene and Diane look forward to your comments.

harleneanderson@earthlink.net, or

dgehart@csun.edu

Order at:
www.Amazon.com



The Social Construction of Organization

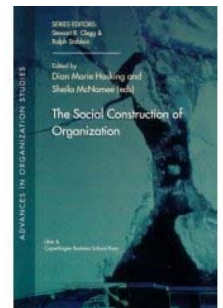
The Social Construction of Organization, co-edited by Sheila McNamee (TI board member) and Dian Marie Hosking (TI Advisory board member)

This book has been produced as a textbook to introduce advanced undergraduates, postgraduates, and interested practitioners to social constructionist thinking and practice with respect to organizations and communities, their organizing activities, development and change. It is intended as a critical social constructionist alternative to traditional organizational behavior textbooks, and oriented to organizational studies, rather than to psychology. The book focuses on interaction from a social constructionist per-

spective and reaches out to the not-so-specialist reader. The volume includes contributions from a number of Taos members both in Europe and the USA. It combines chapters on 'old' established topics - now given a social constructionist 'make-over' (e.g., leadership, competencies, group dynamics), recently popular themes (innovation, learning organizations), and "changing constructions" - of consulting, dialogue, and performance. Poems by poet Caroline Ramsey have also been included to go with many of the chapters, provoking reflection and exploration, as well as serving as useful teaching tools. Also helpful in this regard is the inclusion of a number of "intermezzos" that provide short but intense treat-

ments of recurring themes including power, subject object relations, narrative approaches to inquiry, metaphors and dialogue.

Order at www.Amazon.com



Appreciative Intelligence: Seeing the Mighty Oak in the Acorn

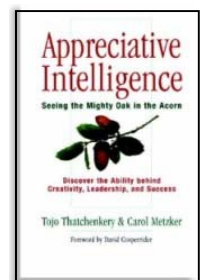
Appreciative Intelligence: Seeing the Mighty Oak in the Acorn, by Tojo Thatchenkery (TI Associate) and Carol Metzker.

Appreciative Intelligence is the ability to perceive the positive inherent generative potential in a given situation and to act purposefully to transform the potential to outcomes. The secret to success lies in something that everyone has the ability to do: reframe reality to reveal the hidden potential within even the

most apparently unpromising present. *Appreciative Intelligence* marks the first time that this ability has been rigorously investigated. Arguing that the keys to Appreciative Intelligence are revealing the hidden value in others and building an infrastructure, environment, or culture that spreads the leader's Appreciative Intelligence, Tojo Thatchenkery and Carol Metzker draw on real-life examples and thorough interviews with top executives to identify actual examples of this elusive ability.

Order the book and see details at:

www.appreciativeintelligence.com



Innovations in the Reflecting Process: The Inspirations of Tom Andersen

Harlene Anderson, Taos Founder and board member, and Per Jensen, Diakonhjemmet College in Oslo, have co-edited ***Innovations in the Reflecting Process***.

Innovations, a Festschrift for Tom Andersen — Taos Honorary Associate and Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Tromsø in North-

ern Norway — brings together a group of articles and essays that show the footprints that Tom has made as he has moved around the world, taking his “reflecting process” with him and participating with other professionals in their efforts to develop their work and seek wider horizons. Contributors share their creative use and

expansion of the “reflecting process” on various countries and settings. The book is published by Karnac Books in London, available now.



www.karnacbooks.com, or
shop@karnacbooks.com

Taos Institute Publications

By Harlene Anderson

TIP Board Liaison to TIP

Taos Institute Publications (TIP) finished another successful year thanks to efforts of Focus Book Editors **Jane Seiling** and **Jackie Stavros**. Jane and Jackie donated hours of their time and expertise to reviewing proposals and editing manuscripts. We greatly appreciate the care and perspective that they bring to our publishing initiatives. Please join us in extending a heartfelt THANK YOU to Jane and Jackie.

Interest in the TIP *Focus Book Series* and the *Books for Professional Series* continues to grow, and the number of requests for foreign translations continues to grow as well. We are eager for proposals for 2007.

With seven books in our *Focus Book Series*, five books in our *Professional Book Series*, four classic books on CD, two DVDs for sale, and two books from around the world which we distribute, there is something for everyone within the Taos Institute Publishing initiative.

**Thanks and Gratitude go
out to Jane Seiling and
Jackie Stavros for their
unending commitment to
advancing the
Taos Institute
Focus Book Series.**

Be sure to visit:

www.taosinstitutepublications.net

to explore the many resources available through TIP. We also welcome your suggestions for additional ideas.

Anderson and McNamee Guest Edit August *AI Practitioner*

Expanding Organizational Practices: Lessons from Therapeutic Conversations

You will want to take a look at the August issue of the *AI Practitioner* that **Sheila McNamee** and **Harlene Anderson** edited. In it they featured a range of collaborative practices originating in the field of therapy but which are gaining broad-scale use within organizations. Read from their Introduction to the issue:

“The featured practices share with Appreciative Inquiry a focus on our actions and conversations with others. Like Appreciative Inquiry, the therapeutic conversation, when approached as a collaborative activity, provides us with opportunities not only for social, personal, and relational transformation but provides us with a renewed focus on language practices rather

than a focus on isolated individuals and their traits or motivations. Articles in this issue focus on a constructionist understanding of language – that is, an understanding of language as a performance that requires others. We find that sensitivity to an appreciative stance invites others into collaboratively constructing their organizational realities together. Specifically, this issue underscores the constructionist philosophical stance that unites both Appreciative Inquiry and collaborative, dialogical orientations to organizations and therapy. Our hope, in editing this issue, is to highlight forms of practice as more central to our work in organizations than any particular technique or strategy. We believe there is a danger in

translating a constructionist stance into a set technique for organizational change work. When constructionism (or any of its elaborations, such as Appreciative Inquiry) becomes a set of disembodied techniques that the professional employs in order to produce change, the dialogic spirit of this philosophical stance is abandoned. To that end, the articles in this issue offer illustrations of collaborative, dialogic work in organizations where resources for action (not techniques) place our attention on what organizational members are doing in interactions and how their activities constrain and enable organizational transformation.”

To access the August issue see
www.aipractitioner.com

SPREADING THE GOOD WORD

One of the major means of sharing the collaborative ideas and practices in which the Institute is invested is through the Internet. We are pleased to find that there are now almost 2,500 sites on the Internet that link to the Taos Institute. The website averages about 3,000 visitors a day. People are coming to the site from around the world to download free articles, learn about educational opportunities, explore positive aging, order books, view the list of workshops, and much more.

Be sure to visit: www.taosinstitute.net

Cooperrider Heads up the Management Knowledge Leading Positive Change Forum

David Cooperrider, Taos Institute Founder and Board Member, organized, led and sponsored a Global Forum "Business as an Agent of World Benefit: Management Knowledge Leading Positive Change". The forum was convened by the [Academy of Management](#), [Case Westernhead School of Management](#), and the [United Nations Global Compact](#) on October 22nd-25th, 2006 at Case Western Reserve University and online. The Forum brought together top business leaders and educators to focus on ways of doing, researching, and teaching business that is both profitable and successful in addressing the world's most pressing social needs.



This innovative event brought corporate and thought leaders together in a unique setting to combine theory with practice as a means of developing actionable next steps for companies and business schools seeking to respond to social issues like the environment, health and poverty while also making a profit.

Instead of one-way speaking, the Forum allowed participants to spend the majority of their time in intimate dialogue. Innovative processes which foster participative and interactive dialogue, such as Appreciative Inquiry, allowed participants to explore the business case for corporate social responsibility while developing solutions for implementing, researching, and teaching socially responsible activities.

400 on-site delegates and over 500 virtual participants convened at the Global Forum to challenge the current state of corporate citizenship, envision possibilities for the future, and map out strategies for leveraging corporate citizenship activities.

Visit: <http://worldbenefit.case.edu/>

Master's Work Video Productions Conversations in Social Construction: A Video Series

Thanks to Andrews and Clark Explorations, a significant body of constructionist thought is now captured on video. The growing series, "[Conversations in Social Construction](#)" now includes:

- *Foundational Ideas in Social Construction* with Ken Gergen
- *Positive Aging* with Ken and Mary Gergen
- *What is This Thing Called Psychotherapy* with Bob and Sharon Cottor
- *Forgiveness - A Workshop* with Sheila McNamee
- *Constructionist Ideas about Research* with Sheila McNamee
- *Performative Psychology: The Embodiment of Emotions* with Ken and Mary Gergen
- *Social Constructionist Ideas about Psychotherapy* with Harlene Anderson

For other titles, more information and to purchase videos in the series go to: www.masterswork.com, or email jenandrews@aol.com or call toll-free: 1-800-476-1619.

SHOP ONLINE and donate to the

**Taos Institute at the same
time!!**

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Do all your online shopping at this link and the Taos Institute will receive a percentage of your purchase.



Administrative Office
63 Maple Hill Dr
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022 USA

Phone: 1-888-999-TAOS, 1-440-338-6733
Email: info@taosinstitute.net
Website: <http://www.taosinstitute.net>

Social Construction in Action around the World



Education & Action Resources

The Taos Institute offers you the following education and action resources:

- Free Manuscripts for Downloading
- Books of Interest
- Positive Aging Newsletter
- Video Productions
- AI Listserv
- AI Practitioner
- Noteworthy Dissertations
- Visit:

<http://www.taosinstitute.net/resources/resources.html>

TRANSFORMATIVE DIALOGUES: A TI Summer Workshop Institute JUNE 24-29, 2007

At the University of New Hampshire

WWW.TAOSINSTITUTECONFERENCE.NET

Register by February 28th for EARLY BIRD RATES

SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION AND CARING RELATIONSHIPS: MOVING BEYOND DIAGNOSIS & MEDICATION IN THERAPEUTIC

May 18-20, 2007

**at the Università della Svizzera
Italiana**

Lugano, Italy

Join Taos Institute presenters **Kenneth Gergen, Harlene Anderson, Imelda McCarthy, and Tom Strong** as they **present at this conference.**

The conference is intended to inform, clarify and share central ideas and practices emerging within the dialogues on social construction. What are the central ideas of social construction? What new ideas emerge about the nature of self, relationships, meaning, and knowledge? What is the relationship of social construction to constructivism, cognitive behavioural therapy, and systemic approaches? What is shared? What is different? What new ideas emerge about the nature of human problems, suffering, and therapeutic practice? How can construc-

tionist practices provide an alternative to drugs and diagnosis? How do practices of narrative therapy, brief therapy and reflecting teams fit into the picture? How do constructionist ideas and practices relate to issues of global conflict and its reduction? These and related issues will all receive attention.

To illustrate and amplify, the conference will feature significant developments in therapeutic practice. Centre stage will be given to:

- **Postmodern Therapy**
- **Collaborative Counselling**
- **The Fifth Province Approach**
- **Buddhist Applied Psychology**

Each of these orientations to practice will be illustrated with case materials, and conference participants will be invited into dialogue. The hope is to share both theoretical insights and practical knowledge. For more information email: Chrismeier23@bluewin.ch

Adventures in Collaborative Practices

**In Therapy, Organizations,
Education and Research**

**PRE- INSTITUTE WORKSHOPS
June 16-17, 2007**

**INTERNATIONAL SUMMER
INSTITUTE - June 17-22, 2007**

Harlene Anderson, Taos Founder, and **Grupo Campos Eliseos** invite you to join them in Simply Paradise for a unique learning opportunity: Enjoy their warm hospitality and immerse yourself in a week of exploring postmodern/social construction collaborative philosophy and practices with people from around the world. Learn about the heart and spirit of collaborative practices—a philosophical stance—and see it in action. The Mayan Riviera beach resort atmosphere of lazy afternoons and summer evenings provide ample time for the beach, cultural activities, networking, small conversational clusters, and informal opportunities to consult with Harlene and her colleagues. Contact harleneanderson@earthlink.net. See www.harleneanderson.org.