ISST NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER May 2022 Issue 18, Volume 10 Number 1



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SANDPLAY THERAPY

The ISST Newsletter provides information about the ISST organization and ISST Sandplay Therapy as developed by our founder Dora Kalff. It aims to facilitate communication between all ISST members and to provide access to current research, events, and educational opportunities around the world in the field of Sandplay Therapy.

ISST encourages the highest quality of ISST Sandplay therapy practice from ISST Certified sandplay therapists and represents more than 400 certified members from 16 Member Societies and other Individual Members around the world.

Please visit our website for information about education and training in ISST Sandplay: www.isst-society.com

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Message from the ISST President

Takuji Natori

Looking for Positive Elements in a "Chaotic" Situation. Takuji Natori

He came the next week, but his facial expression concerned me. He seemed paler than ever, and he looked anxiously at the ground. What might have happened? I greeted him, asking how he was. "Not good," he answered. "I saw an accident."

(...)

He placed the figures in the sand randomly: tanks, soldiers, animals --- domestic and wild from the fields and forests --- filling the sandtray right up to the edges without any order. A train was stuck in the sand. The whole thing reminded me of the pictures that schizophrenics make, and I worried about the major setback that the boy had suffered. I looked for positive elements. In the lower left corner was a little pond. Beside it, under a tree in blossom, sat a woman and a little boy, his back turned away from the chaos. Of the many possible animals only an elephant was there, facing the water and drinking.

(Kalff, 1966/2020, p.21-22, emphasis in **bold** letter added by T. Natori).

Long since winter of 2019, we have been struggling in this COVID-19 pandemic situation which is causing many restrictions and difficulties in travel and direct face-to-face communications. Beside this, we have been facing the violent events resulting from the dark side of the collective phenomenon. It shows that the stage of peaceful world without war between political bodies is still far from our time, though we all have been longing for the "global" era of peace and freedom. Please allow me to express sincere sympathy to those

who are impacted by such disastrous situations in the world. The hearts of many people have been suffering from the violent power of the collective phenomenon. I pray for all of those and long for the restoration or creation of a peaceful situation in the world.

As we know very well, ISST is a place for the friendly exchange and collaboration of sandplay therapists. Mutual respect and mutual support is a very important directive of the society. It is important that we keep this society safe from any conflicts between countries or political bodies, as the "free and protected space" for all the members. It needs to be kept in a neutral position where the members from all countries are welcomed and respected as individual persons.

Even in these difficult and dark circumstances, many positive activities have been continuing for ISST and its members. I would like to mention some of the efforts made by the Working Groups and Committees. Archive Working Group has started to make a plan of preserving historical documents and records of ISST and how to make them accessible for beneficial use such as for research or learning. The Professional Development Working Group has planned the first online seminar mainly for the ISST members as a pilot project. The Wikipedia Working Group is finalizing an article on Sandplay Therapy to be posted on Wikipedia. The Website Committee has worked for the improvement of the order of information shown on the website of ISST and making the

information on the members list more complete. Thanks to the big effort by Theresa Foks-Appelman-san, the chair of Committee, the Board has selected the first logo of ISST among possible choices of designs and colour combinations. The Review Group (formerly called "Task Group") has been working towards a preparatory stage of reviewing the current situation of ISST from the viewpoint of its functioning as an organization. This "task" will be shared with the Board after which the Board will hold a workshop to work on possible solutions for some issues clarified by the reviewing process. Other Committees and groups, such as the Certification Committee, the Developing Group Committee, the Research Committee, the Finance Working Group, and the Journal Working Group provide on-going support and assistance in urgent matters to ISST. The Israeli 2023 ISST Congress Organizing Committee is continuously working on the schedule and program of the ISST Congress in March 2023.

In November 2021, the new Board representative of CAST, Ms. Christine Chow joined after Dr. Olga Lipadatova. This April 2022, the ISST Board has taken a significant new step toward the future: welcoming a new

Board representative for the entire group of Individual Members, Ms. Marina Ionescu. The Vice President of Europe/Africa/Middle East, Carlo Ruffino-san has been working towards this achievement.

The continuous stressful and unpleasant situation around us is far more than we had expected from the Covid-19 pandemic to the violence and tragedy caused by so many political conflicts. Even so, if we are to be able to find something positive, it might be our strength of seeking for productive and creative activities and enduring the tension of what is happening against peaceful life. The excerpt from a sandplay case "Christoph" by Dora Kalff reminds us of the importance of "looking for positive elements" even in such difficult times in the world.

[Note: "-san" is a suffix for showing respect to a person in Japanese. Please allow me to use this expression. Takuji Natori]

Reference

Kalff, D. M. (Trans. Matthews, B.L.) (1966/2020) Sandplay: A Psychotherapeutic Approach to the Psyche. Analytical Psychology Press: Sandplay Editions.

Message from the ISST Treasurer

Olga Lipadatova



Despite all the difficult circumstances and political events of our time, the members of ISST continue their long-standing dedication to the practice of Sandplay Therapy and their support for ISST.

The Treasury has just completed the collection of the ISST dues. I am happy to say that the ISST finances are in very good shape. This is encouraging as in the past year many ISST committees were developing various projects, which I believe will continue making the membership in our organization meaningful to our members. As ISST Treasurer I take it as my responsibility to support the projects that benefit the whole of the membership in various countries. Such projects as the Seminars Series, the On-line Journal, the Archive project and others show how the membership dues support the growth of Sandplay Therapy and promote exchange internationally. In order to support the work of the committees I collaborate with the members of the Finance working group (FWG). We meet regularly and discuss various projects, proposals, and related

budget, after which we bring the discussed items to the attention of the board.

During the past year, the ISST Board and its committees have been working remotely, meeting regularly and attending to the urgent matters of the International Sandplay community. This was not an easy time for the Representatives of the Member Societies as the time zones across the world change. The ISST Board has a responsibility of leadership and also of being a container to the larger ISST membership. It is important for the Board to hold the vision of the work and structure in which we function. As Treasurer I feel that the finances have to support the work that makes the organization sustainable for future years and new members. The management of the finances by the Treasurer is an important part of the strength of ISST's healthy functioning in the present and future.

We sometimes think of money as a symbol. For me it is a symbol of all the ISST members' participation and engagement in the goals we have as an organization. To name just a few, some of our goals are: promotion of the study of Sandplay Therapy, and propagation and dissemination of knowledge about Sandplay Therapy. It is my hope that the work of the Treasury will continuously support these goals and the growth of ISST.

Lastly, I want to greet everyone with the arrival of spring and good weather (hopefully everywhere)!

NEWS FROM MEMBER SOCIETIES

































AISPT Italian Society for Sandplay Therapy

President: Vito La Spina

ISST Board Representative: Milvia Talamini

Report by: Dr. Milvia Talamini AISPT representative to the ISST Board

During the first months of 2022, AISPT managed, after all the Coronavirus restrictions, to start again teaching lessons in live presence at the School of Psychotherapy (Sandplay Therapy and Jungian theory) - leaving the possibility to give online lessons and seminars only to the teachers who live far away from Rome.

The AISPT Educational Committees have put a lot of effort into establishing a new form of organisation, dealing with the possibility of providing integrative courses to discuss new forms of mental discomfort especially among children and adolescents. Sharing opinions and reflections among AISPT members and teachers about the difficulty of working with Sandplay after the Coronavirus has stimulated more energy to work in groups and to suggest research on particular symbolic issues.

Study Groups and research on different topics and clinical cases that were treated with Sandplay have started and are in progress, for example "The Use of Stones in Sandplay" (Dr. Bassi) and "The Therapist's Gaze on the Image in the Sandbox" (Dr. Rosiello).

These are the other AISPT activities for 2022:

- * In January 2022, the first year of the Specialization Course for psychotherapists has started in Rome.
- * To improve the diffusion of Sandplay therapy, AISPT organises Open Days to advertise the AISPT Training Programs to many schools and promotes cultural exchanges with other important Jungian schools (for example connections between AISPT and IPAP).
- * A cycle of public Conferences on Sandplay Therapy presented by the AISPT teachers has started in September 2021 and still continues with many participants.
- * There have been public presentations of books on Sandplay Therapy.
- * A conference with the title "Playing with the Hands" is planned for the 18th and 19th of November 2022.
- * In May 2022 AISPT had its National Assembly during which the President Dr. Vito La Spina was re-elected, and the present representative member to the Board, Dr. Milvia Talamini, has been replaced by Dr. Maria Elisabetta Quaglino, who will start in two or three months.

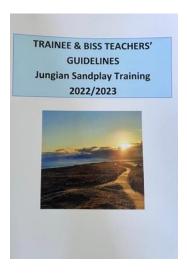
BISS British & Irish Society for Sandplay Therapy

President: Natasha Salter-Ling, co-chair: Judy Filmore ISST Board Representative: Natasha Salter-Ling

Written by: Natasha Salter-Ling.

All at BISS have launched themselves with inordinate amounts of energy and enthusiasm into the various projects and events planned for 2022, we are coming out of hibernation for sure!

Our new BISS website is almost ready to go live, we have worked hard, creating a new look for the site, maintaining much of the original and essential text but giving it a spring clean, with a cleaner, more modern look. We do hope our members will like it and that it will help raise our public profile or encourage those thinking about training.



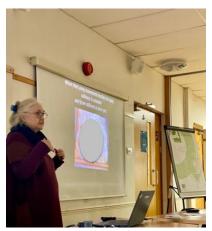
We have also produced an updated version of our handbook, pulling together all the relevant documents for both the certification process to become a BISS/ISST

member but also for Teaching Members.

This Spring BISS offered a second series of webinars to its members. These events have been popular, offering teaching, continued professional development and the opportunity to come together to think about our work in sandplay.

Building on the success of our online auction in 2020 we were lucky enough to receive another donated collection of miniatures.

Our member John Moffitt once again became auctioneer, and we were able to fundraise and distribute a collection amongst our members. It was interesting to explore some of the pieces together and to reflect on the two different 'natures' of the collections.



We have also run online Storytelling groups, whilst not 'teaching events' these are enjoyable social

evenings, and we recently enjoyed Maggie Barons reading of 'Where Shadows Fall' by Sita Brahmachari.

A very moving tale, with stunning illustrations and one apt for current times in the context of war and the refugee crisis.

Our new training cycle began in London in the first weekend in April. It was lovely to meet the new group of trainees and to be part of their first steps in the journey of Jungian Sandplay training. After such a long time of meeting online, it was great to be together as a teaching team and to look forward to what lies ahead for BISS.

In other news, BISS member Emma Allen delivered a workshop and presentation on Jungian Sandplay Therapy at the City of Bristol College, which was very well received, and we hope will spark interest in training with us in the future.

I am extremely grateful to all our members and trainee members who commit time, energy, and ideas to our society, it is this that continues to drive us forwards.

The new BISS Training Cycle Written by: Maggie Baron BISS/ISST/TM/FCR

The British and Irish Sandplay Society having found the pandemic was very disruptive to the last Training Cycle worked out a definite defence against a repeat when setting up the new Cycle. We had to wait a considerable time before feeling the time was right for setting up a new one. We have designed this cycle as if a bookshelf with bookends at the beginning and end of the Cycle. The first two of our weekends will be face to face and the middle section will be on-line ending the Cycle with a further two face-to-face weekends. This will avoid travel for those students and teachers who are not in London during the potentially difficult covid period.

We have chosen a new centre for our training weekends and found both the new students and the teachers were very comfortable with it as we are all very well-spaced in a bright room. We are very happy to have a diversity in this new cohort of students who bring with them the cultures of Ireland, Scotland, and England. We also have those who travel from other countries who have sought out BISS when looking for a Jungian Sandplay training.



Our training took part at Pax Lodge in Hampstead London

This year we have at least three co-teachers who will be presenting their work in the training alongside the Teaching members. BISS is very pleased to see this progress and to know our society will continue contributing to the ISST pool of teaching members. We also have a growing waiting list for the next cycle which will begin late 2023. As Chair of Training, I would like to extend my thanks to those BISS and ISST teachers who support and bring their knowledge to our students.

CAST Canadian Association for Sandplay Therapy

President: Dariel Cole

ISST Board representative: Christine Chow

Third CAST Web Conference, April 9-10, 2022

Theme: Holding Free and Protected Space in Our Time

CAST was pleased to offer it's 3rd Annual Web Conference in April with the Theme of Holding Free and Protected Space in Our Time. The Conference spanned the course of 2 days full of presentations that enriched our attendees personal and professional practices.

The CAST Web Conference Subcommittee and administration worked hard to provide accessible language translation opportunities for inclusion of multiple groups across an array of countries. The conference consisted of case analysis, a wide array of symbol interpretation and working with sand and silence. CAST was honored to host Maria Kendler, a teaching member for the Swiss Society for Sandplay Therapy and for ISST since 2009, as the Key Note speaker. The conference concluded on a high note with a Round Table Discussion facilitated by Maria Kendler, Armande Duval and Nathalie Tremblay. The Round table was followed by a screening of the award winning short film Sand Land by Iven Tu which highlights a moving story of loss and the healing potential of sandplay when words are inadequate.

CAST would like to thank the following presenters for their amazing contributions:

Maria Kendler
Brenda Weinberg
Nil Akat
Nathalie Tremblay
Christine Chow
Aletta Margaretha Roux
Elizabeth Craft
Alexandra Fidyk
Rosalind Heiko
Marina Ionescu
Ann Elizabeth Holroyd
Armande Duval

The conference was attended by 66 participants this year and we have received wonderful feedback. This year CAST was also able to offer CE credits for the conference. We hope to see many more attendees next time!

Dariel Cole, CAST President

Here is the CAST membership information: by: *Rachel Harris, CAST Administrato*

Total Members (as of 4/30)	92
Total Members (as of 4/30)	92

CAST Members	
New Members (including 1 Student and 1 Supporting Member)	13
Renewed Professional Members	66
Renewed Student Members	7
Lifetime Members	5
Retired Members	1

CAST Members by Region		
Quebec	25%	
Ontario	31%	
Saskatchewan	1%	
Alberta	23%	
British Columbia	19%	
International	1%	

CAST Members by Practice Type		
Private Practice	57%	
Private & Agency Practice	9%	
Agency Practice	15%	
Sandplay practice currently inactive	19%	

CAST Members by Level	
Level VII ISST Senior Teaching Member	7
Level V ISST Certified, CAST Qualified Personal Process Therapist	5
Level IV ISST Certified Member	1
Level III Advanced Candidate, Certification Programme	14
Currently in Level I or II, Practitioner and Certification Streams	49

CSST Chinese Society for Sandplay Therapy

President: Heyong Shen

ISST Board Representative: Heyong Shen

Author: Cai Chenghou, Wu yan, Sun Qiuyan

A. The 12th National Conference of Analytical Psychology and Sandplay Therapy

On November 26-28, 2021, the 12th National Conference of Analytical Psychology and Sandplay Therapy was co-organized and conducted by the China Society for Sandplay Therapy (CSST), China Society for Analytical Psychology (CSAP), Oriental Academy for Analytical Psychology (OAAP), Chinese Association of Social Psychology Analytical Psychology and Chinese Culture Committee, and other institutional organizations. Due to the influence of the Covid Pandemic, the conference, originally scheduled to be held in Lanzhou, Gansu Province, added platforms, ZOOM POLYV, and simultaneous live streaming, with a total of more than a thousand participants offline and online.

The theme of this conference was "Arts and Psyche: Expressive Arts Therapy and Depth Psychology Healing". Another theme was the continuing reflection and action on social and cultural changes: how can we adapt and feel at ease, heal and transform; how to respect and cherish nature, maintain the brilliance of human nature, and understand the Psyche better. Focused on this theme, there were dozens of plenary presentations, reports, subtopic seminars, a summary of public welfare activities of "Garden of the Heart and Soul", and three pre-conference workshops on "Analytical Psychology", "Sandplay", and

"Ethics". Many domestic and international psychological analysts, cultural scholars, artists, and psyche practitioners such as Joe Cambray (former president of IAAP), John Beebe (former president of San Francisco Jung Institute), Betty Jackson (ISST), Lisbet Myers Zacho (IAAP) and many other members and candidates of ISST and IAAP participated in this conference and left many precious moments together.

B. China Society for Sandplay Therapy

During the conference, the annual plenary session of CSST (the 3rd) was held and the CSST membership list was announced with a total number of 7. CSST has been adjusting in line with the ISST assessment criteria, and the "2+3" training program corresponding to the assessment system was improved in collaboration with OAAP and GAAP. We strictly follow the STATUTES to assess the applicants. Up until now, there have been 7 Full Members (three of them are IAAP Certified Members) and 116 Candidates (some are also IAAP Candidates).

C. Chinese Association of Social Psychology Analytical Psychology and Chinese Culture Committee

The Chinese Association of Social Psychology Analytical Psychology and Chinese Culture Committee was officially established through a vote at the Executive Council of the Chinese Association of Social Psychology meeting in October 2021.

This provides a better channel for sandplay therapy to communicate with Chinese

psychology peers and shows that sandplay therapy has been recognized further by them.

D. Welfare Program

In June 2021 CSST participated in and supported a new initiative, which combines "Garden of the Heart and Soul" and "Morning-glory Psychology Service Program".

E. Public Lectures

On December 5, 2021, CSST invited Yasuhiro Tanaka to give a public lecture entitled "What heals the psyche in sandplay therapy"; Shen Heyong (CSST), Cai Chenghou (CSST), and Maria Kendler (SGSST) gave public lectures on "Knowing Yourself and Becoming Yourself" to participants of sandplay therapist training. On July 26, 2021, CSST organized public lectures and invited Peter Ammann to give a

lecture that corresponded to the theme of "The Time Calls Jung, Explorer of the Human Mind - Lecture in Commemoration of the 146th Anniversary of Jung's Birthday".

F. Scholarship

Prof. Shen Heyong has been working on the translation and proofreading of Collected Works of C.G Jung with his team, which will be a favorable promotion for sandplay therapy and analytical psychology training in China. At the upcoming Eranos Symposium on "Jung's Red Book for Our Time", Professor Shen will give a presentation entitled "C. G. Jung's Red Book: The Spirit of the Depths and Knowledge of the Heart". Besides that, CSST members such as Cai Chenghou, Lin Shuchiung, Ye Lin, and Liang Jingye have published research papers in academic journals.



The Snapshots of the Conference

DGST German Society for Sandplay Therapy

President: Ulrich Gwinner

Board representative: Thomas Mantel

Prepared by Thomas Mantel, April 2022

At the present, April 2022, the German Society has 100 members. 32 of them are ISST members and 22 are teaching members, 12 case readers.

The board members of DGST:

President: Ulrich Gwinner, Vice Presidents: Dr. Günter Still and Ursula Wachter, Secretary: Dr. Stephan Eiswirth, Treasurer: Norma Michel, Assessor: Maria Behr.

The diversity in Sandplay therapy experienced at the ISST conference had induces the board to place the next German language conference which the DGST will hold under the title 'The Diversity in Sand'. We want to show the diversity of sandplay that is also present within the DGST, i.e. the different approaches, working methods and settings. Please make a note of the date of this conference: 21st to 23rd of October 2022, at the conference venue Schloss Fürstenried near Munich.

Within the framework of this conference, a conference meeting of teaching members will take place on October Friday the 21st, and on Saterday, 22nd the General Meeting of the DGST will take place.

Ulrich Gwinner tells about our work in the Board:

Through Corona there were few opportunities to meet and stay in touch. The Management Board took this as an opportunity to look into how:

1) internal cohesion within the DGST can be strengthened;

- 2) how sandplay therapy can be made more widely known;
- 3) how to attract new members to the DGST;
- 4) how members can be encouraged to write their thesis and become a member of the ISST.

Ulrich's teaching activities:

Personal process, supervision and two introductory seminars in sandplay therapy for systemic therapists.

Some activities of other German Teaching Members:



Sandplay room Ulrike Hinsch

Ulrike Hinsch:

Almost 75 years old: "I still enjoy working with people interested in self-experience in my practice here, centrally in old West Berlin near Adenauerplatz Ku'Damm.

I like to give individual supervision in my practice personally and also via ZOOM, Skype, whatever is wished virtually. I read and assess symbolic and final papers and advise on certification processes. My languages are German, English and Portuguese".

Anke Seitz: Teaching activities:

- Continuous individual and group supervision
- Regular sand play seminars at the C.G. Jung Institute in Stuttgart
- Further training for therapists at the C.G. Jung-Gesellschaft Stuttgart 2022/2023
- Further training in sand play therapy at the International Society for Depth Psychology (Autumn 2022)
- Sand Play Days in Tübingen
 (Intersubjective Genesis of the Self) and
 Freiburg (Ways to Resilience in Sandplay
 Therapy
- Regular online seminars for the Romanian Sandspielkolleginnen
- Regular online seminars for Russian Sandplay colleagues
- Regular online supervision also in Sandplay for an IAAP router group in Siberia

Günter Still:

Two supervision groups, personal process, Case reader and recently again TAST-Sandspieltage, twice a year.

Deborah Betford-Strohm:

"As life plays out, I don't teach anymore, either here or in South Africa. I had an online forum for female candidates in South Africa during the pandemic. Furthermore, I am doing an online seminar in October for Indonesia. I tend to just finish things and prepare myself for the next phase of my life, in a year and a half my time in Munich will be over. Then it pulls me more towards North, let's see".

Erika Jungbluth:

"My teaching activities are currently mainly in the area of group supervision (Saturday mornings, approximately every two months, with a fixed group for one year) and individual supervision, both in live meetings as well as by Zoom or by phone, especially for long distances. Individual seminars on questions of sandplay therapy and analytical psychology take place in my practice, and via the C. G. Jung Gesellschaft. At the height of the pandemic, registrations were not enough.

Once a year, for years, from Friday to Sunday (this year: June 10-12, 2022) I offer a group for up to ten people, as a sandplay therapy self-experience at the Conference House in Vinnenberg Monastery".

Thomas Mantel:

- Sand play seminars at the C.G. Jung Institute in Stuttgart
- supervision, personal process.

Ulrich Gundermann:

is still working in Chile:

"The situation with the Chilean group is that most of them have completed their personal process. We are in the consultation phase right now. All have finished their group supervision. Most of them wrote the first symbol-paper and are writing the second now. What is still missing for all our group are more hours of individual supervision and at last the final case paper.



The Chile group from last year's end-of-year dinner.

HKSTA Hong Kong Sandplay Therapy Association

President: Sally Chan Shook Yim

ISST Board Representative: Sally Chan Shook Yim

Report prepared by Sally Chan Shook Yim

Currently HKSTA has six ISST members as of March 2022, four Certified Sandplay Therapy-Teaching Members and two Certified Sandplay Therapist Members. We have twenty-nine Associate Members and seventy Affiliate Members.

Since the fifth wave of pandemic broke out in Hong Kong at the end of February 2022 we are facing a very difficult time. Another big challenge that we are facing is a great wave of migration.

Personally, the year of 2021 has been challenging for me as it is a milestone in my sandplay journey not only as an ISST Certified Member, but also as Chair of HKSTA.

The year 2021 was the eleventh year of the formation of HKSTA. Ten symbolizes a complete cycle and by adding to its fullness, eleven is the sign of excess. The symbolic meaning of the number eleven is quite diverse. It is thought of as a "master" number because it is a double-digit of the same number, number 1, which can be understood as the new beginning. Eleven may indicate the beginnings of a renewal or the collapse and breakdown of the number ten. As for myself being an inexperienced Chair, I work cautiously. I wholeheartedly thank my

predecessors for their contribution and support.

Dr. Amy Leung Wai Yin has stepped down from the Chair position and it was our great privilege that she accepted our invitation to be an advisor of HKSTA. Her continuous commitment and contribution to HKSTA is well-appreciated. As an advisor, she supports the members of the executive committee in their professional development and takes part in envisioning the future development of HKSTA and facilitates additional members to take up leadership positions.

We continue to hold our Exco-Committee Meetings online regularly, once every two months. Besides this, we were able to hold three sandplay therapy workshops and two supervision groups successfully. Dr. Amy Leung Wai Yin gave an online 6-session "Individuation in Sandplay Therapy" in June and July 2021. And Mr. George Kwok Kar Kin gave an online 4-session, "Introduction to Sandplay Therapy" with one day face-toface experiential sandplay activity in October 2021. Ms. Lenore Steinhardt taught an online 4 session sandplay workshop in April and May 2022: "The Sandplay Process: Stages, Themes, Symbols." Due to the pandemic, we were not able to offer supervision groups for a long period of time. We were so excited that we could have a four-day supervision group provided by Dr. Alex Esterhuyzen in July and August 2021. And we will have two 3-hour online supervision groups in May 2022 provided by Ms. Lenore Steinhardt.

Because of the pandemic, we continue to hold our study group online. We have held eleven meetings from July 2021 to May 2022. We notice that more members were able to attend continuously. Due to safety precautions amid the pandemic, more online meetings will be held in the near future.

- 1. July 2021 Symbol Study: "Feather" presented by Ms. Chan Shook Yim Sally
- August 2021 "The Ten Oxen Herding Pictures" presented by Ms. Jennifer Wong Chi Mei and Ms. Berenice Lee Earn Ee
- 3. September 2021 "The Process of Individuation from The Wizard of Oz" presented by Ms. Berenice Lee Earn Ee
- October 2021 "The Process of Individuation from the East and West" presented by Ms. Jennifer Wong Chi Mei and Ms. Berenice Lee Earn Ee
- 5. November 2021 "Using the personal process to understand alchemical symbolism" presented by Mr. Poon Yat Sun

- 6. December 2021 "Alchemy in Action" presented by Ms. Kitty Liu Wong Po Shan
- 7. January 2022 Book Sharing I: Pratibha S. Eastwood (2002), "Nine Windows to Wholeness: Exploring Numbers in Sandplay Therapy" presented by Ms. Berenice Lee Earn Ee
- 8. February 2022 Book Sharing: Robert A. Johnson (2020), "He: Understanding Masculine Psychology" presented by Ms. Chris Cheung Yee Ping
- 9. March 2022 "The Archetypes of Maiden, Mother, Crone" presented by Dr. Amy Leung Wai Yin
- 10. April 2022 Book Sharing II: Pratibha S. Eastwood (2002), "Nine Windows to Wholeness: Exploring Numbers in Sandplay Therapy" presented by Ms. Berenice Lee Earn Ee
- 11. May 2022 Book Sharing: Robert A. Johnson (2020), "She: Understanding Feminine Psychology" presented by Ms. Kitty Liu Wong Po Shan



Online Study group activity in March 2022 (this photo was taken on March 30, 2022)

IBTS The Brazilian Institute for Sandplay Therapy

President: Lucia Azeveda

ISST Board representative: Lucia Azevedo

Prepared by: Lucia Azevedo and Mariana Chalfon

Dear Colleagues,

The world faces a war during this time of pandemic, overlapping losses and trauma. Amidst sadness and wounds, our solace relies on sandplay therapy as a healing practice for those collective traumas.

The COVID 19 transmission rate is constantly becoming lower in Brazil. Bearing that in mind, the Executive Board felt confident to start a new training group. We are offering a hybrid program, part online and part in person, applying what we have learned about online training during the pandemic time. In this way, we can offer the training to candidates who do not live in São Paulo, which is very important for a country with vast geographical distances as Brazil is.

Presently, our Institute has seven trainees who have just started to attend classes, nine trainees that finished all the requirements and are under evaluation and twenty-three full members.

On March 30th we held our General Assembly, where a new Board of Directors and a new Ethics Committee were elected for a two-year term.

The elected Board of Directors is:

President: Lucia Azevedo Treasurer: Maria Irene Crespo and Maria Helena Balthazar

Training: Suzana Amorosino Hirata

and Claudia Spinelli Mosca

Communication: Mariana Taliba Chalfon

and Alessandra Camargo

As our community grows, we hope to engage more members in the coordination of official and teaching activities.

Now, we have a Training Committee made up of Marcia Sapata, Priscilla Tessiccini and Lucia Azevedo, who work together with the Training Directors.

Some projects are exclusive to IBTS Sandplay members, such as the clinical discussion group "Temas e Cenas" ("Themes and Scenes"), coordinated by Carla Albano, Cristiane Luchese, Gisele Nascimento and Monica Greghi.

We have another project, which is open to anyone who is keen on sandplay therapy, the lecture series "Ciclo de Palestras", coordinated by Jussara Janovisky and Neusa Sauaia. This way, we believe, enables good interaction among full members, trainees and new trainees, which results in shaping a real sandplay community.

We strongly wish for a hopeful world scenario when we read about each other in the next Newsletter edition.

Best regards from Brazil!

ISTA The Israeli Sandplay Therapists Association

President: Robin Zeiger (incoming)
ISST Board Representative: Bert Meltzer

Robin Zeiger reports:



In 1985, I happened upon sandplay almost by accident. Jung would say it was no accident, but rather an important synchronicity.

As a pre-doctoral intern on a field trip, I visited the Jungian Institute in Los Angeles. We entered what for me was a magical room of sandplay. On that fateful day, I began a journey to learn sandplay. I met and learned from a mentor and Wise Old Woman who was a student of Dora Kalff, Gisela Schubach DeDomenico. Yet, I knew nothing of ISST or of the importance and power of formal training. In 2009, I immigrated with my soulmate and children to Israel and a secondhalf-of-life journey that included becoming a Jungian analyst and completing formal certification through ISTA and ISST. I am forever grateful to an important founder of ISTA and a Wise Elder, Rina Porat, for welcoming me with her mentorship. I also want to thank our outgoing President, Michal Troudart for her professionalism, energy, and vision. I wish to end with my hope for the future via a Jewish Creation Myth as a guiding light for our turbulent times.

Shevirat Ha-Kelim-The Breaking of the Vessels

We are taught the Holy One wanted to create a world with a potential space for human beings to work and create. Thus there was a need for the creator to restrict and contain the Divine Light within Holy Vessels. However, the light was too powerful and broke the vessels, scattering shards with holy sparks throughout the world. The task of humans is to collect these holy sparks to engage in *Tikun* Olam (fixing and perfecting our world). To the backdrop of a wounding and bleeding world, we are called upon to seek out and elevate the pieces of a fragmented world. May we be blessed to discover the holy sparks of our world and with the wisdom to help make our small difference one step at a time.



Michelle Mendelowitz-Yuval, Incoming Secretary, ISTA, writes:

During these turbulent times, many clients have been creating disturbing images in the sand sometimes filling their trays with dark threatening figures and objects. Recently, a young woman came into my clinic and immediately started creating such an image, adding more and more terrifying figures until the tray could take no more. Commenting how much she appreciated the boundaried space of the sandbox, she cleared an area in the center of the tray and created a beautiful safe space there that was fenced off from the threatening world around it. While she worked, her whole demeanor changed and the closed tightness with which she had entered the room seemed to soften and open. During moments such as these, I feel blessed to be able offer the quiet sanctuary of the sandtray to my clients. I hope that as an organization, we too will be able to offer a containing space to our members to process and hold the complexities and opposites in our lives.

Michal Troudart:

A short summary after eight years as President of ISTA:

In February 2022 I terminated my position as President of ISTA, after 8 years, with Galit Ben Amitay "my right hand" as ISTA's Secretary. This period taught me a lot and was an opportunity to cope with new challenges and many unforeseen bureaucratic obstacles.

On the professional level, during this eightyear period, ISTA organized three local daylong conferences. We have translated into Hebrew the Rules of Procedures to become a Certified Sandplay Therapist (CST) and to become a Teaching Member (CST-T) and published them on our website. In February, at our annual ISTA General Assembly, Dr. Robin Zeiger was elected as the new Chair, and Michelle Yuval-Mendelowitz was elected as the new Secretary. Our Exceptions Committee discussed and approved the new category of "Sandplay Practitioner" for advanced sandplay therapists who are not yet able to apply for CST- ISST membership. We approved a detailed questionnaire that applicants will be asked to fill out.

After a long period of relative stagnation due to COVID-19, we have finally returned to our routine with a new motivation and fresh energies. We have begun a new three years' training group of seven therapists in Jerusalem. As in previous years, various teachers are invited to teach the group. Rina Porat continues her long-standing teaching in the South and began a new group with five participants.

I am very happy to see that members who have been less involved in previous years start to become active now, with a very positive attitude of contributing and bringing new ideas. I feel that ISTA now enjoys a new spirit of initiative, and I trust that Robin Zeiger, the new President, and Michelle Yuval-Mendelowitz, the new Secretary will take the organization to new creative places.

As chair of the ISST Congress committee, I was excited to plan such a large-scale event for the first time. However, we have had to cope with concerns about the pandemic's effects on people's decisions to come to the Congress, and postpone it twice. After more than two years of relative isolation I feel more than ever the need to meet colleagues from all over the world so that we can share our experiences from the exceptional times that

we all went through. I hope to see many of you in the 26th ISST congress.

I have been teaching Sandplay both in Moscow (2015-2018) and in Kiev (2016-2019). Students and colleagues from both Russia and Ukraine (and other Russian speaking countries) came to Jerusalem twice - in December 2016 and in December 2018, for intensive Sandplay seminars that I organized together with Rina Porat, Bert Meltzer and Galit Ben Amitay. Many therapists from both countries are very dear to me. Due to the current conflict in Eastern Europe many therapists that I have known have become refugees in different countries. Let's pray that the war will end soon and that all our Sandplay colleagues will be able to join us at the Congress.

Leila Abramovich writes:

There have been many challenges in preserving the therapeutic setting during this complex year of the Corona Pandemic. Although the continuity of therapy was threatened by the high amount of stress of my patients, I continued to meet with them throughout the entire period of the pandemic. When a total lockdown was enforced I sent my patients letters that enabled them to travel for the purpose of coming to psychotherapy. They had to present these letters to the guards at checkpoints, who would then allow them to pass. I scheduled much more time between sessions so I could clean the entire space of the clinic and the miniatures. Both my patients and I had to cope with the same external threat. The fact that it was mutual resonated within the therapeutic relationship. When some of my patients had to remain at home in isolation for long periods, I remained in contact with them by telephone or zoom. In two cases of children, I left a box of miniatures near the door of their home that they could use during our zoom meetings. In live sessions we became accustomed to communication while half our faces were hidden by a mask. In my teaching in an art therapy program in the Kibbutz College of Education in Tel Aviv I introduce Jungian Sandplay to the students for one session. I also give a lecture with sandplay examples about the importance of sandplay around the and in my experience with hospitalized psychotic adolescent patients in a closed ward in a psychiatric hospital.

Lenore Steinhardt writes:

The Corona virus has impacted all frameworks connected to our sandplay work. Health restrictions make it difficult to conduct face-to-face meetings in therapy in our clinics, and in our teaching programs and supervision groups. We were able to finish the second year of our sandplay theoretical program at the Kibbutzim College of Education on zoom, but because of the uncertainty of scheduling we will not open a new program. Our students also had very little clinical work and their income was greatly reduced. Many adult clients became accustomed to zoom or phone therapy and only recently have people begun to return to live therapy sessions. We are considering opening a new teaching program in a flexible private format because of uncertain health regulations in the next year.

Cindy Raskin writes: The impact of two years of Covid, the images and effects of war, as well as the effects of regional

conflicts and terrorist attacks in Israel has caused clients in my area near the Southern border, to be reluctant to return to live sessions. Survival fear has reduced the ability of adult clients to be able to relax enough to take advantage of Sandplay. Most of my work has been in co-regulation and calming the patients. Our Theoretical Sandplay Program has not reopened but we have been able to provide introductory lectures and workshops to different professional groups. I gave a one-time introductory sandplay workshop for twenty Bibliotherapy students at the Kibbutzim College of Education. The workshop was very successful in getting these very verbal and not very visual students "out of their heads or thinking" and into a visual and dream-like mode in part due to my incorporation of some movement activities and guided meditation into a deep inner awareness. The body connections stimulated the physical sandplay work and the meditation greatly increased the unconsciously generated imagery in the students' sand pictures.

Hannah-Valeria Grishko writes: The Strength of the Turtle in War Times

In February, after the breakout of the current war, a group of Russian and Ukrainian speaking therapists in Israel began an initiative to offer volunteer therapeutic support to people and supervision to therapists in Ukraine. Despite my many years of experience and extra trainings in the areas of trauma and loss, nothing would prepare me to support people literally in the war zone. Often as therapists we are expected to maintain a certain "therapeutic neutrality" in the face of the difficult work. However, our

increasingly complex world that is so deeply connected across continents constantly challenges this stance. I am particularly challenged. I was born and raised in Kiev. Thus, I am touched at my core. My reactions are not the material of a sandplay newsletter. However, as sandplay therapists in the tradition of Kalffian therapy informed by Carl Jung, we learn that we must touch our own roots and our own shadow. If we do not, we cannot help others. And to remain indifferent in the face of any violence, whether it be war, bullying, or terror is to sin by omission. All of us must continue to ask these hard questions during these times.

I want to end on a meaningful and positive note. Even though Jungian Sandplay does not feature in this work directly, my own world of symbolic expression supports me both personally and professionally. Turtle, a symbol of strength, containment, creation, and transformation offers a symbolic containment for the intense feelings that emerge. It also creates a possibility for attunement and deep holding that is so much needed in my work in Ukraine.



According to ancient myths, the world is supported by the four elephants that are

standing on the back of a huge turtle. This is the level of support that I feel at this time.

It is worth mentioning a famous and humorous story about a lecture by William James, during which he referred to the earth circling the sun. A woman came up to him afterwards and told him that he was wrong, and that the world indeed was supported by a turtle. When William James tried to logically dissuade her by asking her what was underneath that turtle, the woman told him that "they are very clever, it is turtles all the way down!" As I look at this figure in my home, it reminds me of the level of archetypal and collective strength that I can access when I most need it.







http://sandplay.co.il/en/the-26th-isst-congress/

See also p. 44 – 45 of this Newsletter

JISST Japan Society for ISST Members

President: Yasunobu Okada

ISST Board Representative: Yasuhiro Suzuki; substitute: Masayoshi Hironaka

Society Report: Michio Shinohara

JISST consists of 9 members who are all ISST members including 8 TMs. ISST has a new Japanese IM, Miho Katsumata, Ph.D, who is a Licensed Psychologist / Certified School Psychologist. Her specialities include Jungian psychology, child psychology, expressive therapies, and psycho-educational assessment. She is currently living in Bangkok, Thailand and working as a school counselor in an international school.

The Japanese name of JISST has been Nihon-Kokusai-Hakoniwa-Ryouhoushi-Gakkai since our society was established as member society of ISST in 2001. At that time (in 2001), the English name of our society was the Japan Association of Sandplay Therapists. Previously, the Japan Association of Sandplay Therapy was established in 1987 by members of the first generation of ISST, Prof. Hayao Kawai, Prof. Kazuhiko Higuchi and Prof. Yasuhiro Yamanaka in Japan. The Japanese name of the Japan Association of Sandplay Therapy is Nihon-Hakoniwa-Ryouhou-Gakkai since 1987. The difference in the English name of two societies is the word-Therapists or Therapy. The Japan Association of Sandplay Therapists and the Japan Association of Sandplay Therapy had used the same abbreviated name (JAST), which caused an ambiguous condition and confusion. Then, the English abbreviated name of our society was changed from JAST to JISST in 2020, so that this ambiguous condition and confusion dissolved.

JAST consists of Jungian oriented sandplay practitioners and is not a member society of ISST. JISST members are obliged to belong to JAST, so that JISST takes a role as a bridge between ISST and JAST. This relation of ISST, JISST and JAST is shown in Figure 1.

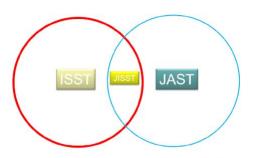


figure 1: relation of ISST, JISST and JAST

The relation of JISST and JAST is parallel to the relation of AJAJ and JAJP. Association of Jungian Analysts Japan, is a member society of IAAP. JAJP, The Japan Association of Jungian Psychology, consists of Jungian oriented psychotherapists. AJAJ has a training institute, The Japan Institute of Jungian Psychology. On the other hand, JISST does not have its own training institute. JAST provides a platform for TMs of JISST to hold seminars. Recently, Prof. Hironaka gave a presentation "Therapist's kevnote Independence and Commitment" at the JAST 2021 2nd national seminar on February 11th. Following the presentation, he also held a breakout session "Psychotherapy as 'dialogue' between client and therapist".

And Takuij Natori, the President of ISST, will provide a seminar "Sandplay Therapy and Archetypal Psychology" at the first JAST 2022 online seminar on May 22nd, 2022.





"Cherry blossoms at night" (photograph by Keisuke Kawamura)

KAST Korean Association of Sandplay Therapy

President: Hyerim (Sr. Cecilia) Kim ISST Board Representatives: Hyerim (Sr. Cecilia) Kim & Boyoung (Christina) Kwon

The 33rd KAST conference was held virtually on December 12th, 2021 and approximately 500 attendees participated in the conference. Alexander Esterhuyzen gave a lecture on "Approaching the unconscious: Journey to new beginnings".



The KAST conference provided an for achieving opportunity professional development and having a sense of connection and network in the field of Sandplay Therapy. The licensure exams for Certified Sandplay Therapist and Certified Specialist of Sandplay Therapist were administered in March 2022. KAST has offered continuous education and training programs dealing with various topics in Sandplay Therapy and Jungian psychology.

In 2021 and 2022, seminars were held on the fairytales written by Maria-Louise von Franz

and a series about mythology including creation myths, myths of heroes, and myths of holy marriage. Currently, Sr. Bo Ai Kim (ISST TM) offers the seminar on Alchemy and Sandplay Therapy as Individuation Process and promotes rich learning experiences to support professional development.



In March 2022, the KAST published a book 'Beautiful Start', which consists of stories of Sandplay therapy for seniors.

The clients who participated in this program were pleased to share their precious experiences of Sandplay therapy. They hope that more people will have opportunities to integrate their life experiences through Sandplay therapy.



KSST Korean Society for Sandplay Therapy

Co-Presidents: Meera Kowen, Somyung Kim ISST Board Representative: Mikyung Jang



On November 27, 2021, the Korean Society for Sandplay Therapy (KSST) held an international conference under the title of "Child Abuse, Violence, Trauma and Sandplay Therapy", with a virtual attendance of around 150 members. The conference provided an understanding of brain development in child victims of abuse and showed KSST's commitment to promote immediate and active intervention.

The keynote speech was delivered by Dr. Allan N. Schore, who is on the clinical faculty of the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine and well known for his ground breaking integration of neuroscience with attachment theory.

Under the title of "The Effect of Abuse/Attachment Trauma on Brain Neural Circuit Development and Implicit Memory: Therapeutic Intersubjectivity and Play", Dr. Schore gave an intensive speech focusing on "right brain-to-right brain psychotherapy"

dealing with not only neuropsychology but also sandplay therapy.

He demonstrated, through the scientific method of interpersonal neuropsychology, that the unconscious interaction arising from attachment relationships is the work of the right brain, and that this is re-enacted as right brain-to-right brain communication in psychotherapy.

Following the keynote speech presentation by Lim Soo-hui, Presiding Judge at the Suwon District Court on the topic of "violence and abuse disclosed during divorce lawsuits and legal measures". Other presentations included "Sandplay Therapy Dealing with the Symbol of Femininity for Female Youth Victims of Incest" by Kim Eun-jun, and "Art-Based Research Sandplay Therapist's Client Experience and Counter-Transference" by Lee Kyung-hee and other researchers. Overall. conference provided ample information more than ever before.

2022: Virtual Seminar Series Ongoing with Success

The KSST is providing a virtual seminar series in 2022, following the one in 2021 that met with positive feedback. Topics include "Right Brain Psychotherapy," "Cases of Sandplay Therapists' Art-Based Approach", "Child Abuse During Divorce Process", "Body and

Intersubjectivity I, II", and "Reasons for Using Sand in Psychotherapy".

The seminars are becoming a platform for lively discussion among many sandplay therapists and also those in other fields. Participants have commented that the topics have become more diverse and profound compared to that of the previous year.

Seminar topics and dates are outlined in the table below. All seminars are held virtually and those given by overseas speakers will be conducted in English. They are open to anyone who wishes to participate. To sign up or to make further inquiries, please contact the

KSST at ksstsandplay@hanmail.net

Topic 1. Re-enactment of Attachment Trauma and Therapist-Client Mutual Regression in Sandplay Therapy Process	Allan N. Shore (UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine)	Feb. 11 (Fri.) 9:30- 12:00
Topic 2. In-Depth Case Presentation on Jungian Arts-Based Approach to Facilitate Sandplay Therapists' Understanding of Client Experience	Lee Kyung-hee Jeong Eun-jin Park Ae-kyu Ryu Ji-hye Kwak Soo-kyung Lee Se-hwa Lee Yeo-reum Jang Mikyung	Mar. 18 (Fri.) 9:30 - 11:30
Topic 3. Child Abuses That Occur in the Process of Divorce That Counselors Should Be Aware of and Related Cases	Lim Soo-hui (Presiding Judge of Suwon District Court)	Apr. 1 (Fri.) 18:00 - 21:00
Topic 4-1. Body and Intersubjectivity I	Judith Blackstone Realization Process (USA)	May 6 (Fri.) 9:30 - 11:30
Topic 4-2. Body and Intersubjectivity II	Jang Mikyung (Namseoul University)	June 3 (Fri.) 9:30 - 11:30

Topic 5. Why Is Sand Used in Psychotherapy?	Lenore Steinhardt (ISST Teaching Member/Israel)	Sept. 16 (Fri.) 19:00 - 21:30
Topic 6. Hyperscanning Study of Neurobiological Synchronization Between Therapist's Right Brain and Client's Right Brain in Sandplay Therapy: Presentation of Clinical Cases and Clinical Research Findings	Jang Mikyung, Kwon Mira Kim So-myung Lee Yeo-reum Lee Se-hwa	Oct. 7 (Fri.) 10:00 - 12:00

The Journal of Symbols & Sandplay Therapy (JSST), which started out with its first volume in 2021, is now indexed by Korea Citation Index. The Journal is issued into two languages, Korean and English, and therefore publishes sandplay-related studies submitted from not only Korea but also from around the world.

Those who are interested may submit their papers on March 30 and July 30 every year. Vol. 12 No. 2 contains the following articles, which can be downloaded for free from the English website http://www.e-isst.org/articles/search_result.php:

- ✓ Right Brain-to-Right Brain Psychotherapy: Recent Clinical and Scientific Advances – Allan Schore
- ✓ Auto-ethnography of Self-growth Stories for the Individuation of School Counselors (Professional Teachercounselors and Professional counselors) Who Are Suffering from

'Between' - Based on Insight in Sandplay Therapy and Dream analysis - Jin Kim, Hyun Jung Shin, Minji Kim, Eunkyung Park, Minji Son, Kyunghee Oh, Nayoung Lee, Soojin Lee, Eunjung Lee, Sohee Jeon, Sohyun Ji, Mikyung Jang

- ✓ Intervention Study on Self-esteem Level of Primary School Students with Sandplay Therapy - Meiyu Cui, Longnan Jin, Yuanrong Jin
- ✓ Integration of Psyche and Matter and Sandplay Therapy in the Era of Pandemic (Mask, Tal) - Mikyung Jang

Korean Society of Sandplay Therapy Begins Online Video Lecture Service

With an aim to enhance the level of expertise of its members, the KSST has started an online video lecture service to provide easy access to lectures on sandplay therapy. The first video lecture is Dr. Allan N. Schore's keynote speech at the 2021 "The Effect conference, of Abuse/Attachment Trauma on Brain Neural Circuit Development and Implicit Memory". The video, which comes together with lecture notes, can be viewed up to two weeks after signing up. It is available for a fee of KRW 50,000 to anyone who signs up for membership online.

* To sign up or to make further inquiries, please contact ksstsandplay@hanmail.net

Forming New Connections by Letting the Old Flow Loose

Kwak Soo-kyung, sandplay therapist Korean Society of Sandplay Therapy and Maeumgyeol Shelter. The days are getting warmer. It makes me want to let my hair flow loose, which I had kept tied up tightly all winter long, and take a stroll around the park while enjoying the spring breeze. Speaking of letting my hair flow loose, it reminds me of a child client whom I tried to control by "tying" her up tightly.



This particular client did not want to leave her mother's arms even after entering elementary school.

Through sandplay therapy, however, she gradually developed the awareness that she was being cared for even without the physical presence of her mother. But I remember myself inwardly forcing her to achieve more inner growth, at a faster rate. In other words, I tried to tie her up tightly to control her the way I want. As you might have expected, my attempt ended in vain. The client spent as much time as she needed within the free and protected space of the sandplay room. Only then did she show her growth in the outer world, being able to get along with her peers.

I wanted to know more about my experience with this client. Then I came across a chance to take part in an arts-based research program, which allows an in-depth understanding of clients, offered by the Korean Society of Sandplay Therapy. The program enabled me to discover a lot more information about that client. A few months later, I underwent surgery on a part of my body that I had represented in the sand tray during the program. The diagnosis was serious, but the treatment was fortunately quite simple due to early discovery. But I would sometimes experience a fear of relapse, and every time I did, I would blame myself for being unable to stop negative thoughts, especially when I am a therapist by profession. Then I remembered that particular client and I thought, 'Why don't I just hide in a safe and protected space for as long as I need, just like that client? Maybe I should stop making plans in advance and just stay there until I feel better!' The unconscious revealed in the program not only told me about what is going to happen in the future but also taught me the attitude I ought to assume in the face of it.



I used to be afraid of just speaking about the experience but I'm recovering, enough to openly talk about it during a KSST virtual seminar in March and to even share it in writing through this newsletter. The picture above is a paper cup phone that I made during the artsbased research program, to which I added some labels. It was made while I thought about the experience in which I felt a stronger connection with the client after letting my control over her "flow loose." I hope that the experience I had with this particular client would now connect with you as well as you're reading this. I hope that, through sandplay therapy, we would be able to let the existing standards, which controlled and tormented us, flow loose and form a new connection with the unconscious.

LSST Latvian Society for Sandplay Therapy

President: Līga Rāviņa

ISST Board Representative: Vera Ščerbakova



LSST members: 84

- 7 ISST Certified Members 5 of them are ISST Teaching Members
- 77 LSST members: 71 national members and 6 associate members
- 8 honorary members (6 of them are current ISST members)

About the LSST

On 22 April 2022, LSST members participated in a seminar with two presenters, both ISST members.



Līga Rāviņa
Sandplay therapist
(DGST/ISST TM) LSST President
Family Psychotherapist,
gave a presentation "My Heart Travels
Between Two Worlds, Between Evening and
Morning".

The time before the beginning of earthly life is not counted in our years, but it tends to leave indelible marks on the canvas of our souls. A boy, who has experienced the harsh touch of winter in his mother's womb, now perseveres and with great effort tries to heal his pre-experience in sandpictures.



Guna Berga Sandplay therapist (ISST), Jungian Analyst (IAAP), touched upon a topic so important in this time, when there is a war between our neighbours: "Trauma and Its Healing Possibilities".

Often, individual injuries in the human psyche are intertwined with collective ones. Working with the psychological aspects of trauma and its healing possibilities, the analysis of dreams and sandplay therapy, listening and talking to symbolic material, complement each other. LSST members work as volunteers in order to provide support to Ukrainian-refugee children and their mothers, The Society has set up a crisis team to coordinate this work.

An informative booklet in three languages – Latvian, Ukrainian, Russian – is distributed in all support centers and schools.



NVST Dutch Society for Sandplay Therapy

President: Jellemieke Hees-Stauthamer Board RFepresentative: Theresa Foks-Appelman

Report by Theresa Foks-Appelman

The Dutch Society for Sandplay Therapy has begun to recover from the difficulties of the past and again we are able to see possibilities for the future.

At this moment the Board consists of 4 members: Jellemieke Hees-Stauthamer, President, Theresa Foks-Appelman, Secretary, and Claire Boers-Stoll, boardmember. Clara Waardenburg, our treasurer, continues with current affairs for the time being but intends to end this task soon. NVST has 4 ISST members, 3 Teaching Members and three NVST practitioners, 1 student member.

There is growing interest in sandplay in the Netherlands. In December last year and January this year, Jellemieke Hees and I lectured about Sandplay therapy for two days at a training institute (RINO) in Utrecht. Last fall I personally gave an introductory workshop in my own practice. Subsequently, five candidates have registered and have now begun their personal process in sandplay. Another three candidates are exploring the possibility of starting the training as well.

The possibilities of online classes and supervision in the near future will make it easier to complete the entire training path. In the Netherlands too, therapists are busy with their work, are often already overloaded and the travel time during free time or the weekend is

a major drawback, especially since most also have a family that requires time and attention.

To accommodate those who have to travel more than three hours there and back when they come to my practice, I rented a room every month for a weekend, in a country house which is part of a conference centre in Driebergen. It is beautifully situated in the center of our country in the middle of a forest, which invites for a walk before and after a session and where the students can stay for a weekend with a partner or with their family if they like that.



'De Horst' Driebergen photo by: T.Foks

My portable sandboxes and miniatures are placed on a large round table and I can see two to three candidates per half day there. We hope to guide our new trainees as much as possible in their trajectory.

Wouter Bleijenberg (ISST member) and Odile van Embden, TM, will also help by offering a personal process and provide supervision. As a Board, we didn't have so much to manage, but we did maintain personal contact and held our annual meeting by Zoom.

It seems that especially after the candidates have completed part of their own process, we can start organizing workshops and lessons again, and pay attention again to their follow-up trajectory. We hope to introduce new ISST members again within a few years.



photo by: T. Foks

SGSST Swiss Society for Sandplay Therapy

President: Maria Kendler

ISST Board Representative: Viola Scheller

General Assembly

On 2nd April, 2022 we held our General Assembly in Zurich. SGSST now has 19 ordinary members and we were glad to receive many of them at our yearly meeting. After moving to Switzerland, Dr. Alexander von Gontard is now member of SGSST and we welcomed him very warmly.

Themes of our discussions were mainly concentrated on training groups in the German and French part of Switzerland. Presently, there are 40 training candidates. Many of them are actively working towards certification.

At the end of the General Assembly, the Board was elected:

President: Maria Kendler

Vice-President: Alexandra Moser Nura

Treasurer: Ursula Kübler







From left to right: Maria Kendler Alexandra Moser Nura, Ursula Kübler

After 14 years of serving at the Board as vicepresident, Dr. Bruno Hofstetter retired from this function. We are very thankful for his presence and constant commitment throughout all these years! Annabelle Aebersold was responsible for the finances and was an extremely conscientious treasurer. We would like to thank her sincerely for her dedicated support.

Alexandra Moser Nura is the first Board member from the French part of Switzerland, representing the growing group of Sandplay therapist in this region. We are also happy to welcome Ursula Kübler as the new treasurer.

12th Sandplay Day

Despite the uncertainty caused by the Covid pandemic, the Sand Play Day took place in Basel on Oct. 30, 2021. It was offered on a hybrid basis, resulting in 35 participants showing up on site and 14 participants being included via Zoom. This format proved to be successful, so based on the positive feedback, we will also offer the 2022 Sandplay Day in this way.

It has become a valued habit at Sand Play Days to interrupt the presentations with "movement breaks." This year, following the lectures, there was folk dancing, painting and creating pictures together with colored sand.

Alexander von Gontard dealt in his lecture with "The spirituality of children and adolescents". In his introduction, he developed spirituality as an intrinsic quality, accessible for all people. Spirituality can show itself in children and adolescents in five forms: Wonder and amazement; philosophical questioning; wisdom; connectedness; seeing the invisible. In this context, he showed impressive sand

pictures from his work as a child psychiatrist, emphasizing the numinous quality of these pictures and therapy sessions.



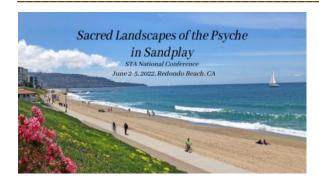
Ruth Noel included the fairy tale "Rumpelstiltskin" in her contribution and spoke about "Nameless fear and its overcoming in sand play therapy". In the case vignette of an 8-year-old boy, fear became

visible in the sand pictures and thus understandable and nameable. As the fairy tale shows, being able to give fear a name is an old method when it comes to conquering it. That was wonderfully demonstrated through the connection of the Sandplay process and the fairy tale.

Many thanks to Viola Scheller and Annabelle Aebersold who were very busy to organize this event. As the Sandplay Day 2021 was successful in hybrid form, we will continue to offer it in the mixed modality (online and presence). The idea is to allow interested therapists from all German speaking countries to participate in our next Sandplay Day on December 10th, 2022.

STA Sandplay Therapists of America for Sandplay Therapy

President: Antoinette Eimers, Vice-President: David Dermott ISST Board Representatives: Betty Jackson, Jill Kaplan



STA's National Conference

STA's National Conference, "Sacred Landscapes of the Psyche", will take place in person, June 2-5. Enthusiasm for meeting together is high, and the program offers riches in content, presenters, experiences, and a touch of the numinous. Keynote speakers are Jungian analyst Lionel Corbett and STA teaching members Judy Zappacosta, Maria Chiaia, Ellen LeBel, and Laura Soble. STA will present awards at the conference for diversity, mentoring, research, and the Kalff-Bradway Award. See www.sandplay.org for more information and registration.

Creative Online Events

In 2021, STA pioneered a new program in 2021 as a benefit of membership, Pathways to Certification. Two tracks ran simultaneously, one on writing preliminary papers and the other on final case paper writing. These classes created cohorts where participants could support one another as they received the benefit of mentoring from experienced CST-Teaching members and addressed the questions and challenges of completing certification requirements. 2022

will see the inauguration of a similar cohort structure for mentoring CST-Ts to read final case papers.

STA's Covid-19 Emergency Action Plan continues through December 31, 2022, creating access to training at affordable rates encouraging diversity and in class participation. While we regret the many opportunities over the past two years not seeing one another, it has allowed STA to enjoy community through online member meetings, special presentations on meaning of a father's blessing and on diversity, as well as the popular "toolkit" program continuing in 2022. This year the toolkit series includes presentations on symbol papers and the symbolic in sandplay, initial trays, research in Sandplay, the sandplay figure collection and more. These presentations are available at a minimal fee for members; schedule can be found on the STA's website, www.sandplay.org, under "trainings and events".

Sandplay Meta-Analysis Published!

In research news, STA is proud to announce that "A Meta-analysis of Sandplay Therapy Treatment Outcomes" has recently been published in the *International Journal of Play Therapy*, a publication of the American Psychological Association. This international research analyzed the emotional and behavioural outcomes of 40 studies from eight countries and yielded a large effect size (g=1.10), further establishing sandplay therapy as an evidence-based treatment.

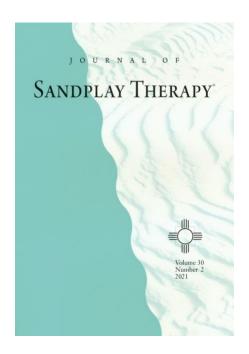
Congratulations to authors Jacquelyn Wiersma, Lorraine Freedle. Rachel McRoberts, and Kenneth Solberg who worked very hard for several years to bring this project to fruition. The meta-analysis was partly funded by the Sandplay Therapists of America and can be found https://psycnet.apa.org/doi/10.1037/pla0000 180.

Journal of Sandplay Therapy- Open Access Articles Available

The Journal of Sandplay Therapy® now 31 years running, is a peer-reviewed journal circulated in 25 countries and published twice yearly in English under the editorship of Joyce Camuyrano Cunningham (joycecunninghamjournalofsandplaytherapy @att.net). The JST is indexed on PsycInfo, a prominent database sponsored by the American Psychological Association. Authors from all countries are welcomed to submit articles.

Many articles are available online, including classic articles such as Dora Kalff's "Introduction to Sandplay Therapy", Kay Bradway's complete symbols dictionary, and

Martin Kalff's "Twenty-one Points to be Considered in the Interpretation of a Sandplay". Current research articles are also ready for immediate viewing. Visit https://www.sandplay.org/journal/about-the-journal/ to find these articles and other open access articles, research, reflections, and to search abstracts in multiple languages including English, German, French, Spanish, Portuguese, with key word searches available in Japanese, Italian, Chinese, Hindi and Romanian.



TSST Taiwanese Society for Sandplay Therapy

President: Min Li Chiou

ISST Board Representative: Pi Ling Chen

Currently, there are 108 members in the TSST, eight of whom are ISST members, and six of the eight ISST members are teaching members. About 30 TSST members have demonstrated interest in the ISST certification training, and at least 18 of them have commenced the stage of personal process. Five members have completed the requirements of theoretical training and supervision, among whom two have successfully completed the first seminar paper, while the other two members have successfully completed the second seminar paper and are in the process of writing their final case papers. In late April 2022, Taiwan was hit hard by the Omicron variant of COVID-19 and is facing its worst outbreak of the pandemic, with the number of confirmed cases deaths rapidly increasing. and Subsequently, we have cancelled the physical training sessions scheduled for May and July, and some of the sessions will be conducted online instead. Below is an account written by a member after participating in a cultural tour organized by the TSST before the outbreak.

Notes from a Social Event for Members of the Taiwanese Society for Sandplay Therapy- A Day Trip to Dadaocheng

Author: Chun-lin Chen

As a practitioner of sandplay therapy and analytical psychology, one does not merely engage deeply in contemplating and analysing a case in hand, but also needs to accumulate historical and cultural knowledge. Fairy tales, myths, religions, rituals, etc., are all materials

that are worth the attention of a sandplay therapist. This is indeed one of the fascinating aspects of the profession.

For this reason, the Taiwanese Society for Sandplay Therapy (TSST) has arranged a series of social activities with the theme of "holiday" or "festival" for members this year. The holiday selected for the first activity after the Lunar New Year was the birthday of *Tudigong*, the Earth God popularly worshipped in Taiwan. Dadaocheng, the commercial center of old Taipei, was chosen as the day trip destination of the social event not only for members to immerse themselves in the historical and cultural heritage but also to relieve them from the weariness they might have been experiencing during the previous two years of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The trip took place on a weekend afternoon following *Tudigong's* birthday on the lunar calendar. There were not many participants, but most of the members know each other. We exchanged greetings and were led by a member who grew up in this old town, serving both as a guide and host. As we walked and chatted, senior members greeted newcomers, locals looked after those from out of town, fully demonstrating the kindness of Taiwanese people, and everyone quickly mingled with each other.



Led by our guide, we set off from the Beimen (North Gate) Station, contemplating what it would have been like when we walked through the North Gate from the inner city of Taipei towards the outskirts some three hundred years ago. Dadaocheng sprang up as a thriving trading port on the northern outskirts of Taipei three hundred years ago. In the history of Taiwan's development, it was a major trading town for fabrics, tea, and a variety of traditional goods such as Chinese medicines and herbs, spices, and dried food. Our guide instructed us to use our imagination and travel back in time through its rise in the late 19th century, its prosperity in the 20th century, its decline in the late 20th century, to its revival as a cultural and creative tourist attraction in recent years. These periods were also marked by important social movements, such as Taiwan's New Cultural Movement in the 1920s and the turmoil of the late 1940s. A trip to Dadaocheng is akin to walking through the epitome of Taiwan's development history spanning nearly three hundred years.



The highlight of the trip was Taipei Xia-Hai City God Temple, the most famous center of faith in Dadaocheng. Xia-Hai City God Temple is a vibrant and popular temple usually packed with worshippers. We imagined that, over the past two hundred years, merchants gathered here to pray for prosperity and success for their businesses, and their wives came here to pray for their husbands' fidelity. In recent years, the temple has become famous for young people to come and pray to the god of marriage for a happy love life. The temple is also connected to the five nearby Earth God temples, which serve as the five processions during the inspection tour of the City God. We now know that the Earth God temples that are so ubiquitous in all parts of Taiwan may also be affiliated with the City God, their superior, which may also have been considered as a type of bureaucratic structure in ancient times. The fundamental concerns of the human heart are manifested through the personification of gods; it is indeed an inevitable happening shared collectively across cultural generational boundaries.

We also seized the opportunity to admire a few well-known traditional buildings. We tried to picture what it would have been like when this area was frequented by dignitaries and bourgeois elites; we imagined that successful merchants built high-end residences consisting three-story buildings that were higher than ordinary houses to demonstrate achievements in life. As we visualized owners of water-front residences overlooking dockworkers working at the port, we seemed to be able to share the sentiment of these merchants who had worked hard all their lives for prosperity and success.

We were fortunate enough to take part in this trip which was successfully organized during the low transmission period of the Coronavirus pandemic. As we enjoyed a relaxing and cultural experience, we also bought some local products and tried some local specialties. The faith in *Tudigong*, the deity that is the most ubiquitous and intertwined with local people's lives, was also brought into play in this trip.

CONTRIBUTION from INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Board Representative Individual Members Marina Ionescu

Developing Member Societies Romania Report by: Marina Ionescu

There are currently 40 Independent Members (IM) in ISST coming from 12 countries without an ISST member society: Belgium, Denmark, France, Poland, Romania, Russia, Indonesia, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Uruguay.

Dr. Olga Lipadatova has moved from Canada to Portugal and is now an Independent Member.

At the beginning of 2022, the basic training program in sandplay therapy in Romania was accredited by the National College of Psychologists. This accreditation was obtained as a result of the work of the last years submitted by the Romanian sandplay community which has been supported over the years by ISST Teaching Members: Ulrike Hinsch, Carlo Ruffino, Rosalind Heiko, Elvira Valente and Marina Ionescu, who helped when setting up a working group but also when establishing the training program that meets both the conditions of ISST and of the National College. Accreditation would not have been possible without the research documentation on sandplay therapy provided by Lorraine Freedle. We would like to thank

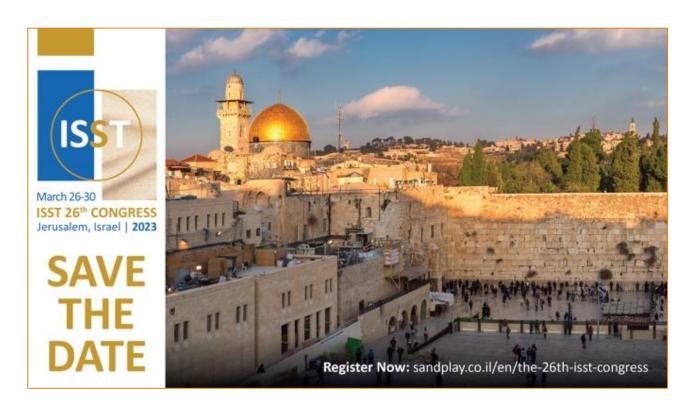
the entire sandplay community and especially the Teaching Members mentioned, who believed in our community and continue to support us.

From March 2022, we started to implement the training program with monthly meetings about the theory of sandplay (in English and Italian). We are very pleased that this accreditation increases the number of people interested in sandplay who can benefit from a sustained teaching and supervision program with ISST trainers. You can find information about the sandplay therapy program held in Romania on the website: https://sandplay.ro/

Also, our colleague Marina Ionescu, ISST Teaching Member was elected as Independent Members (IM) Representative following the votes of IM communities in Europe, the Middle East, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. Marina is supported in this new role by Marianne Molbech, IM-Denmark, and meetings with community members have already begun. Marina wants to meet the needs of IMs and create a bridge between IMs and programs developed by ISST or other member societies.

You are very welcome to contact Marina by email: psiholog.marina.ionescu@gmail.com or marina.ionescu@sandplay.ro

ISST CONFERENCE 2023



New dates: March 26 – 30, 2023

For filling out a proposal, please enter the congress website:

http://sandplay.co.il/en/the-26th-isst-congress/

Questions? Please send to isstcongress2021@gmail.com.

Call for Papers!!!



When East Meets West: Past, Present & Future.

26th Congress of the International Society of Sandplay Therapy Hosted by ISTA - the Israeli Sandplay Therapists Association

Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to remind you that the 26th ISST Congress will be held on March 26th-30st 2023 at the Ye'arim Hotel in Kibbutz Ma'ale Hachamisha, 15 km. from Jerusalem, in the beautiful landscape of the Jerusalem hills.

We invite you to participate and submit a proposal.

While choosing the theme of the conference, the original thought was to explore the meeting point between Eastern and Western ideas and culture. This convergence reflects the attitude of both C.G. Jung and Dora Kalff. It also has come to reflect the development of ISST which itself is becoming a fruitful encounter of therapists from both ends of the world in the growing diverse community of ISST.

Since then, the world has changed in many ways, especially due to COVID-19 and its consequences, but also due to the war in Ukraine and the plight of so many refugees.

After a long pause, we see the 26th ISST Congress on one hand as an opportunity to return to the tradition of an encounter within the growing Sandplay community, and to enjoy each other's professional contribution. On the other hand, we find it to be a special opportunity for members of the Sandplay community to share with each other and to process experiences that we have had in these turbulent times, in our work and in our personal lives. We hope to provide all participants with the space and opportunity for exchanging ideas and clinical material in small groups.

We invite you to present research, theoretical and clinical issues, concerning Sandplay as a ground for the union of the opposites. We will welcome proposals which explore Sandplay as a container of the Psyche in times of shared danger from within and without, as well as the diversity of symbolic images representing the variety of human

experiences. Proposals of themes related to manifestations and insights concerning the power of different archetypal forces that awaken in times of crisis, trauma and change will be of interest. We will welcome theoretical lectures, case presentations, and research materials. In addition, we encourage proposals offering to lead discussion groups, experiential workshops, and any initiative that can promote dialogue between individuals and between different groups.

The new deadline for submission of proposals is July 1st, 2022. We will consider all the proposals that have already been submitted before the previous deadline.

For filling out a proposal, please enter the congress website:

http://sandplay.co.il/en/the-26th-isst-congress/

Notification of Acceptance will be sent on October 1st, 2022. Questions? Please send to isstcongress2021@gmail.com.

Program Committee:

Michal Troudart Bert Meltzer Robin Zeiger Michelle Yuval-Mendelowitz

About the new ISST Logo



ISST
International Society for Sandplay Therapy
Associazione Internationale della Sandplay Therapy
Internationale Gesellschaft für Sandspiel Therapie
国際箱庭療法学会

We are proud to present for the first time in this Newsletter the New ISST Logo.

After a procedure of consultation, participation and options, the majority of members opted for this logo. The meaning of the logo has been extensively discussed by the designer in a video message and a powerpoint presentation.

The background inspiration for this logo were personal views about the development of sandplay by Dora Kalff and memories of the her house in Zollikon in entrance of Switzerland.

The four languages represent the founding member societies of the ISST

LOGO PROPOSAL #1

During her time of redirection and change, her interests in Asia were rivivified in a dream.

According to her son, Martin Kalff (personal communication, 1990), her dream was set in Tibet, where she was approached by two monks who gave her a golden rectangular instrument. Implicit in this gift was the understanding that she was to swing the instrument and, as she did, an opening appeared in the ground before her that went through the entire world. On the other side of the world, in the West, she saw the light of the sun.

Kalff's dream as later interpreted by Emma Jung, who helped Dora understand that through her knowledge of the Orient, she might also serve the Occident. This dream became realized in Kalff's life through her extensive travels, which enabled her to teach sandplay and make personal connections worldwide

Journal of sandplay therapy, vol. 1, number 1. Autumn 1991. - Harriet S. Friedman, Rie Rogers Mitchell

Dora's dream

" ... an opening appeared in the ground before her that went through the entire world. On the other side of the world, in the West, she saw the light of the sun."

"This dream became realized in Kalff's life through her extensive travels, which enabled her to teach sandplay and make personal connections worldwide." MARIËLLE VAN 'T ZAND ONTWERP



Guidelines for the Newsletter

The ISST NEWSLETTER provides information about developments in the ISST that are being discussed and decided by the Board Meeting of the ISST Society Representatives and officers.

It also includes reports of the ISST Working Groups and Committees.

Your reports of the Sandplay work being done by ISST Member Societies, Independent Members, and Teaching Members in the Developing Groups are the backbone of the Newsletter. We aim to encourage collegial communications.

ISST Societies and Groups:

- *Challenges facing and achievements accomplished by your Society or Group; others may have similar situations, and collaboration may help.
- *Activities by Member Societies such as Conferences, Trainings and Newly Certified Members.
- *Things you have achieved, and how you achieved them, that will interest other groups.
 *Study groups, research, teaching and clinical projects being undertaken.
- *Developing Groups in countries without an ISST Society: you may have special problems and special opportunities that you would like to share with others.
- *Projects of Interest inside and outside your country. We encourage you to feature special projects and new applications of sandplay

Personal Reflections:

*Reflections with personal stories about Sandplay experiences and viewpoints. Stories of teaching and teachers may be informative for other individuals or groups.

- *Memories of long-time ISST members, sharing the story of how they came to practice Sandplay, with some highlights of their experience.
- *News about new books, book reviews or new articles
- *Memories of conferences and events, etc. with one or two pictures.
- *Working with IRCs and engaging Sandplay interest in countries without ISST Societies.

FORMAT:

- Please include no more than one or two photographs relevant to your article.
- 2. Please send all material in English after **your** final editing.
- Please limit your contributions to 1 or 2 pages at the most, printed in Word, 12 pt Times New Roman type, 1.5 spacing.
- 4. Please include the names of the current President of your society, Vice-president and Board Representative, as well as the name of the author and title of the article.
- 5. At the discretion of the editors, corrections in the English language and slight editing will be made. If the article is too long, the editors will ask the author to shorten it. Before the Newsletter is distributed the final version of each article will be sent to the author for approval.
- 6. The ISST is not responsible for the content of the individual articles of the member societies. Each author of each

- Newsletter article retains the copyright for his/her article.
- 7. The President of each member societies will collect the articles from their members and send it to the editor committee (see above).
- 8. The President and the Advisor ultimately determine whether an article will be published.
- The Newsletter will be sent by email to all members of the ISST by the ISSToffice.
- 10. The complete content of the Newsletter will **not** be published on the

website for public view. An overview of each Newsletter will be published on the website with a reference to the content that only members can request at the ISST office.

*Articles are included at the sole discretion of the editors who seek to uphold the interests of the whole ISST community.

*The Editors reserve the right to request changes in content. It is important for contributions to reflect the Society's ethos and purpose and to be consistent with our Code of Ethics.

Takuij Natori, *President*Theresa Foks-Appelman, *Production and Coördinator*Lenore Steinhardt, *Editor*Alexander Esterhuysen, *Advisor*

WE APPRECIATE THE TIME YOU GIVE TO THIS IMPORTANT ENDEAVOUR.

N.B. All previous Newsletter can be downloaded on the ISST website after login for members under All News

Disclaimer:

The views expressed by contributing authors are not necessarily those of the ISST Board or the ISST Society. Although we did our best to use the correct names and functions there may be mistakes or inaccuracies. If so, please let us know so that we can correct this in the subsequent issue of the Newsletter.

Thank you all so much for all your time and effort for contributing to this issue.

Every contribution and article is written under the responsibility of the author of the article or the Member Society and all are subject to copyright, © which means that the article may not be copied without written permission from the owner.

Takuji Natori *President*Theresa Foks-Appelman *Production Editor*Lenore F Steinhardt *Consulting Editor*Alexander Esterhuyzen *Advisor*

September 2021

