



**XIVth Biennial Conference of the  
European Personal Construct  
Association, Edinburgh, 5-8 July 2018**



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**Organising Committee:**

Dorota Bourne (Chair), Richard Casebow, Jenny Newland, Harry Procter, Sally Robbins

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Catriona Macaulay PhD**

*Chief Designer, Scottish  
Government*

Dr Cat Macaulay has worked with the Scottish Government for two years and now has the role of Chief Designer. She leads a team of User Researchers and Designers working on service transformation projects across SG and the wider public sector. She asks, “Could Scotland be the first country in the world with a shared, national, participatory approach to how we design our public services?” A specialist in design ethnography, interaction, and service design, she has had a wide ranging career working with various well-known International companies including the BBC and the UNHCR, where she was Director of Operations on a UNHCR refugee agency funded project to Bosnia during the Balkans War. During her academic career she worked on a number of EU, industry and Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council projects, supervised 5 relevant PhDs and designed and led a Masters in Design Ethnography. She has lectured and consulted on design in India, the USA, Europe and Australia.



**Michael Mascolo PhD**

*Merrimack College, North  
Andover, Massachusetts, USA*

An inspirational teacher, Professor Mascolo of Merrimack College, Massachusetts, USA, has a long career in developing a general framework of understanding of how persons develop. He is interested in the centrality of *intersubjectivity* in psychological functioning and the development of human agency, character and the cultivation of virtue, in teaching and learning, parenting, and how persons can develop through conflict resolution. He says “Happiness comes not from seeking pleasure, status, fame or fulfillment. Instead, it comes about by living a life of purpose and value. It comes from cultivating and appreciating some good in your world, even if that world is messy and imperfect.”

Note: **Dr Nadia Naffi** of Concordia University was to give a Keynote Presentation but unfortunately will be unable to attend in person. She will however, along with Prof. Ann-Louise Davidson, of Concordia University, be able to give us a virtual presentation from Canada entitled ‘Disrupting hate discourses through the adoption of the ‘Get Ready to act against Social Media Propaganda Model’ on Saturday afternoon, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

# Keynotes

## **Building a Scottish Approach: Working *with* the people, not just *for* them in designing Government Services**

**Catriona Macaulay**

*Chief Designer, Scottish Government*

Scottish Government, in common with governments around the world, is facing a rapidly changing and volatile world with massive new political, economic, social and technological challenges. What people want from government services and how they want to receive it, is changing, with a demand for more openness and transparency and public services that feel more like the service experiences they get from the private sector. In Scottish Government, we aim to understand what the people think about and need from us and to pass the power to deliver on those needs to people and communities directly. The story of the Scottish Approach to Service Design that I will share, explains our learning over the last few years. When it comes to how we proceed, this means working *with* not just *for* the people of Scotland. This aim parallels very much the spirit of this conference with its emphasis on Sociality, the ability to “get into the shoes” of other people and groups, to be able to construe how they see the world, their situations and needs and to collaborate with them to achieve better services.

## **Bridging Diversities: Recreating Personhood through Dialectical Engagement**

**Michael Mascolo**

*Merrimack College, North Andover, Massachusetts, USA*

What does it mean to be a person in a global and “postmodern” world? Building upon Enlightenment thinking and the industrial revolution, as a cultural movement, modernism embraced beliefs in science, certainty and progress. Faith in modernism began to erode as intellectuals began to question the possibility of foundational values and knowledge. Awareness of the role of the observer in the observed challenged principles of certainty and objectivity. Encounters with diverse peoples cast doubt on the possibility of establishing unifying “meta-narratives” – whether descriptive or moral. Such doubts raise deep problems for considerations of selfhood: Who am I in a world that can provide no foundation on which to ground my beliefs? How do I engage others whose thinking and ways of being differ profoundly from my own? The postmodern response to these questions has been to embrace diversity and contradiction: if there is no single way to view the world, then the path to peace involves embracing multi-cultural diversity, individual choice and equality of perspectives. This noble idea seeks a peaceful co-existence among diverse ways of thinking and being. However, at its extreme, it fails to recognize that not all differences are benign: tolerating differences fails when differences become intolerable. Our human inability to find ways to *coordinate* and *reconcile* differences has create deep social problems. These include but are not limited to radical polarization, intransigent identity politics, demagogic populism, as well as both culture wars and wars among cultures. One alternative to the problem of social fragmentation is to embrace *radical sociality* and *dialectical engagement*. Building upon constructivist, dialectical and conflict resolution principles, I advance a dialectical approach to managing social conflict that holds out the possibility of transcending social through the integration of opposites. Such an approach seeks to establishing new forms of selfhood through deep engagement with the psychological, social and cultural Other.

# **Workshops**

## **Introducing Qualitative Grids (QGs): An interactive workshop**

**Paul Barbour, Viv Burr, Clare Coppock, John Fisher, Emma Holder, Clare Morris, Luca Pezzullo, Harry Procter and Precious Sedumedi**

Personal Construct Psychology looks at how people uniquely make sense of their worlds, situations, themselves, other people or any issue of interest. This is achieved most simply by using Qualitative Grids (QGs). These tools allow people to tell how they see things in their own words or drawings. The grids enable us to see how views change across time or situation and to look at differences between people's views and how one person guesses how others around them see things. The Perceiver Element Grid (PEG) is useful for getting a snapshot of a situation from the point of view of how each participant in a family or team of people see themselves and each other, throwing light on their interactions. QGs are valuable in research, clinical, educational and organisational contexts and can be used to promote change in therapy, coaching and arbitration.

A group of us, who have found these tools useful, will run a session at the Edinburgh PCP Conference for those interested in learning about them. Between us, we have used the methods to research a wide variety of topics including intercultural perception, leadership development, fathers who have killed their children, medical perceptions of the mother role, constructions of acquired brain injury, inherited prion disease and cancer.

Here we will practice different applications of the method. The workshop will be interactive, participative and informative, and...we hope...a lot of fun!

## **Let's challenge our theories on elderly age! Sociality as a key to go beyond the stereotypes**

**Viviana Bongiorno and Cecilia Pagliardini**  
*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

The aim of this workshop is to bring the participants in contact with their anticipations on elderly people. Such constructions are usually rooted in cultural backgrounds that ease structuring rather than comprehension, often losing sight of the person as an active inquirer.

To challenge preemptive and constellatory constructs, and their potential implications in elderly care, we should, as professionals (but not only), activate and train our self-reflection.

Given that there is not knowledge outside of experience, this workshop will represent an opportunity to elaborate meanings related to the elderly age through some participatory and interactive activities.

We will promote questions and share reflections, in the spirit of sociality.

## **George Kelly meets Harvey Sacks and together they explore queer theory: a new look at constellatory construing and loosening**

**Carmen Dell'Aversano**  
*University of Pisa*

Some of the most important areas of our construing have to do with the constructs through which we make sense of ourselves and of other people, that is, with social identity categories. The workshop is an attempt to make sense of the way we construe social identity by connecting Personal Construct Psychology with

Membership Categorization Analysis, a methodology invented by American sociologist Harvey Sacks (1935-1975). According to Sacks, we are constantly engaged in the work of producing and understanding social order through the use of categories which make actions and experiences comprehensible and predictable. Sacks's focus on the use of categories to generate order and to achieve predictability makes it possible to draw a parallel between categories and constructs and to connect his work to Kelly's in a meaningful and innovative way. This will include looking at the way identities and their performances are analyzed by queer theory.

During the workshop we will explore feelings of failure and despondency and conditions like "impostor syndrome" and approach them with tools which arise from both Kelly's and Sacks's work.

## **PCP in the Mix**

**Mary Frances, Chiara Lui, Giovanni Stella (facilitators)**

*International PCP Lab, ICP Padua*

**Elena Bordin, Dennis Bury, Dasha Grajfoner, Clare Morris, Shenaz Kelly Rawat, Nicola Milani, Sally Robbins, Barbara Strobachová, Giulia Tomasi**

This lively informal session will feature a great mix of very short presentations. Each speaker will have just 6 minutes to share their idea, method, learning points, or project. Come and enjoy the mix, meet other conference delegates, find out who shares your interests, and be inspired. Topics include working with children, working with animals, finding our strengths, cooperating (or not) with standardised systems, working across languages, alternative education, helping young people with short films .. and more!

## **Leadership and Executive Coaching from Personal Construct Psychology Perspective**

**Dasha Grajfoner**

*Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh*

Personal construct psychology is often described as a precursor of coaching, due to its inherent tendency to promote ongoing experiential learning and evaluation. This is pertinent in all areas of coaching, however, it is essential in leadership and executive coaching, where the awareness of self and others and the ability to adapt as a leader are paramount for effective performance.

PCP with RGT as a tool enable a coach to explore learning and with it more existential issues, like values, traits, competencies, relationships and the process of making sense as a leader. In this skill-based workshop the delegates will be guided through all stages of RGT and invited to develop a conversation around the application of PCP and RGT in their own coaching consultancy.

## **Postural Stress – uncovering the message and changing patterns**

**Susanne Lakin**

The workshop provides an opportunity to explore the message associated with habitual patterns of physical posture when under stress, and to release the energy holding the pattern. It includes:

a discussion of the links between stress patterns, chronic illness and autoimmunity;  
identifying the feelings connected to the stress posture;  
eliciting the associated bipolar construct and laddering both poles;  
identifying the priority holding pattern and any past triggers using muscle monitoring;  
opening a stress programme with respect to the holding pattern using the vibrational Stress icon from Optimum Health Balance (OHB);  
releasing the stress using the OHB Daily Balance Card.

## **Case work examples of using a Personal Construct Psychology approach with Children and Adolescents**

**Heather Moran**

*Educational and Clinical Psychologist*

Working with children and young people using a PCP approach allows for therapists to tailor the intervention to suit a young person's interests and improve their engagement. This workshop will show some examples of case work using video and art work. It will also provide an opportunity to try an Elaboration Technique which is shown in one of the case studies.

## **Making and Breaking the Rules**

**Adele Pile**

*PCP Association, UK*

This workshop will take up the theme of sociality through the construction of rules that influence the daily lives of every one of us. The aim is to develop a dialogue of mutual understanding by exploring those rules that are common to different cultures and those that are divergent.

Which aspects of our core construing are operating when we consider which rules we feel we need to adhere to, which we can happily disregard and which create a dilemma? A workshop in this international gathering will be the ideal place to share our different experiences, challenge prejudices and perhaps minimise misunderstandings. Participants are invited to come with a sense of inquiry, share the enjoyment and perhaps discover something new about ourselves.

## **Intersubjectivity, Joint Action and Sociality: a discussion session**

**Harry Procter, Sabrina Cipolletta and Michael Mascolo**

*Universities of Hertfordshire, Padua and Merrimack College, USA*

Writers from such diverse traditions as phenomenology, social constructionism and developmental psychology have argued that intersubjectivity has primacy in relation to the development of individuality and the self. As early as 1902, Josiah Royce argued that We are "individuals only in social relations with others...The social is so primordial that even our conceptions of nature, as well as of the individual self are not initiatory but socially grounded." Colwyn Trevarthen, after studying the films of interaction between new-born infants and their caretakers concludes that it is an "error to infer that interaction between subjects can be explained by decomposing their behaviours and perceptual discriminations into cognitive components." Family therapists and social constructionists have argued that relationships demonstrate "circular causality" or "joint action" in which the patterns of interaction and conversations have a life of their



own and cannot be seen as being authored by the individual participants. What are the implications of these claims and observations for Personal Construct Psychology which starts its analysis with the individual Person, seeing personal construing as governing our actions, thoughts and emotions and arguing that our conduct comprises continual choice? The three of us will explore these dilemmas with an extended conversation allowing the audience to participate through exercises and discussion.

## **Intersubjectivity and PCP: Background Writings**

**Harry Procter**

*University of Hertfordshire*

This workshop will give some background to the discussion session that Sabrina Cipolletta, Michael Mascolo and I will be running at the conference. We will look here at how phenomenology, social constructionism, developmental psychology and family systems theorists have made sense of the concept of “intersubjectivity”. We will then look at the implications of these views for Personal Construct Psychology. PCP can help us define what a fully intersubjective relationship looks like, with implications for practice. Participants will be invited to fill in a Qualitative Grid to help focus on an example in their own experience.

## **Diagnosing Human Meaning Making: A Workshop on Diagnosis in Experiential Personal Construct Psychotherapy**

**Jill Thomas and Peter Cummins**

*Point Park University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA and Clarendon Practice, Coventry*

Experiential Personal Construct Psychology (EPCP) was developed by Professor Larry Leitner. It evolved from, “pursuing the profound implications arising from this sparse and skeletal (sociality) corollary” (Leitner, 1988). EPCP provides, “an integrating framework from which we consider each client’s ventures into, and withdrawals from the potentially terrifying yet meaningful work of intimate personal relationships” (Leitner & Faidley, 1993). Leitner et. al (2000) point out that, “from an Experiential Personal Construct perspective, a useful diagnostic system must illuminate how the client negotiates ROLE relationships and, thus, must point to ways of helping the client in his or her life struggles.”

This workshop will start with a brief introduction to the Experiential Personal Construct Psychotherapy (EPCP) diagnostic system components, through the use of case illustrations. Subsequently, participants will have the opportunity to clarify concepts through discussion and gain practice with EPCP case conceptualization through guided diagnostic exercises using case examples.

## **Discussion session: Practitioner-academic writing collaborations**

**Led by Viv Burr**

*University of Huddersfield*

Many PCP practitioners are using PCP in innovative and exciting ways, but because they often do not publish their work it tends not to reach a wider audience. This is a great pity, because PCP approaches have much to offer the wider practitioner and research communities. Academics, on the other hand, (at least in the UK) are under pressure from their institutions to publish but sometimes do not have suitable material to write up for a journal. In this brief discussion session, we will explore the desirability and feasibility of a collaborative network of practitioners and academics to foster joint publications.

# **Papers**

## **Assessing Perceptions of Di Fausto's Neo-Traditional Architecture based on Personal Construct Theory**

**Ahmed Agiel, Jon Lang and Peter Caputi**

*United Arab Emirates University and Universities of New South Wales and Wollongong*

Currently there is a major debate in architectural thinking between two groups of people. One of them rejects the past architecture of their culture completely while the other one builds a new architecture based on the past. Using personal construct methodology, this study looks at whether the work of Florestano Di Fausto (1890-1965), as expressed in three Libyan designs of the 1930s, is successful in achieving the goal of being perceived as local, aesthetically pleasing and modern/up-to-date, in the view of both the laypeople and architects of an area. A sample of 95 subjects participated in this study, including laypeople and architects (aged 19-70) selected from the three Libyan cities of Tripoli, Ghadames and Yefren which are located in different climatic, geographical and cultural regions. Each city has a unique vernacular architecture. Results showed that a different architectural 'brand image' exists in each locale and that the inhabitants of each city have an 'ideal image' of their built environment.

## **Construing Indigenous Dubai Families' Sociocultural Needs of Houses Using Repertory Grid Techniques (RGT)**

**Meera Alfalasi and Ahmed Agiel**

*United Arab Emirates University*

Globalization has brought massive changes to the UAE. As a result, many challenges have increased in the region. Emirati families, in particular, witnessed problems resulting from houses that are either incompatible with their personal needs or their cultural traditions. This study aims to understand contemporary issues facing Emirati families as end-users of modern houses in contrast with their past. Repertory Grid Techniques (RGT) will be used in this study to construe the socio-cultural needs of Emirati families. A number of families who were living in Shindgha (the Old City of Dubai) accepted participation in this study. The traditional houses they resided, in the past, and the houses they live in now will be the case studies of this research. The completion of this study will allow for the formulation of guides that can work as a reference for architects and designers to better understand of Emirati culture and their needs as seen from different aspects.

## **Academic leadership roles and work life experiences: Improving Quality by Attending to Professional Identity**

**Britt-Marie Apelgren, Marie-Louise Österlind and Pamela Denicolo**

*Universities of Gothenburg, Kristianstad and Reading*

This paper discusses academic leadership from a PCP- perspective. The proposed research is part of a planned project focusing on academic teacher-researcher-leader in Swedish higher education. Drawing on Kompf & Brown's (2005) theories of teachers' personal and professional ideas about the practice - superordinate constructs nexus, we aim to explore and gain a deeper understanding of their core identity (Denicolo, Long and Bradley-Cole 2016). This is related to being a good teacher-researcher-leader in the



current politic-economic context of higher education: tensions between reforms based on managerial logic from the business world and the pedagogic processes informed by professional academic logic (Pettersen, 2015), have an impact on all aspects of the academic role.

## **Sociality in conflict resolution in Northern Ireland: application of the Perceiver Element Grid.**

**Paul J Barbour and Dorota Bourne**

*Henley Business School, University of Reading*

PCP offers a powerful framework for understanding the conflict and dispute between two parties and the unpacking of the construing of thereof. The bulk of the literature on PCP conflict resolution is placed in a context of family and small group. In this paper, we present the analysis of commonality and sociality in a context of long-standing conflict in Northern Ireland. We used Harry Procter's Perceiver Element Grid (PEG) in order to map the construing of the representatives from the two main communities in Northern Ireland, who remain diametrically opposed to each other, following 30 years of violent conflict and a subsequent 20-year peace process. We draw conclusions as to the relationship between commonality and sociality and their role in conflict resolution. We also discuss the potential of the PEG in improving inter community relationships and to serve as a powerful tool in conflict resolution.

## **Why do we use Repertory Grids?**

**Richard Bell**

*University of Melbourne*

This may seem an odd question coming from one who has spent nearly 40 years analysing grid data, but it is a question that, more and more, I find myself asking of others for whom I analyse grid data. Mostly they struggle to answer it. And those who can are usually unaware that the answers they seek will be affected by the design of the grid they have used, and the artefacts imposed by the methods of analysis we are using to produce these answers. In this paper, a number of these issues will be reviewed, leading to the conclusion that, for day-to-day usage, particularly in clinical settings, simplest is probably best.

## **Social Network Analysis: A unified representation for grid data**

**Richard Bell**

*University of Melbourne*

In the 1970's a common way (at least in the UK) of representing relationships (e.g., correlations) among constructs was through a hand-drawn diagram where constructs were points linked by lines that represented correlations of an acceptably large magnitude. Fransella and Bannister (1977, pages 127, 130, and 139) showed a few examples of this. The practice fell out of fashion, probably partly because it was hard work, and partly because there seemed to be something arbitrary about the process. Meanwhile in the primarily sociological, social network world such representations became commonplace, particularly

with the advent of high speed personal computing. This paper will show how social network analysis representations can be used to represent relationships in almost any kind of grid data, be it from implications grids, dependency grids, or the repertory grid itself.

## **Work as Meaning: The Role of Socialised Culture**

**Ron Boddy and Devi Jankowicz**

*Edinburgh Business School, Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh*

The modern conceptualisation of the psychological contract recognises a tacit mental schema, spanning all aspects of an employee's perception of work. It seems reasonable to suggest that it has all of the qualities of a mental construction system designed to reduce uncertainty, entirely consistent with Kellian theory.

The paper draws on doctoral research that uses Repertory Grid Analysis to compare the work constructs of Czech and non-Czech staff within the Czech and UK subsidiaries of the same company, examining antecedent effects of culture and individual experiences on psychological contract formation and development. Specific attention is given to the Sociality and Commonality Corollaries as a mechanism for the social construction of knowledge and meaning as part of the process.

The findings show that both nationalities prioritize the social qualities of work, but differ significantly in some respects, strongly suggesting that these differences are attributable to socialised culture and history.

## **Proposing a 'Three Levels Model' to guide psychotherapy: The outcome of an IPA study exploring the experiences of hard determinist therapists.**

**Isabel Brunton and Helen Ellis-Caird**

*Anglia Ruskin University and University of Hertfordshire*

A genuine and empathic therapeutic relationship, therapist allegiance to model, and therapist self-reflection are known to be linked with positive therapy outcomes. However, how one attains and nurtures these qualities of effective therapy is not well understood. The paper to be presented here proposes a 'Three Levels Model' of psychotherapy which suggests that reflecting deterministically with clients in formulating difficulties, while also encouraging clients to experience a sense of 'free will' in the moment, could help encourage a genuine and empathic therapeutic relationship and move therapy towards positive outcomes. The model also suggests a benefit to therapists of reflecting on their own deeper held beliefs about human agency, within supervision. The model proposed here emerged from an IPA study exploring the experiences of hard determinist therapists. The methods and results of this study will thus also be discussed, illustrating how two particular themes emerging from the study, gave rise to the model proposed.

## **The personal meaning of outdoor spaces: using grids to qualitatively explore constructions of the environment**

**Viv Burr and Nigel King**

*University of Huddersfield*

There is now considerable literature that documents the benefits to people that contact and engagement with the outdoors may bring. However, the role of personal meaning in understanding these benefits has not been explored. We previously reported some preliminary findings from early participants in this study, in which we interviewed a total of 13 women and men using a repertory

grid technique. We use as elements a variety of images of outdoor spaces, including some judged as 'untamed', some as 'managed nature' and some as 'man-made'. Elicited constructs appeared to cohere around a number of issues, such as 'untouched' vs 'human imprint', 'wild' vs 'controlled', 'safe' vs 'dangerous' and 'energising' vs 'stressful'. In this paper we will present updated findings from the study, look in more depth at some of the construct constellations it suggests, and use our findings to discuss the implications of these personal meanings for our understanding of the benefits of engagement with nature.

## **The experience of love and romantic choices**

**Anna Celli and Giovanna Malangone**

*School of Specialization in Constructivist Psychotherapy (CESIPc), Florence*

It is quite common to find ourselves involved in conversations about love with our clients and in these occasions bewildering emotional questions can arise: what is love? What do we experience when we live a romantic relationship? Why do we fall in love with that particular person? Considering how crucially important it is to understand as all these questions can be proficiently reinterpreted within the psychotherapeutic process, we tried to approach and comprehend the theme of love within the perspective of hermeneutic constructivism, focusing on the relational aspect inherent in our way of experiencing and transcending the I-thou dichotomy. Thus, referring to the theoretical framework of Psychology of Personal Constructs by Kelly according to which subjectivity is essentially "relational" and human beings are basically "forms of motion", we will be able to explore the love experience and romantic relationships in terms of elaborative choices.

## **Sociality in Personal Construct Theory: From Edinburgh 1930 to Edinburgh 2018**

**Gabriele Chiari**

*School of Specialization in Constructivist Psychotherapy (CESIPc), Florence*

In 1930 a twenty-five-year-old George A. Kelly lived in Edinburgh and attended the local University where he received a bachelor's degree in Education. His thesis has never been found, but its search allowed the discovery of a manuscript titled "Social Inheritance", presumably written during his stay in Scotland. The paper supports an interest for social issues already present in his earlier writings, alternated, oddly enough, with an involvement in neuro- and psychophysiology, not to mention engineering. I shall argue for the thesis that the subsequent elaboration of his theory can be related to the attempt to resolve this and other "fragmented" aspects of his personality. The presentation is enriched by unpublished snapshots of the Edinburgh's days taken by Kelly's then fiancée Gladys and given through the kind courtesy of their daughter Jacqueline.

## **An oblique reappraisal: Contemporary psychoanalysis leads back to personal construct psychotherapy**

**Gabriele Chiari**

*School of Specialization in Constructivist Psychotherapy (CESIPc), Florence*

Kelly has been repeatedly critical of the psychoanalysis he knew, regarded as an expression of accumulative fragmentalism which offers a view of the person as passively pushed by drives and as the theatre of intrapsychic conflicts. If only Kelly had lived longer, he would have changed his mind

and rejoiced over the inclusion of some central aspects of his theory, above all sociality, into the developments of psychoanalysis. It is in fact in the last few decades that psychoanalysis has given rise to developments such as object relations theory, interpersonal psychoanalysis, psychoanalytic self psychology, relational psychoanalysis, and intersubjective psychoanalysis, marking a radical departure from Freud. Some representatives of this innovative movement declare to embrace a constructivist view of knowledge and truth. The convergence between contemporary psychoanalysis and the “old” personal construct psychotherapy is such as to make a dialogue between the two not only now possible but even desirable.

## **Re-construing Challenging Behaviour**

**Clare Coppock**

*National Health Service*

Young people with Intellectual Disabilities, or neurodevelopmental conditions such as Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), may present with behaviour that is construed as challenging by those around them. This paper aims to explore behaviour as a form of communication that occurs in response to patterns of construal and anticipation of events. This paper will summarise ways in which the principles of Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) can be used by caregivers in order to develop an understanding of the construal processes of their young people. In identifying the antecedents and consequences of behaviours, their functions can be better understood. Using this type of approach can support the improvement of sociality between caregivers and young people, whilst simultaneously resulting in a reduction in the frequency and severity of behaviours that challenge. Clinical examples will be presented throughout in order to illustrate the points discussed.

## **The Hero's Journey: with Ironman and Rick Sanchez**

**David Dansky and Clare Morris**

*PCP Association, UK*

The Hero's Journey, a narrative structure, common to ancient mythology, modern literature, film and television is described by Joseph Campbell in his 1949 book *A Hero with A Thousand Faces*. Campbell's description of a person's experiences in dealing with a challenge drew heavily on Jung's view of myths and archetypes (the Herald, the Mentor, the Goddess, the Trickster, etc.) to describe the stages leading to their transformation.

In this paper we explore the stages involved in the hero's transformation using Kelly's constructs of transition, the experience cycle and the alternative construing of the world, Campbell's underworld. We illustrate this by exploring the journeys experience by Marvel's superhero Ironman and the anti-hero Rick Sanchez from the animated series *Rick and Morty*. We conclude by outlining the practical uses of this narrative structure in helping people deal with challenges and changes in their lives such as dealing with relationships, managing addiction, PTSD and depression.

# **Sport Psychology from a comprehensive PCP point of view**

**Francesca Del Rizzo**

*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

PCP range of convenience has proved to be quite large extending from psychotherapy to educational psychology, from organizations to arts, passing through couples and families.

One of the fields in which PCP can fully demonstrate its usefulness is sport psychology. In the past, thanks in particular to the contributions of Butler, Savage and Fisher, we had important examples of the way in which PCP tools can help to understand and facilitate athletes' and coaches' experiences.

In this paper I will try to look comprehensively at sportpersons' experience through the lenses of PCP and in particular of the Sociality Corollary.

## **Looking to the world with transformed eyes: the case of forgiveness**

**Francesca Del Rizzo**

*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

In this paper I will elaborate on the topic of forgiveness seen from a PCP point of view. I will define it as the choice and the act to subsume one's own and the other's point of view with a superordinate and comprehensive relational construction of "person". I will argue that this transition can be the consequence of the construction both of the forgiver's and of the forgiven's construction processes by a person who experienced a guilt transition. Thanks to evidences from clinical cases, literature and history, I will underline the transformative power of this process for the forgiver.

## **On construing a disorder: an unusual case of borderline**

**Nada Dimcović**

*The Serbian Union of Associations for Psychotherapy*

A young man came to psychotherapy, claiming that he has BPD. The general impression is of a polite person, relaxed and spontaneous in communication, well-read and interested in psychology. The problem, as he describes it, is his lifelong emotional reaction to rejection. For the last two years his relationship with a lady friend went up and down, the "downs" leaving him desperate and feeling totally worthless. He has been working in many capacities, one of his engagement was a role in a film, where he was seen as talented. Mark's parents divorced, after lots of home violence, when he was seven. Over the years he has been diagnosed as having enuresis, encopresis, ADHD and depression. He was not able to walk for a while, so his mother took him around in a kind of wheelchair. Did he really have all of these? "No", he said, "she needed me disabled. I hated it, but I was just acting to help my mum to get the ownership of the flat". How about his "borderline" condition? Is he now, at the age of 35, acting as "borderline", acting as "normal", or both? The therapeutic relationship can best be described as a working alliance. We are investigating his many roles comprising his dominant narrative, and trying to find out the ways for him to break the circle.

# **Thinking about the future: Examining climate risk perceptions in the electricity sector (Canada)**

**Anna Dowbiggin (Presented by Devi Jankowicz)**  
*Edinburgh Business School, Heriot Watt University, Scotland*

The risks to industry presented by climate change have largely been thought of as being only physical in nature. Climate risks are particularly salient for the electricity sector where sudden and high impact weather events create negative outcomes for business operations; however, they also create systemic and secondary risks on an even greater scale. This paper draws on doctoral research that uses the repertory grid technique to compare and contrast the constructs of decision makers in two key Canadian utilities: electricity power production and retail distributors. It examines the impact of eight influences on decision maker thinking of how those companies expect to manage climate risks in the next 5-10 years.

Attention is given to the construction corollary and the commonality corollary. The findings show that both groups are fixated on risk analysis and less so on action/response and that both groups feel strongly influenced by governmental policies.

## **Reconstructing humour, in relation to conflict**

**Kieran Duignan**  
*Edinburgh Business School*

Definitions of humour, classified as a 'character strength by leading advocates of positive psychology, are noted. Transcripts of three excerpts of conversations are briefly analysed by a critic to address research questions about humour and disagreement Research of Mildred McCoy (1977) on professional constructs of transition is summarised with particular reference to her emphasis on two distinct stages in the specification by George Kelly of a professional construct of transition, and to her caustic comments about extant research on emotions. Seven items from her glossary of PCP-defined emotions are related to the transcripts. Applications of the model in coaching and counselling are noted.

## **PCP and the multiple self**

**Vladimir Džinović**  
*Institute for Educational Research, Belgrade*

Constructivism is familiar with the idea of the self as a community of personal and others' positions or 'voices'. In this paper the multiple self is explored in two contexts: students' constructions of their school achievement and the treatment of anxiety. The modified version of the constructivist rologram technique is used to facilitate the conversations in the interviews. For the portrayal of the relationships in the self the explanatory model of the community of the self is applied. The key findings suggest that: a) there is a dominant voice which accounts for the school underachievement and makes it intelligible; b) there is a lack of role relationship between personal positions and the positions of significant others which take part in the internal dialogue; b) the communities of the selves of the individuals with anxiety problems are characterized by more intense conflicts in comparison with those of the school underachievers.

# **Using dyad repertory grids to explore the construing of relationships in high secure care patients who have committed serious sexual or non-sexual violence**

**Chris Evans and Jo-Anne Carlyle**

*Universities of Sheffield and Exeter*

Fifty-one male patients in a UK high secure hospital completed dyad grids. They had a 2x2 design: mental illness *vs.* personality disorder diagnosis/label and offences of sexual violence *vs.* non-sexual. Grids were fixed with 12 elements with the dyad others: friend, father, mother, partner, victim and therapist and eight constructs: understanding, sexually attracted to, controlling, rejecting, loving, neglecting, sexually intimidating & protective. There are many ways to construe the construing of the participants. In the original study conventional *a priori* predictions for group comparisons were made in terms of “restricted” construing of self/victim, self/father and self/mother using self/friend as a reference dyad. Statistically significant findings for the first were very clear for offence type and not diagnosis/label, non-significant results were found for the other two predictions. These findings will be presented but also other, increasingly idiographic ways of construing the construing of these men. Time will be given for discussion of these.

## **The notion of internal conflict in PCP and psychoanalytic theories**

**Chris Evans and Guillem Feixas**

*Universities of Sheffield and Barcelona*

This presentation is an attempt to develop sociality and to explore commonalities among theoretical approaches. The idea of internal conflict has been there very early on in Freud and other psychoanalytic thinkers. Kelly’s fragmentation corollary set the stage for the development of a conceptualization of internal conflict in terms of implicative dilemmas. But still, other corollaries (e.g., choice corollary) are essential to understand that notion. Although the notion of internal conflict has remained central in psychoanalytic theories, it is rarely articulated as clearly as it in PCP.

In this presentation a comparison between various psychoanalytic formulations of internal conflict and implicative dilemmas. A relevant issue in this discussion is the role of pre-verbal construing in PCP and unconscious psychological processes, as depicted by various psychoanalytical formulations. Contributions from the audience on this subject will be welcome.

## **Personal Construct therapy for depressive symptoms in fibromyalgia: A proposed model for case conceptualization and research protocol**

**Guillem Feixas, Victoria Compañ, Mari Aguilera,**

*University of Barcelona*

Fibromyalgia is a complex chronic condition characterized by generalized pain and impaired functioning. Depressive symptoms exacerbate the clinical profile of these patients and decrease their response to the various treatments at use, none of those proven as effective. Since current recommendations for the treatment of fibromyalgia suggest that interventions must be tailored to the psychosocial and functioning profile of the patients, our research group is running a randomized controlled trial comparing personal construct and cognitive-behavioral therapies both using case formulation. This presentation is based on a clinical to illustrate the case formulation model used for personal construct therapy. In this particular case, formulation was focused on internal conflicts and thus dilemma-focused interventions were the main focus of treatment. However, other notions such as cognitive rigidity and the hostility cycle will also be described.



# **Personal Identity from a Personal Construct Perspective**

**Guillem Feixas and David Winter**

*Universities of Barcelona and Hertfordshire*

The dynamic processes of identity and meaning reconstruction can be considered to be central to significant human changes and personal transitions. They involve delicate balancing of the need for belonging with that for differentiation; and of the need for change in aspects of identity with that for continuity and coherence. The various theoretical approaches, both psychological and sociological, that have been applied to such processes will be outlined, and it will be argued that personal construct psychology can provide an integrative perspective as well as a powerful methodology for the investigation of identity and its change. Examples of the personal construct approach will be provided from various domains, including psychotherapy, radicalisation, religious conversion, and immigration.

## **(Too) many things for one single life - Sociality in Life Story Interviews of Czech older adults**

**Miroslav Filip**

*Institute of Psychology of the Czech Academy of Sciences*

Difficulties experienced by people in old age such as ageism, low subjective well-being, or despair may be related to breakdown of sociality in their close social environment or in society in general. In the paper I present analyses of Life Story Interviews (McAdams) derived from an extensive project with Czech older adults. Following the personal construct theory and the theory of dialogical self, I distinguish interviews with developed and undeveloped sociality. Participants in the former category focus on relationships in their life stories and express an understanding of persons important for their lives (including the persons who they evaluate negatively). At the same time, in life-stories of these participants a dynamic structure of subjective "self-positions" creating "inner sociality" can be identified. I compare results of these analyses with participants' scores on scales of Erikson's ego-integrity and well-being. Finally, I discuss how these results fit the initial hypothesis.

## **Tattoo in haste, repent at leisure?**

**John Fisher**

*C2D*

Tattoos are becoming more and more prevalent in society and TV shows showing both the positive and negative sides of tattooing (e.g. the "Ink" series, Tattoo Fixers, etc.). Some of the reasons for a tattoo have been explored by Desley Hennessy (2011)

It can be argued that getting a (memorial/life affirming/drunken/shit) tattoo is becoming a rite of passage for young people especially on holiday in some of the hotspots of Europe. However, for some, this impulse and/or drunken purchase can turn into "buyer's remorse" and regret.

Having already used Harry Procter's (2014) Time/Event Grid in exploring people's perception of an 8 day training course (2014) I felt that this was an ideal way to look at the meaning people gave their tattoo at different points in time and juxtapose that with their perception of how other people saw the tattoo.

# **Personal constructs of people with psychosis: A systematic review of Repertory Grid studies**

**Helena García Mieres, Noelia Niño-Robles, Susana Ochoa Güerre and Guillem Feixas**  
*University of Barcelona and Research and Development Unit, Parc Sanitari Sant Joan de Déu*

Research in psychosis has been one of the most salient topics in PCT studies of clinical psychology, especially since the pioneering work led by Bannister in the 1960's. However, since a pair of critical reviews (Pierce, Sewel & Cromwell, 1992; Winter, 1992) there has not been any attempt to update and bring together evidence in this topic in a systematic way. In this paper, we systematically review and synthesize all the information related to the study of identity and personal meanings of self and others in people with psychosis. We limited our search to those studies published after 1992 which operationalized these concepts in terms of personal constructs, and assessed them using the Repertory Grid Technique. We highlight gaps in the current literature, implications for clinical practice, and outline future directions for the application of PCT research in psychosis.

## **The story of psychotherapy with an abused woman**

**Massimo Giliberto**  
*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

Originally given at the XXII International Congress on PCP in Montreal, this presentation is a further elaboration of a case of a female victim of domestic violence. It is the exploration of the client-therapist relationship and the story of their experiences in the context of psychotherapy. Using the Personal Construct approach, I intend to investigate how the therapist understands his client and how this understanding channels new experiments in the psychotherapy room and in the life of a woman who repeatedly chose violent partners. It also explores how these new experiences contribute to changing the client's identity constructs, helping her to change from the role of 'victim' and to have her life in her hands.

## **Constructivist teaching: beyond the toolbox, the ICP experience**

**Massimo Giliberto, Chiara Lui and Elena Sagliocco**  
*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

"Role" is a construct that emerges from Sociality (Kelly, 1955). What can we say about the role of the constructivist teacher? The paper aims to present the Institute of Constructivist Psychology's teaching experience, starting from the assumption that being a constructivist teacher doesn't mean to handle just a toolbox, but implies a role relationship with students that changes from time to time. They are invited to abandon the passive role of students to embody the psychotherapist-in-training one since the first time. The class is considered as a learning community where the psychotherapists-in-training are invited to creatively co-construct the boundaries within which their own learning possibilities take life.

# **Sociality and the Expert Witness in Court** **(How to construe ‘expertise’ in the formal Court setting)**

**Ian Gillman-Smith**

*Psychotherapist, Social Worker and Expert Witness*

This paper will examine the role of the Expert Witness in formal UK Court settings, with respect to giving evidence under cross examination. A Court ‘Expert’ will be construed in a multitude of manners by the various parties. The constructs around ‘expertise’ can potentially be self-limiting, however through the lens of sociality, this can allow for an elaboration of narratives before any Court. The role of the Expert is to provide a superordinate construal of any matter before the Court and such an engagement itself is likely to impact on the outcome of any case. Therefore, there is a challenge to taking a credulous approach but also making explicit a professional formulation, that may have an extensive impact on the direction of any case, an individual’s access to liberty and a direct impact on their Human Rights.

## **Live free or die: Robert Frost and the Choice Corollary**

**David Green**

*University of Leeds*

I have never really “got” the choice corollary. It strikes me as inherently untestable and does not much match my own experience of making decisions. However Kelly’s notion of the elaborative choice that promises to extend the individual’s construct system does chime closely with the much quoted final couplet of the American poet Robert Frost’s most celebrated poem “The Road Not Taken” which reads: “Two roads diverged in a wood and I - I - took the one less travelled by. And that has made all the difference”.

These lines taken out of context seem to celebrate decision-taking that is both adventurous and individualistic. A closer reading of the whole poem provides a much more nuanced picture of the complexity of choice. Frost appears to be saying that on another day he would probably have chosen differently and he hasn’t really got much of a clue why he opted for one route rather than another. These positions are consistent with Kahneman’s model of economic decision-taking and some intriguing experimental investigations into the post-hoc explanations people give for the choices they make. The paper closes with a brief personal reflection on how come the author chose to join the PCP club instead of the “more travelled” psychological groupings open to him.

## **Exploring Leadership Identity in Western European Leaders Using Repertory Grid Technique**

**Susanne Johanna Hardt and Dasha Grajfoner**

*Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh*

Repertory Grid Technique offers a holistic and insightful method to explore leadership identity. In leadership research and practice leader identity (LI) plays an important role. LI underlines leader’s motivation, effective leadership and performance, and contributes to the development of organisational culture. However, research investigating LI is limited. Thus, this study uses the repertory grid technique to explore factors that leaders from western countries use to construe their role-identity. One-hundred and forty-four constructs were elicited from 21 western leaders, using triadic elicitation and analysed with Honey’s content analysis, which identified three broad LI categories. These categories and associated constructs will be illustrated by two case studies of a junior and a senior leader. The presentation will highlight the implications and future recommendations for both, leadership research and practice.

## **Perceptions of mothers in health care**

**Emma Holder**

*University of Hertfordshire*

This study aimed to explore the personal constructs of mothers in health care, their own role, that of the doctors and how they felt the doctors they consulted construed them in their role. In addition, the study aimed to explore how these construals influenced whether a consultation was considered satisfactory or less than satisfactory. Satisfactory experiences were linked in the study, to mothers feeling validated in their role, accurately anticipating the outcomes of consultations and experiencing a greater sense of mutual understanding with the doctors. The study offers an interesting reflection on the influence of both personal agency and societal factors on how the role of mothers is viewed. It also offers recommendations regarding how doctors may consult with mothers to develop a positive and productive interaction and outcome.

## **Sociality Depends on Negotiation**

**Devi Jankowicz**

*Edinburgh Business School, Heriot-Watt University*

When we use a grid to understand someone, we describe what we're doing as *eliciting constructs* – using our expertise as if we were pulling teeth from a person's head. Yet a moment's reflection on grid procedure indicates something more subtle: we are *negotiating over meaning*. Without reflection on the interviewee's part, there may be no constructs in the first place– s/he may not have thought about the topic before. Without encouragement to be specific, what s/he has to offer may be banal. Without some discussion of the underlying values, s/he may not be sure of what really needs to be expressed if s/he is to be properly understood. This is pre-eminently an exercise in sociality; but, because the negotiation is interactive, sociality is always a two-way process. This process is particularly explicit when grids are used as the technique, but my argument applies equally to other ways of identifying constructs.

## ***Like me on Instagram: adolescents' self construction and interpersonal experience***

**Clelia Malighetti and Sabrina Cipolletta**

*University of Padua*

The main purpose of the study was to explore the influence of the use of Instagram on adolescents' constructions of self and on their interpersonal experience. Forty Italian adolescents aged between 11 and 16 years were interviewed and completed repertory grids in order to explore their use of Instagram and construction of themselves, some elements linked to Instagram, and other people. The results showed that the adolescents' self-construction and distance from others were mostly influenced by receiving, or not receiving, positive feedback, rather than by using Instagram itself. Furthermore, the results showed an increase in social isolation when adolescents evaluated themselves on Instagram. These findings are useful in understanding the constant need for approval from followers which adolescents require today, and could be used as a guiding tool for future studies and intervention policies in terms of teenagers' social networking practices.

## **Staff assessment: the evaluator/evaluated relationship between hope and concern**

**Mauro Martinelli**

*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

In public organizations the need for staff assessment constitutes a legal obligation and it is necessary to carry out a periodic activity. For evaluator and evaluated the evaluation system corresponds to rewarding system (economic incentives and career progression) loading this activity with mainly economic significances and identifying in the evaluator, the hierarchical superior, the one who has the power to favour, slow down or block the evaluated career. Starting from this assumption, the evaluator-evaluated relationship is analysed through the technique of laddering, trying to hypothesize the different constructions that the two subjects can experience within the relationship and, starting from these new points of view, to propose changes to the system that can expand the perceptive and operational field of those who use it.

### **Who is the person behind a "psychiatric" patient?**

**Nicola Milani, Lorenza Specia, Alessia Dalla Vedova and Martina Bardin**

*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

In 1978 the Basaglia's Italian law, that closed the institution of mental asylum, gave an alternative answer to his question: what is psychiatry? This matter is, for us, more than ever current and critical. The public mental health service seems to look at the so-called psychiatric patient as if 40 years have not passed, finding itself, in our opinion, unprepared to face the changes in the type of disorders and, for example, in the age of onset. Can PCP look at this phenomenon and try to give new questions and new answers to that old query that could perhaps be alternatively, and more usefully, so formulated: who is the person behind a patient that today benefits from psychiatric services and how to help him?

### **‘Touch points’ in the application process - Two different purposes of the Repertory Grid Technique**

**Cordelia Mühlbach and Claudia Fantapié Altobelli**

*Helmut Schmidt University, Hamburg*

This study centres on a comparison between a self-administered paper-based version of the repertory grid technique utilised in group discussions (N = 33) and the original in-depth interview (N = 20). The study was embedded in a broader research project analysing the application process of the Federal Armed Forces Germany (‘Bundeswehr’). While touch points (e.g. career websites or advertisements) possess a tremendous relevance during the application process, there is a high interest to explore the candidates' perception of the employer (practical objective). The additional methodological objective was to examine the usability of embedded repertory grid technique. Main results from this exploratory approach allow for two complementary conclusions. The practical objective: The revealed individual perception indicates the importance of personal contact between potential employer and target group during the application process. The methodological objective: Adequately embedding the repertory grid technique into another research method, aiming at combining the advantages of both.

# **Disrupting Hate Discourses through the Adoption of the “Get Ready to Act Against Social Media Propaganda” Model (Virtual Presentation from Canada)**

**Nadia Naffi and Ann-Louise Davidson**  
*Concordia University, Montreal, Canada*

In the era of alternative facts and fake news, research on youth and social media places youth in the role of victims easily influenced by the online propaganda. Based on 146 hours of in-depth interview with 42 youth between 18 and 24 years old from North America, Europe and the Middle East, and using tools adapted from PCP to discuss the mass cyberbullying and hate speech targeting Syrian refugees and Muslims, we identified a five-step model called “Get Ready to Act Against Social Media Propaganda”. This model works on the idea that learning about oneself and understanding one’s own behaviours in social media propaganda contexts is key to transform passive bystanders into agents of change. It helps youth delve into the issues and face what holds them back. The model is a potential solution to disrupt hate discourses and cyberbullying. Its strength lies in its adaptability to contexts where “othering” occurs and is heavily influenced and reinforced by social media. In these contexts, refugees, indigenous people, LGBTQ+ groups, Blacks and other groups are victimized through social media and many people opt for a passive bystander stance while their agency could make a difference.

## **Love and violence: A constructivist reading of conflicting relationships**

**Maria Cristina Ortu, Alessandra Petrolati and Manola Alfredetti**  
*School of Specialization in Constructivist Psychotherapy, CESIPc, Padua*

We will explore couple relationships based solely on conflict and couple relationships that evolve in violent ways, referring to validation and nonvalidation strategies (Walker, 2002; Winter, 2003; Chiari, 2016). Specifically, we hypothesise that the personal characteristics of the two partners feed and sustain the cycle of violence, making this cycle the most elaborative choice for both parties. Our perspective in this paper moves definitively beyond the traditional understanding of domestic violence as a victim/perpetrator binary, which we had begun to question in our earlier contributions (Ortu e Zoppi, 2014; Alfredetti e Ortu, 2016). We will also present additional elaborations of the core roles of the people involved, further distinguishing between relationships characterised by repeated violence and relationships characterised by episodes of fatal violence, in which one partner kills the other.

## **The core narratives of Italians outside Italy: a constructivist analysis**

**Alessandra Petrolati**  
*School of Specialization in Constructivist Psychotherapy, CESIPc, Padua*

This paper aims to share insights acquired through clinical experience supporting Italians living abroad in the UK and other European countries. The theoretical framework of my analysis is hermeneutic constructivism and in particular the forms of uncompleted recognition (Chiari 2015; 2016). I will explore how the decision to move to a foreign country was the most elaborative choice for my clients, referring to the path of uncompleted recognition in the form of contempt and, more briefly, of fusion. I will also explore how disorder (meant as a nonvalidation choice) took shape once they moved to a new cultural context. Finally, I will trace the most significant themes through which our therapeutic conversations unfolded.

# **Sociality coaching as a key factor in leadership development**

**Alessia Ranieri and Dorota Bourne**

*Henley Business School, University of Reading*

The literature on leadership and the conceptualisation of the process of leadership development have been through multiple transitions and attempts to incorporate various perspectives from the fields of psychology as well as sociology, ranging from trait theories to psychodynamic perspectives (Jago, 1982; Yulk, 1990; Bass, 2008; Bolden 2011).

The contribution of PCP to this discussion has been fairly limited to date. This paper addresses this gap and offers a look at the process of leadership development from the PCP perspective. In particular, we focus on the notion of sociality creation between the leader and his/her followers and explore the powerful potential of this perspective in numerous contexts ranging from the managerial and organisational one to general social aspect of leadership. We propose a model of leadership development centred around sociality and also develop further the idea of Personal Construct Coaching introduced by Stojnov which plays a fundamental role in leader's evolution and maturation.

## **Exploration of female care leavers' personal constructs regarding staff-child relationships in an Intensive Support Children's Home in Northern Ireland.**

**Jenni Rice and Judith Mullineux**

*South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust, Ulster University*

Young people admitted to care have often experienced multiple traumatic events or ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) leading to disrupted attachments and bonds with their primary care givers in their early years. During their time in residential care, staff have the opportunity to rebuild some of these bonds and attachments in an attempt to help them build safe, meaningful and trusting relationships with others. This study explored the personal constructs of female adults and asked them to reflect on their relationships with staff.

Self-characterisations (Kelly 1955) were completed with five female care leavers.

The personal constructs of each participant were explored and common themes across the self-characterisations were identified. In terms of the staff-child relationship individual constructs such as "using drugs as a coping mechanism vs. using the support provided by staff" and "anxious vs. at ease" were elicited. The themes of trust reciprocity and continuity were identified.

## **Personal constructs of mind-body identity in people who experience Medically Unexplained Symptoms (MUS)**

**Tom Sanders**

*University of Hertfordshire*

'Medically Unexplained Symptoms' (MUS) refers to chronic physical symptoms for which no clear medical cause can be identified, which are associated with significant psychological distress and functional impairment. MUS raise fascinating and complex issues of mind-body identity. This project modified the Repertory Grid method to systematically explore how twenty individuals experiencing MUS construed self and others in both bodily and psychological ways. A number of



key grid indices were correlated with measures of anxiety, depression and symptom severity. Findings suggested that constructs related to unexplained symptoms are highly integrated with participants' wider mind-body construct systems. Implicative dilemmas relating to symptoms of both an intrapersonal and interpersonal nature were also identified within the construct systems of several participants. The modified repertory grid can be a tool for facilitating integrated formulation and the therapeutic reconstruction of mind-body identity for those experiencing MUS.

### **On a storytelling-based-sociality in healthcare: Tale of medical tales**

**Daniela Scaglione**

*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

Keeping a focus on stories, storytelling and meaning, the author explores the concept of Sociality, in Kellian terms, taking contributions from different scientific theories: placebo studies, psychoneuroimmunology, neuroscience of storytelling, extraordinary patients' studies in oncology, preverbal communication and modern physics. By evaluating, for each of them, what kind of advantages can come from focusing on a storytelling-based-sociality, the role of a PCP approach in healthcare is considered and encouraged.

### **I killed my child(ren): Construing pathways to filicide**

**Precious Sedumedi**

*University of Hertfordshire*

Following Kelly's (1955) notion of sociality, this study attempts to construe the construction processes and meanings of fathers who kill their child/children. It argues that intimate/marital problems contribute to the occurrence of filicide. Semi-structured interviews scheduled according to the Experience Cycle Methodology (ECM) proforma (Oades & Viney, 2012), Kelly's (1955) diagnostic constructs, the Perceiver Element Grid (Procter, 2002), ECM analytic categories (Oades & Viney, 2012), and Tschudi's (1977) ABC model were employed. Presented is the categorisation of pathways to filicide in terms of personal construct theory. The pathways to filicide draw on Winter's (2003) pathways to violence. Clinical implications which include the assessment and treatment of such offenders are discussed. Understanding the violent offender's meanings of violence and processes of construction might reduce the possible risk of recidivism through developing and enhancing effective treatment interventions tailored for such offenders and helping the offenders to reconstrue their worlds and most importantly violence.

## **“In whom to confide?”: Exploring the Christian-Catholic perspective**

**Valentina Sosero**

*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

The religious dimension can represent an important aspect in a person's life. How can Personal Construct Psychology (PCP) contribute to the understanding of this construction?

The present work aims at exploring some constructions of religion in a group of Catholic Christian believers, as well as in a group of people who do not feel represented by a religious credo. The professional construct of dependency dispersion will be used to understand who people of the two group turn to, when they are in need.

## **Alternative constructions of personality: From mask to discourse**

**Dušan Stojnov and Vladimir Miletić**

*University of Belgrade & Serbian Constructivist Association*

One of the illustrative examples of Kelly's philosophical position – constructive alternativism – is found in different meanings which term “personality” has had through centuries and across many languages and systems of meaning. Entering the scene two and half thousand years ago, the meaning of personality has changed substantially. Starting from mask, and continuing through inner essence, ipseity, sum of traits, roles or habits and our theories of others – to name but a few – personality has become connected to discourses through which human being becomes subject (and object) of psychological texts. Although the prize for recognizing the change of the notions through which we think about ourselves and constitute ourselves as psychological subjects belongs to Foucault, constructivist alternativism applied to terms such as personality, person, self and identity in psychology of personal constructs fits perfectly in Foucault's ideas and deserves to be presented as an early precursor of the idea of subjectivity.

## **Developing sociality in a community school**

**Barbara Strobachová**

*Department of Social Education of the Masaryk University*

In the paper I report my experiences from building a community school with features of constructivist and forest education. I argue that, in leading a school, the focus on developing sociality between all participants (children, parents, teachers, principal, school authority) is essential. In general, sociality and sense of community will grow if certain values and principles are consistently promoted at all levels of the life in school. For example, if teachers considered themselves as guides who guide the children in their exploration of alternatives and in taking responsibility for their learning, a principal should adopt this "guide" model in communication with teachers as well. On the other hand, inconsistencies in values and principles may cause breakdown of sociality and even threaten a project. Although I derive my experiences from building a school based on "alternative" educational approaches, I believe that the effects are relevant for more traditional schools as well.

# **Internet Addiction Disorder: a constructivist point of view**

**Giulia Tomasi and Giordano Bertolazzi**

*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

Only recently internet has become a constant presence in people's everyday life. Internet is a rapidly changing phenomenon which makes it difficult to completely understand its impact on society. The use of internet has remarkably spread in the past years merging it with our lives that are now divided between real and virtual reality. Like in the real world, we observe suffering and disease in the virtual world as well. However when can we talk about internet addiction? The DSM 5 has not given clear guidelines on this yet. With this work we aim to explain this phenomenon in the framework of the constructivist approach.

## **Implicative dilemmas and Existential therapy: is it a match? A practice based evidence study in primary care**

**Anna Santini, Lauren Sayers, Francesca Venturi, Anastasia Mospan and Diego Vitali**

*University of Roehampton*

**AIM:** Clinical trials have shown that a decrease of depressive symptomatology has been associated with a decrease in implicative dilemmas. In this study we aim to observe the strength of association between the presence of IDs and depressive symptomatology as a result of an existential-phenomenological therapy applied in a naturalistic setting.

**BACKGROUND:** In the Sociality corollary, Kelly argued that in the attempt to construe the construing process of another, we may be involved in the social process involving the other person. Similarly, the phenomenological method applied in this study required therapist to suspend their construing systems in order to be able to assume the patients' one, and so to be able to engage in a process of understanding and interpretation of experiences where the construing system of the other is always key.

**METHOD:** PHQ-9 scores were observed before and after the intervention, two repertory grid technique (RGT) interviews were offered to each client to assess the construing system. The first grid was administered before the intervention and then the same grid was administered one week after the end of the last session. Therapists did not access any information from the repertory grid. Implicative Dilemmas (ID) were calculated in R with package (openrepgrid).

**SAMPLE:** 70 adult patients between 18 and 65 years old undertook this course of therapy.

**RESULTS** will show whether any association can be observed between change in depressive symptomology and change in ID frequencies. An appraisal of the accepted method for calculation of Implicative dilemmas is also presented.

## **The Role of Personal Meaning for Chronic Alcoholics in achieving and successfully maintaining Sobriety**

**Gary Westwell**

*University of Huddersfield*

This paper will present findings from a research study which aims to gain a greater understanding of the role of personal meaning in the lives of people previously deemed as 'chronic' alcoholics who have now achieved and continue to maintain sobriety. The work builds on the existing behaviour change 'stage theory' research relating to alcoholism, most notably the Trans Theoretical Model of Change (DiClemente and Prochaska (1982;1998)). Such theories have addressed the early stages of lifestyle change but have omitted to

comprehensively discuss the issues involved in the maintenance of any such changes. Furthermore, there appears to be little or no research that explicitly focuses upon the long-term maintenance of change. Seven women and eleven men attending an alcoholism self-help group based in West Yorkshire were interviewed in depth about their experiences of becoming sober, their perceptions of why they feel they have successfully changed and how they have managed to maintain these changes. The interviews were analysed using Template Analysis and the findings have been interpreted within a PCP theoretical framework. Key issues to emerge from the analysis included validation and the involvement of families and friends in both helping and hindering recovery and its maintenance, people anticipating a new sense of self, and evidence that people had re-constructed both themselves and others. It is hoped that the findings will inform interventions that may help more people to successfully maintain change.

## **Sociality and hostility: a pernicious mix**

**David Winter**

*University of Hertfordshire*

This paper will caution against a 'cosy' view of sociality since the role relationships that are facilitated by construing the other's construction processes are not necessarily benign. It will be argued that it is when sociality is combined with hostility, in Kelly's sense of extorting validation evidence for constructions, that it is most likely to become pernicious. Examples of noxious sociality will be presented from various different relationship domains, both at the personal and international level, including terrorism, torture, and bullying. There will also be consideration of the strategies that the individual who engages in such behaviour may employ to avoid guilt. The role of commonality in addition to sociality in providing an ethical basis for actions will be stressed.

## **Posters**

### **Developmental Age Group: A network to create experiences in working with children**

**Elena Bordin, Luigi Fiorin, Chiara Lui, Paola Orlando, Luisa Maria Padorno, Francesca Poser, Cosima Schirone, Ambra Signori, Caterina Tornatora, Vito Stoppa**

*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

The poster presents the Developmental Age Group, born during the XIIIth EPCA conference, where we shared the need to create and strengthen a network between professionals who use Personal Construct Theory (PCT) working within the developmental age's fields. The group aims to deepen and widen PCP theory and practices about developmental age through collecting already existing papers, construing and sharing new projects in theory and research, that can highlight the importance of this subject, not only in a clinical field of application.

Starting from these premises, the Group gave life to the Developmental Age Labs, recurring meetings where the participants have the possibility to share and discuss their experiences, their personal and professional constructions about working with children and adolescents, to grow as professionals.

### **Six years of Rivista Italiana di Costruttivismo: the Italian journal for the promotion and the development of constructivist theory and practice**

**Chiara Centomo, Lila Vatteroni, Lucia Andreatta, Eleonora Belloni, Elena Bordin, Alessandro Busi, Sara Candotti, Francesca Distaso, Chiara Lui, Vito Stoppa**

*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

This poster presents the *Rivista Italiana di Costruttivismo*, an online free scientific journal dedicated to the promotion of Constructivism. This non-profit initiative provides a platform in Italy for contributions of theoretical, empirical and methodological interest, developed within this epistemological matrix.

The Journal includes works developed in the field of constructivist epistemology and Personal Construct Theory. It aims to give resonance to Italian constructivists, but also to promote the diffusion of foreign authors' thinking, by editing the Italian translations of their articles. Come to its sixth year of life, the Journal hosts also interviews with the most relevant names of the current Constructivist world scene, and contributions from different fields of application of the experience of living, working, knowing, teaching, researching within a constructivist and PCP epistemological frame.

### **2018 Italian political elections: Lega and the construction of a threat narrative**

**Francesca Del Rizzo**

*Institute of Constructivist Psychology, Padua*

Lega is an Italian party that had a major role in recent political elections in Italy. It came out as the second party in the country and the first in the North. In this poster, I will show the rhetoric of threat Lega used to conquer the vote of so many Italians and I will try to anticipate the implications this narrative could have in the future.

# **Costruttivismi: The e-journal of the Italian Association of Constructivist Psychology and Psychotherapy (AIPPC)**

## **The Editorial Board**

*Italian Association of Constructivist Psychology and Psychotherapy (AIPPC)*

The main aim of the e-journal *Costruttivismi* (Constructivisms) – so headed in order to highlight the several expressions of psychological constructivism – is to spread the constructivist perspective in Italy and worldwide. Therefore, the journal is open to the publication of papers in English, presented in the original language and in Italian translation. To date, among others, three essays of George A. Kelly have been published in the section “Protagonists of Constructivism”.

The journal is published twice a year since 2014, is peer-reviewed, and its articles provided with DOIs. The subscription is free and allows to download the articles. In order to subscribe, it is enough to register at the web address [www.aippc.it/costruttivismi/front-page](http://www.aippc.it/costruttivismi/front-page) and use the password received by email.

The Scientific Committee of *Costruttivismi* – edited by G. Chiari and L. Cionini – features some of the most important names of international and Italian psychological constructivism.

## **ICP International Lab – PCP Development & Networking**

**Mary Frances, Chiara Lui, Sara Pavanello, Giovanni Stella, Gabriele Bendinelli**

*ICP International Lab*

A poster presenting the work and aims of ICP International Lab. Created within the vision of the Institute of Constructivist Psychology in Padua, the Lab project aspires to support and connect people working with Personal Construct Psychology and constructivist approaches anywhere in the world. The project is now in its second year of worldwide networking, connecting people with shared interests, and offering innovative international development opportunities. Thanks to our online magazine ‘Lab Notes’ and our first course programmes now realized at our base in Abano Terme, Italy, the ICP International lab is a network, a reality, which is reaching out and connecting people all around the world.

## **Grid indexes and therapeutic request prediction**

**Jesús García-Martínez and Rafael Guerrero-Gómez**

*University of Seville*

The aim of this paper is to study the prediction of therapeutic late dropout using grid indexes (late dropout is defined as a dropout that take place after the four session of therapy). A sample of 190 clients who attended therapy is divided in two groups. People who end psychotherapy and people who dropout without a formal or negotiated finalization. Dropouts associated to involuntary reasons (for example, leaving the city) are excluded from the analysis.

A grid was administered to all the participants during the third session. Structural indexes of grid including polarization, cognitive complexity (percentage of variance explained by first axis), potency, and presence of dilemmas are included between predictive variables as well the kind of demand and other socio-demographic variables (this variables are converted in dummies ones). A number of binomial regression analyses were developed. Only cognitive complexity – between grid

indexes – shows slightly statistically significant effects in the different regression equations. Kind of request (operative-centered in changes) versus non-operative-non-centered in changes) and some socio-demographic characteristics (level of education and level of income) are good predictors of dropout. People with high values in complexity perhaps take into account more aspects in their valuations of reality and tend to maintain their participation in therapy.

### **Euclidean distance as a way to assess communalities in a sample of gender-violence victims. Communality as a first step to sociality?**

**Jesús Garcia-Martínez and Angeles Payán-Bravo**

*University of Seville*

Euclidean distance is a variable that could be assessed in an operative way using grid technique. Distance is a value that shows the differences between two elements of the grid in the global space of personal construction. As the distance increases the elements are more different, two similar elements show a very low distance. Distance implies too how a person constructs the others as similar or different to him/herself, so could be used to as a way to measure communality, the way in how I can construct the similarities with the other. In our paper a sample of 25 women victims of intimate partner violence was divided in two groups using the media as criteria for high/low values in different structural indexes of grid (polarization, intensity, potency and percentage of variance explained by the first axis). T student differences were calculated. High polarization group construct themselves as different of their own couples (always aggressive) and other aggressive men. Low intensity women construct themselves and their couples as different of cooperative-helping men. High Percentage of variance group construct themselves as different of non grata-oppositional women, but low percentage of variance group construct their couples as difference of non grata-oppositional women. It's said structural indexes are variables that explains differences in communality

Communality in victim's therapy is a first phase to understand the personal position between the other (especially aggressors and non-helping persons). Sociality, in this case, only could be from a supportive web of communalities in order to permit the victim to understand the position of the other, supportive and non-supportive people.

### **Newcomers in Japanese education; the fashioning of identity within a homogenous society**

**Michelle Henault Morrone**

*Nagoya University of Arts and Sciences, Japan*

Special work visa status for non-Japanese citizens has been granted to those from certain countries, especially Brazil and Peru, where large numbers of Japanese emigrated over 100 years ago. This research looks at how Japan's Ministry of Education has addressed the educational needs of these "newcomers" to Japan over the past thirty years. Interviews with students from the main groups of immigrants suggest the challenges faced by such students with regard to acculturation, racism, and personality construct conflicts vis a vis the dominant culture. The failure of the education system to facilitate assimilation has helped create an underclass of immigrants within Japanese society and identity confusion among the newcomers' children.



# **Breaking the school discipline – an insight into students' personal meanings**

**Dušan Mandić**

*Institute for Educational Research, Belgrade*

The poster deals with high school students' personal meanings attributed to their own violation of school discipline. Dominant views on this phenomenon often encompass personal traits or peer and family influences as its' explanations. Constructivist perspective, however, treats it as an elaborative choice guided by a set of personal meanings. A multiple case study design was applied, consisting of five case studies on students sanctioned for truancy and conflicts with teachers. Data was collected by using laddering, ABC and pyramiding techniques, after which core constructs and their relationships were mapped. The analysis showed that students construe their problematic acts as a way to maintain the preferred sense of self, naming this as "Positive Me" versus "Mopey Me" or "Real Me" as opposed to "Mask". A considered possibility is to facilitate a more permeable and propositional construing of the students preferred sense of self to better incorporate it in educational institutions.

## **Repertory grids in adoptive parent candidates counselling**

**Andrey Ryzhov, Ekaterina Zhuykova and Leonora Pechnikova**

*Lomonosov MSU and Sukhareva NPCMHCA, Moscow*

Rank repertory grids were completed based on evaluation of children's photographs as well as own family's members as elements by couples or singles with different experiences of child adoption. A supplied construct "easy / not easy to be accepted in our family" was appended. The provisional norms based on interquartile differences for major indexes of construct system and content categories were established. The qualitative analysis departing from index deviations shows advantages compared to formal quantitative analysis at present. Several distinctive phenomena were found relevant to counselling targets, including (a) lack of reflexivity expressed in different content categories used in monolithic construing, (b) rigidity of expectancies reflected in high intensity index of supplied constructs, (c) signs of devaluation and rejection of a family member in element distances, (d) loosened, idiosyncratic ways of construing, (e) heightened sensitivity and response to adoption-relevant emotional topics (excessive attribution of trauma/deprivation or hypocrisis/callousness traits).

# Edinburgh PCP Conference Timetable

**Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**

**12.30 – 2.00 p.m. Registration**

**2.00 – 2.30 Opening Session – Prestonfield: Dorota Bourne, Richard Casebow, Harry Procter**

	<b>Prestonfield</b>	<b>Duddingston</b>	<b>Holyrood</b>	<b>Salisbury</b>
2.40 – 3.15 p.m.	<u>Politics and Cultural Relations</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Sociality in conflict resolution in Northern Ireland: application of the Perceiver Element Grid.</b>  <b>Paul J Barbour and Dorota Bourne</b>	<u>Older People</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>(Too) many things for one single life - Sociality in Life Story Interviews of Czech older adults</b>  <b>Miroslav Filip</b>	<u>Repertory Grids</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Why do we use Repertory Grids?</b>  <b>Richard Bell</b>	<u>Constellatory Construction</u>  <i>Workshop (Part 1):</i>  <b>George Kelly meets Harvey Sacks and together they explore queer theory: a new look at constellatory construing and loosening</b>  <b>Carmen Dell'Aversano</b>

**3.20 – 3.50 p.m. Tea Break**

## Thursday Afternoon (cont'd)

	Prestonfield	Duddingston	Holyrood	Salisbury
3.55 – 4.30 p.m.	<u>Politics and Cultural Relations (continued)</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>The core narratives of Italians outside Italy: a constructivist analysis</b>  <b>Alessandra Petrolati</b>	<u>Older People</u>  <i>Workshop:</i>  <b>Let's challenge our theories on elderly age! Sociality as a key to go beyond stereotypes</b>  <b>Viviana Bongiorno and Cecilia Pagliardini</b>	<u>Repertory Grids</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>'Touch points' in the application process - Two different purposes of the Repertory Grid Technique</b>  <b>Cordelia Mühlbach and Claudia Fantapié Altobelli</b>	<u>Education</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Developing sociality in a community school</b>  <b>Barbara Strobachová</b>
4.35 – 5.10 p.m.	<u>Expert Witnesses</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Sociality and the Expert Witness in Court (How to construe 'expertise' in the formal Court setting)</b>  <b>Ian Gillman-Smith</b>		<i>Paper:</i>  <b>Social Network Analysis: A unified representation for grid data</b>  <b>Richard Bell</b>	<u>Climate Change</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Thinking about the future: Examining climate risk perceptions in the Canadian Electricity Sector</b>  <b>Anna Dowbiggin (Presented by Devi Jankowicz)</b>
6.00 p.m.	Welcome Drinks in the Bar			

## Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> July

8.45 – 9.15 a.m.

Coffee

9.15 – 10.30 a.m.

Prestonfield: **Keynote Presentation**  
**Building a Scottish Approach: Working *with* the people, not just *for them* in Designing Government Services**  
**Cat Macaulay, Chief Designer, Scottish Government**

10.30 – 11.00 a.m.

Coffee Break

	Prestonfield	Duddingston	Holyrood	Salisbury
11.00 – 11.35 a.m.	<u>Teaching PCP</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Constructivist teaching: beyond the toolbox, the ICP experience</b> <b>Massimo Giliberto, Chiara Lui and Elena Sagliocco</b>	<u>Children and Young People</u>  <i>Workshop:</i> <b>Case work examples of using a Personal Construct Psychology approach with Children and Adolescents</b>	<u>Clinical Research</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Personal Construct therapy for depressive symptoms in fibromyalgia: A proposed model and protocol</b> <b>Guillem Feixas, Victoria Compañ, Mari Aguilera</b>	<u>Philosophy</u>  <i>Workshop:</i> <b>Intersubjectivity, Joint Action and Companionship</b> <b>Harry Procter</b>
11.40 – 12.15 a.m	<u>Politics of Psychiatry</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Who is the person behind a "psychiatric" patient?</b> <b>Nicola Milani, Lorenza Specia, Alessia Dalla Vedova and Martina Bardin</b>	<b>Heather Moran</b>	<i>Paper:</i> <b>Implicative dilemmas and Existential therapy: is it a match? A practice based evidence study in primary care</b> <b>Anna Santini, Lauren Sayers, Francesca Venturi, Anastasia Mospan and Diego Vitali</b>	

## Friday (cont'd)

	<b>Pentland Corridor</b>
12.15 – 1.00	<u>Poster Session</u> <b>Rafael Guerrero-Gómez, Jesús Garcia-Martínez, M<sup>a</sup> Angeles Payán-Bravo, Michelle Henault Morrone, Chiara Centomo, Lila Vatteroni, Lucia Andreatta, Eleonora Belloni, Elena Bordin, Alessandro Busi, Sara Candotti, Francesca Distaso, Chiara Lui, Vito Stoppa, Luigi Fiorin, Paola Orlando, Luisa Maria Padorno, Francesca Poser, Cosima Schirone, Ambra Signori, Caterina Tornatora, Francesca Del Rizzo, Dušan Mandić, Mary Frances, Sara Pavanello, Giovanni Stella, Gabriele Bendinelli, Andrey Ryzhov, Ekaterina Zhuykova, Leonora Pechnikova</b>

1.00 – 2.00 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
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	<b>Prestonfield</b>	<b>Duddingston</b>	<b>Holyrood</b>	<b><u>Salisbury</u></b>
2.00 – 2.35 p.m.	<u>Kelly in Edinburgh</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Sociality in Personal Construct Theory: From Edinburgh 1930 to Edinburgh 2018</b> <b>Gabriele Chiari</b>	<u>Children and Young People (continued)</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Re-construing Challenging Behaviour</b> <b>Clare Coppock</b>	<u>Clinical Research (cont'd)</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Personal constructs of people with psychosis: A systematic review of Repertory Grid studies</b> <b>Helena García Mieres, Noelia Niño-Robles, Susana Ochoa Güerre and Guillem Feixas</b>	<u>Body and Sports</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Tattoo in haste, repent at leisure?</b> <b>John Fisher</b>
2.40 – 3.15 p.m.	<u>PCP: Theoretical Aspects</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Live free or die: Robert Frost and the Choice Corollary</b> <b>David Green</b>	<i>Paper:</i> <b>Like me on Instagram: adolescents' self construction and interpersonal experience</b> <b>Clelia Malighetti and Sabrina Cipolletta</b>	<i>Paper:</i> <b>Personal constructs of mind-body identity in people who experience Medically Unexplained Symptoms (MUS)</b> <b>Tom Sanders</b>	<i>Paper:</i> <b>Sport Psychology from a comprehensive PCP point of view</b> <b>Francesca Del Rizzo</b>

3.20 – 3.50 p.m.	<b>Tea Break</b>
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## Friday Afternoon (cont'd)

	Prestonfield	Duddingston	Holyrood	Salisbury
3.55 – 4.30 p.m.	<u>PCP: Theoretical Aspects (continued)</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Reconstructing humour, in relation to conflict</b>  <b>Kieran Duignan</b>	<u>Children and Young People</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Exploration of female care leavers' personal constructs regarding staff-child relationships in an Intensive Support Children's Home in Northern Ireland.</b>  <b>Jenni Rice and Judith Mullineux</b>	<u>Clinical Research</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Proposing a 'Three Levels Model' to guide psychotherapy: The outcome of an IPA study exploring the experiences of hard determinist therapists.</b>  <b>Isabel Brunton and Helen Ellis-Caird</b>	<u>Intersubjectivity and PCP</u>   <i>Workshop:</i>  <b>Intersubjectivity, Joint Action and Sociality: a discussion session</b>  <b>Sabrina Cipolletta, Michael Mascolo and Harry Procter</b>
4.35 – 5.10 p.m.		<u>Religion</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>"In whom to confide?": Exploring the Christian-Catholic perspective</b>  <b>Valentina Sosero</b>	<i>Paper:</i>  <b>Perceptions of mothers in health care</b>  <b>Emma Holder</b>	
5.30 – 6.30 p.m.	GKS Meeting – all welcome			

Saturday, 7 <sup>th</sup> July	
8.45 – 9.15 a.m.	Coffee
9.15 – 10.30 a.m.	Prestonfield: <b>Keynote Presentation</b> <b>Bridging Diversities: Recreating Personhood through Dialectical Engagement</b> <b>Michael Mascolo, Merrimack College, USA</b>
10.30 – 11.00 a.m.	<b>Coffee Break</b>

	Prestonfield	Duddingston	Holyrood	Salisbury
11.00 – 11.35 a.m.	<u>A great mix of topics</u>  <i>Workshop:</i>  <b>PCP in the Mix</b>  <b>Mary Frances, Chiara Lui and Giovanni Stella (facilitators)</b>	<u>Forensic and Violence</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Sociality and hostility: a pernicious mix</b>  <b>David Winter</b>	<u>Leadership</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Sociality coaching as a key factor in leadership development</b>  <b>Alessia Ranieri and Dorota Bourne</b>	<u>Sociality and Cultural Rules</u>  <i>Workshop:</i>  <b>Making and Breaking the Rules</b>  <b>Adele Pile</b>
11.40 – 12.15 a.m	<b>Elena Bordin, Dennis Bury, Dasha Grajfoner, Clare Morris, Shenaz Kelly Rawat, Nicola Milani, Sally Robbins, Barbara Strobachová, Giulia Tomasi</b>		<i>Paper:</i>  <b>Academic leadership roles and work life experiences: Improving Quality by Attending to Professional Identity</b>  <b>Britt-Marie Apelgren, Marie-Louise Österlind and Pamela Denicolo</b>	(workshop continued)



## Saturday (cont'd)

	Prestonfield	Duddingston	Holyrood	Salisbury
12.20 – 12.55	<u>Relationships</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>The experience of love and romantic choices</b>  <b>Anna Celli and Giovanna Malangone</b>	<u>Forensic and Violence (continued)</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>I killed my child(ren): Construing pathways to filicide</b>  <b>Precious Sedumedi</b>	<u>Leadership (continued)</u>  <i>Workshop:</i>  <b>Leadership and Executive Coaching from a Personal Construct Psychology Perspective</b>  <b>Dasha Grajfoner</b>	<u>Constellatory Construction</u>  <i>Workshop(Part 2):</i>  <b>George Kelly meets Harvey Sacks and together they explore queer theory: a new look at constellatory construing and loosening</b>  <b>Carmen Dell'Aversano</b>
1.00 – 2.00 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>			
2.00 – 2.35 p.m.	<u>Relationships (continued)</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Looking to the world with transformed eyes: the case of forgiveness</b>  <b>Francesca Del Rizzo</b>	<i>Paper:</i>  <b>Love and violence: A constructivist reading of conflicting relationships</b>  <b>Maria Cristina Ortu, Alessandra Petrolati and Manola Alfredetti</b>	(workshop continued)	<u>Clinical: Therapy</u>  <i>Workshop:</i>  <b>Diagnosing Human Meaning Making: A <i>Workshop</i> on Diagnosis in</b>  <b>Experiential Personal Construct Psychotherapy</b>  <b>Jill Thomas and Peter Cummins</b>

## Saturday afternoon (cont'd)

	Prestonfield	Duddingston	Holyrood	Salisbury
2.40 – 3.15 p.m.	<u>Qualitative Grids</u> <i>Workshop:</i> <b>Introducing Qualitative Grids (QGs): An interactive Workshop</b> <b>Paul Barbour, Viv Burr, Clare Coppock, John Fisher, Emma Holder, Clare Morris, Luca Pezzullo, Harry Procter and Precious Sedumedi</b>	<u>Forensic and Violence (continued)</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Using dyad repertory grids to explore the construing of relationships in high secure care patients who have committed serious sexual or non-sexual violence</b> <b>Chris Evans and Jo-Anne Carlyle</b>	<u>Leadership (continued)</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Exploring Leadership Identity in Western European Leaders Using Repertory Grid Technique</b> <b>Susanne Johanna Hardt and Dasha Grajfoner</b>	<u>Clinical: Therapy (continued)</u>  (workshop continued)

3.20 – 3.50 p.m.	Tea Break			
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3.55 – 4.30 p.m.	(workshop continued)	<u>PCP and Psychoanalysis</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>The notion of internal conflict in PCP and psychoanalytic theories</b> <b>Chris Evans and Guillem Feixas</b>	<u>Business and Organisations</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Sociality Depends on Negotiation</b> <b>Devi Jankowicz</b>	<u>Clinical: Therapy (continued)</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>On construing a disorder: an unusual case of borderline</b> <b>Nada Dimcović</b>
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## Saturday afternoon (cont'd)

	Prestonfield	Duddingston	Holyrood	Salisbury
4.35 – 5.10 p.m.	<u>Virtual Presentation from Montreal</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Disrupting Hate Discourses Through the Adoption of the "Get Ready to Act Against Social Media Propaganda" Model</b>  <b>Nadia Naffi and Ann-Louise Davidson</b>	<u>PCP and Psychoanalysis (continued)</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>An oblique reappraisal: Contemporary psychoanalysis leads back to personal construct psychotherapy</b>  <b>Gabriele Chiari</b>	<u>Business and Organisations (continued)</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Work as Meaning: The Role of Socialised Culture</b>  <b>Ron Boddy and Devi Jankowicz</b>	<u>Clinical: Therapy (continued)</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>The story of psychotherapy with an abused woman</b>  <b>Massimo Giliberto</b>

5.15 – 6.00 p.m.	<b>Duddingston: Discussion: Practitioner–academic writing collaborations. Led by Viv Burr</b>
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6.30 – 12.00 p.m.	<b>South Hall: Drinks Reception, Gala Buffet and Ceilidh</b>
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## Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> July

8.45 – 9.15 a.m.

Coffee

	Prestonfield	Duddingston	Holyrood	Salisbury
9.15 – 9.50 a.m	<u>Addiction</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Internet Addiction Disorder: a constructivist point of view</b> <b>Giulia Tomasi and Giordano Bertolazzi</b>	<u>Self and Identity</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Alternative constructions of personality: From mask to discourse</b> <b>Dušan Stojnov and Vladimir Miletić</b>	<u>Business and Organisations (continued)</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>Staff assessment: the evaluator/evaluated relationship between hope and concern</b> <b>Mauro Martinelli</b>	<u>Environment and Housing</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>The personal meaning of outdoor spaces: using grids to qualitatively explore constructions of the environment</b> <b>Viv Burr and Nigel King</b>
9.55 – 10.30 a.m.	<i>Paper:</i> <b>The Role of Personal Meaning for Chronic Alcoholics in achieving and successfully maintaining Sobriety</b> <b>Gary Westwell</b>	<i>Paper:</i> <b>Personal Identity from a Personal Construct Perspective</b> <b>Guillem Feixas and David Winter</b>	<u>Clinical: Therapy</u> <i>Paper:</i> <b>On a storytelling-based-sociality in healthcare: Tale of medical tales</b> <b>Daniela Scaglione</b>	<i>Paper:</i> <b>Assessing Perceptions of Di Fausto's Neo-Traditional Architecture based on Personal Construct Theory</b> <b>Ahmed Agiel, Jon Lang and Peter Caputi</b>

10.35 – 10.55 a.m.

Coffee

## Sunday morning (cont'd)

	Prestonfield	Duddingston	Holyrood	Salisbury
11.00 – 11.35 a.m.	<u>Body</u>  <i>Workshop:</i>  <b>Postural Stress – uncovering the message and changing patterns</b>  <b>Susanne Lakin</b>	<u>Self and Identity (continued)</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>PCP and the multiple self</b>  <b>Vladimir Džinović</b>	<u>Myth</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>The Hero's Journey: with Ironman and Rick Sanchez</b>  <b>David Dansky and Clare Morris</b>	<u>Environment and Housing (continued)</u>  <i>Paper:</i>  <b>Construing Indigenous Dubai Families' Sociocultural Needs of Houses Using Repertory Grid Techniques (RGT)</b>  <b>Meera Alfalasi and Ahmed Agiel</b>

11.40 – 12.55	<b>Prestonfield: Final Plenary Meeting</b>
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1.00 – 2.00	<b>Lunch</b>
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