

## Training Group For Trainers

For several decades now, GATLA's Supervision Practicum and Trainer Assistant groups have been composed of Gestalt Therapists who run Gestalt Therapy training programs and do training in their own countries. Other participants included very advanced Gestalt Therapists who were interested in providing training. This year, responding to requests made over the years, we are holding our inaugural Trainer Group – specifically for Gestalt Therapy Trainers and those interested in becoming trainers. The exact format and agenda for this group will be formulated in consultation with the actual participants who attend.

WE DO KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT EACH DAY THERE WILL BE DIVIDED INTO SEVERAL SEPARATE SESSIONS FOCUSING ON:

1. Experiential group sessions giving participants the opportunity to work as therapist with Trainer consultation and with an emphasis on relating the clinical work to the theory. Participants will also be given the opportunity to run the training group with consultation from the Trainer.
2. Members of this group will be asked to present some aspect of Gestalt theory and be responsible for the discussion following the presentation. The theory topic will be given to participants in advance of arrival at the Residential.
3. Small group supervision: An opportunity to supervise trios and quartets comprised of participants from the lower groups.
4. Participants will have the opportunity to be part of a daily personal therapy group led by Robert W. Resnick, Ph.D. This group, depending upon the preferences of the group, may or may not include discussion of the work as a training activity.
5. Discussion of philosophical, administrative and practical issues of training covering some of the following issues (this list is not exhaustive) and may be changed as participants desire:
  - The balance between theory and experiential components of training
  - Exploring various methods of teaching theory
  - How to integrate theory with experiential work
  - Models of supervision
    - Dealing with difficulties of live supervision
    - Use of the therapeutic relationship
  - Requiring individual therapy
  - The question of certification:
    - Attendance or demonstrated competence?
    - Standards for certification
  - Selection of trainees – qualifications and credentials
  - Selection of local trainers
  - The use of visiting trainers

We are very much open to suggestions as to the format, curriculum, models of experiential work, etc. from members of this group.