



Call for papers

for the IAAP/Catholic University Freiburg Joint Conference
(in cooperation with German Society for Analytical Psychology (DGAP) and International Network
for Research in Analytical Psychology INFAP3)

„The Process of Transformation“

Catholic University Freiburg, Germany; 4-6 Oct. 2024

We invite proposals for our conference which focusses on the theme of investigating processes of transformation in psychotherapy and in other fields, e.g. spiritual traditions.

Jung started to develop his own approach to psychodynamic psychotherapy with the idea (in his 1912 publication “Wandlungen und Symbole der Libido”, in which the term “Wandlung” = transformation is highlighted) that there is a universal process taking place in the transformation of the personality. Since then, in analytical psychology, the general idea is that the process of psychotherapy is directed by inner forces (e.g. the transcendent function, the archetype of the Self) which are activated in the therapeutic encounter. There is also the idea that this process has a universal shape and can be mapped accordingly. Moments of change or turning points in the course of therapy are facilitated by the appearance of archetypal patterns or symbols. This process is called the individuation process and its general form and stages have been described in Jung’s works in detail. This process forms the core of Jung’s psychology and continues to be the heart of analytical psychology. The attempt to map this process in its universal form is the reason behind Jung’s interest in alchemy, mythology (the hero’s journey) and spiritual traditions, because in all of these fields traces of this process can be found. This process has been described again and again in publications from the field of analytical psychology and in a large number of case descriptions. Nevertheless, in spite of the outstanding importance for analytical psychology, there have been few attempts to investigate this process systematically and in accordance with the rules and instruments of scientific research. The aim of the planned conference is to bring together scholars and researchers who have developed research designs and approaches to systematically investigate this process so as to contribute to a progress in the theoretical description as well as the empirical foundation of this process.

A major aim of the planned conference is to provide a forum for researchers to come together and have an exchange on how to approach the investigation of the process of transformation in different fields as well as to present their findings. This forum is not restricted to Analytical Psychology but will include other disciplines, especially psychodynamic psychotherapies and general psychotherapy process research. Possible fields of investigation: the therapeutic relationship, dreams and dream series in psychotherapies, typical process patterns in sandplay therapy pictures, art therapies/pictures and images, connections between psychodynamic complexes and symbol imagery, the use of hallucinogens in psychotherapy, and the correlations of all these patterns and processes to psychotherapy outcome; processes of transformation in spiritual traditions, e.g. the exercises of Ignatius of Loyola, the Buddhist path etc.



DGAP
Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Analytische Psychologie e. V.



Internationales Netzwerk
Forschung und Entwicklung
in der Analytischen Psychologie
Dreiländergruppe



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OF APPLIED SCIENCES FREIBURG



We are particularly interested to receive proposals that address the theme by building on systematic research and empirical findings, which goes beyond single case descriptions (case presentations can be used to illustrate or exemplify a theoretical model or research approach but should not be the only evidence provided). This includes quantitative as well as qualitative/hermeneutic approaches. The planned conference is considered to be a working conference in the sense that not only completed studies and findings can be presented, but also research approaches and designs as well as ongoing studies; we explicitly invite contributions from doctoral students and young researchers. The conference will provide a space for discussion, cooperation and networking in the development of appropriate research approaches for analytical psychology in the future.

Please submit 300-word proposals by 31st January 2024 to:

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