

VaCP Information and Ideas #5

Information

February is a time for renewal and recommitment. Carl Michael Rossi wrote an inspiring piece in the winter issue of the IACP Collaborative Connection on the paradigm shift of Collaborative Practice. I highly recommend you take the time to read it:

<http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs084/1102441252875/archive/1109071823068.html#LETTER.BLOCK7>

He reminds us that our work requires not only *aptitude* for new practice skills in our trainings but also a new *attitude* toward the true interests of our clients and ourselves.

Interdisciplinary connections fortify both aptitude and attitude. I came across a 2012 Symposium in Washington, D.C. March 22-25 which offers a variety of workshops relating to our Collaborative work. *Creating a New Wisdom* sponsored by the Psychotherapy Networker Magazine is hosting Dan Siegel, who has written on neuroscience and mindfulness, Mary Pipher, who has written about the struggles of stressed, fragmented families, and Andrew Weil, who has written on the mind-body connection, as keynote speakers. You may register for individual days or all four days:

<http://www.psychotherapynetworker.org/symposium/symposium-2012>

I am suggesting that lawyers and financial as well as mental health professionals consider this program as well since it will change the way you think about your collaborative interactions. You can even register just for one day with Dan Siegel on Sunday, March 25 for \$180.

There is another opportunity on April 20 in Rockville offered by CDRP to engage Gerald Monk in a half-day advanced workshop on Narrative Mediation. Gerald has taught many workshops at past IACP Forums and the power of storytelling and our capacity as professionals to participate in our clients' stories. It is at the Lakewood Country Club in Rockville. You can contact sskok@houlonberman.com. It is \$185 until April 10th.

Ideas

Once the interdisciplinary candy store is open to us, how can we keep up with all of this information? I came across the Symposium in a blog I subscribe to. Many of my colleagues also send me links to blogs they are following to share more insights and connections. But there is just so much out there on the net!

Why not engage your practice group to screen a variety of media? You could start a new committee on "Blog Surveillance" or make each member of your practice group responsible for following one blog. Then at practice group meetings, the subscribers would be responsible for sharing interesting tidbits. In fact some of these brief articles would make great topics for practice group presentations or study groups.

Some suggestions of blogs that may have Collaborative content include:

- Collaborative listserv: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CollabLaw/>
- IACP Collaborative Connection: monthly emailed to IACP members
- World of Collaborative Practice: <http://theworldofcollaborativepractice.com/>
- Cutting Edge Law: <http://cuttingedgelaw.com/>
- Pauline Tesler's website blog: <http://www.collaborativedivorcenews.com/>
- Collaborative Law Institute of Minnesota: <http://www.collaborativelaw.org/>
- Collaborative Law Institute of Texas: <http://www.collablawtexas.com/>
- Technology, Entertainment, Design (TED): <http://www.ted.com/pages/about>
- Harvard Business Review blog: <http://blogs.hbr.org/>
- Linda Graham Weekly Quotes: <http://lindagraham-mft.net/>
- Rick Hansen Neuroscience and Mindfulness: <http://www.rickhanson.net/>
- Taos Institute: <http://www.taosinstitute.net/>

Take a survey within your practice group on what blogs members are already monitoring and incorporate those as well. Have fun and learn new ways of thinking!