



International Society for Psychology as the  
Discipline of Interiority

# ISPDI Newsletter Fall 2024

## Fall Greetings

Dear Members, Friends and Colleagues,

It's been a couple of months now since we met for our conference in Berlin. I trust you had a good trip home and returned with good memories and valuable insights from our time together. I hope that our three-day circumambulation of the question "What is Soul? Psychology in Modernity" evoked new perspectives and appreciation for this important theme.

I would like to thank all of you who were able to make the trip to the conference. It was a delight to see longtime friends again in person, to make new friends, and to also meet a good number of new participants who were exploring an ISPDI conference for the first time. I hope you felt welcomed and inspired to continue learning about psychology as the discipline of interiority.

I also want to express my gratitude to all the speakers for the effort and attention they put into their presentations and for sharing them with the group. I want to especially thank the three guest speakers Paul Bishop, Harald Atmanspacher, and of course our honorary patron, Wolfgang Giegerich. Thank you as well to the executive committee who worked hard to make it an exceptional event, from the initial stages of planning and sifting through proposals to sorting out the final invoices and getting the recordings ready to put on the website. Your work is much appreciated.

A special thanks to Peter White who organized and worked with the AV people before and during the conference. As a result of his attention to this, ISPDI members will be able to watch the presentations again as they will soon be available on the website for study purposes.

And thanks to Harry Henderson for his diligent work on the Newsletters.

All in all, for me the Berlin 2024 conference was a rich, inspiring and memorable time together and I hope it was for you as well.

In closing, I wish you all good health in body and soul and look forward to seeing you at the next ISPDI event.

John Hoedl

ISPDI Co-President

### Special message regarding Membership Fee increase

Dear members, after careful consideration, we have made the decision for the first time in our history to increase membership fees. The annual Regular membership fee will increase from \$50 to \$75 and the Student membership fee from \$25 to \$40. Membership fees cover costs such as maintaining the ISPDI website, event production and supporting the publication of PDI materials. If the fee increase presents a hardship for you, please contact us at [tispdi@gmail.com](mailto:tispdi@gmail.com). Remember that your memberships are tax deductible, and we have provisions for anyone dealing with financial issues. Also, please ensure your membership is up to date. You can renew via the button on the homepage of the website or at: <https://www.ispdi.org/membership-renewal>

### Selected Feedback on the 2024 Conference

“This was a wonderful conference, with contributions clearly of extraordinary intellectual and spiritual value. Let me add that it reinforced my belief that the surplus of in-person meetings (rather than remote) can be exceedingly high. My conversations at meals have been particularly stimulating and exciting, and many discussions in breaks and at the bar as well. It would be a definite detriment if all this gets lost when more and more meetings go to zoom etc. Thanks for resisting this trendy devotedness to technocracy!”

**Harald Atmanspacher (Switzerland)**

“Just a quick word ... to say thank you to you and your colleagues for the invitation, the warm welcome, and the many fruitful discussions at the ISPDI conference in Berlin. I learned a lot and I was glad of the opportunity to address such an attentive and thoughtful audience. I was equally glad see Wolfgang Giegerich again and to hear him speak. and it is great to see Hegelian Jungianism, as it were, spanning the globe in terms of its reception.” **Paul Bishop (UK)**

“Thank you very much for the list and the good organization of this stimulating conference. I definitely found the conference and presentations enriching and inspiring, including the contacts

that were made. It was wonderful that Mr. Giegerich was able to be there in person. I hope you all got home safely and/or had a worthwhile time in Europe.

So thank you once again, hope you can all enjoy the summer” **Antje Barber (Berlin)**

“Thank you for the exceptional conference you have organized. I assume everyone worked on this in their spare time, which speaks to the dedication and love all those involved have for the ideas and ideals of the ISPDI. The quality of presentations, pacing, location, and extra activities were just right. Thanks to everyone involved in making this happen and especially for convincing Giegerich to present!! I look forward to the recording which is a great added value.”

**Victoria Busch (Edmonton)**

“It was so nice meeting all of you....The way you all welcomed us, along with the tours and lunches, was wonderful. I got the chance to talk with people from various countries. It's a shame that Marco Heleno and Jennifer Sandoval couldn't make it. I also hope to return in two years, wherever it may be!

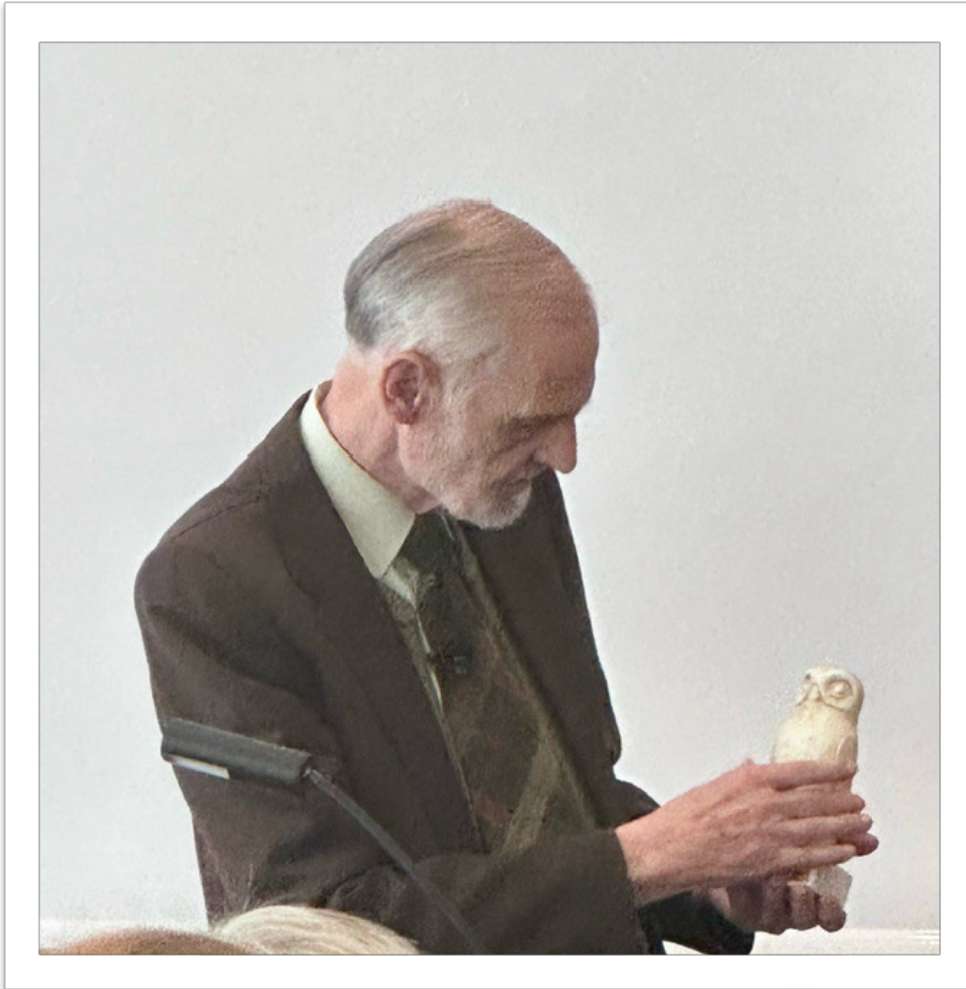
**Sonia Maria Marchi de Carvalho (Brazil)**

“It was a great conference. I was struck by the kindness and supportiveness of the comments and inquiries. Unlike any conference I've ever been too. Perhaps because people there are outsiders within their respective fields of work and study, so coming together is a cooperative venture.”

**Angelina Baydala (Edmonton)**



We've Got Pictures!



Wolfgang Giegerich was presented with a replica of an ancient Athenian owl, the symbol of PDI, as a token of our esteem and appreciation.





An “engaged” group of participants at the ISPD International Conference, Berlin, 2024.



Artur Lucman Braga, Elvira Miletic, Antje Barber, Wolfgang Giegerich



Edmonton Study Group



Greg Mogenson, Tim Pilgrim, Harald Tillmann





Pamela Moskie, Tanor Bonin, Dan Cross, Gabriel Eckert, Peter White



Holly Slavic, Vicky Busch, Wolfgang Giegerich



Prosit!



Artur Lucman Braga, Sonia Maria Marchi de Carvalho, Rita Mogenson, Michael Whan,





Enjoying Food and Drink at the Biergarten



Peter White, Harald Tillman



Dylan Young, Wolfgang Giegerich, Artur Lucman Braga





Brian Stevenson, Holly Slavik, Angelina Baydala



Josep M. M Alavedra, Anita Rosa



Christine Henke, Pamela Power, Harry Henderson

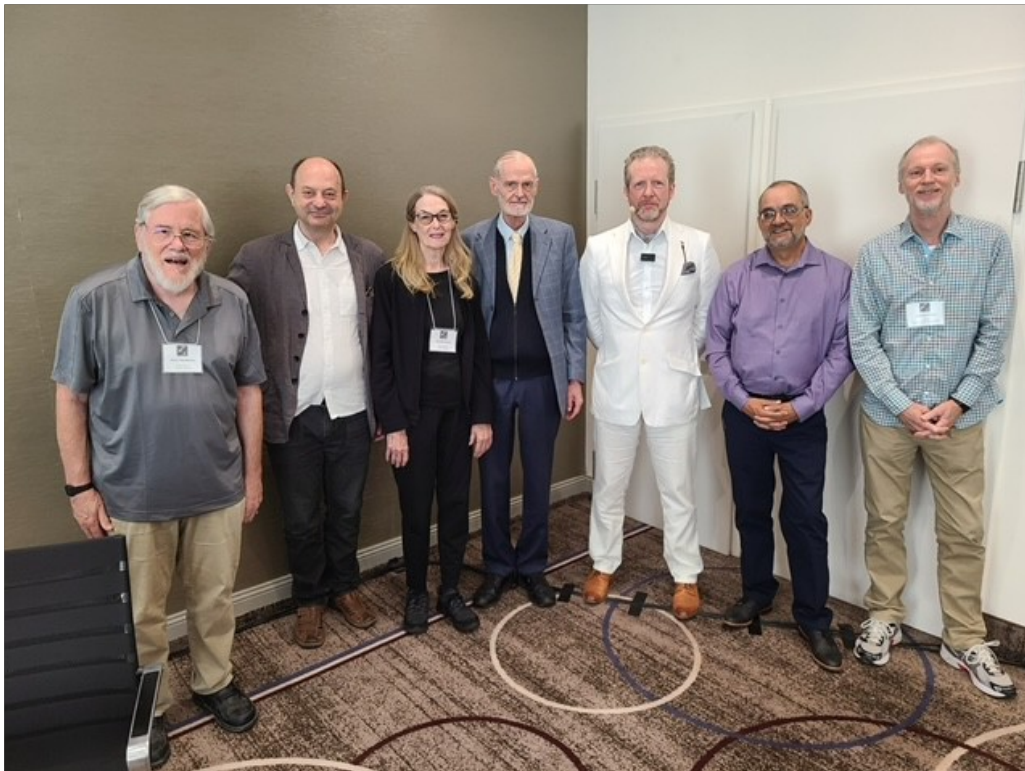


Mark Stuckey, Wolfgang Giegerich





Tim Kramer, Chai Skyler, Wolfgang Giegerich



ISPD Executive Committee with Wolfgang Giegerich  
Harry Henderson, John Hoedl, Pamela Power, Wolfgang Giegerich,  
Philip Kime, Peter White, Gabriel Eckert (ISPD Conference  
Facilitator), missing Jennifer Sandoval.





ISPD Berlin 2024







Berlin – “Soul is Historical”



Note: we would like to let you know of the following private event as being of possible interest to our members.

*A 2-Part Online Workshop in Dialectical Thinking and Psychology*

**“To Hold, Move, and Conceive (Dialectically Speaking): Contradiction as Advance”**

*Sat. Nov. 9 & 16, 2024, 2-3:30pm ET*

In chess there are some extremely beautiful things in the domain of movement, but not in the visual domain. ... It's completely in one's gray matter. – Marcel Duchamp

Such is ... the logical life of the soul. ... [I]t is one single act or attitude that in itself moves in opposite directions and thus is self-contradictory. – Wolfgang Iegerich

Iegerich often seems to contradict himself in his work, or to go back over a topic from an opposing angle. How do we “do” self-contradiction correctly? How can it be generative instead of nullifying, lead us somewhere rather than paralyze us? How may self-contradiction function both as the sign of an advance in our understanding of the “life of the soul” and as a means of further advance?

In dialectical thinking, two things that initially seem opposed or incompatible are seen as true at once. They're not simply recognized as both being the case, merely a matter of facts (although *fidelity to the real* will prove essential). Nor are they mutely accepted as paradoxical or fantasized in dualistic balance, leaving their respective identities unaffected (a state Hegel called “indifference”). Rather, they are disclosed as aspects of *the dynamic self-realization of a greater truth* – and this kicks larger (to borrow Greg Mogensson's phrase) one's very notion of truth.

But we must first learn to properly contradict ourselves, to speak (Latin: *dicere*) against (*contra*) our own position. This alone makes possible what Iegerich calls (e.g., in *What is Soul?*) *recursive progression*, and it is only by way of recursive progression in thought that may we potentially grasp *the truth of real phenomena* – the goal of true psychology.

Indeed, there is a self-contradiction at the heart of this workshop. It engages the naturalistic language of material action and physical activity to progress *contra naturam* toward the logic of dialectical thinking, which is wholly “in one's gray matter.” For naturalistic thinking is defined by its rejection of contradiction: no natural act “in itself moves in opposite directions”! And the imaginal approach immunizes us from the risk of being thrown off-centre by equalizing contradictions as pictorial rather than entering into them conceptually.

We begin with the common Jungian counsel about “holding the tension of the opposites.” An expression Iegerich himself doesn't employ, its usage often suggests that a “transcendent third” will appear, somehow, to resolve a stand-off between antitheses. But putting aside technical

jargon and eschewing mystification, the notion of “holding” can provide us with a way into our topic, if we *think* it – because this immediately engages us in dialectics.

We’ll find, for example, that we *cannot* hold opposites in mind due to the sequential, time-bound nature of thinking, so our ability to “hold” their tension occurs exclusively through our own self-contradicting *change of stance*, from one term of an opposition to the other. Meanwhile, even a “static” image or thought is maintained entirely through that ceaseless activity (Giegerich designates it *actus*) which *is* thought. One might say it’s dialectical all the way down.

And this will be our consistent discovery: that any real phenomenon is always-already dialectically constituted, and our capacity to *conceive it* – to express its soul in discourse, to bring forth its truth – will depend, as Giegerich might say, on our catching up with its reality.

We’ll end by looking at a seemingly contradictory pairing from Giegerich, psychology’s “truth” versus its “hobby status,” and how this opposition may be fruitfully addressed precisely through the dialectic at work in a *real phenomenon*, our own “psychology as the discipline of interiority.”

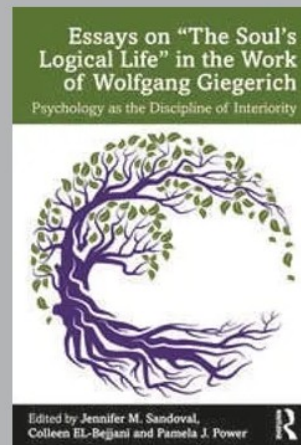
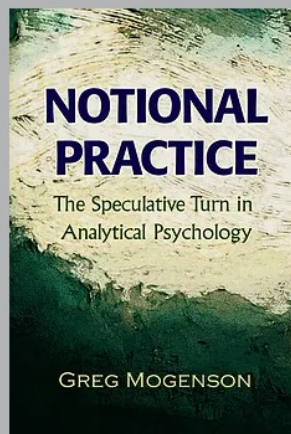
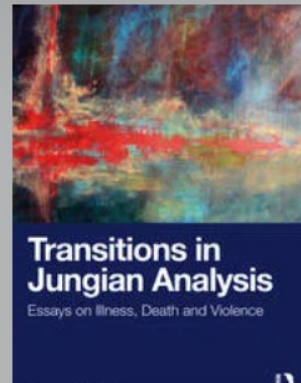
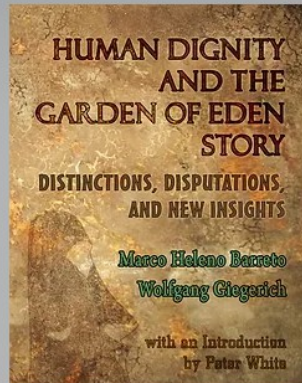
This is undeniably challenging material, but the workshop is open to everyone, and there will be plenty of time for questions and discussion. There’s no fee, but “tips” will be gratefully accepted.

Wolfgang Giegerich: "I appreciate your continued efforts of elucidating some of the essential and characteristic concepts and modes of thinking of our kind of psychology and your thereby helping others to get a better understanding of them. You can do a good job of it!" (personal communication; used by permission)

BIO: Michael Caplan has followed the work of Giegerich and Hillman for over 30 years and has presented at gatherings of the ISPD since its first conference in 2012. A designer, editor, and theatre-maker with a BFA in Contemporary Dance, he is the founder of House of ShAkE, a publishing and production company. His essay, “You Are Here (Now): Psyche’s Logic or Sense of Soul in Jung, Hillman, and Giegerich,” was included in *Psychology as the Discipline of Interiority: Essays on “The Soul’s Logical Life” in the Work of Wolfgang Giegerich*, published by Routledge, and his writings on contemporary antisemitism and cultural conflict appear online in *White Rose Magazine*. He also sings down-home music – classic country, folk, blues, bluegrass, and standards – and recorded a CD, *Steelpan Country*, in 2016. [www.houseofshake.ca](http://www.houseofshake.ca)

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## Recent Titles!





# Dusk Owl Books

A New Direction in Analytical Psychology

Our friends at [Dusk Owl books](#) have recently published:

## Human Dignity and the Garden of Eden Story: Distinctions, Disputations, and New Insights

by [Wolfgang Giegerich](#) (Author), [Marco Heleno Barreto](#)

(edited by Greg Mogenson with an introduction by Peter White)

Consciousness, according to Jung, cannot exist without a discrimination of differences, nor the soul without the subject matters and opposing viewpoints that it meets itself in and as. In this book, “the soul” as *psychological consciousness* establishes itself by means of a high-level dispute over the meaning and provenance of the human dignity concept in Modernity. Whereas traditionally, this concept had been quietly backed up by man’s firm conviction of having been created in the image and likeness of God, it is remarkable to observe the ubiquity of undignified, entitled, and narcissistic appeals to human dignity and human rights in our secular times. Into this contradiction the authors of the essays in this volume provide deep insights, even while disputing one another’s interpretations of such symbolical touchstones as the *imago dei*, the *coniunctio*, and the Garden of Eden story. With rigour and brilliance, clarifications are offered, all along the way, with respect to the question of how interpretations are to be structured if they are to be truly *psychological* in the spirit of Jung’s “psychology with soul.”



# Notional Practice: The Speculative Turn in Analytical Psychology

by [Greg Mogenson](#)

This book brings together in one place a selection of its author's many contributions to psychology as the discipline of interiority. Beginning with an "Introductory Chronicle," the author provides a lively account of his long collaboration with Wolfgang Giegerich as editor of the latter's *Collected English Papers*. Included in this chronicle are accounts of the negations his own understanding of Jungian psychology had to go through during this period, as well as insights into the problem of the transference as this plays out within schools of thought that are rooted in the concepts and insights of master representatives dating back to Freud and Jung.

New from Routledge, from our own Co-president and Executive Committee member, Pamela Power, comes:

## Transitions in Jungian Analysis

By Pamela Power

This deeply personal book contains essays and articles that portray the evolution of the author as a practicing Jungian analyst. Themes of illness, death, and violence are inherent within the chapters of this book. She uses metaphors from music to describe transitions, some involve literal death, and others are metaphorical.

The chapters of this book provide an engaging and readable review of life from one Jungian psychoanalyst, featuring essays on topics such as physical illness, film, music, video games, and her dog. The author covers problematic psychological and physical conditions, each of which, through exploration and inquiry, provides a transition to a new depth of understanding and a renewed sense of self.

## Wolfgang Giegerich – *Animus Psychologie* on YouTube!

The recently published Portuguese translation of Giegerich's *Animus-Psychologie* occasioned a Zoom meeting where Wolfgang answers wide-ranging questions about its significance for

psychology. While the introduction and questions are in Portuguese, Giegerich's answers are in English. This video can be viewed at

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i8f5pUVtqfo&t=1s>**

(or a search for Wolfgang Giegerich will retrieve it and some other interesting material).

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## Ongoing Events

### Topos

Topos is currently on hiatus for the rest of the year. We're planning to resume the series in January or February. For information on dates and the Zoom link (which does not change), ISPDI members can go to <https://www.ispdi.org/topos>.

### Open Inquiry

A reminder that the next Open Inquiry is scheduled for October 27, 2024, at 2 PM Eastern time. Our focus will be on *Coniunctio* by Wolfgang Giegerich, p. 129-139. Note that we have adopted a more systematic process where a participant prepares and presents a summary of each section, which is followed by a facilitated discussion.

Please note: The Zoom link and information to the Open Inquiry can now be found on the ISPDI website. After signing in to the website: [ispdi.org](https://ispdi.org) go to the drop-down menu under the "Newsletter and Events" tab and click on "Open Inquiry". Here you can also register for the next meeting if you wish although it is not necessary.