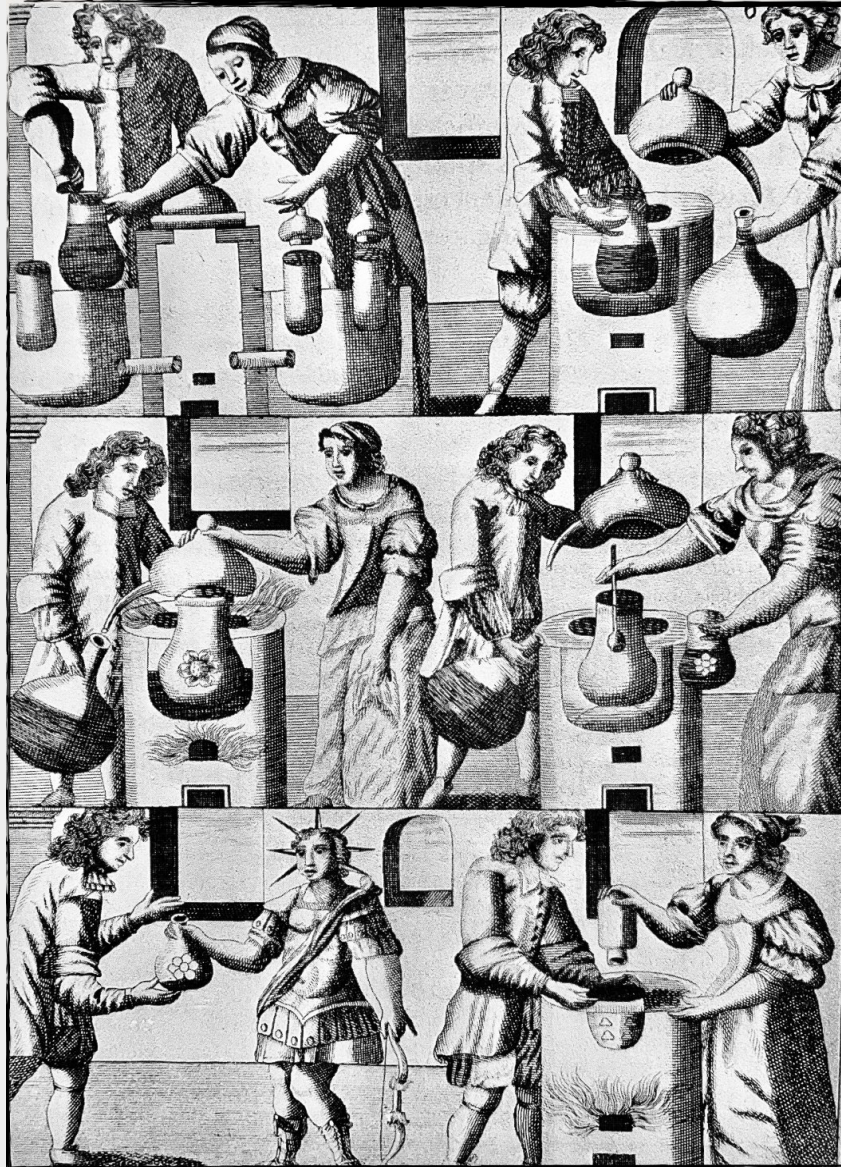




International Society for Psychology as the
Discipline of Interiority

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Alchemists at work: various stages of the process. Sol appears below, bringing the golden flower. Mutus Liber (1702). From Jung, CW 12

ISPDI Newsletter
Winter 2025

Greetings to ISPDI members, friends, and colleagues.

We hope you are well, and we send good wishes for this holiday season, however you celebrate it.

The end of the year is a time of pause and reflection, and if we look back on 2025, we can agree that for the ISPDI it was an interesting and fruitful year. Of course, a highlight was the successful Symposium, “Thinking Psychology,” which attracted lively attention and involved many members, and many who were first-time attendees and presenters. After the dust had settled and the conference was behind us, the executive committee decided that because the quality of the presentations was high, publishing a selection in book form was warranted. To that end, a committee was formed, presenters were contacted, and work on a proposal for publication is currently in the works.

Also in 2025, selected presentations from the 2024 conference in Berlin, *Where is Soul?*, edited by Greg Mogenson and Pamela Power, was published by Dusk Owl Books. A link to this book along with other Dusk Owl Books can be found on the ISPDI website front page by clicking on the image of the book cover.

Please note that for ISPDI members, videos of the [2025 Symposium](#) are now available on the website as are the lectures for the 2024 Berlin Conference. We want to thank EC member Peter White for his patient and high-quality editing and for getting these videos on the website. We are also grateful (and pleasantly surprised!) that Peter was able to locate and make available audio recordings from the [inaugural ISPDI Conference](#), in Berlin in 2012. Thank you, Peter!

Throughout the year, Monthly Open Inquiry meetings took place, and the group has now finished going through Hal Child’s book, *God’s Autopsy and the Living Truth of Soul: A History of Western Consciousness*. Wolfgang Giegerich’s CEP vol. 7, *How to think Psychologically, With Jung Beyond Jung* will now be taken up by the group. New members to Open Inquiry are always welcome.

A new and popular Study Group, initiated by Gabriel Eckert, Jane Eivemark-Smith and Elvira Miletic, also began during the last year. The group’s purpose is, “... to offer members less familiar with PDI an opportunity to learn about and better understand some of the basic concepts of Giegerich's work.” To this end, the group is working through the book *What is Soul?*

And now a look to the future. Work is being done on the planning for the next ISPDI gathering, scheduled for August 1st and 2nd 2026. This event will be an online Symposium, like 2025, with the theme, “Working the Notion”.

This theme comes out of the idea that rather than have a specific focus, any subject that a presenter is currently interested in could be chosen. In other words, the Symposium is open to any theme or subject matter that can be interpreted psychologically, i.e., from the perspective of soul. The topic would be the starting point, the *prima materia*, for “working the notion” or bringing out the essence or psychological value of that particular matter. For more information, see the Call for Proposals in the newsletter and on the website. We hope you will consider sending in a proposal!

An explanation of why we are planning to have two online events in a row is warranted. As most members will know, our usual pattern is to rotate between online and in person events, which would mean that our next gathering would normally be in person. The reason for this is because we are in the process of planning for a conference to take place in Japan in 2027. The exact time and location in Japan have yet to be determined. We are excited about this prospect, and we want to thank our Japanese members and colleagues who are taking the lead in these preparations.

The society has had quite a full year, and the next couple of years are going to bring more enticing events. We thank you all for your participation in the ISPDI and look forward to seeing you in the coming year. We also thank the EC for the time and energy they donate to the running of the society and making it such an interesting and important group to be a part of.

Finally, an important thank you to Harry Henderson for his fine work on the ISPDI newsletter.

Best wishes to you all for 2026,

John Hoedl
Pamela Power
Co-Presidents

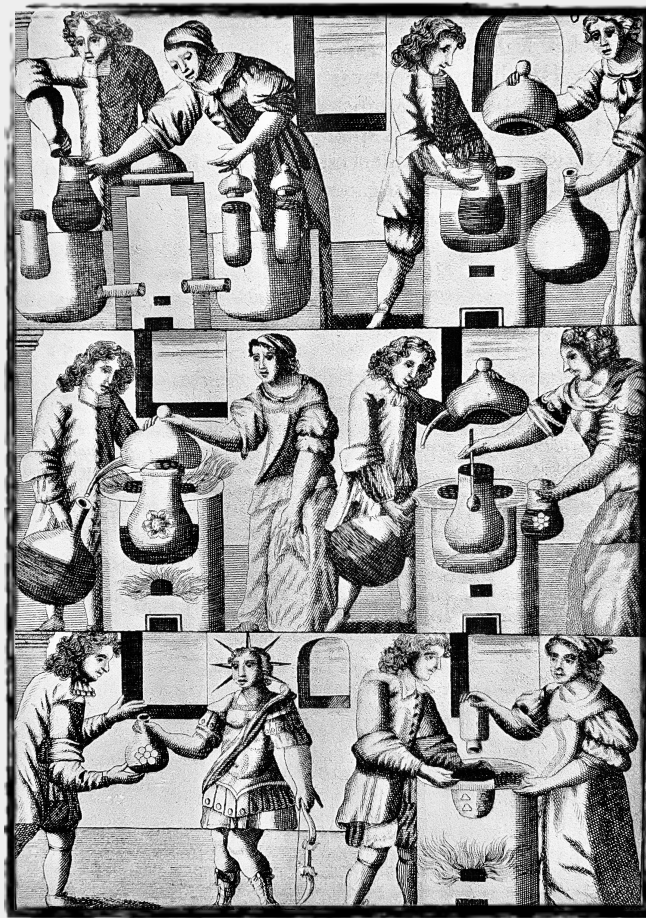


International Society for Psychology as the Discipline of Interiority

ISPDI 2026 Online Summer Conference
Aug 1st - 2nd, 2026

Call for Proposals

Conference Theme:
Working the Notion



Alchemists at work: various stages of the process. Sol appears below,
bringing the golden flower. *Mutus Liber* (1702). From Jung, CW 12.

Psychology is an Ars, a methodology, an opus, a doing—a particular style of looking at and working with psychological phenomena in their absolute negativity.
(Giegerich, *The Historical Emergence of the I*, p. 299)

We invite you to submit a proposal to participate in our annual gathering of scholars, practitioners, and thinkers exploring topics and ideas related to the conference theme of *working the notion*.

Those of us immersed in psychology as a discipline of interiority are always working some aspect of our central notion, psychology with soul. “Working” the notion is another way to conceive of doing psychology. “The Notion is the soul as (desire for) cognition, the soul in that ‘archetypal’ moment of its self-relation in which it, the soul, is cognizing, knowing, comprehending itself.” (Giegerich, *Soul’s Logical Life*, p. 204)

Working is: reflecting, thinking, interpreting which, psychologically, is the objective soul seeking to find itself mirrored in the Other. The psychological bread is already implicitly present in the raw dough, but it needs to be worked (kneaded) and “put to the fire” to become explicit.

For the summer 2026 online symposium, we invite you to submit a proposal on **any** topic related to some aspect of PDI. We want to see and hear how you *work the notion* with your current interest.

Please send a description of your proposal, 500-700 words, to the Executive Committee at tispdi@gmail.com by **March 1, 2026**. Also, contact us if you have any questions about a proposal.

We look forward to hearing from you!

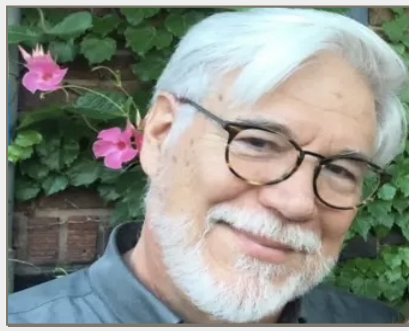
“How to think psychologically”, as a *psychological* question (even if one in statement form), is a *real* question, an open question, a question that cannot find a fixed answer. And that means it puts psychology itself, i.e., the nature of what psychology is or rather what the psychological approach to a phenomenon has to be, into question.

Wolfgang Giegerich, “Introduction,” CEP Vol. 7, p. x

The Notion: Its Own Blacksmith?



[Hausbuch der Mendelschen Zwölfbrüderstiftung, Band 2. Nürnberg 1550–1791. Stadtbibliothek Nürnberg, Amb. 317b.2°, via <http://www.nuernberger-hausbuecher.de/>]



Kurt William Katzmar

April 25, 1953 - September 14, 2025

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of ISPDI member Kurt Katzmar.

Kurt was born in Strongsville, Ohio, and had recently retired after 40 years of ministry. He led churches in Elmira, New York; Berea, Ohio; and Medford, Oregon; before finally retiring from the United Church in Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada. Before being called to the ministry, he had a career in public finance with the U.S. Treasury Department in New York City and Washington D.C. He was ordained after attending the Chicago Theological Seminary. He also studied public administration at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where he met his wife, Marcia, in the A Capella Singers and German Club.

Kurt had a life-long love of music, sang in semi-professional choirs, and even had a brief stint as a classical music announcer with Jefferson Public Radio in Oregon.

After being introduced to the writings of Wolfgang Giegerich, Kurt attended a number of ISPDI conferences, symposiums, and occasionally the Open Inquiry. He joined the ISPDI in 2022 and his proposal, "The Decimated Church: A Psychological Perspective," accepted to be presented at the Berlin Conference in the summer of 2024. Unfortunately, he was not well enough to attend in person, but we were very happy that his daughter Grace was able to make the trip and present his paper for him.

Kurt was an original member of the Edmonton study group, which has met weekly for over six years to read and discuss Giegerich's work. Very committed to these gatherings, Kurt rarely missed a meeting as he had an infectious passion and enthusiasm for Giegerich's writing and for psychology as the discipline of interiority.

He delighted in discussing the nature of the psychological soul and how it differed from the traditional Christian or theological notion of soul. He often returned to and marvelled at (but also confessed being baffled by!) the idea of the objective soul, the soul's self-reflectivity, and the soul as self-reflection. He wrestled with and was inspired by these ideas because he took them seriously and understood the profound implications they had in his life.

Kurt regularly and explicitly expressed his love for the study group meetings as they gave him an opportunity to be with people who shared his desire to reflect on the great mysteries of life, consciousness, and the notion of soul. We will sorely miss Kurt and the unique mix of intelligence, curiosity, and humour that he brought to our meetings.

The Edmonton Giegerich Study Group

The Notion: Its Own Baker?



[Wikimedia commons]

Ongoing Events

Topos

Topos will continue in early 2026, and we will announce new presentations by email. Previous Topos presentations can be accessed by members. Select Video/Audio from the main menu, then “Topos Series.”



[The Stoa, or porch, where ancient Athenians often gathered to discuss philosophy.

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Massimo_Pigliucci-Stoa_of_Attalos.jpg]

Open Inquiry

Open Inquiry is continuing by working through vol. 7 of Giegerich’s Collected English Papers. “How to Think Psychologically. With Jung Beyond Jung.”

Please note: The Zoom link and information for the Open Inquiry can be found on the ISPDI website. After signing in to the website: ispdi.org click on the box Labeled “Open Inquiry” on the home page.