



# TBIPS Newsletter



Volume III, Issue 11  
Spring 2011

## Greetings from the President

### Special points of interest:

- Greetings from the President
- Training at TBIPS
- Logo Meaning
- Upcoming Psychoanalytic Activities in Tampa

Dear Reader:

Spring is on its way and Tampa Bay surely had its share of cold days. Our admired and respected colleague Horacio Arias, MD lost, on December 2, 2010, his beloved wife of over fifty years. The community remembered her at a Memorial on January 5. (see page ...) Meanwhile, new colleagues bring new life, literally, with infants, and figuratively, with their participation, to the local psychoanalytic community.

Though I understand Frost's *Reluctance* to say goodbye to a season: "*when to the heart of man was it ever less than a treason to ... bow and accept the end of a love or a season?*", I always look forward to every new season as it seems there is always something exciting around the bend. We at TBIPS had our triennial election of new Board of Directors (page ...) in January and we welcome Steve Graham, PhD as candidate liaison to the Board. TBIPS has just launched its still inchoate website (page ...) at [tampapsychoanalytic.org](http://tampapsychoanalytic.org). This Spring Semester, courses (page ...) will place an emphasis on Relational theory and technique, and the biweekly Relational and Self Study Groups continue to draw participants from around the state.

I hope you share my excitement about all the wonderful opportunities for psychoanalytic collegiality around the Tampa Bay area and check out some of them at [tbips.blogspot.com](http://tbips.blogspot.com).

Looking forward to another productive and thought-provoking year, and to hearing from you.

Lycia Alexander-Guerra, MD  
President, Tampa Bay Institute for Psychoanalytic Studies, Inc  
Co-Chair, Veterans Family Initiative  
14043 N Dale Mabry Hwy  
Tampa, FL 33618-2401  
813-908-5080 Email: [psa95md@verizon.net](mailto:psa95md@verizon.net)

## Möbius Strip Logo



Ehrenberg wrote that the analytic dialogue, including intersubjective experience, where transference is not separate from countertransference, requires

"something like turning our experience 'inside out'—opening ... the 'internal boundary' of the relationship and explicating our experience from inside. "

TBIPS chose as its logo the Möbius strip (a common symbol for the interconnectedness of things and for infinity) because its inside and outside are inextricably

connected. Just as the inside and outside worlds of human experience are contextualized in one another, the past always contextualized in the present, the present in the past, and foreground experience always embedded in background relationship and meaning, so, too, the analytic dialogue has no 'inside' and no 'outside.'

## Training in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy

*TBIPS embraces pluralism and emphasizes a comprehensive contemporary view of psychoanalysis and features a multi-cultural and theoretically diverse faculty, including, but not limited to, expertise in Intersubjectivity, Relational, and Self Psychology.*

The TBIPS training program represents the most current, up-to-date theories in psychoanalytic thought. TBIPS embraces *pluralism* and emphasizes a *comprehensive* contemporary view of psychoanalysis within the context of a mutually shared and respectfully open paradigm between faculty and candidates. We offer a multi-cultural and theoretically diverse faculty, including, but not limited to, expertise in Intersubjectivity, Relational, and Self Psychology, whose teaching style is student focused with the goal of offering the opportunity for dialogue between

varying schools of thought and to engage and encourage candidates to think *critically* about psychoanalytic concepts.

### **Inquiries Welcome.**

#### **To Apply:**

Contact Lycia Alexander-Guerra at  
14043 N Dale Mabry Hwy,  
Tampa, 33618  
813-908-5080;  
or go to [tbipstraining@gmail.com](mailto:tbipstraining@gmail.com)

Payment Plans available.

### **Faculty:**

Lycia Alexander-Guerra, MD  
Nancy Brehm, PhD  
Horacio Arias, MD  
Heather Pyle, PsyD  
Edward Stein, MD  
Kim Vaz, PhD

### **Visiting Faculty:**

Ghislaine Boulanger, PhD  
William Player, PhD  
Bruce Reiss, PhD  
Anthony Virsida, PhD

*Seminars may be taken individually or as part of certificate programs in psychoanalytic psychotherapy or psychoanalysis*

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## **New Board of Directors**

On January 14, 2011 the TBIPS Board of Directors held his triennial election of the BOD, reconfiguring the BOD to have all its members being working contributors. Lycia Alexander-Guerra was reinstated as president and Heather Pyle as treasurer. Kim Vaz remains to publish our newsletter and as liaison to the University of South Florida. Horacio Arias becomes the new secretary of TBIPS, and we are pleased that Steve Graham has agreed to be candidate liaison for the BOD. The BOD oversees many functions, including curriculum, student progression, policy and procedures, fundraising, and faculty and student recruitment. We are pleased to begin our sixth year with such an enthusiastic BOD serving a class of seven students and candidates.

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## **Poem**

### **DIALECTICS**

What do you know sun of the dismal, dreary day  
What can you tell me water of the parching drought  
What can you say light of the swarthy chilly rain  
and you wind of US branches stout  
that in your gust rebound  
What do you know lingering, enduring flame  
of the ashes that will snuff out your reign  
What can you ever know of joy, nostalgia,  
in your bittersweet might and main

Ernesto Vasquez, MD  
Study Group Member, TBIPS  
January 11, 2011

## A Loss in the TBIPS Family

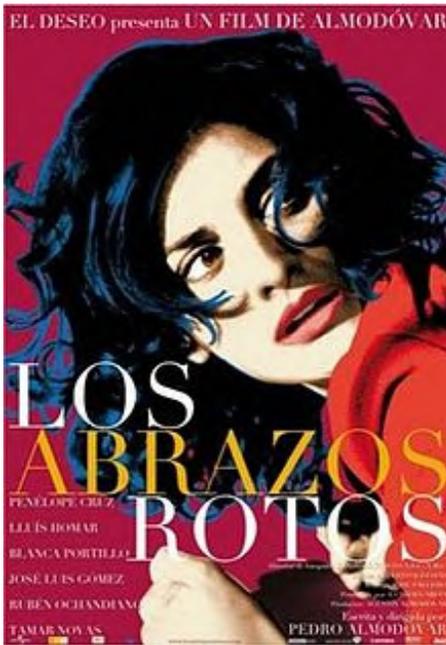
Shirley Ruth Arias, age 87, passed away on December 2, 2010 from complications following cardiac surgery. The beloved wife of TBIPS faculty, founding, and Board member Horacio Arias, MD, Shirley helped run Dr. Arias' office for his busy psychoanalytic practice for over 30 years. Shirley was born on August 4, 1923 in Buffalo, NY. She was married to Horacio on April 4, 1959 in St. Louis, Missouri. At professional dinner meetings and collegial parties, Shirley loved to share the story of their chance meeting while traveling by air. Not only quick with a joke or funny story, she was quick to brag about how lucky she was to have found the love of her life in Horacio. They were happily married for 51 years, having courted for a couple of years before their nuptials.

Initially, they lived in Horacio's home country of Colombia, where Shirley worked as an English teacher while Horacio completed his medical training and training in psychoanalysis. They relocated to the Worcester, MA and then Tampa, FL. Shirley and Horacio were the beloved surrogate parents to her nieces and nephews, playing a very active role in their lives and continuing as surrogate grandparents to their children. Shirley and Horacio shared a love of travel, and visited many countries throughout the world.

The Tampa service to her remember her was held in on January 5, 2011. A memorial fund will be set up to also honor her memory.



## Applying psychoanalytic thought to films



Full time student Linda Berkowitz, LMHC writes:

This year's Film Series, sponsored by the Tampa Bay Psychoanalytic Society, Inc and the USF Humanities Institute is titled *Developing Passions*. In November, 2010, I provided comments from a clinical perspective on the film "Broken Embraces" created by the well known Spanish director Pedro Almodovar. Dr Adriana Novoa, a cultural historian, shared academic insights about the film. I had chosen this movie for the series because I was intrigued by the themes presented, including the exploration of sexual and personal passions, as well as the interplay between film and reality. This is not Almodovar,s greatest film, but I found even its melodramatic quality compelling. The film, discussed through various lenses, including cultural and gender perspectives, shed light on the nature of Spanish society and interpretations of reality though a postmodern perspective.

I had, last summer, suggested this film for the Series, but serendipitously found that the course "Narcissism and Development of Shame Throughout the Life Cycle," which I was taking in the 2010 Fall Semester at the Tampa Bay Institute For Psychoanalytic Studies, Inc, provided a framework in which to develop my commentary on *Broken Embraces*. The film's plot concerns Martel, a rich, powerful, and ruthless man who seeks vengeance when his mistress (the beautiful Penelope Cruz) betrays him with the director of the film he is producing and in which she stars. Disaster follows, and the second part of the movie deals with the losses and devastation of the film within the film's director Harry Caine.

Anna Ornstein, in *The Fate Of Narcissistic Rage in Psychotherapy* (Psa Q. 1998 Vol. 18, 55-70, p. 56), expanding on the views of Heinz Kohut stated "In our current perspective, all destructive aggression is at its roots narcissistic rage; whatever its outward manifestations, however mild or severe, acute or chronic---". She goes on to quote Kohut: 'Underlying all these emotional states, is an uncompromising insistence on the perfection of the idealized self object and on the limitless power and knowledge of the grandiose self.' Martel seeks revenge for his humiliations and wreaks destruction. He had become obsessed with his mistress and she had become the "self object" who reassured him about his worth, power and control. In spite of his great successes he is always at the mercy of a diminished self and cannot tolerate loss or disappointment.

We have seen major figures in history who have also wreaked destruction, in part, to defend against narcissistic wounding of a precarious grandiosity. The film makes these points in a comic-tragic fashion when Martel, who has had his mistress followed and filmed, watches her on a giant screen as she describes how loathsome he is to her. To heighten the absurdity, Martel has beside him a hired "lip reader" who impassively reads the insults and is witness to his humiliation.

Cruz in the film portrays the plight of many women who seek "mirroring" and recognition through admiration of their physical beauty or through self sacrifice at the expense of their authenticity. In her yearning to be seen, she becomes an image on a giant movie screen. In another sad, but tongue in cheek commentary, Cruz impersonates film actress icons in her movie. She becomes an ersatz Marilyn Monroe or Audrey Hepburn, playing frothy comedy while hiding her own reality of abuse and pain.

Harry Caine is a flawed man, but is able to recover and reinvest his narcissism in non destructive and sustaining ways. Although blind and suffering many losses, he is able to reinvent himself through the love and care of others. Again in comic fashion, Caine uses his blindness, often a symbol of helplessness or shameful dependency, to get pretty girls to help him across the street, and subsequently seduces them to reassert and give play to his sexual passions.

Although, there are no early histories of the characters in the film, I cannot help but imagine that Caine was the apple of some one's eye in early childhood, providing him with a resiliency and with narcissistic reserves in adulthood. Additionally, he has a woman who loves him, and a child in his life with whom he can share his passion for storytelling, movie making, and the creative process. These fortunate self object relationships provide the support, both practical and emotional, which allow him to survive and weather enormous failure and disappointment.

In the three films thus far viewed (Wertmuller's *Love and Anarchy*, and Ang's *Eat, Drink, Man, Woman*) in the series *Developing Passions*, I suggest we explore themes between the films. Although the films include sexual passions, and highlight the vitality of physical love, they also speak to the potency and variety of human passions. In all three, the individual development of passions is key to zest for life, is involved in the continuity of our sense of a core self, and helps us cope with the inevitable insults and disappointments in life while tempering narcissistic rage and revenge.

## Study Groups

Study groups in Relational and Self Psychologies are going strong in their third year, continuing to meet two Fridays a month each. Self Psychology Study Group meets the first and third Friday of the month and Relational the second and fourth Friday. Local clinical mental health professionals convene at 300 S. Hyde Park Ave at 2:00 pm, and participants from Gainesville and Orlando join by conference call.

Self Psychology, developed by Kohut to work with narcissistic disorders, utilizes empathy both as a technique to access the patient's inner world and as its main tool. Kohut believed that the therapist was to provide *selfobject experiences*. He did not emphasize drives, but, instead, saw the lack of parental *mirroring*, or of allowing for *idealization* and *twinship*, as a failure of empathy. His ideas influenced attachment theorists. Kohut posited that lack of attunement impedes the development of psychic structures which are used to manage anxiety and other potentially overwhelming affects. Failure to regulate these can lead to excessive sexual and aggressive drive derivatives. (Note the ego psychology component). Because failure to be perfectly empathic and attuned, whether a parent or a therapist, is inevitable, Kohut believed rupture and repair are required for transformation. While Self psychology remains a one person psychology (the subjective experience of the patient is privileged) and because who the analyst is, is not germane to the process of the analysis, its potential for intersubjectivity and perspectival realism, with its technique of empathy (immersed in the patient's point of view, and not in some objective 'truth'), as well as participation of the analyst to correct developmental deficiencies, greatly influenced relational thinkers. Likewise, self psychologists do not see humans as primarily driven by drives, but, instead, focus on affective relational configurations. The developmental aspects of empathy and the emotional availability of the therapist are thought to foster reactivation of the arrested developmental process.

Contemporary relational psychoanalytic theorists, influenced by postmodernism in literary, feminist, and philosophical thought, began in the last century to deconstruct essential assumptions about such things as transference, authority, and what is mutative. They have posited a 'constructivist' approach about what goes on between people, which is dialogic, dialectical, intersubjective, and interpersonal, and includes how memories are co-constructed. "*Co-creation*" extends as well to both transference and countertransference, though contributions from patient and therapist are asymmetric. Relational theory is made up of many perspectives, many voices. It values deepening relationships and enriching experience, as well as making meaning out of personal existence. This includes a leaning toward authenticity on the part of both therapist and patient, as well as an appreciation that what is authentic, true, and real can never be completely known. Uncertainty and paradox, therefore, are understood to be essential. Relationship is privileged alongside insight, because of the appreciation that the therapist always has an impact on enactments, transference, and free association. Relational theorists, including some intersubjectivists, believe that mental life must be studied within a contextualized, two-person, interpersonal environment.

## Website Underway

TBIPS announces its website at [tampapsychoanalytic.org](http://tampapsychoanalytic.org) where we hope soon to be able to provide on-line applications for training as well as on-line registration for courses. We hope to link to the TBIPS blog at [tbips.blogspot.com](http://tbips.blogspot.com) as well as post there the TBIPS student handbook, our newsletters, and update the curriculum.

## TBPS Spring 2011 Speakers

The local psychoanalytic professional society The Tampa Bay Psychoanalytic Society, Inc ends its year of prominent guest speakers with the self psychologist Richard Geist on March 19<sup>th</sup>, and the philosopher and psychoanalyst Donna Orange on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Papers by Geist have featured prominently in the TBIPS Self Psychology Study Group and his paper *Empathy, Connectedness, and the Evolution of Boundaries in Self Psychological Treatment* (Geist, R.A. 2008. International Journal of Psychoanalytic Self Psychology. 4:165-180) may have been the most helpfully provocative paper I have ever read, featuring the mutual negotiation of boundaries with a patient who disrobes completely in his office while Geist struggles to maintain empathic immersion. Orange is a prolific writer, along with Atwood and Stolorow, on the intersubjective field, trauma, and hermeneutics.

## James Fosshage updates Self Psychology Study Group perspective

**SELF PSYCHOLOGY**, first developed by Heinz Kohut beginning in the 1970s, has become one of the major psychoanalytic approaches. In light of the paradigm change from positivistic to relativistic science, Kohut updated psychoanalytic epistemology by formulating the empathic mode of observation, that to understand, as best we can, from within the patient's experiential world (in contrast to making judgments from the outside). Analysts use their subjectivity through affect resonance and vicarious introspection (using analogous experiences of their own) to sense themselves into the experience of the other (while the empathic perspective is primary, other listening perspectives have been added in contemporary self psychology). Kohut posited that the development of the self, unique to each individual, was the overarching developmental process in human beings. In contrast to the dual drive theory, he posited a fundamental striving to realize the "nuclear self" and "its program of action." He also posited that we share in common selfobject needs that include mirroring (acknowledgment and affirmation), idealizing (protection and admired qualities) and twinship (essential feeling of likeness) needs. Insufficient responses to these selfobject needs arrest the development of the self and creates problematic organizing patterns. Kohut's recognition that the analyst needed to be sufficiently responsive to the needs of the patient (called empathic responsiveness) contributed to the emergence (beginning in the 1980s) of relational or intersubjective theory. Although the self-selfobject matrix inherently is structurally a relational matrix, Kohut, emerging from a classical intrapsychic perspective, had an intrapsychic tilt. Self psychology, however, has evolved into a fully relational theory and clinical approach. In his theory of therapeutic action Kohut emphasized rupture/repair cycles and, later, ongoing selfobject experience. Although not a unified theory, a number of contemporary self psychologists view the analysis of the selfobject and repetitive dimensions of the transference and the selfobject experience within the analytic relationship as the fundamental avenues to therapeutic change.



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James L. Fosshage, Ph.D.

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[www.jamesfosshage.net](http://www.jamesfosshage.net)

## Featured Student



Dr. Adam Estevez grew up in St. Petersburg, Florida. After several years in New York City, he has returned to the Tampa Bay area as both psychiatrist and artist. He has a strong interest in a psychoanalytic approach with his patients and is continuing his educational interests at TBIPS in the psychoanalytic training program. After exhibiting his work in New York, Dr. Estevez continues to show his artwork in galleries and shows in the Tampa Bay area. Last year he had a successful one man show at Studio@620 in downtown St. Petersburg.

Dr. Estevez's interest in psychiatry began as a psychology major at Harvard University. After attending medical school at Indiana University, he trained in Psychiatry as a resident at Cornell, New York Hospital in New York City. Upon completing his residency, Dr. Estevez finished a fellowship at Columbia University in Forensic Psychiatry. His artwork training began in Florence as a junior in college. His training continued at the Art Students League in New York City under Nelson Shanks. For further information about his practice or artwork, please visit his websites at: [www.AdamEstevez.com](http://www.AdamEstevez.com) and [www.AdamEstevezMD.com](http://www.AdamEstevezMD.com).



## TBIPS Program Offerings

About our Program: TBIPS is a professional community which embraces pluralism and a comprehensive contemporary view of psychoanalysis within the context of a mutually respectful and open learning atmosphere. We invite you to:

- \* Deepen and develop your clinical skills.      \* Join colleagues to network and share practical issues.
- \* Enroll in an individual class or in a training program:
  - Two year certificate program in Psychoanalytic psychotherapy
  - Four year certificate program in Psychoanalysis

### Courses:

Classes are open to mental health professionals with an interest in psychoanalytic ideas. The courses may be taken independently, but, in order to optimally elaborate concepts, we suggest that you enroll in the full semester.

### Distance Learning:

Long distance learning options available through use of Skype video conferencing.

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## 2011 Spring Semester Curriculum Emphasizes Relational Thought

### Developmental Issues in the Analytic Setting

This course examines the ways in which development informs our clinical work with adult patients. Life events and developmental transformations throughout the lifespan are explored in terms of their relevance for adult treatment. Papers will be paired with clinical material as we address major developmental concepts in this course. (16 weeks) Instructor: *Heather Pyle, PsyD*  
Meets 16 Wednesdays, 2:00pm-3:30pm (Jan 26, Feb 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Apr 6, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18, 2011).

### Clinical Case Conference

This course is designed to support the clinician's work and offers opportunity to integrate clinical material with psychoanalytic concepts, including ethics, and ways to deepen the psychoanalytic process, with a focus on the therapist's self reflection, the clinical relationship, and ways to facilitate what is mutative for the patient. Attendees are encouraged to present case material. (16weeks) Instructors: *Lycia Alexander-Guerra, MD; Nancy Brehm, PhD*  
Meets 16 Wednesdays, 3:45-5:15pm (Jan 26, Feb 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Apr 6, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18, 2011).

### Relational Concepts and Implications for Treatment

This course explores the relational co-creation of the treatment situation, reviewing influences on Relational ideas and technique from Object Relations, Interpersonal, Intersubjectivity, and Self Psychology. We discuss, among other topics, mutuality, intersubjectivity, dissociation, and disclosure, and look at clinician contribution to the therapeutic matrix. (16 weeks) *Horacio Arias, MD with Lycia Alexander, MD*  
Meets 16 Wednesdays, 5:30-7:00pm (Jan 26, Feb 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Apr 6, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18, 2011).

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## TBIPS Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Discipline \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ License # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Request Long Distance Learning (check one, if applicable): \_\_\_phone or \_\_\_Skype

## The Analytic Attitude Lycia Alexander-Guerra, M.D.

One of the most important, and perhaps most difficult, lesson of didactic training to impart is the analytic attitude. Rosalind Kindler recently noted in Tampa that it is not what one does but how one thinks about what is happening and about the material that is analytic. How might more experienced analysts an analytic attitude with student clinicians eager to experience a deeper relationship and understanding with the people who seek them out for help? While an analytic attitude comes with inclination and experience, fostered by training and our own analyses, and while there is no agreement on theory, analysts share the common attitude of endeavoring to understand the intrapsychic and interpersonal life of the patient, to hold the needs of the patient within a frame, and to foster the growth and development of the patient toward a more meaningful and enriched, diverse life. We behave ethically. We behave with restraint. We work to be aware of the influence we have on patients by being self-reflective. We bear, sometimes with our patients, sometimes alone, unbearable affects, tensions, paradox, and uncertainty.

Perhaps I would benefit most from a New Year's resolution to give up control, to 'let go.' Most people, including therapists, particularly those with medical training, have the urge to assert control and avoid vulnerabilities and insufficiencies. Giving up the illusion of control, however scary, and being open to the experience of therapy and its co-creativity, allows transformative possibilities, and leads us and our patients away from self-alienation. Control does not constitute nor uplift the self.

A psychoanalytic attitude is the openness to experience the emotional 'truth' of the other's, as well as our own, subjectivity. It is an ardent experiencing, appreciating experience in its own right, alongside insight, toward the true self; to value not only knowing but *being* toward the true self. This philosophical attitude decenters insight's privileged place and makes room for relationship and for *being with*. Decreasing the patient's isolation can lessen suffering. Psychotherapy is a sacred experience, under-taken, like faith, with one's whole being, giving oneself over to the possibility of being in communion, if only rarely and momentarily, with another. Each member of the dyad ideally participates with openness and intensity as we make meaning of ourselves and our lives through revelation and through impact on each other.

Bion advocated an openness to the patient within the bounds of our ethics, always mustering up our respect, decency, and wisdom. When analyzing, open inquiry is preferable to knowledge. Bion advised that we approach each session 'without memory or desire,' that we be open to the new possibilities co-created when the therapist does not insist on knowing or on helping, but instead leaves space for a path that is always evolving, that is unpredictable and unique. When we, with an open heart, do not expect patients to give up their troubles, another serendipitous effect may include lessening of symptoms.

I ask myself, "Can I recognize without flinching another's subjectivity, or, when I inevitably flinch, can I acknowledge with the patient your discomfort in a way that negotiates a new closeness with, and understanding of, the patient? Can I model for the patient that there is no thing too untenable to hear or to bear feeling in the company of another? Can I survive the untenable without retaliation (withdrawal, humiliation, breaches of empathy) and hold in tension (not 'either/or' but 'both') uncertainty with knowing?"

# TBIPS Newsletter

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Spring Semester 2011

\_\_\_ **Developmental Issues in the Analytic Setting**

Meets 16 Wednesdays 200-330pm

(Jan 26; Feb 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Apr 6, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 2011)

Fee: \$250 for a single course; \$200 if enrolled in full semester

\_\_\_ **Clinical Case Conference**

Meets 16 Wednesdays 345-515pm

(Jan 26; Feb 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Apr 6, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 2011)

Fee: \$250 for a single course; \$200 if enrolled in full semester

\_\_\_ **Relational Concepts and Implications for Treatment**

Meets 16 Wednesdays 530-700pm

(Jan 26; Feb 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Apr 6, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 2011)

Fee: \$250 for a single course; \$200 if enrolled in full semester

\_\_\_\_\_ Number courses taking Fall Semester 2010

\_\_\_\_\_ Number courses taking Spring Semester 2011

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Total amount Enclosed

Please Make Check Payable to: TBIPS, Inc. Please mail completed registration forms and check to:  
TBIPS, Inc.

14043 N Dale Mabry Hwy  
Tampa, FL 33618

**Refund Policy:**

85% refunds available for cancellations received at least seven days prior to start of course.

**TBIPS Faculty:**

Lycia Alexander-Guerra, MD  
LCSW

Horacio Arias, MD

Nancy Brehm, PhD

Heather Pyle, PsyD

Edward Stein, MD

Kim Vaz, PhD, LMHC

**TBIPS Visiting Faculty:**

Ghislaine Boulanger, PhD

Jim Fossage, PhD

Susan Horky, LCSW

Lauren Levine, PhD

William Player, PhD

Bruce Reis, PhD

Daniel Shaw,

Frank Summers, PhD

Judith Teicholz, PhD

Anthony Virsida, PhD

*Become part of  
the healing.*

## **VETERANS' FAMILY INITIATIVE (VFI):**

**An Outreach Program of TBIPS**

### **To volunteer**

**as a clinician-  
psychotherapist  
through Veterans'  
Family Initiative,  
please call 813-908-  
5080.**

**To make a financial  
donation to help cover  
administrative costs,  
send your check tax-  
deductible  
contribution to:**

**T-BIPS; memo: VFI,  
and mail to: VFI, c/o  
TBIPS, 14043 N Dale  
Mabry Hwy, Tampa,  
FL, 33618-2401**

**Lycia Alexander-Guerra, M.D.  
&  
Heather Pyle, Psy.D.  
Co-Chairs, VFI  
Tampa Bay Institute for  
Psychoanalytic Studies**



The mission of VFI arose from the need to help address with family members of veterans some of the difficulties with re-connecting as a family after separations and long absences, and in dealing with possible disabilities or illness of the veterans.

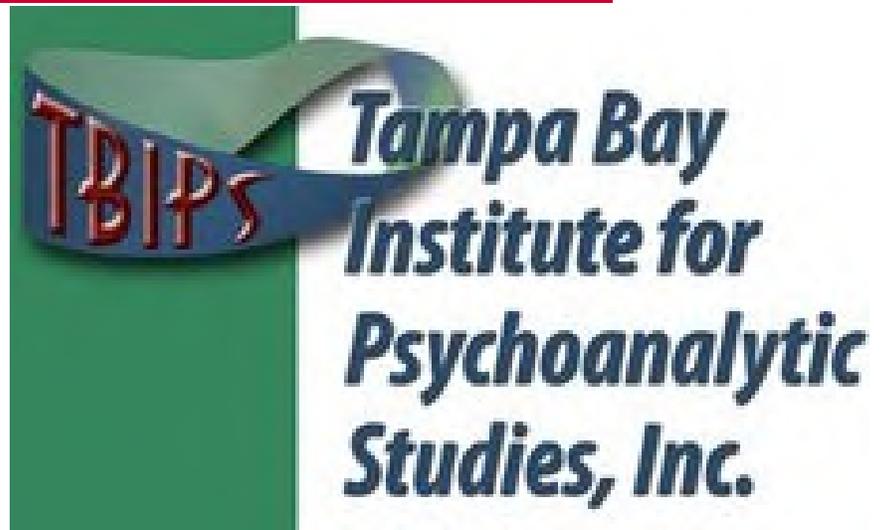
VFI (Veterans' Family Initiative) is one of the community outreach programs of T-BIPS (Tampa Bay Institute for Psychoanalytic Studies). This pro bono/ low fee program was established to serve family members (spouses and children) of veterans who served in Afghanistan or Iraq by offering low to no cost mental health psychotherapy services. Volunteers are licensed psychologists, mental health counselors, social workers, and psychiatrists like you from the Tampa Bay area who have volunteered their time to talk with veterans' spouses, children, couples, or family.

Volunteers provide psychotherapeutic services to family members who are interested in talking to a mental health professional and who are not already in therapy. The mental health clinician meets with a spouse, child, adolescent, couple, or family, on a weekly basis for little or no fee. All particulars are negotiated by you and the patient.

Volunteers do not work for or act on behalf of TBIPS, and TBIPS is not responsible for overseeing your work or its outcome. TBIPS' limited role is to connect potential patients with volunteers, and to coordinate and support the independent clinicians (by arranging peer consultation groups) who have so generously offered their services for the benefit of veterans' families.

As it will be helpful in the development of this program to learn what services families find most useful, VFI asks the volunteer therapist to report to VFI demographics (such as a child's age or that a spouse was seen). No names or other confidential information will be reported.

Treatment is strictly confidential, except as required by law to report elder or child abuse, domestic violence or any imminent danger to patients or others.



## Training and Other Programs at T-BIPS

### TRAINING

Psychoanalytic courses and certificate programs regularly offered.

### DISCUSSION

Discussion groups participants meet biweekly in person or by conference call to discuss the latest literature in the field of psychoanalysis:

**Relational Psychoanalysis Study Group:** Relational scholarship, including Object Relations, Attachment, Infant research, and many others discussed.

**Self Psychological and Intersubjective Psychoanalysis Study Group:** discusses the latest articles, some awaiting publication, in Self and Intersubjectivity.

### SERVICE

**Veterans Family Initiative (VFI):** Inspired by the American Psychoanalytic Association's SOFAR program, VFI offers pro bono or very low fee treatment to families of veterans of the Afghani and Iraqi conflicts. We have over a dozen dedicated and generous mental health clinicians among our ranks who volunteer.

### THE ARTS

**Film Series:** TBIPS proudly co-sponsors a community outreach Film Series (2008-09: *Women in Crisis*; 2009-10: *Fear of Difference: Diversity of the Holocaust Experience and 2010-2011: Developing Passions: On Sex, Relationships and Happiness*) bringing a psychoanalytic perspective to the arts and to issues of human experience.

**Theater:** Group outings to performances of interest, followed by dinner and discussion.