



columns

Institute and Clinics and served in these capacities until his first, official retirement in 1969.

After moving to Tucson, Dr Brosin joined the faculty of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Arizona College of Medicine. He taught medical students and residents until his retirement in 1994, at the age of 90.

Dr Brosin was known internationally for his contributions to psychiatry in general and to psychoanalysis in particular. He published numerous scientific articles in academic journals, focusing on a wide

variety of topics ranging from eating disorders to organic cerebral diseases. His main interest was in individual psychotherapy, psychosomatics and physicians/psychiatrists education. His influence over innumerable psychiatrists who studied under him is legendary. He was a teacher and a mentor *par excellence*. He was a voracious reader and possessed a library of over 5000 volumes.

Dr Brosin received wide acclaim from his colleagues as attested to by his numerous awards. He was elected President of such

prestigious organisations as the American Psychiatric Association, the Group for Advancement of Psychiatry and the American College of Psychiatrists.

He was elected to the honorary fellowship of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in the UK.

He will be missed by his family and students and colleagues worldwide as a great guiding influence, a clear thinker, a gifted healer and a humble but powerful student of human behaviour.

Jose Santiago

miscellany

The Retired Psychiatrists Group of the Scottish Division of the Royal College of Psychiatrists

The Retired Psychiatrists Group of the College's Scottish Division has been in existence for over 16 months and has held a series of successful and enjoyable meetings. Retirement means different things to different people, with some taking up new interests and activities and some remaining active in psychiatry. However, most people like to keep in touch with former colleagues, compare notes about their lives and enjoy their company. The Retired Psychiatrists Group seeks to meet this need. Meetings have been held in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Perth and most speakers so far have been members of the group who have a remarkable range of interests and knowledge. The Group aims to include a wide variety of topics in their programme, but will leave the more technical aspects of psychiatry to the main College meetings. Possible future activities include visits to sites of historical interest, hill-walking and golf. A total of 42 Scottish psychiatrists joined the group in the first year. For further details, please contact Karen Addie, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 9 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JQ (telephone: 0131 220 2910).

Flexible Working/Job-Sharing National Register

The Women in Psychiatry Special Interest Group have set up a national register which hopes to fulfil the following functions: document the number of psychiatrists in training who are currently working flexibly or in a job-share; document the number of consultants who are currently working flexibly or in a job-

share; and identify psychiatrists who may be interested in job-sharing or in splitting posts into flexible jobs who can be matched on a database with psychiatrists who are interested in the same speciality and a post in the same area.

In order to achieve the above, the group would be grateful if anyone considering flexible training, even if they are not considering a job-share or part-time work at present, registered on the database so that the information provided by the group can be up to date and accurate. Following registration, changes must be communicated so that the information is kept up to date. The database is confidential and only the names of those who have expressed an interest in job-shares to potential matches who are also on the database will be circulated. Those who request information from the database will be expected to provide feedback on the outcome of their approaching potential matches. It is hoped that the database will provide information on areas where it is easier to work part-time or to share a job, and also to demonstrate inequalities across the country, thus providing valuable information about how to address potential imbalances. To register on the database, please contact Dr Moira Livingston, Database Coordinator, Women in Psychiatry Special Interest Group, Ash Court, North Tyneside General Hospital, Rake Lane, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE29 8NH (telephone/fax: 0191 293 2749).

Psychiatrist for the Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Uganda

The Department of Psychiatry of the Mbarara University of Science and Technology is looking for a psychiatrist to head the department, train medical students and coordinate and supervise

the mental health team and activities. Mbarara is a small University with a Faculty of Medicine, Science Education and Development Studies. The medical curriculum emphasises community oriented learning to train doctors suitable to work in rural Africa. Resources in terms of personnel, equipment and drugs are often limited. The Department of Psychiatry, with a small multi-disciplinary team, runs an in-patient unit of 20 beds, extensive out-patient services and training programmes for medical students. The mental health programme, which has been supported by Oxfam, includes the following: training and supervision of health care workers in the district and neighbouring districts since 1991; assisting traumatised, displaced people and refugees in various areas, through various interventions; collaborating with traditional healers and the counsellors training programme. For further details of this vacancy, please contact Professor Eldryd Parry at The Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET), 24 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1AD (telephone: 0171 611 8705/6; fax: 0171 611 0683).

New publication

Butterworth-Heinemann are the publishers of *Psychotherapy in Practice: A Life in the Mind*, by Jennifer Stein and Samuel M. Stein. This collection of interviews provides valuable insights into the work and lives of a number of leading practitioners in psychotherapy. Various questions and problems, which practitioners often come across, but which tend to remain unresolved throughout their careers, form the subject of these enlightening and thought-provoking discussions. The book shows how these psychotherapists have approached different problems, how they worked through them with service users and their



reflections on the outcomes. It also explores their individual views on research, training, supervision and

personal analysis. Priced at £29.50, the book can be ordered from: Heinemann Publishers Oxford, PO Box 382, Halley

Court, Jordan Hill, Oxford OX2 8RU (telephone: 01865 888180; fax: 01865 314091).

forthcoming events

The Royal College of Psychiatrists' Research Unit is organising a one-day event entitled **Moving Ahead with the Mental Health Act: Messages**

from the Latest Research on Monday 6 March 2000 at Church House Conference Centre, London. Seventeen years after its enactment, and on the eve of its reform, surprisingly little is known about the workings of the Mental Health Act 1983. As part of its scoping work for the new mental health law, the Department of Health commissioned a broad programme of research about existing legislation. This conference is the first opportunity for a wide audience to hear the results of this exciting work and of its implications for the future. The findings also have immediate and important messages for the practitioners and managers whose practice was the focus of the research. How are Mental Health Act assessments really conducted? How much do psychiatrists and social workers really know about their roles? Are there groups of the population who are sectioned more often than others? Do tribunals and the Mental Health Act Commission provide an effective check and balance? What can we learn from mental health legislation in other countries? For a booking form, please contact Sam Coombs, College Research Unit (telephone: 020 7235 2351 ext. 234, e-mail: sam.coombs@virgin.net). Newton Lodge Regional Secure Unit are organising a one-day conference on **The Future of Forensic Learning Disability Services** at Fieldhead Hospital, Wakefield on 31 March 2000. Further information: Dr L. Haskayne (telephone: 01924 327377; fax: 01924 327383).

Midlands Psychiatric Research Group are the organisers of a **Seminar on Trans-cultural Psychiatry**, which will be held on 15–16 April 2000. The seminar intends to address issues relating to the influence of culture on presentation and management of different psychiatric disorders with a special emphasis on current practices in this area. Further information: Dr M. Afzal Javed, The Medical Centre, 2

Manor Court Avenue, Nuneaton CV11 5HX (telephone: 02476 326111; fax: 02476 388604).

Professor M. Trimble and Dr B. Schmitz have organised an **International Meeting on the Psychobiology of Epilepsy** to be held in Berlin on 6–7 May 2000. The meeting will discuss behavioural and psychosocial problems of patients with epilepsy, covering a very wide perspective. The speakers include internationally recognised researchers and topics will span subjects from subtle cognitive impairment through to postictal psychoses. A heavy emphasis on mechanisms and management will be given. Further information: Jackie Ashmenall, St Aiden, Ealing Green, Ealing, London W5 5EN (telephone: 020 7829 8743/020 8840 1287; fax: 020 7278 3053; e-mail jashmenall@yahoo.com; web site: www.wai.co.uk/epilepsy).

The Anxiety of Becoming a Consultant – Real or Imagined? is the title of a one-day event organised by the Association for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy in the NHS, General Psychiatry Section and the Royal College of Psychiatrists' Higher Trainees and Trainees Committee. The conference will address the current problems in recruitment of consultant psychiatrists and is open to all interested trainees and consultant psychiatrists. The event will take place at the Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies, London on 19 May 2000. Further information: Mrs Annabel Thomas, APP Conference Administrator, PO Box 70, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire SL9 0XS (telephone/fax: 01494 581 539).

Mole Conferences are the organisers of two events taking place in May 2000. *Understanding Depression and Finding Freedom*, which will be held on 10 May 2000, will concentrate on understanding how we create meaning, what the meanings are which create depression and how these meanings can be changed. **Sleep Disorders: Conventional and Complementary Treatment** will take place on 18

May 2000. Both seminars will be held at the Britannia Street Conference Centre in London. Further information: Mole Conferences, 26 Church Road, Portslade, Brighton BN41 1LA (telephone: 01273 242634; fax: 01273 235095; e-mail: pweitz@compuserve.com).

The Institute of Psychiatry would like to announce two courses. **A Four-Day Course in Forensic Adolescent Mental Health** is a multi-disciplinary course which will take place on 11–12 May 2000 and 8–9 June 2000. This course will cover the broad range of developmental, psychological and systemic issues which are relevant to the understanding and care of young people with antisocial behaviour. A framework for practical work will be provided by encouraging attendees to explore everyday examples of antisocial behaviour in different settings and cultures. The **Interpersonal Therapy (IPT) Course**, which will take place on 19–22 June 2000, is a basic four-day workshop on interpersonal therapy aimed at qualified health professionals. It gives participants the option of seeking further training with two or four supervised cases, depending on experience, in order to receive accreditation by the Institute of Psychiatry. Closing date: 27 March 2000. Both courses will be held at the Institute of Psychiatry; for further information on both courses, please contact: Ms Lee Wilding, Short Courses and Conference Officer, Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, Denmark Hill, London SE5 8AF (telephone: 020 7848 0170; fax: 020 7848 0620; e-mail: L.wilding@iop.kcl.ac.uk). *CPD points: 20.*

The Tenth Congress of the Association of European Psychiatrists (AEP 2000) will take place in Prague on 28 October–1 November 2000. Further information: AEP Congress Organisers, POB 50006, Tel Aviv 61500, Israel (telephone: 009723 514 0018/9; fax: 009723 517 2484; e-mail: AEP2000@kenes.com; web site: www.kenes.com/aep).