From the Director

Dan Jacobs, MD

If we open a quarrel with the past and the present, we shall find we have lost the future...

—Winston Churchill

This is not a time for quarrel, but for celebration. Seventy five years is a long time to have kept psychoanalysis alive in Boston, to have tried to plumb its depths, to have, in every decade, contemplated its future. Whatever our current differences, we can honor and hopefully learn from those whose energy and devotion to analysis have brought us to our 75th birthday.

Honoring our achievements, knowing our history and being sympathetically in touch with it. Fortunately, we have a superb Director of Archives, Sanford Gifford, to help us with that task, as well as a wonderful archivist, Olga Umansky. The two of them, with the aid of library committee member Anna Wolff and our librarian Steve Morandi, have worked hard to put together the current displays that recount our history. We owe them thanks. Read below all that you can learn of our past during your next visit to BPSI.

You can also read in these pages about the many scholars who make good use of our holdings. We are continuing to expand our archival collection as well as to make it available to all who are interested.

A brief history of our library can be found on the first floor bulletin board. Ours is one of the best psychoanalytic collections in the country. Thanks to all of you, and those who came before you, who made it so. Let’s celebrate!
BPSI’s Advanced Training Program Graduate Student Organization (ATPGSO) kindly donated funds for the library to acquire educational materials relating to psychoanalytic psychotherapy. Based on the recommendation of ATPGSO Board Members, it was decided to purchase the following books using part of this gift:


We continue to be grateful to Dr. Morton and Raisa Newman, whose donations support the purchase of books on child analysis, and more recently, neuroscience. Recent purchases made with these funds include:


Another invaluable resource for the purchase of psychoanalytic books is the Gifford Fund, given by Dr. Sanford Gifford for the purchase of psychoanalytic materials related to the history of the discipline. Recent purchases include:


Dr. Norman Holland kindly donated a copy of his book *Meeting Movies,* a psychoanalytic look at eight classic films, to the library.

Dr. Dan Jacobs continues to generously donate various psychoanalytic texts and novels to our growing library collection.

Also, we thank Dr. George Vaillant, who donated a copy of his new book *Spiritual Evolution: A Scientific Defense of Faith.*

A copy of the new book *Preventing Boundary Violations in Clinical Practice,* by Thomas Guthel and Archie Brodsky, was donated by the Guilford Press.
In the Archives

Sanford Gifford, MD and Olga Umansky, MLS

75th Anniversary at BPSI

In celebration of our 75th anniversary, the BPSI Archives is preparing several exhibits and audiovisual presentations to enjoy on your next visit. The panels on the ground floor include “BPSI Buildings”, “BPSI People”, and “BPSI Events: Looking Back”, which tell stories and show photographs of our people, events, offices and buildings from 1933 to date. The first floor Members Room hosts “The History of BPSI” and “History of Hanns Sachs Library and Archives”, both created by Dr. Sanford Gifford. We hope you will appreciate the ongoing slideshow of pictures from our meetings and spring graduation parties installed in a digital frame in the Front Hall. We are also pleased to announce our “Audiovisual Treasures” exhibit of movies and sound recordings, which you can watch and listen to in the Child Analysis Room on the second floor. Among the findings are audio presentations by Bennett Simon, Hanna Segal, Daniel Jacobs, John Mack, Howard Levine, and many others, as well as some examples of our unique Oral History Interviews by Sanford Gifford. Also featured here are the two silent movies, “Secrets of a Soul” (1925) and “Borderline” (1930), accompanied by the story of Hanns Sachs’s and Karl Abraham’s contributions to their scripts. Additionally, you will find the BPSI 50th Anniversary film of 1983 and the BPSI 75th Anniversary film made by Daniel Brenner. Should you need any assistance, our librarian and archivist will be happy to be your guide.

Recent Requests and Visitors

Since contributing photographs to the Jewish Museum in Vienna for its Wilhelm Reich exhibit, and to the Vienna Psychoanalytic Society for its anniversary exhibit and publication, we have donated one of our copies of the Bibring monograph, In Memoriam, to the Vienna Society, via Dr. Christine Diercks. She also asked permission to put Dr. Sanford Gifford’s, “European Analysts in Boston, 1930-1940,” on their home page.

Perhaps in response to our own BPSI Archives home page, we have had some interesting requests for archival material from European researchers. Anna Bentineck of the Netherlands is writing a biography of Karl Abraham, and we were able to supply her with information about the last tragic year before his death in 1923. Dr. Gifford’s paper, "Freud at the Movies," describes Abraham’s disagreement with Freud over the film, "Secrets of a Soul," that damaged their close, lifelong friendship. Abraham and Hanns Sachs had contributed to the script for this film by G. E. Pabst, which provoked Freud to condemn any and all attempts to portray analysis on the screen.

A British graduate student, Alistair Ross, has been researching "spirituality" among analysts, and inquired about the work of William Meissner and Elvin Semrad. In the course of our correspondence, we discovered a BPSI newsletter of Spring 1997 in which Dr. Meissner and Dr. Ana-Maria Rizzuto had written about this very topic.

Daniel Pick of the British Psychoanalytic Society visited our archives in search of material about postwar psychoanalysis, and was especially interested in the Walter Langer papers and some of our recordings of Scientific Meetings.

A Norwegian analyst, Havard Nilsen, who is writing a history of analysis in Norway, visited our archives in search of information about Wilhelm Reich, who spent some time in Oslo in his flight from the Nazis. We provided him with photographs from the Bibring Archive, because Reich was the dissecting partner of Edward and Grete. Dr. Gifford recalled Helene

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Deutsch’s surveillance of his seminar teaching at the Vienna Psychoanalytic Society in the 1920s, when he was admired for his "Character-Analysis." We also found a taped interview with Walter and Yela Lowenfeld, who had visited Reich in his latter years and found him fixated on his quasi-delusional ideas about psychic energy. Dr. Gifford also reported his conversations with the late Robert Koff, a member of the Juillard Quartet, who donated books by Reich to our library. Koff had described many fellow-musicians, as well as the cartoonist William Steig, who had been analyzed by Reich during the 1940s, and how his analysands were asked to take off their clothes before lying on the couch.

We have an addition to the Countway Library celebration of Grete Bibring as the first professor at Harvard Medical School, which was organized by Giordana Mecagni, a specialist in research on Women in Medicine. We were able to provide Ms. Mecagni with a transcript of the interview with Bibring we had tape-recorded in 1971 shortly before her death.

Dr. David Reiser, director of the James Jackson Putnam Children's Center from 1959 to 1967, has donated some valuable documents to our Putnam Children's Center Collection. These data correct errors in their annual reports in the 1960s, and we have encouraged Dr. Reiser to tape-record some fuller recollections of the Center with his wife, Nancy Rodman, who was also a member of the Center's staff.

Inquiries about early members of the BPSI from Professor Mark DeVoto, son of Bernard DeVoto, the historian of western US exploration, unearthed interesting figures from our pre-Institute past, like Irmarita Putnam, John Taylor and Isador Coriat. DeVoto is editing his father's correspondence from the years 1933-44, when his father "knew everyone" in literary and analytic circles in Cambridge and Boston. For example, the sudden death of William Herman during a dance at the Riverside Boat Club, recalled years ago by Mrs. Stanley Cobb, actually took place at a party given by Tracy and Irmarita Putnam. DeVoto will donate a CV of his father's correspondence to our archives.

Freud and Abraham, Two Historic Films

We have just added two historic silent films to our audiovisual library, Secrets of a Soul (1926) and Borderline (1927-8). The first portrays the analytic treatment of a phobia, directed by G. W. Pabst, for which Karl Abraham and Hanns Sachs wrote the script. Their contribution antagonized Freud, who declared that psychoanalysis was not suitable for film, and this quarrel damaged the lifelong friendship between Freud and Abraham. The second was made by Hilda Doolittle (HD) and her partner Bryher, also with the help of Sachs, who was the latter's analyst. They donated money that became part of the Ernest Freud Fund, transmitted to Sachs and eventually to David Pokross, the benefactor of our Library.

A request from Alice Brett, of the Freud Museum in London, asked for help locating heirs of Hanns Sachs, to give permission for publishing an extract from his memoir about Freud. Via David Pokross's widow, Muriel, we were able to locate Sachs's cousin, Mrs. Louise Kush, to the best of her knowledge his last living descendant. Mrs. Kush agreed to give consent to publication and we put her in touch with the Freud Museum. In the process we learned that Sachs's signet-ring, belonging to him as one of "The Committee," was inherited by the sons of Heinz Hartmann, who had been good friends of Sachs's nephew, Max Barsis. Unhappily, the ring was stolen many years ago.
The following is a list of books recently purchased by the Hanns Sachs Library:


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**Meet the Author Series**

**Proust and Laplanche at BPSI**

This spring, a discussion group called "Reading Together", has been meeting at BPSI to discuss the work of Proust, Laplanche, and Freud. The first two meetings, held on March 18 and April 15, were led by Dr. Mark Donen of Boston University, who recently completed a dissertation on the work of Proust and Laplanche.

The final meeting of the spring “Reading Together” focused on Proust and Freud and was held on Tuesday, May 13, led by our own Dr. Humphrey Morris. Thanks to all who participated in these discussion groups.

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**Fall 2008 Schedule**

Sophie Freud, the granddaughter of Sigmund Freud, will be here on September 23, 2008 to talk about her book *Living in the Shadow of the Freud Family*, in which she writes about her mother.

On October 27, 2008, Dr. George Vaillant will be discussing his new book *Spiritual Evolution: A Scientific Defense of Faith* in a talk entitled “Dynamic Psychotherapy and Positive Emotions: A Marriage in Need of Consummation”.

This fall, we will also have a series with a discussion of “The Emigrants” by W. G. Sebald. Those interested in attending should contact Dan Jacobs.

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**In the Library**

The following is a list of books recently purchased by the Hanns Sachs Library:


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In the Library

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Book Returns

As you think about your summer vacation, please take a few moments to look around for any books, CDs, tapes, or other materials that you have borrowed from the Hanns Sachs Library over the past few months. Your prompt return of these materials ensures that our patrons can find the resources they need at the library. Thanks!

Book Sale

Many new items are being added to the book sale at BPSI. Included among the sale items are first editions and extra copies of books weeded from our stacks to make space. Each book is only $5 for hardbacks, $2 for paperbacks.

LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP

For those who are not BPSI members or students, you may join the library for an annual fee of $50. As a library member, you are entitled to borrow books and to the services of Steve Morandi for searches and xeroxing of materials. Additionally, you may use the PEP (Psychoanalytic Electronic Publishing) archive in the library, which allows quick searches and printing of many full text articles from major psychoanalytic journals. For more information please call Steve at 617-266-0953 or e-mail him at library@bostonpsychoanalytic.org.