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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### AGPA TO PROVIDE TRAINING IN GROUP-BASED MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS IN NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 28- MARCH 5, 2011

**NEW YORK, October 20, 2010** — The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) is coming to New York, NY for its 2011 Annual Meeting, February 28-March 5 at the Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers. Entitled “Group as a Source of Resilience and Change,” this meeting attracts more than 1,000 group therapists, researchers and scientists from around the world. Group therapists of all disciplines will gather to learn the most effective techniques in working with a variety of populations in groups, an increasingly utilized modality due to its effectiveness and cost-effectiveness. The theme reflects the meeting’s emphasis on the power of groups to effect change that contributes to societal strength and well-being.

“The AGPA Annual Meeting is the source for experiential training in leading therapeutic groups,” said Jeffrey Kleinberg, Ph.D., CGP, FAGPA, AGPA President. “It is a unique educational opportunity that teaches groups skills in a group environment.”

The meeting will include more than 200 programming events over six days. This year, AGPA has partnered with the International Association for Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes (IAGP) to offer a range of offerings for practicing group in an increasingly global society. Following are some highlights:

- Two Special Institutes will be offered this year on Monday, February 28, providing a unique opportunity for experiential learning in a large group. **Richard M. Billow, Ph.D., ABPP, CGP** Clinical Professor and Director of the Derner Institute's Postgraduate Program in Group Psychotherapy (Adelphi University) will present “**Loving, Hating and Knowing: Working with Resistance, Rebellion, and Refusal.**” **Judith Cochè, Ph.D., CGP, LFAGPA**, who designed the group therapy training program in Psychiatry at the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania, will present “**The Power of Couples: Using Interpersonal Dynamics to Create Transformational Change for Clients and Health Care Communities**”
- **Bonnie J. Buchele, Ph.D., CGP, ABPP, DFAGPA**, AGPA Past President and Supervising and Training Analyst with the Greater Kansas City Psychoanalytic Institute, will deliver the Institute

Opening Address on Tuesday, March 1, **“Your Institute: A Resilience Boost.”** Dr. Buchele will address the unique learning environment of the Institute, which serves as a personal emotional resource as well as a place of learning for attendees.

- **Karen J. Maroda, Ph.D., ABPP**, Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the Medical College of Wisconsin, will present the Mitchell Hochberg Memorial Public Education Event, Wednesday, March 2, on **“The Role of Emotion in Therapeutic Action: Implications for Individual and Group Psychotherapy.”** Dr. Maroda’s address will explore the uses of emotion in the therapeutic process.
- **Marianne J. Legato, M.D.**, Professor Emeritus of Clinical Medicine at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and Adjunct Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, is presenting the Conference Opening Plenary on Thursday, March 3. Dr. Legato will address gender issues in group psychotherapy.
- **Frank Lachmann, Ph.D.**, Founding Faculty at the Institute for the Psychoanalytic Study of Subjectivity, will present the Annual Anne and Ramon Alonso Plenary Address, Friday, March 4, on **“Affective Engagement Between Therapist and Patients: The Basis for Therapeutic Action,”** addressing the patient/therapist relationship as a key factor in treatment.
- **Phyllis Cohen, Ph.D., Psy.D., CGP, FAGPA**, in Private Practice in New York City, will deliver the Louis R. Ormont Lecture on Saturday, March 5. Entitled **“Group Supervision: Wrestling with Dragons and Making Heroes”** the lecture will examine the role of supervision in the successful practice of group psychotherapy.

This one-of-a-kind event, bringing together many of the nation’s leading group therapists, will explore the variety of ways in which group therapy can help people in today’s world and economy. Scholarships are also available to attend this Meeting. For more information, contact AGPA at 877-668-AGPA (2472) or visit [www.agpa.org](http://www.agpa.org).

EDITOR’S NOTE: Media are invited to attend select sessions of the AGPA 2011 Annual Meeting. To register, please send an e-mail request to [dfeirman@agpa.org](mailto:dfeirman@agpa.org) or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

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### ***About AGPA***

The American Group Psychotherapy Association is the foremost professional association dedicated to the field of group psychotherapy, operating through a tri-partite structure: AGPA, a professional and educational organization; the Group Psychotherapy Foundation, its philanthropic arm; and the National Registry of Certified Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body. This multidisciplinary association has over 2,000 members, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, clinical mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, pastoral counselors and creative arts therapists, many of whom have been recognized as specialists through the Certified Group Psychotherapist credential. The association has 31 local and regional societies located across the country. Its members are experienced mental health professionals who lead psychotherapy groups and various non-clinical groups. Many are organizational specialists who work with businesses, not-for-profit organizations, communities and other "natural" groups to help them improve their functioning.