

# CPSP Plenary Schedule

## Wednesday, March 29.....

---

3:00 – 5:00 PM Workshops  
 7:00 PM Governing Council  
*Concluding Reflections:* John Edgerton

## Thursday, March 30.....

---

8:50 AM *Call To Gather:* Mary Davis  
 9:00 AM *Opening Session:* George Hankins-Hull,  
 Plenary Chair  
 9:15 AM *Address:* Rev. A. Patrick L. Prest, M.Div., D.D.  
 "Reflections on 50 Years of Supervision &  
 Counseling", Respondent: Mary Davis  
 10:30 – 12 noon Small Consultation Groups  
 12:00 – 1:00 PM Open Lunch  
 1:00 – 3:30 PM Small Consultation Groups  
 4:00 – 5:00 PM Report by the General Secretary  
 5:00 PM Cash Bar & Appetizers  
 6:00 PM Buffet Dinner  
 7:30 PM *Address:* Wayne Cowan, "An Historical  
 Reflection on Christianity and Crisis",  
 Respondent: Dr. Robert Powell  
 Celebration of the CPSP Community &  
 Presentation of Certificates  
 Presentation of the Helen Flanders Dunbar  
 Award for Significant Contributions to the Field  
 of Clinical Pastoral Training  
*Concluding Reflections:* John Edgerton

## Friday, March 31.....

---

8:00 AM Continental Breakfast  
 8:50 AM *Call To Gather:* Mary Davis  
 9:00 AM *Address:* The Rev Will D. Campbell,  
 "Campbell's Stories",  
 Respondent: Francine Angel  
 10:30 AM Small Consultation Groups  
 12:00 PM *Presidential Luncheon:* Richard Liew, presiding  
*CPSP Outgoing President's Report:*  
 Richard Liew  
*Installation of the New President:*  
 James E. Gebhart  
 Open Forum  
 4:50 PM *Concluding Reflections:* John Edgerton  
 3:30 – 5:00 PM Small Consultation Groups  
 5:00 PM Evening Free  
 7:30 PM Dessert & Dance Party with Astro Disc Jockeys

## Saturday, April 1.....

---

8:00 AM Continental Breakfast  
 8:30 - 10:00 AM Tavistock Group Relations Seminar  
 10:30 – 12:00 PM Small Consultation Groups  
 12:00 Noon Buffet Lunch  
 1:00 -3:00 PM Governing Council

## **GROUP RELATIONS SEMINAR**

"Tavistock" is the label commonly given to a particular type of group seminar that follows the tradition of Wilfred Bion and his colleagues who were geographically based in a section of London called Tavistock.

The basic premise of the Tavistock approach to group work is that ownership of the group belongs to the membership, and that the consultant(s) will take a posture "outside the group" and will make consultative contributions to the group as a whole, not to particular individuals. A consultant in the Tavistock model does not take a leadership role in the specific work of a Tavistock group, but does provide consultation as well as protecting the boundaries of the group with regard to time and space. A Tavistock group relations seminar has the character of a laboratory in that a specific time and place is set apart to do a specific kind of disciplined task.

The typical task assigned to a Tavistock group is to study through discussion and reflection the life of the group itself as it is presently constituted in the here and now, shaped though it may be by countless external and unconscious factors. Issues of authority and leadership and transference are usually considered to be key issues in the constitution of any group.

The Tavistock approach to groups assumes that groups are universally shaped in part by unconscious dynamics and that the examination of and reflection on possible unconscious dynamics can be beneficial for the ultimate effectiveness of any group.

Consultants to Tavistock groups typically give special attention, therefore, to data that suggests unconscious dynamics at play, and give special attention as well to data related to authority and leadership.

The Tavistock approach to group work has historic connections in psychoanalysis on one hand and the Quaker meeting on the other. All voices are invited to be heard. We should not be in too much haste to distinguish between what is insight or revelation or madness.

This particular plenary event has been part of the schedule of every Plenary in CPSP history. It is the only gathering of the community as a whole in which no specific agenda is assigned beyond that of the task to examine the life of the group as a whole. It is an opportunity, therefore, for the whole community to reflect on significant issues in its communal life.

*Raymond Lawrence will function nominally as the consultant to this event.*



## **Gathering the Community**

**for the**

# **2006 Plenary Meeting**

**March 31 – April 1, 2006  
Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel  
Virginia Beach, VA**