



THE AKRI DIALOGUES VI

Courage to Cross the Bridges We Cannot See



April 18 – 21, 2024

**Loyola University's Water Tower Campus
26 East Pearson Street, Chicago, Illinois**

INTRODUCTION & INVITATION

The 2024 Dialogues theme is about courage, compassion, and building bridges toward a world where everyone can flourish. The AKRI Dialogues VI strives to offer presentations and invite conversations that expand group relations theory to examine differences, changes, losses, and gains around social challenges. Those challenges include conflict around issues such as age, gender, race, wealth, religion, politics, climate, technological advances, generative artificial intelligence (AI), equity, social justice, social media, globalization, and more.

How do we engage in psychological repair? Do we have the courage to internalize new ways? Are we able to take off our masks? How can we make sure that everyone feels heard and seen? How can we bridge generational divides? How do we hold on to valuable parts of our history and allow for innovation at the same time? How do we explore creative expression that reflects the expanding definitions of group relations work that might include mind, body, and spirit? Can we be sure that learning takes place at our conferences? Are attendees able to apply what they have learned at conferences to the environments where they return? Are we able to stay relevant? What can we do collectively? Are we able to be courageous and have an impact on a macro level? Can we bring calm to a world of chaos?

The group relations methodology appears to have all the tools needed to engage in courageous compassion and to build the bridges needed to allow everyone to flourish. Yet, as a community, we fall prey to polarizations, harmful projections, and hurtful disagreements. We envision an AKRI Dialogues that provides a “good enough” space to examine the group relations field and add new ideas. We look forward to an enhanced esprit de corps in an inclusive – and playful – environment of diverse colleagues.

Schedule of presentations

(please note this schedule is preliminary and subject to change)

Thursday, April 18, 2024

Time	Title of presentation/event
8:15 am – 3:00 pm	Director Development Workshop* (includes a working lunch, \$200 per person)
4:30 – 6:00 pm	Welcome Reception* (light food, drinks, \$35 per person)

*Add-on event

***Space is limited for the Director Development Workshop titled, “So you want to direct a Group Relations Conference?” For more information please [CLICK HERE](#)**

Friday, April 19, 2024

Time	Title of presentation/event	Title of presentation/event	Title of presentation/event
7:00 – 8:00 am	Social Dreaming Matrix		
8:00 – 9:00 am	Breakfast with the AKRI Board		
9:00 – 9:45 am	Opening Plenary		
10:00 – 11:30 am	Bridging Experience, Application, and Engagement: Developing a Model for Post-Conference Role Analysis / Review and Application Groups (The Midwest Group Relations Center)	The Courage to Cross Bridges We Cannot See: The Role of Music Self Care In Group Relations Conferences (Wang, Guo, Su, Summer)	Psychoanalytic Understandings of Play and Group Relations (DeSilva, Goldstein)
11:30 am – 12:45 pm	Lunch provided		

Friday, April 19, 2024 (continued)

Time	Title of presentation/event	Title of presentation/event	Title of presentation/event
12:45 – 2:15 pm	An Incomplete Model of a Project to Catalyze Reparations within a Group Relations Organization: Where we've been, Where we are, Where we're going (Reiniger, Tao, Wagner)	Comparing the experience of ongoing online groups: The Long-term Large Study Group (LLSG), the Alternative Large Group (ALG), and the Zoom Median Group (ZMG) (Zhou, et al.)	
2:30 – 4:00 pm	AKRI International Cohort: the courage to explore AKRI's relationship to its international members and the international Group Relations community (Wang, Buchman, Gan, McFee)	Facing Antisemitism in Self, Organization and Society (Bakaitis, Friedman, Wagner)	Weaving the Tapestry of Our Ancestry: A Journey through Storytelling Circles (Hu, et al.)
5:15 – 6:30 pm	Honoring Contributions and Legacy Presentation		
Dinner on own			

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Time	Title of presentation/event	Title of presentation/event	Title of presentation/event
7:00 – 8:00 am	Social Dreaming Matrix		
8:00 – 9:00 am	Breakfast provided		
9:00 – 10:15 am	Using Marketing to Support Group Relations: A Call to Action (Abell, DeSilva)	Transitions to new roles in second careers: How Group Relations learnings impact/enhance/interfere (Kummel, Smith)	Sustainability & Growth of Group Relations and AKRI (Cline)
10:30 am– 12:00 pm	Community Conversation/Reparations		
12:00– 1:30 pm	Lunch provided		

Saturday, April 20, 2024 (continued)

Time	Title of presentation/event	Title of presentation/event	Title of presentation/event
1:30 – 3:00 pm	Director Vulnerability and Learning When the Unforeseen Happens (Director Development Committee)	White Men Exploring White Supremacy: A Panel Discussion, Fishbowl, and Dialogue (Harkins, et al.)	Finding Family in Unexpected Places: An Experience of Connection and Compassion in the Group Relations Community (Hu, Hsiung)
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Keynote Speaker: Dr. Leslie Brissett		
5:00 – 7:00 pm	Dinner and new AKRI Fellows award ceremony* (\$50 per person)		

*Add-on event

Sunday, April 21, 2024

Time	Title of presentation/event	Title of presentation/event	Title of presentation/event
7:00 – 8:00 am	Social Dreaming Matrix		
7:45 – 8:45am	Breakfast provided		
8:45 – 10:15 am	T & C 2.0 An Evolution of a Developmental Process (Butler, et al.)	Three years of online social dreaming matrices as an open system. A case study (Buchman, et al.)	
10:30 am– 12:00 pm	Mapping Our Group Relations World System: Locating Ourselves Matters (Dorsey-Elson, mak wemuk)	Using Q Methodology to Study Belief, and Attitudes Learning from Group Relations Conference in China (Wang, et al.)	
12:00– 1:00 pm	Closing Plenary		

Basic Registration

(Includes all presentations and listed meals except for add-on events. Lodging is not included in the prices below and is listed on the next page)

	Early Registration	After February 10
Full conference (AKRI member or presenter)	\$575	\$675
Full conference (non-member)	\$675	\$775
Two Day Pass (member)	\$450	\$500
Two Day Pass (non-member)	\$500	\$550
One Day Pass (member)	\$225	\$250
One Day Pass (non member)	\$250	\$275
Student (member)	\$300	\$350
Student (non-member)	\$350	\$400

Lodging Options

(You may opt to have AKRI make arrangements on your behalf either on campus or at the nearby Whitehall Hotel)

# of nights	Baumhart Hall (on-campus)	Whitehall Hotel
Four nights (Wednesday through Saturday)	\$660	\$860
Three nights (Thursday through Saturday)	\$495	\$645
Two Nights	Not available	\$430

Please email admin@akriceinstitute.org to be placed on a wait list for space on-campus in Baumhart Hall. Accommodations in Baumhart Hall include a private bedroom with bath and shared living space with a full kitchen. Photos can be found on the Loyola

website: <https://www.luc.edu/conference/photos/archive/baumhart.shtml>

The Whitehall Hotel is within walking distance (approximately 5 minutes) of Loyola's Water Tower campus. Reserved rooms have one king-sized bed. The hotel website can be found here: <https://www.thewhitehallhotel.com/>.

The schedule of presentations and information on registration pricing can also be found on the AKRI website: <https://www.akriceinstitute.org/akri-dialogues-vi>

You may go directly to the registration form here:

[REGISTER HERE](#)

(please note that you will have to log in or create an account to access the form)

For questions or help, email admin@akriceinstitute.org

**JOIN THE CONVERSATION AT THE AKRI
DIALOGUES VI!**

Note: The A. K. Rice Institute is not affiliated with Loyola University, and Loyola is not a sponsor or co-sponsor of the AKRI Dialogues.