

# An Editorial Statement

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It is with excitement and earnestness that we assume the role of Editor and Associate Editors for the *Journal of Psychotherapy Integration*. JPI has been the official publication of the *Society for the Exploration of Psychotherapy Integration* (SEPI) for the past 21 years. Owing to the vision and leadership of SEPI founders (see Goldfried & Newman, 2003), and previous JPI editors (Arkowitz, Gold; see Gold, 2010), JPI has been enjoying a steady growth in both readership and prestige throughout these years. The notion and option of psychotherapy integration, not only as an outlet from the big psychotherapy wars, but also as an approach to treatment, is now well established, and is here to stay. It is incumbent upon us, Editor Shahar and Associate Editors Anchin, Gottidiener, Levy, and Mor, to launch the journal

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Golan Shahar is Editor, and Jack C. Anchin, William H. Gottidiener, Kenneth N. Levy, and Nilly Mor are Associate Editors, for *the Journal of Psychotherapy Integration*. The Associate Editors' names were alphabetically ordered.

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into the future while taking into considerations important developments in our diverse profession.

This editorial statement is written by way of a “preport” of our principal stakeholders: our readers. It is meant to inform you of our future plans in the conceptual and logistic domains. In both, we strive to maintain continuity with past accomplishments, as well as to form new bridges and alliances.

## CONCEPT

JPI has always been, and will remain, the natural outlet for authors interested in similarities and differences between the various schools of clinical thought. Thus, in addition to continuing JPI’s longstanding policy of presenting clinical illustrations and discussions that illuminate the possibilities for integrative therapeutic practice, our goal includes strongly fostering the research-practice dialogue. We therefore *strongly encourage* submissions of manuscripts presenting, or reviewing, empirical data pertaining to psychotherapy outcome and process, comparing various treatments, but also testing and investigating integrative ones. Faithful to the journal’s integrative mission, we also encourage empirical manuscripts predicated upon mixed methods; that is, qualitative and quantitative methods (e.g., Silberschatz & Curtis, 1993). Manuscripts describing case studies will be considered to the extent that they illuminate central, or novel, issues in psychotherapy integration. Preference will be given to manuscripts including experimental case studies or case studies for which there is prepost treatment data. As always, theoretical articles illuminating a wide range of issues relevant to psychotherapy integration are most welcome.

Moreover, we wish to encourage submissions focusing on *basic clinical research*. This pertains to research that cuts across concepts and processes identified by differential approaches. For example, pertinent manuscripts might tackle the psychodynamic underpinnings of causal attributions (e.g., Kwon & Lemon, 2000); the links between family systems, coping, and personality; or the neurobiological basis of integrative interventions. These manuscripts should routinely include a concluding section tying the data and findings to the prospect, promise, and potential pitfalls of psychotherapy integration.

We will maintain past ventures espoused by editors Arkowitz and Gold, including special issues focused on pertinent topics, commentaries on seminal publications in psychotherapy and its integration, and roundtables discussing clinical cases. Here, too, we seek to align the journal with exciting developments in clinical science and practice, and so the content of special issues, commentaries, and roundtables will target hot issues such as brain and

behavior, psychopharmacology, public (mental) health, violence and poverty, and culture.

### LOGISTICS

Several changes pertaining to submission and manuscript review are noteworthy. First, manuscript submission is currently available only via the APA portal, which, we hope you will discover, is very much user friendly.

Second, a major goal for us is to shorten considerably (!) the length of the review process. Thus, we aim to provide a decision to authors within no more than 4 weeks. The review process will assume the following steps. First, Dr. Shahar will scrutinize each submission for suitability for the Journal. To the extent that manuscripts are inconsistent with the Journal's mission and focus, authors will be notified within a couple of days. Suitable manuscripts will be sent to two reviewers within a couple of days from submission. Our aim is to have two independent reviewers, as well as one of us, review submissions. Decisions will at times also be made based on a single independent review coupled by a careful reading by one of us; all in the interest of keeping the review process brief. Reviews will be author blind unless manuscripts are invited, for instance, in the context of special issues. As is increasingly customary these days in leading journals in the field, revised manuscripts will be reviewed by one of us and will not be sent again to their original reviewers. This will ensure a timely final decision.

A third notable logistic development is the establishment of an impact factor for JPI. Specifically, the journal is currently reviewed by the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), and Editor Shahar and APA representatives are monitoring this review process. It is our hope that establishing an ISI Impact Factor will encourage submissions, and we are determined to have JPI's impact factor—and impact—grow during our tenure.

### PERSONAL NOTES

Dr. Shahar would like to thank Dr. Gold, JPI's outgoing editor, for his generous assistance and advice during the transition period. I (G.S.) also thank Dr. David Allan for his exemplary service as Associate Editor under Dr. Gold's leadership, and Jack Anchin for agreeing to stay on board as AE, thus ensuring historical continuity. Finally, I would like to thank Bill Gotti-diener, Ken Levy, and Nilly Mor who accepted my invitation to serve as AEs.

All of us would like to thank the current members of the editorial board, who have agreed to stay, and to greet Randy Auerbach, Lisa Cross, and Marc

Diener, and Nicholas Midgley, who join the board. Last but not least, we would like to thank you, readers and authors, for your interest in the journal. We look forward to working with you.

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