



December 19, 2012

Dear Candidates and Members of the JPA:

This memo is an update on the progress and the process that is underway regarding a few issues that arose at the recent Candidates' Meeting. These issues were addressed at the Faculty Forum subsequent to the Candidates' meeting and will be on the FF agenda again in January, as well as on the agenda for the Business meeting.

First, we recognize our need for more concentrated effort in Advising. In response we will be talking to advisers about arranging a "teach-in" for them so that information and discussion is provided regarding the role of advisers, as well as info on courses/ requirements/ and protocols. We also plan to hold an "advising meeting" for all interested Candidates so they may review their course progress and plans for future semesters. More to come on these two events

Second, at the request of candidates from Joan's recent Dream practicum a new Elective course, which will continue and deepen the work that was begun at the day-long Dream practicum, will be offered. Students are organizing this with Joan directly and with Sherry as the Curriculum Coordinator. The course will be held next Fall. It will be earn "Elective" credit.

Third and separate from the discussion of this new Elective, the current format for training in Dream interpretation, which is the JPA practicum series of six Sundays per year, was discussed at length at the Candidates' meeting. The discussion focused on how well the Practica were providing the depth, content and continuity that they were intended to provide, as well as the practical impacts of using Sundays for this training. The critique was not unanimously engaged, nor was it a formal evaluation of the practicum format; but it was a chance to hear how this component was being used and received. Even without a poll it was clear that for many the Sunday practicum model was a problem. Suggestions and alternatives were encouraged in the spirit of JPA's reputation for developing alternative training; but no final decision was made on this issue.

Since the Candidates' meeting some felt that there was a misunderstanding about the overall requirements for Dream Practica and asked me to clarify both that there is no change in the current obligation to take the full complement of Dream Practica to complete training and that there is a protocol for changes in curriculum at the JPA. Our encouragement of new ideas and alternate suggestions is a first step towards identifying the concerns and a set of solutions to consider; but this action should not be confused with a waiver of the requirements of Dream



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Practica. The next step is to build support and follow the protocol that changes the Curriculum, or makes a case for an alternative course that will satisfy the requirements. Either way the protocol is that the matter is reviewed and approved by the Members of the JPA. The JPA provides many instances of individualized training and examination; but any change to an area of training such as the Dream Practica will require that both a good critique and alternate routes to achieving the training goal are brought to the Members for consideration and a vote.

I continue to encourage the Candidates and Members to critique the training program and to send their ideas and suggestions to Sherry and I so that we can collect and present them for more discussion; and/or formulate your suggestions and send them to the Faculty Forum or your Candidate Representatives for more consideration. The Faculty Forum has engaged this issue and will continue to make and take suggestions so that when the Members meet in February, any proposals that are available can be discussed and voted as needed.

Many already know, but for the benefit of those who are new, please note: the Dream practicum is one of the original aspects of training at the JPA and was introduced to offer Candidates a range of views on Dream interpretation from both new Analysts, as well as from Analysts that do not reside in the NY metro area. The format of long days allowed for longer and deeper conversations and practice with Dream material and given this concentration of format offered Candidates a means to develop a better sense of their peers and the Members in the JPA. As a practical matter this format remains a key means for gaining 30 hrs./ or 6 credits/year in Dream interpretation within the confines of a program that offers training in a minimal number of day/week.

I think a critique of this area of our training program and a discussion of alternatives is worthy of our effort; but I would expect that suggestions for change would provide equivalent merits to these baselines and be equally useful to the program and the Candidates. As noted, the Faculty Forum has started a discussion about this component of training and will offer suggestions for making it better. I hope the Candidates will do the same; and that all good proposals for making a formal change to the Curriculum in this area can be reviewed and voted upon in the coming months by the Members.

I wish you all a Happy New Year and hope you are enjoying this Holiday Season

Best regards,

Bruce/D.of Training