

Vincentia Schroeter

Letter from the Editor



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Letter from the Editor

Welcome to the twentieth volume of the clinical journal of the International Institute for Bioenergetic Analysis. Our founder, Alexander Lowen, died peacefully in his home at the age of 98. He died in October, 2008, shortly before we finalized the 2009 issue.

To honor Dr. Lowen, this volume contains memorial notes from some members of the IIBA community.

IIBA faculty and long-time member of the Board of Directors, David Finlay, also died in 2008. His article on intimate connections, introduced by Maê Nascimento, is included in this issue.

There are three original papers from our international members. On the topic of the wisdom of the failing body, is an article by Louise Fréchette, adapted from her keynote presentation at the Southern California Bioenergetic Conference in March of 2009. Louise is from Canada. Our other original works are also from authors outside the USA. Fina Pla, from Spain, considers issues related to gender and identity. Mariano Pedroza, from Brazil, writes on issues related to working bioenergetically within a community model in economically disadvantaged areas.

A new feature this year is translations of the abstracts of the three original articles. Some of our members do not read in English. In order to honor the international character of our community, we provide these translations in five languages besides English. These languages are German, Spanish,

Italian, Portuguese and French. I would like to thank the dedicated group of translators who worked on this project: Louise Fréchette and France Kauffman (French); Camile Milagres and Mariano Pedroza (Portuguese); Rosaria Filoni (Italian); Fina Pla and Edith Liberman (Spanish); and Margit Koemeda (German).

I would like to thank those who reviewed the articles this year: Paula Buckley, Garry Cockburn, Maê Nascimento, and Tarra Stariell. I thank Steve Schroeter for re-typing the original scanned version of David Finlay's paper. I send my loving gratitude to my core editorial support group of Maê Nascimento and Margit Koemeda.

You may feel sad reading memorial notes, intrigued with ideas from articles, and happy at moments of discovery. To be able to experience a myriad of varied feelings is part of feeling truly alive. This capacity to feel deeply, is the backbone of Alexander Lowen's life work. Through his theory and practice of Bioenergetics, he helped us learn how to define, promote, and value *feeling deeply*, and thereby, *living fully*. May this small volume contribute to moments of deeply felt aliveness for you.

Vincentia Schroeter

November 15, 2009