



Editorial

Julie Hay

We start this issue with a paper that is amended from one that originally appeared in Italian, provided here because it will be of interest wherever transactional analyst psychotherapists are being trained. Ugo De Ambrogio and Carla Dessi report on the results of a survey of 98 former students of a centre in Italy, demonstrating both positive and critical elements of applying transactional analysis professionally. What emerges is a strong sense of professional identity, with most indicating that they obtain both financial and personal recognition through their work. In addition to highlighting the paucity of related research, the authors include the questionnaire they used to structure interviews in the hope that it will prompt other researchers to conduct similar studies in other countries.

Our second paper comes from Cesare Fregola (see also his previous paper in the first issue of IJTAR). This current paper reports on studies conducted by two student teachers working under the professional guidance of Fregola and his colleague Daniela Olmetti Peja. This time the work was done with preschool children and the students, who were completing masters degrees in teaching, worked alongside the regular teachers to present drivers to the children. Photos of the

work produced by the children are included, showing how they applied their learning to designing bedrooms, a rocket bus to intergalactic Olympics, and passports. The fun the children had is evident, alongside some statistical analyses that demonstrate how teaching transactional analysis concepts to preschool children leads to increased self-awareness and autonomy, with the bonus of a more positive teaching environment.

Our third and final paper in this issue is double size as there is so much interesting and useful content. Matthew Shorrock describes an in-depth exploration of how four internationally-accredited transactional analyst psychotherapists have worked with clients with internet addiction. The small sample size is balanced by the thoroughness of the research process, where interviews led to identification of four over-arching themes and a number of sub-themes within each. The findings are supported with numerous quotations from the interviews, and the readers can see how the interpretive phenomenological analysis methodology was used.

Shorrock has kindly agreed that his full PhD thesis maybe be published on IJTAR's general research activity website www.taresearch.org, where it will appear shortly.