

AAP 2021 Fall Conference

Dynamic Engagement: Relational Connectedness Amidst the Many Faces of Change

October 20th-24th, 2021

Deadline for submission: **to be announced**

Location: to be announced (in sync with our theme, we are flexibly waiting for a decision for a zoom conference, or to keep

Our pre-COVID location of Columbus, Ohio

With the theme for this conference, we explore the question of how we stay relationally connected to each other amidst the many cultural shifts and changes taking place around us: changes occurring via the #Me Too movement, increased focus on gender as a non-binary concept, increasing knowledge and awareness around racism and white privilege, and more. Add to those the most recent force for global change: response to the pandemic, the need to remain connected over distance, for mutual safety. What lasting cultural and connectivity changes may come from pandemic experience even when we re-emerge from isolation to rejoin our communities? These many winds of change are blowing strongly, requiring organizational structures, social conventions, and relational dynamics to respond. The impact is felt everywhere: in our society, in our organizations, in our relationships, and in our consulting rooms.

Consider: How do we stay connected to our clients amidst all of these changes -- especially if we do not speak to/ think about/ process these dynamics? How do we stay connected to each other in our offices and in our organizations if we are of a different ethnicity, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic level, religion, or political belief? How do we bring these differences into the open, in ways that deepen relational connectedness? How are we staying dynamically engaged with our clients, partners, friends and family, and with each other amidst these many faces of change -- some requiring us to reach across divisive ideologies, others over physical distance, to remain relationally connected?

We look forward to seeing you in the Fall.

Your 2021 Fall Conference Committee:

Darrin Bronfman & Carrie Phillips (co-Chairs), Orion Crook, Steve Eichel, Laura Fleming, Steven Ingram, Erin McCarthy, Katie O'Meara, Lori Oshrain, Samir Patel, Phil Spiro, Diana Woodruff.

