



**Welcome to
ICPCC Precongress**

Founded in 1979

Currently representing over 40 organizations in
35 countries

- 1979 Edinburgh, Scotland
- 1983 San Francisco, California, USA
- 1987 Melbourne, Australia
- 1991 Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands
- 1995 Toronto, Canada
- 1999 Accra, Ghana
- 2004 Bangalore, India

Vision

- Since the Accra Congress (1999) ICPCCC has pursued a clarification and updating of its vision and mission for the 21st century.
- We are convinced that together we may intensify and broaden the practice of pastoral and spiritual care and counselling by paying attention to social, cultural, political, economic and environmental aspects of our work.

Vision

- **It is important for us to engage constructively with our diversity, the multiple nature of our identity and our relations with people of many faiths in a shrinking world in which the struggle for territory and power is very real.**
- We seek to understand how pastoral traditions relate to longstanding and emerging spiritualities and religious faiths.

In order to take steps for implementation of
our vision,
the precongress offers
time and space to listen to each other, inform
our selves about diverse models of teaching
and training in PCC and to empower
networking and cooperation by intentional
choices.

„Siblings by choice“

(a concept developed by Dr. Archie Smith, Jr. and U. Riedel-Pfäfflin)

Strengthening choices and
empowerment
by narrative work in reflecting teams

- Systemic thinking
- Narrative agency
- Awareness of intercultural realities

Paradigm shift by systemic thinking

Development from either-or paradigm to constructivist perspectives

- We deal with relations of mutual influence
- We work with descriptions of patterns in systems which influence and cause each other in circular/recursive processes
- Meaning is constructed in regard to context und patterns of behavior/feeling/thinking/believing

History

- Development of reflecting team work in supervision processes in settings of psychiatry in Norway, 1974
- by Tom Anderson, Professor of Social Psychiatry, Tromsø
- Since then: manifold experimentation in all settings of therapy, counselling, teaching and conferences

Central Concepts

- Cooperation
- Basic equality of all engaged in a process (democratization of healing processes)
- Transparency
- Offering of complexity
- A conversation that is adequately unusual

In processes of encounter and change it is important to experience something that is unusual but not too unusual to make a difference.

Reflecting Teams

- Space for dialogues which instigate new questions and new perceptions
- Change can happen best
 - where there is free space for exchange of meaning between two or more people
 - where the individual integrity of all is cared for
 - where understanding is created as „active play with meanings“

Soft and non-intrusive: another path to change and transformation

- a path to dissolve the power of interpretation by experts
- Possibility to de-escalate relational conflicts
- Circularity and reflexivity of relations become transparent
- Work of teams are processes of searching
- Experts don't have easy ways of healing
- Resources and options are seen more easily
- Symptomatic behavior can be regarded with positive connotations from diverse perspectives

Cooperation, Curiosity and Networking

- Creating a climate for cooperation
- Creating space for associative thinking
- Playful perception of interconnectedness of all things and events

Procedure in Conference Setting

- forming groups of 4-5 people; each person has 50 minutes of process time
- one person starts to narrate whatever they want to share in regard to the theme - all others listen without interrupting or questioning or mimicking
- after around 30 minutes, when the narration has reached a natural closure, the 3-4 listeners form an extra circle and share with each other:
 1. what has impressed me
 2. what kind of perceptions came up
 3. what kind of enlarging questions might be raised
- after 10-15 minutes of reflecting in acknowledging language the narrator comes back to the circle and shares what she or he has heard that was important for them
- the process is closed for the first person, a short break is taken, and the next person is invited to share, whatever they want to talk about in regard to the theme

Theme of Reflecting Teams in Precongress

Empowerment in my life and work

Language is used in an open way of curiosity, empathy, and acknowledgement.

Siblings by Choice

- Difference is acknowledged
- Processes of listening and perception of the otherness of the other are not easy
- It is not necessary to agree with each other but necessary to create shared space of respect for the uniqueness of the other and the gift of a life story which is embedded in all of life:
- a time/space of holiness