
PSYCHOANALYTIC STUDIES DIVISION

Meet Dr. Ellen Chazdon!



What committee do you represent?

I am currently heading the Psychoanalytic Studies Division of MPA.

Tell us more about you!

I have been a licensed psychologist in the state of MN for 25 years. I completed my PsyD degree at the University of Denver, and came to the twin cities for internship at the University of Minnesota. I have worked in a variety of settings and clinics throughout the twin cities, including Washburn Child Guidance Clinic, where I provided in-home family therapy. My hobbies include travel and taking long walks with my dog.

What does your committee do?

This division has been dormant for quite a few years. I am currently heading the division, in the hopes it can be revived. I am

interested in this because throughout my education I received a strong emphasis on psychoanalytic coursework between my undergraduate degree at the University of Michigan and my doctorate degree at the University of Denver. When I started practicing in 1994, it was predicted that psychoanalytic work would disappear. MPA was a very helpful place to find psychologists in the community who remained committed to psychoanalytic ideas and study.

This Division, though, has never been very active, despite the fact that there are 85 members of the division. I would hope that in reviving this division, there could be a process

of reaching out to members to ascertain their level of interest, and explore possible activities.

Future plans for the division?

I have pursued advanced study through MPSI, and now I am an advanced candidate at the Chicago Center for Psychoanalysis. I previously served on the programming committee for the local branch of SPS (the Society for Psychoanalytic Studies). I would like to offer a higher level of openness and transparency about local and national resources for ongoing connection and training, as my sense is that the community can be quite confusing and difficult to navigate.

What is your favorite experience regarding the field of psychoanalysis?

A major highlight for me was visiting the Freud Museum in London a few years ago with my family. This brought it all “home” for me, appreciating the history of psychotherapy and reflecting on its origins.

If your division was a seasoning, what would it be?

If my division were a spice, it would be cinnamon, as it is the oldest spice! Students are welcome in the group, and I welcome questions and input any time.



“I would like to offer a higher level of openness and transparency...”



Contact Dr. Chazon at ellen_chazdon@yahoo.com if you would like to be a part of the psychoanalytic studies division!