2nd E. Paul Torrance International Roundtable on Creative Thinking

21 June 2016. Time: 15:00-19:30
(19:30-21:30: Wine Reception)
Holiday Inn Berlin City-East, Berlin, Germany

Theme: Need of Creativity in K-16 Education

Fredricka K. Reisman, Professor & Director of Drexel/Torrance Center for Creativity and Innovation: “Dr. Torrance soon became a mentor and we did research together, published together, and I presented our research at a conference in Stirling, Scotland.”

Robert J. Sternberg, Professor of Human Development at Cornell University, USA: “I met Dr. Torrance only a few times, but I was enormously impressed with the modesty he displayed, given his pre-eminence in the field.”

James Ogunleye: Convenor & Chairman, KIE16 Conference

Keynoter, Chair of Roundtable &

Father of Modern Creativity: Dr Ellis Paul Torrance—8 October 1915-12 July 2003
Keynote Speakers for the Torrance Roundtable

Bonnie Cramond, PhD, is a Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Georgia. She has been the Director of the Torrance Center for Creativity and Talent Development, a board member of the National Association for Gifted Children, and editor of the Journal of Secondary Education. She is on the Advisory Board for the American Creativity Association; the Future Problem Solving Program International; the Global Center for Gifted and Talented Children; is a member of the International Creativity Society; on the review board for several journals; and, has published numerous articles, chapters, and a book (another is in the works). A national and international speaker, she has visited over 35 countries working toward infusing creativity into classrooms at all levels. She was honored in 2011 to be invited to give a TEDx Talk on creativity and has gratefully received other international and national honors.

Keynoter: Bonnie Cramond, PhD, Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Georgia, USA

Doug is the founder and CEO of the Eureka! Ranch and the Innovation Engineering Institute. He is a hands-on innovation practitioner, quantitative researcher, educator and author whose life’s work is applying system thinking to innovation. He is a chemical engineer by education who rose to the rank of Master Marketing Inventor at Procter & Gamble—inventing and shipping a record nine innovations in 12 months by applying system thinking to innovation strategy and execution.

Keynoter: Doug Hall, founder and CEO of the Eureka! Ranch

Creativity As A Bridge Between Education and Industry
Fostering New Innovations

Dr. David Tanner and Dr. Fredricka Reisman, every participant at the Torrance Roundtable and RDCA SIG will get a copy of this new book free of charge—Creativity As A Bridge Between Education and Industry: Fostering New Innovations—dedicated to Dr. E. Paul Torrance.

2nd Presentation of the RDCA SIG

Conference attendees are cordially invited to attend the presentation/discussion of the Reisman Diagnostics Creativity Assessment Special Interest Group (RDCA SIG) that will take place on 22 June 2016. Presentation will be led by co-developer of the RDCA tool, Larry Keiser, Director of Special Projects & Certification Officer at Drexel University, USA. The Reisman Diagnostic Creativity Assessment (RDCA) is a free downloadable Apple App (via iTunes) which captures eleven creativity research-based factors such as originality, fluency, flexibility, tolerance of ambiguity, resistance to premature closure, risk taking, intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, divergent and convergent thinking, and elaboration. Some items in the RDCA extend Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking (TTCT), which is predicated, in part, on the work of Joy Paul Guilford.
Chair of Roundtable: Larry Keiser, Director of Special Projects & Certification Officer, Drexel University, USA

Larry Keiser serves as Director of Special Projects for Drexel University’s School of Education in Philadelphia, PA, in the US, as well as the School’s Certification Officer. He has served in various capacities for the School of Education including Director of Records and Finance, Director of Teacher Education and Coordinator of Academic Advisors over the last 28 years. Larry has assisted in the development and implementation of externally funded projects (e.g., National Science Foundation, US Department of Education, PA Department of Human Services, etc.) totaling upwards of $18M USD. He has presented nationally in the US on the topic of creativity and its relationship to teaching, academic achievement and academic advising and is currently finishing up his doctoral program in Educational Leadership.

Kathy Goff is the Co-founder and Chief Creative Officer of VAST: Next Generation Learning, LLC, a cloud-based edtech software company that focuses on creativity assessments, creative problem solving and brain trainings. She earned a doctorate at the University of Georgia in Adult Learning and Creativity under Dr. E. Paul Torrance, the “Father of Creativity”. Kathy served as Torrance’s personal research assistant and collaborator for over 16 years. Goff and Torrance (2000) created the Abbreviated Torrance Test for Adults (ATT), one of the first instruments to measure creativity in adults. Goff and Guzik have created one of the first cloud-based creativity assessments for adults in the workplace. The Vast Creative Abilities Indicator (VCAI) launches for commercial use in March, 2016. She is an internationally recognized author, researcher, educator, patented inventor, consultant and entrepreneur.

Maura Ann Dowling is a Lecturer in the Finance Department at Bryant University. She is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) and holds a Financial Planning Certificate from the Executive Development Center at Bryant. She has 20 years of experience as a financial planner with fiduciary expertise and has taught CFP courses for the EDC in five states. She holds an MA in Economics from Brown University and an MA in Mathematics from SUNY Potsdam. In her corporate roles Maura was a Vice President, Director and Wealth Management Consultant where she counseled financial planners on portfolio design and structure. In the Finance Department at Bryant she has taught both Portfolio Management and Security Analysis in its Archway Investment Fund Program, supervised students studying in Salamanca, Spain for the International Business Program, taught in the Honors Program, the Gateway Program and the Sophomore International Experience Program. She has received a merit award for teaching and has advised numerous students in their finance internships. In August 2015 she presented an academic paper at the KIE international conference in Turkey on values and creativity in teaching finance.

Lead Discussant: Dr Kathy Goff, Director of the Oklahoma Torrance Center for Creativity, USA

Lead Discussant: Ann Dowling, Lecturer, Finance Department, Bryant University, USA
I first became acquainted with E. Paul Torrance’s work in 1984 in an extension course called “Creativity for Teachers.” The text was *The Search for Satori and Creativity*. This book was about his creativity assessments and how they measured strengths. This meant that you could only add points, not lose points, on the tests. This resonated so strongly with me that I focused my masters thesis on creativity and decided to go to the University of Georgia to study at the Torrance Center for Creative Studies and pursue a doctorate in 1987.

Upon arriving in Athens, Georgia, I found that Dr. Torrance had retired and was working out of his home. I met him within 2 weeks of arriving. He called me the next day to hire me to evaluate his assessment, *Sounds and Images*. I continued to work for Dr. Torrance daily as his personal research assistant for the next four years. Upon completion of my doctorate in 1991, we continued to work together and correspond weekly until his passing in 2003.

E. Paul Torrance was a tireless advocate for creativity and the creative potentials of all people of all ages and abilities. He was brilliant. One assignment was to fill ninety-two 8 ½ x 11” photo albums with photos from his lifelong research. He remembered every person in every photo, even teachers and students who participated in his research. He must have created a ninety-third album.

Torrance chose to define creativity as a process because he thought if we understood the creative process, we could predict what kind of person could master the process, what kind of climate made it grow and what products would be involved. He created a battery of tests of creative thinking abilities for use from kindergarten through graduate school.

The Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking (TTCT) (1966) are the most widely used tests of creative talents in the world and have been translated into over 50 languages. His longitudinal studies (1958-2008) are the longest running studies of creativity to date. He found that creative growth seems to be greatest and most predictable when deliberate, direct teaching of creative thinking skills is involved. Torrance believed that each person is unique and has particular strengths that are of value and must be respected.

Torrance extended his work to older adults when we studied their creativity from 1989-1991. We continued this line of research which resulted in the creation of the Abbreviated Torrance Tests for Adults (ATTA) in 2000. I have continued our research into the creativity of adults and am currently involved in developing a cloud-based creativity assessment called the VCAI (Vast Creative Abilities Indicator) website.

E. Paul Torrance was my mentor, colleague and friend. He was playful, intelligent, positive, humble, hard working, fun loving and very spiritual. I called him “Ghandi 2.”