# Attachment Theory and Bowen Theory: What Difference Do the Differences Make?

# **Conference Schedule**

Friday - Jun 21, 20	24	
8:45 - 8:50 AM	Welcome	Walter Smith
8:50 - 8:55 AM	Board Presentation	Allison Whitney
8:55 - 9:00 AM	Overview of Day	Moderator (Cynthia Larkby)
9:00 - 10:30 AM	Keynote Presentation - Part I: What Difference Do the Differences Make?	Kathleen Kerr
10:30 - 10:45 AM	Break	
10:45 - 11:15 AM	Q & A	Led by Moderator (Cynthia Larkby)
11:15 - 12:00 PM	Keynote Presentation - Part II: What Difference Do the Differences Make?	Kathleen Kerr
12:00 - 12:15 PM	Q & A	Led by Moderator (Cynthia Larkby)
12:15 - 12:45 PM	Lunch	
12:45 - 1:30 PM	Who, What, When, Where, How? Contextualizing Attachment Theory Utilizing a Bowen Theory Lens	Heather Brown
1:30 - 1:45 PM	Q & A	Led by Moderator (Mick Landaiche)
1:45 - 2:00 PM	Break	
2:00 - 2:45 PM	Live From the Field: Taking the Parents Personally	Ashley North
2:45 - 3:00 PM	Q & A	Led by Moderator (Mick Landaiche)
3:00 - 3:45 PM	"Getting Through a Force Field" As an Exercise in Applying Theory	Carl Jensen
3:45 - 4:00 PM	Q & A	Led by Moderator (Mick Landaiche)

# Speaker Bios

### Keynote Speaker Bio

## Kathleen B. Kerr MSN, MA, CNS, APRN

Kathleen B. Kerr, MSN, MA, CNS, APRN is a clinical nurse specialist, and has had a private practice since 1975. She was on the faculty of the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family from 1978 to 2012. She is a founding Board member of the Bowen Theory Academy, since 2011, where she coordinates the Family History Database Project, which collects multiple multi-generational family histories to study basic concepts in Bowen theory and the Research Seminar.

Her interests have included: aging and the family, applying Bowen theory to organizations, the different kinds of systems thinking, mother-offspring relationships, healthcare and applying Bowen theory in the emergency room. She has published articles on a number of these topics. She was given access to the data from the longitudinal research on chimpanzees begun by Jane Goodall, Ph.D. and did a pilot study on the effect of mother-offspring relationships on adult behavior.

#### **Additional Presenter Bios**

# Ashley North

Ashley North has been a student of Bowen Theory for close to 15 years having first encountered the theory in the graduate program of Marriage and Family Therapy at Seton Hill University. Ashley attempts to think and see things systemically within her own relationships, in her practice with clients, while on the board and as an observer of the Basic Seminar of the Western Pennsylvania Family Center, and anywhere else that nitrogen and oxygen can be found. Ashley has a particular interest in more clearly understanding the biological foundations of theory and how a focus on emotional process may be an emotional process in itself.

#### Carl Jensen

Before his retirement, Carl Jensen, M. Div., M. S. Ed. was an Approved Supervisor in the American Association for Family Therapy, a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, a member of the Western Pennsylvania Family Center faculty, and a Diplomate in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors. He served as the Executive Director of the Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (Newport News, Va.) for nearly nine years, having served as Director of Training at Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute for over eighteen years. He also has served as adjunct faculty at the graduate level, as a parish pastor, and as a consultant to pastors and congregations. Last year, he published Notes from the Dance: Portraits, Vignettes, and Remarkable Refections Inspired by People (2023: Carl Jensen Communicates cajwritesbooks@gmail.com). Previously, he published two peer reviewed articles in The Journal of Pastoral Care and an article in Lutheran Forum.

#### Heather Brown

Heather Brown is a licensed Marriage and Family therapist practicing at The Center for Relational Change in Pittsburgh, Pa. Heather invites individuals, families, and couples into thinking about systemic process. She also supervises clinicians who are working toward licensure in the center's resident program as well as clinicians who are seeking to further their systemic thinking. Heather holds a position on the board at Western Pennsylvania family center. Historically Heather has taught as an adjunct professor at Seton Hill's Marriage and family therapy program. Heather also values furthering her thinking around systems of oppression, societal process and understanding ones self. She has presented her thinking around these topics at workshops, conferences and symposiums in Pittsburgh Pa. Lastly and most importantly Heather is a human who is seeking to take a position of learning and growing in this life. She attempts this through being in nature, taking photos, being in relationship to others, exploring movement and any other ways she sees an opportunity to do so.