

From the President of the Institute

As President of the Imago International Institute, the training institute of Imago Relationship International (IRI) I am proud to present to you a catalog that outlines an outstanding offering of courses allowing psychotherapists to become specialists in couples' therapy. Over the past twenty years Harville Hendrix and the faculty have developed an increasingly sophisticated theory of the dynamics of committed intimate relationships and a methodology that allows us to work effectively with couples. Psychotherapists in general are often drawn to practicing individual psychotherapy because it is so much easier. Couples are frequently chaotic and conflicted, and therapists fall into despair. Sometimes they lose their neutrality and collude with one member of the other. They have a hard time helping them find their way together. Not really knowing what to do, they sometimes recommend individual psychotherapy for each member of the couple, a technique that sadly often leads to an even greater disconnect for the couple. We at the Imago International Institute believe that we can facilitate connection for all couples that desire to grow and stay together.

The whole Imago community has been generative in advancing the theory and practice of Imago Relationship Therapy. Our journal, *The Journal of Imago Relationship Therapy*, is our academic mouthpiece that publishes worthy articles of theory and research. Our literature is beginning to expand, as the "Imago Series" is being written and published, a collection of essays that furthers our understanding of Imago theory and practice. Also, we are publishing a series of videotapes to demonstrate Imago clinical practice the first being "The Master Trainer Series."

I invite you to look through this catalog and see the richness of our institute. We have become international in scope and recognition and are making the exciting discovery that committed intimate couples of all cultures and gender preferences have the same dynamics to work through, that of the unfinished business of childhood. Welcome to the exciting specialty of couples therapy. We feel it holds the secret of changing society. The couple is the basic unit of society and is the key to raising whole and complete children. I like our motto, "Changing the world, one couple at a time." We invite you to join us.

Warmly,

Tim Atkinson, M.A.