

# BOARD

Hi Everyone,

I discovered something while preparing to scan the archival correspondence of the Psychosynthesis Research Foundation (PRF) for the AAP Archives, that I wanted to share with you, and which you may wish to share with others.

The scanned documents will later be available in the AAP Archives, after I am finished my work.

But I was so pleased to discover this that I wanted to share it now. Historical stuff can sometimes yield surprises!!

According to the preserved correspondence, In 1970 The Division of Psychotherapy of the American Psychological Association voted to make Roberto Assagioli the recipient of the annual award in their Great Therapists Series.

In 1969 the award had been made to Dr. Karl Menninger.

Because the award required the recipient to come to the US and participate in a round-table discussion (which would not have worked because of the arduousness of the trip and also his deafness) Dr. Assagioli had to decline the nomination.

The award went instead to Erich Fromm.

But it is significant that the APA wanted to grant Assagioli that honor, and officially proposed it in correspondence with the PRF. On behalf of Roberto, Frank Hilton of the PRF wrote the response, appreciating but declining the honor.

Previously on behalf of the PRF, Frank Haronian had presented psychosynthesis to an APA conference which was enthusiastically received and the discussion following attracted 120 professional attendees.

This is further evidence that psychosynthesis had been a significant force in American psychology, recognized by many in the “mainstream” of psychology, before Assagioli’s death.

We can take heart that our continuing work will return psychosynthesis to a place where it can be a force for good in the world, and take its rightful place among the psychological teachings of modern times.

Blessings to all,

Jan Kuniholm  
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*Report kindly sent by Petra Guggisberg Nocelli 21/11/2021*