



Journal of Contemporary Narrative Therapy

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Editor's Note

Welcome to this special release on the topic of narrative supervision! We are keenly and curiously aware that the topic of supervision and training has not received much attention in writings of narrative therapy. We see this release of JCNT as a bit of a humble beginning and hope to see many more papers that seek to expand upon what it means to engage in supervision and training in ways that are consistent with the spirit, ethics, and practices of narrative therapy.

The idea of this special release came, as so many good things do, serendipitously. My colleague, and co-editor of JCNT, Tom Carlson, told me of an experiment, of sorts, that he had been engaging in for the past year with a doctoral student, Danna Carter, who was working on completing her requirements to become a supervisor. Danna had approached Tom at a narrative therapy conference in San Diego in 2018 and told him about the influence that his article (co-authored by Martin Erickson) on narrative supervision and training had on her life and work. Since the article, "Honoring and privileging new therapy knowledge and experience" was written almost 20 years ago, together they hatched a plan to try out this story-based approach to supervision in her current context and with a student who did not identify as a narrative therapist. In order to help readers get up to speed with the ideas that were informing Danna and Tom as they went about this experiment, we are republishing the paper written by Tom Carlson and Marty Erickson in this release. Their paper will be followed by a paper by Danna Carter and Tom Carlson called, "Narrative Supervision as Counterstory Development" that provides an account of their learning together as well as the reported outcomes and effects of this experience on the work and life of the student involved. I hope that you find the outcomes of this serendipitous experiment as interesting as I did.

The third paper in this release is written by Bevan Kovits. This unique paper entitled, "Walking hope-lit paths to new doorways: A letter about my experience as an apprentice in narrative therapy," provides an account of her experience in a year-long apprenticeship in narrative therapy.

The fourth paper in this release, "This Girl is On Fire: A Feminist Narrative Supervision Story," is a supervision story written by Sanni Paljakka to her team at the Calgary Narrative Collective after one of their weekly supervision team meetings. The paper shows the on the ground ethics and theorizing in a committed feminist narrative agency.

