

Klaus Minde 1933–2016

On 6 July 2016 we lost a valued member of our psychoanalytic community. Klaus died as he lived, with enthusiasm; an active person enjoying one of his many passions. This time he was sailing with family on Lac Saint Louis when he suffered a major stroke from which he did not recover. Only a few days before, he had bicycled to his office, where he continued to treat children and their families.

Klaus was born in Leipzig, Germany, and lived there during and after the Second World War. Because of his and his brother's musical talents, they were sheltered from some of the deprivations of that era. He and his brother were both members of the elite Saint Thomas choir. Klaus continued his love of music in playing his piano and in singing in a choir. His brother became a symphony orchestra conductor, whereas Klaus became a conductor of a different kind.

After studying medicine in Munich he came to New York on a Fulbright Scholarship, where he pursued training in pediatrics and studies in psychology. This led him to McGill University, where he trained in psychiatry, specializing in child psychiatry. Regarding the latter, he was profoundly influenced by the ideas of Irwin Disher, who had just returned from London and psychoanalytic training with, among others, Donald Winnicott. The importance of early life influences on the developing infant became a major theme of Klaus's continuing work in infant psychiatry. Following a sabbatical spent with John Bowlby in London and Albert Solnit at Yale, Klaus and his wife Nina wrote the first textbook on infant psychiatry in 1986. Together, they had also experienced the premature birth of one of their three sons, which led to further publications on the impact of prematurity on parenting and on families. Klaus's many academic positions

and publications are too numerous to be included here; his contribution to psychoanalysis needs further elaboration.

As a member of the Canadian Psychoanalytic Society, Quebec English Branch, Klaus had consistently supported the scientific program by sharing his ideas and presenting his own work. He served as a member of the Program Committee and then as chair of the Branch Ethics Committee. He was also an unfailing supporter of the CPS Canadian Group of Psychoanalysts for Children and Adolescents. He frequently brought challenging ideas and case presentations for discussion. As chairman of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at McGill University, Klaus encouraged and supported a training program in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy for Children and Adolescents, under the direction of Michel Grignon. This program was held at the Montreal Children's Hospital over several years at a time when psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic training were controversial issues. Infant observation for psychiatric resident training was also introduced at the Children's Hospital under his leadership. This initiative has had an influence on present-day training at the CIP-QE, in that an Infant Observation Seminar has become part of the required training in adult psychoanalysis.

A few words do not do justice to such a lengthy and productive career. Klaus's many varied interests included his work in Uganda and in South Africa. Most recently in Montreal he has participated in and mentored young researchers. This research studies the role of maternal care, maternal depression, and genotype in the development of young children.

Klaus had avenues still to be explored; with his boundless enthusiasm, one had the impression he could go on for a very long time. Sadly, it was not to be. His departure seemed to have been according to his wishes. As written in his memorial, he had hoped his end would be "quick and uncomplicated." We miss him from our midst, a generous and inspiring human being and colleague.

Joyce Canfield