

THE
NATIONAL CENTER
FOR DEATH EDUCATION

Announces

An Innovative Series of
Continuing Education
Seminars & Workshops
in Thanatology



Recommended For Educators, Nurses, Hospice
Staff & Volunteers, Social Workers, Physicians,
Clergy, and Funeral Service Professionals.



Answers to the age-old questions about death
and dying, loss and recovery, come from the
programs, facilities, materials and people of
the National Center for Death Education.

An Innovative Series
of Continuing Education Seminars
and Workshops in Thanatology

Designed to...

EXPAND knowledge about the experience and im-
pact of death and dying on children, adults, and
families.

STRENGTHEN personal skills for helping people
deal with grief and loss.

EXPLORE individual attitudes and the influence
which they may have on Thanatology.

3 Saturday Workshops — 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Continental Breakfast & Buffet Lunch Included in Tuition

March 23, 1985

Children and Death

Sandra Fox, PhD and Rabbi Earl Grollman, DD

April 27, 1985

*Caregiver Stress in Life-Threatening Illness:
Sources, Symptoms and Coping Techniques*
Mary Vachon, PhD

June 15, 1985

Death Education—Media & Print

Sandra Bertman, PhD,

Caroline Jo Dorr, R.N., M.S.; Gail Gruner

The Summer Institute

Monday - Friday — 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

July 8 - 12

Grief Counseling and Grief Therapy

J. William Worden, PhD

**Experience at Children's Hospital*

Reverend Richard Westwick

July 15 - 19

Helping Children Cope with Death and Dying

Sandra Fox, PhD

July 22 - 26

Helping Women Cope with Grief

Phyllis Silverman, PhD

July 29 - August 2

Developing Confident Communication Skills

Bette Day

*The experience at Children's Hospital must be taken in conjunction with
Grief Counseling and Grief Therapy. Learners will meet at Children's
Hospital from 1:30-3:00 p.m.

*To find out how these workshops and seminars
fulfill the requirements of the Certificate Program
in Thanatology, fill out this form and return it to
the National Center.*

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR DEATH EDUCATION

GAIL GRUNER, *Director*

Advisory Council

J. ANDREW BILLINGS, M.D. is Assistant Physician at Massachusetts General Hospital and Assistant Clinical Professor at Harvard Medical School.

BETTE DAY, Director of Communications at New England Institute, is a national seminar speaker, columnist for *The Dodge Magazine* and hostess of "The Music of Your Life" on WXKS Boston.

CAROLINE JO DORR, R.N., M.S. Clinical Specialist in Geriatric Nursing at the V.A. Medical Center in Brockton and West Roxbury and Lecturer at Boston University.

SANDRA S. FOX, Ph.D., A.C.S.W. is Founder and Director of the Family Support Center and Good Grief Program of the Judge Baker Guidance Center.

JOHN C. TORMEY, M.Ed., Dean of Administration at New England Institute.

VICTOR F. SCALISE, JR., D.Min., President of New England Institute.

CHARLES SCOTT is Owner of J.S. Waterman & Sons, Inc., Boston.

PHYLLIS SILVERMAN, Ph.D., is Associate Professor at the Institute of Health Professions, Massachusetts General Hospital.

RICHARD WESTWICK, M.Div., is Director of Chaplaincy Services at Children's Hospital Medical Center, Boston.

J. WILLIAM WORDEN, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Research Director of the first bereavement study, The Omega Project.

RABBI DR. EARL GROLLMAN, *Consultant*

Why Death Education?

What is death? When, where and how does it occur? Is death an event, a ritual, or a decision? Can we postpone or hasten its arrival? How do we prepare for it? How do we care for the dying and their families? What happens after death? How do we explain death to children or a dying child? How do we support the survivors? And, most importantly, how do we re-invest in life?

From the beginning of time, human beings have wrestled with these questions. Yes, facing up to the idea, the inevitability and the reality of death is something most people avoid until it is inescapable. Thanatologist Herman Feifel writes: "Death is not exclusively an eventuality of old age; it is a basic condition of human life." He also states: "Life is not comprehended truly or lived fully unless the idea of death is grappled with honestly." Answers to the age old questions about death and dying, loss and recovery come from the programs, facilities, materials and people of the National Center for Death Education. Not only does the National Center help individuals enhance their own awareness of death; it also provides them with resources to support the dying and the grieving of all ages.

For further details please fill out the form below and return it to Gail Gruner, Director of the National Center for Death Education, 656 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02215. Our new telephone number is (617) 536-0194.

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Discipline _____

Organization _____

Affiliation _____

Check which programs you would like to attend.

THE SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

- ☐ Children and Death
- ☐ Caregiver Stress in Life-Threatening Illness: Sources, Symptoms and Coping Techniques
- ☐ Death Education—Media and Print

THE SUMMER INSTITUTE

- ☐ Please send more information about the National Center for Death Education.
- ☐ Yes, I will need housing.
- ☐ I am interested in the Certificate Program in Thanatology.
- ☐ Grief Counseling and Grief Therapy; Experience at Children's Hospital
- ☐ Helping Children Cope with Death & Dying
- ☐ Helping Women Cope with Grief
- ☐ Developing Confident Communication Skills

New England Institute
of Applied Arts and Sciences
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The National Center for Death Education

New England Institute
Boston, Massachusetts





The National Center for Death Education

Gail Gruner, Director

**New England Institute
Boston, Massachusetts**

An interdisciplinary resource
for the study of death,
dying, loss, and recovery.



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The National Center for Death Education

Dedication:
Saturday, June 23, 1984
Eleven o'clock

Keynote Speaker:
Herman Feifel, Ph.D.
Pioneering Thanatologist
Editor, *The Meaning of Death*
and *New Meanings of Death*

Architect:
Kenneth Kao



Answers to the age-old questions about death and dying, loss and recovery, come from the programs, facilities, materials, and people of the National Center for Death Education.

Why Death Education?

What is death? When, where, and how does it occur? Is death an event, a ritual, or a decision? Can we postpone or hasten its arrival? How do we prepare for it? How do we care for the dying and their families? What happens after death? How do we explain death to children or a dying child? How do we support the survivors? And, most importantly, how do we reinvest in life?

From the beginning of time, human beings have wrestled with these questions. Yet facing up to the idea, the inevitability, and the reality of death is something most people avoid until it is inescapable. Thanatologist Herman Feifel writes: "Death is not exclusively an eventuality of old age; it is a basic condition of human life." He also states: "Life is not comprehended truly or lived fully unless the idea of death is grappled with honestly."

Answers to the age-old questions about death and dying, loss and recovery, come from the programs, facilities, materials, and people of the National Center for Death Education. Not only does the National Center help individuals enhance their own awareness of death; it also provides them with the resources to support the dying and the grieving of all ages. In the process, it has become pivotal to thanatological studies in New England.

"It's a state of mind," marveled Mark Twain. "The thinking center of the universe," opined Oliver Wendell Holmes. The Athens of America, according to others. It's Boston. The first great city in America—and still the most exciting. And for you? Boston is simply the place where you can be at your best.

*Boston Magazine
Used by permission*

Boston: A World Center for Learning

Boston is famous for many things: the bean and the cod, the Lowells and the Cabots, the Boston Tea Party, and the Celtics basketball team, to name just a few. Everywhere in Boston, the past and present blend to provide an invigorating atmosphere.

But Boston is perhaps most famous as a center of higher education. Truly a multifaceted city, it has a climate which brings together scholars from the humanities, social sciences, and pure sciences to dialogue and collaborate. Such academic cooperation exists in the National Center for Death Education, itself ideally located in Boston.

Even before the Center's new facilities were completed, an impressive number of visitors sought out its resources. Learners from all over the world and from numerous disciplines found answers in the form of media and print, as well as in valuable referrals. Many individuals seek to enhance their own personal death awareness, while other researchers are developing theses and dissertations on such topics as anticipatory loss and suicide survivors. In addition, educators rely on the Center to help them develop audiovisual programs for their classes.

Now, with the establishment of a Certificate Program in Thanatology, the National Center will continue to serve an interdisciplinary audience, not only in Boston and New England, but also throughout the nation.

The National Center for Death Education has been a valuable resource to me in developing a 'Coping with Loss' workshop for the Medford, Massachusetts, School System and in compiling thanatological information/data for my doctoral dissertation. I am grateful for the contribution that the Center has made to me, both professionally and personally.

Raymonda Haviland Hickey
Physiology Instructor, Medford
High School
Doctoral Candidate, Boston University

Advisory Council

The National Center has carefully selected members of its Advisory Council for their expertise in the field of death education. In some cases, they also serve as faculty members for the Summer Institute and the Certificate Program, and the college.

From Interdisciplinary Fields

J. Andrew Billings, M.D., is Assistant Physician at Massachusetts General Hospital and Assistant Clinical Professor at Harvard Medical School. Among his numerous professional activities, he serves as Medical Director, Harbor Hospice of Massachusetts, Inc. His forthcoming book is entitled *At Home With Advanced Cancer*.

C. Jo Dorr, R.N., M.S., Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing and Metropolitan College, both at Boston University, teaches "Death and Mourning", one of the University's most popular courses, along with "Ethical Issues in Health Care" and "Hospice Care." She serves on the Board of Directors of Harbor Hospice of Massachusetts, Inc., and the Hospice of Equinox, and is frequently called upon to speak on the topics of aging, loss, grief, mourning, and hospice care.

Sandra S. Fox, Ph.D., A.C.S.W., is Founder and Director of the Family Support Center and the Good Grief Program of the Judge Baker Guidance Center. The Family Support Center works with families, children, young people in schools, and community groups after the death of a child occurs. Dr. Fox is also a Trustee of New England Institute.

Charles Scott is Owner of J. S. Waterman and Sons, Inc., Boston, one of New England's largest funeral service firms. Mr. Scott played a major role in the formation of the first bereavement support group in New York City in 1970. He was also an early supporter of the National Center and the Good Grief Program.

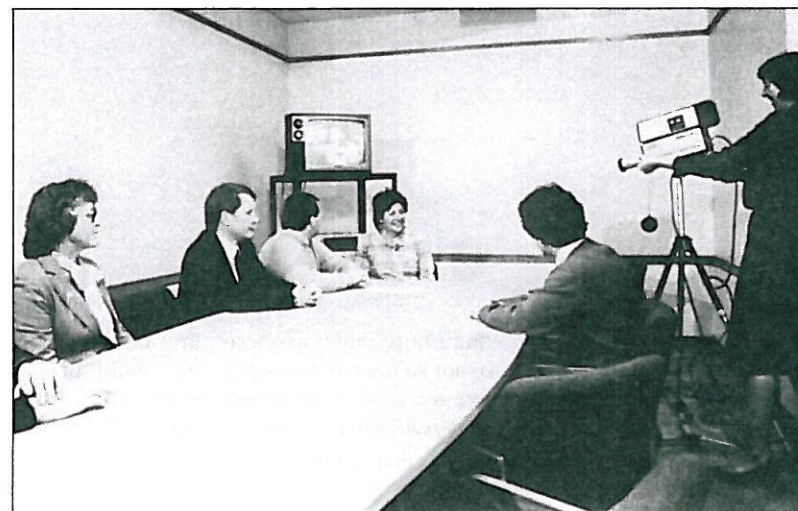
Phyllis Silverman, Ph.D., is Associate Professor at the Institute of Health Professions, Massachusetts General Hospital. She developed the concept for Widow-to-Widow, a model outreach and mutual-help program for the widowed throughout the United States and abroad. Her books include *Helping Each Other in Widowhood*, *Helping Women Cope with Grief*, and a guide for funeral directors in facilitating mutual help among the widowed. She has appeared on national television and lectures to a wide variety of caregivers on the subject of grief and bereavement.

The Rev. Richard A. Westwick, M. Div., is Chaplain and Director of the Chaplaincy Services Department at Children's Hospital Medical Center, Boston, where he works closely with parents and children as they seek to cope with suffering and loss. Another area of special interest is the long-range effect which the death of a sibling has on other children in a family. The Rev. Mr. Westwick has also served as a parish pastor and hospital chaplain in New Mexico and Colorado.

J. William Worden, Ph.D., has lectured extensively on the medical and psychiatric aspects of death and grief. Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, he was Research Director of The Omega Project at Massachusetts General Hospital for 15 years. The Omega Project examined life-threatening illness and life-threatening behavior, and is considered the first bereavement study. Dr. Worden is also a Trustee of New England Institute.

From New England Institute

Bette Day, B.A., Director of Communications at New England Institute, is a popular national seminar speaker for funeral service professionals. In addition, she is communications columnist for *The Dodge Magazine* and weekend hostess of "The Music of Your Life" on Radio Station WXKS, Boston.



Gail Gruner, B.A., Director of the National Center for Death Education, is a graduate of Boston University, where she received the Louis Lowy Certificate in Gerontological Studies in recognition of her commitment to gerontology and thanatology.

Victor F. Scalise, Jr., D.Min., has served as President of New England Institute since 1977. Besides his leadership of the college, he has built a reputation as a clergyman, community leader, and author.

John C. Tormey, M.Ed., Dean of Administration at New England Institute, also serves as Professor of Psychology and Director of Extension Services at the college. He is the author of nine books, including *Life Beyond Death*.

Edgar N. Jackson, D.D., is Consultant to the National Center and a Trustee Emeritus of New England Institute. Dr. Jackson's books—such as *Understanding Grief*, *You and Your Grief*, *The Christian Funeral*, and *Telling a Child About Death*—have brought him national recognition. He is also a noted pastor, teacher, and lecturer.

The National Center: Its Academic Programs

People who work directly with the dying and/or the bereaved may take advantage of academic offerings that begin in the summer of 1984.

Summer Institute

Beginning in 1984, this program provides participants with the opportunity to develop their skills as caregivers, work with the pioneers of death education, and utilize the vast resources of the National Center. The Summer Institutes, which may be taken individually or collectively, are as follows:

Helping Children Cope with Death and Dying

Instructor: Dr. Sandra S. Fox

Schedule: Week of July 9, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Developing Confident Communications Skills

Instructor: Bette Day

Schedule: Week of July 16, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Grief Counseling and Grief Therapy

Instructor: Dr. J. William Worden

Schedule: Week of July 23, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Clinical Training Program at Children's Hospital Medical Center

Instructor: Rev. Richard A. Westwick

Schedule: Week of July 23, Monday–Friday, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Helping Women Cope with Grief

Instructor: Dr. Phyllis Silverman

Schedule: Week of July 30, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Total tuition for a complete four-week program is \$1,000; for each individual weekly institute, it is \$300. Full-time college and university students are eligible for a \$100 rate per institute. Scholarships are available. For further information about the program, fill out and mail back the form on the last page. Additional information about faculty members appears on page 3.

Certificate Program in Thanatology

Beginning during the 1984–85 academic year, this pivotal offering of the National Center will consist of an innovative series of continuing education seminars and workshops. Their purpose is threefold.

1. To expand participants' knowledge about the experience and impact of death and dying on children, adults, and families.
2. To strengthen personal skills for helping people deal with grief and loss.
3. To explore individual attitudes and the influence which they may have on work in thanatology.

Students enrolled in the Certificate Program must satisfactorily complete three required seminars, plus one elective seminar or three workshops. The program is strongly recommended for such professionals as nurses, hospice staff and volunteers, social workers, educators, physicians, clergy, funeral service professionals, counselors, and support group leaders.



Required Seminars

Loss, Grief, and Mourning

An analysis of the predictable reactions of children, adults, and families to death, dying, and bereavement. Development of skills for assisting with grief work.

Personal Reflections on Death and Dying

Use of autobiographical writings by dying persons and their families to understand how these people experience death and dying. In the process, participants in the seminar expand their own skills and sensitivities.

Recognizing and Responding to Pathological Grief

Ways to differentiate pathological grief reactions from those which are normal and predictable. Skills and resources for treatment referral will be identified. Prerequisite: Loss, Grief, and Mourning.

Electives

Elective seminars are as follows:

Death, Dying, and Bereavement: A Cross-Cultural Perspective

The meaning of bereavement to individuals and families becomes clearer when considering death and dying in their social context. We will explore common themes which transcend the boundaries of cultural, ethical, and religious groups.

Communications Skills

The ability to speak well is invaluable to professionals in all fields, including thanatology. This seminar encourages participants to develop communications skills in interpersonal, group, and media situations. Closed-circuit TV will be utilized as a learning tool.

Workshops

The following three workshops will be offered during the 1984-85 academic year.

Adolescent Suicide: Helping Surviving Family Members

The anguish and guilt which frequently threaten to overwhelm family members when an adolescent suicide occurs must be understood and addressed. The workshop emphasizes skills to assist people with grief work following such a suicide.

Resources and Referrals: Services for Dying and Bereaved People

How can one identify the need for more or different services? What community resources are available? How should referral be discussed with an individual or his/her family? What follow-up is necessary or appropriate? To facilitate the referral process, each workshop participant receives a resource directory.

Responding to the Needs of Young Widows and Widowers

The death of a spouse is a major loss for the surviving partner, and it is felt very keenly when the widowed person is under age 40. The workshop addresses specific issues for this population.

Additional details about the Certificate Program, including course schedule and tuition costs, appear in a supplementary flyer. To receive it, fill out and mail back the form appearing on the last page.

The National Center for Death Education is extremely helpful to those of us who work in the health-care field. I've made use of the extensive film library there. It's one of the only resources of its type open to people from the outside.

Margaret Coyne
Department of In-Patient Education
Kennedy Memorial Hospital

The National Center: A Scholarly and Professional Resource

The Facility

The National Center provides a superb environment for scholarly and professional pursuits in the field of death education.

This year the Center opened a beautiful, expanded facility, the entire second floor of New England Institute. Creation of the Center, a quarter-million-dollar project, has resulted in a learning center of more than 3,000 square feet.

In addition to spacious areas for reading and study, the Center also features an audiovisual screening room and conference room for use by individual visitors and organizations, and facilities for closed-circuit television.

All caregiving professionals in the field of thanatology, along with their associations, are welcome to use the Center's resources for conferences and meetings.

The Collection

"An unparalleled resource in the New England area for research in thanatology." This is how individual researchers describe the collection of the National Center for Death Education.

Death education can assume a variety of perspectives, depending on the discipline from which it is viewed. For example, psychology, religion, social



work, nursing, medicine, philosophy, sociology, history, law, and funeral service are all brought to bear on death education. And all are represented in the more than 6,000 books, films, filmstrips, videotapes, and slide/tape productions at the National Center.

The Center also subscribes to 75 periodicals and professional journals, among which are *Omega*, *Death Education*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Harvard Business Review*, and *Wall Street Journal*.

It is Center policy to expand the collection continually by adding all worthwhile new titles published in the field of thanatology.

The Center makes available its collection to borrowers who are referred by other educational institutions, as well as by organizations and individuals connected with New England Institute. There is no charge for the use of books; however, a rental fee is required for films and other media.

In the programs which I supervise, which involve educational training and pastoral counseling for our patients and their families, I rely heavily on the films and publications available through the National Center. I've found the National Center to be most supportive to me in my work.

Brother Richard O'Brien, C.F.X.,
M.A., M.S.
Counselor and Educational Coordinator
Hospice Collaborative
Neponset Valley Health System

About New England Institute

The National Center for Death Education is New England Institute's window to the public. Located in Boston, Massachusetts, New England Institute ranks among the nation's premier educational institutions for funeral service professionals. With the inauguration of the Summer Institute and the Certificate Program in Thanatology, the college now serves a wider range of the public than ever before.

New England Institute's academic offerings include the following:

1. Associate in Science in Funeral Service Degree Program.
2. Certificate of Advanced Study in Funeral Service.
3. Standard Mortuary Science Diploma Program (offered days and evenings).
4. Professional Assistant in Funeral Service Certificate Program.
5. Continuing Education Program.

New England Institute provides three major educational resources to reinforce its academic programs.

1. The Computer Center is the first on-site computer facility at any of the nation's funeral service colleges. Twelve computers equipped to deal with funeral service management and general education programs are available at a ratio of one computer per ten students.
2. The Dodge Center was the initial project completed in NEI's building program. It consists of a sophisticated embalming laboratory and amphitheatre.
3. The Communications Center is scheduled to open in 1985 and will feature national and international cable capability. Presently, the Center occupies

a modern classroom and utilizes top-of-the-line videotape equipment.

Students may transfer credits from New England Institute to other accredited colleges. New England Institute is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and the American Board of Funeral Service Education. It is approved by the Board of Higher Education, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for the Associate in Science in Funeral Service degree (A.S.F.S.) and for the training of veterans. Programs of the Summer Institute are approved for accreditation by the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice.

Both New England Institute and the National Center offer their programs to all students without regard to race, religion, age, sex, or national origin.

Giving Opportunities

The National Center always welcomes contributions to expand and enhance its programs, services, and collection.

As one example, memorial opportunities exist to provide new acquisitions for the Center's resource collection. The Nancy A. Thomas Fund honors the Center's late director.

In addition to memorial contributions, the Center welcomes gifts from organizations to provide films, tapes, and books within their particular discipline. All gifts go toward the purchase of materials which educate caregivers to help those in grief.

The New England Institute Building Fund seeks to raise \$500,000 from 1984 to 1989. Specifically, the fund supports construction of the National Center for Death Education and allied educational facilities at the college. Listed below are giving opportunities.

The Founder's Club: \$3,000 or more annually.

The Pacesetter's Club: \$2,000 annually.

The Professional's Club: \$1,000 annually.

The President's Club: \$500 annually.

The Challenger's Club: \$250 annually.

The Achiever's Club: \$100 annually.

The Builder's Club: \$50 annually.

Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law in the United States and Canada.

For further information about any material appearing in this brochure, please communicate with the following:

Gail Gruner, *Director*, National Center for Death Education, 617-536-0194.

Dr. Victor F. Scalise, Jr., *President*, New England Institute, 617-536-6970.

Both the National Center and New England Institute are located at 656 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02215, and are open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The National Center for Death Education
New England Institute of Applied
Arts and Sciences
656 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

Please tear off, check where applicable, and mail to the National Center.

☐ I am interested in receiving more information about the Summer Institute.

☐ I am interested in the Certificate Program in Thanatology.

☐ I would like to utilize the resources of the National Center. My area of interest is _____

☐ I am interested in making a contribution to the National Center and New England Institute. Enclosed is a check for \$ _____

How did you first learn about the National Center? _____

Name _____	first	initial	last
street and number			
city	state	()	ZIP
Telephone () _____	business	()	home
Title/Areas of specialization _____			