



*Illuminating Relevant Clinical Issues  
& Networking with Colleagues*

**BRIDGING THE RAINBOW: CULTIVATING NARRATIVE  
APPROACHES TO SUPPORT LGBT TRANSITIONAL-AGED YOUTH  
AND ELDERS**

Giving voice to oppressed, underserved minorities is a clear feminist goal, and narrative techniques can provide the means for this socially just undertaking (Kunz & Soltys, 2007; Westrate & McLean, 2010). The intersection of culture, narrative and identity (Fivush, et al., 2011) is a rich space in which to explore meaning-making and transcendence (da Costa et al., 2007; Tornstam, 1997), both key to life satisfaction. LGBT individuals, like all others, tend to live the stories they are told or come to tell about themselves (Monk, 1997). If unchallenged, these stories are framed through the dominant norms in a society or subculture (White & Epston, 1990).

At both ends of the rainbow, transitional-aged youth (18-24) and elders in our diverse LGBT communities need and deserve support as they face a less-than-accepting majority culture (Neimeyer, 2004). To affirm their dignity and reframe their suffering under heteronormative oppression, these clients may be well-served through opportunities to create, adapt, and share their life stories, furthering their sense of narrative identity and community (Cohler & Hammack, 2007; Reker & Woo, 2011).

**Friday, November 4, 2011**  
**7:00-9:00 PM, 3rd Floor, Room 324/326**  
Networking Begins at 8:30 PM  
Pepperdine University - Irvine Graduate Campus



**Mary M. Read, Ph.D.** is a full-time faculty member in the Department of Counseling at California State University, Fullerton, where she has taught graduate students for over 20 years. In addition to her teaching, Dr. Read serves as the Director of Clinical Training and the Counseling Alumni Advisor for the Department of Counseling. She is also a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, and has maintained her own private practice in Los Alamitos for the past 22 years. Mary is a co-chair of the Orange County regional MFT consortium, and a representative on the MFT Leadership Collaborative statewide. Dr. Read is a clinical member of CAMFT, AAMFT, and AWP. Her research interests include career pathways for counselors, identity issues (e.g., sexuality/gender, aging, life transitions) and fostering clients' resilience.

**If you are unlicensed, you may be able to get hours towards licensure  
with your clinical supervisor's approval! This is a FREE event!**

**Please RSVP to Kathleen Wenger at [psyprofdev@pepperdine.edu](mailto:psyprofdev@pepperdine.edu).**

**This event is sponsored by the M.A. Clinical Training & Professional Development office.**