

Letters to the Editor

The Editor
Self & Society

Dear Vivian,

Hil I am moved to send you this brief note having glanced through the issue of **Self and Society** which arrived this morning before I got into my study day. I hope it is not intended to spend too much space on articles in European languages which I guess only a few subscribers to the journal will be able to read! But my point in writing is to gently suggest that perhaps some of those top-drawer facilitating people meeting in London might occasionally remember, or even take trouble to find out, that it is not the centre of the humanistic world! I refer particularly to comment on page 94 re Rogerian work 'there is no Rogerian training in Britain'. Really??! Of course it all depends upon what is meant by Rogerian training, but I guess some people very close to you (John Rowan our examiner) knows that the whole commitment of the team in the Dip.Guidance Course which he examines for us, is Rogerian; that the thrust of philosophy and content is just that, and that the skills in relating and helping are virtually Rogerian in toto. Not surprising, as I myself am responsible for the personal growth area of the course (which is a half of it). And I guess people like David Mearns in Scotland running the annual courses in conjunction with the La Jolla based Facilitator Development Institute, would raise an eyebrow, quite apart from people like University of Keele staff who were the original Rogerians

when counselling first started professional training courses in the early 70's. In fact it was at a University of Lancaster Conference that I first heard about Rogers and went that same year to La Jolla, following it by staffing the next, and again in 1978 as participant, staffing again in August this year. William Hallidie-Smith who works at University of East Anglia alongside Brian Thorne has just been a Fellow at the Centre at La Jolla for a year, like Dave Mearns and I guess that both in his facilitation and work at Norwich and membership of the CC group summer courses with Dave and Brian will be constantly using Rogerian technique and philosophy. I'm afraid that if the comment made was indeed by Oded Manor he was just a little uninformed!

Incidentally I have just finished the first week's entry with two other human relations groups I run, for classroom teachers and for clergy. Both of those are totally Rogerian and run for a term followed by a high skills unit of a half-term. This is the 2nd. year of these and the second run of the two-year Counsellor Diploma. When I met Carl at UCSD where I was staffing in the Program in July he was certainly alive and kicking and very well aware that so is his work!!

As a further comment a propos the accreditation debate etc. and Kevin Fleisch's article, what La Jolla does is to issue (when requested) the enclosed 'non-certificate' to its trainees. (reproduced opposite page) I have always found it great fun.

Warmest regards,

**Rev Donald Anders-Richards
Bakewell, Derbyshire.**