

## Wednesday 14th MAY 2014

## SCIENTIFIC MEETING: Family Businesses: Challenges and Possibilities

7:00pm - 9:30pm

Registration and tea from 6:30pm - 7:00pm

Hughes Parry Hall, University of London 36-45 Cartwright Gardens London WC1H 9EF

Fee: £30
(OPUS Associates £15)
\*(Students £15)
includes refreshments and lunch
\*Please bring confirmation of status

NB. You can become an Associate when booking for this event OPUS Associate Membership

Presenters: Dr Diana Shmukler

**Chaired by:** Chris Tanner and Anna Reali

Family businesses present particular challenges as well as opportunities for people who work in them, and with them. The sense of family, and family culture, can come into conflict with the appropriate allocation of authority and role. At the same time the family business may be able to draw on sources of passion and commitment unavailable in other settings.

This OPUS Scientific Meeting is presented by Dr Diana Shmukler. Her presentation will consider how family dynamics are present in business generally and heightened among family members, partners and even close friends working together. Since our current and historical relationships are inevitably part of how we function, when we work together with family members both agendas are operating more strongly than when we work 'away from home'. The perspective is an integrative one, considering systems thinking within the frame of a Psychology of Relationship. Thus this meeting will use both lenses to

highlight some of the complex yet challenging issues that arise when consulting to family businesses.

Dr Diana Shmukler is an Integrative Psychotherapist and Organizational Consultant. She is the Visiting Professor of Psychotherapy at the University of Middlesex, and also contributes to the clinical trainings at the Metanoia Institute, the Institute for Arts in Therapy and Education, and the Instituut vir Besigheid and Management, University of Utrecht. She is the former Associate Professor of Applied Psychology at the University of Witwatersrand, S.A..