

In Memoriam: Reinhard Fuhr

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With the premature death of Reinhard Fuhr (1939-2005), the community of integral scholars lost one of its most earnest and grounded members. Reinhard spent thirty years as a teacher and researcher at the Department of Education at the University of Göttingen, Germany. He was also a gestalt therapist and a prolific author of books and articles on gestalt therapy (primarily in German), mostly together with his wife Martina Gremmler-Fuhr.

Reinhard applied integral frameworks in three interrelated fields, namely gestalt therapy, pedagogy and conflict management. Reinhard and his wife Martina worked closely together on using integral perspectives to expand and develop gestalt therapy and to enrich the field of communication in conflict management. Together they wrote a comprehensive and innovative textbook on conflict management (Fuhr & Gremmler-Fuhr, 2004), where the integral perspective is used to discuss levels of development in interpersonal communication and where integral principles are used to discuss the processes of conflict resolution. Reinhard also invested considerable energy in developing an integral approach to his own academic field, that of education (see the list of selected publications below). Most of Reinhard's and Martina's work is unfortunately not available in English. One small exception is a little gem of an article on the phenomenon of emotional reactivity in conflicts, where an integral framework is used in a creative way (Fuhr & Gremmler-Fuhr, 2003).

In his role as a lecturer at the university of Göttingen, he introduced many students to integral frameworks and supervised a number of undergraduate theses drawing on integral theory. A small community of former students formed over time and there is good hope that we will hear more from some of them in the future.

I came to know Reinhard as a person who combined a thorough familiarity of integral theory with a capacity for independent critical reflection, grounded in his very long experience with clinical work. Reinhard would not be swayed by lofty and grandiose ideas and visions, but always looked for ways of integrating what is with what might be. I am sad that he didn't get another twenty years, who knows what riches he might have been able to offer us . . . But I gratefully receive what he offered and also look forward to Martina's coming work, e.g. a doctoral dissertation on relationships from an integral perspective.

Selected publications

Fuhr, Reinhard (2004) *Integrale Pädagogik - eine konkrete Utopie*. Göttingen: Pädagogisches Seminar. [English: Integral pedagogy - a concrete utopia.]

Fuhr, Reinhard (2005) 'Qualitätswandel in der Pädagogik. Wege zu einem Integralen Gestalt-Ansatz im Bildungsbereich,' *Studien zum Integralen Gestalt-Ansatz, Schriftenreihe des Gestalt-Zentrums Göttingen*. [English: Quality change in education. Paths to an integral gestalt approach in the field of education.]

- Fuhr, Reinhard & Dauber, Heinrich (2002) *Praxisentwicklung im Bildungsbereich - ein integrativer Forschungsansatz*, Bad Heilbrunn: Klinkhardt. [English: Development of praxis in the field of education - an integrative research approach.]
- Fuhr, Reinhard & Gremmler-Fuhr, Martina (2000) 'Grundlinien eines integralen Konzeptes der Persönlichkeitsentwicklung im Rahmen von Ken Wilbers Evolutionsphilosophie,' *Transpersonale Psychologie und Psychotherapie*, 1, 11-36. [English: Fundamentals of an integral framework for personality development according to Ken Wilbers evolution philosophy.]
- Fuhr, Reinhard & Gremmler-Fuhr, Martina (2002, 2nd ed.) *Gestalt-Ansatz*. Köln: Edition Humanistische Psychologie. [English: The gestalt approach.]
- Fuhr, Reinhard & Gremmler-Fuhr, Martina (2003) 'Reaction Formation: An Integral approach to Fights and Conflicts,' *Gestalt Review*, 2, 147-170.
- Fuhr, Reinhard & Gremmler-Fuhr, Martina (2004) *Kommunikationsentwicklung und Konfliktklärung. Ein integraler Gestalt-Ansatz*. Göttingen: Hogrefe. [English: Development of communication and conflict resolution. An integral gestalt approach.]
- Fuhr, Reinhard & Gremmler-Fuhr, Martina (2005) 'Integrale Therapie und Beratung. Eine Fibel für den Integralen Gestalt-Ansatz. Studien zum Integralen Gestalt-Ansatz,' *Schriftenreihe des Gestalt-Zentrums Göttingen*. [English: Integral therapy and counselling. A manual for the integral gestalt approach.]