



MOSCOW SCHOOL OF MASSAGE

...for professional training

Jan Roberts

**Co-owner/Educational Director
2004 AMTA Teacher of the Year**

To Whom It May Concern:

Dr. Bryan Born has an uncanny knack for “being there”. I have participated in three of his workshops; two geared toward continuing education, and the other a teacher-training day held at our school for the purpose of adopting his textbook into our curriculum. Each time I experienced a workshop I kept thinking, “It doesn’t get better than this!” His love and mastery of what he does, his preparedness and incredible ability to engage workshop participants, his superb teaching skills, and his gift for flexibility and creativity are to be highly commended.

In February of this year, I invited Bryan to come to Moscow to teach for two days; the first day was a continuing education workshop for regional therapists, and the second day was devoted to teacher training. After the first day, one comment seemed to prevail: “How can a day of pharmacology be so exciting and pass so quickly?” This is testimony to Bryan’s injection of relevancy and fun into all his offerings. We all learned so much, came away so confident in our abilities, and had such a good time doing it! Thank you, Bryan!!

We at Moscow School of Massage are very grateful for Bryan’s expertise and creativity in facilitating the teacher training day. None of us could have predicted the outcome! We had instructors, owners, directors, clinic supervisors, and a student representative in attendance. The upshot was that through his keen observation and interpretation of comments and the existing layout of the program, we came away with more than a way to use his book; we came away with a new model for unifying our program and creating efficiency within the system. We came away with a new conceptual way of analyzing and evaluating the program as we change and grow and make decisions. The new, central, coordinating focus was Bryan’s brainstorm: The school’s student-operated massage clinic has become the “higher power”, the “hub” of the curriculum in which all the students’ education is put into practice, and through which a feedback loop is formed directing the clinic experiences back into the various classrooms for follow-up. Now, pathology issues are routed directly back to the pathology instructor, technique issues to the massage instructor, charting issues to the documentation instructor, etc., to be discussed and learned from in the classroom. Bryan gave us valuable help in refining our paperwork in order to utilize his textbook and create unity among the clinic and massage and documentation classes. With Bryan’s gentle and inspiring facilitation we took ourselves apart and put ourselves back together, and at the end of the day felt energized and excited! That’s a lot, and it wouldn’t have happened without him. We are now in the process of instituting those changes. (There’s been a lot of hugging going on amongst ourselves since Bryan’s visit.)

The Essential Massage Companion has become a required text at our school. We keep several copies on hand at the student clinic for quick and easy reference. The students and supervisors love it. We also keep a stack in each classroom, ready for easy access.

We thank Bryan for his help, his book, and his friendship. What wonderful gifts!

– Jan