

**Minutes of the BOT meeting
March 1 – 4, 2017
Hotel Marquês de Pombal . Lisboa**

Present:

Paola Bacigalupo, Scott Baum, Michael Brennan, Ana Lúcia Faria, Rosaria Filoni, Diana Guest, Jayme Panerai Alves, Cristina Piauhy, Rick Spletter, Josette van Luytelaar, Anja van der Schrieck-Junker.

Also present: Pilar Llobregat, (Administrator)

Beginning Wednesday, March 1st 14:00

1. Opening of meeting and check in

Scott Baum is selected as interim chair until new president is elected.

1.1 Election of officers

Diana Guest is elected President, Rosaria Filoni Vice-President and Ana Lúcia Faria will continue to be Treasurer.

Diana thanks the confidence put in her to be President and expresses her view of this position as collaborative work.

An announcement is made that Scott Baum will be Teaching Chair in replacement of Diana.

New members are welcomed and a check-in round ensues:

Diana is the Faculty representative, Michael, Scott and Rick are Nanziba representatives, Ana Lúcia Jayme and Cristina are FLAAB representatives, Josette, Anja, Paola and Rosaria are EFBA-p representatives

1.2 Setting the Timetable, Decision Making, and Approval of Agenda

Schedule:

Morning - 9 to 12:30, Coffee break at 10:45.

Afternoon – 14:45 to 18:00. Coffee break at 16:30

Rick offers to be the stacker and Michael the time-keeper

Scott explains to the new members that decisions in these meetings are taken by gradients of agreement. This is a non-violent system of decision making, it entails compromise. The objective is to find a decision all can support.

The agenda is revised and organized, considering how long to dedicate to each issue.

2. Previous Minutes and Report of Previous Board

The report is read and the minutes of the November meeting approved unanimously.

3. Committee reports

3.1 Journal.

The report is read. Possible replacements for Vincentia as Journal editor are discussed.

Scott considers it is better to invite someone than to publish a call. This person should be a writer himself. He proposes to ask Jörg Clauer. Lúcia proposes to ask Odila Weigand. Guy Tonella should also be contacted. Diana will make those contacts.

Rosaria considers that it would be convenient to use the Journal to make the life of the organization better known: Keynotes, PDW e.g. and have a few pages added at the end about activities, translated into all languages.

Michael suggests spreading the need for translation among IIBA, so maybe someone would offer to do it.

The new editor should be asked to make a plan to develop this idea.

Odila, who has just been contacted, cannot accept the position of Journal editor for personal reasons.

3.2 Reader

The report is read.

Pilar explains the result of her messages to Spanish societies about the Reader translation into Spanish: all in all there seems to be no interest in it.

Scott supports Garry's idea of publishing a new book about BA to be in the scene.

Germany has lots of books but in German.

Libertas has about 20 books published on BA.

Rosaria. The main difficulty lies on how our theory interacts with other theories.

A discussion ensues about how to approach this:

Jayne makes students write about how they experience BA.

Scott thinks that is not the way, we must talk about essentials and look into the future. One can write his thing and the other his own, but at a deep level, so that outsiders realize Bioenergetics is a scientific proposal.

Anja thinks it must be a combination of both and Diana agrees that it is a blending.

Rick. Proposes the first half of the book about universals, and the second half dealing with cultural traits.

Diana. As an international org we have to respect cultural distinctions we have to show and work with what we are alike.

If we do not provide the inspiration and the structure it won't happen. We must put money and energy on this project.

Josette. Maybe we could turn this sort of discussion into a book.

Rosaria. We could put together a list of articles, organize a discussion about them and publish the results.

Michael insists on blending and offering multiple perspectives of the same issue.

Anja. It would be good to foster discussions, maybe during a conference, the leading person being someone who writes herself.

Scott. There are two projects here. How we deal with this among ourselves and how we deal with the outside community. The initial project: we should be publishing a book.

Josette needs more clarification

There is a new, more definite, proposal:

“ We commit ourselves to publishing books on contemporary Bioenergetic Analysis”

The proposal is unanimously approved.

3.3 Website

The report is read.

Opinions are voiced:

Diana. It is absolutely necessary that the website is accessible by cell phone.

Jayme. We must use all social media intensely.

Diana. This is where cultural differences pop up. In USA Facebook is not widely used e.g.

Paola. The website is not interactive and that is a problem.

Proposal:

“Name Garry and Jayme as co-chairs of a committee to consult with Claude to develop a new version of the website including a proposed budget. Create a Website and social media committee.”

Proposal approved unanimously.

3.4 Teaching Committee

The report is read.

The issue of the four German members recently certified without being IIBA members is dealt with. It is determined that there is an exception made for the 4 German members from that group, and they have to pay their 2017 dues to get their certificates

Diana will send a message to remind societies that members have to pay their IIBA dues till their training is completed

Scott insists that certification must not be given by higher instances, instead of local societies, except in very exceptional occasions.

Local trainers and supervisors have to be designated by the society though there are IIBA guidelines.

The issue addressed in the last meeting about the need for transparency in advertising among Faculty teaching posts is agreed on.

3.5 Faculty

The members of the Faculty have asked for permission to use their 15% refund of fees to pay for coffee breaks at their meeting in Toronto.

Proposal:

“That the IIBA pays for their coffee break and it does not come from their 15%.” Unanimously approved.

There ensues a debate on how this 15% should be calculated.

Proposal:

“When societies apply for their 15% project refund, faculty dues have to be pulled out of the total amount”

Unanimously approved

The Faculty have asked for a joint meeting in Toronto. This issue is discussed and a decision taken unanimously to have that meeting.

Now the question is: What percentage of expenses the BOT members will be refunded?.

Proposals:

- Monday and Tuesday night hotel rooms will be covered. 4 nights in all for Cristina and Lúcia because they are sharing room.
- 50 % of travel expenses will be refunded.
- Conference fees will be waived for BOT members.

All three proposals are approved unanimously.

Pilar will get in touch with the event planner about the hotel rooms to be included in the master account.

Toronto meeting schedule: BOT meeting in the morning of May 23rd, joint meeting with Faculty in the afternoon. BOT meeting in the morning of May 24th

3.6 Membership

The office report is read.

Need we do something about the drop in numbers?

Cristina presents the documents about the cost of living in South America.

A discussion ensues about what we are addressing. Crisis is all over the place. The idea is not what they get from IIBA, this should be inseparable from being in a local society, it has to do with identity as a body and its presence in the world.

Anja says the language may have something to do with the feeling of not belonging.

Scott resents the idea that there are an us (members) and you (IIBA)

Jayne proposes that IIBA lend money to the students who can't afford training and they refund when they are certified.

Rick considers that it is not such a good idea. IIBA should not be a bank.

Diana also thinks that it might create tension and problems.

Anja and Mike. Create an annual conference in the region to help finance their members. IIBA could help the regions with that.

Scott is skeptical about Brazilians working together to produce a conference. One of the main tasks now is to decide how to conserve and use IIBA's funds.

Rosaria. It's not only because of money we are losing members.

Proposal:

"A survey could be made so that we know background, identity and interests of the members."

Proposal approved unanimously.

Rosaria will be the action person and Josette and Paola will help (Membership Demography Committee).

MAL

How to deal with them when an ethics problem presents itself. This question arises from the ethics problem we had in Germany.

There are differences in requirements to be a CBT in different countries, some are not psychologists, so they do not have legal cover if in problem.

It should be made clear to them that they are on their own, IIBA does not give them coverage, neither a local society.

IIBA can choose to have MAL if they are certified, but that is all.

The BOT must make all this clear to the membership producing a statement to be published somewhere.

Proposal:

"That the committee for professional conduct studies the situation of MAL and brings their decision back to the BOT".

3.7 Study awards

Rosaria explains to new members what this is about.

The deadline for proposals will not be extended. The referees should give verdict by March 25.

The awards will be given at the membership meeting in Toronto.

Pilar will produce a diploma and a cheque facsimile for the amount of € 500.

Rosaria proposes that the articles good enough, not having got prizes, be posted up on easels at the Toronto conference.

3.8 Newsletter

As there are no modifications to be made the NL will be sent out on Monday March, 6.

3.9 Annual Project Fund

3.10 Election

The committee report is read.

Diana will contact them to see if they would not mind to continue.

Michael, Cristina and Josette are up for reelection in 2017 and they are ready for the moment to stand again.

4. Financial report and approval of Budget for 2017

The closing balance for 2016 is examined and accepted.

Amendments are made to the budget for 2017 and it is approved unanimously.

5. Toronto Conference

5.1 Organizing Committee report

The report is read.

Unless we reach a number of 200, minimum, attendees the conference will lose money because the contract signed with the hotel is absolutely one-sided.

There is nothing to be done about it just now, except do our best to increase registration. There is a brainstorming of ideas about how to do it:

- A lower fee could be offered to non CBTs as long as they book at the hotel.
- Rosaria proposes to give them a supervision credit. Diana observes that there is no time to ask the Faculty for this credit.

Proposal: (to be posted on the website and emailed to all membership. It will be acted if necessary)

“In honor of the 60th anniversary of the founding of our Institute, and in an effort to expand the awareness of BA to a new generation of psychotherapists, the IIBA Board of Trustees has decided to waive conference registration fees (except for a \$75 administration fee) for all candidates in IIBA affiliated training programs, and all attendees who are registered in accredited graduate programs in mental health (an ID will be required). This includes candidates in training programs who have completed the formal training but are completing other requirements for certification. The only

condition for granting of the waiver is that the attendee stay in the designated conference venue, the Chelsea Hotel in Toronto, Canada”

This proposal is approved unanimously.

5.2 Scientific Committee report

Scott, as chair of the SC, explains the philosophy behind the choice of keynote speakers.

He also explains the structure of the keynote time, with two speakers (one from inside the IIBA and another from outside), followed by group discussion and recapitulation at the end.

The presenters of Pre-Conference workshops will be Vincentia Schroeter, Danita Hall and Paola Alessio.

5.3 Revision of conference budget

Once the budget is carefully studied it is observed that there is an expense of roughly €187,000. So we would need approximately 300 attendees which is impossible. It is considered that we may reach up to 125 attendees.

The event planner suggests that we sublet the dining room to someone else on Thursday to get some money out of it. We can do it but we want to know how much we would get out of it.

5.4 Membership meeting

How could we try to create a unity out of different categories?

Diana and Anja describe different experiences they've had.

Josette proposes that the membership discusses and gives ideas to solve the financial situation.

Rosaria. If we do it the first day we can process data and inform them next day.

Diana. It would be interesting to get the directors/representatives of societies to get together with the BOT, to share what works. Scott. The difficult part of this is to find the time to do it. Maybe make it part of the membership meeting?

Anja. It should have its own place. A breakfast meeting would be a convenient time.

Diana will find notes taken about the meeting in the Recife conference to give feedback about what the members wanted.

A report will be given of what has been done and future ideas will be presented.

Talk about what being a member means. Maybe a demonstration of how the website works could be a good idea.

We could video tape the meeting to share with members that are not present.

6. Regional Structures and Local Societies

Not dealt with.

7. Administrator: succession planning

Pilar presents curriculum and contract proposal of Nina Schubert.

Diana proposes to have a Skype interview with this person, which is approved unanimously.

A committee has to be created to study how to deal with financial issues, bank accounts and investment fund, derived from the present administrator's replacement.

Diana, Scot and Ana Lúcia offer themselves for this committee. **This** is approved unanimously.

8. General Business

8.1 Bylaws

A committee must be created to deal with the revision of the bylaws, because they are absolutely outdated.

Anja will ask a member of his society who is a lawyer to be in the committee

Garry will be asked to chair this committee. There will be an update in Toronto

8.1.2 Code of Ethics

The report is read.

Scott exposes the reasons why IIBA should have a Code of ethics but cannot deal with ethic complaints, they should be derived to the local authorities.

Anja opposes this. She thinks we should deal with ethic complaints, a lawyer has to be hired and a solution given by the Institute, not the state. She offers to be in the committee.

Diana. OK for the review of the code, but strongly opposed to hiring a lawyer and conducting a process. We have no authority.

Josette. Maybe we could have a mediator, not a lawyer.

Paola. Therapists need protection.

Rosaria. Agrees on IIBA not conducting a process. This issue should be shared among the directors of societies in a possible meeting in Toronto.

Scott. We should integrate ethics into our education of trainees.

Paola. Every society should have an ethics referee. Maybe trainees should be made to sign a document agreeing to the ethics code.

Diana. Agrees on education and this issue to be included in the curriculum., the name should be changed to Code of Professional Conduct.

8.1.3 Strategic Plan

Propositions made by the Strategic Plan to the new BOT:

- Videos to be recorded and uploaded to the website. Some examples are shown. Some for the public in general and some for members only.

Jayne will get in touch with Dante Moretti to find out how much it would cost to produce a video in the different languages.

Rick thinks that they have to be such that they create interest in the public to know more about BA, they must be compelling. He describes some they are doing in Dallas.

- Create a space where societies can meet, exchange ideas and share experiences.

8.2 Other issues

- USABP membership. A discussion opens concerning the payment of this membership that was assigned to Nanziba in the last BOT meeting. Since USABP will not give Nanziba presence in their website and publications, and considering IIBA should be present there a proposal is made:

“The IIBA will pay the fee from now on”. Approved unanimously.

- Special projects/social action. Jayme proposes to develop a plan for refugees. Diana considers that any statement should be non-specific for refugees only but for all people rejected by the system, homeless...
To the previous committee composed by Jim Elniski, Rosaria, Cristina, Josette, Ana Lúcia, Eulina and Léia Cardenuto, Jayme is added. Jim has to be asked if he wants to continue being chair of the committee. If Jim gets out Eulina could be proposed.
- Anja proposes to create a blog where all members can discuss what can be done or is being done. Diana proposes having a board in Toronto where people can stick what they are doing on different fields.
- Jayme proposes sending a message about women’s rights on women’s day.
- Why don’t we have black people in IIBA? Diana thinks maybe this is something to be dealt with in the membership meeting in Toronto.
- **2019 Conference**

Poland offered some time ago to host it. Israel are ready and willing to do it.

European societies have to be contacted to see if they are interested in hosting a conference. (Portugal, Italy Poland and Germany).

We should have a decision in the Toronto meeting, to announce it to the membership.

A small committee is needed to oversight the proceedings so that it won’t happen what has happened this conference. Chair: Rosaria, helped by Diana, Scott and Ana Lúcia who have all been involved in previous conferences.

- **List of Committees**

- **Research.** Claudia is willing to continue and Patrizia will continue as chair helped by Paola as liaison to the BOT.
Action: Review and Bring to the next meeting ideas for research. Deadline. May 2017
Toronto
- **Marketing/Videos.** Rick accepts being a member and Diana is also interested. Diana will ask Janet Pinneau if she wants to be chair. Dante Moretti will also be a member. We need someone in Europe for this committee.
Action. Complete the committee, choose a chair and come up with a plan of action. Deadline Toronto May 2017

- **Website/Social media.** Cristina offers to also participate in that committee
Actions: Get other regions involved. Prepare a report for the membership meeting
Deadline for the requests to be sent to the webmaster: mid-April
Jayme will find people from the other regions and contact Dante Moretti about being in both committees.
- **Conference 2019.** Diana, Rosaria, Ana Lúcia and Scott. Rosaria will ask Pedro da Silva, from the Lisbon society, if they would be willing to host the Conference. Diana and Scott will get in touch with other countries. The goal is to identify a place. Deadline Toronto May 2017
- **Social action.** Described above. Action: bring information to contribute to the membership meeting in Toronto. Deadline. Toronto May 2017
- **New books.** Rosaria chair. She proposes:
 - “Love Sex and Relationship from energy, attachment relationships”
 - a) Updating of Bio on this topic
 - b) What happens in different cultures
 - c) Elaine’s article on Journal
 - d) Diana’s article
 - e) Violence against women, homosexuals, transgender
 - f) Internet and sex
 - g) Sexuality and aging
 Criteria have to be available for the next BOT meeting.
- **Professional conduct.** Anja chair. Rick Spletter also on the committee. First draft report in Toronto
- **Finance Committee:** Scott, Diana, Ana Lucia. Scott knows someone who works with an international bank. He will contact him.

9. Next BOT meeting

March 7 – 10 in Lisbon. Principe Lisboa hotel. Approved unanimously. Same schedule as this year starting 14:00 Wednesday and ending Saturday at midday.

In Toronto we will discuss flight times and see if the schedule of the March meeting should be adjusted.

Diana thanks the members for participating in this meeting and being cooperative.

Jayme expresses his good feelings about the meeting and thanks everyone.

End of meeting Lisbon, Saturday March 4th, 2017, at 12:30

Scribe: Pilar Llobregat