

# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) OF THE WAPCEPC

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July, Norwich England

## 1. Welcome by the Chair, Elke Lambers

## 2. Agenda

The re-arranged agenda was accepted by the GA. Item 12 (proposal to change election procedure) was withdrawn.

## 3. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the 2006 GA were unanimously accepted as correct.

## 4. Matters Arising from the 2006 Minutes

There were no matters arising.

## 5. Reports

### Report From the Chair – Elke Lambers:

- Elke reported that a full board had been elected in 2006 but Suzanne Keys had needed to withdraw. This meant the board had operated with 8 members. It had been a challenging time as there had been so many new members who needed to understand the tasks, the history and the day to day tasks such as finance.
- Currently there are 490 individual members and 22 organisational members.
- Thanks were expressed to Di English, the WAPCEPC administrator who maintains some of our contact with individual and organisational members.
- Website: a great deal of work has been undertaken with the website and Elke invited member feedback – feedback would be very welcome. It is intended to set up a secure area for members to be able access journal articles and members own personal data. Thanks were expressed to Mike Bailey for his work on the website.
- The Board had responded to a number of agencies in respect of government regulation, for example GwG (Germany) and is currently in discussion with BACPA (Britain).
- Newsletter: thanks were given to Jef (Cornelius-White) for his work on the excellent Newsletter. Elke asked and reminded people to contribute to the Newsletter – it is not only the work of the board.
- Active links have been maintained with the conference organisers, both for 2008 and 2010.
- The WA has also supported other initiatives such as the symposium that is being organised by Margaret Warner and colleagues at the World Psychotherapy Congress, 2008, in Beijing.
- The tasks of the board include not only the day to day activities but also to develop future projects.

### Report from the Journal – Michael Behr:

- Michael spoke of the excellent development of the Journal which is now well developed and has been an outstanding success. Thanks were given to the editors, Dave Mearns, Peter Schmid, Bill Stiles and Jeanne Watson; the editor emeritus, Robert Elliott and the book review editors, Beth Freire and Martin van Kalmhout.
- The Journal is now in the database PsychInfo. This means that the keywords of the articles will be indexed in the PsychInfo database that it PsychInfo. This

is an important recognition for a scientific Journal and supports its existence in the scientific community.

- The Journal now has a contract with EBSCO for online publication. EBSCO allows access to the full text and is good for citations.
- Abstracts are now in 4 non-English languages and it has a print run of 2,300.
- We are able to offer the journal at a low price due to PCCS Books and thanks were expressed to them for their help.
- It is envisaged that there will be electronic access to the Journal by the end of the year.
- Dave Mearns will retire at the end of 2009 and will be very difficult to replace. Sincere thanks and gratitude were expressed to him.

#### **Report from the Treasurer – Jean-Marc Randin:**

- Jean-Marc spoke of the accounts pointing out that they have grown – following the development of the Journal income and expenditure have increased, Financially speaking, the association made a step forward, and became bigger.
- There has been some profit in both years (2006 and 2007). There was less profit in 2007 due mainly to the development of the website and the need for the journal editors to meet in a year when there was not a conference.
- We received a donation from the Counselling Unit at Strathclyde University (from the sale of the DVD celebrating Dave Mearns' retirement). This is for the Bursary Fund which offers bursaries to PCE. This year it allowed us to create a Bursary Fund which funded 12 people from all over the world to PCE 2008. There is still some money left in the fund
- There is not a very large amount of money in the accounts, but the situation is good financially.

#### **6. Auditors Report**

The auditors were Henk Hanekamp (Netherlands) and Richard Baughan (England).

The meeting accepted the auditors.

The auditors confirmed that the accounts were found to be well kept and correct.

The accounts were unanimously accepted by the meeting.

#### **7. Financial Projection for the Next Two Years**

Jean-Marc presented the budget, pointing out that there will probably be an increase in expenditure for the coming year regarding administration, web site development and journal editorial and production costs.

#### **8. Proposal: membership dues**

The Board proposed that membership dues can be raised by a maximum of 20% in the next two years if the financial situation of the WAPCEPC requires this.

A question was asked concerning what would happen if the membership dues were not increased. Jean-Marc responded that developments, such as the website, could not continue.

The proposal was unanimously accepted.

#### **9. Donor Fund**

Information was given on the donor fund. The fund offers a free membership for two years to support colleagues who would like to join the community of the World Association but who are not able to afford the membership dues. Colleagues and students from Africa, Asia, Central and South America and from

Eastern Europe are encouraged to apply. Further Information about the fund is available at [www.pce-world.org](http://www.pce-world.org). Donations are always welcome and needed.

#### **10.Proposal: Procedure for the formation of Regional Chapters: amendment to Bylaws V**

Elke explained the background of the proposal and discussion followed concerning some of the wording. A suggestion was also made that members in a region should be consulted regarding the formation of a chapter.

The following amendments were proposed and accepted (changes in italics):

- Point 2: A regional Chapter can be *normally* formed by a minimum of 10 organizational members.
- Point 11: *The board will consult with organisational and individual members in the region.*

The proposal was unanimously accepted.

#### **11.Election Results**

Allan Turner, Chair of the Election Committee, reported that all candidates had been elected. He commented that organisational votes need to be more proactive in the future as not many voted.

#### **12.Presentation of New Board**

The new board was presented

Michael Behr, Jef Cornelius-White, Susan Cornforth, Magda Draskoczy, Beth Freire, Sheila Haugh, Martin Lange, Jean-Marc Randin and Yukishige Nakata.

#### **13.PCE Conference 2010: update in plans**

Alberto Zucconi gave an update in the plans for the next PCE. The theme of the conference will be *Empowerment: the politics of the helping relationship across cultures*. It will be held in Venice, Italy, June 30<sup>th</sup>-July 4<sup>th</sup> 2010. It is being organised by IACP and ACP-Italia. Contact email addresses are [giovannellanasta@alice.it](mailto:giovannellanasta@alice.it) (Giovannella Stropeni Nasta) and [drmbucci@libero.it](mailto:drmbucci@libero.it) (Mariangela Bucci).

#### **14.Proposal: PCE Conference 2012**

VVCEPC (Belgium) have offered to host the 2012 conference. It is planned to be organised by the Flemish Society for Client Centered and Experiential Psychotherapy and Counseling. The location will be Leuven or Antwerp in early July 2012.

It was unanimously agreed by the meeting that the board could continue negotiations with them for the conference.

Ioulios Lossifides expressed an interest in hosting the conference in Greece in 2014. Members were reminded that guidelines for hosting the conference can be found on the website.

#### **15.Announcement of Research Task Force – Mick Cooper**

Mick Cooper, as Convenor, announced the formation of a WAPCEPC Task Force to bring together research specialists in the person-centred/experiential field to review the evidence practice for PC/E practice, to disseminate the results of this investigation and also to identify key areas in which the evidence base for PC/E practice needs to be developed. It is intended that the Task Force will be able to disseminate the results of the enquiry by July 2010 (for PCE 2010). A meeting was scheduled to be held during the Norwich conference. Those unable to attend the meeting were invited to contact Mick on [mick.cooper@strath.ac.uk](mailto:mick.cooper@strath.ac.uk).

## **16. Any Other Business**

- Australian members reported that there will be a PCE strand at the World Psychotherapy Congress being held in Australia in 2011.
- It was suggested by Alberto Zucconi that it might be a nice idea to have a portfolio of good news on the website.
- A member proposed thanks to Elke for her time as Chair on the Board. Flowers were presented to Elke, Claudio and Naoko, all outgoing members of the board
- The Next GA will take place in Venice at the PCE conference 2010.

### **Note:**

Following the GA, and in accordance with the Statutes and Bylaws, the office bearers of the WAPCEPC were appointed as follows:

Chair	Jef Cornelius-White
Secretary	Sheila Haugh
Treasurer	Jean-Marc Randin