

**Minutes of the BOT meeting
August 15 – 19, 2015
Hotel Armação, Porto de Galinhas, Recife
Present:**

Garry Cockburn, Michael Brennan, John Conger, James Elniski, Ana Lúcia Faria, Rosaria Filoni, Patrizia Moselli, Cristina Piauhy, Eulina Ribeiro, Claudia Ucros, Josette Van Luytelaar (from August 18th on)

Also present: Pilar Llobregat, (Administrator)

Beginning Saturday, August 15th, 9:30 a.m.

1. Opening of meeting and check in

The president welcomes the members, the schedule is decided (see below), a facilitator and a time-keeper are chosen and the members proceed to check in.

Due to the special characteristics of the meeting (partly concomitant with the 23 International Conference and a Faculty meeting) decisions are taken about the:

Agenda and procedures.

Saturday – full BOT meeting all day
Sunday - morning committees; afternoon either committees or full BOT
Monday - either committee meetings or BOT
Tuesday full day BOT
Wednesday morning BOT meeting

A time schedule is established for each day.

2. Committee reports

2.1 Journal. Translations

The next Journal will be translated into Italian and the following (2017) into Spanish or French depending on where the conference takes place. Proposal approved unanimously.

A proposal is put forward to organize an event to present the Italian journal in a one day conference with an international trainer, to give publicity to BA.

The Italian translation will cost €11 a page. We have to find out if it is cheaper to print and send from Italy or not.

2.2 Reader. Translations

The Spanish translation is cheaper in Argentina than in Spain. They are trying to raise funds.

Patrizia proposes IIBA funds the translation with €1.500 in every language, same as it was done in Italy.

Garry. Increasing this amount could be discussed when the problem arises.

Proposal approved unanimously with one abstention.

2.3 Website. Publications and Research

There is a discussion on making the IIBA Journals available to members on the website. This will be explored. The first 12 numbers of the Journal and number 18(not in paper any more) can be treated the way we decide. Issue of cost of articles, or, for example, making one article free to members, will need further discussion.

A vote of thanks is unanimously approved for the substantial work that Rosaria Filoni completed in providing a full index of all the articles published in the IIBA Journal for the past 30 years. This index is available on the IIBA website.

Proposal that a system for confidential group “chat rooms” be established on the IIBA website (for example Faculty, or the BOT).

There is a discussion about the difficulties with the conference registration especially with two registration sites and not having a common system of payments, such as Paypal. The webmaster made some recommendations in terms of future conferences in Brazil, e.g. that there should be a separate conference website established and administered in Brazil.

2.4 Teaching. John’s retirement and his replacement

John Conger explains why he wants to resign from both positions: as Faculty representative in the BOT and as Chair of the TC. People ask him to stay in the BOT at least, but finally his resignation is accepted and approved. At the end of the BOT meeting, members of the BOT expressed their deep appreciation of John’s contribution to the BOT, for his insight and wisdom.

John Conger proposes that Patrizia be elected as Chair of the TC and Patrizia explains her reasons for wanting to chair the TC. She is elected unanimously as Chair of the TC until the next IIBA elections, due in the fall of 2016. Diana Guest is appointed as Faculty representative, on the recommendation of the Faculty, on an interim basis for the remainder of the current term of the present BOT, until December 2016.

The BOT agrees to make a recommendation to the Teaching Committee aimed at achieving a broader focus, reviewing their way of functioning regarding teaching matters and creating a formal subcommittee for the PDW.

After the Joint Faculty/BOT meeting, Patrizia decides to resign from the position of Chair of the TC, and her resignation is formally accepted by the Board. Diana Guest is then duly elected as Chair of the TC. Diana’s role as both Faculty rep. and as Chair of the TC are effective from 19 August 2015, at the end of the current BOT meeting.

2.5 Conference 2017

Possibilities offered: Toronto, Chicago and Dallas.

Toronto is winning as long as an event organizer is hired; the local society is really motivated in hosting. Dallas would be interesting because of its proximity to a large Spanish speaking community. Dallas society is also active.

Note: During the course of this Conference, further discussions among NANZIBA members lead to a decision to hold the next IIBA Conference in Toronto, Canada, probably in May 2017. Scott Baum has agreed to chair the Scientific Committee for the Conference.

Procedures. Claudia proposes a system for evaluating options: consider how they affect different interest groups: IIBA/regions/local societies/faculty/MAL/local trainers/associate members/CBT/ Students/ non IIBA professionals/clients/other clinical professional associations.

2.6 Conference 2015. Organization and outcome

As chair of the SC Eulina states that the registration process was very difficult. A number of Brazilians could not register without problems. This created a situation where the people paid to do the job (webmaster and administrator) have to be thanked since the rest of the executive committee were volunteers.

A revision has to be made in order to see what worked and what did not work. This is also a matter to be addressed by the Communication Committee.

3. Finances

3.1 Investment Fund

The administrator informs that the process of investment started with Tressys has not been completed because problems related to the legal representation of IIBA have arisen and presents a document that would grant her powers to act.

A decision is taken that legal advice has to be obtained about this document before it is signed: on the one side on IIBA's account and on the other side on the administrator's.

3.2 Strategic investments

This is not the right time to do it. We need data from the financial outcome of the conference.

But we can already formally approve the money allocation for the Youth Awards. About the Youth Awards : there is already a procedure proposed by Rosaria and Patrizia.

BOT recommends that the document is sent to the Faculty via the BOT.

The Jury could be composed of one Faculty member, one BOT member and an external assessor influential in the field.

Some sort of filter has to be devised first, so the Jury is not overwhelmed by too many applications.

The applications should be in English.

A proposal from Patrizia: set an amount, and a number of awards.

A proposal is to announce this as a Pilot Project that will be evaluated after the first year.

The BOT will give only 2 awards per conference (which means every 2 years) : one for clinical work and another for research work.

Nominees could have the conference fee waived.

4. Review of Strategic Plan

Not dealt with. The review of the Strategic Plan will need to include the work of the three committees (communication, research and social application of BA), plus the feedback from the Membership Meeting at the conference.

5. Regional Structures

5.1 and 5.2 Updates and Relationships between societies and regions

Latin America. Of the societies related with Liane Zink, only the LUMEN institute has not decided yet whether they want to join FLAAB. This means that all Latin American societies, except LUMEN, belong now to FLAAB. The conference helps bringing the Societies together. FLAAB makes money with events and research activities on top of the societies fees.

Patrizia asks how the fees work in the other regions. 10 US\$ per member in Nanziba, 250 R\$ per Society, monthly, in FLAAB, 20 € per member in EFBAP.

Italy. There are 3 societies, and they work together in the Federation of Body Psychotherapy in Italy. There is a new training program in Milano with 20 students, but there is no new training group in Rome, whereas they used to have a new training group each year in Rome.

They have a three year training program for psychotherapists licensed already in another modality. It is sold as a 2 year program, so they can accept to engage in the training.

A conference is also organized. They use a model started in Whistler BC, Canada, by Jim Miller. The students don't pay a fee -only accommodation- since it is part of their training. There is a motivation for CBTs to attend because it is viewed as Continuing Education and allows them to progress in the society, becoming supervisors or teachers.

EFBA-P. Good news : A new Society in Poland became a member of EFBA-P. It is dynamic and they have proposed their country as a site for the next IIBA conference in Europe.

Three persons in the EFBA-P started a movement to have local trainers do something about their Continuing Education.
There is a good training group in Belgium with a new curriculum.

Bad news :

Too few trainees in Holland to start a new training for 3 years now, and it is difficult to collaborate with the neighbour societies (French and German). Hollanders are more English oriented.
EfBA-P has little money and active human forces and regrets that no agreement is found with Italian societies. Those are afraid to lose members if they ask the EFBA-P membership. The fee is 20 € per member.

Other European Matters

Konnie's training in Germany is already advertised as IIBA training. Garry will talk with Konnie and see where things are at. (Note: Garry spoke with Konnie, and was advised that Konnie and NIBA are now cooperating to promote BA training in Koln).

Nanziba. Fall Bioenergetics Conference in the fall of 2014, hosted by Massachusetts and New York City. In some way it was like a Regional Conference. The organizers felt uncomfortable to have it labeled as a "Nanziba conference". They are on the process to see what benefits people and societies derive from belonging to Nanziba.

A retreat was organized, and Jim is sought to finance it with the 15% rebate on dues. As a result, 9 out of 14 societies joined to further this process, as well as a number of MAL.

The mission statement which came out is to be an effective information system for transmitting and receiving communication among the members.

What is IIBA doing to support the regions ? The region can propose to the societies to make use of this 15 % rebate on dues ... for a regional project.

Garry says : Jim has done a huge job to center the Nanziba societies on a regional focus.

Mike : how can NZ society participate in the region because of the physical distance? Many members of Nanziba are active, and made a commitment to come to Porto de Galhinas to meet NANZIBA members.

5.3 Relationships with non IIBA groups

Florida Society. It is more of a Nanziba issue how to develop bridges between its regional structure and Florida society. Maybe with the help of Laurie Ure who is now recognized as a trainer in Nanziba and works also with the Florida Society.

UIA Associations Round Table

Discussion about what is the point in the administrator going there.

To clarify the rationale it is important: this is not a direct need for IIBA, but if she really wants to attend, it is an incentive and it gives her support in her work with us as a nonprofit organization.

In the case she goes, the BOT wants her to give it a short report of what could be interesting that IIBA knows.

6. By-laws and Ethics Committees

6.1 Revision

The **By-laws** should be reviewed.

There is no executive committee any more.

There exist two contradictory laws in our by-laws :

One is restrictive, and it should be interpreted in a restricted way.

The other one is permissive, and it should be considered in a generous way.

In some situations these two laws conflict.

Some Faculty members have some expertise and the BOT would like to invite them to help with the revision.

The idea is to clarify how these 2 laws can be articulated and become more collaborative.

Ethics. Garry states that the Ethics committee should be reestablished. Problems that can arise and how to think this out. We must give it real consideration. . (Note: The Faculty are also re-establishing an Ethics Committee and procedures in relation to ethical practice by Faculty members. The BOT should liaise with this Faculty Committee so that these processes are coherent).

7. Committee meetings

7.1 Research.

The work of the committee is based on the answers to the following questions:

1. Why could IIBA be interested in sponsoring research?
2. What can we define as research in BA?
3. What can IIBA do about it?

It is fully developed in annex 1

7.2 Communication

7.3 Promoting Initiatives/Social Applications

Mission Statement/Purpose for Existence:

- 1) To identify disadvantaged or minority population and investigate ways to access and help them with Bioenergetic psychotherapeutic interventions.
 - 2) To provide multiple Bioenergetic responses/interventions to re-establish the life/vitality of the individual.
- It is fully developed in annex 2

8. Joint Faculty meeting

The BOT met with the Faculty Committee and there was agreement that the agenda should cover:

1. Expenses for Faculty meetings
2. 15% rebate of the Faculty dues The BOT decisions about the Faculty representative and the Chair of the Teaching Committee
3. BOT Committee Reports to Faculty
4. Need for Revision of By-laws and Ethics Committee

Discussions and Decisions

1. Faculty Expenses:

There was unanimous agreement that the IIBA should pay the expenses for Faculty Meetings: expenses for meeting room and coffee breaks (morning + afternoon) are covered by the IIBA.

2. 15% rebate of Faculty dues:

The BOT's position was that as 15% rebate of Faculty fees has already been used by societies, we cannot allocate this money for Faculty projects. A similar rationale exists for MAL. The BOT also advised that if the Faculty have a project that needs funding, it would receive favorable consideration.

There was strong disagreement by some Faculty to this position as they regard the Faculty as a separate Region.

However the BOT's position was agreed to and if the Faculty want funds for projects, they will need to write a proposal and present it to the BOT for approval. Several Faculty members saw that it may be more financially advantageous than the 15% refund. The Faculty would want the BOT to have a quick and efficient way of evaluating and approving Faculty projects.

3. Chair of the Teaching Committee:

There was robust discussion about the BOT's appointment of Patrizia Moselli to the chair of this committee. There was clarification that it was the Faculty's role to nominate one of their members to the BOT, but it was the BOT's role to appoint the chair of the TC from among the Faculty members who sit on the BOT.

Patrizia, being aware that there's a conflict between the BOT decision and that of the Faculty, decides to resign for the good of the whole organization.

(Note: At the BOT meeting the following day, Patrizia's resignation was duly accepted, and Diana Guest was elected as the chair of the Teaching Committee)

4. BOT Committee Reports to Faculty

Communication.

A private area of communication between groups on the website should be created. How to develop the habit in membership to use the website. We have to bear in mind younger generations to help them in, they are the future.

Research

Rebeca Berger and Regina Axt want to join

Scott . We must be careful not to confound research and advocacy (proving that we have a good product). Research is about increasing in knowledge.

Jörg. Include the research already done, not to lose all that energy. Differs from Scott in that advocacy is needed (fight the insurance companies...)

Social applications

Louise. Lots of initiatives. Hearing about them would stimulate others.

Liane. Her society has lots of experiences and someone from her society would like to be there.

Grace. We cannot copy what we do in our practice, it is something different. Her society will also cooperate in this venture.

Konrad. Talks about the experience with companies where the health problems were reduced 38%

Scott. Reminder that people with borderline personality structures and psychosis are also in need of the social application of BA.

5. Ethics

The Faculty advised that Anat Gihon and Rebeca Lea Berger were reviewing the Ethics procedures in respect of Faculty members.

The President advised that there was also a need to update the procedures for all members as there had been recent enquiries to the website as to how to make ethical complaints about members of the IIBA.

It would therefore be advisable if there were coordination between people who were working on the Faculty ethical procedures and people who were working on the IIBA ethical procedures.

The Faculty acknowledged that there should be work done on updating the By-Laws, and they suggested that people like Alex Munroe should be invited to be part of this process as he had helped formulate the original By-Laws.

This was readily agreed to by the BOT.

9. Membership meeting

Content:

- Project priorities
- Initiatives: Communication/research/social applications and their rationale
- Format:
 - Introduction in context of updating strategic plan to further development
 - Overall input
 - Groups question - answer; 1 key question for each area
 - Small groups feedback to everyone

10. Next BOT meeting

The proposals presented to celebrate the meeting in Barcelona are discarded on the grounds that it would be expensive and the present meeting has been quite expensive too. Consequently, we will stick to Lisbon and the dates will be March 9-13.

Ending August 19, 2015.

Barcelona, September 16, 2015

Scribe: Pilar Llobregat

Annex

1. Research committee report
2. Social applications committee report