



The  
International  
Balint  
Federation

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**General Secretary**

Dr Paul Sackin (UK)

[paulsackin@waitrose.com](mailto:paulsackin@waitrose.com)

[balintinternational.com](http://balintinternational.com)

**MINUTES OF THE IBF COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BEST WESTERN POLECZKI HOTEL,  
WARSAW, POLAND ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH 2016 AT 13.30**

**PRESENT**

**AIPB**

Jean-Pierre Bachmann

**AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND**

Alexa Gilbert-Orbrart

**BELGIUM**

Michel Delbrouck

Jean Flechet

Christian Linclau

Michele Parea

**DENMARK**

Tove Mathiesen

**FINLAND**

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**FRANCE**

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**ISRAEL**

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Andre Matalon

**ITALY**

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**POLAND**

Boguslaw Stelcer

Bohdan Wasilewski

**PORTUGAL**

Jorge Brandao

Iwona Tomczak

**SERBIA**

Rosa Sapic

Mirjana Stojanovic-Tasic

Mara Vucurevic

**UNITED KINGDOM**

Jane Dammers

Andrew Elder

Esti Rimmer

Paul Sackin

David Watt

**UNITED STATES**

Albert Lichtenstein

Don Nease

Mary Wassink

1. **Welcome** Don welcomed everyone to the meeting. Moving tributes were paid to Marieke van Schie who sadly died earlier this year.
2. **Apologies** None
3. **Minutes of the Council meeting in Salzburg 14<sup>th</sup> May 2016** These were agreed to be an accurate record
4. **Matters of information not otherwise on the agenda** None
5. **Treasurer's report** Mark presented a revised budget for 2016. The proposed deficit had been agreed in Salzburg. Mark wished to take the opportunity of thanking Michel Delbrouck personally for his speed in handing over the necessary documents. Mark also wished to thank Pia Soderberg for all her help, way beyond her work as auditor, in liaising with Swedish banks and authorities. The meeting thanked Mark with acclaim for his excellent work as Treasurer.
6. **Reports from national societies – proposed new template.** The new template was presented and a few minor changes suggested. It was agreed that Paul would send it out before the end of the year.  
**ACTION PAUL**
7. **Task force** Andrew gave his final report as task force convenor. He reported that 59 people from 19 countries had attended the leadership conference. He wished to thank Bohdan and Mark for all their work with organising the conference. The leadership internet network is open to all IBF members and moderated by Tove and Albert. They will send out an invitation for new members to join and there will be a link to it from the IBF website. Andrew welcomed Esti as a new member of the task force. The task force will meet next in January 2017 in London. All thanked Andrew for his wonderful work as task force convenor.
8. **IBF Guidelines for leader accreditation** These were discussed in Salzburg and will shortly appear on the website.
9. **Council meeting Belgrade, May 19-21 2017** Rosa Sapic outlined the programme and gave us a presentation of all that Belgrade can offer. Henry Jablonski will give the keynote lecture. The conference will be at the Palace Hotel. Registration will open soon.
10. **International Congress Oxford UK 6-10 September 2017** David Watt gave us all an update, presenting the outline programme and the Call for Papers that went out last month. It was suggested that for posters, abstracts would be better than full texts. Registration will be through the UK website. Through Paypal, credit card payment will be possible. Thanks to financial support from the UK Society (because of a substantial profit on the 1998 Congress), many more bursaries than usual will be offered. **ACTION PAUL**
11. **Leadership conference, second half of 2018** Jean-Daniel and Isabelle confirmed their proposal to hold this conference in Metz, France. Tove confirmed that the content would be decided by the Task

Force. It was agreed that the deadline for further proposals would be one month from now and that a decision could be made by email. **ACTION PAUL**

- 12. International Congress 2019** There were no other proposals, so Council was delighted to accept the bid from the Portuguese Society to hold the Congress in September 2019 in Porto.
- 13. Website** This is now much further developed and Don demonstrated the various sections. National societies will have a password for members to log on initially to the members only section; they can then choose their own password. The issue of what to do when members leave their national society was discussed. Don was warmly thanked for the huge amount of work he has put into the website.
- 14. Liaison with non-member countries** Links have been made for example with Portugal and Brazil, how can the IBF support other such links? Bohdan suggests a board member responsible for such developments and can act as mentor. Would be helpful to list benefits of membership on the IBF website. Andre has suggested connect to Spain, Balint groups in Barcelona at least, Jorge also trying. Knowing how much work some societies are doing in this area Don proposes that we add to the report from national societies template, 'are you helping other countries to form societies and what help do you need from the Board'?
- 15. WONCA Rio 2016** Several proposals for Balint workshops/papers were turned down – only posters offered. Alice Polomeni had, however, had her proposal accepted. A Brazilian group will also be running a Balint workshop. The Board is happy to co-ordinate and support applicants for Balint proposals for future WONCA meetings.
- 16. Ascona** The jury system was explained (two Ascona members and two IBF members) and we were delighted to welcome Jean-Pierre Bachmann as the second IBF member in addition to Don. It was confirmed that Ascona pays the prize money, the Congress host country arranges and pays for attendance at the relevant Congress for the three prize-winners and Ascona and IBF share the cost of travel reimbursement for the prize-winners.
- 17. Publications exchange between member countries** This item came from the French Society. Jean-Daniel explained that it would be good to share papers such as that to be published by Philippe Guillou, showing that students attending Balint groups did not demonstrate the decline in empathy that other students did. Don mentioned papers from the recent American national meeting that would also be good to share. The link to the section of Balint papers on Mendeley is on the IBF website. The Board is considering appointing a group to manage these issues. **ACTION BOARD**
- 18. Next Council meeting** Belgrade, May 20<sup>th</sup> 2017