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**MINUTES OF THE IBF COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE PALAC HOTEL, BELGRADE, ON
SATURDAY 20TH MAY 2017 AT 14.00**

PRESENT

BELGIUM

Luc Declaire
Jean Flechet
Michele Parea

FINLAND

Martina Torppa

FRANCE

Jean-Daniel Gradeler
Isabelle Martinot Nouet

GERMANY

Norbert Guenzl

HUNGARY

Katalin Dobo
Monika Herke

ISRAEL

Mark Budow

ITALY

Anna Della Casa
Federica Menaldo

POLAND

Bohdan Wasilewski

PORTUGAL

Fatima Baptista
Jorge Brandao

RUSSIA

Anzhela Avagimian

SERBIA

Rosa Sagic

UNITED KINGDOM

Paul Sackin
David Watt

UNITED STATES

Albert Lichtenstein
Don Nease

1. **Welcome** Don welcomed everybody to the meeting
2. **Apologies** Romania and St. Petersburg
3. **Minutes of the Council Meeting in Warsaw on September 18th 2016** These were agreed to be correct apart from Paragraph 17 where Philippe Guillou should be Philippe Jaury
4. **Matters of information not otherwise on the agenda** i WONCA Rio was successful with a workshop including 5 Balint groups. Jorge and Alice will be facilitating a workshop in Brazil to discuss leadership and it is hoped this will lead to the formation of a Brazilian Society. Grant from Brazilian Society of Family Medicine to pay for travel for the facilitators. ii Congratulations to Armenia which has formed a Society and the Board is considering IBF membership.
5. **Treasurer's report – accounts 2016** Mark presented the 2016 accounts showing a loss of 943 Euros for the year, essentially as planned. Mark explained that the profit of about 1200 Euros on Warsaw was included. Bohdan wished to thank Mark for all his work on the Warsaw meeting
6. **Auditors' report** Paul read the following written report from the auditors. 'In our function as revisers appointed by the IBF to check the accountancy of the Federation managed by the Treasurer and the Board as a whole, we give the following report: We have checked the financial records and verifications of the Federation. We found everything in good order and well conscientiously managed. We approve of the management and recommend the Council to approve the accounts for the period January 1st to December 31st in Year 2016 and approve of the economic management of IBF affairs by the Board by granting the Board members discharge of responsibility for this period. Signed on 11th April 2017 in Colbert and Stockholm by Janet Walker and Pia Soderberg.' Council approved the report and proposed grateful thanks to Janet and Pia.
7. **Budget 2017** Mark explained that membership fees were less than in 2016 because Croatia had not paid and was out of contact. A loss of about 2000 Euros was predicted, as planned for. Mark again appealed to Societies to make clear when they pay which Society the money comes from, as several Societies have bank accounts in different countries from their own. The budget was approved. Ideas to promote Balint work worldwide are always welcome.
8. **Board members and auditors 2017-19** The re-election of the Board and of Janet Walker as auditor was approved. Jean-Daniel Gradeler was approved as auditor in succession to Pia Soderberg. All these appointments are from September 2017 for two years. It was agreed that Jean-Daniel is authorised for 'Tittar behorighet', allowing him access to our account at Nordea without authorization to make financial transactions. Pia has agreed to continue as liaison with the Swedish banks and authorities and the Council authorises her to submit documents to the Nordea bank.
9. **Reports from National Societies** Michele presented her summary of the reports received. She pointed out what good work was being done. The summary will be posted on the website. It is not too late for Societies to send in their reports and please do send Paul details of your national events for inclusion on the IBF website. Bohdan made a plea for Ukraine to join the IBF. Don explained that

no application had been received but the Board would be happy to consider an application at any time. Thanks to Michele for her work.

- 10. Conference Belgrade.** Thanks to Rosa and her colleagues for a very successful conference. Rosa explained that the process of planning and running the conference had helped their Society too.
- 11. International Congress Oxford, UK, September 6-10 2017.** a) Report on progress. David reported that there were 115 registrations so far but there were plenty more places, even some double rooms still available. The psychodrama group is full. So far only two people have applied for the French speaking group. The Council thanked the organisers for all their work so far b) Bursaries. There were 24 applications for bursaries and yesterday the Board chose the 12 winners
- 12. Council meeting first half of 2018** Bids were received from Romania and France. The Romanian proposal was shown and Jean-Daniel spoke to the French one. All voted for the French proposal apart from three abstentions. The dates are May 25-27 2018. Paul will contact Albert to say that the reason we went for France was because of the difficulty of access for the Romanian venue. However we hope that some IBF members will come to the 25th anniversary conference anyway. **Action Paul**
- 13. Leadership Conference second half of 2018.** To be held in Helsinki at the Sofia Hotel. Martina announced the dates as 28-30 September.
- 14. International Congress 2019.** This will be in Porto, Portugal. Jorge will make a presentation at Oxford. The theme may be around Balint work seeing medical practice with other eyes.
- 15. Foundation for Social and Psychosomatic Medicine (Ascona)** Don reported that there were 49 entries for the essay prize with 3 readers for each. The jury has made its final choice- winners from US, Australia and Israel. The book of best essays is being published by a publishing house; IBF would contribute 50% of the cost, 2250 Euros. The Foundation hopes the prize and book will promote relationship centred medicine. The Introduction will mention IBF and Balint. The Board endorsed the publication and funding, with notification of the Council. Future funding will be a year by year decision.
- 16. Maintaining the Balint literature repository** Martina will work on it and others are welcome to join her. A representative from each Society would be ideal. We wish to promote it, add new items and create categories for ease of searching. Perhaps launch updated repository in Oxford. Note that this is for any Balint-related papers, not just scientific research. Martina is happy to receive papers for inclusion. It was suggested that non-English articles have an abstract in English. **Action all.**
- 17. Next meeting is General Assembly** Oxford, UK, Saturday 9th September 2017 at 13.30



The
International
Balint
Federation