

IASWG Board Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2024 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM Eastern Standard Time (US and Canada)

PRESENT: Donna Guy, Barbara Muskat, Hilda Baar, Donna McLaughlin, Lorrie G. Gardella, Ginette Berteau, Emily Santonocito, Jen Currin-McCulloch, Reineth Prinsloo, Carol Cohen, Erin Nau, Shirley Simon, Kristina Lind, Diana Coholic, Mamadou M. Seck, Kyle McGee, Alexis Howard, Karla Herrera, Greg Tully, Stephanie Baird, Robert Martinez, Linda Ducca, Samuel R. Benbow, H el ene Fillion Onserud, Shelita Birchett Benash, Ann Bergart, Ser a Godfrey-Kaplan and Angel Doetzel

Welcome - Barb acknowledged the state of the world and reminder that group work can help us feel more connected and supported. This will be Barb's last board meeting as president. Barb emphasized that we are an international organization and must plan how we stay connected across geography. We have made great progress in the last few years in the following areas: language equity, mutual aid groups, local events, SPARC projects, climate action group; while also experiencing the losses of Andy, Alex, and Charles.

Budget Overview - Emily and Donna shared the financial details of 2024.

- View [Organizational Budget](#) & [2024 Symposium Budget](#)
- Future Considerations: Increasing social media presence to increase membership and engagement; student initiatives, how we want to use and spend our money - what to do with the endowment; also need to find Emily's replacement; need skill sets for new board members

Symposium Updates - The symposium was the main focus of the meeting, with discussions about the speakers, the program, and the logistics. The symposium is being held in Madrid, Spain, and is expected to attract around 200 attendees. Kristina and Erin discussed the importance of engaging with students and various activities for students. Shelta encouraged using social media—she created a guide to share with attendees—for promoting the symposium, engaging with attendees, and sharing experiences on social media using the hashtag #IASWGMadrid2024.. There was also a discussion about the cultural aspects of the symposium, with presentations from students on cultural topics. The commission is also wanting to connect with doctoral students. There is consideration of a doctoral dissertation award in the future.

Committee Reports

SPARC: Carol explained the [three proposals](#) recommended by the review committee. After discussion and review, the three proposals were approved by the Board.

Chapter Development: The status of chapters update was led by Ser a and Shirley, who have been working on a document to clarify the roles and responsibilities of chapters. They also mentioned that they will be meeting with chapter chairs after the symposium to further discuss these matters.

Nominations and Elections: Kyle thanked the board for their time and expressed that they are still in the process of searching for potential board members. Kyle and Alexis encouraged the board to identify potential candidates and reach out to them.

Social Work with Groups Journal: Diana is in the process of developing a call for proposals for a special issue dedicated to Andy, Alex, and Charles. She is also looking for more reviewers and also more submissions.

Other Journal Updates:

- Carol Cohen then spoke about *Group Work and Social Work with Groups* journals. She mentioned that they were looking for editors.
- Shirley Simon discussed the need for book reviews for the *Journal of Group Work*. She invited anyone interested in reviewing a book or knowing someone who could write a book review to contact her.

Student Initiatives: Kristina shared that there will be a follow up meeting for students who attend the symposium on Tuesday, July 2nd from 12pm to 12pm EDT. It will be an opportunity for students to process the symposium, share their learning, and encourage them to stay involved in the organization.

Closing: Barb thanked the group for their continued work in keeping group work alive and thriving. She looks forward to seeing many of the group in Madrid. She also encouraged those who are not attending in-person to register to join virtually.

Time was also dedicated in the meeting for testing the Zoom AI captions translations.