

May 18, 2008 Board Meeting  
AAGT Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was started without the benefit of our usually fantastic secretary, Ann Bowman, who could not be present as she is celebrating with her daughter the win of the high school rugby championship for the state of Indiana. Hooray for Whitney, captain of the team! Also absent and sending apologies were Peter Cole (attending to his daughter's high school graduation issues, and Silvie.

Present were: Dan Bloom, Peter Philippson, Ansel Woldt, Sarah Fallon, Brian O'Neill, Bud Feder, Robert DeVos, and myself, Philp Brownell (standing in for Ann, by taking notes).

We started with a check-in. It was brief. Lots of good weather in various parts of the world.

1. Conference Report–

Publicity:

This is my own concern/suggestion and I haven't checked it with Tali yet (it's a late report this month).

I have noticed that various announcements and requests are being sent out to some discussion lists. I'm thinking about the efficacy of that as a communication channel. The conference is fully booked. And, although there are many Brits, there seem to be many who are not GPTI members (a qualification for membership of the UK discussion list). I think a better way of communicating at this stage would be for the Publicity committee to have the delegates list from Silvie, and for them to make all announcements via that. This would ensure that we are catching all those with whom we want, and need, to communicate. Examples such as bringing an instrument for an impro evening, bringing items for the auction, explaining some procedures in advance. It's important that all the right people get this info. If this would be possible for the Publicity Committee to do, then I think it would be a much more effective way of ensuring we have reached our target audience. And that we get enough auction items, instruments, co-operation where needed etc.

PPC:

"This month the PPC has decided on which new presentations to add to the program, to make use of the extra room being provided. We've also taken care of another lost proposal. Thanks to Susan Gregory and the peer reviewers for their work on that. Mae and Phil have been trying to contact presenters who are late in their conference registrations, to prompt them to register. Thanks to Silvie for keeping us updated on the bookings, and to her and Sharon for their hard work on the registrations.

Among the next tasks for the PPC will be deciding which presentations go into which rooms at which times. Mae and Phil will make a suggestion to the PPC and facilitate that discussion, and then Phil will update the web site to show the final program, along with presenter bios.

Sarah, as conference convenor, has accepted our offer to moderate the panel on the AAGT-EAGT." (Mae and Phil)

Scholarship:

A call for items for the auction was sent to the UK list in April. I couldn't find the same on the Members archives. Perhaps we could send out something via the delegates list, if we go ahead with that, above.

"A total of \$12,300 USD [ 6319 GBP, 7951 EUR] has been collected and allocated to 13 applicants. An additional \$700 USD is anticipated through the auction and sales at the conference and have also been allocated. One recipient may be forced to refuse the grant due to visa problems, in which case we will need to decide what to do with that grant [\$2200 USD] "  
(Bud)

CPC:

Paid help:

We are looking to employ two paid helpers during the conference: one for 40 hours and one for 60 hours. Thanks to Peter C for agreeing the funding for this. Sarah will investigate using trainees for these posts.

Work Study:

Nancy has been sharing her experience with Janice. Thanks, Nancy - keep it coming!

Paperwork/feedback mechanisms:

We are looking at the most effective methods of getting feedback from delegates: in terms of cost, respect for the environment and efficacy. Also the most efficient way of redesigning the forms. Once we've done this, Peter P has volunteered to send the final templates off for printing - thanks, Peter.

Hotel liaison:

Tali is currently checking some practicalities with the hotel re rooms, mics, equipment, admin help, internet connections etc. Thanks for this, Tali - it's taken something from me during a busy time and I very much appreciate your support.

CEUs:

Ansel is collecting CVs/Bios from Phil for CEU purposes. If you haven't done so already, please forward yours to Phil.

Process Groups:

There has been some (computer) trouble with Jack receiving emails of interest from volunteers to be process group leaders. At least this was the situation last month. Bud tells me another call will go out soon. Jack only has the names of 8 people so far. Bud, could you also ask for those who contacted Jack previously to do so again? I am worried that there were volunteers from last time who will have fallen through the net. Thanks.

## 2. Decision Making Task Force—

New life and a vibrant discussion has emerged from this Task Force following Dan's posting to the group recently. The group will have a proposal to go on the agenda. That lead to a discussion of the time limit agreed upon at the last annual meeting. It was discovered that the time limit was 90 days, and that we had already entered within that limit. Some discussion ensued about what to do about that, and it was agree that we would inform the membership that we had lost track of the timing, but that we still had a number of important issues to put before them. One of those will be reducing the limit of 90 days to that of 45 days. Announcements about agenda items will be going out within the week from Dan and others, and invitations from the membership to put generate agenda items of their own will be invited. Members should contact Silvie if they would like to add items to the agenda for discussion at the community meetings/annual meeting in Manchester. Five items will be on the agenda as it now stands: a. issues of consensus, b. issues related to decision making, c. expanding our communications capacities, d. reducing from 90 to 45 days for placing issues on the agenda, but making sure the membership has enough time to engage in discussion, e. location for the 2009 annual meeting

Post Script: Dan added in a subsequent email: "t seems to me that the bd has the authority to remedy this mistake by establishing a 45-day notice requirement for items to be placed on the agenda of this coming annual meeting, and which can then be voted upon. We would have to ask the annual meeting to ratify this. Then everything is okay. (This is called *nunc pro tunc, now for then*, and it is done all the time when there are mistakes like this.) How does this sound to everyone?"

### 3. Positions up for election in Manchester–

President-elect; Secretary; Treasurer; Organizational Members Representative. The RCP Representative will need to be selected from among the RCPs, and the Publications Director will need to be appointed.

### 4. Process Group Facilitators–

We are in critical need of Process Group Facilitators (PGFs) for Manchester. We currently have about 8, but we need 30. Brian observed that we may need to do some active recruiting and training because most of the attendees in Manchester are unfamiliar with our process groups.

Thus, we have a smaller pool of people who've been in an AAGT process group before and our usual PGFs come from these people. Also, Bud indicated that communication with he and Jack should go through Bud in order to maximize effective communication.

### 5. Annual Meeting for 2009–

There was some discussion about the venue for the 2009 annual meeting. Peter stressed the need to capitalize on the international momentum gained by meeting in Manchester and referred to developments within the UK that might lead to the creation of a UK AAGT region; he indicated he would bring a motion in Manchester that we meet in Madrid, in connection with the Latin gestalt conference there in 2009. Ansel brought up the financial hardship involved in doing that, and he and Dan expressed concern for the majority of our current membership, who would not have been able to attend Manchester and likely not also Madrid; Ansel suggested having the 2009 annual meeting in Philadelphia, at the site of the 2010 conference. He pointed out that that would also make conference planning for 2010 a great deal easier.

### 6. Next Board Conference Call–

The next conference call will be on June 22nd, usual times and usual procedures.

Submitted by Philip Brownell, for Ann Bowman.

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