

## **Board meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2008:**

### **Agenda items**

- Manchester Conference \*\*\* \* #  
DVDs and anything that is still to be left to be addressed--- Conference Evaluation, etc (Ansel)  
(Perhaps this will be the last time we will see this on the agenda! Good bye, Manchester 08!)

- Treasurer's report (Peter C)\*\*\* #

- RCP report (Brian)\*\*\*\*#

This includes a report from the SE-Regional, if possible (Michael? Ansel?)

- Communications Committee (Charlie)\*\*\*\*

Newsletter/general communications update and continued discussion of selling space to advertisers on our websites

- Interest groups: welcome to Michael!

- 2010 Conference (Cathy and Burt)\*\*\*

- AAGT and gestalt therapy literature—AAGT as publisher (Dan)\*\*

- Annual Meeting Coming Up in April

- Items for Madrid Annual Meeting Agenda

- By-law changes: correct notice of agenda items from 90 to lower number (45?) days

- Additional Meetings

Present: Peter P, Ansel, Robert, Burt, Dan, Sarah, Brian, Charlie, Maryanne.

Apologies: Bud, Michael, Cathy.

Manchester Conference:

Most people seem to have received their DVDs now – the delayed deliveries to the States and to Australia, having now arrived.

Sarah gave an update on our position in the negotiations with the DVD company. This *may* yet be an item on next month's agenda but, hopefully, not.

Ansel has received his parcel from Peter P, with the conference evaluations, and other conference material in it. We have 145 evaluations returned – this is a good response, going by previous years. From his reading so far, there has been a lot of positive feedback about the conference. He also said there was some critical feedback about some workshops.

Treasurer's Report:

Peter C estimates we have around \$11,400 in our US account..

He's not sure what's in the UK conference account – perhaps around \$15,000.

Peter C gave a report of a positive meeting with Adam, Karla Brown, and Kim in terms of establishing systems continuing to be in place following Silvie's leaving.

Kim has been looking into how we can take credit card transactions, and a method has been established whereby we can do this.

Discussion re our current financial position. We are running up more expenses than in the past – one reason for this is the increased conference-calling costs, due to our greater international membership. Nevertheless, we are currently still pretty healthy, due to conference profits and a larger paid membership. It is also usual for there to be higher administrative costs at this time of the year due to such things as the new directory and its mailing.

Peter C told us that he personally reimburses Karla, his assistant, for her AAGT work. The board expressed their appreciation and gratitude for this. Peter P requested we keep reviewing this, as a way of checking that Peter C doesn't end up feeling depleted by his generosity.

#### RCP Report:

Brian reported that the RCPs have got off to a great start. Brian has been busy with other necessary projects recently, and feels he has given the group less attention than he would have liked. He plans to write to the group again soon to stimulate a continuation of their former discussions. There will be another conference call for RCPs in November. SEPs could be an item on that agenda - how what can be offered can be sourced from the regions. Dan spoke about literature for the regions, and how this could help their development. Charlie thought this could link in with the communications committee work too. Robert and Brian agreed to send out a summary document of each of these issues (SEPs and literature) to the group. Dan suggested that RCPs could also reach out to the INGIG people. Brian and Robert will take this forward. People will generally reach out to people in the regions they have contact with - Brian in Australia, Dan in America and Peter P in Slovenia.

#### Communications Committee:

Charlie's energy has been going into putting the newsletter together. Also in devising a form that should help ease Marcy's workload for the same.

Discussion around what can be published in the newsletter – length and quantity of pieces etc.

Charlie would be interested in scanning all past editions of newsletters and conference programmes so we don't lose these important historical documents.

Dan said we needed to have something to bring to the regions, to the members, and to prospective members about what AAGT can offer them - why they should join AAGT. Dan is going to the SW Regional on Friday and will be looking for more members. He will be telling them what they can get from AAGT membership.

Maryanne, as a new member, said she was drawn to AAGT by a sense of an large international community and the resources it could provide.

#### Interest Groups:

INGIG would like to have more of a sense of how they fit in with the rest of AAGT. See RCP report for discussion of how we could help here – i.e. via the RCP network reaching out to them.

#### 2010 Conference:

Burt gave a report of the current conference planning issues – specifically questions around the venue (such as, city centre or a university campus out of town) within a wider awareness of the current economic situation.

The conference committees are being formed.

Peter C expressed his appreciation of the work that Burt and Cathy are doing.

AAGT and gestalt therapy literature—AAGT as publisher (Dan):

Dan raised the question that - as well as our translating publications from other languages into English, we might consider translating English publications into other languages. Is this realistic? It would support our interest in developing and advancing gestalt therapy, and raise our profile for doing the same. Brian suggested we could also support people to self-publish as long as there is something given back to AAGT. Ansel expressed caution at the scale of this task for a voluntary organisation. A small group of people will look at this. Brian and Dan acknowledged Ansel's caution and Dan stressed this was just a very tentative looking-into at this stage.

Items for Madrid Annual Meeting Agenda:

We need to publish agenda items to the membership in advance.

Charlie will put a call for agenda items in the newsletter.

By-law changes: correct the notice of agenda items from 90 to lower number (45) days.

This item was not specifically addressed.

Date of next meeting:

7<sup>th</sup> December 2008

Sarah Fallon  
AAGT Secretary.

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