

MINUTES OF THE ISSD EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Via conference call

October 14, 1998

MINUTES

- PRESENT: Marlene Hunter, MD, President  
Peter Barach, Ph.D., President Elect  
James Chu, MD, Past President  
Susan Oke, Bsc OT (C), Board Member  
Pamela Hall, PsyD, Board Member  
Joy Silberg, Ph.D., Board Member  
Kathy Steele, RN, MN, CS, Board Member  
Jeanie McIntee, International Board Member
- ABSENT: Richard Anderson, MD, Board Member  
Nancy Perry, Ph.D., Secretary/Treasurer  
Margo Rivera, Ph.D., Board Member
- STAFF: Richard Koepke, MSW, LSW, Executive Director  
Marc Anderson, Manager, Meetings and Expositions  
Julie Theander, Administrator
- CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Hunter called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. EDT.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On motion duly made and carried, the minutes of the August 24, 1998 conference call were approved.
- FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Koepke reported on the August 31, 1998 financial statement. Net assets are \$19,175 worse than at the beginning of the year. Payments to the Ridgeview Institute were made in September for the March and June 1997 issues of *Dissociation*, reducing the subscription liability by \$37,000. Membership invoices for 1999 are scheduled to be mailed next week.
- 1999 FALL CONFERENCE: Mr. Anderson reported that conference registration is around 100. Last week, a broadcast fax was completed to all ISSD members with fax numbers on record. The preliminary program was re-mailed to all members in the Western United States. There are three exhibitors and two sponsors, with two pending. Calls were made to the database of potential exhibitors/sponsors provided by AMC; the information was significantly outdated. Work is underway on the final binder. Mr. Koepke outlined a series of communications related to management of handouts and the requirements that workshop and scientific presentation speakers pay registration fees to attend the conference. Mr. Koepke and Mr. Anderson also reported that Professional Books is considering not participating in the conference due to low registration. Dr. Hunter indicated that participation of a bookstore is essential to the meeting and endorsed the proposal to pick up hotel costs for Professional Books' staff if necessary to assure its participation. Dr. Chu reported having a contact with a potential sponsor and agreed to pursue this with Mr. Anderson. It was clarified that the registration packet will include copies of the registration list. Work continues to be underway to identify chairs for the scientific sessions. Mr. Koepke reported on the public relations strategy for the conference. The press release on the conference is about to

be sent out, accompanied by a list of presenters and a press credentialing form. Angie Leondedis has initiated work with Drs. Chu, Barach and Silberg on preparation of the planned frequent-asked-questions and answers document. Ms. Theander reported on communication from component groups regarding conference participation and submission of their annual reports. Mr. Koepke reported that the newsletter is about to be mailed with marketing information for the conference. The council endorsed extending the early registration deadline to October 30. Dr. Barach proposed the advertising of the opportunity for informal discussions with presenters, something not currently on the conference schedule. Dr. Barach agreed to direct the process for implementing this idea. Dr. Hunter reported on her conversation with a speaker regarding his dissatisfaction with the requirement he pay registration fees, as he will be unable to attend any sessions at which he is not presenting. The establishment of fee and reimbursement policies for next year's conference is planned for the upcoming council meeting in Seattle. Dr. Hunter also reported on the successful conclusion of lengthy negotiations with the representative of Chris Costner Sizemore regarding her participation at the conference. Mr. Koepke stated the expectation for council members' participation at conference events.

1999 SPRING  
CONFERENCE:

Ms. McIntee reported on progress related to the conference. The call for abstracts is being distributed and six abstracts have been received to date. The call for abstracts will be included in the upcoming newsletter mailing and in the registration packet for the Seattle conference. Other promotional efforts are planned. The plan is to use the members of the executive council who will be attending the conference to complete the program once submitted abstracts are assessed. Ms. McIntee also solicited council members who would be willing to provide individual case consultation to attendees. Ms. McIntee also requested suggestions for sponsorship.

1999 FALL CONFERENCE: Dr. Barach reported that Etzel Cardeña and Su Baker have agreed to serve as the co-chairs for the upcoming conference and already hard at work. The proposed theme of the conference is "Integrating Dissociation Theory into Clinical Practice and Psychological Research". The call for papers will be distributed at the Seattle conference if details can be worked out related to the abstract submission process.

On motion duly made and carried, the conference co-chairs and theme were approved.

FUTURE PUBLICATION  
OF A JOURNAL FOR ISSD:

Dr. Hunter reported on communications to Dr. Kluft and the membership related to the ending of the relationship with *Dissociation*. Mr. Koepke reported that Dr. Kluft and the Ridgeview Institute would be given awards at the upcoming conference. Letters are going out to subscribers about the journal. The cost to ISSD to publish the March and June issues was around \$3000.

Mr. Koepke reviewed correspondence that had been received from Haworth Press related to the proposed new journal. Mr. Koepke outlined the difference in relationships between adoption and affiliation. Proposed rates for adoption, in which the journal is provided to all members as a benefit of membership, would be \$18 the first year, \$20 the second year and \$24 the third year. It is also possible to bind the newsletter in with the journal as a way to reduce costs. The rate for affiliation, in which members would receive a discount for subscribing, would be increased from the present price of \$36 per volume to an amount as yet undetermined. If the journal were adopted, the Society would select the editor; under affiliation, Haworth selects

the editor. Under affiliation, the journal would need to attain at least 500 subscribers within a year to be viable. Questions were raised regarding compensation for the editor. The Society will receive \$350 per volume to cover the overhead costs. Concern was raised about the need for the Society to pay additional funds to compensate the editor. It was determined that this should be a matter of negotiation with Haworth and that information should be obtained from Haworth regarding appropriate compensation levels for an editor. Additional information was requested regarding the level of Haworth's oversight of the editor. Discussion occurred regarding the timing of the first issue of the journal. It was suggested that the first issue be planned for Fall 1999 to be provided free to all members in advance of the mailing of membership renewal invoices with an increased dues rate to offset the increased costs for the journal.

On motion duly made and carried, negotiation with Haworth Press for establishment of a new journal should proceed, with adoption being the preferred form of relationship.

Dr. Silberg agreed to chair a task force to work with the executive director related to the negotiations with Haworth. Dr. Hall and Ms. Steele agreed to serve on this task force.

PROPOSAL REGARDING  
FUNDRAISING TO FIGHT  
ANTI-RECOVERED  
MEMORY EFFORTS:

Dr. Hunter reported on efforts that have occurred and are proposed to be led by Dr. Paul Fink to respond to actions by the False Memory Syndrome Foundation and associated entities. There was consensus that these developments are very positive and that ISSD find a way to lend financial support to these efforts if legally possible. The executive director was directed to obtain legal counsel on this matter. Dr. Hunter cautioned that the financial condition of the Society would limit the level of participation in this effort by the Society. Mr. Koepke reported on the documented purposes of the David Caul fund. Three hundred dollars can be moved this year from the Caul Fund to the general fund for the two scholarships to the fall conference. Establishment of a separate fund for public education was suggested. It was also suggested that an announcement of this fundraising effort be distributed at the fall conference, subject to the legal questions being resolved. Dr. Hunter will send a letter to Dr. Fink regarding ISSD's support for his efforts. Dr. Silberg recommended outreach by Dr. Fink's group to child organizations.

On motion duly made and carried, collaboration with Dr. Fink's efforts will be pursued and Dr. Barach was appointed as ISSD's official liaison to this effort, with Ms. Steele as the deputy liaison.

PROPOSAL REGARDING  
INTERNATIONAL  
BOOK ON DISSOCIATIVE  
DISORDERS:

Ms. McIntee reported on efforts underway to publish a book on dissociative disorders with an international focus. John Wiley is one of a few publishers that have shown an interest in publishing this book. The publishers have raised questions about the number of books ISSD would be prepared to purchase for resale. The consensus was that alternative publishers be explored rather than agreeing to such a proposal given that such arrangements would present a financial burden for the Society.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS  
TO THE BYLAWS RELATED

TO COMPONENT GROUPS: Dr. Chu reported on his and Dr. Hall's proposal to modify the bylaws related to component societies. There was discussion of the use of the word "chapter" in relation to the Canadian Society for the Study of Dissociation, which views itself a society independent from ISSD. Similar issues apply to ISSD (UK). Dr. Hall outlined the purpose of the proposed bylaws changes to improve communication and coordination. Ms. McIntee addressed the perception of ISSD as an American organization, which discourages international participation and proposed the concept of ISSD as a federation. Dr. Chu proposed the eliminating the use of the word "chapter". There was agreement that the current bylaws are confusing, with too many levels. There was agreement that the issue of component groups was key to the future of the Society. There was agreement that further work is needed on this proposal before it is ready to be put to the executive council for a vote. Dr. Hall will take the lead to revise the proposal with plans to schedule more in-depth discussion on this topic at the upcoming council meeting in Seattle.

INQUIRY/REFERRAL  
POLICY:

Dr. Barach outlined that the Society office receives two kinds of inquiries. The first is from individuals calling to obtain the name of a therapist in their area. Currently, individuals making this type of inquiry are referred to the Sidran Foundation. The other type of question involves requests for diagnostic or clinical assessments of specific situations that the individual describes. These questions have been referred to members of the Executive Council for a response. Dr. Barach describes how he has been responding to these questions. Mr. Koepke reported on the opinion from the Society's attorney on the matter of making referrals. Dr. Barach suggested that the office continue to handle the requests for information, as is the current practice. Discussion ensued on the management of requests for referrals.

On motion duly made and carried, it shall be the policy of the Society that the response to a request for a referral shall be by providing by a disclaimer stating that the Society does not make referrals and by providing a list of names of members practicing in a particular geographic region, with a recommendation that contact be made with local professional organizations to ascertain professional standing.

Mr. Koepke will work with the attorney to establish appropriate wording to be issued to match the intent of the policy.

CAVALCADE  
PRODUCTIONS  
PROPOSAL:

Ms. Oke reported on the proposal from Cavalcade Production to offer members a 20% reduction on the videos produced by the company. Some questions were raised about the appropriateness of certain videos given the advances that have been made since the materials were prepared. The legal implications of created by the appearance of an ISSD endorsement were discussed. The matter was deferred until the November council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr Hunter adjourned the call at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Koepke  
Executive Director