

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL PSYCHOANALYTICAL ASSOCIATION, JULY 1999

The Business Meeting of the IPA was held in the Casa Piedra Conference Centre, Santiago de Chile, on Wednesday 28 July 1999. The meeting was chaired by Dr Otto F. Kernberg, President of the IPA.

Opening points

In his initial remarks Dr Kernberg stressed the importance of enhancing relationships with the external environment, in particular with the universities and government bodies, including insurance agencies. He warned that in the longer term the survival of psychoanalysis depended on its reputation as a science, which must be fostered by research.

The report of the last Business Meeting, held in Barcelona on Wednesday 30 July 1997, was accepted. The Secretary of the IPA, Dr Robert L. Tyson, read out the list of deaths and asked members to observe one minute's silence in tribute to their colleagues.

Elections and ballot

The results of the elections for President-Elect and for the Vice Presidents of the North American region for the term 1999-2001 were announced. Dr Kernberg thanked the Nominating Committee, chaired by Dr Berner. Professor Daniel Widlöcher had been returned as President-Elect, and Professor Charles Hanly, Dr Roy Schafer and Dr James Grotstein had been elected as Vice-Presidents for North America. All the successful candidates were greeted with applause by the meeting. The candidates for Vice-President for Europe: Dr Paul Israel, Dr Terttu Eskelinen de Folch and Professor Peter Fonagy and for Latin America: Professor Ana Maria Andrade de Azevedo, Dr Ricardo Bernardi and Dr Sara Zac de Filc were announced elected unopposed, as was the Treasurer, Dr Moises Lemlij. Dr Kernberg had been re-elected, unopposed as President of the IPA.

Dr Kernberg thanked the Committee on Elections, chaired by Dr Gabbard. Dr Villarreal reported that since the previous election for the office of President-Elect, the IPA had been working to produce Guidelines on the Conduct of Elections. These were now virtually complete, although the Committee was still refining the important section on sanctions. In regard to the recent elections, which had been monitored by the Committee, Dr Villarreal reported that the conduct of candidates had been impeccable. The Business Meeting voted unanimously to accept the Committee's report.

In the discussion of the report, members registered their dismay at the low response to the ballot. There was particular concern in Latin America where it was clear that some of the international postal agreements were not, in practice, working. Dr Villarreal asked members to send detailed information on local difficulties to the Elections Committee which would try to put in place systems which would be equally fair for all three regions. Dr Kernberg said that of 8,413 ballots distributed, 2,455 had been returned. Although he understood that a normal return was only 25%, he took the low response very seriously and recognised that the IPA needed to involve its membership to a far greater degree.

Dr Kernberg announced the results of the mail ballot on amendments to the Constitution and Byelaws. There had been 1747 votes in favour of the amendments and 77 against. Approval of the ballot meant that there was now only one category of IPA membership, that of Member (and Direct Member) with all Members having complete voting rights including the right to

vote on matters relating to training, amendments to the Constitution and Byelaws and the election of Officers. Corresponding to this single category of membership there would now be only one category of dues payments, although the two tier system would remain. Thus from 1st January 2000, all IPA members, irrespective of their status in their own society, would pay dues of \$250 in tier 1 and \$180 in tier 2.

Dr Robert S. Wallerstein was elected Honorary Vice President by unanimous vote. Dr Kernberg read the meeting a letter from Dr Wallerstein in which he charted his career with the IPA, regretted his first absence from a congress since 1967, and thanked the Business Meeting for an honour to which he would strive to bring all possible credit.

Awards

Executive Committee Awards for distinguished and meritorious service to the IPA had been given to Dr D Sachs, Dr I. Villarreal, Mrs A.M. Sandler, Dr J. Kafka, and Mrs H. Groen-Prakken. These awards had been initiated by the Executive Committee in 1998, the first two being awarded to Drs Sachs and Villarreal at the meeting of the Executive Council in August 1998. Dr Eskelinen de Folch received the award for Mrs Sandler, and Dr Ubbels, President of the Dutch Psychoanalytical Society, received the award for Dr Groen-Prakken. Dr Kafka was present to receive his own award.

Dr Tyson announced that Dr Henry Krystal had won the Elise M. Hayman Award for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide, and would be giving the lecture in her name the following day. Dr Tyson then announced Dr Hans Keilson as the winner of the new Hayman Prize for Published Work Pertaining to Traumatised Children and Adults. Dr Marianne Leuzinger-Bohleber collected the prize on Dr Keilson's behalf. Dr Tyson also reported that the Sacerdoti Prize, for the best individual paper by an author or authors who have not previously presented at an IPA congress, had been awarded to three authors: Dr Michael Good, Dr Max Day and Dr Eve Rowell for their paper 'False Memories, Negative Affects, and Psychic Reality: The Role of Extra-Clinical Data in Psychoanalysis'.

Change of Status

The Recife Psychoanalytic (Provisional) Society was unanimously accorded Component Society status. The Brasilia Psychoanalytic Study Group, the Colombian Psychoanalytic Association Study Group, and the Czech Psychoanalytical Study Group were all unanimously accorded Provisional Society status.

The following people were accorded the status of Direct Member: Polish Psychoanalytical Study Group: Mr Wojciech Hanbowski; Mrs Ewa Wojciechowska; Mr Zbigniew Kossowski; Mr Wojciech Sobanski; Mrs Malgorzata Ojrzynska; Mrs Eliza Gados; Mrs Krystyna Lukasiak; Mrs Zofia Czepulonis-Panasiuk . Belgrade Study Group: Ivanka Jovanovic-Dunjic MD; Mrs Gordana Marinkov-Vulevic psych; Mrs Vida Rakic-Petroi MD; Aleksander Vuco MD; Milica Jojic-Milenkovic MD; Ljiljana Milosavljevic MD. Prague Study Group: Dr Martin Mahler; Dr Jan Zenaty; Dr Petr Junek; Dr Vaclav Burianek; Dr Zuzana Jelinková; Dr Marie Kopriková; Dr Vladimir Singer. Croatia: Dr Eduard Klain; Mrs Eugenia Cividini; Dr Dragan Josic; Dr Stanisa Nikolic . Moscow: Professor Igor Kadyrov. Dr Kernberg noted that Professor Kadyrov was the first shuttle analysand to become a direct member of the IPA.

Secretary's Report

A number of issues were raised in the discussion of the report from the Secretary, Dr Tyson, including expressions of regret at the low numbers of IPA members at the congress and

annoyance at members who sent their papers, or presented them, but then left before the discussion. With regard to the attendance, Dr Tyson cited the factors of distance, season, the political difficulties surrounding the detention in Britain of General Pinochet and, most significantly, the decline in the Latin American economies.

In response to a question about an application for membership of the IPA from the DPG, Dr Kernberg confirmed that a group of members in the DPG would be individually eligible for IPA membership and were likely to apply for a site visit to evaluate them. The President said he would appoint a site visit committee comprised of senior, German-speaking, colleagues.

Treasurer's Report

The report from the Treasurer, Dr Firestein, used a number of slides to demonstrate the comparative income and expenditure of the IPA between 1996 and 1999. He pointed out that although administrative support costs had risen very little during this period, there had been fairly substantial increases in the cost of the House of Delegates, and in research expenditure, dating from the introduction of the Research Advisory Board grants in 1997. Legal and accounting costs had also risen very considerably, due largely to the new companies' structure that was initiated in the previous administration. Dr Firestein observed that as the Committee on Organisational Transition should complete its work during the next six months, these costs would diminish. He drew attention to the rise in non charitable expenditure, pointing out that these should ideally be only 15% of total expenditure.

The Treasurer said the IPA was more than 95% dues dependent, but he was pleased to report that one of the IPA's members had now made an annual donation to the Research Programme and arranged for a bequest to the Association. Prudent investment of the original Hayman Lecture Fund had enabled the funding of the second Hayman Award which had been made for the first time at this meeting.

Dr Firestein observed that only 1% of the IPA's members was present at the Business Meeting, whilst only 7% had attended the congress. In contrast, reporting on his meeting with the Treasurers of Member Societies, he said that 400 IPA members had attended the regional conference in Montevideo, out of a total of approximately 900 registrants. This conference had cost the IPA \$20,000, whilst the congress was costing \$1,020,000 for the attendance of approximately 750 IPA members. Dr Firestein said that such statistics required the IPA to consider whether the large format congress had outlived its usefulness for the organisation. He reported that the Budget and Finance Committee had recommended that the Nice Congress be organised such that it made a profit. The Treasurer concluded his last report by thanking the members of the Budget and Finance Committee, the staff at the London Office and the members themselves. His report was greeted with applause. The report was unanimously accepted.

Dr Kernberg drew attention to the successful and cost effective conferences organised by the Committee on Inter-Regional Conferences in Vienna and Montevideo, and identified the work of the Committee on Psychoanalysis and Society as a priority during the next two years. He welcomed the support accorded the Research Programme by the anonymous donor and stressed the importance of getting members to make bequests to the IPA. Dr Kernberg reported that the Implementation Procedures for the Principles of Ethics were now finished. He concluded by stressing the extent to which his administration was open and transparent: reports were available; information was provided regularly to the members in the President and Secretary's email Newsletter and there was wide distribution of Council minutes.

Turning to the Treasurer's Report, Dr Kernberg focused on three issues: the need to assess the costs and benefit of different kinds of conference; the deficit on the current congress and the cost of implementing the changes to the corporate structure initiated under his predecessor, Dr Etchegoyen. Dr Kernberg acknowledged that the likely deficit on the congress of approximately \$500,000 was far greater than had been anticipated. Dr Kernberg stressed that whilst he had been pleased by the decision to hold the congress in Chile, this decision had been taken not by his administration, but by Dr Etchegoyen's which had accepted the advice of the Latin American Presidents that the congress be held in Santiago, and had balloted all Presidents with regard to the timing of the congress.

The discussion of the Treasurer's report evidenced concern over the deficit on the congress and the amounts borrowed from reserves to fund the new corporate structure. It was felt that the IPA either had to accept that it could not afford large congresses or devise a way to make sure that they at least broke even. Although a number of speakers congratulated the Treasurer on his presentation, members felt that future administrations should not be constrained by the depletion of reserves, rather each administration should live within its means.

Dr Firestein said measures had been taken to cut costs on the congress: registrations for Santiago had been undertaken by the London Office, rather than by a professional congress organisation and the cost of the receptions had been reduced. The Nice Congress would be completely managed from London without assistance from any congress company. This concluded the discussion on the Treasurer's Report.

Task Force on Structure and Mission

Dr Inga Villarreal reported on the Task Force on Structure and Mission. The report had been distributed to the Societies, and was available at the Business Meeting. The mandate of the Task Force had been to take a comprehensive look at the restructuring of the IPA, considering its governance, committee structure and mission. Dr Villarreal noted that the meetings of the Council and the House of Delegates cost \$250,000 a year and pointed out that economically the IPA had to implement a more cost effective structure which would nonetheless be representative of the Societies and the membership. The Task Force had received many responses to the report and it now had to synthesise these and produce a second report, which would be circulated to the Presidents for discussion and feedback.

Dr Kernberg thanked Dr Villarreal for her report and opened it for discussion. A number of members urged that the Task Force proceed slowly, taking time to consult the membership and the Societies. The importance of creating a structure which was accountable, representative and democratic was stressed, as was the need to retain those elements in the present structure which were deemed to function efficiently. It would also be crucial to establish effective relationships with the regional bodies, so that it was clear where the authority in the regions resided. Members considered the merits of retaining a two body structure as against a unitary body. Dr Kernberg reminded the meeting of the Council's decision that all proposals must be channelled through the Task Force which would evolve a further model or models for consultation.

Report of the House of Delegates

Dr Samuel Stein reported on the House of Delegates, observing that this was the first time the House of Delegates had addressed the Business Meeting. He briefly traced the history of the House to its incorporation into the structure of the IPA and argued for the retention of a bicameral system. The House was working on its own report on restructure which would be

sent to the Task Force on Structure and Mission. Dr Stein drew attention to the contribution which the Delegates had made with reports on important issues such as the crisis in psychoanalysis, and described their efforts for an increase in IPA funding for the House, including finance for simultaneous interpretation for English and Spanish which had been crucial to the success of their meetings. Dr Stein's report was accepted unanimously.

Report of the Ad Hoc Visiting Committee to Rio I

Dr Kernberg summarised the main points from Dr Yolanda Gampel's Report on the Fourth visit of the Ad Hoc Visiting Committee to Rio I, from 17th -21st July. He then read the meeting an Official Note from the General Assembly of Rio I, admitting to errors in the Amilcar Lobo-Leão Cabernite affair and a statement from the Pro-Etica Group. The Report on Rio I was put to the vote and accepted unanimously. A short discussion followed during which several members congratulated the Committee on taking a significant first step towards a solution. The Business Meeting approved the report's recommendations by unanimous vote. The President congratulated Dr Gampel's Committee again and paid tribute to Dr Etchegoyen who had initiated the difficult process of trying to solve the problems of Rio I.

Appointments

Dr Kernberg announced that Dr Tyson would continue as Secretary, whilst the Associate Secretaries would be: Dr J. Amati Mehler (Europe); Dr C. Eizirik (Latin America) and Drs D. Sachs and B. Stimmel (North America). Dr Kernberg announced the composition of the Nice Programme Committee: Dr J. Canestri (Chair); Dr E. Gattig (Co-Chair, Europe); Dr A. M. Alizade (Co-Chair, Latin America); Dr R. A. Glick (Co-Chair, North America) and Dr J. Milton (Secretary). The theme of the Nice Congress would be: 'Psychoanalysis: Method and Applications'. The Organising Committee for the Conference of Training Analysts would be: Dr E. Mallet da Rocha Barros (Chair); Dr J.C. Rolland (Co-Chair, Europe); Dr C. Médicis de Steiner (Co-Chair, Latin America) and Dr E. Auchincloss (Co-Chair, North America). The theme for the Training Conference would be 'Reassessment of Psychoanalytic Education: Changes and Controversies.'

Thanks

Dr Kernberg thanked all those who had worked towards the success of the congress, ending by thanking the members at the Business Meeting for their patience and co-operation in ensuring that this had been a most effective meeting.