

WFPI Executive Committee Meeting, 3rd November 2016 (online)

Present: Gloria Soto/GS, (President), Wendy Lam/WL (Vice President), Dorothy Bulas/DB, (Secretary), Rutger-Jan Nievelstein/RN (Treasurer), Ines Boechat/IB (Past President and Chair), Amanda Dehaye/AD, (General Director), Jennifer Boylan/JB (Executive Director, SPR), Kim Pede /KP (Admin)

Absent: Veronica Donghue/VD (Past President), Richard Barth/RB (Vice Treasurer), Jaishree Naidoo/JN, (Vice Secretary), Cicero Silva/CS (Outreach lead), Brian Coley/BC (Digital education lead), Kimberly Applegate/KA (IG Representative),

Blue comments = action

1/ Mapping (update)

GS: shared that concerns with how Europe would participate in the mapping project had been resolved. She contacted Cathy Owens, ESPR President, and ESPR has agreed to participate. There are ongoing questions about dissemination, however, as it is known that only “personalized” dissemination is effective with regards to response rate, so a mass send out to all ESPR members is unlikely to secure results. RJN will coordinate the personalized send-out to start with, and see if someone else can step in and help too. The survey information is due back by November 10th.

IB: asked if WFPI could submit an abstract to the ESPR for their upcoming meeting to do a presentation on the results of the survey - the working group could put the presentation together, and perhaps RJN could present it at the meeting, if it is accepted.

Action:

GS to submit an abstract to the ESPR to present the mapping results at the next ESPR meeting.

RJN to disseminate the survey to European counties and organize the reception, compilation and review of results.

2/ Digital Education (update)

AD: 19 out of 20 responses have been received on the survey. A radiologist is needed to review the responses and then reflections will turn to the curriculum, plus a sweep of what content already exists, and what needs to be created. The resources this work requires may need boosting – to discuss with BC in Chicago at the RSNA meeting?

GS: could Kara Lee Poole help? (She can do this work for her UCLA fellowship). IB also suggested another young radiologist, Lillian Lai, who could step in. All to be discussed with BC at RSNA.

(Kara-Lee could also collaborate in the mapping project, where help is also needed)

Action:

GS to meet with BC in Chicago, and contact Kara Lee Poole for her help for digital education and mapping.

IB to connect up GS with Lillian Lai.

3/ Financial reporting available funds for grants

RJN: WFPI has enough funding to support two \$3,000 grants (one for education and one for outreach)

1. Education grant – will be a fixed grant of \$3,000 for a 3 month length of stay, initially available for Africa. AD will contact JN to identify a project manager in Africa who will hone the criteria for the training institution and the student, disseminate the information, steer the selection etc. – ideally in liaison with a member of WFPI’s Council (person to be identified)
2. The “onsite training” outreach grant will be continued, such as it figures on the website here (<http://www.wfpiweb.org/ABOUT/Funding.aspx> - updated).
3. Both grants need wide dissemination in newsletters, via social media channels etc – this must be taken into account while fixing application deadlines.

Action:

AD to contact JN to identify a project manager in Africa.

KP: Disseminate information on the onsite outreach grant offered through newsletters, social media and dedicated webpage (already updated)

4/ SonoWorld

CS: Since CS was not able to make the call, AD outlined the request from SonoWorld. They have ultrasound presentations that are 30 – 60 minutes in length: they are happy for WFPI to link with them, and suggest that WFPI provides an editor to edit them. In the process, WFPI can reduce the content of the presentations as they must be shorter for optimal web dissemination (Note: our data shows the average viewing time is 4 minutes....).

Action:

CS to find out if SonoWorld can meet WFPI (GS and BC) at the RSNA meeting in November to discuss the partnership further.

5/IDoR

DB: Everything has been documented on the website. DB is going to the meeting in DC.

Action:

DB to write an article for the next newsletter about IDoR, and news of interest to WFPI at RSNA this year.

6/ Amanda Status

AD: Amanda shared with the Board that after years of running MSF/Doctors without Borders work part time, in parallel with WFPI, her workload with MSF is now on the rise and presenting great new opportunities. Unfortunately, it is proving too much of a strain to continue the WFPI work as well – the mental elasticity required by two jobs, plus MSF is demanding, there's a lot of travel etc. It was a hard decision to make, as the exciting "start up" environment of WFPI, and the leeway she was given to work hand in hand with this deeply committed group of doctors and set the foundations for WFPI, has been wonderful, and a truly rich professional experience. But for the sort of strategic analysis/positioning that AD specializes in, and is returning to full time, MSF ultimately offers wider horizons - so the choice had to be made. This decision has been simmering since September, so while it might look quite sudden, actually it is not – it's been a process of many weeks. The handover is now under way, with a final departure date set for 11th November. From thereon out, if there are any questions, or opinions needed, of course please do not hesitate to contact AD via her personal email account or phone/whatsapp. Responses will be given as and when possible, always!

IB told AD how much she appreciated working with her over the years. IB said that change is always challenging but she wanted to thank AD for all that she had done. GS said that she greatly really miss AD. She learned a lot from her and she will miss working with her.

7/ Staff, future organisation

GS: AD will be transitioning to KP and JB next week and will forward her hard drive with all of the documents that she has. The Board will need to be discussing the future organisation in the coming weeks. In the meantime, KP and JB will work to support the Board until a final plan has been outlined. It will be difficult to find someone with AD's experience but we will do our best to keep the projects moving forward.

The meeting kindly let AD deliver a few parting words (minutes: verbatim) - the first ones are reassuring!
AD is personally not concerned about WFPI finding new association management staff. There are some superb people around. If JB and KP can step in for the moment, WFPI is in excellent hands!

On the longer term, WFPI probably will need to consider what level of staff it needs/can afford. One day a week (which must be respected – WFPI has limited finances and cannot pay excess staff hours) does reduce the ability

of senior level executive staff to be “strategic”. So perhaps put the focus on more functional, admin-support profiles? To be assessed with time.

Where it gets trickier: replacing AD’s specific “added value”. This would seem to be international governance experience, and (years of) direct experience living in lower resource settings and delivering medical aid.

Barring specific recruitment at senior NGO staff levels, this added value may need to be replaced via re-configuring WFPI’s board. The “global south” voice – people who live and work in these settings permanently/have years of this experience – may need strengthening.

[The point here: if medical aid was easy to deliver, it would have happened by now. So this expertise is needed. It must not be confused with good will and a desire to share, vital as these dynamics are. To be brutal, too much time and money is wasted on non-impactful, naive medical aid, and WFPI can avoid this trap given that it can draw on physicians from lower resource settings in its governance.]

On a more pragmatic note, AD also stressed that 5 years have been spent putting down some solid foundations for WFPI. The bylaws have proven robust, and EXCOM has spent weeks/months developing outreach tools (e.g. “how to affiliate outreach work with WFPI <http://www.wfpiweb.org/OUTREACH/WhoHow.aspx#24132010-looking-to-affiliate-an-outreacheducation-project-with-wfpi>, among other).

However, to give a few concrete examples for the bylaws:

- they are not yet used to ensure that the implementation of WFPI projects remains on track, whatever obstacles may arise
- nor are they used to e.g. guide regional difficulties having “wobbles” about their involvement with WFPI, or how their Council colleagues should govern WFPI during these moments.

Yet this is what bylaws are for...

Likewise, the reflex is not yet in place to use the working tools developed, for example

- to move from observations like “many people are involved in outreach, yet do not feel involved in WFPI” to a concrete expansion of WFPI’s sphere of activity, resource sharing and community, as envisaged by its founders.

In AD’s experience, no organization (MSF, WFPI or other!) can leave the starter blocks until it demonstrates transparent, steady governance and uses tools to frame and streamline activities.

That’s it - thank you!!! (And thank you all again for a wonderful, wonderful 5.5 years in your midst. I loved it.)

Next EXCOM meeting: Thursday 8th, December (because of RSNA/travel)

[following which, EXCOM meetings will revert to taking place on the first Thursday of every month]