

Minutes

General Assembly Meeting

International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities (IASSID)

August 28th, 2008

Capetown, South Africa

1. The President of IASSID, David Felce, presented his report in which he highlighted the activities for 2004-2008. The main points presented were:

- Growth attributable to the efforts and initiatives of many people from many different countries
- Membership

Membership Category	2005	2006	2007	2008
Individual	517	464	429	564
Research Centre	36	49	44	44
Organization	20	17	5	15

Europe 48%
South America

Asia 4% North America 32% Africa <19%
<1%

- Special Interest Research Groups and Affinity Groups
 - Growth in Number of Groups
 - Regular meetings
 - Production of Themed Special Issues in Scientific Journals
 - Production of IASSID Position papers
 - Contribution to IASSID-endorsed Publications
 - Contribution to the IASSID Academy
- Regional Conferences
 - Europe
 - Dublin 2002; Maastricht 2006
 - Rome 2010
 - Asia/Pacific
 - Taiwan 2005
 - Singapore, 2009; Tokyo, 2013
 - South America
 - Buenos Aires 2003; Santiago, 2007
 - Brazil 2011

- JPPID
 - Now in its 5th Volume
 - Contributors from a spread of countries
 - Growing circulation
 - Accelerating usage (e.g., article downloads)
 - Ably edited by Dr. Matt Janicki since its inception

- Thanks to.....
 - All who participate in IASSID's activities
 - All SIRG and Affinity Group leaders
 - All Regional Conference Organisers
 - All IASSID Council Members
 - All Executive Members
 - Edith Cardy
 - The South Africa Local Organising Committee
 - UCT Conference Management Centre
 - Glynis Murphy

- Next World Congress will be in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. June/July, 2012

2. The Secretary reported to the Assembly the following activities and highlights from 2004-2008:

The Following Executive Meetings were held:

- September 2004 – Cardiff
- March 2005 – Maastricht
- November 2005 – Rome
- May 2006 – Montreal
- December 2006 – Cardiff
- March 2007 - London
- October 2007 – Zagreb
- April 2008 – Charlottetown

Full Council Meetings were held:

- June 2004 – Montpellier
- June 2005 – Taipei
- August 2006 – Maastricht
- May 2007 – Paris
- August 2008 – Capetown

IASSID supported the following conferences:

- Asia/Pacific 2005 - June, 2005 in Taipei, Taiwan
- North America – AAMR – May, 2006 in Montreal, Canada
- Europe 2006 – August, 2006 in Maastricht
- South America 2007 – September 2008, Santiago

- Sponsor of the 2nd International Conference on Intellectual Disabilities/Mental Retardation in Bangkok in November, 2007

Highlights:

- Ongoing work and updates for website. The website has been completely re-skinned and revamped.
- The office of the Secretary established an information website for Council and Executive members to allow easy and prior access of documentation in advance of meetings.
- Newsletters were published and circulated electronically in Spring 2005, Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Fall 2007 and Spring 2008.

Other:

- A new Logo was developed and approved by membership.
- Establishment of an IASSID Academy on Education, Training and Research. A formal evaluation will be undertaken in 2009
- Continued discussions on the redesign of SIRG structure.
- Proposed changes to Articles and Bylaws

3. Treasurer's report to Assembly:

Growth:

- Growth in complexity
- Development of financial systems
 - Attributable entirely to Dr Matthew Janicki
- Growth in expenses
- Growth in income
- Financial strategy
- Growth in Reserves (five fold increase since 2001)
 - Ability to support development internationally
 - South America, African Research
- Set a break-even budget for 2009

4. Changes to the Articles and Bylaws: All passed by Assembly

Article I Section 2

Reads:

Paragraph b:

Organise international and regional congresses, conferences and seminars.

Paragraph f:

Encourage and assist in the creation of international organisations concerned with scientific study of intellectual disabilities.

To Read:

Paragraph b:

Organise international and regional congresses, conferences, seminars *and meetings of Special Interest Research Groups*.

Paragraph f:

Encourage and assist in the creation of national organisations, **and research centres** concerned with the scientific study of intellectual disabilities.

Article II Section 2 Member Organizations

Reads:

Paragraph c:

Each member organisation and research centre is entitled to appoint a delegate to the Assembly as specified by the Council.

Paragraph d:

Each member organisation is privileged to attend and speak at the meeting of the Assembly though not entitled to vote unless serving as a delegate.

Paragraph e:

New Article

To Read:

Paragraph c:

Each member organisation and research centre is entitled to appoint **a voting representative** to the Assembly as **prescribed in these Bylaws**.

Paragraph d:

Each **individual member of a** member organisation is privileged to attend **but not entitled to vote at the meeting of the Assembly unless as the named voting representative of the member organisation or as otherwise prescribed in these Bylaws**.

Paragraph e:

Each Special Interest Group, in good standing with the association, is entitled to appoint a voting representative to the Assembly or as otherwise prescribed in these Bylaws.

Article II Section 4 Member Organizations

Reads:

Paragraph b:

A subscribing individual member is privileged to attend and speak at the meetings of the Assembly though not entitled to vote unless as a delegate.

Paragraph c:

The Council may appoint individual members to serve as a delegate to the Assembly. This delegate is entitled to speak and vote in the Assembly.

Paragraph d:

The privileges ascribed to subscribing individual members should be those assigned by Council, including, but not limited to, complimentary subscription to the Association's official journal and newsletter and member directory. Individual subscribing members shall be eligible for reduced registration at the IASSID World Congresses and other meetings as deemed by Council or Meeting Program committees.

To Read:

Paragraph b:

A subscribing individual member is privileged to attend, speak and vote at the meetings of the Assembly as prescribed in these Bylaws.

Paragraph c:

DELETE

Paragraph d:

The privileges ascribed to a subscribing individual member shall be those assigned by the Council, including but not limited to the Association's official journal and membership directory. Individual subscribing members shall also be eligible for reduced registration at the IASSID World Congresses and other meetings as deemed by the Council or Meeting Program Committees.

Article II Section 5 Member Organizations

Reads:

Paragraph b:

Honorary members are considered as individual members of the Association with the privileges of subscribing individual members excluding complimentary provision of the official journal and reduced registration fees of World

Congresses. They are privileged to attend and speak at the meeting of the Assembly though not entitled to vote unless serving as a delegate.

To Read:

Paragraph b:

Honorary members are considered as individual members of the Association with the privileges of subscribing individual members and a reduced registration fee at world Congresses as determined by Council. They are privileged to attend and speak at the meetings of the Assembly though not entitled to vote unless as an individual subscribing member or as named representative by a member organisation or research centre.

Article II Section 7 Member Organizations

Reads:

Paragraph b :

Member organisations and subscribing members in default of payment of annual fee shall be given an additional year in which to pay. If the annual fee is not paid at the end of one year extension, the Council may elect to place the member organisation or subscribing members in probationary status. During the probationary status, the individual member of the member organisation and subscribing member shall be ineligible to vote, to hold office or be a member of any committee of the Association. A member organisation or individual member is in good standing with the Association if its / his / her fees or dues are paid within the year of membership. Membership normally lapses at the end of each calendar year and a member is only in good standing with the payment of fees prior to the beginning of or during the next calendar year.

To Read:

Paragraph b:

A member organisation or individual member is in good standing with the Association if its / his / her fees or dues are paid up within the year of membership. Membership lapses at the end of each calendar year and a member is only in good standing with payment of fees prior to the beginning of or during the next calendar year.

Article II Section 8 Termination of Membership

Reads:

Paragraph b :

A member may be terminated from membership for conduct which tends to injure the Association, contrary to or destructive of its purpose. Charges of such conduct

shall not be entertained unless submitted to the Council, in writing, and signed by two members of the Association. Upon receipt of charges, the Council shall determine whether the charges shall be dropped. If the charges are not dropped, the member concerned shall be given an opportunity, either to resign, or be heard in defence. If said member chooses a hearing, he / she shall not be terminated from membership except by 3/4th vote of the Council members present and 3/4th. of the delegates present at an Assembly of the Association.

To Read:

Paragraph b :

The IASSID may terminate from membership a member for conduct which is contrary to the purpose and means of the Association as set out in Article 1, sections 1 and 2 of the Association. Council shall entertain a proposal of termination of membership when submitted in writing and signed by two members of the Association. Membership will be terminated by three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Council members present and three-fourths (3/4) vote of those members entitled to vote in vivo or by proxy at an Assembly of the Association.

Article III- The Assembly of Members Section 2 Composition of Assembly

Reads:

Paragraph a :

The Assembly shall consist of:

- i) Voting members who are delegates of member organisations, research centres, regional groups, special interest research groups and individual members designated as a delegate by the Council.

- ii) Non-voting members who are the other members of the Association

To Read:

Paragraph a:

**The Assembly shall consist of:
Designated voting members of –
Member organisations.
Research centres.
Special interest research groups.
and
Individual members.**

ii) Non-voting members, who are the other members of the Association.

Article III- The Assembly of Members Section 2 Composition of Assembly

Reads:

Paragraph b:

Each member organisation or research shall appoint voting delegates to the Assembly as specified by Council.

one voting delegate for an organisation with less than 100 members.→

two voting delegates for an organisation with 100 to 500 members.→

Three voting delegates for an organisation with over 500 members.→

Paragraph b:

Each member organisation or research shall appoint voting delegates to the Assembly as specified by Council.

one voting delegate for an organisation with less than 100 members.→

two voting delegates for an organisation with 100 to 500 members.→

Three voting delegates for an organisation with over 500 members.→

Paragraph c :

The Council may appoint individual members to serve as delegates to the Assembly. Such delegates will be those from each country represented in the membership

Paragraph d:

Council and Officers cannot be appointed as delegates to the Assembly.

Paragraph e:

Regarding the identification of eligible voters at a General Assembly meeting, the Secretary will provide as many signed cards to member organisations, research centres and special interest research groups as they are entitled to have voting delegates as well as to the delegates appointed by Council. Delegates should make themselves known to the Secretary before the meeting in order to be entitled to vote in the General Assembly.

Paragraph f :

The period between Assembly – meetings of one world congress to the next is considered the term of office for a voting delegate.

Paragraph g:

One third (1/3) of the member organisations, subscribing individual members, who are appointed as delegates shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

To Read:

Paragraph b:

Each member organisation and research centre shall appoint a designated representative to vote on their behalf at the Assembly as prescribed in these Bylaws.

a. One named voting member for an organisation with less than 300 members.

b. Two named voting members for an organisation with 300 or more members.

Paragraph b:

Each member organisation and research centre shall appoint a designated representative to vote on their behalf at the Assembly as prescribed in these Bylaws.

a. One named voting member for an organisation with less than 300 members.

b. Two named voting members for an organisation with 300 or more members.

Paragraph c : DELETE

Paragraph d: DELETE

Paragraph e :

A designated voting member(s) of member organisations, research centres, special interest groups, will identify themselves to the Secretary prior to the General Assembly. The Secretary will provide signed cards to designated voting members of member organisations, research centres, special interest research groups, and individual members.

All designated voting representatives and individual members must be in good standing with the Association two months prior to the General Assembly.

Paragraph f:

Designated voting representatives may vote by proxy. A proxy vote must reach the Secretary of IASSID at least two weeks before a General Assembly or extraordinary general meeting of the association. Proxy votes may be delivered via post, electronic mail or by fax in a format prescribed by Council.

Paragraph g:

One third (1/3) of those members entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Article IV The Council of the Association Section 2: Composition of Assembly

Reads:

The Council of the Association shall consist of the Officers and the Council of the Association, each of whom shall be elected by the Assembly as described in these Bylaws.

To Read:

The Council of the Association shall consist of the elected officers and councilors of the Association, each of whom shall be an individual member in good standing with the Association elected by the Assembly or as otherwise prescribed in these Bylaws.

Article V Section 1 Officers

Reads:

The Officers of the Association are the President, the President-elect, Four Vice-Presidents, The Secretary, The Treasurer and the immediate past-President.

To Read:

The elected Officers of the Association are the President, the President-elect, the Secretary and the Treasurer. The President can appoint from the members of Council not more than 4 Vice Presidents as prescribed in these Bylaws. A Vice President may serve successive terms, at the discretion of the President and Council, if the Vice Presidents responsibilities to Council remain the same.

Article V Section 2 Nomination, Election and Terms of Office

Reads:

Paragraph a :

Officers and Honorary Officers presented for election shall be drawn from a list of nominees as set out by the Nomination and Elections committee following consultation with the current officers, councillors and member organisations, individual members and formal SIRGs, all in good standing with the Association.

To Read:

Paragraph a:

Officers and Honorary Officers presented for election shall be drawn from a list of nominees as set out by the Nominations and Elections Committee following consultation with the current officers, councillors and member organisations, individual members and SIRGs, all in good standing with the Association or as otherwise prescribed in these Bylaws.

Article V Section 4 President-Elect

Reads:

The President-elect shall serve for one term or until a successor is elected and shall succeed to the office of President upon completion of his / her term of office. He / she shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Council or the President. In the absence or temporary disability of the President-elect, necessary duties shall be undertaken by:

- (i) Vice-President (Chairperson of Nominations & Elections Committee).
- (ii) Vice-President (Chairperson of Awards & Recognitions Committee).

To Read:

The President-elect shall serve for one term or until a successor is elected, and shall succeed to the office of President upon completion of his / her term of office. He /she shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Council or the President. In the absence or temporary disability of the President-elect, necessary duties shall be undertaken by an officer or member of Council as recommended by the Officers of the Association and agreed by the Council.

Article V Section 5 Vice-Presidents

Reads:

A Vice-President shall serve not more than one term. Vice-Presidents, appointed to complete the term of a vacated Vice-Presidency may stand for election for another term. A Vice-President may serve more than one term provided the additional term is not in succession. The Vice-President shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Council or President.

A Vice-President shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the President or Council.

To Read:

A Vice-President may be appointed for one successive term by the President, with the approval of Council. A Vice-President shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the President or Council.

Article V Section 7 Treasurer

Reads:

Paragraph b :

New Article

To Read:

Paragraph b :

The outgoing Treasurer may serve in an advisory capacity, at the request of the President, and the agreement of the Council, one further year to assist the incoming Treasurer.

Article V Section 8 Immediate Past President

Reads:

The Immediate Past President shall serve for one term, beginning immediately at the termination of his / her presidency. He / she shall be a full member of the Council, and shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Council or the President.

To Read:

The immediate past President, as an ex-officio member of Council, shall serve one term beginning immediately at the termination of his / her

Presidency. He / she will be a full member of the Council and perform such duties as may be assigned by the Council or the President.

Article V Section 9 Miscellaneous Provision

Reads:

Paragraph a:

In the event of a Vice-President, the Secretary, or the Treasurer are unable to perform the duties of their respective offices, they may ask the President to be relieved of their responsibilities. The Officers can appoint a deputy-officer in his / her place. For this a postal election can be held. A majority of the votes from the Officers is required. Upon the decision of the Council, one Officer may be vested with more than one office.

To Read:

Paragraph a:

In the event of a Vice President, the Secretary, Treasurer, are unable to perform the duties of their respective office, they may ask the President to be relieved of their responsibilities. The Officers can appoint a deputy officer in his / her place. **An electronic election can be held. A majority votes can be sufficient to determine the outcome.**

Article V Section 9 Miscellaneous Provision

Reads:

Paragraph e :

New Article

To Read:

Paragraph e:

The editor of JPPID, the editor of JIDR (as long as it remains affiliated with IASSID), and the Association's webmaster are ex-officio non voting members of Council.

Article VI Section 8 Finance Committee

Reads:

The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer as its chairperson and three members appointed by Council for one term or until successors are appointed. It shall be concerned with the financial affairs of the Association.

To Read:

The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer as the chairperson, **the outgoing Treasurer and three members appointed by Council for one term or until successors are appointed. They shall be concerned with the financial affairs of the Association**

Article X - Amendments and Dissolution Section 1 - Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation

Reads:

Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation may be instituted on recommendation of the Council or by a postal petition of one-third (1/3) of the member organisations and subscribing individual members who are appointed as Delegates to the Assembly. Notice of proposed amendments shall be mailed to the member organisations and subscribing individual members entitled to vote by the Secretary at least three months prior to a meeting of the Assembly. An amendment, cancellation or addition of which due notice has been given, will be carried to the Articles when accepted at a meeting of the Assembly by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Delegates in attendance.

To Read:

Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation may be instituted on recommendation of the Council or by a **petition, postal or electronic, of one-third (1/3) of the member organisations, research centres, SIRGs designated as voting members, and individual members, all in good standing with the organisation. Notice of proposed amendments shall be communicated to member organisations, research centres, subscribing individual members and SIRGs entitled to vote by the Secretary at least two months prior to a meeting of the Assembly. An amendment, cancellation or addition of which due notice has been given, will be carried to the Articles when accepted at a meeting of the Assembly by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members entitled to vote at an Assembly of the Association and in attendance.**

Article X - Amendments and Dissolution Section 2 - Amendments to the Bylaws

Reads:

Amendments to the Bylaws may be instituted on recommendation of the Council or by motion of five Delegates to the Assembly at a regular meeting. A simple

majority of the votes given by the Delegates entitled to vote shall be necessary to carry on an amendments, cancellation, suspension or addition to the Bylaws.

To Read:

Amendments to the Bylaws may be instituted on recommendation of the Council or by motion of five members entitled to vote, as prescribed in these Bylaws, at an Assembly at a regular meeting. A simple majority of the votes given by those members entitled to vote shall be necessary to carry on an amendments, cancellation, suspension or addition to the Bylaws.

Article X - Amendments and Dissolution Section 3 - Dissolution

Reads:

The Association shall be dissolved only by consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the member organisations at a meeting of the Assembly. There shall have been notification to the member organisations and the subscribing individual members of the proposal to consider dissolution at least six months prior to the meeting. This proposal is made by the Council and sent to the Secretary. Should there be no possibility to hold an Assembly meeting within one year after the proposal is made, or should there be representation of less than two-thirds of the members entitled to vote at the Assembly meeting at which dissolution is considered, a postal referendum shall be effected and consent of two-thirds of the member organisations and subscribing individual members entitled to vote shall be required for dissolution.

To Read:

The Association shall be dissolved only by consent of 2/3rds of the membership of the Association **as per article 3 Section 2(a), 1, b, c, d, e, g. There shall have been sufficient notification to the membership of the proposal to consider dissolution at least 6 months prior to the meeting. This proposal is made by the council and sent to the Secretary. Should there be no possibility to hold an Assembly meeting within one year after the proposal is made or should there be a representation of less than of two-thirds (2/3) of the membership entitled to vote at the Assembly meeting at which dissolution is considered, an electronic referendum shall be affected and consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the membership entitled to vote shall be required for dissolution.**

5. Awards:

STEVENS SHAPIRO Awards

This Fellowship has been established as a tribute to the memory of the late Harvey Stevens, co-founder and first President of the IASSMD, and the late Alexander Shapiro, co-founder and second President. The name of the

Association changed to become IASSID. The fellowship is open to young researchers, under 30 years of age, who are actively involved in the field of intellectual disability.

The following were given the Stevens Shapiro Awards:

- **Shaun Cleaver -Canada**
- **Ine Hostyn -Belgium**
- **Grace Kelly - Ireland**
- **Katie McDonald - USA**

MENCAP FELLOWSHIP

The MENCAP association U.K. offers a fellowship to young researchers, under 30 years of age, from developing countries. The following received the Mencap Fellowships:

- *Amud Sayed, South Africa*
- *Maletetsalsi Annah Tshabangu, South Africa*
- *Karen Spense,, UK*
- *Craig Hart, UK*
- *Paul M. Ajuwon, Nigeria*
- *Professor Kelvin Mwaba, South Africa*
- *Ancent Muli Muraba, South Africa*
- *L. Marie Janse Van Rensberg, South Africa*
- *Ereny Gobrial, Egypt*
- *Evariste Karangwa, Rwanda*
- *Amanda Roux, South Africa*
- *Marinda Roelofse, South Africa*

IASSID Awards

- **For Service to IASSID:** Professor Lisa Wang
- **For Research:** Professor Eric Emerson

Nominations for Fellow Status

Roger Stancliffe, Associate Professor, Disability Studies
The University of Sydney, Faculty of Health Sciences

Robyn Anne Wallace, Director of Shaid (Specialist Health Care for
Adults with Intellectual Disability) Queensland, Australia

Chris Conliffe, Professor, School of Psychology – University of Ulster at
Jordanstown Northern Ireland

6. Election of Officers and Councillors

President Elect:	Dr. Vianne Timmons
Secretary:	Dr. Helené Oulette Kuntz
Treasurer:	Dr. Phil Davidson

New Council Members:

Welsh Centre for Disability Studies	Professor Mike Kerr, Wales
UCD Centre for Disability Studies	Philip Dodd, Ireland
Disability Study Unit - National Chung Cheng University	Jin- Ding Lin, Taiwan
South Africa Association of the Scientific Study of Mental Handicap	Professor Coleen Adams, SA
American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities	Professor Tamar Heller, USA
Inclusion Ireland	Dr. Kathy O'Grady, Ireland
German Society of Mental Handicap	Dr. Michael Seidel, Germany

Individual Members

Peru	Liliana Mayo
Australia	Gwynnyth Llewellyn
Austria	Germain Weber

SIRG Representation

Families	Eric Emerson/Jan Blacher
Quality of Life	Ivan Brown
Ageing	Christine Bigby
Health	Bob Davis
Comparative policy and practice	Jim Mansell
Mental Health	David Allen/ Angel Hassiotis

Profound and multiple disabilities

Bea Maes

Parenting

Awaiting nomination

Council Members 2008-2012

Glynis Murphy
Vianne Timmons
Helené Ouellette-Kuntz
Phil Davidson
David Felce
Hans Reinders
Giorgio Albertini
Bob Davis
Ulla Jacobsen
Keith McVilly
Franck Sturtz
Shigeru Suemitsu
Richard Hastings
Joel Levy
Eric Emerson/Jan Blacher
Ivan Brown
Christine Bigby
Jim Mansell
David Allen/ Angela Hassiotis
Bea Maes
Colleen Adnams
Tamar Heller
Kathy O'Grady
Michael Seidel
Mike Kerr
Phil Dodd
Jin Ding Lin
Liliana Mayo
Gwynnyth Llewellyn
Germain Weber
David McConnell

7. Motion to General Assembly presented by Trevor Parmenter passed

Since the last General Assembly meeting we note the passing of a number of people who have contributed to IASSID over several decades. Members of this Assembly resolve to honour the memory of the following distinguished people

who contributed significantly to the lives of people with an intellectual disability through their scholarly research, their advocacy and service to IASSID.

- ***Kenneth Day***
- ***Andrew Halpern***
- ***Lars Kebbon***
- ***Bengt Nirje***
- ***Yoshikazu Tomiyasu***

Meeting Adjourned.