**ISAM 2015 Board Minutes – Dundee, Scotland**

**Sunday, October 4th, 2015**

Present: A. Baldacchino K. Brady G. Bunt N. el-Guebaly S. Higuchi R. Khan J. Reimer M. Dorozio (recorder)

Regrets: H. Alho M. Galanter G. Welle-Strand

* Meeting called to order at 9:15 AM by President G. Bunt
* Agenda: Add UN Special Session 2016 - UNGASS
* Motion by G. Bunt, seconded by K. Brady to adopt the Minutes of August 2015. Carried.

**President Report: G Bunt**

* Excellent conference in Yokohama 2014 – great to advance ISAM profile in Asia
* Conferences an excellent way to attract attention to presentation on Educational Standards (2 sessions in this year’s program and initiative spear-headed by Alex after Gabrielle stepping down from Education & Training Committee)
* Celebrate ISAM’s achievements: Textbook is out and the Certification exam is going well and may play a more prominent role now that ASAM’s eligibility for their exam is being more stringent
* Challenges to focus on: develop Membership which will influence the financial sustainability
* With such a small Board representation has been difficult
* Looking at discussing structure for better representation – use contacts – to give a voice in regions/countries
* Have a Board liaison to oversee new restructure of regional ‘Ambassadors’ - proposed Nady as filling that key role based on his experience
* Need to use 2016 for a concerted outreach to South America now that have contacts D. Gigena, A. Gigliotti, etc
* Have lost contacts with Australia
* Have T. Gawad interested in helping with Middle East; Susumu in Asia who was instrumental in bringing KAAP, Korea on as an Affiliate Society
* An identified area where ISAM is lacking is public policy and setting standards

**2015 Fellowships and Best Abstract Award**

* List of all fellowships included in agenda
* Total of 12 2015 Fellowships
* One NIDA fellows unable to attend due to visa problems
* Three Souter-ISAM fellowships this year granted by LOC

**Annual Meetings: Finances**

* Annual meeting needs to be a secure source of ongoing funds for the running of the society
* Propose multi-year funding with Pharma – meeting on Wed with members of the Board
* Standardize the online abstract submission and access to databases with past delegates to promote new annual meeting to.
* For registration funds to come to ISAM account
* Discussion for a single event company to plan all conferences:
  + Must be able to liaise with the local community and to have local contacts
  + Board members to suggest companies to bid
  + Registration tool would belong to the event company but funds deposited in the ISAM account
  + 10% would be taken off and the rest sent as needed
  + Marilyn will send list of what we would need to ask for from bids

**ISAM 2015 Dundee – Dr. A. Baldacchino**

* 550 delegates (520 paid) from 54 Countries (21% from the UK)
* 23,000 hits on pages – lots of personal advertising
* Estimate 36,000 pounds profit
* 50% of budget requirements comes from registrations, so need to find other funding sources for the other half

**ISAM 2016 Rio de Janeiro – Dr. A. Gigliotti**

* Dates: Nov 9-12, 2016 – 3 days of presentations & round table symposia
* Proposed theme: New Challenges and Technologies in Addiction Medicine
* Possible plenaries: HIV research, Comorbidities & Co-infection
* Possible speakers: J Khalsa, I Montoya, N. el-Guebaly (Gambling), G. Bunt (Therapeutic Communities), Women presenters/plenary

**ISAM 2017 Abu Dhabi – Dr. T Gawad**

* Dates: Oct 26-29, 2017
* Venue: Jumeirah Etihad Towers Hotel - Transport will be provided from the airport
* Theme: Addiction Medicine – New Frontiers
* Max registration will be $700 US with 10% going directly to ISAM Head Office
* Abu Dhabi Council will supply rest of funding and the business plan will be provided next year
* 4 tracks anticipated

**ISAM 2018 Busan – Dr. S-G Kim**

* Dates: Nov 3-6, 2018
* Direct flights from Narita. Beijing, Seoul
* Simplified presentation will be sent to Jens for the webpages
* Will have financial plan and theme next meeting

**ISAM 2019 Delhi**

* Dates: Oct 15-19 or Nov 5-9, 2019 (latter preferred)
* Presentation by Dr. Sudhit Khandelwal & Prof Anju Dhawan
* After presentation and discussion, motion by Alex, seconded by Kathleen to accept bid for ISAM 2019 Delhi.

**Membership**

In general need to identify targets: ex. Australia, Israeli group which ceased being a Category I Affiliate – suggestion to approach during meeting

Affiliates:

* + Review of Category I and Category II Societies and who has left Category I
  + Newest Category I – KAAAP from Korea
  + Susumu meeting with Japanese Society and will discuss becoming affiliated – concern is the high initiation fee.
  + Discussion to review the Affiliate Society fee structure which has not resulted in increased affiliates socieites
  + Need to review ASAM Corporate membership
  + Suggestion to have teleconference with Affiliate Societies’ Presidents to keep involved as several have dropped out of Category I
  + Find out what is important in their region
  + Will tie in with new proposed restructuring to have expanded representation
  + Need to present ISAM as a crucial liaison in the international community
  + Need to enhance communication with Chairs of Societies to keep them engaged, ex. teleconferences

Individual:

* + Suggestion of expecting Board members to bring in one new member to conference
  + Define duties of Board member – Nady to review
  + Review Benefits of membership – Kathleen to draft to be presented at AGM and put on webpages
  + Tie in with webpages – what can be offered: videos, commentaries, policies, etc

**Education & Training**

* Alex will be chairing this committee as G. Welle-Strand has finished her terms

**Webpages**

* Need to enhanced communication
* Suggestion to expand the Webpages Committee to be the Communication Committee and take on the Newsletter, Social Media and getting Information back and forth to the membership
* Perhaps work on including younger members that wish to become involved
* Jens will accept to do second term pending redefinition of the committee’s parameters and the Webmaster role

**Financials**

* R. Khan will be new Treasurer as K. Brady moves into her role as President-Elect
* Review of Comparison of Quarterly office summaries and of the Notice to Reader by the Accountants
* Motion by K. Brady, seconded by S. Higuchi to appoint BDO Dunwoody as the accountants for 2015. Carried
* Need to become sustainable:
  + Motion by Susumu, seconded by Jens to increase the individual membership dues to: $150, $100, $50 and $25. Carried.
  + Fees are determined by where you work
  + Suggestion to reinstate ability to take manual credit card numbers and process. Marilyn will get cost.
  + Starting 2017 registration funds will come to ISAM Head Office and 10% taken for Office

**Representation Restructuring**

* One position to oversee the regional representatives: delegated Nady el-Guebaly
* Need to decide to maintain the relationship with these “Ambassadors”
* Need to establish clear goals: advocacy, influencing policies, etc
* Regions will need to set their priorities – suggestion of 6 regional reps
* Need to clarify type of membership
* Need to expand communication – social media, interactive blog?
* Suggestion to engage through topical committees: ex Behavioral Addictions, Marihuana, with a Chair (Board member) and Co-chair (member at large)
* Board members to identify and approach potential ‘Ambassadors”
* ‘Ambassador’ to have key recognized leadership roles in their regions to be able to act as a liaison with the local community
* Encourage leadership role by incentives, ex. Waiving annual conference registration (limit number to not impact LOC). Ambassadors can attend regular teleconferences with liaison (Nady) and then either attend part of the Board meeting or have separate meeting during annual meeting
* Suggestion to use exam to develop a fellowship of Addiction Psychiatry
* For 2017 will encourage exam to Saudi Arabia, UAE and Egyptian colleagues
* Regions:
  + Eastern Mediterranean: Tarek Gawad, who agreed to take on that role till 2017
  + Nigeria: Emmanuel Babalola
  + UK: Henrietta Bowden-Jones
  + New Zealand: Susanna Galea
* Other suggestions: Barbara de Boers, Cor de Jong, Jorgen Bramness, Norbert Scherbaum, Icro Maremanni, Owen Bowden-Jones.

**ISAM Certification exam - N. el-Guebaly**

* Questions to be reviewed in Sept 2016 at the 10-year mark
* The Editorial Board will base the questions on the new International Textbook
* ISAM exam accepted CSAM as equivalent to ABAM
* RCPSC now is creating diploma in Addiction Medicine
* ASAM has taken the ABAM exam over and is applying more stringent eligibility criteria to take the exam which may be a good opportunity for ISAM exam

**International Textbook - N. el-Guebaly**

* Discount for attendees to conference
* Actual Textbook sales: 115 but online version 9500 with varying downloads for the different chapters
* Springer owns the book

**Journal Update - M. Galanter**

* Report appended to the Agenda
* Publication of the select abstracts from Dundee in process
* Associate Editor opening which would be an interesting academic opportunity

**Arab Federation**

* Would like their own exam
* Checked with Tarek as to their credibility
* Need to rely on regional leaders
* Discussion and consensus of the Board: Nady to draft a response saying this is not feasible at the moment
* Suggestion to invite them to become an Affiliate

**AGM**

* Present the Benefits of ISAM Membership
* Suggestion to give ISAM awards
* Need a committee to determine eligibility and criteria for these awards

**UNGASS**

* Special Assembly of the UN (every ten years) on drugs as Drug Addiction now a global health priority
* ISAM has been invited to present
* Message that addiction is a treatable illness most important
* Controversial areas: needle exchange/safe injection sites and opioid replacement therapy
* Harm Reduction group want ISAM to support both these areas
* Discussion: conditions not the same in every country, help physician developing competence in treating patients

**Policies**

* Should ISAM develop a position for marihuana and medical marihuana – question audience during Greg’s presentation
* ASAM still opposed to legalizing leisure or medical marihuana
* Different models are being evaluated
* Some documents support that Criminalization of users does not make sense
* In places no longer a felony if possession is under a specific amount (~30 gm)

**Next meeting:** TBA in November or December

**Adjournment**: 5:45 PM