

**HUMAN GIVENS INSTITUTE
Annual General Meeting
Minutes**

Date: Monday 23 January 2017

Venue: Webinar

Present: Declan Lyons (chairing), Julie Lawrence, Celia Nicholson, Julian Penton, Ivan Tyrrell, Jane Tyrrell

In attendance: Miles Daffin (hosting, and Human Givens Foundation), Sue Saunders (Registration and Professional Standards Committee), Ian Thomson (Human Givens Foundation)

Apologies: Jan Hurley

1. Welcome and introductions

Miles Daffin introduced the meeting and handed over to Declan Lyons to chair the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies from Jan Hurley.

3. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 28th October 2015

The minutes were agreed.

4. Accounts for year ending December 2015 and Report of the HGI Finance and Audit Committee 2015-2016

Julian Penton reported on the work of the committee and the accounts. He reflected the view of the committee that the Institute was on a sound financial footing. Conferences offer an opportunity to increase income, and the Institute is investigating putting on more events including shorter conferences.

Membership has remained healthy despite increases in fees to fund Professional Standards Authority (PSA) registration.

The committee recommended approval of the accounts, which the meeting agreed.

5. Report of the HGI Board 2015-2016

Declan Lyons summarised the work of the Board, confirming membership and changes in year. He highlighted the new policy on membership which will be available on the website, including the new category of honorary membership.

Declan reported on the role and work of the subcommittees, and thanked the Board members for their contribution to this important work.

PSA reaccreditation requirements were highlighted and the critical role of the Registration and Professional Standards Committee in handling professional standards was noted.

The new website has been operating for nine months and has received good feedback. Declan recorded the Board's thanks to the staff at Chalvington for the successful delivery of this complex and demanding project.

The conference in Dublin was a notable success and it was noted that the content was of a high standard.

The Board has concluded that it is important to protect the brand and intellectual property of the Human Givens and is investigating the best way to achieve this.

HGI is presently engaged in giving feedback to the Irish government on proposals for regulations in Eire.

Jan Hurley is reporting back to peer groups on the work of the Board. Board minutes and the register of conflicts of interests are available on the website.

6. Report of the HGI Registration and Professional Standards Committee 2015-2016

Sue Saunders reported on the work of the Registration and Professional Standards Committee, including new additional members.

The cases outlined in the report had been satisfactorily resolved, or are still under investigation.

Several policies have been updated, including the improvement of supervision policy and rewind protocols, and committee members had contributed to the promotion of best practice through journal articles and web guidance.

The RPSC held its annual review in April 2016, (minutes available on web) and has now harmonised annual deadlines with the HGI.

Sue concluded by drawing attention to the need for members to discuss any ethical or professional concerns with their supervisor, to seek additional support from the RPSC if necessary, and to read the materials supplied by the committee on best practice and dealing with sensitive issues.

7. Report of the Human Givens Foundation

Miles Daffin reported on the purpose of the Foundation, described in the report.

Miles described the ambition to deliver a mobile app which will allow users to access the Human Givens model of depression. This has been delayed and is on track to deliver in 2017.

PTSD Resolution has taken over the funding of the pragmatic tracker application which was previously funded by the Foundation. The Board recorded their thanks to PTSD Resolution for this support.

The proposed randomised controlled trial has unfortunately been rejected by the NHS funding body and alternative methods of generating evidence are being investigated.

The Foundation presently has £38,000 balance available.

8. Questions from HGI members

Q: What are the plans to use pragmatic tracker data to demonstrate effectiveness of Human Givens?

A: We have used tracker data to publish effectiveness studies in peer reviewed journals. These are important, but do not carry the weight of a randomised controlled trial.

Q: A number of clients are funded by health insurers. Could the Institute liaise with insurers to demonstrate the credentials of the HGI?

A: The Board will consider the issue, which needs to be explored. Ideas from practitioners would be sought, and a discussion with the PSA about how they can help.

Q: Highlighting the helpful videos produced by Bill Andrews.

Q: How does registration with the PSA help therapists?

A: In addition to the credentials offered, there is considerable marketing value in PSA accreditation. The PSA are working to invest in awareness and promote the brand.

Q: Vote of thanks for the work of the HGI Board.

Q: PTSD Resolution are planning a randomised controlled trial, and highlighted that some insurers require NICE accreditation which is dependent on RCT results.

9. Any other business

None.

Julie Lawrence
23 January 2017