

Minutes of Human Givens Institute Annual General Meeting

- Date of Meeting:** Tuesday, 20 August 2013 (5.30 pm)
- Venue:** Sunningdale Conference Centre & Skype
- Present:** Julian Penton (Chairing), Joe Griffin, Kevin McDonagh, Linda Singer, Ivan Tyrrell, Ian Thomson (Human Givens Foundation representative), Julie Lawrence (Adviser)
- Apologies:** Farouk Okhai, Bart McEnroe, Gail Rhodes, Ros Jeal, Renee Van der Vloodt, Sue Saunders, John Halker
- In attendance:** John Barnett, Don Elwick, Chris Forssander, Tony Gauvain, Joy Gilson, Pete Johnson, Carmen Kane, Lance Kearon, Sally Tarrant

1. Minutes of the previous AGM 12 May 2012 were agreed.

2. Accounts

The unaudited accounts were received. A pending correction to the profit and loss account – changing the title of expenditure under “consultancy” to “staff salaries” was noted.

It was agreed that a conference would be arranged in 2014.

Ivan Tyrrell has approached a finance professional to fulfil the role of Treasurer for the Institute, and is awaiting her response.

John Barnett requested details of numbers of members of the institute, and practitioners (who will fund the cost of registration with the PSA). The institute currently has 279 members. There are 176 lapsed members and 396 people have taken part II but not part III of the diploma.

3. Report of the Board

The report from the Board was received.

In terms of documenting the evidence base, the Board reported that while the Practice Research Network and other independent research had provided good evidence of the effectiveness of human givens therapy, the “gold standard” evidence required to achieve NICE accreditation will be established through a randomised controlled trial currently being established by Trevor Bailey in partnership with GPs and academics in the area.

Tony Gauvain identified the need to transfer PSTD Resolution data into the Practice Research Network in order to expand Bill Andrews’ database.

Julian Penton agreed to include an item in the newsletter reminding practitioners of the importance of contributing to the Practice Research Network.

Members noted the new Disclosure and Barring Service (formerly Criminal Records Bureau) **Update Service**, which enables CRB/DBS disclosure certificates to be transferred between organisations. (Further details are available on the Professional Members' area of the HGI website.)

4. Professional Standards Authority

Julian Penton reported on progress with applying for registration with the Professional Standards Authority (PSA).

The Institute is likely to be in apposition to apply for PSA accreditation during the first quarter of 2014. Application cost is £12,000 for initial application followed by £8,000 per annum thereafter. Once the application has been made, there is an eight week timescale for the PSA decision.

Outstanding changes which are necessary to ensure the Institute meets PSA requirements are: strengthening assurance and risk management, including more structured supervision (consultation with members due October 2013); validation of training by independent reviewers; strengthening involvement of patients in governance; separating the work of the Ethics and Complaints Committee (ECC) from the main Board; and seeking additional members for the ECC (subject to Board decision, peer groups will be approached to nominate members this Autumn).

5. Report of the Human Givens Foundation

Ian Thomson reported on the work of the Foundation over the previous year, detailing research that the Foundation has funded, and the support for charitable projects including Just What We Need. The generous donation in memory of Philippa Corbin was noted.

6. Report of the Ethics and Complaints Committee (ECC)

The need to separate the ECC from the Institute main Board was noted.

Ian Thomson presented a report on numbers of complaints received and upheld/not upheld. Members inquired about the value of circulating anonymised details of upheld complaints to peer groups for learning purposes. Ian Thomson agreed to consider this at a future Committee meeting.

A revised code of ethics is being finalised subject to calibration with the PSA. In 2012, an updated complaints and appeals process was published on the HGI website.

Linda Singer is developing proposed codes of practice, training and supervision for remote/online therapy.

7. Any other business

John Barnett raised the question of increasing Institute membership, and suggested that if access to details for lapsed members and those who have passed part II but not part III could be provided, a small working group could be established to follow up and improve numbers. Chris Forssander and Lance Kearon volunteered to support this work.

26 August 2013 JAL