

Minutes from Human Givens Institute Away Day

Date of Meeting: Sunday 11 August 2019 (10.30am-4:45pm)

Present: Judith Desbonne (Chair), Carel Beynen, Chrissy Boyce, Julie Lawrence, Declan Lyons (last hour), Ivan Tyrrell, Jane Tyrrell

In attendance: Veronique Chown (College), Jenny Edwards (Research and Update Group, first hour only), Julian Penton (RPSC)

Apologies: Atlanta Wardell-Yerburgh, Owen Davis (RPSC)

1. Update from the Research and Update Group (RUG)

Jenny Edwards updated the group on the progress with developing an evidence-base 'wiki' type platform to collate relevant research findings, and proposals for how we might incorporate future developments into HG. We agreed that the Board (**Judith Desbonne**) should nominate a couple of members to join a couple of representatives from the College to form a working group for the RUG to agree a structure for adding to the knowledge base and agreeing new material. It was noted that the task of getting the original knowledge base in the wiki would be quite considerable and **Julie Lawrence** would enquire whether Denise Winn might be prepared to offer a costing for doing this. **Carel Beynen** proposed that RUG be recognised as a formal sub-committee of the HGI.

2. Purpose of organisation

The Board noted that there were a number of different statements of purpose for the Institute and that these should be rationalised. The Institute has three core purposes:

- a) Serve members
- b) Promote and disseminate Human Givens
- c) Regulate therapists

Jane Tyrrell will take the framework and edit the website to reflect these purposes.

3. Review of Minutes of last Away Day session - Actions were mostly complete.

- Feedback from clients needs to be considered again.
- The enhancement of part II is largely complete but needs ongoing development.
- **Jane Tyrrell** will complete the action to put a note on the website offering clients who cannot pay for therapy a match to a part II or part III option for free treatment.
- **Veronique Chown** will get material from Ian Thomson about case histories and forward to peer groups for them to discuss, in collaboration with **Judith Desbonne**.

- The peer groups' work needs to be developed, and more direction needs to come from the Institute - **Veronique Chown** and **Carel Beynen** agreed to work with **Judith Desbonne** to improve peer supervision in the UK and Netherlands.
- **Jane Tyrrell** to include an update on HGI's increased online presence for the next therapists' newsletter.
- **Julie Lawrence** will check with Mark Thomas that membership of the Institute is now a prerequisite for acceptance to Part 2 of the diploma course.
- **Julie Lawrence** to speak to Mark Thomas about where we are with thinking about subsidiaries as we expand into different countries
- **Sue Saunders** to consider if she wants to put forward a proposal for enhancing affiliations to academic institutions (**Jane Tyrrell** to discuss with her)

4. Financial position

Carel Beynen presented the expected financial position for the forthcoming year, which showed that the Institute could meet costs over the course of the next year but would not make a surplus. The Board discussed raising additional revenue and it was agreed that fundraising to support new initiatives should be pursued by the Foundation.

5. Complaints

Julie Lawrence and **Carel Beynen** to support **Julian Penton** with revision of the complaints procedure to be more specific and have clear boundaries. The Board agreed that in the future teachers and supervisors should not be asked to join the committee as they have a potential conflict of interest.

6. Specialisation for therapists

A specialist course in Complex Trauma is being considered and Declan Lyons will consider development of a specialist course for old age. The intention would be to design a way to show that a therapist has completed the additional training with some sort of accreditation which could be displayed on their profile.

7. Ensuring adherence to ethics standards

The Board agreed that it was not going to be practical to require all therapists to complete the ethics online course, so the Institute would recommend it but not mandate it (via **Jane Tyrrell**'s communication to HGI members).

It was agreed that more needed to be done to raise the level of capability in ethics across the therapist community and that: (i) peer groups would be asked to look at the case studies **Véronique Chown/Judith Desbonne** are circulating; (ii) an ethics booklet will be prepared and given to participants at the end of Part 2 and be sent out with the certificates of renewing members; (iii) the website should be updated to reflect the latest advice. **Jane Tyrrell** will action.

It was agreed a new continuous professional development offer should be developed which would collate all the recent developments in Human Givens and we would possibly mandate regular (eg five yearly) attendance. It would be provided at cost if it were mandatory. **Sue Saunders** will be asked if she wants to lead this work.

The College is developing a train-the-trainer course to develop future teachers.

8. Guidelines for HG Registrants Entries

The guidelines were accepted, subject to softening of the line on inclusion of alternative techniques to the following:

“Generally links to personal websites will only be allowed if they meet all of the criteria set out for the member’s entry on the register. However, if a practitioner wishes to include details of alternative approaches to therapy on their personal website they can apply to link that website to their HG registration page. The website will be reviewed by the Institute to ensure that the alternative therapies referenced are compatible with Human Givens approaches, and if so a link to the website will be included on the therapist’s page.”

On implementation of the guidelines we will ask registrants to update their entries to comply with guidelines and will follow up with regular checking of entries and web links through the RPSC Coordinator.

Jane Tyrrell to action, in conjunction with the RPSC.

12 August 2019 (JAL)