

## **IFF Annual General Assembly 2005 Minutes**

International Feldenkrais Federation  
14<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly  
Berlin, Germany, March 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> 2005

### **1. Present**

See Appendix #1

### **2. Apologies**

Assoc. Québécoise des Professeur(e)s de la Méthode Feldenkrais

### **3. Proxies**

None Received

### **4. Tellers**

Sabine Merz, Nadine Yasikoff, Substitute: Rose Eisenberg

We were pleased to have all but 3 of our members represented this year in Berlin. The theme of **“Renewing Awareness: Where are we?”** had been prepared by a group volunteers of the Feldenkrais-Gilde Deutschland e.V. and Schweizerischer Feldenkrais Verband (SFV) together with the Assembly Design Team of the Board (Rob Black, Silke Bonardi, Lynette Reid, Rägi Zubler, Jörg Cezanne, Marianne Lacina, Frank Höfer).

The Assembly commenced with a process of introduction, welcomes and comments on the previous IFF year from Board Members.

Members advised the 3 important issues they were each currently facing and these were summarized (see Appendix#2) and then discussed by small working groups. The content, comments and recommendations of these groups were further developed throughout the Assembly and some issues taken forward by ongoing working groups into the coming year ( see Proposals, Working groups etc.)

### **5. Minutes of 2004 IFF Annual General Assembly**

Proposal#1. Correction to 2004 Draft Annual General Assembly minutes which read as:

‘that the 2004 Draft Minutes be corrected as follows:

IFF Non-Profit Budgets and Fees

Proposal:

‘To accept the Treasurers non profit budget for 2004 as presented’

Moved: Rob Black

Seconded: Rägi Zubler

*Unanimously agreed.*

#### **CORRECTION to read:**

‘To accept the Treasurers **Report** for 2004 as presented’

Moved: Rob Black

Seconded: Răgi Zubler

*Unanimously agreed.*

Proposal #2:

‘that the 2004 IFF Annual General Assembly Minutes and Appendices be accepted as amended’

Moved: Janie Randerson

Seconded: George Krutz

For:40

Opposed:0

Abstentions:0

*Unanimously agreed*

## **6. Internal Regulations Change**

see IFF UPDATE #2005 03 Proposed Change to Internal Regulation 13. Travel Pool

### **Proposal:**

‘that the Proposed change to Internal Regulation 13 be accepted’

Moved: Janie Randerson

Seconded : George Krutz

For:51

Against:0

Abstentions: 0

*Unanimously agreed*

## **7. 2004-2005 Working group reports**

### **7.1 AY translation**

see report to Agenda [http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=2005\\_Reports](http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=2005_Reports)

This group gathered a lot of information in the past year and will continue this coming year as some members like Associazione Italiana Insegnanti del Metodo Feldenkrais (AIIMF) and Asociación Mexicana del Método Feldenkrais (AMMEF) have a great interest in AY in their languages and could benefit from experiences from the translation process into German The AY Translation GME area, with a list of members, is at: <http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=aytrans>

### **7.2 Spider Web**

This group worked over the year individually finding ways to communicate to Practitioners at home. In 2005-2006 they will continue to find ways to inform their communities and network with each other.

<http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=spiderweb>

### **7.3 Archive working group**

See report to Agenda [http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=2005\\_Reports](http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=2005_Reports)

This group, Richard Ehrman, George Krutz and Becci Parsons (Cliff Smyth stepped down this year) - furthered the valuable work begun last year and continue their enthusiasm for making some of these materials also available to practitioners. The archives are in safe storage for now but \$100,000 will need to

be raised for indefinite preservation. The Archive has developed an online area of the practitioners website where donations can be made to support their work: [http://www.feldenkrais-method.org/iff/iff\\_arch.html](http://www.feldenkrais-method.org/iff/iff_arch.html)  
The Archive Working Group would particularly welcome new members from Europe, Latin America, and/or Australia/New Zealand

## **8. Website development**

Incoming website co-ordinator Lynette Reid worked with outgoing website co-ordinator Rob Black during the year to redesign and implement the IFF practitioner websites. The results are visible at [http://www.feldenkrais-method.org/iff/iff\\_main.html](http://www.feldenkrais-method.org/iff/iff_main.html). The future will bring more: brand new open source software will allow much easier use for both access to information and interaction of practitioners from all over the world within the IFF Academy pages and ultimately the Members GME. We expect the sites to be fully operational later this year. The Board is very happy to have a new Board member, Jenni Evans, join Lynette, the two of them bringing their expertise (together with hired design and programming staff) to replace Rob Black in his long term, highly skilled engagement in building up IFF website structures and services.

## **9. IFF Distribution Centre**

See report to Agenda [http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=2005\\_Reports](http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=2005_Reports)

Due to early retirement of Ilan Jacobsen from the Board this year the bulk of the work this busy year has been accomplished by the remaining two Directors, Cliff Smyth and Richard Erhman, as they continued to expand and manage the publishing of original materials of Moshe Feldenkrais. The DC website is at <http://www.iffmaterials.com>

They are seeking an additional Board member.

A series of surveys of the Practitioners is planned to gather more distinct information about the preferred types of materials and the formats they are published in. Investigation of digital publishing and copywriting continues and Members are requested to remind their members of the impact of copying and encourage them to purchase materials.

A balance sheet for the IFF Distribution Centre was distributed – see Appendix #3

## **10. Competency Steering Committee**

Andrea Wiener spoke, on behalf of the IFF Steering committee to the Competency Project, to the report distributed as IFF Update #2005 09.

The Committee feel their role is changing from steering to advisory according to resources and confidence in the current Competency team and made a number of recommendations. It was noted that the committee was formed by the IFF BOD including the frames of reference. Thus, these recommendations will go back to the Board

## **11. Proposals to 2005 IFF Annual General Assembly**

### **11.1 Logo**

see Appendix #4

Amendments to the Proposal:

Amendment #1.

‘That paragraph 1. (1. The IFF General Assembly expresses its wish to have a common logo to identify the method by on international level.) be amended to read:

The IFF General Assembly expresses its wish to have a common logo for all member organisations of the IFF to identify the Method.’

Amendment #2.

'That 3.1 be added to the proposal to read:

that the Board and the Working group determine the legal responsibility for defending the logo before proceeding to 4. If the legal responsibility belongs to the IFF, the Working Group and Board will return a new recommendation in 2006.'

Proposal to Assembly:

'That this logo proposal be accepted as amended'

Moved: Răgi Zubler

Seconded: Sabina Graf-Pointner

For: 36

Against: 0

Abstentions: 13

*The proposal was passed*

## 11.2 IFF Membership criteria

Proposal:

“ that an ongoing Working Group form to investigate how the changing membership criteria of IFF Member Organisations relate to the current IFF Membership Criteria”

Moved: Janie Randerson

Seconder: Leila Malcolm

*Unanimously Agreed*

## 12. Committee reports

### 12.1 Academy

see report to Agenda [http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=2005\\_Reports](http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=2005_Reports)

Daniel Clenin, Barbara Pieper and Janie Randerson described the Academy, the events this year and also more specifically the 2<sup>nd</sup> IFF Academy day to be presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> European Congress.

**Caroline Theuring** was appreciated for her extensive work and contributions as the IFF Academy Coordinator since December 2003. Carolin will continue to contribute to the IFF Academy Research Journal, collating the next volume. This online research Journal at: <http://www.feldenkrais-method.org/iff/academy/journal/index.htm> is a valuable resource for reference and study for Feldenkrais practitioners

A new Coordinator will be sought to take Carolin's place. The email contact address continues to be: [academy@feldenkrais-method.org](mailto:academy@feldenkrais-method.org)

The activities of Local Academy Feet ( now numbering 10) reported in [http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=2005\\_Reports](http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=2005_Reports) represent the diversity of thinking, creativity and development of our work occurring at practitioner level: those who are out there delivering the Method.

The description of the Academy in 5 languages was distributed. These information flyers in English, German, Italian, French and Spanish can be downloaded from [http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=Academy\\_flyer](http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=Academy_flyer)

## **12.2 Competency Project report**

Our Guest and consultant, Dr. Walter Götze, Zurich, Switzerland, clearly presented the aims and goals of this Project as well as updating us on the current directions and steps for it in the coming 12 months. Rob Black, Cliff Smyth and Markus Riesen will continue to work in this important project; Rineke Brinkhof has had to resign due to her health. The project's steering committee changed its name into "advisory committee" to reflect its functioning.

## **12.3 Search committee**

This committee had some difficulties functioning initially and then finding candidates for vacant positions. They are looking for more members with the retirement of some current members after this Assembly.

## **13. IFF Membership report**

Janie reported that we have retained our current membership and also answered several enquiries from Practitioners setting up new Guilds and from one established Guild. We hope we will be able to welcome them into our network in the near future.

### **13.1. Japan**

There is now a Guild in Japan and we have been continuing talks with them in the past year.

### **13.2. Spain**

Practitioners here have started the process of establishing a Guild with the help and support of other Spanish speaking members

### **13.3. Denmark**

Here also practitioners are interested in forming a Guild with a view to joining the IFF in the future

### **13.4. Greece**

Here a Practitioner has been in conversations with the IFF and Feldenkrais-Gilde Deutschland e.V. regarding forming a Guild.

### **13.5. Poland**

In Poland there are only 2 Practitioners however they are interested in protecting the work by Service marking. They are concerned by inadequately trained people advertising as Feldenkrais Practitioners.

## **14. IFF Non Profit Finances**

On behalf of the IFF Board team, Lynette Reid, treasurer, presented financial reports and budgets, answered questions and gave clarifications.

Proposal #1:

'That the 2005 IFF Budget as presented be accepted'

Moved: Rob Black

Seconded: Jenni Evans

For:49

Opposed:0

Abstentions:0

***Unanimously agreed***

Proposal #2:

'That the IFF member fees for 2005 remain unchanged'

Moved: Rob Black  
Seconded: Răgi Zubler

For:54  
Opposed:0  
Abstentions:0  
*Unanimously agreed*

Proposal #3

‘That we accept the 2005 Financial Report as presented.’

Moved: Lena Brannstrom  
Seconded: Ned Dwelle

For:40  
Opposed:0  
Abstentions:0  
*Unanimously agreed*

Refer Appendices #5

## **15. Working group plans for 2005-2006**

### **15.1 Logo**

See proposal #11.1 above

Members: Jörg Cezanne, Rupert Watson, Andrea Wiener and Răgi Zubler with Board liaison Janie Randerson

### **15.2 IFF Membership Criteria**

See proposal #11.2 above

Members:Nadine Yasikoff, Ragi Zubler, Frank Höfer with Board liaison Daniel Clénin, Janie Randerson

### **15.3 Spider web**

This group will continue to find ways to facilitate communication between and within Member Organisations. Especially the group will further representatives in their “ambassador function” being an articulation between their member organisation and the IFF.

Members: Lena Brännström, Hannie Kos, Ann Aase Kvalvaag, Ariane Moser, Annette Orphal, Orsetta Simondetti, Mette Ulsteen, Iris Urbassek, Rupert Watson, Barbara Wilhelms, with Board liaison Jenni Evans and Lynette Reid.

Their GME area, with a list of members’ addresses, is at:

<http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=spiderweb>

### **15.4 Alexander Yanai Translations**

This group gathered a lot of information in the past year and will continue this coming year as some members like Associazione Italiana Insegnanti del Metodo Feldenkrais (AIIMF) and Asociación Mexicana del Método Feldenkrais (AMMEF) have a great interest in AY in their languages and could benefit from experiences from the translation process into German. The Board is evaluating a proposal for a Spanish translation from a group assembled by AMMEF. The AY Translation GME area, with a list of members, is at: <http://gme.groupmindexpress.com/iff?da=aytrans>

## **16. Elections**

Proposal #1:

‘that the Size of the Board be 7 members’

Moved: George Krutz

Seconded: Rupert Watson

For: 49

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 5

*The proposal was passed.*

There being no nominations for a third Director position, the following was put to the Assembly:

Proposal #2:

‘that the size of the Board be reduced from 7 to 6 for the coming year’

Moved: George Krutz

Seconded: Richard Ehrman

For 52

Opposed:2

Abstentions:0

*The proposal was passed.*

Tellers appointed:

Sabine Merz

Florian Schaffler

Substitute - Marianne Lacina

### **Vice chair 2005-2006**

Janie Randerson

For 22

Against:0

Abstentions 1

*Result: Elected*

### **Secretary 2005-2008**

Jenni Evans

*There being no objection to a vote by acclamation – elected unanimously*

### **Director 1 2005-2008**

Barbara Pieper

*There being no objection to a vote by acclamation – elected unanimously*

### **Director 2 2005-2008**

Silke Maier Bonardi

*There being no objection to a vote by acclamation – elected unanimously*

**Substitutes:2005-2006**

Lena Brannstrom  
Nadine Yasikoff  
First Ballot  
Lena Brannstrom 15  
Nadine 8

*elected 1<sup>st</sup> substitute*  
*elected 2<sup>nd</sup> substitute*

**Finance Committee 2005-2008**

Keith Johnson

*There being no objection to a vote by acclamation – elected unanimously*

**Mediation Committee 2005-2008**

Marilynn Anderson

*There being no objection to a vote by acclamation – elected unanimously*

Mediation Committee Substitutes

1. Rägi Zubler
2. Leila Malcolm

*There being no objection to a vote by acclamation – elected unanimously*

**17. Future Assembly Location**

No proposals received for hosting of the 2006 IFF Annual General Assembly.

Respectfully submitted

Janie Randerson

November 27<sup>th</sup> 2005

**Appendix #1 REGISTRATIONS IFF ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2005**

MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES:

**Asociación Feldenkrais Argentina**

Diana Romano

**Asociación Mexicana del Método Feldenkrais AMMEF**

Rose Eisenberg - Weider

**Associazione Italiana Insegnanti del Metodo Feldenkrais (AIIMF)**

Diana Gallone

**Feldenkrais France**

Annette Orphal

**Feldenkrais-Gilde Deutschland e.V.**

Ute Birk

Sabina Graf-Pointner

Frank Hoefler

Sabine Merz

Mechtild von Schierstaedt

**Feldenkrais Guild of North America (FGNA)**

Marilynn Anderson

Richard Ehrman

George Krutz

**Israeli Feldenkrais Qualified Practitioners Association**

Naomi Doron

**Nederlandse Feldenkrais Vereniging**

Hannie Kos

**New Zealand Feldenkrais Guild**

Rupert Watson

**Norsk Forbund for Autoriserte Feldenkraispedagoger (NFAFP)**

Ann Aase Kvalvaag

**Schweizerischer Feldenkrais Verband (SFV)**

Marianne Lacina

Ariane Moser

Nadine Yasikoff

Ragi Zubler

**Svenska Förbundet för Auktoriserade Feldenkraispedagoger (SFAF)**

Lena Brannstrom

**The Australian Feldenkrais Guild Inc**

Jenni Evans

**The Feldenkrais Guild U.K.**

Leila Malcolm

**Australian Training Accreditation Board**

Stephanie Spink

**European Training Accreditation Board**

Ned Dwelle

**North American Training Accreditation Board**

Keith Johnson

**IFF Board Members**

Rob Black

Silke Maier Bonardi

Daniel Clénin  
Barbara Pieper  
Janie Randerson  
Lynette Reid

**ASSEMBLY HOST:**

Feldenkrais-Gilde Deutschland e.V.  
Florian Schaeffler

**ASSEMBLY GUESTS:**

**European Training Accreditation Board:**

Barbara Wilhelms

**Feldenkrais-Gilde Deutschland e.V.:**

Joerg Cezanne

**North American Training Accreditation Board:**

Andrea Wiener

**IFF Academy Committee:**

Walter Goetze

Markus Riesen

**OBSERVERS:**

Feldenkrais-Gilde Deutschland e.V.:

Petra Marx-Promny

Uta Ruge

Werner Schacker

Ursula Wietheger

**VOLUNTEERS:**

Feldenkrais-Gilde Deutschland e.V.

**Appendix #2 Report from Members identifying important Organisation issues**

Professional field

- Making a living
- Professional Development of practitioner
- Further education
- Competencies (post-graduation)
- Translation of practitioner materials
- Research
- Making a living

#### Trainings

- Reform training system
- Curriculum
- New trends in trainings

#### Image and position in society

- Making a living
- Governmental Regulation
- Public Relations
- Coalition building

#### Guild Organization

- Membership Development
- Volunteer Recruitment
- Being together
- Professional management

#### International Network

- New membership criteria
- Logo
- Communication

### **Appendix #3 IFF Distribution Centre Balance sheet.**

### **Appendix #4 Proposal from Logo Working group**

Proposal to the 2005 IFF General Assembly

Further Administration of the Feldenkrais Logo by the IFF

1. The IFF General Assembly expresses its wish to have a common logo to identify the method by on international level.
2. For the time the existing logo is still being registered in the name of the Schweizerischer Feldenkrais Verband SFV the IFF General Assembly – accepting its current and future responsibility for a logo of the Feldenkrais Method – agrees, that the right to use the logo should be granted to all members of IFF member organizations according to the individual decision of the respective national member organization. The member organizations of the IFF encourage Schweizerischer Feldenkrais Verband SFV to alter existing contracts about the use of the logo accordingly.
3. The IFF General Assembly recommends the IFF in consultation with the Schweizerischer Feldenkraisverband SFV to develop the conditions to register the design alone without words as logo of the Feldenkrais Method for the use of the IFF member organizations in the name of the IFF and for all countries once the current registrations expire.
4. For the registration of the new design or for new member organization the IFF will follow the approach outlined here:
  - The logo will be registered by the IFF at the seat of the IFF in France.
  - The logo will be registered at least in class 41. Where the first registration covers more than one class the logo will also be registered in the classes 16, 42 and 9 depending on costs.
  - Registration will be made internationally from France where possible and financially feasible under the Madrid Agreement and the Madrid Protocol.

- Where international registration is too expensive the IFF with the help of the national member organization will register the logo nationally in its own name.

Further recommendations to be considered

1. The logo could be managed by the IFF board, or by the (yet to be hired) managing director of the IFF. It could be managed by an IFF working committee like the one for the IFF Archive. Alternatively it could be administered by a third party (an individual, the office of a national guild etc.) against refund of expenses. Current costs amount to about 1.000 EUR per year.

2. The registration fees in non-MA/MP states are the most significant cost factor. Current and potential future member organisations in this group are Argentina, Australia, Japan, Canada, New Zealand, Mexico and the USA. This is the main reason for establishing a new, mutually-supportive logo-management regime under the auspices of IFF. This is the only way the logo can be made available to the smaller member organisations who cannot afford to register it as things stand.

The maximum total registration cost for all current IFF member countries would amount to €23.500, - which would have to be financed over a period of 10 years. This would mean €0,65 per member per year. The growing number of members in IFF member organisations will also reduce the cost per head.

In practice the funding could occur in the following ways:

- A logo license and management fee could be paid along with the annual membership fee to the IFF.
- A special logo-fee fund could be established

#### **Appendix #5: IFF non profit financial statements**