

Materials Committee Report 2013

Assembly 2012 voted for a new structure for the IFF Materials Program. It re-established the Materials committee to oversee the program, with the IFF Distribution Center Board retaining responsibility for the development, publication and distribution of products. Their Board was restructured to two directors – Kornelia Himmel; Chair and Jenni Evans; Secretary. They have worked closely with the DC staff to focus on the work of the Distribution Center.

The position of Materials Manager (Jenni Evans) was extended for a further year, to be reviewed prior to Assembly 2013, and redefined as a facilitating and support role for the various volunteer activities involved in the Materials area – ‘the oil in the wheels’.

After Assembly, Terms of Reference and Role Descriptions were created for the various sections and task groups, some of which were new and some already in existence. Rob Black was appointed chair of the Materials committee, with Wolfgang Säckl, Denise Alvarez and Jenni Evans. Due to other commitments, Rob stepped down at the end of 2012 and we thank him for his work during that time. Early this year George Krutz joined the team and agreed to take the position of chair. Under the oversight of the Materials Committee, many individuals and groups have given their time and energy to contribute towards the ongoing work of the IFF Materials Program. The Materials committee have taken responsibility for the overall direction of the Materials Program, setting policy, defining new projects and working to arrange suitable permissions and agreements to publish more of our Archival Materials.

Work of the Materials Manager in relation to the IFF Distribution Center

- Act as director for DC to implement plan and website upgrade
- Help to update the DC strategic plan
- With DC team, Develop new Vision Mission and Strategic Plan with particular focus on marketing (Customers, training community, training organisers, Associations)for 2013 (weekly meetings recently extended to fortnightly 2 days face to face in Portland)
- Review office procedures
- Liaise with task groups to support development and finalisation of new products
- Support Introduction of Click to purchase Amherst FI videos, downloading of individual AY pdfs , Introduction of first non English language products – Spanish AY
- Liaise with web developer to prepare public access materials shop

Work of the Materials Manager in relation to Materials Program

- Liaise with development of online Archive database
- Create terms of reference and job descriptions for new structure
- Participate in and support the Materials committee
- Face to face and phone meetings with the Feldenkrais Family to renegotiate the contracts and working relationships. Support relationships between family and other parties.
- Assist with Practitioners enquiries re materials
- Arrange permissions to locate and use photos and other materials from practitioners, authors and media producers
- Oversee acquisition of Wurm and Wolgensinger collections and contracts

- Oversee reorganisation of storage and back up of Electronic archive, approve purchase of additional equipment as required and documentation of procedures for adding and accessing materials
- Oversee digitisation of remaining archive materials
- Liaise with potential volunteers and material donors
- Liaise with and support the volunteers in the various materials task groups and projects:

Projects and Activities

Agreements: There have been 6 requests for permissions for use of photos and quotations in websites, books and documentaries so far this year. All have been granted and terms of use agreed. Some required materials to be supplied.

Amherst DVDs: Christa Beutzberger has completed the review of missing audio sections. We have communicated with the person who did the original mastering, about a proposal to fix the missing Audio. He indicated willingness to assist but we are still working on a final proposal.

Amherst FI videos: 1981 videos are all online and available to own by purchase. Rob Black and Dale Jensen met in Portland to review the various 1980 video recordings stored in the archive to select the best format of each for digitising. All files have been digitised and Dale is currently preparing and uploading them.

Amherst transcription: Week 5 has been released in both hard copy and pdf. The team of Bonnie Humiston, Arlyn Zones, Stephanie Spink and Jaclyn Boone is now working towards producing a week of transcript every 6 months. They are currently working on week 6, 1980.

Archive: This year has seen the completion of the vast majority of the items in storage digitised. Several volunteers (Rob Black, Keith Johnson, Paul Senchko, Kai Schapper) and the Materials Manager met in Portland in November to continue the sorting, describing, and digitising of the Materials. The new collections from Franz Wurm's estate and Lea Wolgensinger make valuable additions to our collection and bring new tasks to integrate and organise them. With the upgrading of the DC website, financial donations can now easily be made as part of the purchase of Materials so we now see a small but steady stream of income to support this work. Paul Senchko re-visited the DC office in Portland to spend time updating digitised files, sending out files to people who need them and rewriting the instructions for adding newly digitised material and remotely accessing the files.

AY Translations: The first 3 lessons in Spanish have been completed by the Argentinean team and are now formatted and finally online. An agreement with Argentina to continue translating is in place and further lessons are being supplied as they are completed. Mexico is also ready to start their translation project and will work cooperatively with Argentina and Spain to share the translation of the AY collection. Italy has signed the contract with the IFF and is ready to print Volume 1. They have chosen to stay with print media at this stage.

Body and Mature Behaviour/ Case of Norah: Original manuscripts of these two books are part of our Archive collection. All pages have now been photographed and Jaclyn Boone is checking for quality and working on packing originals for archiving. We hope to have the electronic version available for viewing soon.

Database: After much work by Keith Johnson, the database can now be accessed and worked with remotely, which is very helpful in gathering information about the items we have – particularly when someone has a question about what we have or the details about it. This will be an ongoing task to input, update, and crosslink information. Eventually this will be accessible to practitioners to search.

Esalen Workshops: Rob Black has a team of people who are listening to and evaluating some of the lessons taught at Esalen.

French Materials: Kai Schapper has been assessing some lessons and materials in French. Some of these are only suitable for 'Museum' listening but some may be suitable for publication and sale to the general public.

General use photos: A demonstration display gallery has created and is being evaluated but the high resolution formats of the photos would need to be converted to display. We will be looking for volunteers to assist in converting and uploading a selection to be sorted so that suitable images can be offer for use.

New Photos: Margarethe Schrom and the working group have made two attempts to get a response from the wider community. There are several Associations working on their own projects and it is hoped that co-operation can be arranged and new resources generated for us all.

Pribram Talks: The original version was produced as a low quality mp3, so we have re-digitised the originals to higher quality for editing and repackaging. Al Wadleigh is assembling the files to reconstruct a high quality digital version. This may be suitable for public sale.

San Francisco Training Transcription: Weeks 5 and 6 are now ready for production will be available for sale soon. The working group of Dennis Leri, Brandee Selck, Carolyn Fleg, Paul Senechko and Russell Smith have been working on this in a new format and will continue with the remaining weeks.

San Francisco photos: We have a large collection of Photos from the San Francisco training which needs to be sorted and labelled. As soon as the photo gallery is functional we can call for a group of people who were there, to start labelling them.

Technical implementation: Rob Black, Paul Senechko and Keith Johnson have continued to

assist with finding technical solutions and the purchase of additional hard drives and Archive storage.

Wingate Collection: Many of Moshe Feldenkrais' books and papers were deposited at the Wingate institute in Israel. His niece Arielle Silice has begun the massive task of sorting and cataloguing the contents of many boxes. The suggestion has been made to put the list of Moshe's library on the website with links to places where these books can be purchased. A Working group or volunteer would be required to undertake this project.

Wurm Lessons: Ragi Zubler is still managing the communication with Swiss Radio, SFV and the IFF about the terms of contract to reissue these lessons. The Swiss Guild will produce a small number of physical discs for local sale and all other sales will be by electronic download via the IFF Distribution Center. This requires a public access section of the online shop.

There are several other people who have contacted us about collections of items they have or may be willing to work with. We continue to negotiate with them. Many people around the world have been part of the Materials program this year and quietly contribute to its success. We thank them all for everything they have done. It would not be possible without them.

There is still much to be done in sharing the treasures of Moshe with practitioners and the rest of the world. We look forward to defining more projects, finding new volunteers, translating and sharing materials in many languages. We hope that Assembly will approve the sales of publicly taught materials to the general public so that more people can know what the Feldenkrais Method is and hear the words that Moshe was so sure would improve the world we live in.

George Krutz
Wolfgang Säckl
Denise Alvarez
Jenni Evans