



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION for COUNSELLING (IAC)

The IAC FOURTH PRESIDENTS' AND CHAIRS' ROUND TABLE (HEREAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE ASSOCIATIONS' ROUND-TABLE)

Centro Armenio de la Republica Argentina, Armenia 1353, Buenos Aires
ROUND TABLE FOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
PRESIDENTS/CHAIRS/ AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNSELLING ASSOCIATIONS
Thursday April 20th, 2017

FOURTH ASSOCIATIONS' ROUND-TABLE MEETING PROCEEDINGS OF MEETING

23 Members Present:

Valentina Chinchiniova	Canada	IAC Executive Council (EC) Member
Alejandro Corbalán	Argentina	President, Asociación Argentina de Counselors
Juan Pablo Dizz Magariños	Uruguay	Educaior Social (EDHUCA ¹)
Niamh Donoghue	Malta	MACP ²
Ruth Falzon	Malta	IAC EC/Treasurer, MACP
Guillermo Garcia Arias	Argentina	Member IAC EC/AAC ³
David Kaplan	USA ⁴	Chief Professional Officer ACA ⁵
Naoise Kelly	Ireland	IAC Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Courtland Lee	USA	Past President, IAC EC/ACA
Barbara MacCallum	Canada	CEO, CCPA ⁶
Amalia Madihie	Malaysia	IAC EC member, Executive Member for PERKAMA
International		
Dione Mifsud	Malta	President, IAC EC
Alessandro Onelli	Italy	Associazione Counselling (AssoCounselling)
Dominic Nsoma	Malawi	Malawi Association of Counsellors (MAC)
David Paterson	Canada	President Elect, IAC EC
John Pryor Jones	Wales UK ⁷	Secretary. IAC EC
Gay Puketapu Andrews	New Zealand	Te Ahi Kaa, NZAC ⁸
Riziandy Nawawi	Malaysia	, Division Head Employee Assistance Division, Chief Minister's Department Sarawak
Zeynep Hande Sart	Turkey	IAC Member from Turkey
Wendi Schweiger	USA	Vice-President, NBCC ⁹ International
Blythe Shepard	Canada	IAC Secretary/ Past President CCPA ¹⁰
Sue Webb	New Zealand	IAC Executive Council Member
Silvia Vila	Uruguay	Psychologist (EDHUCA)

¹ Escuela de Desarrollo Humano Casagrande Ubicación: Maldonado, Uruguay.

² Malta Association for the Counselling Profession (MACP)

³ Asociación Argentina de Counselors /Argentinean Association of Counsellors (AAC)

⁴ United States of America (USA/US)

⁵ American Counselling Association (ACA)

⁶ Canadian Counsellors and Psychotherapists Association (CCPA)

⁷ United Kingdom

⁸ New Zealand Association for Counselling (NZAC)

⁹ National Board for Certified Counsellors

¹⁰ Canadian Counsellors and Psychotherapists Association (CCPA)

Apologies:

Jessica Bertolani	Italy	Continuando a Crescere/AssoCounselling
Tim Bond	UK	IAC EC member
William (Bill) Borgen	Canada	Past President IAC EC/IAVEG ¹¹ representative
Silvia Galea	Malta	President, MACP
Selebaleng Mmapatsi	Botswana	Member EC, Botswana Counselling Association (BCA)
Esnaty Obetile	Botswana	President, BCA
Audrey Pottinger	Jamaica	IAC Executive Council
Ifeoma Rose-Ann Eze	Nigeria	Botswana Counselling Association (BCA)
Keynote Speaker	Argentina	Beatriz Brinckmann AAC

Members Excused Associations who wanted to be present but could not due to financial, travelling, Visa or time reasons.

The meeting convened at 09:45. DM referred to an e-mail he sent through the IAC CEO on April 19th, 2017 (Appendix A). This included information about this meeting and two attachments: the agenda (Appendix B) and an information sheet presenting IAC collaborators (Appendix C). He noted that the reports of the previous three Presidents' and Chairs' Forum meetings were uploaded on the IAC website. He noted that these reports would have been approved by all present at each meeting before being upload.

DM explained the schedule and tabled the items of the agenda of this 2017 fourth Meeting of the Associations' Round-Table:

10:30	IAC Activity Update and Q&A
11:15	Updates from Associations/Attendees:
12:30	Lunch
14:00	Presentation: Counselling in Argentina and Latin America – Beatrix Brinkmann
14:45	IAC 'Collective' Association Membership
15:00	Workshop - Improving the connection between Associations and IAC
15:45	Feedback
16:00	Close

This report (pages 03-19) presents discussion and outcomes of this meeting, such that associations who could not attend can follow what happened during this encounter. The report includes the following appendices (as from page 20):

Appendix A	IAC President's email sent on April 19, 2017 through IAC CEO (NK)
Appendix B	Agenda attached to the April 19, 2017 e-mail
Appendix C	Information attached to the April 19, 2017 e-mail
Appendix D	IAC President's Welcome Speech
Appendix E	Report IAC CEO
Appendix F	IAC Brochure – Membership application still to be inserted
Appendix G	IAC Brochure – still to be inserted
Appendix H	IAC Brochure – still to be inserted
	Certification Information and Application Form
Appendix I	Keynote Power Point Presentation
Appendix J	E-mail contact, members present/apologies of this meeting

¹¹ International Association for Vocational and Educational Guidance (IAVEG)

Minute 031: Welcome by IAC President Dione Mifsud (Appendix D)

DM welcomed all present and referred to the change in the name of this meeting - from Presidents' and Chairs' Forum to **Associations' Round-Table**. Appendix D presents the welcome speech delivered by IAC president Dr Dione Mifsud (DM).

Minute 032: Report, IAC CEO Naoise Kelly (NK) (Appendix E)

NK referred to the report (Appendix E) he had distributed by e-mail to all present earlier in the month and also gave the relevant hard copies to whoever needed during this meeting. NK noted that IAC had made contact with many countries in the last nine months and reported that IAC presently has a team working more regularly for IAC, apart from the Executive Council meetings. This allows for continuity and growth.

NK noted that many more would have liked to be present at this meeting but could not due to travelling, monetary or visa challenges. NK also referred to associations who are not aware of IAC and with whom IAC had not yet made contact and explained that this is one of the tasks of the eight elected IAC Executive Council (EC) members who are regional representatives of the IAC EC. NK noted that less are present at this meeting when compared to previous years and this year 13 countries:

Argentina,	Bulgaria,	Canada,	Ireland,	Italy,
Malaysia,	Malawi,	Malta,	New Zealand,	Turkey,
United States of America,	Uruguay	Wales		

are represented during this meeting. NK noted that Botswana is also trying to get to the meeting. Unfortunately the Botswana delegate did not manage to arrive in time to attend this meeting but managed to attend the rest of the conference.

NK referred to the agenda and noted that the focus of this meeting was not IAC and what IAC is doing, but

- 1) an exchange of information between associations and nations;
- 2) what is happening in different countries;
- 3) how IAC can help associations; and
- 4) how associations can support IAC.

NK reported that IAC has three printed brochures (Appendices F, G and H) and distributed them with all present. He reported that these were produced to help associations understand what IAC is for and what it is doing.

Babara MacCallum (BM) queried the IAC certification process as presented in one of the brochures (Appendix H). NK noted that a panel of assessors and a marking scheme will serve as guides. Further, assessors are to report any potential conflicts of interest. He reminded that IAC does not accredit but only certifies the international dimensions of

counsellor-training programmes; and the relevant application asks for information of pre-existing accreditation/ certification. He noted that valuation processes should last a month.

Gay Puketapu Andrews (GPA) congratulated IAC for all the work done as this reflected passion and commitment to the profession. She reported that NZAC has put in place counselling education standards. She noted that this created a lot of debate and discussion in New Zealand and first national people were not happy about a number of things. She noted that in this context, how can one factor in an international dimension when one has such serious internal issues to address. GPA appreciated that issues regarding dimension and context always crop up. Another concern GPA expressed was: How can regions (e.g. Oceania) with so many different peoples, cultures and worldviews be truly represented?

NK appreciated the complexity of the issues involved as even terminology is diverse with philosophical and linguistic implications: for example 'first nation', 'tribe' and 'indigenous'. He reminded that IAC opted for eight world regions to represent all peoples and is aware that this can be problematic as regions are not equally populated (e.g. Asia is significantly larger than others), whilst others (e.g. Oceania) cover an extremely large geographical region.

GPA suggested that, given that the IAC 2019 conference will take place in New Zealand, perhaps IAC can do something in preparation for the conference, such as apply for UNESCO-funded programmes for research and perhaps use the Indigenous roundtable to address the relevant issues.

GPA referred to the Healing Our Spirit Worldwide (Figure 1 overleaf) which focuses on indigenous populations. She noted that Healing Our Spirit Worldwide conferences are extremely well-attended and IAC should look into this. Networking with this group is a good idea as there can be a lot of learning. Blythe Shepard (BS) noted that she is aware of this movement and will contact Healing Our Spirit Worldwide, also as chair of the Indigenous Round-Table.

David Paterson (DP), IAC President-Elect, highlighted his new role as IAC Development Chair, where his brief is to explore new and alternative sources for revenue and funding. He reported already existing close partnership with national associations who are generous in supporting IAC with financial and/or in kind contribution to assist IAC. DP asked for ideas and to get in touch with IAC with new ideas and opportunity. NK reported that CCPA is helping IAC with its infrastructure and also processed all international conference registration for the 2017 conference.

David Kaplan (DK) queried how much income IAC needs; what the gap between income and funds needed is; and what would the IAC budget be in a perfect world. NK said that there was a reported a gap between income and required expenses and that IAC was endeavouring to decrease this gap. NK estimated that to achieve the current strategic aims an annual budget of 750,000 – one million USD would be sufficient.

Healing Our Spirit Worldwide

The Seventh Gathering

15th - 19th November 2015

Kirikiroa, Hamilton, Aotearoa, New Zealand

The Healing Our Spirit Worldwide movement began as one person's vision to create an international forum and movement focused on the alcohol and drug abuse issues and programs in Indigenous communities throughout the global community.

It is an Indigenous movement which began in Canada in the 1980s to address the devastation of chemical abuse and dependence among Indigenous people around the world. The focus has been to address the underlying issues and difficulties that predispose this particular behaviour among Indigenous people.

The first Gathering in Edmonton in 1992 attracted 3,500 people from 17 countries. The first and subsequent Gatherings have been a cultural and spiritual movement celebrating the tenacity and resiliency of Indigenous people around the world in their struggle against alcohol and drug abuse. This has been achieved through the development of successful proven models and programmes. Health and governance issues in relation to substance abuse have been a more recent focus of the Gatherings.

In December 2011 the International Indigenous Council for Healing Our Spirit Worldwide invited New Zealand to host The Seventh Gathering and Te Rau Matatini entered into a relationship with the International Indigenous Council to lead the hosting of this Gathering. The purpose of The Seventh Gathering of Healing our Spirit Worldwide 2015 is for Indigenous peoples across the world to come together to share their strength, hope, and wisdom as they face community health, governance, and substance abuse issues. It provides a forum to discuss solutions and to connect and learn from other peoples to heal the spirit, heal the earth, and sustain cultural practices for the next generation.

Te Rau Matatini will also work with other Māori providers, local hapū and marae, Rangatahi, Kaumātua and community groups to ensure there is a high participation of these groups in the conference.

Figure 1: Healing our Spirit Worldwide

Alejandro Corbalán (AC) noted that, in a context where IAC is rebranding itself, what does IAC propose for other associations for the world? What is IAC's role for associations world-wide. NK noted that the activity report answers this in detail.

AC queried: From where does IAC get its income, memberships or activities? NK explained that presently, income is mostly from memberships but this may change in the future with projects' sponsorships and grants, as well as activities such as webinars.

AC narrated that from his association's humble experiences. AAC often had to change its aims and focus because of the changing demands of counsellor-members. He noted that, in order to be elected, executive council members have to respond to the members' demands as this is the way how AAC could get more members, such that it was very important to address, accept and embrace counsellor-members' expectations. AC noted the need to develop more activities to reach more AAC members according to their request. NK referred to the importance of being both flexible to address what members want and faithful to the aims of an association.

Minute 033: Updates from Associations

DM invited members to inform, share and reflect on issues from their respective countries and to inform how IAC can help each nation and national association. A Round Robin yielded the following discussions and information:

Minute 33.1 Updates from the UK – John Pryor-Jones (JPJ)

JPJ, a registered member of the British Association of the Counselling Profession (BACP), but not speaking on behalf of BACP, noted a similarity between AAC and BACP and said that counselling discussions in the UK include the professionalisation of counselling and the importance of ensuring that counselling research informs and influences the practice of counsellors.

JPJ continued: "In Wales, where I live, health is a separate jurisdiction under the Welsh government and we have a new Mental Health policy, the effect of which has been to marginalise counsellors, especially in the health services. On the other hand, a positive scenario is that every Junior School in Wales has its own counsellor and the plan is that every senior school will also have its own counsellor. The University of Bangor has a busy counselling service, as a big concern is the mental health of university students and the pressures that they are under to perform, coupled with the lack of pastoral care for students and staff."

Niamh Donoghue (ND) queried how the new Welsh Mental Health Policy has affected counsellors negatively. JPJ noted that the new policy has led to downgrading salaries

and a subtle change in role which has led to devaluing the profession to try and save money.

DK queried if BREXIT has had any effect on the profession. JPJ noted that, in his opinion, BREXIT will have a negative effect on counselling and that effectively, this is already being felt through changes in income and decrease in job security. JPJ noted that one also needs to acknowledge that the recent high incidence of sexual abuse of children in schools, church and sports has increased the volume of work for counsellors. The publicity of high profile people exposed as paedophiles has made people realise that they can come forward and acknowledge what has happened to them, as their shame had previously kept them quiet.

Minute 33.2 Updates from Malaysia - Amalia Madihie (AM), Riziandy Nawawi (RW)

AM, assisted by RW reported that their country, made up of thirteen states and three federal territories, has structured counselling services and programme, where counselling has been a registered profession since the 80s, in a context where psychologist still have to be regulated. There is one Malaysian counsellor's board to register counsellors and this board is within the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development called as Malaysia Counsellor Board (*Lembaga Kaunselor (Malaysia)*). Presently there are around 10,000 registered and licenced counsellors in Malaysia. In order to be eligible to register, Malaysian counsellors are required to have a minimum number of hours of practice of Practicum (252 hours) and Internship (504 hours), apart from their qualification. AM explained that counsellor training is organised by both public and private Malaysian universities.

PERKAMA International (*Persatuan Kaunseling Malaysia Antarabangsa*) is an official Association for the Counselling Profession and Practice which focuses on the advancement of counselling services and promotes Malaysian expertise to the international level.

AM and RW noted that Sarawak is the first state to introduce a Communities of Practice to register and support counsellors, including continued professional development (CPD) in Malaysia.

They added that, notwithstanding that there is a legislative Act for the Counselling profession and that the one for psychologists is still at the proposal stage, there are more than 600 'psychologists' working in the public service. In spite of being referred to as psychologists, most are actually counselling graduates and effectively counsellors.

This confusion of terms and profiles of training created conflict within the public sector and confusion with the general public. Effectively, counsellors are referred to as

Psychology officer by the state, but at University and in private practice one can use the title of 'counsellor' but not the psychology title.

AM and RW noted that they:

- a) would like IAC to help promote the term 'Counsellors' as a distinct profession with the Malaysian public sector
- b) feels that IAC is a good platform to be visible internationally
- c) hopes that IAC expertise can help counselling grow in Malaysia
- d) augurs that IAC can help address identity confusion as this is a big issue Malaysian policy making.

Minute 33.3 Updates from Malta - ND

ND, an MACP EC member, reported that Counselling in Malta is represented by three bodies, the Malta Association for the Counselling Profession (MACP), the Council for the Profession of Counselling (CPC) and the Department of Counselling within the Faculty for Social Wellbeing at the University of Malta.

She noted that the Act for the Counselling Profession was established in March 2016 and Warranting In Process. Malta is effectively the first European country where the profession of Counselling is warranted by the State Law established in March 2016

(<http://www.justiceservices.gov.mt/DownloadDocument.aspx?app=lom&itemid=12292&l=1>). By the end of 2017, Malta would have the first set of registered counsellors.

ND explained that the Maltese Law gives clear guidelines for Counsellor Education, namely Master's Level of Training. Malta presently has two Master's programmes, a part time Master in Counselling and a full-time Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling.

She further explained that supervision and profile of counsellor-supervisors are also entrenched in the law such that by 2020 counsellors' supervision needs to be carried by counsellor-supervisors. A post-masters certificate in supervision will in fact be offered by the Department of Counselling as from October 2017.

ND reported that most counsellors are employed in Schools. Historically, School Counselling in Malta was only carried out by teachers who had had postgraduate diploma training in counselling, but the profile is now changing such that presently in schools there are a number of counsellors who were never teachers. This is indicating a need to further training with regard to school and school culture for counsellors. Further, the Ministry for Education and Employment (MEDE) has made a change in terminology, such that counsellors in schools are being referred to as Support Officers - counsellors. MACP protested and continues to protest on this change of terminology. MACP also became a trade union and is concentrating on reaching out to other sectors to introduce the value

of counselling and counsellors. One sector MACP is focusing on is the health sector, currently dominated by Psychologists. MACP is aware that it needs to work to create jobs in other sectors and to establish itself as a trade union.

It was recommended that IAC write a letter to the Maltese Government to address the issue of title of counsellor for Maltese counsellors working in schools.

DP queried profile of counsellors working in schools. Ruth Falzon (RF) and ND noted that presently there are a significant number of counsellors working in Maltese schools who did not have a background of teaching.

Minute 33.4 Updates from New Zealand - GPA

GPA referred to the unique aspect of New Zealand with regard to the Treaty of Waitangi¹² - the Treaty between the British and the first nation people. As an association, The New Zealand Association of Counsellors (NZAC) respects and is informed by this treaty. GPA, in fact, sits in on the NZAC board to represent the Tangata Whenua ("people of the land", from tangata, 'people' and whenua 'land'.) She notes that "I sit alongside the president and there is one other Tangata Whenua representative on the board. This has developed over the years and was not always in this way."

GPA reported that NZAC took a vote a few months ago and decided not to be registered with the government. NZAC prefers to self-regulate and are very satisfied and happy with this decision as its experience with government and legislation has not been a positive one. GPA noted that NZAC will now need to strengthen its own structures, its membership and its professional development to regulate, guard and monitor the profession. Tongue in cheek, she noted "We kind of do things the opposite to other people, coming from the opposite part of the world." She noted that psychotherapists are registered with the Government in New Zealand and report a bad experience. Likewise, psychologists became registered about three years ago and it has also been a disaster. Psychologists thought that registration would lead to more jobs and this has not been the case. These experiences helped NZAC members take an informed decision towards self-regulation.

¹² The **Treaty of Waitangi** (Māori: *Tiriti o Waitangi*) is a treaty first signed on 6 February 1840 by representatives of the British Crown and various Māori chiefs from the North Island of New Zealand. It resulted in the declaration of British sovereignty over New Zealand. The Treaty established a British Governor of New Zealand, recognised Māori ownership of their lands, forests and other properties, and gave the Māori the rights of British subjects. The English and Māori versions of the Treaty differed significantly, so there is no consensus as to exactly what was agreed. From the British point of view, the Treaty gave Britain sovereignty over New Zealand, and gave the Governor the right to govern the country. Māori believed they ceded to the Crown a right of governance in return for protection, without giving up their authority to manage their own affairs. Today the Treaty is generally considered the founding document of New Zealand as a nation. Despite this, it is often the subject of heated debate, and much disagreement by both Māori and non-Māori New Zealanders. Many Māori feel that the Crown did not fulfil its obligations under the Treaty, and have presented evidence of this before sittings of the Waitangi Tribunal. Some non-Māori New Zealanders have suggested that Māori may be abusing the Treaty in order to claim special privileges. The Crown, in most cases, is not obliged to act on the recommendations of the Tribunal but nonetheless in many instances has accepted that it breached the Treaty and its principles. Settlements for Treaty breaches to date have consisted of hundreds of millions of dollars of reparations in cash and assets, as well as apologies.

She noted that NZAC is aware of the difficulties with self-regulation, as some opportunities for counsellors may be lost because of this decision. However, NZAC believes that this impact would not be significant. In fact, she notes, such a decision has to date not had a huge impact on counsellors' ability to practice our profession. She explained that New Zealand has an insurance scheme related to sexual abuse and most of this therapeutic work is carried out by counsellors.

NZAC has around 4000 counsellors but they do not involve themselves with NZAC. They just belong, as membership is very important to get. NZAC provides two conferences a year for first nation members. She explained that there is a lot of conflicts and tension because of two different worldviews, where NZAC have to keep both world views in mind because counsellors cannot be colonisers. SW noted that a recent survey noted that, by and large, all New Zealand counsellors are members of NZAC.

GPA regarded the question - What can IAC do? - as a challenging question. She reminded that NZAC was seriously considering organising the 2019 conference. GPA asked: "What is it all about, as we know a lot of what is going on in the world but like to focus on our own back yard. There have been two IAC conference and individual IAC members but no association membership so far. I really cannot answer this question. This is more like a John F. Kennedy question – "ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

Minute 33.5 Updates from Argentina - AC

AC informed that the Asociación Argentina de Counselors (AAC) is 20 years old. AAC Counsellor Education in Argentina started with an official title. This was a good start because in Argentina the level of education is very important for any profession. The second good thing that happened in Argentina was the creation of AAC's code of ethics as this is the only norm which regulates the work of counsellors in Argentina.

He reported a moment of serendipity: "I just went to take a call from a deputy of the Argentinian parliament who represents the regulation of the profession in Argentina, She apologised for not being able to be here and noted that she will try to come for the closing." He reported that Argentinian challenges in counselling include level of education and regulation. Counselling in Argentina is regarded as a separate profession. It is not tied to the health system or traditional psychology, which is dominated by psychoanalysis. In Argentina, AAC has thought it necessary to focus on education and social development more than on mental health. This does not mean that AAC and counsellors do not involve themselves in Mental Health but that they consider it better to focus on Education and Social Development.

AC explained that difficulties in Argentina include the size of the country, the vast distances and the organisation of professionalisation in general. He emphasised that the profile of the profession should be that of counsellors not managers, but that difficulties with communication, administration and all the bureaucracy to reach the whole country creates dilemmas. He noted that there are some counselling schools thousands of kilometres from Buenos Aires and one does not know exactly what is happening in those schools. He concluded that Argentina's menace are the corporations of health and education which resist counselling in these contexts.

Guillermo Garcia Arias (GGA) noted that there is also another important issue of concern - different levels of counsellor-education. GGA reported that he and AC are fighting against the lower quality programmes as some states have very low standard of counselling.

AC noted that the main problem is no state standardisation. AAC is working towards university level training to obtain a good professional level which also has to do with numbers of hours of training and education. He noted that there had been a need to increase hours and this was processed two years ago - from 780 hours to 1600 hours.

Minute 33.6 Comment from Uruguay – Silvia Vila (SV)

SV queried if non-Argentinian individuals can become AAC members. AC noted that there are a number of non-Argentinians who work as counsellors in Argentina and are AAC members. He noted that AAC checks training profiles and that AAC has agreements with institutions who teach the profession who co-operate with AAC on such issues.

AM queried counsellor education in Argentina. AC explained that in Argentina different institutes train counsellors but, to date, no university has counsellor-training programmes. To work as a counsellor in Argentina, there is an official title which allows one to practice. One can only be a member of the association if one has this official title. All AAC members from other countries who work as counsellors in Argentina and are trained in other countries also need this official title. Since Counselling in Argentina is not yet regulated, AAC can provide this official title.

Minute 33.7 Updates from Malawi – Dominic Actionman Nsoma

DAN, President of the Malawi Association for Counselling (MAC) thanked IAC for his association's membership and for helping him attend this conference as his presence during this conference was a significant milestone for counselling in Malawi. He briefed members present about the history of MAC. DN explained that Malawi has three regions - South Centre and North and that MAC was established in 1999 and was formed by colleagues who were trained in HIV and AIDs. They came together when they realised that there were psychosocial issues beyond HIV issues which needed to be tackled, apart

from addressing professionals working in isolation. MAC was registered as an association in 2002, but due to challenges with members' time and commitment, it died a national death until in 2014, when counsellors realised that "we cannot continue without an association so a team of professional counsellors came together". Malawi's challenge is that "our education institutions address the theoretical aspect but not the practical aspect, so one can have a masters or a doctorate in counselling but cannot see a client. As MAC, we take in students who do their practice with us." He explained that a problem that MAC experiences as an association is that counselling still needs to be recognised as a profession. There is no official Malawian register of professional counsellors, no certification and no licencing. MAC informed its government that the revived counselling association was needed so that MAC should outline the attributes needed to be a counsellor. DAN explained that, given that in Malawi there is no standardisation, talk about internationally trained counsellors has not yet been initiated.

Minute 33.8 Updates from Canada – BM

BM remarked that it is amazing how much similarity there was across countries and how much subtle differences existed. She noted that Canada's size also creates a lot of challenges. She explained that Canada has three territories and ten provinces and there are big differences in the process of legislation in each province. She explained that the Canadian Counsellors and Psychotherapists Association (CCPA) has been in existence for 52 years and for the first 45 years of its existence, only one province had regulated counselling – Quebec. She noted that then two more provinces embraced regulated counselling and in the last six months another three regulated counsellors such that presently, six of 10 provinces have regulated counselling.

Within each Canadian province there are many associations at the provincial level so you have to get groups to come together and agree on the definition of counselling. Standardisation is also diverse at the education level and now the government has mandated CCPA to create certification through competencies. Many believe it should be master's level of training whilst others disagree.

She reflected that at this moment in time, perhaps CCPA is also dealing with - not good to get what you ask for. CCPA has been trying to convince Government that it is important to regulate and now that some governments are listening, there is a tendency to simplify what constitutes counselling. For example, in Quebec Mental Health counselling is not subsidised at all and is presently considering Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) as the only way to help, due to evidence-based research.

CCPA is very proud to have introduced continued educational programme for its indigenous members and is embracing traditional healing methods and activities as part of counselling. BM noted that IAC can help as CCPA is able to refer to an international

association when communicating with Government. Very often, counselling in Canada is perceived as a subset of psychology.

AC queried management of supervision in Canada. BM explained that since there is no regulation for counselling supervision, until recently CCPA has had no supervision standards. However, in the last three years, CCPA has established certification for supervisors. NK noted that CCPA has made a significant contribution to IAC such as all the international bookings for this conference. NK noted that CCPA will also be promoting IAC at a conference it is organising in New Foundland.

Minute 33.9 Updates from the United States of America (USA) - DK

DK noted that in recent years counselling in the USA has achieved a complete separation from psychology. This has really promoted a growth spurt as the American Counseling Association (ACA) could focus on advancing standards and standardising the profession rather than addressing boundaries of the profession

A current issue ACA is facing is that it has 400,000 members who call themselves counsellors but not all are eligible to be licenced counsellors. This is complex when one takes into account that there are 53 licencing laws as each state has to create its own laws and it becomes difficult for counsellors to work in different states. ACA is focusing on the standardisation of counselling licences across states, such that counsellors can work across states with ease. With regard to IAC, ACA appreciates that IAC is a portal to the global community and ACA a portal to the US.

AM remarked that counselling programmes in Malaysia follow American tradition. She queried if, given the complete separation between counselling and psychology, would ACA keep on adhering to CACREP (Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs - <http://www.cacrep.org/>) and APA (American Psychological Association's referencing system - <http://www.apastyle.org/>). DK and Courtland Lee (CL) remarked that CACREP is quality control of the profession whilst APA a referencing system and continuing use the APA referencing system does not seem to be an issue for ACA.

Minute 33.10 Updates from Ireland - NK

NK noted that there are around 10,000 counsellors in Ireland, which is a very high proportion when compared to the Irish population (c. 4.6 million). NK noted that there was a huge interest in counselling and all things to do with mental health due to research coming out and the fact that Ireland is following the global trend. A survey by one of the Irish Associations, the Irish Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (IACP) showed that 80% of their members are keen to have counselling regulated by Government and see this process as better for the safety of clients and counsellors. He reported that political promises to regulate counselling have been made for the last 25 years, but are

now becoming more serious. He envisaged that within the next ten years, counselling will probably be regulated in Ireland. He noted that there is still a serious divide between counsellors, psychologists and psychotherapists and terminology is sometimes confusing to clients. With regard to IAC and IACP, NK noted that two IAC conferences have been held in Ireland (1989 and 2007).

GPA expressed fascination at the high number of counsellors in Ireland and queried about their work. NK noted that in an IACP survey, the data indicated that around 70% of counsellor-members of IACP noted that counselling work was for them part-time along with another full-time job.

GPA further queried what the better situation is and who does a better job with regard to regulation - associations or the government? State- or Association-regulation? BM noted that it is hard to find research on this as counselling is not regulated in many areas and people do not report to the authorities. CCPA does regulation but the worst CCPA can do is to ask members to resign. CCPA cannot stop counsellors practising. GPA noted that, given that being a member of NZAC is necessary, NZAC can hold counsellors accountable by taking away their membership and this can effect jobs. Sue Webb (SW) noted that most counsellors are NZAC members as employers check NZAC membership before employing counsellors, so not being a NZAC member is huge in New Zealand. GPA remarked that most of what comes to the attention of NZAC does not require legal action, but work with counsellor-members to improve their practice rather than a punitive approach.

JPJ continued that there is no research regarding safety and regulation. He reported some research in Germany on this issue and the outcome was that it does not make any difference. JPJ is to forward the relevant reference to members present.

Minute 33.11 Updates from the National Board for Certified Counsellor – International (USA)

International V.P., explained that NBCC is a US certification body and has to date certified about 62,000 counsellors in the US (NCCC) and beyond (NBCC International - <http://www.nbccinternational.org/>). WS explained that in 2003, an international arm of NBCC was established. NBCC International works with organisations in other countries who are interested in professionalising counselling using a collaborative process. Programs include the Mental Health Facilitator, a fundamental mental health training programme, and other international collaborations that may lead to full certification in that country. All individual professional certification is contextualised and local experts decide on the standards of the particular country-based certification.

AC queried - what is the real value of NBCC certification for non US countries? WS noted that NBCC International helps create voluntary certification by counsellors for counsellors in various countries and the local partners are fully in charge of their certifications.

The meeting broke up for lunch at 12:20 and reconvened at 14:00

Minute 33.12 Update from Turkey

Zeynep Hande Sart (ZHS) referred to the present strife in her country and the effect this has had on the population and on the increased demand for counselling.

Minute 33.13 Update from Italy

Alessandro Onelli (AO) referred to issues of level and intensity training, legislation and identity that are of concern in his country.

Minute 034: Counselling in Argentina and South America

Keynote Speech: Beatriz Brinckmann (BB) (Appendix I)

BB used a PowerPoint Presentation to support her intervention. (Appendix I).

She noted that, in a context where most of Argentinians live in Buenos Aires¹³, Argentina, or Buenos Aires rather than the whole country, Argentina has the highest number of psychologists per inhabitant when compared to the rest of the world, especially where psychoanalysis is concerned. She noted that the person-centred approach was introduced at the University of Buenos Aires in the early sixties by Lic. Juana Danis. Marcelo Lerner then formed the first groups and wrote the first book by an Argentinian Author: "Introduction to the thinking of Carl Rogers. In 1969, the Editorial Paidos published the first Spanish translation of Client-Centred Psycho-therapy.

Finally, in the 1970s, Manuel Artiles formed a group with other professional called SEPOR (Centre of Psychological Studies with Rogerian Orientation). The group's purpose was to divulge the Person-Centred Approach. In 1981, Manuel Artiles, together with some of the collaborators from SEPOR, founded an institute called Counselling. 1981 was the first time the word Counselling appeared in Argentina, and then, sometime later, Andrés Sanchez Bodas latched on to this idea and opened Holos, a counsellor-education private school.

In the beginning it was very difficult to explain what counsellors did and what counselling involved. The name - counselling - created more challenges as it was a strange name which had nothing to do with the Argentinian language. Presently, in many parts of Argentina where the profession is taught, there is no official title yet, but slowly and surely counselling advances as it has done in Buenos Aires.

¹³ The population of Argentina is about 41 million. It is unequally distributed amongst the provinces, with about 60% living in the Pampa region (21% of the total area), including 15 million people in the Buenos Aires Province, and 3 million each in Córdoba Province, Santa Fe Province and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.

BB noted that Counselling as a profession started to be taught in Argentina in 1987 when the Holos counsellor-training school was created by Andrés Sanchez Bodas together with Martha van Rafelghem, Elena Frezza and Monica Lagache de Eppinger. She noted that in 1989, the first counsellors completed their training but did not have an official title. The career was then officially approved in 1992 and the first legal titles obtained in 1995. Presently the official name of the profession used in Argentina is Counselling, but the professionals' title is Consultor Psicologico (Counsellor).

BB referred to the strife Counsellors have experienced to obtain the recognition of the profession and noted that psychologist had a big fight to get in due to psychiatrists and now counselling is experiencing this journey and has come a long way. Education for counselling is still developing and Argentina has to respond to the needs of the country. Counselling is now accepted in all sectors, lately even with the Military, but standardising of education is still a concern and there are big variations across Argentina.

Some of the first counsellors came from the area of voluntary social work and then applied for training to professionalise themselves in the area. Some went to work in hospitals and nowadays there are counselling services in a number of sectors as not only social workers but also teachers started to introduce counselling in schools and nuns and priests in parishes, after also getting counselling training themselves. Counsellors started to work in many areas where it was needed as a service and from there, they became known and started to form private practices. The first teachers in counselling schools were psychologist, but it was the idea of private practice that first spread.

BB explained that counselling in Argentina is not at a master's level and this makes job employment more difficult when compared to psychologists. Psychologists can be counsellors but counsellors cannot be psychologists. This seems to be the situation worldwide and in Buenos Aires the market is rather saturated. BB noted that was extremely important for counselling in Argentina that counsellors and the association continues to grow by addressing standards of training and practice such that counsellors can grow as persons and as professionals.

The association has experienced a lot of achievements. It has managed to get into areas one did not dream of and the association has advanced slowly but surely with only the support of volunteers. Difficulties are similar to other countries, a main one whether the profession should get regulated or not. The association is trying to get into education and health and perhaps regulation would help. Future projects of the Argentinian association include standardisation of supervisors.

BB noted that as nationals and international association we need to help each other to move forward. In a profession which helps others, we need to first help ourselves. JPJ

queried how clients perceive counsellor in urban and rural areas. BB answered that Buenos Aires is full of psycho-analysts but there may be resistance to this and counsellors then has a space and counselling has become quite popular and the general knows what counselling is. Argentina does not have a healing history but priests filled the role of helping before counselling existed in Argentina. Nowadays, religious people often ask for counselling training.

The similarity between Coaching and Counselling was discussed. BB noted that most coaching training comes from Chile. It seems that specific areas of South America focus on a particular area of therapy - e.g. psycho-analysis, Gestalt. Argentina has a long and strong relationship with person-centred and a number of conference have been organised. As in other countries, 80% of Argentinian counsellors are female. BB also noted that often one cannot live on being a counsellor only and often it is done by the female who supports the main breadwinner, often the husband.

Similarly, counsellors get significantly more female clients. GPA noted that a lot of volunteers in New Zealand would be female and then they progress to counsellor-training such that there are also more female counsellors in New Zealand, who mostly work part-time supplementing the bread-winner of the family.

ND queried access to counselling. BB noted that Counselling in Argentina is privatised so getting clients is more a snowball approach. There is also an issue over fee and insurance and this means that counselling is entirely a personal expense. Psychologists are covered by insurance but counsellors are not and this is an issue that AAC is working on.

DM thanked BB for her engaging presentation and passed on to the next item on the agenda.

Minute 035: 'Collective' Association Membership (Appendix F)

DM asked NK to present association Membership. NK referred to the relevant brochure (Appendix F). This arose from the 2015 member survey and addresses responses given. NK explained the brainstorming process that had been carried out in order to conclude association membership profile and fees in order to ascertain what IAC Association membership brings to members. He referred to the translation of the philosophy and ethos of IAC to the practicality of it all - why would associations want to join? He noted that fees are reflective of the economic situation of the country as retrieved from International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

DK queried if only IAC Paid-up association members would be allowed to attend this round table. DM noted that there is no set decision yet and to date all are always invited.

BB noted how much has improved during this meeting when compared to the 2013 ad hoc meeting in Istanbul Turkey. JPJ noted that the composition of the meeting changes per annum as different people attend each year. It is therefore important to retain a balance between being prescriptive and open and inclusive to respect the organic nature of IAC and this Round Table.

DN noted that issues of recognition and regulation are issues for a number of associations and could be supported by IAC. NK noted that one can create a working group on these two issues for countries to help each other. DM noted that all decisions taken need to make sense to nations within their contexts. GPA noted that Sharing with each other is the best way IAC can help and support other nations.

Minute 036: Workshop – Improving the connection between Associations and IAC

DM divided members present in three workshops. The task of each group was to address three questions:

1. How can IAC facilitate the sharing of updates of developments or challenges in your country or association between these meetings?
2. How can IAC help in developing counselling in your country or association?
3. How can your association help IAC in its aims?

The three working groups reconvened after 35 minutes. With regard to the three questions, they noted:

Minute 36.1 How can IAC facilitate the sharing of updates of developments or challenges in your country or association between these meetings?

- a) International exchanges - bases of information
- b) Information on who is working with whom around the world
- c) Website fora would help.
- d) Focused communication with language not being a barrier. There is need for simultaneous interpretation on the web and during exchanges.
- e) Establishing relationships with UNESCO officials at headquarters level and then national levels.

Minute 36.2 How can IAC help in developing counselling in your country or association?

- a) International certification for counsellors - a world standard for counsellors.
- b) Canada, Uruguay, and Malawi would like a letter from IAC like the one IAC presented to the Italian government.
- c) Uruguay does not have a counselling association. IAC can help Uruguay set up an Uruguay association. IAC urged to write a letter to Uruguay government and to Mentor Uruguay to set up the association.

- d) Malawi wants some connection with IAC and other association and general guidance.
- e) Communication at government level (Lobbying) as what happened in Italy
- f) Newsletter that is sent every two months focusing on one region. Each country should send updates to the region's EC member

Minute 36.3 How can your association help IAC in its aims?

- a) Use of the internet to communicate with regional representors responsible for their respective regions.
- b) CCPA helping IAC a great deal and other association saw ability to help on a voluntary basis.
- c) Malta and MACP is helping a lot with its number of volunteers helping IAC.
- d) Raising awareness of counselling through National UNESCO commissioners linking counselling to mental health, mental wellbeing and the number of suicides world-wide.

Minute 037: Closure

DM noted that such meeting are always an emotional experience, more so in Argentina as most have travelled thousands of miles and this reflects commitment and passion. He thanked all present on behalf of clients.

He noted that: "I would like to ask you to consider coming to Rome for the 52nd IAC conference and the 5th roundtable to take forward what we discussed today on today. Thank you for your efforts and your participation."

The meeting concluded at 16:17 and was adjourned to September 2018.



Dr Ruth Falzon
Association's Round-Table Secretary



Dr Dione Mifsud
IAC President

April 20th, 2017

From: **Naoise Kelly** <nkelly5@tcd.ie>
Date: 19 April 2017 at 14:31
Subject: Fwd: IAC Associations Round Table
To: IAC-EC@sfu.ca

FYI

Dear Associations' Round Table Attendee,

Please find the Agenda for the upcoming IAC Associations' Round Table meeting attached. The meeting takes place from 10:00 – 16:00, on Thursday the 20th of April 2017, at the IAC/AAC Conference venue (Centro Armenio De La Republica Argentina, Armenia 1353, Buenos Aires).

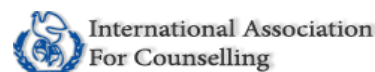
Your attention is drawn to the third agenda item (Updates from Associations/Attendees). In order to maximise the mutual benefit and exchange from this discussion, we ask you to prepare to briefly inform the meeting on the following points:

- The status of, developments in, and challenges to, counselling in your Country/Association
- How can IAC help develop counselling in your Country/Association?
- How can your Association/Organisation assist with IAC aims?

If you have not done so already, please confirm your attendance at this meeting by emailing: by Monday the 10th of April 2017.

We look forward to seeing you there and to fruitful and productive meeting.

Dr Dione Mifsud



International Association for Counselling

Associations' Round-Table Meeting 2017 - AGENDA

Date: Thursday 20th April 2017 – 10am – 4pm

Venue: Centro Armenio De La Republica Argentina, Armenia 1353, Buenos Aires

Agenda

- 10:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 10:30 IAC Activity Update and Q&A
- 11:15 Updates from Associations/Attendees:
 - Counselling status, developments, and challenges in your Country/Association
 - How can IAC help develop counselling in your Country/Association?
 - How can your Association assist with IAC aims?
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:00 Presentation: Counselling in Argentina and Latin America – Beatrix Brinkmann
- 14:45 IAC 'Collective' Association Membership
- 15:00 Workshop - Improving the connection between Associations and IAC
- 15:45 Feedback
- 16:00 Close

The Associations' RoundTable (formerly known as the Presidents' Round-Table) provides opportunities for the leaders of [Member Associations](#) to meet during IAC conferences to discuss and advance counselling matters worldwide.

www.iac-irtac.org

IAC Partnership and Collaboration

For over 50 years, IAC has partnered and worked with National, Regional, and Inter-governmental Organisations and Institutes. IAC greatly values these relationships. Here are just some of the many great organisations we have worked with:



IAC - Connecting Counsellors Worldwide

**Welcome speech at the 4th Official Meeting of the
Roundtable for Counselling Associations.**

20th April 2017

CENTRO ARMENIO DE LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA, Armenia 1353, Buenos Aires



Dear colleagues and friends

Welcome to this 4th meeting for Presidents and Chairs. It is indeed an honour to be able to welcome you all to this beautiful venue and country for our conference and meeting for presidents, chairs and representatives. We are indeed making history as IAC moves to its next step in its development. Last year in our AGM in Malta we voted in measures to ensure a more democratic and more accessible IAC by enshrining regional representation on the executive council. Last year IAC took also the bold step of engaging its first CEO to start the process of making IAC what we refer to as The International Association for Counselling. It was a bold step because IAC does not have the funds to sustain this role yet here we are today and our CEO will be presenting all the work that has been done from the CEO's side. The CEO has worked on membership categories, for individual, association and institutional memberships and has started to work on the certification of the international aspect of counselling training.

If you remember last year we presented and approved our strategy document at this very forum. This year we come back to share and discuss its first fruits. In

today's meeting Naoise Kelly will be presenting his work the CEO of IAC to present our strategies for membership, representations and certification, including the benefits each tier has for those who have joined or intend to join. I would like you all to take this back to your associations discuss it and see whether your association would like to be a partner to IAC in the years to come through our combined memberships, resources and synergy.

Round Table Concept.

Three years ago I spoke about the reintroduction of the round table concept and the first round table that was created was this Presidents and Chairs one, now renamed the associations' round table. Apart from this we have created others in for Research, Practitioners, Students and New Counsellors, Ethics, Social , Projects and Indigenous round tables.

Like I said last year, we hope to work more for this roundtable to be the natural home to all counselling associations, where all feel welcome, respected, listened to and where an equal discussion takes place without the big associations or countries trying to dominate or hijacking proceedings. Coming from one of the smallest nations in the world I would say that wouldn't I? Of course and coming from one of the smallest nations in the world with its own language, customs and rich culture and history I would not like to be dominated, nor let our own brand of counselling with its Maltese flavour be dominated by any other counselling traditions. It is my hope that this round table will also become the home of all counselling associations. In the future we hope to introduce regional Associations' Round Tables where all regions can get to discuss the issues that

pertain solely to those cultures and counselling traditions. We hope that regions can play a big part in identifying competencies and ethically respectful standards in training and practice. I have come here every year for the past four years to reiterate that IAC is not here to impose but more to facilitate and empower. We open our arms to all associations and invite everyone to sit around a table and agree on measures which make sense. We are not going to say You should do this to be part of us. We are going to ask: What makes sense in your context and how do you want us to help? As counsellors this is normally one of our first statements to our clients and we hope to be truthful and loyal to what we all are or should be: honest, faithful and empowering practitioners, educators and researchers who believe that dialogue can bring about change in persons and institutions. Change in favour of an eradication of discrimination, hate and dominance to one of respect, understanding and acceptance. We hope this round table will continue to become a vehicle for all associations, big and small, old and young, rich and poor to share ideas, solidarity, vision and projects. It is important that everyone feels welcome and everyone feels that she is an equal partner in this venture. It is very important for IAC to make it very clear that in this gathering there are no dominant associations and that all of us are here because we all have something to share and something to learn. We have worked very hard to be able to present what you will be seeing soon: an international association perhaps waking up to move courageously into becoming the natural home for counsellors and counselling associations.

It is with this in mind that I am not ashamed to ask you for the second year running, as Presidents and representatives of associations:

What are you willing to contribute for international counselling?

What can your association contribute in terms of resources, financial or human, technology, research and practice that can help international counselling to move forward?

As I said we have taken the bold step of appointing Naoise Kelly as our first CEO and hope that this bold step will mean that we have our first person who is completely dedicated to IAC. The CEO has been contacting associations, discussing memberships creating outreach programmes for associations and their members to join. It is a bold step which we took as a gift for IAC's 50th birthday.

So today we shall be discussing how to take our association forward keeping in mind that counselling is not just an activity for English speaking western European or North American people.

However this gives us only politics and like that, like any academic in the alma mater's ivory tower, or a bureaucrat concerned with numbers we lose sight of the people we try to serve, our fellow human beings. At IAC we need to think of ways and means of how to help clients around the world through face to face interventions and through advocacy on issues that have to do with oppression, poverty, lack of education, discrimination, displacement of persons and all kinds of injustice. We need help here and you can help us to achieve our mission in

these areas. We need more exposure in world fora and IAC needs to exploit better its UN given consultative status.

Which brings us to today's gathering. Today's meeting follows two ad hoc meetings in Manila and Istanbul and three formal meetings in Victoria, Verona and Malta. If we want to think big in our next conference we may hope to have a short opening plenary, followed by regional meetings and followed by a plenary that brings everyone together, and how IAC and your association can cooperate and move forward.

So today's meeting

We shall start by a short introduction of each participant in this round table and then have a presentation on IAC activities and new ventures. I will then invite you to give short presentations about what is going on in your countries

After lunch we will have a presentation by Beatriz Brinkmann who was our vice president for many years. Then we shall have an Association membership presentation and we will end with a short discussion.

I would like to invite every chair/President and representative in this room to introduce themselves and the association that is being represented.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dione Mifsud', written over a horizontal line.

Dione Mifsud

IAC President

April 20, 2017



Founded 1966

International Association For Counselling (IAC)

Activity Report: July 2016 – April 2017

Summary

The period between the Malta (2016) and Argentina (2017) IAC annual conferences has seen an exponential increase in IAC activity across all strategic areas. Significant progress has been made in the following areas: Worldwide outreach; Website upgrade; Advocacy to Intergovernmental organisations (UNESCO, WHO); IAC/AAC conference planning; Member management and communications; Administration; Membership category reform; Volunteer recruitment; World mapping; IAC Certification; and Promotion of IAC. Membership in both individual and organisational categories has seen encouraging increases. Despite these increases, IAC income levels remain relatively low and present a significant challenge to IAC. As IAC rapidly progresses during this new phase of development, the level of commitment shown by the IAC Executive Council (EC), Mapping Volunteers, and other IAC Supporters, has been inspiring. Some individual contributions have been truly remarkable. IAC is very grateful for all assistance in progressing the aims of the association to develop counselling worldwide.

The information below encompasses the main IAC developments between July 2016 and April 2017, arranged under the main IAC strategic goal areas (2016-2021).

Goal 1: Development of Counselling

This is IAC's central goal and directly relates to our overall purpose: *We will advance the field of counselling through Practice, Education, Advocacy, Policy and Research initiatives.*

- IAC secured a *UNESCO* Participation Programme Grant for the 2017 IAC/AAC conference, enabling participants from economically underdeveloped countries to attend.
- Made contact with *UNESCO National Commissions* for countries with IAC Executive Council representation.
- Communications with Assistant Director-General and staff at *World Health Organisation* (WHO – Non-communicable diseases & mental health sections) representing IAC views on counselling's important place in education and mental healthcare.
- Communications with President of *World Federation for Mental Health*.
- IAC CEO attendance at the UNESCO International Conference of NGOs: 12-14 December 2016, Paris.
- Invitation issued to WHO Keynote speaker for the 2018 IAC conference.

- Commenced the *IAC World Mapping Project* involving the compilation of data on counselling worldwide, including information on: demographics, education statistics, and association representation. As well as mapping being carried out by IAC EC members in their world regions, IAC Mapping Volunteers have been successfully recruited (from Tanzania, Canada and the USA). We thank all of our volunteers for generously giving their time and expertise.
- We have increased *between-conference* activity levels in the IAC Practitioners' and other Round Tables.
- Introduced IAC Certification: validating commitment to raising counselling standards (through international learning and exchange, respect for diversity, and the promotion of cross-cultural awareness).
- Updated IAC Profiles on the websites of United Nations organisations.
- Dissemination of the 2016 IAC Conference Report to members, intergovernmental organisations and other stakeholders.

Goal 2: Strengthening Partnership and Collaboration

We will strengthen and build connections with our International, National and Organisational partners.

- **World Outreach:** Official contact with counselling organisations, education institutes, counselling services, and individual counsellors from 54 countries has taken place since June 2016. These countries are: Argentina, Australia, Austria, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Botswana, Brunei, Bulgaria, Burma, Canada, China, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Estonia, France, The Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, South Korea, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- Offered support to national associations and partners in the development and enhancement of counselling in their countries.
- Encouraged members to initiate transnational educational, practice, and research exchanges.
- Actively engaged counselling organisations, national associations, universities, colleges, education institutes, agencies, and counselling services as potential partners.

Argentina: Our partnership with the Argentine Association for Counselling (AAC) has grown from strength to strength. Returning to Argentina for the first time since 2005, IAC has enjoyed working with AAC on all aspects of the planned conference. We greatly look forward to an excellent conference and

- exchange. Importantly, IAC aims to help, in whatever way we can, to assist AAC in its aims for the development of counselling in Argentina.
- Attendance at Procoun'16, Malaysia: IAC's President and IAC's CEO attended *Procoun'16* as guests of *Perkama International* (International Counselling Association of Malaysia) delivering both plenary and day-long workshops at the conference. The visit included meetings with Government Ministers, Psychology Officers from the Public Service, Heads of counselling at the University of Malaysia (UNIMAS), and the University Counselling Service. A highlight of the visit was the official announcement of Kuching, Malaysia as the 2020 venue for the IAC conference - being held in conjunction with Perkama International. IAC EC Member, Amalia Madihie, was an exceptional host and we are extremely grateful for her superb organisational skills and hospitality.
- 2018 IAC Conference in Botswana - Cancellation: Regrettably, the IAC conference planned for Botswana in 2018 will not take place. In the end, unforeseen financial and organisational challenges made the prospect of a conference unworkable. However, together with the Botswana Counselling Association (BCA), there is a strong mutual determination to see this setback as a postponement, rather than a cancellation. Plans are underway to explore the possibility of an international conference taking place in Botswana in 2021. We thank all members of the BCA and, in particular, their President and IAC EC Member, Esnaty Obetile, for the considerable efforts made. The location for the 2018 IAC Conference will be announced, as is tradition, at the end of the 2017 conference.
- IAC Honorary Consultant: Dr Tom Clawson, President and CEO of the National Board of Counsellor Certification (NBCC) USA, and NBCC International, kindly accepted an invitation to become the first 'Honorary Consultant to IAC'. This title and post recognises the important expertise and experience particular individuals hold in the world of counselling. It is envisaged that, in time, other honorary consultancy positions will be offered.
- British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP): IAC President and IAC CEO gratefully received complimentary invitations to the 2017 BACP conference, in Chester UK, in May. IAC CEO has held initial meetings with BACP leadership to explore potential IAC/BACP partnership. We look forward to another excellent BACP event.
- "Law and Ethics in Counselling" Conference: IAC CEO has been invited to present at this conference, in New Orleans, in January 2018, which is being organised by the Holy Cross University, New Orleans. We are grateful to Dr Theodore Remley (former American Counselling Association CEO and current IAC Member), for this wonderful invitation.

Goal 3: Members and Services

We will increase our individual and organisational membership base across all world regions. We will enhance the representation, support and services provided to members.

- Membership: New membership categories were added to the website in mid-September 2016. The categories are both Individual (General, Professional, Student and Retired) and Group (Education Institute, Association, Service).
- IAC Webinar Series: The IAC 'Webinar Series' is part of IAC's increased engagement with technology, and includes the delivery of one free webinar as a membership benefit. The first webinar, a co-delivered presentation by Dr Marvin McDonald, from Trinity Western University (TWU), Canada, and IAC EC Member for North America, Valentina Chichinovia, will take place in July 2017 (date TBC) on the subject of Dissociation Disorders.
- International Journal for the Advancement of Counselling (IJAC): We made the environmentally conscious decision to switch the IJAC journal to electronic copies only, from January 2017. All back issues (dating back to 1978) are available on our website.
- Membership Drive: A membership drive which saw over 80 Associations, Institutes, and Counselling services contacted, was initiated in the Autumn of 2016. This elicited many new contacts and connections.
- Languages: On an ongoing basis, we are seeking to reduce language and accessibility barriers. On a voluntary basis, IAC materials have been translated into Spanish and Italian during 2016 and 2017. Funding and additional translation volunteers are being sought for this crucial project.
- Member Newsletter: A new IAC E-Newsletter will come on-stream from mid-2017.
- Through the IAC Students' Round Table leaders, IAC has pro-actively welcomed and encouraged student participation.

Goal 4: Enhancing our Infrastructure

We will optimise IAC's structures and systems to ensure equal and inclusive representation from all world regions and cultures. As an Executive council, our committee, sub-committees, and personnel will professionally deliver our services and aims.

IAC governance documentation was updated following the 2016 IAC AGM's solidification of pan-global representation on the IAC Executive Council. This re-structuring of the EC has ensured equitable representation from each world region.

- Planned development of e-voting system and process.
- Continued exploration of ways in which to generate revenue through sponsorship, grant application and fundraising initiatives. IAC Vice-President, David Paterson, leads this as IAC's Development Chairperson.

- IAC Officer Group work is ongoing in the area of governance. This is in line with our stated aim of applying good governance principles, for an international NGO, to all of our areas of work.
- Development and refinement of financial protocols throughout 2016/2017 as part of ongoing governance reform. This included maintaining financial integrity through the development of prudent and accountable financial processes.
- Executive Council Induction: An IAC Induction meeting took place in September 2016 which included: Familiarisation; EC member questions; Discussion of EC member duties and responsibilities; How EC meetings work; and Mentoring.
- Website: A greatly enhanced IAC website was developed by our current provider, *Seasus*, based in Malta, and is working well since its launch in November 2016. Detailed and extended conversations about design, content, and functionality, took place in advance of the launch. Major improvements were made to the overall user-friendliness of the site and to the member registration process.
- Potential IAC Asia Regional Office: Through considerable effort by IAC EC member Amalia Madihie, the Sarawak Convention Bureau (SCB), Malaysia, have proposed supplying office facilities, and paying a part-time salary, for IAC - if we were to base our ASEAN operation in Kuching, Malaysia. This generous offer is under consideration by the Executive Council.
- Service Providers: Meetings have taken place with all IAC service providers to optimise IAC services. These useful meetings have brought us closer to our aim (with all suppliers), of having the best services provided to IAC at the most reasonable price.

Goal 5: Enhancing the Profile of Counselling Internationally

We will raise the profile of counselling by utilising our global connections, technology and relationships. IAC will serve as a strong and uniting global voice for counselling.

IAEVG Conference: Madrid, November 2016. Attendance by IAC President, Dr Dione Mifsud, enhanced the profile of IAC within the fields of education and vocational guidance.

- School Counselling Conference: Verona, December 2016. IAC EC Member Jessica Bertolani promoted IAC throughout this conference.
- University of Malta (UM): In early October, IAC EC Member Valentina Chichiniová and IAC CEO, Naoise Kelly, addressed UM students and faculty members by videoconference, to discuss and promote IAC.
- Social Media: IAC's social media profile has been steadily increasing and in April 2017, we have approximately 835 Facebook 'likes' (from 415 in July 2016). Although, overall, this is a relatively small number, the rate of increase is notable and continuing. We encourage all IAC supporters to 'like' the Facebook page and to retweet our 'Tweets'. Through our regular posting on Facebook and Twitter pages, we have reached out to counsellors and kindred professions (including: psychotherapy, guidance, psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social work and allied mental health professions). Some of our posts have had over 1,000 views. This is strongly helped by the 'sharing' of posts. In particular we have promoted WHO-endorsed events such as *World Suicide Prevention Day* and *World Mental Health Day*. Many thanks to IAC EC Member, Valentina Chichiniová, for her hard work in promoting IAC through social media.

- Raising IAC's Profile at National Association Conferences: A team effort by all IAC EC members has planned ways in which IAC can be promoted at national and regional conferences, such as:

1. Advertising in the conference programme.
2. Addressing conference attendees about IAC.
3. Having an information stand in exhibition areas.
4. Meeting with the Conference/Association leadership.
5. Distributing promotion leaflets at the conference.

In particular, we are very grateful to IAC EC Member for Europe, Jessica Bertolani, who has done an excellent job of promoting IAC throughout 2016/2017.

- Through our website and printed materials, we have continually highlighted the value and importance of counselling in the promotion of wellbeing, mental health, education and human rights.

Goal 6: Connecting Our Members

We will serve as a platform for counsellors worldwide to connect and share ideas on counselling, education and research with individuals, experts and organisations.

IAC Web Forum: The major development in this goal area is the recent establishment of the IAC Web Forum.

This now allows us to build a successful online counselling community by utilising networking technology to improve communication, collaboration, and support for counsellors. It creates a digital venue that encourages the exchange of ideas and resources pertinent to counselling worldwide. It enables counsellors to gain access to information resources that may not be available in their locality. It reduces isolation and disconnectedness that counsellors may experience. Finally, it supports the online development of the IAC Round Tables (Ethics, International Projects, Indigenous, International Research, Counselling Practitioners, Students, Associations, and Peace and Social Justice). We invite you to participate in the near future.

Naoise Kelly,

IAC Chief Executive Officer –

April 2017

...and finally, taking a moment to look back

IAC Partnership and Collaboration

For over 50 years, IAC has partnered and worked with Global, National, Regional, and Inter-Governmental Organisations and Institutes. IAC greatly values these relationships. Here are just some of the many great organisations we have worked with:



NZAC



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
L-Università ta' Malta



PERKAMA
International

BCA



AAC
Australia



International
Labour
Organization



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



European
Association
for
Counselling



International Association for
Educational and Vocational Guidance



British Association for
Counselling & Psychotherapy



World Health
Organization



AMERICAN COUNSELING
ASSOCIATION



University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh



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PE
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COUNSELING IN ARGENTINA AND SOUTH AMERICA

AAC and IAC Conference
Conferencia de la AAC y de la IAC

Buenos Aires April 19th to 24th 2017

Beatriz Brinckmann
bbrinckmann@gmail.com



- ⊗ Un sofista se acercó a un hombre sabio de la antigua Grecia y pensó dejarlo perplejo con las más extrañas preguntas.
- ⊗ Pero el sabio de Miletius estaba a la altura del test y las contestó todas sin la más mínima vacilación y con total exactitud.
- ⊗
- ⊗ A Sophist went to see a wise man of ancient Greece, and thought
- ⊗ To leave him perplexed asking him some strange questions.
- ⊗ But Thales from Miletius was not intimidated and answered them all
- ⊗
- ⊗ ¿Qué es lo más antiguo de todas las cosas?
- ⊗ "Dios, porque siempre existió"
- ⊗ What is the most ancient of all things?
- ⊗ "God because he was always there."
- ⊗
- ⊗ ¿Qué es lo mas hermoso de todas las cosas?
- ⊗ "El Universo, porque es la obra de Dios"
- ⊗ What is the most Beautiful of all things?
- ⊗ "The Universe, because it is Gods work"
- ⊗
- ⊗ ¿Qué es lo mas grande de todas las cosas?
- ⊗ "El espacio, porque contiene todo lo que fue creado"
- ⊗ What is the biggest of all things?
- ⊗ "Space, because it holds all that has been created"
- ⊗

¿Qué es lo más constante de todas las cosas?

- ⊗ La esperanza, porque todavía queda en el hombre después de que lo perdió todo
- ⊗ What is the most constant of all things?
- ⊗ "Hope, which remains in man when he has lost everything"
- ⊗
- ⊗ ¿Qué es lo mejor de todas las cosas?
- ⊗ "La virtud, porque sin ella no hay nada bueno"
- ⊗ What is the best of all things?
- ⊗ "Virtue, because with out her there is nothing good."
- ⊗
- ⊗ ¿Que es lo más rápido de todas las cosas?
- ⊗ "El pensamiento porque en menos de un minuto puede llegar
- ⊗ What is the fastest of all things?
- ⊗ "The thought, because it needs less than a minute to arrive"

- ⊗ Qué es lo más fuerte de todas las cosas?
- ⊗ “La necesidad que hace afrontar todos los peligros de la vida”
- ⊗
- ⊗ ¿Qué es lo más fácil de todas las cosas?
- ⊗ “Dar Consejos”
- ⊗
- ⊗ Pero cuando llegó a la novena pregunta el sabio pronunció una paradoja. Le dio una contestación que seguramente su interlocutor sabio de la vida no comprendió y que la mayoría de la gente le va a dar un sentido muy superficial. La pregunta fue:
- ⊗
- ⊗ ¿Qué es lo más difícil de todas las cosas?
- ⊗ Y el sabio respondió “Conocerte a ti mismo”
- ⊗
- ⊗ Este era el comunicado para la gente ignorante de los sabios antiguos y es el mismo hoy en día.
- ⊗

- ⊗ Qué es lo más fuerte de todas las cosas?
- ⊗ “La necesidad que hace afrontar todos los peligros de la vida”
- ⊗ What is the most severe of all things?
- ⊗ “The need to confront all the dangers of live”
- ⊗
- ⊗ ¿Qué es lo más fácil de todas las cosas?
- ⊗ “Dar Consejos”
- ⊗ What is the eaysiest of all things?
- ⊗ “To give advise”

- Pero cuando llegó a la novena pregunta el sabio pronunció una paradoja. Le dio una contestación que seguramente su interlocutor sabio de la vida no comprendió y que la mayoría de la gente le va a dar un sentido muy superficial. La pregunta fue:

- But when he arrived at the ninth question the wise man used a paradox
- And he gave an answer which probably his interlocutor did not understand, and most people will give a very superficial sense the question was.

-

- ¿Qué es lo más difícil de todas las cosas?
- Y el sabio respondió “Conocerte a ti mismo”

- What is the most difficult of all things?
- The wise man answered
- “Know thyself”

- Este era el comunicado para la gente ignorante de los sabios antiguos y es el mismo hoy en día.
- This is the communiqué for ignorant people, from the ancient wise man, and remains the same till today



COUNSELING EN ARGENTINA



Counseling in Argentina

- ❖ Started unofficially in 1987 at Holos founded by Andrés Sanchez Bodas together with his partners, Martha van Rafelghem, Elena Frezza and Monica Eppinger.

- ❖ Recognized Officially with a Person Centered approach in 1992.

- ❖ In 2001 a Systemic approach was approved which is taught at the Universidad Maimonis now days but it started at an Institute called Focus

- ❖ In 1999 several Institutes started to open, and now days there are many, not all have a relationship with the Argentine Association.

- ❖ The Argentine Association was founded in 1991 by the first group of Counselors, and in 1993 obtains its official recognition.

This means that last year we have had our 25th Birthday

- ❖ It is the Institution which brings together all the Counselors who are interested to participate, of all the Institutions of the Country.

And advocates for the Profession.

We had our first Code of Ethics in 1996 and it has been reformed since then only once.



**Members Present**

Valentina Chichiniova
 Alejandro Corbalán
 Juan Pablo Dizz Magariños
 Niamh Donoghue
 Falzon Ruth
 Guillermo Garcia Arias
 David Kaplan
 Naoise Kelly
 Courtland Lee
 Barbara MacCallum
 Amalia Madihie
 Dione Mifsud
 Alessandro Onelli
 Dominic Actionman Nsoma
 David Paterson
 John Prysor Jones
 Gay Puketapu Andrews
 Nawawi Riziandy
 Zeynep Hande Sart
 Wendi Schweiger
 Blythe Shepard
 Sue Webb
 Silvia Vila

Apologies:

Jessica Bertolani
 Tim Bond
 William (Bill) Borgen
 Silvia Galea
 Sukanthi M. Mariappa
 Selebaleng Mmapatsi
 Esnaty Obetile
 Audrey Pottinger
 Ifeoma Rose-Ann Eze