

International Society for Affective Disorders
Annual Council Meeting
Minutes
Le Baron Hotel, 13th September 2005
Cairo, Egypt

Present: Prof Chris Thompson, President & Chair, Prof Cornelius Katona, Dr Elizabeth Peter-Ross, Dr Russell D'Souza, Phil Bishop (Elsevier) and Caroline Holebrook, Administrator and Minutes

Apologies:

Dr Roger Pinder, Prof Ray Lam, Prof Jan Scott

1. ISAD Strategy 2005-2007 – Prof Chris Thompson, ISAD President

Objective 1: Increase participation

- *Measurable targets – by 2007*

Fellowship growth:

- Double the fellowship
(full scientific members)
- A total of 20 advocacy group partners
- 150 clinical affiliates
- 150 Young Research Affiliates

Objective 2: Conferences

- *Measurable targets – by 2007*

Meetings:

- Hold our Third International Conference
- Hold our Second Regional meeting

Regional Thematic Meeting

Topic and workshop based around an agreed theme

Should be low cost – small – key opinion leaders

Output for publication in JAD

Format should attract sponsorship. Event should be linked to a larger conference ie WPA, ECNP etc

Proposed theme: Links between disadvantage and depression

Objective 3: Communication

- *Measurable targets – by 2007*

Methods of communication

- 7 Newsletters

- Increase JAD online activity by 500
- Doubled the number of hits on the ISAD website

Objective 4: Education

Measurable target

By March 2007 ISAD will have developed one education programme about an affective disorder with professional and public components and found a sponsor to implement it.

Discussion:

Programme development which will include public and professional components in conjunction with the WPA Education section (co-chaired by Cornelius Katona)

Proposed topic 1 – PTSD

Modules:

Summary of literature

Professional module: Civilian & Military disasters

What politicians need to do to prepare.

Proposed topic 2 – Suicide prevention

Modules:

Layered response in primary care

Need to consider methods of delivery ie CD rom, website, paper based

Need to prepare business case for each idea for potential sponsors

Accreditation

Cornelius proposed a professional educationalist to construct the programme and method of delivery

Cornelius also suggested requesting support from Royal College of Psychiatrists – Cornelius is involved in the CPD programme.

Action: ISAD Education Committee will develop this idea in conjunction with the Administrator.

Objective 5: Advocacy

By March 2007 ISAD will have

- recruited at least 20 advocacy groups to a Depression 2010 initiative

Discussion:

- *Depression 2010*

World Bank, World Health Organisation and Harvard University report predicts that depression will be the 2nd major disability by **2020**

The president proposes the theme of a major conference in 2010 to mark the progress of this target.

Conference themes:

Is it?

Why is it?

What to do about it?

Question:

Are resilient communities the antidote the depression?

Bring together organisations with major interest in depression: Professional groups, Government organisations, WHO, advocacy groups

Action: ISAD's external affairs committee will develop the partnerships to deliver this event.

2. Financial report - Caroline Holebrook, ISAD Administrator

▪ *Accounts*

ISAD's accountant has prepared our accounts for the period up to 28th Feb 2005. These will be submitted to the Charities Commission, Companies House and the Inland Revenue. Copies of the accounts are available on request.

▪ *Organon*

Organon has continued its support of ISAD with an unrestricted educational grant with a donation of \$25,000 (£13,500) for 2005 and \$25,000 for 2006

▪ *Financial Statement*

Accountant	£998.75
Affiliations	£30.00
Office equipment	£109.89
BT Conference Calls	£347.75
Cairo	£11,875.07
Conference Lisbon 2006	£1,663.84
Choice	£2,500
Companies House	£31.00
Elsevier	£17,261.25
Fed Ex	£57.72
Hypercom	£253.64
IT Costs	£5,292.80
JPA - Bookcase	£243.23
KCL – (Salary, office, post, etc)	£10,513.59
Logo re-design	£884.77
Nomadic Display	£1,817.63
Office Depot	£320.89
Solicitors	£1,703.16
Stationary – Design&Printing	£1,945.61
Training	£130.00

Travel & Expenses	£2393.86
Vodafone	£253.59
Total	£60,628.04

3. Conference Progress Report - Caroline Holebrook

The conference preliminary programme has now been published and will be distributed during late September.

All the ISAD Fellows and many 1000's of contacts have been alerted to the conference via email and a postcard campaign.

The full conference programme is now live on the website and is being updated with new information regularly.

Industrial sponsorship

Organon has one symposia slot £20,000

Choice, our conference management company are working hard on other contacts. It is a tough climate to work in as pharmaceutical companies become more and more discerning about where they place their funding. ISAD needs the Fellows to input their contacts and promote the conference. ISAD's conference is a fantastic opportunity for industry to meet key opinion leaders and present their own research in symposium.

Choice will be travelling to the ECNP event in Amsterdam in October to further promote the conference.

Caroline is working hard to raise the international profile of the Society by attending conferences with the ISAD exhibition booth. This has been worthwhile, enabling ISAD to develop links with other organisations and getting some all important brand recognition.

4. Advocacy Group Partnership Scheme - Caroline Holebrook

The purpose of the recognised advocacy scheme is to bring together all interests in affective disorders in a powerful international alliance to defeat ignorance, prejudice and political apathy and poor care in these highly disabling conditions.

The scheme aims to promote awareness of the conditions and disseminate research about treatments to health workers and the public. Linking up advocacy groups with scientists and clinicians lends credibility at a national and international level. The over arching aim of the scheme is to develop a robust network of organisations at a global level in order to become a major influence on national governments and other large policy making organisations

Affiliated groups

Balance NZ: mail out to 650 people. We have about 25-30 specific regional bipolar/depression organisations and support groups that are members from

around the country then a range of NGOs, peer-run organisations, health professionals and individual and family members.

National Phobic Society: About 6000 registered members which includes both professional and individual members.

Primhe: Primhe exists to help Primary Care Professionals and staff achieve and deliver the best standards of mental health care. As a Charity with an independent voice Primhe provides mental health support, services, resources, education and training to their 2000 members.

Bipolar Fellowship Scotland: 250 members who are in current membership of Bipolar Fellowship. This group will be made up of people with the diagnosis, carers and health/social work professionals. We also run 10 support groups around the country for people with the diagnosis and carers.

The scheme gives ISAD access to 8,900 patients and professionals.

5. Membership

New categories:

- Junior Researcher
- Affiliate Clinician
- Advocacy – Group & Individual membership
- Student

New members 2005: 19

Renewals: 110

Distinguished Fellows: 25

Active members total: 154

Advocacy Groups: 4

Outstanding renewals: 80

Total: 238

6. Other updates

I. Symposia at ISBD in Edinburgh 2006

In a reciprocal agreement with the International Society for Bipolar Disorders, ISAD will be presenting a symposium at the ISBD conference in Edinburgh in August 2006, chaired by Prof Jan Scott. ISBD will be presenting a symposium at the ISAD biennial conference in March 2006 chaired by Lakshmi Latham.

II. New Logo

As many will have noticed ISAD has a new and update logo. The update was necessary to improve reproduction quality and give the logo a more contemporary look.

III. Exhibition stand

Sporting the new logo ISAD's new exhibition stand will be at various conferences over the next 18 months promoting the Society and the conference.

IV. Website

The ISAD website has undergone many behind the scenes technical updates to allow more functionality. The webpages have been updated and new pages for ISAD committees have been created.

V. ISAD Newsletter

The summer issue of the newsletter has just been released and a new issue of Horizons will be printed shortly. ISAD is looking for Fellows to write articles about their current research projects – around 1500-2000 words – now!

7. Journal of Affective Disorders

Phil Bishop, Publishing Editor

- Online activity

JAD has 30,000 full text downloads per month

- Publication time

Time from first submission to publication is now 61 weeks. It should be noted that once an article is at corrected proof stage it goes online on ScienceDirect and is citable as published using the Digital Object Identifier (DOI).

- Impact factor 2.7
- Electronic submission

In April this year JAD moved on to the Elsevier Editorial System which allows online submission and peer review.

- Online JAD access from ISAD website

ISAD and Elsevier are currently working on proxy server access to JAD via the ISAD website. Elsevier has kindly offered to underwrite the costs of this development. The service will be launched to members by the end of 2005.

8. Awards

The ISAD President, Prof Chris Thompson proposed a series of awards for ISAD to give which would promote our aims and objectives within the sector. Awards ISAD should consider are:

- 1) Advocate – Policy influence
- 2) Scientific – Research funding – requires sponsorship
- 3) Young researcher – Research funding - sponsorship

Award winners would be invited to conference to review and discuss their work.

Actions:

A business case will need to be made for potential sponsors

A framework for awards such as rules, definitions etc should be drawn up for discussion/approval.

9. Quorum

The turnout for the Council meeting and AGM was not sufficient to give the meeting a quorum on this occasion. The reasons for this are various but must include the understandable reluctance of Fellows to attend the WPA

conference itself due to the uncertain political climate at the present time. However, ISAD has carried out its obligation to hold an AGM and will build on the ideas put forward at this meeting to develop the Society.

10. Presidential elections

ISAD's current president, Prof Chris Thompson, tenure comes to an end at the Biennial Conference in March 2006. Nominations for the next President will be collected during October 2005 and the election will be held in November 2005.

A Fellow or Distinguished Fellow may nominate themselves or another Fellow or Distinguished Fellow they feel would be suitable. The presidency is not open to affiliates of the society. The nominee must agree in writing to be nominated. Geographic region is no barrier to nomination.

Electoral procedure

Nominations will be circulated to the membership with a voting form. A one member one vote, first past the post system will be employed to decide the election. The candidate with the most number of votes will win, regardless of whether they have an absolute majority over all other candidates. There will be one round of voting.

The winner will hold the office of president elect until his official term of office begins with the handover from the past president at the ISAD Biennial Conference in Lisbon, Portugal in March 2006.

11. Any other business

There was no other business

12. Date of next meeting

The next AGM is scheduled to be held on the 6th March 2006 at the Corinthia Alfa Hotel, Lisbon, Portugal at the ISAD Conference.

CH 23/09/05