



Minutes of the World Congress Committee Meeting November 18, 2005

Held at the Annual Convention of the Association of Behavioral & Cognitive
Therapies Therapy, Washington DC, USA

Representatives Present (alphabetic order)

Lars-Göran Öst (EABCT)
W. Kim Halford, (AACBT; WCC Chair)
Rod Holland (WCBCT 2007)
Robert Leahy (IACP)
Christne Maguth Nezu (ABCT)
Arthur M. Nezu (ABCT deputy rep)
Juan Preciado (ALAMOC)
Yugi Sakano (JABT)
Junko Tanaka-Matsumi (JABT)

Minutes

1. Kim Halford, WCC Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.
2. Kim Halford, having previously distributed the minutes of the November 2003 meeting by email to all committee members, asked for any additions/changes. No changes were requested and they were accepted unanimously.
3. The WCC discussed the South African Association's lack of participation and contact in the WCC. It is disappointing that there has been no participation from this organization, despite several years of attempted outreach by the present and past WCC chair. A discussion occurred focused on the difficulty of balancing the WCC philosophy of inclusion and outreach with the fact that we don't currently have any African associations represented. A continued concern stated by a few committee members is that our current constitution states that all decisions made by the WCC must be made "consensually." Other members indicated that while this term has not been operationally defined, the current interpretation has indicated that the term refers to "a unanimous decision by all participating members." As such, South Africa's lack of participation should not impede the WCC committee's ability to make decisions. In other words, as long as there is consensus among all participating members at a scheduled meeting, there is no actual quorum number required for a vote. Suggestions were discussed regarding future outreach to other emerging associations that may provide representation from Africa, however, no decisions were reached regarding any changes in the status of the South African Association.

4. Rod Holland provided an update on the 2007 Barcelona conference and distributed materials relevant to advertisement and submissions. Highlights from this presentation included:
 - A description of the Barcelona venue (outstanding!)
 - The need for effective web links to all organizations was underscored
 - A time line:
 - Program outline (September EABCT, 2006)
 - Call for papers (September 2005)
 - (these will additionally be sent to Asia)
 - Philip Tata is Chair of the Scientific Committee
 - Carmina Saldana is Chair of the Spanish Program
 - First preliminary program will be ready July 2006
 - 25 themes will be represented throughout the congress
 - A social program will include an opening reception, international party, and gala dinner
 - Publicity: 2006 is earmarked for publicity and marketing to start
 - Registration fee: suggestion to raise registration fee to accommodate lunch for participants. There was an additional suggestion to use a lottery for a free lunch as a marketing tool

Items containing committee consensus and action:

5. WCC Chair: After discussion and consensus, Kim Halford agreed to continue to serve as Chair consistent with the terms described in the constitution. Chris Maguth Nezu agreed to record the minutes of this meeting.
6. Bids for the next scheduled WCBCT: After a discussion and review of the intentions and feasibility for various organizations to host the next congress, it was evident that having the congress occur in 2011 made it more feasible for a host country to have the necessary time to prepare. Therefore there was agreement by consensus for the next WCBCT to occur in 2011.

The following timeline for bids was set. Specifically, by July 1, 2006 (5 years prior to the actual event, consistent with the current WCBCT guidelines attached) host countries must submit bids to the Chair of the WCC (Kim Halford). Possible organizations that continue to be interested in the bidding for the next congress include ACBTA, ALAMOC, and IACP).

7. A final (non-action) item included an update from the Asian Behavior therapy Association, by Junk Tanaka-Matsumi. She reported that the first Asian Cognitive and Behavior Therapy congress would be held in Hong Kong in May 2006. This meeting is an exciting development reflecting the development of interest and expertise in cognitive behavior therapy in asia.
8. The meeting closed at 4:05.

Minutes submitted by C.M.Nezu, 12/12/05