

REPORT of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Bilbao, 20th of March 2011

Alessandra Manzoni

Report of the General Assembly Members present: Bettina Fink, Elisabeth von Strachwitz, Christine Perez La borda, Mary Spreng, Dorothy Brown, Ruth Waldvogel, Maria Silvera, Marlene Sero, Mary Bruin Wooster, urt Husemann, Laszlo Truppa, Jaak Le Roy, Matti Toivola, Christoff Rosenberger, Giovanna Canterella, Silvia Amati, Velia Bianchi, Alessandra Manzoni.

Some members who could not be present sent their excuses and wishes: Laura Bercic, Malcolm Pines, Ivan Urlic.

1 - Report of Berlin GA is approved at the unanimity.

2 - In the President report Amati, referring to the letter she published in the 2011 NL points to the fact that EATGA “keeps going” in spite of several difficulties, and a worrying world situation.

The report is accepted at unanimità.

3 - The Secretary stresses once more the difficulty of communicating among the members. Maybe e-mail is not a good vehicle, maybe we should find other ways, like skype, telephone..

She announces that EATGA is now member of IAGP. The annual fee is 200 dollars. Being affiliated to IAGP means, for instance, that we can do things together. For example we could bring something to the Cartagena Congress.

At this point other Associations are mentioned that could collaborate with EATGA: Christine says that the Group Analytical German Association collaborated for the Study Day, and that OMIE also from Bilbao wants to collaborate. Bettina speaks about EGATIN.

4 - The Treasurer presents the budget she had previously sent. She invites staff members of Palermo workshop to find more participants, in order to be better paid.

The staff will only be paid 500€ if they are not EATG staff members 200€ if they are EATGA members, as it was already decided in the board done in Milano after the Scientific meeting.

By the Statut the surplus goes to the Association, and then the Association can decide if it wants to give something back to the staff. The Assembly agrees with this position. It is not voted because this is a Statut disposition already active.

Coming back to the budget, Elisabeth says we didn't sell any funds this year.

The budget is then approved at the unanimity. Elisabeth is warmly thanked for the work she is doing.

5 - Palermo Workshop. Some questions are answered. Participants: in regard to the fees candidates of Psychoanalytical Associations are treated like students. Staff: it is formed by Ruvolo, head of research, Profita, Koen, Fink, Wilke (large group conductor), Luc Michel, Helda Segon, Kurt Husemann. 5 are members, 4 are from outside.

6 - Scientific Secretary annual report. Yuha-Matti Toivola comments on his report: in a

sense, he says, every member of EATGA has his idea of the scientific meaning of EATGA. His remarks are: 1. There is too much material to go through, it is difficult to know about the history of EATGA. 2. Also about our clinical work there is too much to read and think about 3. Dialogue is a problem: we don't meet so often, and we don't have so much time to discuss. We have to be able to find more ways to discuss. 4 . About Palermo workshop: how do we construct theoretical frames to understand what is happening here and now in the world?

Ruth suggests to organize a list-member in order to have better exchanges.

Silvia says the role we gave to the Scientific Secretary is to make a bridge for the continuity of the work of EATGA. EATGA is not a museum; the knowledge is a process. She quote a saying: "culture is what is kept when we forgot everything". It is important to profit of the time we are in. That is why we created the Scientific Meeting, the Newsletter, the Website. There is not a unified theory. There is a consensus on the way of working.

Elisabeth suggests that we find a thread for going through our research.

Bettina says that a Forum is very expensive, and that we can try to communicate better with what we have.

Maria asks which are the connections between the Scientific Secretary and EATGA board .Kurt says tha there is a process of development and a process of stagnation. We should be an ongoing group work, apply transculture on our work.

Mary appreciates Toivola's work and suggests to give him the interviews with the founding members.

Ruth says that she has the material about EATGA from 1988 to 1992, but that it is very difficult to read. She sent it to Ruvolo, who will give a thesis on it.

She will make a summary of the interview with Malcolm. Jaak offers his material. The Scientific Secretary should be the referent of the research group on the foundation and the history of EATGA.

It is mentioned that at the first study days of EATGA people came with papers and presented their work.

Jaak adds that it was an exchange of the work done by members, while now is more like an experiential work, and less on reflection.

Silvia asks wether is necessary to have large groups. She adds that we started the Scientific meeting because the study day became more experiential.

Dorothy observes that in this way may be both became weaker. Would not be better to put them together again?

Silvia and Mary think that we reflect in the scientific meeting on what happened in the study day.

Silvia adds that there has been a qualitative change in the subjects, that became more precise, and new.

It is suggested that the Board reflects and reviews the study day and the scientific meeting. Silvia suggests to have the papers before. Jaak says that experience is o.k., but what for? The focus of the meeting is not clear: is it for going deeper in the discussion? If it is not clear, and the expectations are different the experience will not result in more dialogue.

Silvia says that in the workshop of Palermo there will be a change in the technique of leading the groups .

Sandra says in EATGA there are two souls, one for which is very difficult to stick to the theme in the groups, as we have decided in Aix already, and a second soul which likes better to discuss and have exchanges on how we work, which is theoretical but also practical.

Kurt says that this is the work the Board must do.

The discussion brings the conclusion that the organization of the Study Day and of the scientific meeting must be studied in order to eventually change it.

Some members report on their activities. Ruth relates about an ongoing Psychoanalytic Congress in Basel with the participation of many important psychoanalysts, in which she gave a paper on her work in Ecuador.

Bettina relates on the European Psychiatric Congress in Vienna.

An American colleague who lives in Barcelona gave an interesting paper on how to teach transcultural topics. She will contact him and see if we can make a link.

Maria has participated to a transcultural workshop at the Congress of AGPA, led by Maria Van Noort, and would like to send her a report on the Study day. She demands some help for doing that. Dorothy offers to do that. Giovanna suggests to prepare an intervention on cultural differences in gender for the Congress in Cartagena, and asks to send her the material. Bettina is interested,

Ruth observes that gender problems are very transcultural.

Elisabeth is active in a transcultural group of psychoanalysts and family therapists "Systems In Transition" (SET). Members Susan Scharwiess and Olga Marlinova are in it. There will be a meeting at the beginning of June. Mary gave a paper for the EFPP.

Kurt became member of the Berlin Institute of Group Analysis, who is training for many Institutes of Psychoanalysis Proposals.

Marlene says that IGA will accept proposals.

The Board will think a theme and make a proposal. Silvia will translate the paper she gave in Taormina. OMIE .

7 - Association of new members.

Claudine Vacheret has made an application. She is presented by Kaes and Jimenez. Some among us know her personally, but many don't. It is objected that EATGA requires that applicants present themselves and tell why they want to become members. C. Vacheret couldn't come to the study day because at the same date she had to be at the French SPPG to the Association.

Finally we accepted C. Vacheret, with one abstention (Kruppa).

Christine announces that Guimon also wants to become a member. Sandra will send him the application form.

8 - Date of the Scientific meeting: 5-6 November. Ruth and Marlene will explore the possibility of meeting in Basel or London.

Date of the Study Day: we must find out the date of other meeting in order not to overlap, like happened this year with the French SPPG.

The Assembly closes at 12.15.