



**MEETING MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Date: Thursday, June 14, 2018
Time: 1700 – 1730
Location: Hilton Old Town, Antwerp, Belgium
Chair: Barry Rosenfeld – President IAFMHS

1. Welcome and introductions

2. President's Report

- Barry Rosenfeld reported that we had another great conference this year with just under 400 attendees, with 28 countries represented and over 100 students. The conference would make a small surplus this year, which will help to pay for bursaries and to subsidize reduced fees for students. Certificate of attendance will be sent to all attendees within the two weeks of the conference. Those who do not receive it by then should reach out via email.
- Barry Rosenfeld updated about the recent Supreme Court of Canada's decision in the *Ewert v. Canada* case regarding the use of risk assessment instruments on Indigenous offenders. He noted this would have implications for all and that we would discuss this in further details in the next year's conference in Montreal.
- The Association is currently seeking a Book Series Editor. Ron Roesch, the incumbent, will be stepping down at the end of this year. Self- and other nominations are welcomed.
- In terms of collaboration, the Association will be working with the EU-VIORMED project and consulting with them on research on violence risk assessment, in return for a small stipend. There is also

another area of possible collaboration with the International Association of Correctional Forensic Psychologist. The IACFP does not have an annual conference and are interested in partnering with our Association. Barry Rosenfeld reported they will continue to explore this possibility and work out the details while ensuring that we do not lose our identity.

- The Association's newsletter is helmed by Alicia Nijdam-Jones, who is doing a fantastic job. It is being sent out quarterly via email. Alicia Nijdam-Jones is seeking content, including adhoc submissions; information about job openings and post-doc opportunities; related conference, and so forth—information that would be of benefit and interest to the membership. Her contact information can be found on the website.
- Barry Rosenfeld updated the Board will be setting up a few standing committees, such as one overseeing the Derek Eaves Student Research Grant, a membership committee, and an awards committee. The Association is seeking interested members for these committees. As well, the Journal is seeking reviewers.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Robert Lark updated the Association's finances has been stable, but not flushed. The Board has worked to partial out conference budget from the Association's and has worked hard to keep fixed expenses low. He thanked Kris Goethals, LOC for Antwerp 2018 Conference, and Barry Rosenfeld for keeping to the budget.
- He updated the Association has kept two to three years' worth of operating expenses in a term deposit to help ensure the financial longevity of the Association. As well, the Association has put away

some money in a separate account for scholarships to protect those funds.

4. Journal Report

- Tonia Nicholls thanked the outgoing associate editors, Michael Daffern, Matt Huss, Jen Storey, and the editorial assistant, Ilvy Goossens. The Journal is seeking a new associate editor. Tonia Nicholls noted she is hoping for someone outside of North America and for a female to ensure representation on the editorial team but is open to any nominations.
- The 2017 impact factor is yet to be released. The Scopus Metrics are out, and the Journal's CiteScore is 1.64. This is an increase from previous years, which is great to see. The Journal is currently in the top 20th percentile for mental health journals.
- There has been a slight decrease in the number of downloads, although submissions and rejection rates have been going up. The Journal has received 65 submissions to date this year, which is more than what we had last year at this time.
- Tonia Nicholls is seeking ideas for Special Issues and would be particularly interested in topics on culture and on the issue of the Ewert's case. There are two Special Issues currently under preparation and will be coming out soon. The first is on Forensic Neuropsychiatry and Law, guest edited by Josanne van Dongen and Ingmar Franken. The second is on Forensic Clinical Interviewing, guest edited by Caroline Logan. Caroline Logan received over 17 submissions and may publish them in two separate issues. One proposal is to provide free open access to some of the articles, especially the introductory paper, to drum up interest. This would hopefully drive up the number of downloads as well.

- The contract with Taylor & Francis will run out December 2018. Taylor & Francis have offered to continue the existing contract on a yearly basis for now, and there are no concerns in doing so for the interim. However, Tonia Nicholls will be relooking at the terms to negotiate a better, longer-term contract, either with Taylor & Francis or other publications.
- Tonia Nicholls informed about recommendations for data sharing for publications and that it may soon be a requirement. However, there are a host of privacy and legal issues that we will need to grapple with, especially in our area of forensic mental health. A subcommittee will be struck to look into this issue more closely. Currently, there has been four volunteers but the subcommittee is seeking more participation from members.

5. Next Meeting; Montréal, Canada (June 2018)

- Anne Crocker announced next year's conference will be in Montreal, Canada, June 25 – 27, and invited all to attend. She noted there will be an internationally renowned Jazz festival happening right after the conference and encourage those interested to sign up for it early.