

## MINUTES OF NIDCAP FEDERATION INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 8, 2002

A regularly scheduled meeting of the NIDCAP Federation International Board was called and held in Williamsburg, Virginia on October 8, 2002 from 1300 to 1530.

### NIDCAP Federation Representatives Present

#### Board Members

Heidelise Als  
Joy Browne  
Deborah Buehler  
James Helm  
gretchen Lawhon  
Gloria McAnulty  
Kathleen VandenBerg  
Björn Westrup

#### Others Present:

Sandra Kosta (Officer, Assistant Secretary)  
Elizabeth Brennan (Assistant to the Assistant Secretary)

The Vice President and Secretary presented to the Board a summary of the session reviews and summary reviews of the 2002 Annual Meeting participants. Overall, the feedback was very positive (e.g., location, pace, content). Work in small groups continues to be well received. It was suggested that we explore alternative strategies for the facilitation incorporation of ideas from the small parallel work groups back into the discussions of the combined larger group. The Board discussed members from within the group who could facilitate these sessions as well as the proposal that we invite a facilitator from outside the NIDCAP circle. The extra time for discussions appeared to be valued; Annual Meeting participants described feeling more relaxed with the longer meeting format. Separate evaluations for each segment of sessions were suggested. For the Templates Work Session, some background or orientation would have helped those not familiar with the Templates.

Preliminary topics and topic leaders were explored for the 2003 Annual Meeting, and three primary content areas were identified:

- (I) **Non-verbal communication and the underlying emotional regulation of the adults in NICU's.** The goal of this topic is to support Trainers and Trainers-in-Training to become increasingly aware of their own non-verbal communication styles and to increasingly develop skill in reading and modulating others' non-verbal communication. Videotape examples of presentations from group members from diverse cultures may be a useful learning tool to enhance non-verbal communications skills for all.

- (A) A presentation by a guest lecturer (a number of investigators in the Colorado area were discussed, including Drs. Emde and Perry Butterfield, Joanne Robinson, Bob Harmon, and Ed Goldson). The investigator available may address cross-cultural, non-verbal communication and emotional regulation in early parent/infant relationships;
  - (B) A session(s) describing the trainer's working to facilitate trainees and others' reflective processes (Laura Robison, Karen Smith, and Kathleen VandenBerg);
  - (C) A session(s) focused on emotional illness as related to patterns of fragile behavior (Melissa Johnson, Susann Hill Mangan, Christine Pickford);
  - (D) A session(s) devoted to increasing awareness of what the individual brings to each interaction (social referencing) (Nikk Conneman and Agneta Kleberg).
- (II) The continued refinement of **the Developmental Nursery Acknowledgment Criteria** (gretchen Lawhon and Karen Smith).
- (III) The continuation of the forum for **research presentations**, ones relevant to our NIDCAP work, using the present format with a similar review process, presentation format, and time allotment. Dr. Lawhon stated that all presenters for the research presentations will be established over the coming year and confirmed through quarterly reports to the Board.

Dr. Als suggested that next year, the parts of the meeting that are traditionally considered closed sessions be open to all other meeting participants as observers. It will be stated in advance that should any sensitive issue arise, observers will be excused from the session.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and carried, it was unanimously

VOTED: To allow non-members to come to the Membership Meeting to observe, but not participate in the discussions.

Upcoming tasks for the Board committees and specific members as designated include continued development of the nursery criteria (Committee on Nursery Criteria, Co-Chairs gretchen Lawhon and Karen Smith), establishment of the training database (James Helm, Sandra Kosta, Jack Connolly), fundraising efforts (Committee on Fund Raising, Chair Kathleen VandenBerg), exploration of a retreat for the Members of the Board (including finances required, timing and location of the retreat; Kathleen

VandenBerg), and explorations of an independent auditor for Federation finances (Gloria McAnulty and Sandra Kosta).

The next meeting of the Board of the NIDCAP Federation International shall be held on Thursday, October 23, 2003 in Colorado prior to the Fourteenth Annual NIDCAP® Trainer's Meeting. The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be followed by the newly elected Board's meeting on Tuesday, October 28, 2003.

There being no further business, upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary