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Newsletter October 2023

Dear colleagues,

As is the case with our Method, ETC as an organisation needs to be run with a certain plasticity to be able to develop and adapt to the needs of our community. Things move quickly and ask our awareness and competence to act accordingly. The ETC-reps. therefor are all engaged in task groups to carry out this responsibility and keep things moving ahead. We look forward to be in dialogue with our Guilds on relevant and important issues.

With regards and wishes in these times of great concern worldwide,

Newsletter group with

Constantina Lomi, Mamie Wisker, Julia Kirchner, Beth-Karin Danielsen.

ATM - only Trainings, ETC together with their ETAB are inviting Guild Boards throughout the Europe / Israeli area to a zoom meeting on 19th October

The ETC wish to update all Feldenkrais Guild Board members throughout the Europe Israeli area on developments on this current issue. An invitation to this zoom meeting will be issued separately to Guild Boards, with some further

information on the topic.

ETC live meeting in Pisa, September 2023, summary of minutes

Present in the room:

Andrea Thiem (AT), Italy, Secretary, Chair of the meeting, **Mamie Wisker (MW)**, UK, Treasurer and minute taker, **Claire Vialon (CV)**, France, **Nicola Zollinger (NZ)**, Switzerland, **Tsippy Ganan (TG)**, Israel, **Constantina Lomi (CL)**, Sweden, **Julia Ahamer (JRA)**, Austria, **Maria Lastra (ML)** Spain.

Present via zoom:

Beth-Karin Danielsen (BKD), Norway, Chair,
Julia Kirchner (JK), ETC Office Manager joined by zoom for part of the meeting on Friday afternoon

The ETC has developed ways of working harmoniously together, with all ETC reps contributing to one or more task groups, in continuous dialogue with ETAB. Decisions are made in a spirit of co-operation.

1. Position of ETC within the International Feldenkrais Structure

A paradigm-shift in the ETC's position was started at the Pisa meeting. Recent experience in the Feldenkrais community has shown legal authority for decision making lies with the Guilds and international changes to Trainings cannot be imposed on national Guilds.

The ETC agreed that the current international Training situation requires a new Training Policy Framework.

The ETC will draft a new international Training Policy, taking into account views of all relevant stakeholders. This new policy will then be presented to all ETC Guilds.

It was agreed that the implication of the autonomy of local Guilds was that any ETC Guild could agree to accept local changes eg in Training formats. International agreements will still exist. Whether these local variations are accepted in other Guilds would be subject to bilateral agreements.

2. ATM only trainings

It was agreed that this is now a matter for local Guilds to decide upon. A

meeting will be held on Thursday 19th October for all Guilds in the Europe/Israel region, including those who are not ETC members. It was noted that if a Guild intends to authorise ATM only Trainings in their country, they will first need to introduce this Practitioner status into their local Guild statutes.

3. Assessment Tool

It was noted that this project was initiated by the ETC in 2008 and has recently been translated into other languages and experienced by ETAB in an in-person workshop.

ETC arranged an online-workshop for ETC members and practitioners from several Guilds with the tool the year before. the ETC voted unanimously, as owner of the Assessment tool, not to invest any further at present in the tool. The tool is to be made available to the Feldenkrais community as a free resource, with the proviso that if anyone develops the tool they will also make that development freely available

4. Feldenkrais Professional Research Project

The Italian Guild is leading an application for EU funding for a Feldenkrais research project with 3 other partners; German Guild, IFF and Italian association for fibromyalgia. The project has been approved in principle, subject to the provision of further information in order to be financed.

5. Task groups

Current ETC task groups are addressing the following topics; New ETC/ETAB Website (with ETAB), ETC Newsletter, Training Policy Reform (with ETAB), Future Projects, ETC domicile and Administration.

6. Finance

Due to the large number of Feldenkrais Trainings in the Europe / Israel region and reduced expenditure during the covid pandemic, the ETC is currently in a comfortable financial position.

This newsletter will be translated into French, Spanish, Italian and German. We strongly suggest to send it on to all Guild members.



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