Minutes of the EMTC GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2016

at the University for Music and the Performing Arts

Anton-von-Webern-Platz 1, 1030 Vienna, Austria

Pending approval of the General Assembly 2017 in Ede, Netherlands

Monday 4th July 2016
3.00pm – 16.30pm

Present: Hanne Mette Ridder (President), Adrienne Lerner (Vice President), Ferdinando Suvini (Treasurer), Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Melanie Voight (Germany), Melissa Mercadal-Brotons (Spain), Esa Ala-Ruona (Finland), Elena Fitzthum (Austria), Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic), Evi Papanikolaou (Greece), Nicole Duperret (France), Alice Pehk (Estonia), Teresa Leite (Portugal), Tali Gottfried (Israel), Albert Berman (Netherlands), Teodossi Tzinguilev (Bulgaria), Rut Wallius (Sweden), Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway), Tessa Watson (UK, minutes), Claudia Knoll (Slovenia),Marianne Wiltgen (Luxembourg), Agnes Varga (Hungary), Karina Erland Jensen (Denmark), Antonia Hadjieftychoiu (Cyprus), Rozemarijn Claes (Belgium), Bettina Kande-Staehelin (Switzerland), Barbara Zanchi, for Elide Scarlata (Italy), Agnieszka Szymajda (Poland), Dr Valgerdur Jonsdottir (Iceland)

Apologies: Dzintra Zarina (Latvia), Zita Abramaviciute (Lithuania)

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

Dr Hanne-Mette Ridder (President of EMTC) welcomed all those present to the meeting, including the 6 new Country Representatives, and declared the assembly open.

Action approved: It was approved that Tessa Watson would take the minutes for the meeting on Monday and Tuesday.

2. OFFICIAL APPROVAL OF MINUTES 2015

The minutes of the meeting in Wurzburg 2015 are on the website and have been distributed to Country Representatives. **Action approved:** These minutes were unanimously approved.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hanne Mette made a report from the Core Board. The focus for the Board's activities has been;

- Visibility and exchange
- Recognition
- Registration and EMTR

Hanne-Mette noted that National Associations are a member of EMTC. This allows contact and communication with each music therapy member to EMTC, allows information to be shared and supports the work of EMTC, including that of the Country Representatives.

Board activities 2015-2016

These were as follows:

- Administration and organisation (member issues, GA, Vienna 2016, financial matters (in Brussels), newsletters, document archive, EMTC poster)
- There has been continued knowledge exchange between Country Representatives
- Plenary session at the Congress
- Preparing for the transition to a new Board. Hanne-Mette, Adrienne and Ferdinando thanked those present for their work with them as Core Board, and received a warm round of applause in appreciation of their work
- EMTR commission (met on Sunday 3/7 and Monday 4/7). Four people are stepping down from the EMTR Commission; at least 2 additional members are needed. *If you are interested in being part of the EMTR Commission please email the Core Board* ***before October 1st 2016.***

Member associations 2016

28 member countries

45 member associations

Representing 5939 Music Therapists (a continuing upward increase on previous years)

There are 6 new Country Representatives

- Belgium: Rozemarijn Claes (replacing Freya Cossiert)
- Croatia: Ksenija Boric
- France: Stephanie Lefebvre (observing; replacing Dr Nicole Duperret)
- Luxembourg: Laurence Reuter (observing; replacing Marianne Wiltgen-Sanavia)
- Portugal: Rita Maia (replacing Dr Teresa Leite)
- Slovenia: Claudia Knoll

4. Financial report of the EMTC and EMTR 2014, and budget for 2016 – presented by Ferdinando Suvini, Treasurer

The Financial Report was presented, including details of payment of fees from the different countries (income for member fees in 2015 was Euro 5,671.00, and in 2016 is likely to be Euro 5,939.00). All costs for the Core Board (including Brussels and Wurzburg were Euro 6,731.60 in 2015/16. The profit for EMTC/EMTR in 2016 is + Euro 1,414. The balances for each bank account are as follows: Euro 10,599.48 and in the savings account euro 745.88.

Ferdinando responded to questions. The Financial report was unanimously approved.

5. Review of the EMTC plenary session for Saturday morning

This plenary session was rehearsed.

6. EMTR update from meeting today

Rut Wallius presented the following points following meeting of the EMTR commission today:

- Important to collect data: the desire for a common platform

- Negative criticism in the purpose about 'EMTC-standard' – top down instead of bottom up
- Students are already mobile and check for 'the best' training programme according to Bologna
- We should not be afraid to set high standards, eg 5 year training course

Proposals that were considered:

- Original path
- Modified/new/second path
- Close down/put on hold
- Concentrate on guidelines for building up training programmes to ensure that training is up to EMTR standards

This discussion was continued on Tuesday 5th July.

7. Brief country news

Each Country Representative gave brief country news. For more detailed reports from each country please see the EMTC website.

Tuesday 5th July 2016

9.00am – 5.00pm

8. Presentation of applications for hosting the EMTC 2017

Albert Berman (Netherlands) presented his country's proposal for the EMTC 2017. 25th-28th May 2017. Those present voted unanimously to support this proposal.

9. Presentation of applications for hosting the European Music Therapy Congress in 2019

The proposal for the 11th European Music Therapy Conference was presented from Aalborg, Denmark. This will be between 26th-30th June 2019.

10. Presentation of nominees of the EMTC award

Tali Gottfried (Israel) presented information relating to Christian Gold. Tessa Watson presented information relating to Jean Eisler. There was some brief discussion. Those present voted for Jean Eisler to receive the award. This was duly given at the opening of the 10th European Music Therapy Conference.

11. Presentation of new Core Board

Esa Ala Ruona presented some ideas regarding the new Core Board. The new Core Board will be Esa Ala Ruona, Melanie Voigt and Alice Pehk. There was useful and lively dialogue relating to the proposal. The new core board were voted into post, and congratulated.

EMTR Commission

Rut Wallius (EMTR Co-ordinator, Sweden) spoke to explain the current situation in EMTR. The EMTR commission has recommended that EMTR should be put on hold, whilst more mapping exercises are undertaken. Rut summarised the main current issues. Firstly registration and how this can be managed within a system of trust, and how it would be managed if many more people applied. There are currently only 15 registrants (indicating the EMTR is not relevant to the majority of practitioners across European countries). However the EMTR has had impact when forming regulations/guidelines, and to some practitioners on the Register. Nevertheless in summary, the impact is low.

There was a lively and engaging dialogue around the key issues. Teresa Leite (Portugal) spoke persuasively for the future of EMTR. Melanie Voigt (Germany) spoke to urge the importance of putting the current EMTR on hold and making the framework more robust. Tessa Watson (UK) and Tali Gottfried (Israel) both spoke of the need for inclusivity and not exclusivity, the importance of making it affordable and greater clarity of the purpose of the Register. Albert Berman (Netherlands) advocated for the need for high standards for the profession, but noted the difficulty in managing an access system based on trust. He suggested that the quality might be evidenced through the processes within each country. There was discussion about this and how the standards and emphases of work are different across Europe (eg amount of supervision or personal therapy required). Several delegates noted that the EMTR does not have influence in their countries and the cost is too high to expect Music Therapists to register.

The current Commission is Rut Wallius (Co-ordinator of EMTR Commission, Sweden), Esa Ala Ruona (Finland, Core Board 2016 onwards), Melanie Voigt (Germany, Core Board 2016 onwards), Ferdinando Suvini (Italy, current Core Board), Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Adrienne Lerner (current Core Board), Elena Fitzhum (Austria), Melissa Mercadal-Brotons (Spain).

Hanne-Mette, Rut, Adrienne and Ferdinando will be leaving. There will be at least 2 places vacant on the EMTR Commission.

Those presented voted to put the Register on hold whilst more detailed work and development takes place.

12. Regional meetings

North Region (Responsible: Alice Pehk)

Present: Alice Pehk (Chair, Estonia), Valgerdur Jonsdottir (Iceland), Esa Ala Ruona (Finland), Tessa Watson (Minutes, UK), Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway), Karina Erland Jensen (Denmark), Rut Wallius (Sweden)

EMTC membership with Southern Ireland

Alice reported that she has continued her correspondence with Southern Ireland (Hilary Moss is the current correspondent). The current situation in Southern Ireland is that Music Therapists are part of an umbrella organisation with others Arts Therapists. Therefore the decision regarding EMTC is for the whole group. Hilary has indicated that they will continue to work on this over the next year.

Recognition of the profession

Iceland has recently been turned down again for registration with the Ministry of Health. Music Therapists have been placed in category 3 along with S&LT and OT etc, and it is considered that there is no need to regulate the profession in order to protect the service users.

In Finland, the Ministry of Health also considers that there is no need to regulate in order to protect service users.

In Sweden music therapy has also been rejected for registration by Ministry for Social Department for the same reason. Music Therapists are recognised as a profession by insurers.

In Denmark the registration process is ongoing and research is ongoing with particular client groups (eg dementia, autism and schizophrenia) in order to show evidence for efficacy. Recently music therapy was represented at a public hearing in parliament about culture and health.

In Norway the title is not protected (the Ministry of Health turned down protecting the title). Music therapy training is approved by the Ministry of Health.

In Estonia the system is different, and the Music Therapists did not need to be in contact with the Ministry at all. They worked with the Estonia Qualification Authority to develop criteria for the profession, and a commission approved the process.

In the UK, Dramatherapy, Music Therapy and Art Therapy are registered professions (with the Health and Care Professions Council, along with other allied health professions http://www.hcpc-uk.org/). However Dance Movement therapy applied later and were turned down. It was noted that UK psychotherapy have debated and resisted regulation as they feel it could be limiting for their practice/profession.

There was an extended discussion regarding training/registration issues, particularly in Sweden/Iceland.

Nordic collaboration - Karina suggested a Facebook page for the Northern Area, where information could be shared and posted. This was agreed and Karina will set this up.

New Swedish Country Representative - Maria Munkesjo is the new Swedish Representative. She had sent a message via a video which Rut played on her phone.

New regional co-ordinator - Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway) has offered to take on this role and those present were unanimously in favour of this.

Middle European Region (Responsible: Ágnes Varga)

Present:

Melanie Voigt (Germany), Elena Fitzthum (Austria), Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic), Albert Berman (Netherlands), Claudia Knoll (Slovenia),Marianne Wiltgen (Luxembourg), Agnes Varga (Hungary), Bettina Kande-Staehelin (Switzerland), Agnieszka Szymajda (Poland)

Discussion about **art therapy and music therapy**. (In Switzerland there is a controversial discussion about whether the music therapy association should become member of the big arts therapy association having much more political weight, but representing a non-academic training path (with lower admission criteria) and "swallowing" music therapy as a profession of it's own. How is it in other countries?

Information from this discussion:

Albert reported that there are three new or recognised training programs this year in the Netherlands.

1) KT Leiden, the antroposophical music therapy BA program; 2) A Master of Music Therapy program (1 year fulltime, 60 ECTS) starts in Enschede in September 2016 as a top on the Bachelor of Music Therapy; 3) a Master of Arts Therapies program starts in Rotterdam in September 2016, with a differentiation in music therapy, (3 year part time, 120 ECTS) as a top on conservatory music BA's.

Poland: There have also been changes in The Polish Music Therapists Association in Wroclaw. From 2.04.2016 The Polish Music Therapists Association in Wroclaw has a new board, president is Agnieszka Szymajda. They organize in collaboration with the Music Therapy Department of Music Academy in Wroclaw “The European Forum of Music Therapists “45 years of Wrocław Music Therapy in the Centre of Europe”, 1-3 December 2016. All EMTC members are warmly invited to participate.

Switzerland:

- No new law but the title "Kunsttherapeut Eidgenössisch Diplomiert ED, Fachrichtung Musiktherapie" recognized on federal level. As this is not an academic title, most music therapists are frustrated about this development.

- new private training planning to start in 2017 on lower level -> difficult for academic training (Zurich) and existing private school (FMWS), because some candidates ask why they should make the effort of a university training if they can have "it" easier and cheaper.

Luxembourg:

Mariannes mandate is going to end at this years GA. Laurence Reuter will take over her task. Marianne introduces Laurence. She says that for Luxembourg she represents really the new generation of well-trained music therapists. She will attend the meeting to assist and the transition will be easy so.

We will have to share news concerning the recognition process as with the psychotherapy law voted July 2015, music therapy as art therapy got involved in the discourse at ministerial and government level.

Poland:

The Polish Music Therapists Association has a new board since 2.04.2016 (Agnieszka Szymajda – president). In April 2016 they organized a music therapy seminar for music therapist and students. They still closely collaborate with the Music Therapy Department of Music Academy in Wroclaw. They organized together The European Forum of Music Therapists "45 years of Wrocław Music Therapy in the Centre of Europe" Wrocław, 1-3 December 2016. Agnieszka warmly invited all EMTC members to participate.

Czech Republic:

Efforts for recognition of the music therapy profession take place at different ministries (health, social affairs and education) and the negotiations are under way.

The events on the occasion of the 2nd European Music Therapy Day took place. Many successful events were organized throughout the Czech Republic.

The good cooperation between the Czech Art Therapy Association, the Association of Czech Drama Therapy, the Music Therapy Association of the Czech Republic and the Czech Dance and Movement Therapy Association continues and the associations organized the 3rd annual of the successful international conference Space for Art Therapies.

The election process of the new country representative for the Czech Republic has finished. The majority of people voted for Marketa Gerlichova. She has been elected the country representative for the Czech Republic for the period 2016-2019.

II. Other subject: election of the new regional coordinator -> Ágnes Varga (Hungary)

South European Region (Responsible: Elide Scarlata and Ranka Raduolovic)

Present:

Ranka Radulovic (Chair, Serbia), Melissa Mercadal-Brotons (Spain), Teresa Leite and Rita Maia (Portugal), Evi Papanikolaou (Greece), Tali Gottfried (Israel), Antonia Hadjieftychoiu (Cyprus), Barbara Zanchi for Elide Scarlata (Italy), Nicole Duperret and Stephanie Lefevbre (France), Teodossi Tzinguilev (Bulgaria).

In some countries there are more associations than one belonging to the EMTC, but there is no communication between them and no tendency to gather under the auspices of a national umbrella association which has been established in some countries, but not in others.

In the attempt to create an EMTC archive, it was realized that some countries have not yet adopted the constitutional founding documents. Some member countries do not have the tendency to translate their documents into English.

Moreover, there are lot of associations that do not belong to the EMTC. Such associations are typical not only for Southern Europe, but they also exist under the auspices of other countries in the EMTC (Italy, Czech Republic, Poland, Switzerland, The Netherlands each have one, Sweden has two, and Spain twelve). Some of them are members of the World Federation of Music Therapy

During the Regional meeting, the level of communication and collaboration in the region and the importance of

clear documentation and archives was discussed.

The role of EMTR in South Europe and possible consequences of the new decision of the EMTR commission were discussed.

A new regional co-ordinator, Elide Scarlata (Italy), was elected upon the proposal of Ranka Radulovic.

13. Plenum – presentations from working groups

- **Presentation at Vienna conference 2016**
- **Website:**

  The working group collected everything that must be done during the year The new Website should be online at old address August/September. Editing and updating will be faster and more people will be involved. The Regional Coordinators will do the editing to simplify the procedure. The working group has been dissolved. A little more patience is required. The website will be restarted when it is functional. Special attention will be given to links. Ingeborg will send a mail when all is running, then call for a check on information.

- **Ethics:**

  The History of the Ethics Group was explained. There is to be an ethical kodex for congresses. There is also the need to determine how to handle ethical problems (for example EMTR). Ethical Working Group is discussing forming an ethics council to support dealing with problems on a national level.

- **CPD**

  Members: Tessa Watson (UK), Teresa Leite (Portugal), Rozemarjin Claes (Belguim), Nicole Duperret (France) and Stephanie Lefebvre (new representative for France). Freya Drossaert had previously chaired this group. She had managed the process of devising and sending out a questionnaire to collect information from 5 countries. These replies are held on a google document. The information is very diverse and was difficult to pull together into a clear picture (eg great diversity of points, hours of CPD). The poster presentation that had been planned was not submitted due to difficulty in gaining information and in the diversity of information that was gathered.

  There was a useful discussion about the future of the group; it was decided that the group would send the information they had to the new Core Board and the the EMTR and ask if the group should continue. If so, should the information gathered be summarised in text form, and would the Core Board like the group to develop guidelines/parameters for CPD.

- **Recognition group and qualification for MT:**

  The working group created and sent out a questionnaire to all CRs. All except 4 countries responded. There is a broad spectrum of types of recognition of some sort but very little legal regulation/recognition. Also, the qualification for the profession is varied. More work is required here. Marketa will take over this working group since Melanie is going to be in the new core board.

- **European MT day:**

  There was a Skype session before the GA. Purpose of the song is to connect, to put music into the scene. Music Therapy Students are encouraged to make their own versions of the song with „Likes“ on Facebook. Flyers and posters are coming today. Elena suggested to involve the EAMTS. Facebook (open) could be posted. This could also be used for the publication of EMTC events. There is also a World Music Therapy Day put on by the World Federation. More cooperation is necessary here.

- **Research:**

  Marketa is stopping, and Laurence is joining. This working group has been working for 3 years. They have gathered information about PhD programmes in Europe. Collaborative projects are also a topic as are consultation, methods etc.

Moderation from this point was by the new Core Board

Esa Ala Ruona (Finland) PRESIDENT, Melanie Voigt (Germany) VICE PRESIDENT (SECRETARY GENERAL), Alice Pehk (Estonia) VICE PRESIDENT (TREASURER)

14. Topics for the EMTC to address in the coming period

- Collaboration with the WFMT (Action: Core Board, with collaboration from Tessa Watson (UK)/Angela Harrison – Regional Liaison for Europe WFMT and Aksana Kavaliova-Moussi – Regional Liaison for Eastern Mediterranean WFMT)
- Music Therapy training courses in Europe, listing on website (Action: all to be in touch with Music Therapy Educators in their countries, seek updated information and send these updates to their Regional Co-ordinators. By the beginning of September please)
- The need to gain further understanding and information about regulation was discussed as a continuing important role for EMTR commission. If you are interested in joining the EMTR please send an email to all three Core Board members by **1st October 2016**
- Development of a new logo (Action: Albert Berman (The Netherlands) with the Core Board)

15. Definition of working groups and individual tasks

Working Groups were discussed, actions below

Previous working groups

- Presentation of EMTC at Vienna Conference – this work has been completed
- Website: The work is being completed. The Regional Coordinators will be taking care of the website. The development of the web site is done
- Think Tank – this has been disbanded.
- Ethics: Will continue see below.
- CPD: Will continue see below
- Recognition group and qualification for MT: will continue see below
- Music Therapy Day: will continue see below

Ranka Radulovic (Serbia) suggested a collaboration between countries to support funding being obtained. This was discussed and how this might be structured. The Core Board will discuss the need for a working group to address this issue.

- Ethics: Agnieska Szymajda (Poland), Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Evangelia Papanikolaou (Greece), Elena Fitzhum (Austria) (Chair)
- CPD: Tessa Watson (UK), Stéphanie Lefebvre (France), Rita Maia (Portugal), Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic) (Chair). This group has information that could be important for the EMTR and should remain active, collaborating with the EMTR-Commission
- Recognition group and qualification for MT: Antonia Hadjieftychiou (Cyprus), Elide Scarlata (Italy) (Chair?), Evangelia Papanikolaou (Greece), Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic), Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Teodossi Tzinguilev (Bulgaria), Agnieska Szymajda (Poland), Claudia Knoll (Slovenia)
- Music Therapy Day: Albert Berman (The Netherlands) (Chair), Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Dzintra Zarina (Latvia), Tali Gottfried (Israel), Agnes Varga (Hungary), Antonia Hadjieftychiou (Cyprus), Valgedur Jonsdottir (Iceland), Laurence Reuter (Luxembourg), Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway)

- Music therapy and other creative arts therapies – possibilities and challenges: Bettina Kande-Staehelin (Switzerland), Agnes Varga (Hungary), Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic), Claudia Knoll (Slovenia), Laurence Reuter (Luxembourg), Albert Berman (The Netherlands)
- Research: Melissa Brotons, Tali Gottfried, Laurence Reuter

16. Plenary discussion and conclusion of General Assembly 2016

Some felt that the time allocated for Regional Groups and for working groups was too short.