

## IASSIDD Down Syndrome Special Interest Research Group

Annual General Meeting, Glasgow, August 2019

### **Attendance:**

Jo Hughes, Fliss Kyffin, Sue Buckley, Tonnie Coppus, Anne Jobling, Jan Lloyd, Niamh Mulryan, Becky Baxter, Silvana Mengoni, Esther Joosa, Karen Watchman, Rhonda Faragher, Roy Brown, Masauso Chirwa (by Skype)

**Apologies:** Glenys Mann, Jill Porter, Monica Cuskelly

### **Chairs Report (Rhonda Faragher)**

Rhonda reported on the finances (as yet unconfirmed) of \$3070 with current membership of 51, 17 of whom selected Down syndrome as their primary SIRG.

Challenges were noted with communication, both to members (we do not have access to a Down syndrome SIRG membership list) and within IASSIDD – only the chair is emailed, not other office bearers which causes problems as IASSIDD email is blocked at Rhonda's institute.

Since Athens 2018 the group had participated in the Down Syndrome International Congress in Glasgow delivering a symposium and track presentations. Not all other activities had gone ahead as planned, for example a writing day planned before the IASSIDD conference did not take place due to lack of room availability.

### **Elections**

Chair – Rhonda Faragher

Secretary – Karen Watchman

Treasurer – Masauso Chirwa

Members at large: Jill Porter, Esther Joosa, Tonni Coppus, Sue Buckley, Roy Brown, Becky Baxter.

Proposer – Roy Brown / Seconded by Anne Jobling

### **Project updates:**

Deep Down Arts, Mexico (Esther Joosa) – update given by Esther and the project will move to Singapore next year

Academy Workshops Mexico (Roy Brown) – currently on hold whilst local political issues are addressed.

Living with Down syndrome edited text (Manuel Guerrero and Roy Brown) – now also available in English

### **Future plans**

Action for 2019/20

- To update the website when new information is available (Karen)
- To maintain social media presence (Esther)
- To maintain ResearchGate pages (Rhonda)
- Consider viability of joint meeting with Inclusive Education SIRG in Brisbane 2020 (Rhonda)
- Submit British Academy application to deliver 4-day writing workshop in Zambia for intellectual disability Early Career Researchers (Karen with other SIRG members as co-applicants)

Next meeting:

In conjunction with IASSIDD Asia Pacific Congress, Hyderabad, India 2-5 September, 2020.