

EMTC General Assembly

Tuesday June 7th 2022

08:45-17:45

Attendance

In Edinburgh

Boglárka Kertész-Farkas, Catherine Clancy (Spain), Hanna Hakommäki (Finland), Rita Maia (Portugal), Agnieszka Szymajda (Poland), Mitsi Akoyunoglou (Greece), Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway/Board), Tali Gottfried (Israel), Katie Roth (Latvia), Malle Luik (Estonia), Jurgita Zalgiryte (Lithuania substitute), Lenka Kruzikova (Czech Republic succession), Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic), Nele Fiers (Belgium), Dominique Praquin (France), Katarina Lindblad (Sweden), Tessa Watson (UK), Stefan Mainka (Germany), Beate Roelcke (Switzerland), Laurien Hakvoort (The Netherlands), Gustavo Schulz Gattino (Denmark), Elide Scarlata (Italy), Ann Majerus (Luxembourg), Elisabeth Kaczynski (Austria/Board), Angelica Postu (Romania) joined the meeting on 7/6 at 3pm.

Online

Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Teodossi Tzinguilev (Bulgaria), Katie Fitzpatrick (Ireland), Valgerdur Jónsdóttir (Iceland), Özgür Salur (Turkey), Claudia Bajs (Slovenia). Yuliia Martin (observing member for Ukraine) joined online at 3.15pm.

Ksenija Buric (not present on 7/6, joined on 8/6).

Welcome and opening

Esa Ala Ruona (President) welcomed those present in person and on line to the meeting. It was agreed that Tessa Watson (UK) would take the minutes for the GA.

Melanie Voight welcomed Romania, a new member country, specifically Melanie welcomed Jurgita Zalgiryte from Lithuania (substituting for Zita who is on maternity leave), Anna Majerus (Luxembourg), Lenka Kruzikova (Czech Republic) who will take over from Marketa, and Dominique Praquin (France), and Katie Fitzpatrick (Ireland). Ukraine has applied to become an observing member, their representative Yuliia Martyn will be joining us online. All were warmly welcomed.

Esa Ala Ruona (President) noted the importance of this meeting, where the majority of participants were in the room face to face. He noted the importance not only of meetings after the GA but also of the interactions between CRs, sharing thoughts, ideas and worries. Esa noted that it will be the last GA, the end of the journey for the current Core Board who have been working for 6 years, and his pleasure at being able to meet face to face for this event.

President's report

Esa Ala Ruona (President) gave the President's report. The Core Board were introduction; Esa Ala-Ruona (President), Melanie Voight (Secretary General), Alice Pehk (Treasurer), Ingeborg Nebulung; co-ordinator Northern area, Elisabeth Kaczynski (co-ordinator middle area), and Elide Scarlata (co-ordinator southern area).

There have been 10 core board meetings, 11 board meetings and 20+ EMTS (European Music Therapy Standards) related meetings. Other meetings have included regional meetings, action teams, ECARTE/SATTIE etc. There have been more than 1,400 emails since the last GA. Melanie was thanked for the considerable amount of coordination she has undertaken.

The EMTS was briefly presented. Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic), Laurien Hakvoort (Netherlands), Melissa Mercadal-Brotons (Spain), Tessa Watson (UK). This has involved further processing and presenting

of the EMTS data, and also considerable reflection upon the data and the process. This will be presented in more detail at the Conference.

Katie Roth (Latvia) was thanked for the work that she has put into the webpage and the updated corporate design.

Esa gave more information about other action that has taken place, including frequent regional meetings and initiatives, an international webinar (with WFMT), a collaboration with ECARTE (Promoting Excellence in Arts Therapies Education at a European Level; The State of the Arts Therapies Training in Europe SATTIE). Student involvement and collaboration has increased, with Gattino Gustavo taking on this communication.

The previous 'working groups' that are now termed Action Teams have been working hard and providing important operational initiatives. There has also been important work for the 30th anniversary of EMTC and for the Edinburgh conference and beyond.

The President was warmly applauded for all the work represented in the report.

Treasurer's report

Alice Pehk (Treasurer) presented the accounts for EMTC. These primarily relate to website renewal, accountancy costs, travel for the Core Board. Alice noted that there is currently a profit. It is likely that the next Core Board will need to travel to Belgium in order to continue to process issues relating to accountancy. The issues related to the bank account are now resolved, and Nele Fiers (Belgium) was instrumental in supporting this process, for which she was thanked.

Questions were taken and Alice gave answers to each of these. The accounts were then unanimously approved.

Short reports and thoughts from Country Representatives

Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway/Board) moderated this section, allowing each Country Representative to introduce themselves and give any updated information from their country.

The following CRs gave brief updates:

Nele Fiers (Belgium) – Music Therapy is now recognised in residential elderly care.

Laurien Harkvoort (Netherlands) – Sander Van Goor was given an award for applying music therapy in society, for his work for Ukraine.

Gustavo Gattino (Denmark) – the student event on Monday 6/6 went very well. The Nordic Conference Elide Scarlata (Italy/Board) – there will be a training programme in the conservatoire of music for the first time.

Elisabeth Kaczynski (Austria/Board) – an Erasmus + project has begun between Ukraine and Austria, and a textbook has been developed.

Teodossi Tzinguilev (Bulgaria) - there will be a conference in 2022.

Valgerdur Jónsdóttir (Iceland) – there is a new music therapy position in a nursing home, the professional association is celebrating their 25th anniversary and there may be a conference

Ranka Radulovic (Serbia) – Ranka published a new book, and there is a new website

Özgür Salur (Turkey) – there is a large project ongoing for people with dementia, currently in the analysis stage

Questions to the GA were then considered. Mitsi Akoyunoglou (Greece) asked how associations might choose 1 representative where there is more than 1 association. This was discussed. Stefan Mainka (Germany) described that all associations work together to find a process and to vote. This seemed to be a good strategy and Tessa Watson (UK) suggested that this process could be adopted, with the idea of proportional representation depending upon the size of the association. Elide Scarlata (Italy/Board) also presented this kind of model that works well in Italy. Catherine Clancy (Spain) described the situation in Spain, where there is a challenging communication between associations. Esa and Melanie gave their

advice; to develop an umbrella organisation where possible, and to work together with all associations. There was an awareness that in some countries this is very challenging.

This was a useful and supportive discussion. Melanie (Secretary General) noted that EMTC had offered moderation from EMTC (with Elide Scarlata as coordinator, in position as moderator) but associations did not respond.

EMTS presentation

Melanie Voight (Secretary General) outlined the work that has been undertaken and that will be presented at the roundtable. The group has been inclusive and reflective in their work. Melanie outlined the history of EMTR, which has transitioned into the EMTS project. The timeline was presented with the EMTR beginning in 2010, with only 16 registered Music Therapists in Europe by 2016. In 2016, this project was considered and a different direction taken, to learn more from music therapy trainers across Europe about levels and knowledge. In 2017 a cause and effect analysis was undertaken at the GA. From this process it was agreed to think more of a 'bottom up' process and to think about recommended standards for safe and effective practice. This has involved a survey to training courses across Europe (Melanie presented this in more detail).

A student from Vienna undertook her diploma thesis into this topic and provided the analysis of the data. 116 questionnaires were sent out, with 78 training courses returning the questionnaires (65% return).

Esa Ala Ruona (President) gave a little more of the details of the current project, the findings and the future plans. One aspect will be to aim to continue to update the data by adding a section into the Country Report to ask Country Representatives to include significant changes in training.

Melanie Voight spoke clearly about the importance of inclusion and about being reflective and questioning our own perspectives and certainties about what music therapy training and standards might be, in order to allow the profession to evolve and to draw in new musical, cultural, pedagogical, experiential and other developments.

Katie Roth (Latvia) asked for content regarding this project in order to add to the webpage.

There was interesting discussion about this project, including Catherine Clancy (Spain) noting that CPD would be required for Spanish MTs in order to reach these standards. Gustavo Gattino (Denmark) asked if the data would be divided into categories such as those on the AMTA webpage in the USA. Esa noted clearly that EMTC is not creating rules to be met but outlining recommended standards for safe and effective practice. Özgür Salur (Turkey) welcomed this work and stated his country's need for the data. Boglárka Kertész-Farkas (Hungary) noted how Hungary is moving towards recommendation and she commended the EMTS group on their work. Alice Pehk (Treasurer) invited all CRs to the roundtable at the conference.

Elide Scarlata (Italy/Board) noted the work of the European Council of Liberal Professions (CEPLIS) <https://ceplis.org/> which may be of use in the future.

Ranka Radulovic (Serbia) noted that there is still no definition for music therapy for EMTC. Melanie advised that work is ongoing. She noted the importance of making this definition inclusive, when there are diverse approaches and perspectives.

Esa Ala Ruona, Melanie Voight and Alice Pehk will stay on the EMTS following the conclusion of their term as Core Board; thanks were given to Esa, Melanie and Alice for this continuing work.

Reflections of the Board about the work from 2016-2022 by Core Board and Board Members

Esa Ala Ruona (President) spoke about the spirit of the Core Board, which has been one of constructive and respectful discussion. The Core Board have shared a vision for the EMTC, working professionally but informally at times to maximise their time together. He noted the difference in approach and personality

which has led to rich collaboration. Esa also reflected upon learning about process, and the need to take time to consider issues at times.

Alice spoke about the improvement in communication across their term as Core Board. Elide Scarlata (Italy/Board) noted the increased involvement of CRs in work across the EMTC, which is encouraging. Specific pieces of work have come from specific CRs or groups (eg online and refugee work guidelines). Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway/Board) spoke about her pride in the work that has taken place over the past year and in action teams. Nele Fiers (Belgium) spoke of her appreciation of the collaborative work that has taken place within an atmosphere of constructive criticism. Catherine Clancy (Spain) thanked the Core Board for responsive help when this was needed.

Others shared their thoughts about the work of this Core Board and about the developments of EMTC during the past years. Esa noted that Alice has been part of EMTC for 27 years which represents a great body of experience. Laurien Hakvoort (Netherlands) spoke about the support provided by EMTC during the Covid 19 pandemic.

Online group

One need is to have the EMTS standards as soon as possible in order to prevent Music Therapists from leaving countries to work elsewhere.

Standards for accessibility for small countries and associations, particularly for European Congresses and to allow smaller countries to organise a GA. Ranka noted that GAs had previously been organised by Regions and that this may be a way to engage smaller countries. This online group suggested having an Action Team to work on accessibility.

On a local level issues are relating to visibility and collaboration with HEIs, and the need for a more active link with Government, including clear steps towards clarity for the profession, regulation.

Group one

NEEDS

Clearer regulations about the profession of music therapy, and a clearer identity of who can call themselves a Music Therapist. Tessa Watson and Elide Scarlata noted the grandparenting scheme (useful link: <https://www.hcpc-uk.org/globalassets/resources/reports/review-of-the-grandparenting-process.pdf?v=636785062220000000>)

Clear CPD system (HCPC system is useful and allows MTs to undertake the CPD that will benefit their individual practice).

Political connections

Diversity – drawing into training a more diverse group of students.

EMTR system was discussed and how this led to the EMTS scheme, and why it would be challenging to have a register across Europe for music therapy.

European Council of Liberation Professions – might be useful for EMTC to join?

To be more successful in supporting colleagues to attend conferences (discussed associations sponsoring members or providing bursaries, or drawing upon EU money).

Group two

To protect the quality of professional work through supervision and CPD.

On a European level perhaps educators could move between countries.

To encourage more multi-national research projects (as is seen at this conference).

What strengths are in different countries in order to take advantage of these and allow experts to advise.

Additionally areas of expertise might be useful for CRs to share in order to advise colleagues. Including multi-disciplinary expertise (this could be an Action Team)?

CPD to be strengthened and attached to the idea of registration. Laurien noted that in The Netherlands, they have obtained a European branding for 'Registered Music Therapist.'

Esa Ala Ruona (President) noted the importance of making a 'bridge' between research and clinical work. Tali Gottfried (Israel) confirmed that the Research Action Team has also been considering this and have been starting to utilise the database. In conversation with Katie Roth they are considering using the webpage to communicate about research and the impact of this for professional practice.

Group three

Recognition is needed (governmental and educational). EMTS will be important to continue this work. Difference in training courses was discussed and the implications for these (e.g. where graduates can work). Funding is needed.

Supervision and CPD were noted as important developments.

Selling ourselves – promoting ourselves with clarity. Visibility and having ambassadors nationally and internationally.

Podcasts could be developed national/international – 'music therapodcast'. Involve service users. This is an alternative way of 'publishing'. Elisabeth informed the meeting about this podcast;

<https://musiktherapie-science.letscast.fm/about>

Presentations of Core Board candidates

Core Board candidate team 1 presented their bid; Elide Scarlata (Italy), Rita Maia (Portugal) and Nele Fiers (Belgium). Questions were asked to the bid team by Ranka Radulovic (Serbia) and Teodossi Tzinguilev (Bulgaria).

Core Board candidate team 2 presented their bid; Tali Gottfried (Israel), Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway) and Tessa Watson (UK). No questions were asked to the bid team.

Presentation of nominees for EMTC-Award

The 5 candidates for the EMTC Award

Summing up of the day

General Assembly 2023

Alice Pehk (Treasurer) noted that the EMTC can support the next GA financially with approximately 5,000 Euros. This was briefly discussed. Ingeborg Nebelung reminded the group that there will be a symposium at which CRs will be invited to speak. This provides a free panel of speakers for the host country (some countries make a profit). The deadline for making applications to host the GA will be the 1st October 2022. Melanie advised those present who are interested in this to approach their Associations and to begin to draw up a budget. It may be possible to use University accommodation and rooms (after term has finished) in order to bring costs down.

Suggestion for an 'Accessibility Action Team'

This suggestion was made during the discussion and small group work. Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Özgür Salur (Turkey) and Claudia Bajs (Slovenia) spoke about this idea. This Action Team would work to provide greater accessibility to the GA for all Country Representatives, and to the European Music Therapy Congress. This may not only relate to financial aspects (e.g. setting sliding conference fees) but also to continuing access online in order to provide greater accessibility. Ranka suggested that a quarter of the membership team could go towards this.

Gustavo Gattino (Denmark) also noted the importance of considering accessibility to training and to work for a range of Music Therapists. Tessa Watson (UK) reminded those present about the Disabled Music Therapists meeting that is taking place during this conference led by the Disabled Music Therapists' network from BAMT in the UK.

Katie Fitzpatrick, Ranka Radulovic, Claudia Bajs, Ozgur Salur and Tessa Watson are interested in this topic.

Wednesday June 8th 2022

08:45-17:45

In Edinburgh

Boglárka Kertész-Farkas (Spain), Catherine Clancy (Spain), Hanna Hakommäki (Finland), Rita Maia (Portugal), Agnieszka Szymajda (Poland), Mitsi Akoyunoglou (Greece), Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway/Board), Tali Gottfried (Israel), Katie Roth (Latvia), Malle Luik (Estonia), Jurgita Zalgiryte (Lithuania substitute), Lenka Kruzikova (Czech Republic succession), Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic), Nele Fiers (Belgium), Dominique Praquin (France), Katarina Lindblad (Sweden), Tessa Watson (UK), Stefan Mainka (Germany), Beate Roelcke (Switzerland), Laurien Hakvoort (The Netherlands), Gustavo Schulz Gattino (Denmark), Elide Scarlata (Italy), Ann Majerus (Luxembourg), Elisabeth Kaczynski (Austria/Board), Angelica Postu (Romania) joined the meeting on 7/6 at 3pm.

Online

Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Katie Fitzpatrick (Ireland), Valgerdur Jónsdóttir (Iceland), Özgür Salur (Turkey), Claudia Bajs (Slovenia), Teodossi Tzinguilev (Bulgaria)

There was a brief discussion picking up on points from yesterday. Angelica Postu (Romania) talked about the importance of meeting and the importance of accessibility for all countries. Katarina Lindblad (Sweden) talked about the similarities between the attitudes and work of the different countries and underlined the value of meeting and discussion. Beate Roelcke (Switzerland) noted the quality of the presentations for the Core Board and the interesting information presented for the GA Awards. Katie Roth (Latvia) noted how the move to Action Teams has enabled more work to take place. Tali Gottfried (Israel) and Dominique Praquin (France) commended EMTC on the work that has taken place.

Regional meetings

Middle region

Elisabeth Kaczynski (Austria) was elected as Coordinator for the Middle Region. Elisabeth's group shared ideas about overload of email traffic. Accessibility was also discussed, for example those who may not speak English well and the amount of work that is needed to translate where this is needed. The vision for the next years is to try to work more across borders with small projects (e.g. the Benelux project).

South region

Catherine Clancy (Spain) was elected as Coordinator for the Southern Region. Elide Scarlata shared ideas about learning from each other and the circumstances in each country. Different ideas for meetings were discussed. Proposals regarding the different speeds that exist within each country.

Northern region

Gustavo Gattino (Denmark) was elected as Coordinator for the Northern Region. This meeting was very productive with creative discussion. The group discussed holding more regular meetings where CRs discuss the challenges and situation in their countries. The idea of summer camps was discussed, with a weekend in September 2023 with a theme of self care (either in Estonia or Lithuania). This would be mainly workshop/experiential based. Building on existing networks was also discussed, for example a list of MTs who could host a MT from another country, or who could support an internship. A new initiative 'EMTC talks....' will be launched by the Northern Region, where MTs will be in conversation with another MT and talk about their work. A list of supervisors in the Northern Region was considered in order to provide high quality supervision for different countries where supervisors are scarce. Similarities and differences were discussed, including attitudes and experiences of mental health, whether music is taught/experienced in schools.

Action Team Meetings

Accessibility Action Team

Chair: Claudia Bajs. This Action Team consists of Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Claudia Bajs (Slovenia), Teodossi Tzinguilev (Bulgaria), Özgür Salur (Turkey), Yuliia Martin (observing member for Ukraine). This group will be for CRs and EMTC as well as the broader music therapy community who might experience access issues. 2 perspectives were that there are accessibility issues for Music Therapists within EMTC and in professional work. This group considered that it might be useful to hear about these experiences and why people find it

hard to contribute more in the GA. Access to scientific publications/libraries is another issue that this group considered. Perhaps a database of MTs and of HEIs who can provide access could be useful.

This group asked the question who are the MTs that are *not* at conferences, and is access related to their non attendance. Finally, to consider why countries might find it hard to organise a GA, what the barriers might be in their way.

Recognition

Chair: This Action Team has no chair, but shared responsibility. Nele Fiers (Belgium). This Action Team consists of Ann Majerus (Luxembourg), Boglárka Kertész-Farkas (Hungary), Dominique Praquin (France), Josif Kartapanis (Cyprus), Nele Fiers (Belgium). Angelica Postu (Romania) and Lenka Kruzikova (forthcoming Czech Republic CR).

This group has carried out an interview, questionnaire, summarised and structured this information and it is now on the EMTC webpage. The difference between regulation and recognition has been clarified with a lawyer. Nele presented this information and showed how it has been added to the EMTC webpage. This group will proceed by keeping the webpage up to date, working on questions (to the CRs and national organisations/board and Core Board) and by collaborating with others Arts Therapists.

Research

Chair: Tali Gottfried. This Action Team consists of Stefan Mainka (Germany), Elide Scarlata (Italy), Claudia Bajs (Slovenia), Gustavo Gattino (Denmark), Laurien Hakvoort (Netherlands), Agnieszka Szymajda (Poland). This year the group has continued to review the process of surveys, to collect and map information, to have lively and deep discussions around inclusion criteria and categories, to analyse data and to present the results at the Edinburgh conference. Next year the group hopes to act on feedback from the round table, to incorporate this in their manuscript and to finish the Research page on the EMTC webpage, and to engage MT researchers in sharing their research with EMTC. Research stories from MTs will also be included on the EMTC webpage. A vote of thanks was given to Katie Roth for all her work on this. Stefan and Elide will step down from the Research Action Team (Stefan in March 2023).

CPD

Chair: Rita Maia. This Action Team consists of Elisabeth Kaczynski (Austria), Marketa Gerlichova (Czech Republic).

The aims of the group were to have the CPD guidelines approved by the EMTC board – these are now on the EMTC webpage. There is a presentation on the webpage about the guidelines for information. Now the group is putting together guidelines for international online events organisation. This document will consider the kind of criteria that are important to consider to ensure that events can receive the EMTC approval and logo. Rita presented some of the data from questionnaires briefly.

Supervision

Chair: Malle Luik (Estonia). This Action Team consists of Catherine Clancy (Spain), Beate Roelcke (Switzerland), Ranka Radulovic (Serbia), Ozgur, Teodossi Tzinguilev (Bulgaria), Katarina Lindblad (Sweden). Hanna Hakomaki (Finland) has joined the group today. Most of the work has been undertaken via email and zoom. Supervision varies greatly across Europe. The group has been ascertaining the similarities, common trends and good practice. Malle presented the activity over the past years, including pulling together questions for the questionnaire. The group is awaiting feedback regarding the google questionnaire from the Core Board. Malle queried whether this should now be sent to the new Core Board, it was confirmed that this should be sent to both outgoing and incoming Boards. The plan for the group is to send out the questionnaire and base their next steps on the data received.

PR

The PR group was represented by Katie Roth (Latvia) via a video. This was received with thanks. Following the video Mitsi Akoyunoglou (Greece) noted that more members are welcome in this group and that funding will be needed in order to continue the good work with the website.

Election of new Core Board

The voting was undertaken and votes were as follows: 11 votes to the team of Tali Gottfried (nomination for President), Ingeborg Nebelung (nomination for Treasurer) and Tessa Watson (nomination for Secretary General). 19 votes to the team of Elide Scarlata (President), Rita Maia (Secretary General) and Nele Fiers (Treasurer). Elide Scarlata, Rita Maia and Nele Fiers were duly elected as Core Board. Esa noted that arrangements for handing over to the new Core Board will be made, and at that point, the new Core Board will take over all leadership and arrangements.

Following lunch there was discussion about how to manage the challenging situation where there is more than one team who bid for Core Board. Some challenges were noted, for example the fact that some CRs might not have felt able to directly ask their questions openly to the Core Bid teams, and it was suggested that perhaps questions could be sent anonymously. There were some suggestions about how to manage the actual process of voting, for example that the bid teams could be notified of the result prior to this being announced to the group.

There was also challenging reflection on some of the narrative linked to the campaigning this year and about how to take forward ideas in the bid led by Tali Gottfried. It was noted that some ideas may be too closely linked with individuals (e.g. legacy publications). In any case, it was felt to be too soon to consider this.

Election of person for EMTC award

4 votes Katalin Urbanne Varga

4 votes for Albert Berman and Cunera van Heerden

7 votes for Monika Nocker-Ripaupierre

6 votes for Leslie Bunt

9 votes Gary Ansdell and Mercedes Pavlicevic

Therefore Gary Ansdell and Mercedes Pavlicevic will be awarded with the EMTC award.

Regarding the Lifetime Achievement' award, the Core Board asked if those present would like to offer one of the nominees a lifetime achievement award. Several CRs present felt that in order to do this the voting system should have been set up differently. This will be an action for next year, to process the votes differently and to allow both an EMTC Award and a Lifetime Achievement Award to be given.

Selection of venue EMTC 2025

Ingeborg Nebelung gave a presentation for EMTC 2025 in Oslo, and Stefan Mainka (Germany) gave a presentation for EMTC 2025 in Hamburg. Both these presentations are available in the information sent prior to the EMTC GA.

Venue EMTC 2023

Minutes taken by Tessa Watson 8/6/22