

**IFNA Minutes
Board of Directors -
Conference Call
April 9, 2026
7:00am – 9:00am EST**

The Mission of the International Family Nursing Association (IFNA) is to Transform Family Health by:

1. Serving as a unifying force and voice for family nursing globally;
2. Sharing knowledge, practices, and skills to enhance and nurture family nursing practice; and,
3. Providing family nursing leadership through education, research, scholarship, socialization and collegial exchange on all aspects of family nursing.

Core Values:

The International Family Nursing Association embraces a compassionate family focus on health, social justice, human dignity and respect for all.

Attendees: (Board Members n-12, Quorum n-7)	Petra Brysiewicz, Teresa Gutiérrez-Alemán, Debbie Sheppard-LeMoine, Maria do Céu Barbieri-Figueiredo, Kim Mooney-Doyle, Barbara Giambra, Lindsay Smith, June Horowitz, Junko Honda, Kristen Abbott-Anderson Staff:
Unable to Attend:	Elisabeth Coyne, Debbie Zaparoni, Hans-Peter de Ruiter
Guests:	
Minutes compiled by:	Debbie Zaparoni (via recording)

Agenda Topic:	Approval of prior minutes (Petra Brysiewicz) (Attachment)
Motion to Approve	February Minutes (Deferred from March meeting) March Minutes February minutes were reviewed. There were no changes. Kristen made a motion to accept the February minutes, June seconded. All were in favor. Minutes from February were approved. March Minutes were reviewed. There were no changes. Debbie SL made a motion to accept the March minutes, Maria seconded. All were in favor. Minutes from March were approved.

Agenda Topic:	Financial Report (Barbie Giambra) Attachment
	March Financials Income was \$6,623.00 (Membership). Expenses were \$6864.42 (Primarily Management Fees & then PayPal Fees). Monthly Loss of - \$241.42.
Discussion	June inquired as to the reason for the significant increase in membership. Perhaps the announcement of the conference contributed to this? Barbie reported it was attributed to a lump sum \$3500 from the Taylor Institute. Petra acknowledge Hans and the Glen Taylor Nursing Institute for Family and Society for their support of IFNA memberships over the next 3 years. Maria reported that the membership committee recently met. We need to encourage chapter members to become members of IFNA. Having discounted membership in the first year for chapter members needs to be promoted better. Kristen via the chat suggested a dedicated meeting to discuss the IFNA financials moving forward for sustainability of the Association.

	<p>June suggested including someone from the conference sponsorship committee. Debbie SL agreed as their board liaison to inviting someone from the conference sponsorship committee. Kathy Knafl was suggested. Junko suggested including the education and practice committee co-chair in the meeting as well. Teresa supported the inclusion of the education and practice committee.</p> <p>Petra agreed that there are wonderful resources from the committees members. Petra suggested having one smaller meeting with the executive committee and then a meeting that includes the co-chairs. June agreed with a two-phased approach. June reminded of previous joint meetings with the board and the committee co-chairs.</p> <p>Kim commented and cautioned, as a former co-chair, everyone is a volunteer with limited time and it is often challenging to fit another meeting. Also meetings sometime affect moving forward the initiatives.</p> <p>Barbie suggested if we started with including the committees, might help inform the executive committee to narrow down options for income generation.</p> <p>Teresa referenced the recent membership survey, and how it can also inform the discussion.</p>
Action	After discussion, it was agreed that we would have a 2 tiered approach with having an initial meeting including committee co-chairs. The executive committee is the IFNA Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary and invite someone from the conference sponsorship.

Agenda Topic:	Book Proposal (Petra Brysiewicz)
Motion to Approve	Deferred to May meeting.

Agenda Topic:	Collaboration with other Associations Transcultural Nursing Society email
	Update
Discussion	Connie Kartoz sent an email previously. Junko will follow-up with TNS, and asked what the expected outcome would be. Teresa reminded a possible future collaboration with IFNA. Petra clarified that it is explorational, and potential for how we can collaborate. Teresa commented that this would be very relevant to the IFNA Positions Statements.

Agenda Topic:	IFNA Committee Terms of Reference (2026 – 2027) Awards Committee – Revisions (Attached)
Discussion	Special note: after the board meeting it was determined that the document provided was not the revised Terms of Reference. The proper/revised Awards Terms of Reference will be brought forth to the May board meeting.

Agenda Topic:	Strategic Plan – Member Survey
Discussion	<p>Petra acknowledged Kim, Barbie and Elisabeth’s effort to develop and distribute the survey for IFNA Members.</p> <p>Kim gave an overview of the results of 91 respondents. Members are satisfied overall with the association. Responses were from 25 different countries/regions. Most respondents were members for > 6 years. Language was primarily English, then Portuguese, and then Japanese. Most were doctoral prepared and in roles as educator and researchers. Valued most the family of family nurses. Committee involvement was mostly research, education and conference</p>

	<p>sponsorship. Ibero-American, African, and Australia New Zealand Chapters had many respondents.</p> <p>Future priorities to focus on support for research, increasing global membership, research collaboration and then advocacy and policy influence and research grants to support projects in family nursing.</p> <p>Indicators that best reflect IFNA's success are membership growth, conference attendance and research outputs and publications.</p> <p>Kim and the team will continue to review the free text questions.</p> <p>Petra asked what the next steps were, a final report. Petra reminded that this survey is to assist with the development of the strategic plan. Barbie encouraged dissemination of the results back to the membership.</p>
Action	<p>The team will bring additional reporting/information to the next meeting.</p> <p>Proceed when ready with the development of the new Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Disseminate results to the membership.</p>

Agenda Topic:	IFN Foundation
Discussion	<p>June reported that the Foundation met April 8th. June provided them with feedback on the initial discussions about the IFNA Fellowship program.</p> <p>IFNF will be launching a call for proposals for two small grants (3,000/ea). Expected in October, with a deadline for December.</p> <p>Debbie SL commented that she has some discretionary funding. Unclear if this would be best provided to the Foundation, CSC, or IFNA in general. Debbie SL, Petra and June will discuss this further offline.</p> <p>Kim indicated a potential with US Universities, to use discretionary funds that could perhaps support IFNA by supporting early career, family folks.</p> <p>Maria encouraged supporting student engagement at IFNC18.</p>

Chapter, Student Engagement Group and Committee Updates / Reports

Chapters Update	<p>AusNZ – (Elisabeth)</p> <p>African - (Petra) Working on the scoping review, and have registered the scoping review. Will be starting the work of the review.</p> <p>UK Ireland – (Suja) I wanted to share a brief update regarding the IFNA UK–Ireland Chapter. Jaden Allan has recently joined as Co-Chair following Prof. Veronica Swallow, who has stepped down from the role. Jaden (UK) and I (Ireland) will be acting as country liaisons for conference planning and chapter activities. Last November, we expressed our intention to explore expanding the UK–Ireland Chapter into a broader European-based chapter. However, during a follow-up meeting on 13 March 2026, we learned that colleagues from the Nordic countries have already submitted an expression of interest to establish a Nordic Chapter. We fully support any new initiatives that strengthen IFNA engagement across Europe and look forward to seeing this develop. At the same time, we are very happy to continue strengthening collaboration and engagement within the UK–Ireland Chapter.</p>
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	<p>We are also planning a webinar on 8 June titled: "Family-Focused Interventions in Healthcare: Strengthening Partnerships for Better Outcomes." We will share the flyer soon for circulation among IFNA members.</p> <p>Ibero-American – (Maria) Working on a scoping review. Over 400 included studies. Finishing the batch extraction. Scoping review is now registered.</p> <p>Local Portuguese members are meeting with the Conference Sponsorship Committee, later this month.</p> <p>Teresa wanted to commend Maria for her leadership, and time invested in all this work.</p>
Discussion	Petra is in contact with colleagues for a potential chapter in Saudi Arabia.


Agenda Topic:	Student Engagement Group Update (Lindsay Smith)
Update	<p>Lindsay and Wendi Smith had an engaged email exchange with Natalie McAndrew and Anne Letocha as the research committee co-chairs. Discussion of restructuring some of the sub-committees of the research committee, with a focus on engagement and broader membership from students and new/early career researchers.</p> <p>March 31st Wendi had the defense of her PhD. Will revisit this option and discussion later in April.</p> <p>Petra suggested one of her students to link into this work/restructure.</p>
Action	<p>Lindsay to follow-up on the prior communication.</p> <p>Petra will provide the name of her student to Lindsay.</p>

Agenda Topic:	Awards Committee (Barbara Giambra)
Update	<p><i>Membership</i></p> <p>Thank you to Barbie Giambra for taking on the role of board liaison for the Awards Committee.</p> <p>The co-chairs have agreed to take on another term and an email to all previous members was circulated to ascertain ongoing membership. We are pleased to share that the majority of members have elected to remain on the committee. One of the goals in the previous term was to diversify the membership of the Awards Committee and this was achieved. However, with two members from North America not continuing on the committee, we would like to put out a call for a small number of members specifically from North American to join the committee.</p> <p>Current membership:</p> <p>Co-chair Lisa Whitehead-Australia Co-chair Henrietta Trip-New Zealand</p> <p>Members:</p> <p>Geldine Chironda-South Africa Rie Wakimizu- Japan Yeonsoo Jang-Korea Rita Leal-Portugal Adriana Maria Duarte-Brazil Chiu Yueh Hsiao-Taiwan</p>

Agenda Topic:	Bylaws Committee (Lindsay Smith / Kristen Abbott-Anderson)
Update	No dedicated work currently.

Agenda Topic:	Communications Committee (Junko Honda / Elisabeth Coyne)
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Update	<p>A new LinkedIn account was created. Need to increase the followers to the new account.</p> <p>June provided some feedback about the Newsletter. Respectfully, someone from the IFNA Foundation suggested final proof reading prior to distribution. Petra acknowledged the feedback but also asked to remember that this is an International association and for some, English is not their first language. And to give it some grace, when reading. Junko appreciated the comment and will take it back to the committee.</p> <p>Junko reported 350 views of the March Newsletter. Will continue to push traffic to the IFNA website. Junko shared the web master report. Singapore is shown as a leader in accessing the website.</p> <p>Junko reminded that a Google Form was created to collect news each month from any IFNA members, and also from the IFNA committees.</p> <p>Planning a newsletter strategy for “Road to Porto”. For example, April – September will focus on promoting the conference and Call for Abstracts.</p> <p>Junko would like to request board approval to send to the mailing list each month.</p> <p>Teresa acknowledged and appreciated the work of the Communication Committee. She also suggested an update from each chapter as well to be include in the Newsletter.</p>
Action	The request to approve sending a request for news to members each month will be reviewed and discussed at the next board meeting.

Agenda Topic:	Conference Planning Committee (Petra Brysiewicz / June Horowitz)
Update	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education: Examine global educational approaches to family and family nursing. • Practice: Evaluate innovative clinical practice models of care to promote family and family nursing across the life course. • Research: Analyze novel methodologies, technologies, and evidence to advance family nursing research globally. • Policy and Leadership: Exploring opportunities to create strategies to advocate for family health worldwide. <p>June updated, local planning committee have been very active. Maria and Joana Campos have secured more in-kind support from the University. Working on final graphic design work. June invited speaker suggestions from the board, being mindful of minimizing cost.</p> <p>Petra noted that she, Cindy and Christine will be traveling to Porto in June and meeting with Maria and colleagues.</p>

Agenda Topic:	Remaining Committee reports will be carried over to the next meeting.
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Next IFNA Board Meeting will be Thursday, May 14 7 – 9am (EDT US-New York)