



# THE INTERNATIONAL FOCUSING INSTITUTE

*Building on the work of Eugene T. Gendlin since 1979*

Board of Directors  
MINUTES  
February 14, 2025  
Online

Documents sent via email prior to meeting

From Flor, from Nominating Committee, candidates for ILC

- Photo and bio of Mateja Vrhunc Tomazin
- Photo and bio of Joanna Kaczmarek

From Nelle:

- Board Goals by Portfolio 2024
- 2024 Year to Come Annual Goals and Plans DRAFT
- Board Minutes DRAFT December 2024
- Board Minutes DRAFT January 2025

From Bill:

- Goodwill call notes

From Catherine:

- Budget narrative 2025.02.14
- 2025 Budget for Board

PRESENT: Bill Gayner, Darryl Commings, Eveline Moor, Flor Sassoli, Tom Larkin, Nelle Moffett, Catherine Torpey, Ilse Pieth (for minute taking)

I. MINUTES

**DECISION: The Minutes of December and January were approved**

II. Attunement led by Eveline

III. Annual Budget 2025: Presentation by Darryl

**DECISION: The Board approved the budget as presented**

IV. Nominating committee: Presentation by Flor

Two candidates for membership in the ILC were presented:

Mateja Vrhunc Tomazin

Joanna Kaczmarek

**DECISION: The Board approved both candidates.**

V. ILC and Board Interaction:

Eveline reported about her experience in the last ILC meeting she attended. Their main topic is still the proposed new level of certification. The ILC will soon choose a name for it.

VI. Annual Meeting of Members with the Board:

There were 2 meetings that were scheduled to accommodate all time zones; one was particularly well attended. They both took place in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. One of two meetings had several Chinese attendees, thanks to having Chinese translation available. One of the Chinese attendees is a Coordinator, and mentioned that she had not been able to come to a Board meeting as a new Coordinator because of the time that the Board meets. The Board agreed to find a create a special time to meet with Coordinators for whom the regular meeting time of the Board is not possible to attend for their chance to say hello and be congratulated.

VII. Executive Director Report

Catherine did not submit a regular monthly written report; Nelle had instead requested that Catherine make a verbal report on the “2024 Year to Come Annual Goals and Plans DRAFT” document on the 2024 Goals. She commented that:

- The 2024 goals as listed have proved very useful for establishing a stable organization, curating excellent content, fostering communities and connections, creating opportunities for teachers to teach, informing the public (website).
- ILC-Board: the issue of creating a practitioner level certification is under way (see above)
- Donors are being contacted in various ways, including Goodwill calls
- The Membership Committee has engaged in some great initiatives: serving membership, Reading Freshly, Pop-up Focusing, „Hello-Hello“
- TAE: the TAE Symposium is coming up in April
- The new web page to sell access to videos is coming soon
- The preparations for the Vienna conference are under way

VIII. Items for Board strategic discussion:

Some ideas for strategic initiatives this year:

- Focusing Academy tailored to FOT
- Have a „Hello Hello“ in Chinese or Japanese
- Offer Cafecitos in more countries, also in more languages
- Cultivate donors; get new part-time staff to help with fundraising
- Make teaching videos available
- Be more pro-active in spreading Focusing
- Bring Focusing into contact with other approaches

IX. Expenditure for Vienna

Catherine requested the Board to approve an expenditure of 50,000 euros (about \$53,000) as a deposit to secure the venue.

**DECISION: Unanimously approved.**

The Board requested Darryl to present his assessment of the impact of the plans for Vienna for the 2025 budget.

*Minutes by Nelle Moffett and Catherine Torpey with notes from Ilse Pieth*