

# **IARR Committee Goals and Agendas 2014-2016**

**IARR Awards Committee 2014-2015 Agenda and Timetable**  
**Garth Fletcher – Chair**

**Committee:**

Leanne Knobloch  
 Kory Floyd  
 Pamela Regan  
 Stanley Gaines  
 Esther Kluwer  
 Paul Eastwick

**Current Awards**

**Article Award**

This award honors an article published in *Personal Relationships* or *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships* during 2011 or 2012 that has made a significant and original contribution to the study of personal relationships. The Awards Committee will review all the articles published in PR and JSPR during those years, but letters of nomination that note the contributions of particular articles are welcome.

**Book Award**

This award honors a book published by a member of IARR during 2011 or 2012 that has made a significant and original contribution to the study of personal relationships. Nominations should include:

- \* A letter of nomination that describes the contributions of the book, and
- \* Five copies of the book forwarded from the publisher, or online access to the book made available to the committee.

**Steve Duck New Scholars Awards (2 awards)**

\* These awards provide small grants (\$500) to (1) a graduate student and to (2) a new scholar (within 3 years of receiving his or her Ph.D.) in support of their research on personal relationships. Self-nominations are expected, and should include:

- \* A proposal (5 page maximum) that outlines the relevant literature, the purpose and hypotheses of the research, the proposed design and methodology, and a budget that clearly indicates how the grant monies will be used to support the project,
- \* The applicant's curriculum vitae, and
- \* A letter of recommendation from an informed colleague.

**Teaching Award**

This award recognizes excellence in teaching in the field of personal relationships at the undergraduate and/or graduate level. Nominations should include:

- \* A teaching portfolio that includes (a) a statement of teaching philosophy, (b) sample syllabi, and (c) summaries of course evaluations
- \* The nominee's curriculum vitae, and
- \* Two letters of support from colleagues and two letters of support from current and/or former students.

**Mentoring Award**

This award recognizes an outstanding mentor in the field of personal relationships. Nominations should include:

- \* A letter of nomination that describes the manner in which the mentoring relationship has advanced the professional development of those who were advised, supported, or sponsored by the mentor,
- \* The nominee's curriculum vitae, and
- \* Up to 3 additional letters of support.

### **Gerald R. Miller Award for Early Career Achievement**

This award honors the distinguished scientific achievements of scholars who are still within 10 years of receiving their Ph.D. degrees.

Nominations consist of:

- \* A letter of nomination that describes the accomplishments of the nominee,
- \* The nominee's curriculum vitae, and
- \* Two additional letters supporting the nomination.

### **Berscheid-Hatfield Award for Distinguished Mid-Career Achievement**

This award honors the distinguished scientific achievements of scholars who are in the middle stages of their careers, that is, between 10 and 25 years post-Ph.D. Nominations consist of:

- \* A letter of nomination that describes the accomplishments of the nominee,
- \* The nominee's curriculum vitae, and
- \* Two additional letters supporting the nomination.

### **Distinguished Career Award**

This award recognizes a full career of eminent, notable contributions to research in, theories of, or the practice of relationship science. The award is intended to acknowledge a long span of work that has enriched our understanding of personal relationships and contributed much to the field. Nominations consist of:

- \* A letter of nomination that describes the accomplishments of the nominee,
- \* The nominee's curriculum vitae, and
- \* Two additional letters supporting the nomination.

### **Dissertation Award**

This award honors an outstanding dissertation in the field of personal relationships that was defended during 2012 or 2013. A small cash prize is presented (\$300). Nominations consist of:

- \* A letter of nomination from the dissertation advisor, and
- \* A summary (5 page maximum) of the dissertation.

Nominees advancing to a second round of evaluation will be asked to provide an electronic copy of either the full dissertation or a manuscript that reports the research.

### **New Awards Discussed at 2014 IARR Board Meeting, July 10 2014.**

- 1) Voted to establish an Annual Fellow award. This will require a sub-committee to be set up, along with criteria. I will consult initially with Jeffry Simpson to establish some dates and processes in **November, 2014**, then consult further with the awards committee.
- 2) A new award (International development scholar award) was discussed. This award is aimed at researchers in developing countries. It was voted that Garth should discuss this further with Gery Karantzas (who proposed the award). I will do this in **November-December, 2014**, then consult further with the awards committee and the President.

### **Preliminary Brief Timetable**

#### **August – December 2015**

- Newsletter and List Serve announcements for Article and Book awards.
- Nomination of articles and books.
- Ranking and decisions of article and book awards.

#### **December 2015 – March 2016**

- Announcements for nominations of Dissertation and Profession awards.
- Awards ranked and decisions made.

**Program Committee Goals (2014-16)**  
**Lorne Campbell (chair)**

My "committee agenda" is fairly sparse right now given the next big IARR conference is in 2016. I do, however, want to pass along the names of the committee members. There are 4 committee members in total, and they are:

Lorne Campbell (me; Chair)

Leanne Knobloch (communications)

Timothy Loving (psychology; HDFS; with expertise in hormones/health/neuroscience)

Sisi Tran (liaison between local organizing committee and program committee)

We will await the final decisions of the board regarding the type of "assistance" Geoff and his team will be provided to run the conference, and then begin discussions on invited speakers as well as make plans for the submission/review process.

**Election Committee Goals  
Dan Perlman (chair)**

**Committee Members:**

Dan Perlman, Chair  
Dawn Braithwaite  
Noémie Carbonneau  
Robin Goodwin

The election Committee is currently scheduled to hold the following elections in 2015 and 2016:

2015

Position	Incumbent
Secretary-Treasurer	Leah Bryant
Member-at-Large	Adrienne Kunkel

2016

Position	Incumbent
Vice-President	Sue Sprecher
Member-at-Large	Jaye Derrick
Publications Committee Chair	Denise Solomon
Program Committee Chair	Lorne Campbell
New Professional Representative	Ashley Randall

Comments

*Possible split of the Secretary-Treasurer Role*

At its 2014 Board meeting, the Board discussed splitting the Secretary-Treasurer position into two roles. The draft minutes read:

Suggested review of secretary-treasurer role in 6-12 months (? February about separating the roles)—coordinated with by-law changes prior to elections for roles that are required to be filled.

To implement a change in the 2015 election, it would be necessary to vote on a by-law change. To do that and to conduct an election to be completed by late spring, the Bylaw change would need to be underway during the winter. The February date would be a realistic target.

Outgoing Election Committee Chair Chris Agnew also raised the question of whether the Program Committee Chair should be elected as is the current practice and bylaw or appointed. This was noted in the draft Board meeting minutes as discussed but was left for further consideration.

**Request:**

The Election Committee requests that, if the Board wishes to split the Secretary-Treasurer position into two roles, the Board bring forth and conduct a membership vote on a motion to change the Bylaw no later than March 15, 2015. Should the Board wish to make the Program Chair an appointed position, the Election Committee requests that the Board bring forth and conduct a membership vote on a motion to change the Bylaw no later than March 15, 2016.

*Bylaw 3.3 Diversity of Representation*

In order to insure diversity of geographic representation on the Board, including international representation, if the top vote recipient among those candidates seeking a seat on the Board as a Member-at-Large is from the same geographical region (as determined by the Board) as the sitting Member-at-Large, then the next candidate with the highest number of votes from another geographic region shall replace the highest vote recipient. In order to insure disciplinary diversity, if the top vote recipient among those candidates seeking a seat on the board as a Member-at-Large is from the same discipline (as determined by the Board) as the sitting Member-at-Large, then the next candidate with the highest number of votes from another discipline shall replace the highest vote recipient. When geographic and disciplinary diversity goals conflict, disciplinary diversity shall have priority.

Apropos of the 2015 and 2016 elections, based on their membership directory information the Election Committee identifies Adrienne Kunkel as a U.S. communication scholar and Jaye Derrick as a U.S. psychologist. Ergo, in accord with Bylaw 3.3 the Election Committee deems that the 2015 and 2016 candidates for member-at-large positions should both be from outside the U.S. and in 2015 should not be a communications scholar and in 2016 should not be a psychologist and preferably from outside the U.S.

The Election Committee would note for the Board and **invite any comment the Board might have** that the Election Committee is dividing the world into the U.S. and non-U.S.

The Election Committee is planning to have an open call for nominations (including self-nominations). Once IARR members have had a chance to respond to the call for nominees, the Election Committee expects to either supplement the list and/or rank the candidates we think should be on the ballot.

**Finance Committee  
Dan Perlman (chair)**

I think members of the committee could quite feasibly check the books because I think Leah could give Committee members access (or copies) of the bank and brokerage statements. I tried to foster a peer review last spring and I thought Leah sent copies of relevant documents to Committee members but there was never an indication from them that they had looked at the statements and found them in order. I think members of the Committee could do a good confirmation of appropriate spending. It might be a little harder to know if all the revenue was deposited but we could probably have a reasonable sense of that.

The other thing I feel IARR should have is a multi-year tracking of income and expenditures. I think Chris and Michael may have done that. When Brooke became S-T she gave a lot of detail, good in some ways, but not as helpful to grasp areas of income, expenditures and how they are changing. In advance of the July meeting I tried to put together a more organized presentation of things but I felt it was an imperfect first attempt. I came away feeling it was a bit more challenging task than I had initially appreciated. I see Leah as very prudent in her approach to IARR money and very committed. That makes me feel good.

From what she has said, I think Leah is hoping to stand for re-election. One time when associations tend to do a more careful review of finances is when a Treasurer is ending their term. That protects the incoming treasurer in the event that there were glitches before they came into office.

I believe there are three levels of accounting services with what I call a reconciliation being the least extensive and least expensive. In doing that, the accountant doesn't verify things but does check that they make sense and offers advice. The person doing IARR's taxes has given Leah some advice but possibly if we requested reconciliation at some point we would either learn what we are doing is pretty good for a small organization or get additional constructive advice.

## Future Conference Committee, IARR Sean Horan (chair)

### *Committee Members:*

Sean Horan, Texas State University, Committee Chair

Sue Sprecher, Illinois State University, Outgoing Chair and IARR Vice President

John Caughlin, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

F. Scott Christopher, Arizona State University

Kristen LeBlanc Farris, University of Texas at Austin

Jessica Moore, Butler University

Terri Orbuch, Oakland University/University of Michigan

\*I am still waiting to hear from two people: Jim Graham (Western Washington University) and Katherine Carnelley (University of Southampton).

### *What the FCC needs to do...*

- Locate & evaluate proposals for IARR's 2017 mini-conference.
- Locate & evaluate proposals for IARR's 2018 main conference.
- Prepare reports for President & Board regarding 2017 and 2018 proposals.

### *What the FCC would like to accomplish...*

- February, 2015
  - Committee to generate a list of people to contact to encourage that they consider writing a letter of intent for hosting a conference
  - Send out an initial Call for Conference Proposals
- March, 2015
  - Letters sent to the targeted individuals.
  - Re-send Call for Conference Proposals (Letters of Intent)
- April, 2015
  - FCC continues to correspond with potential organizers
- May, 2015
  - May 1: Deadline for letters of intent to host mini-conference(s) for 2017
  - FCC evaluates the letter of intent for mini-conferences & sends outcomes
  - May 15: Deadline for letters of intent to host main conference for 2018
  - FCC evaluates the letter of intents for main conference & sends outcomes
- July, 2015
  - July 15: Deadline for full proposals for mini-conferences (for 2017)
  - FCC evaluates full proposals for mini-conferences & prepares a report to submit to President and Board.
- August, 2015
  - August 1: Deadline for full proposals for main conference (for 2018)
  - FCC evaluates the full proposals for main conference and prepares a report to submit to President and Board.
- September, 2015 and beyond
  - Once the Board selects the sites, the FCC will work with the President to help finalize contracts and notice can be sent out to members to "save the date" for the conferences.

### *Additional Discussion Points*

- The use of conference planners (feasibility, cost, etc.). Should this be something that IARR (dis)(en)courages?
- Funding model for mini-conferences
- Long-term vision (e.g., can we plan/identify conference sites further than 2 years out?)

- Take a hard look at financial performance of conferences → Create a report/table of profit/losses of previous conferences
  - Identify trends: Are we losing money? Making money? Breaking even?
  - **Are we behaving in a way that ensures the long-term financial health of the organization?**
  - What conferences have had strong financial plans that can serve as models for future planners?
  - Stress the role of the book exhibit → this is a money making opportunity that benefits all (e.g., cheap books for students/scholars)
    - Should a book exhibit planner be identified in proposal?
    - How can we stress this to proposers/planners?
    - Create a document that outlines the long-term planning of this exhibit.
  - Identify overall goal for conferences—essentially, why do we gather annually? Profit? Idea sharing? Research? With those goals in mind, evaluate whether our conferences are meeting those goals. Hold proposals and planners accountable to those goals.
  - Should we create key financial criteria to hold site proposals to? Should we require more documentation of funding from individuals proposing conferences? Can we seek outside funding from publishers, grants, media outlets, etc.?

**International Association for Relationship Research  
International Subcommittee Goals 2014-2016  
Chair: Gery Karantzas (chair)**

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Subcommittee members: Kostas Kafetsios, Juan Wilson, and Audrey Brassard

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The international subcommittee has agreed to pursue two major goals over the 2014-2016 period. Importantly these goals will tie in with the operations of the awards subcommittee and mentoring subcommittee. The goals and proposed actions related to these goals are outlined below.

**1. Establishment of an IARR International Award to be presented biannually.** Building on the existing work of the subcommittee and the discussions undertaken at the 2014 board meeting, the international subcommittee in consultation with the awards subcommittee will work towards refining a set of criteria for the establishment of an international scholar award. It was agreed in principle at the 2014 board meeting that this award will focus on scholars from developing countries. The award will acknowledge the scholar's research and/or capacity building efforts in support other international scholars from developing countries. The international subcommittee will work with the award subcommittee and IARR board to draft and ratify the criteria for this award for inclusion as part of the 2016 call for awards.

**2. Develop capacity building resources and/or activities.** Building on the video resources recently developed in consultation with the mentoring subcommittee at the 2014 IARR conference, the international subcommittee will aim to develop two additional video resources over the next two years (i.e., interviews with esteemed scholars and early career researchers on pathways for academics for whom English is not their first language). The international subcommittee will also host 3 capacity building webinars (on the assumption that the IARR board actions the purchasing of a webinar platform). The capacity building activities will involve international scholars from developing countries proposing a series of research projects for whom they would invite native-English speaking scholars (either esteemed scholars or early career scholars) to form collaborations to advance mutual research interests. These webinars will be moderated by members of the international subcommittee and the mentoring committee will be consulted for their input and participation given that the activities will most likely including a mentoring component. The invitation for these activities will be put out to all IARR members via an announcement using the listserv. The first of these activities is proposed to occur in June of 2015, followed by a second event in November 2015, and a third event in June of 2016.

**IARR Media Relations Committee Agenda Items 2014-2016**  
**Jennifer Harman (chair)**

**Committee Members:** Jennifer J. Harman (Chair), Bjarne Holmes, Tila Pronk, Elizabeth Bernstein, Justin Lehmler, Samantha Joel, and Amy Muise

A primary mission of the committee involves helping IARR members communicate more effectively with the media, so the committee plans on devoting efforts to the following activities over the next two years (leading to the next IARR conference in Toronto, ON, 2016):

- 1) **Increase social media presence.** Although IARR has a website that serves as an important resources for IARR members, IARR lacks a strong social media presence. Currently there is a Facebook page (that has not been updated since June of 2014; one month before the conference) and there is no Twitter account. The only tweets related to IARR at the moment are from 2012 (Chicago conference).
  - a. Create an IARR Twitter account and promote widely to members, media contacts, etc.
  - b. Put together a newsletter article for members on how to use social media to promote their work and encourage using it during conferences and other times to promote research of IARR members.
  - c. Get a social media “army” together for the Toronto conference. A team of 4-6 volunteers (not including committee members) will post 2-3 live Tweets and at least one Facebook post a day while at the conference.
  - d. Explore whether a graduate student volunteer or small group of volunteers can post regular tweets and updates to Facebook on a weekly basis about research (recent articles in PSPR or PR) or media appearances of IARR members on an on-going basis.
- 2) **Encourage dialogue among IARR members on how to bridge gap between members and the media.** The media and our members have the same goal to gather information and communicate it to an audience. *How* we do this will always be different, and more discussion needs to happen about this for members to become more comfortable with communicating to the media about their work.
  - a. Develop an IARR newsletter article that discusses the changing culture of the media and science interface, fears/concerns about communicating knowledge, and suggestions on how to increase comfort and see the importance of needing skills to do this well (need to identify the right person to author this article).
  - b. A tip sheet or FAQs page can be created for the website for members on how to interact with the media.
  - c. Explore whether a directory of IARR members who are interested in speaking with the media can be created and posted on the website. This directory would list expertise and interests, as well as contact information.
- 3) **Provide more information and skill’s practice opportunities for members interacting with the media.** The committee would like to create a more formalized training on how to interact with the media for members, and this can then be replicated in future years at conferences.
  - a. Develop and plan a ½ day workshop/pre-conference for IARR members in Toronto. Part of the workshop will be information-based, panel discussions with media, and other interactive discussions. The second part will entail hands-on practice: participants can be mock interviewed by “members of the press” (actual, or members in training, such as local journalism students, other members) and will receive feedback. Possible use of TV camera or other technology could be used as well.
  - b. Poster presenters can request that a “member of the press,” who would be a local journalism student, approach them at their poster session to get information for an article he or she is writing. This article would not ever be published without mutual consent, but the presenter would see how their interview might be construed by the press, and the journalism student would get experience interviewing.
  - c. An article for the IARR newsletter would be published and made accessible on the website that summarizes what was covered in the workshop.
- 4) **Promotion of the IARR conference to the media.** While we were able to get press kits and releases out for the last conference in Melbourne, we would like to improve the process for the next conference, and then once procedures are established, extend to the mini-conferences.
  - a. Create a press kit for the next conference in Toronto, 2016.

- b.** Develop and distribute a press release about the conference 3 months and 2 weeks prior to the conference, and then several days prior to the conference for local media.
- c.** Work with the conference planning committee to identify how many press passes will be available/cost (how many free, reduced cost, etc.)
- d.** Work with the organizing committee to set aside 15 minutes after presentations for the media to speak with researchers: need to coordinate where and other logistics.

**Membership Committee  
2014-2016 Goals  
Silvia Donato (chair)**

**Committee members:**

Carolina Armenta Hurtarte (Mexico)  
Nancy Brule (USA)  
Silvia Donato (Italy)  
Agnaldo Garcia (Brazil)  
Jonathan Hess (USA)  
Andrea Horn (Switzerland)  
Mie Kito (Japan)  
Gertrude Stadler (USA)

**Committee chair:**

Silvia Donato

**Goals for 2014-2016**

Two aspects of IARR membership status need the attention of our committee: IARR membership fluctuates a lot between conferences, given the nature and activity of the organization, and can rely on a very small core group of long-term members, as many members do not renew their membership after a while. Along with these two main issues, promoting international memberships (2/3 of IARR members come from North America at the moment) and interdisciplinarity are also important directions to consider.

These data suggest that two separate, though connected, issues need to be tackled by our committee: A) Encouraging new members to join the association; and B) Motivating current members to retain their membership on a longer-term basis.

**A) Encouraging new members to join the association. This would have to be done by devoting specific attention to unrepresented countries, thereby promoting the international nature of the association, and interdisciplinarity.**

To this aim the committee has already discussed some potential actions to undertake and we'll further examine possible strategies, once received feedback from the Board. Some ideas we considered are the following:

- 1) STRATEGIES TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS
  - a) The committee chair or each committee member could identify potential new members among their personal contacts (in terms of scholars and existing networks) in the field of relationship research;
  - b) Each current IARR member could be invited by the committee to identify potential members in their country that could be interested in joining;
  - c) Authors contributing to PR and JSPR in the past year or two, that are not members yet, could be identified as potential members;
  - d) Heads of departments in universities producing dissertations on personal relationships could also be invited to identify colleagues and graduate students interested in the field.
- 2) STRATEGIES TO CONTACT POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS
  - a) As for personal contacts (points a) and b) above), personal invitations should work best. A personal invitation sample letter or template could be sent to IARR members so that they would only have to forward it to their selected contacts. Alternatively, selected contacts e-mail addresses could be sent to the committee chair, who will send official personalized letters;
  - b) As for PR and JSPR authors, the committee could send them a personalized invitation. Alternatively, in case it is possible, those letters could be automatically sent to new contributors, upon acceptance of their manuscripts (some journals already do so);

- c) As for graduate students and teachers of personal relationship courses, dissemination could be made among colleagues by Department Heads.
- 3) STRATEGIES TO MOTIVATE POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS
  - a) Promotion and communication strategies:
    - (1) The committee would select and re-order the most relevant information to offer in the membership section of the website as well as in the brochures, so that the people may first be informed about the benefits of being a member; updating the brochures with details about Toronto main conference could be a chance to revise their content as well;
    - (2) Among benefits, the one of networking and collaboration with other members should be emphasized (as also highlighted by the interviews done by the International committee among international members);
    - (3) IARR should promote the use of Facebook and create a Tweeter account;
    - (4) The committee could explore current members and potential members' desiderata. To this aim we may collaborate with the International committee, as they already examined international members' needs and interests;
    - (5) IARR should encourage activities that can promote a "sense of belonging" as well as implement the networking capacity of the association (such as seminars, symposia, courses, receiving visiting professors, local interest groups in different countries and different languages, etc.).

**B) Motivating current members to retain their membership on a longer-term basis.**

Again, we exchanged some initial ideas on possible actions to undertake:

- 1) STRATEGIES TO FACILITATE FIDELITY
  - a) Planning specific renewal letters/e-mails: before and after renewal deadlines, given that people sometimes simply forget to renew, and to former members, to remind them the benefits of IARR membership and explore their reasons for discontinuity. We know similar letters have been prepared in the past, but we may decide to make new ones, based on the thoughts we'll exchange on selecting and reordering information in the website and brochures (see above);
  - b) Encouraging multiple-year memberships.
- 2) STRATEGIES TO MOTIVATE FIDELITY
  - a) Again, based on current members' desiderata and former members' feedback, giving emphasis and encouraging those activities that members value the most.

**MENTORING COMMITTEE 2014-2016**  
**Nickola Overall (chair)**

Nickola Overall (Chair)	University of Auckland, NZ	n.overall@auckland.ac.nz
Ashley Randall (elected New Professional Representative)	Arizona State University	Ashley.K.Randall@asu.edu
Brian Don (Graduate Student Representative)	Kent State University	brian.don.oregon@gmail.com
Samantha Joel (Graduate Student Representative)	University of Toronto, CA	samantha.joel@utoronto.ca
Marci Gleason	University of Texas at Austin	mgleason@mail.utexas.edu
Lisa Hoplock (Graduate Student Representative)	University of Victoria, CA	lreddoch@uvic.ca
Francesca Righetti	VU university, Netherlands	f.righetti@vu.nl
Denise Solomon	Penn State University	dhs12@psu.edu
Valerie Young	Hanover College	youngv@hanover.edu

**IARR TASKS/AGENDA:**

1. **Develop a guiding 'list' of specific areas of support for new scholars that structure the Mentoring Committee activities (described below).**
2. **Facilitate the development of the New Scholars Pre-Conference at the Rutgers IARR mini-conference in conjunction with the program committee**  
 The new scholars pre-conference will be a full day workshop for graduate students and new scholars in the field. The workshop will include panel discussions by senior scholars in the field about such topics as publishing, navigating the job market, getting grants, and maintaining a positive work/life balance. The new scholars who attend the workshop will also have the opportunity to present their own research and interact with senior faculty in an intimate setting. The new scholars pre-conference will be held on campus at Rutgers University in the Scholarly Communication Center.  
 Deadline for submissions is December 1 so this will be our major task over the next few months. Jennifer Theiss, and the programming committee for this mini-conference, already have a start on this but they need our help to come up with ideas for the content of the various panels and recommendations of senior scholars to invite to be on the panels. I have some information to get us started, which I will circulate once we have oriented ourselves.
3. **Early Career Scholars Activities associated with the Biannual Conference (Toronto 2016).**  
*Suggestions by Kendra Knight (prior NPR representative) and Ashley (current NPR representatives):*  
Emerging Scholars Program: Emerging scholars apply to the program, receive a travel grant for the biannual conference, and participate in a half-day workshop before the conference on issues such as establishing a research agenda, publishing, finding academic or other employment. The workshop includes a panel by senior scholars in the field on career development concerns. Throughout the year, and during the conference off-year, the early career scholars participate in a couple of conference calls pertaining to other relevant professional development issues of their choosing.  
Other activities integrated into the main IARR program: Mentoring luncheon/panel. The panel at IARR in Melbourne was a huge success. Speed-dating to meet senior colleagues. Other panels focused on key mentoring areas.

Encourage inclusion of early career scholars in symposiums: Either signal inclusion is encouraged during submission, or match up early career with more senior colleagues when combining individual papers that focus on similar topics.

Financial considerations: Tiered fees system, in particular reduced fee for early career membership and conference fees (PhD, post-docs and assistant professors a few years out).

#### **4. Mentoring Program for Graduate Students and Early Career Professionals (ECPs).**

The mentoring could occur much like a buddy system (students and/or ECPs would be paired with more senior scholars in the field), wherein the mentor would support the mentee in meeting set goals (determined by the mentee) by providing guidance and feedback.

Signing up to program more generally via IARR website (perhaps when joining or membership renewal) so not just those who attend conference or sign up for workshop.

#### **5. Helpful Resources for New Scholars**

The prior mentoring Committee had been assembling a list of articles, books, websites, and other resources that provide valuable advice and mentoring for graduate students and new professors, as well as resources that may be useful for more seasoned scholars as they navigate the latter years of their careers. The list is a work in progress and will be passed along to us to continue adding resources and, hopefully, publish the list on the IARR website.

Ashley indicated she would like [us] to work with the Website Maintenance Committee to provide resources for Graduate Students and ECPs (e.g., links to funding agencies, sample grant applications, Q&A job forum, etc.).

**Publications Committee**  
**Denise Solomon (chair)**

Major Agenda Items for the 2014-2016 Term

Denise Solomon, Chair

Christopher Agnew

Susan Branje

Mario Mikulincer

Lisa Neff

Student Member TBD

1. Contract with Wiley for *Personal Relationships*

A priority issue for the publications committee is addressing the nature of subscriptions to *Personal Relationships* and the corresponding question of our page allocations in the journal. For the past two years, the association has purchased additional journal pages in *PR* to help ensure accepted articles move into print at a timely pace. For example, we just purchased 60 additional pages to use in this year's volume, at the cost of \$15/page. We seek to secure more pages within our contract with Wiley, while also addressing costs to the association and membership. Moving to online (rather than paper copy) subscriptions for IARR members will reduce costs in our contract, and in turn allow us to increase pages per journal. At present, 163 out of 523 full IARR members select paper copies of the *PR*. Thus, we need to develop a plan and process to evaluate the attractiveness of online access only, and also how to phase it in (if we do) to accommodate people who have paid a multi-year membership fee that included paper copies. The development and implementation of a plan for considering this issue is a top priority for the committee.

2. SAGE initiative

SAGE is on the verge of launching discipline-focused, pedagogically-informed but also research-focused video products for the worldwide library market. Commercial launch for the first phase of these collections will be in March 2015, and these video products will be made available via SAGE's already established SAGE Knowledge product. A key goal for these products is the inclusion of topical, cutting-edge research, or the perspectives and voices of leading academics. We have been contacted by SAGE to determine if IARR wants to participate in this activity. The publications committee is enthusiastic about participating in this activity, and we consider it an opportunity to substantially increase the visibility of our discipline.

3. *Relationship Network News*

Following the migration of RRN to fully online status, the last IARR board expressed interest in considering possible new directions for the newsletter. A specific issue is adapting the current approach to content to an online environment. The larger topic is how RRN might evolve to take advantage of this change in delivery.

4. Editorships

The committee anticipates turnover in the editors of RRN and PR during this term. We understand that the next RRN editor will be due to start in October 2015, and the next PR editor will begin processing manuscripts in June of 2016. Thus, the publications committee will proceed with searches for those posts in the first half of 2015. We will not be filling the post of editor of JSPR in our term.

**TEACHING COMMITTEE 2014-2016 MEMBERS AND GOALS**  
**Kelly Campbell (chair)**

**Mission Statement**

The Committee's mission is to improve the process of education about personal relationships through the sharing of information and pedagogical practices across instructors, disciplines, institutions, and regions.

**Members**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>University</u>	<u>Email</u>
Kelly Campbell	Associate Professor	Psychology	California State University, San Bernardino	kelly@csusb.edu
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Ben Le	Associate Professor	Psychology	Haverford College	ble@haverford.edu

**2014-2016 Tasks**

- ◆ Collect sample assignments from professors who teach about close relationships including (when applicable) the ideal number of students to implement the assignment and grading rubrics or criteria. Post to the IARR site;
- ◆ Collect measures for close relationships constructs (that are not copyright protected) to post to the website for professors to use in class;
- ◆ Develop a collection of useful web resources for teachers of close relationships including online lecture series (e.g. Bradbury and Karney's Psychology M176 course at UCLA);
- ◆ Work with the Conference Planning Committee to recruit presenters for the 2016 biennial conference in Toronto;
- ◆ Work with the Conference Planning Committee to finalize teaching sessions for the 2016 biennial conference.

**Website Agenda: 2014-2015**  
**Dylan Selterman (webmaster)**

**Website Committee**

Dylan Selterman, Webmaster

- I. General maintenance
  1. Continue to service IARR members' needs with posting content as necessary.
- II. Assessment
  1. Consider new goals for the IARR website, including:
    - i. a utility for IARR members
    - ii. a tool for outreach to the general academic community
    - iii. a tool for outreach to the general public
    - iv. other goals
  2. Consider any potential changes to be made to the IARR site so as to garner increased usage/visibility
- III. Milestones page
  1. Create and develop a new "milestones" page, in coordination with Susan Boon and other members who may wish to contribute.
- IV. Follow up
  1. Consider recommendations and closing thoughts from the previous webmaster (detailed below):
    - The organization needs to think about what it's hoping to accomplish with its website. If the goal is to provide information to its members, then the site is adequate if it continues to be properly maintained. However, the website does not serve to facilitate contact with the media, educate the public about relationships or our discipline, encourage students to become enthusiastic about pursuing the field, etc.
    - If there is a desire to draw more traffic to the site, then the organization needs to be proactive in creating links back to the site.
    - Other than the IARR Facebook page (which isn't used much), the organization has no presence on social media. If the organization wants to connect with prospective student members, current student members, and other members, this needs to be prioritized.
    - Board members and committee chairs seem to be very hesitant to get involved in adding content or editing the site. It's really easy to use, and the site should be decentralized away from the webmaster and distributed among others. I'd like to see more all board members and committee chairs get involved in working on the site.
    - The way that people submit announcements to the organization should be streamlined. Currently, one needs to email the secretary-treasurer to have an announcement go out in the monthly email blast and contact the webmaster to have an announcement be posted on the website. This should be streamlined into a unified system

**Archives Agenda**  
**Susan Boon (Archivist)**

I really have no agenda. I have no committee and, apart from maintaining the archives, my only goal is to get the Milestones Project moving forward. To be honest, I'm having severe difficulty getting that moving at all. A couple of individuals have expressed interest in assisting but so far we haven't been able to connect even to begin deciding on a vision for this project. I've also just started a stint as our department's undergraduate director and that's making it even harder to find the time to try to jumpstart it.

I'll keep pushing to get things rolling, but it's going to be very a slow process and it will occur in fits and starts as I carve out time to work on it.