

Asia Pacific Circle Meeting, May 30, 2006

In attendance:

X Liz Gay, Singapore	liz@nvcinbusiness.com
X John Buck, USA	johnabuck@comcast.net
X Dorset Campbell-Ross, Australia	dorsetcr@inet.net.au
X Cate Crombie, Australia	cate@powerup.com.au
X Linda Rysenbry, Australia	Linda@nowrelate.com
X Ron Ngata, New Zealand	rsn5@waikato.ac.nz
X Shari Macree, Australia	sharimacree@yahoo.com.au

Absent:

X Katherine Singer, South Korea	katherinesinger@sbcglobal.net
X Chris Rajendram, Sri Lanka	cprajen@sltnet.lk
X Aniruddha, India	ghaniruddha@hotmail.com
X Kumarjeev Moon, India	d_kumarjeev@yahoo.co.uk

Observers:

X John Wiley, USA	
X Gina Price, Australia	ginaprice@optusnet.com.au

Opening round:

I didn't take notes on this. General feeling appeared to be pleased to be together and eager to get on with work.

(Ron Ngata mentioned some discomfort, and the group agreed it might find a strategy to allow him to receive some empathy later on.)

Administrative matters:

The minutes from our previous meeting and present agenda were accepted by consent. John Buck agreed to facilitate today's meeting.

Content:

1) PARTIALITY GROUP

Dorset attempted to initiate an email dialogue involving himself, Linda, Chris, Shari, Katherine and Aniruddha. He reported 'limited success'. (Short responses from Linda and Chris and Dorset himself 'lost connection with the desired outcome'.)

Possibly we need to ask 'What do we mean by partiality?'

Reactions:

Liz: Disappointed. Concerned to understand how we can maintain energy.

John B: Disappointed Aniruddha and Chris weren't more involved.

Dorset: Disappointed Chris wasn't more involved. Need for completion not met.

Cate: Understood Chris to mean he wanted to focus on getting training to people in areas lacking financial resources. Noticing that she and Liz focused their attention on how to include people in our Circle meetings.

Linda: Disheartened. Understood Chris' email to mean he wants partiality shown to those in most need of training. Curious to find a way to work together more sustainably. Email didn't work. Main hurdle to this seems to be technological.

Shari: Looking at specific strategies to support learning in areas that need training – e.g. introductory CD that could be distributed in those areas?

Ron: Wonders if, as long as it's difficult for Chris to join meetings, some other person could represent him.

Strategy determined by consent:

Dorset to call Chris and Aniruddha, make a connection with them and determine clear requests – i.e. what would they like to see a regional Circle do in areas where training is needed.

(Dorset will get back to us if he needs support with this strategy, particularly around funding telephone connections.)

2) TECHNOLOGIES/STRUCTURES GROUP

Liz shared a PowerPoint presentation created in partnership with Cate identifying 4 possible structures to support connection between advocates for NVC.

- a) Circles where delegates speak the same language
- b) Circles where delegates share specific interests

- c) Circles where delegates share similar cultural backgrounds
- d) Circles where delegates have different interests and come from different cultural backgrounds

Presentation ended with a request for feedback/quick reactions.

Reactions:

Ron: Likes the idea of people coming together with different backgrounds. Also wants to allow space for other structures.

John B: Considers it helpful to look at what we might expect to see in a regional organisation – e.g. a point of contact at the CNVC website, publicity functions, clearly defined projects/training function. Wants to ask if structures seem to support this. Values Circles where delegates share the same or similar language.

Dorset: Wanted clarity as to what Liz meant when she asked for consideration to be given to the role performed by 'office bearers' in many organisations. Gained understanding she meant to refer to administrative tasks – e.g. who facilitates, who takes minutes etc.

Cate: Appreciating Liz as a resource who produces PowerPoint presentations and looking forward to the progress we might make through this discussion.

Linda: Appreciating energy that's gone into creating the presentation; valuing the collective intention to meet needs for structure and order. Keen to hear other people's responses.

Shari: Likes to work organically. Can see advantages to working geographically; also sees benefits in working locally. Wants cross-fertilisation, connection and understanding. Asks 'Is there a hybrid?' – i.e. other groups over-lying a regional group. Asks John Buck, 'What's possible?'

John says: Within the overall structure, people can create their own structures. Suggests a section on the CNVC website that can contribute to our regional identity.

Strategy determined by consent:

Liz will ask Jori Manske if a) regions currently shown on CNVC website can be redefined and b) Asia Pacific Circle can be acknowledged as a CNVC 'project' for fund-raising purposes.

Closing round:

Further strategies determined by consent:

All members will conduct a resource audit (e.g. infrastructure, personal skills, people they know etc.) and circulate this prior to our next meeting.

Next meeting to take place Tuesday, 27th June, 1.00am GMT (9.00am Singapore, 11.00am Australia etc.)

John Buck will book a teleconference line.

Ron will call Liz for empathy.

Questions for future consideration:

Continue to define our region – e.g. recognise what we mean by 'Oceania'

Further clarity around what we mean by 'partiality'

Can John offer training via teleclass?

Ideas for fund-raising

Closing comments:

Linda: Appreciating tenacity – i.e. people being present regardless of technical difficulties. Happy with what we're achieved today.

Shari: Grateful for opportunity to come together. Happy with decisions made. 'Bubbling' around this unfolding of a regional structure.

Ron: Very happy. Grateful for opportunity to join. Thanks to John for facilitating.

Gina: Thank you for the opportunity to observe. Commends everyone on the clarity of their self-expression.

John W: Enjoyed listening. Enjoying a sense of connection with people in a different part of the world.

Liz: Happy with decisions made. Appreciating everyone's presence and tenacity – basically echoing Linda.

John B: Teaching point: It would be helpful if we could receive updates from project leaders ahead of time. Wishing we had an easier way to connect with one another. Willing to participate at next meeting.

Dorset: Mourning that he did not provide an update ahead of time. Grateful to John for facilitation – enjoys flow, focus, results and impartial inclusion. Thanks Liz for organising.

Cate: Enjoyed connection with 'usual suspects' and with new people. Wishes to acknowledge our success in 'cutting edge' meeting processes.