

XVI International AIDS Conference

Youth Advisory Committee Meeting

February 21, 2006



YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING COMBINED MINUTES for Tuesday February, 21

Participants on 12PM to 3PM Teleconference: Ben Houghton, Sarah Hendricks, Maxwell Mark, Piyoo Kochar, Chrystal Nicholson, Mila Gorokhovich, Mandisi Manqele, Joya Banerjee, Brandy Svendson, Maulik Baxi, Nicci Stein, Samia Omar, Mwansa Njelesani, Olga Aleksandrova, Ryan Tucker, Alex McClelland, Stephanie Lodge

Participants on 7PM to 10PM Teleconference: Sarah Stumbar, Rachel Ong, Nicci Stein, Alex McClelland

Regrets: Nicole Downer, Justin L. Hill, Alischa Ross, Henry H. Luyombya

Absent without regrets: Shahmeer Ansari, Qaisar Ismail, Ginelle Macdonald

Minute taker: Stephanie Lodge

Introductions-all members introduced themselves

Committee Members- Alex

- Youth Advisory Committee has 25 members
- Representation from 10-12 countries, the biggest committee with the possibly the greatest international representation for the Conference
- Because mainly doing work via phone and email, shouldn't be a problem if 2 new members join, one from Mexico and one from Egypt.
- The updated committee list with email and bio will be sent out shortly.
- Advisory committee is CLOSED, please let everyone know, as we have enough participation

Questions about joining taking it global- Mwansa

- If you receive an email, that doesn't mean that you're a member, everyone needs to register and create a profile, it's important for the task forces.
- www.takingitglobal.org to sign up

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Side discussion- Rachel asks about evaluation of Youth Programme and youth related sessions. There are concerns that the final report from Bangkok was not reliable or consistent in its evaluation. For Toronto we should have evaluation forms and more of a process in place.

Co-chair discussion

Alex explained need for Co-chairs of the YAC

- Involvement roles for co-chairs consist of contacting Alex on a day to day basis, from now until the Conference, there will be no added meetings if anyone is interested in taking on the role
- Co-chair would help Alex develop agenda and along with other things
- Co-chairs hopefully will be one male and one female preferably someone in Toronto just because close to the Local Host
- If anyone is interested Alex would like to have co-chair figured out within next couple of week

XVI International AIDS Conference

Youth Advisory Committee Meeting

February 21, 2006



- Next committee meeting going to decide who the co-chairs are going to be.
- Send email by the end of this week if interested and by next week will know who wants to be co-chair and will vote on who its going to be- not sure how that will happen as yet.

A few members expressed interest and will confirm by email.

Updates from Conference Programme Activities Area-Alex

Refer to the Global Village and Cultural Activities Updates-February

- Global village is open to everyone
- Highlights – submissions closed MARCH 15th
- There are approximately 13-14 Youth Pavilion applications sp far, and a list of 54 Global Village applications with more coming in daily
- Any youth related application which comes into GV, and CAP we will have a input on the criteria and make recommendations on the submissions
- Also going to have some recommendations for youth cultural based events

Side discussion- Mila asked if the YAC would have input in to the abstract review process, or how youth related abstracts would be reviewed.

Nicci- Each abstract is review by 3 people; there are some youth abstract reviewers 9we are not sure how many as their ages are not recorded.)

Youth Programme Update

Age restrictions-Alex and Nicci

Alex gave a brief overview for people who weren't aware, age range for registration is 18-24 is defined a youth. There has been an effort on behalf of the Local Host and other organizations to have the age range raised to 26 yrs of age and lowered to 16 yrs of age. At the last Conference Organising Committee meeting the age was raised to 26 and the Local Host was given direction to seek a lawyer's advice for the lower age limits.

Nicci – hasn't heard back from lawyer was in contact with him recently because this matter is at the point of emergency we need to know

Other points that were raised:

- Scholarship deadlines – not sure if the age range is changed how this will affect schoarships, no one under 18 was able to apply because of the restrictions on the website. The deadline is fast approaching.
- International issue – could be an issue for youth traveling into the country by themselves, Alex and Nicci remind us that the age limit is 16 for entering Canada alone, and within Canada youths can travel at age 16 but need a letter of parental consent
- This is seen as an urgent issue with the Local Host and the IAS; still waiting at this point to see what the lawyer recommends.

Sarah H. – concerned because Foster Parents has 10 youth who they are planning on bringing to the Conference, half of whom are under 18.

Alex – Reminds us that at past conferences youth have been in attendance and they have been under 18. Highlighted that this is a huge concern if youth under 18 aren't able to

XVI International AIDS Conference

Youth Advisory Committee Meeting

February 21, 2006



participate

Next steps:

- Waiting on lawyer for confirmation, going to email information to everyone once we know anything.
- If they say no to lowering the age, might want to think about putting together a task force around age restrictions

Letter to Session Working Groups

Overview: 50 non-abstract driven sessions chosen by the LPC, SPC, and CPC, within the 50 3 are youth related. A letter was sent out to all of the working groups that are developing these sessions and asked them to include youth as speakers and moderators

- Co-chairs would be helpful here – Alex and Henry put together letter about encouraging youth involvement, it would be helpful to have it come from co-chairs
- Letter sent to 50 groups and have heard back from one

Letter for Marathon Meeting

- Different tracks will be in a 3 day review session for all abstracts, recommend that a letter to track committee to look at youth and include them
- Co-chairs will put together the letter before track get together
- Beginning of March the letter should be sent out

Mwansa – what other access points or other groups can we contact?

Alex – non abstracts the track committee has the most impact if we state highlights within the letter. But we could also draft a letter to different satellites/affiliated events that are being organized.

Budget Review

- Draft working budget proposed to be 225,520\$ in Canadian dollars
- MAC AIDS fund has donated 61,000\$ to youth website and Youth Pavilion!!
- Local Host has a fundraiser on staff, still looking for another person who can coordinate funding
- Some of budget lines are based on direct quotes, and some budget lines could go down
- 400 TTC passes – trying to have passes available for all youth participating in conference
- Meeting later this week with GSK Positive Action – looking to fundraise Global Village and Youth Programme
- Local Host still actively fundraising

Mila – who is going to be responsible for the hiring process of IT, tech etc.

Alex- Local Host responsible for hire staff, managing, road map, booklet, and print

Nicci – fundraising – phone, office built into all programme activities budgets so a certain percentage goes to expenses including fundraising. Programme Activities booklet is for all 4 programmes areas, we have a Communications Coordinator working on that but it's the taskforces responsibly for the content.

XVI International AIDS Conference

Youth Advisory Committee Meeting

February 21, 2006



Who is funding the Local Host so far? GSK Positive Action, Pharmaceuticals, Banks, Corporations, Canadian Government

Toronto YouthForce- Joya

- Working to ensure there is no overlapping
- Trying to find ways to work together, has a proposed budget
- Good idea is to put Youth programme and Youth forces budget together

The Toronto YouthForce, is an international coalition of youth related NGO's, student groups, networks and individuals who will be a collective voice of young people at the conference. The "YouthForce" concept started at the International AIDS Conference in Barcelona where the Barcelona YouthForce advocated for youth issues internationally and locally and was a way for youth to connect with each other over common goals. In Bangkok the YouthForce continued their efforts and held a successful Pre-Conference to prepare youth delegates for the main Conference.

In order to ensure a coordinated effort and to not duplicate or compete with activities it was decided that the planning of youth activities for AIDS 2006 would be a joint effort on behalf of the Youth Programme and the YouthForce.

On Thursday January 26th in Toronto and Tuesday January 31st in Washington, the YouthForce and AIDS 2006 Youth Programme held public information meetings outlining the goals and objectives and encouraging youth involvement in the planning and development of AIDS 2006 youth programmes and YouthForce activities. Over 80 individuals and organizations were attendance.

Joint taskforces between the AIDS 2006 Youth Programme and YouthForce have been developed; members of the AIDS 2006 Youth Advisory Committee and a representative of the YouthForce co-chair each taskforce. The Media and Communications, Conference Programme and Youth Pavilion taskforces are supported directly by the AIDS 2006 Youth Programme Coordinator

Below are the taskforces and proposed workplans

Conference Programme

- Mentorship Group
- Assistance with navigation
- Connecting delegates
- Developing orientation materials
- Youth Conference Road Map
- Working with youth speakers
- Engage Scientific Programme
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Reception

- Design
- Planning
- Implementation of event
- Logistics
- Liaise with Cultural Activities Programme

Pre-Conference

- Logistics
- Programme design
- Identify organizers, presenters, facilitators

Youth Pavilion

XVI International AIDS Conference

Youth Advisory Committee Meeting

February 21, 2006



- Select applications based on criteria
- Identify gaps in programme
- Scheduling & designing the programme
- Logistics & design of space
- Promotion of Pavilion

Media/Communications

- Website development
- Organize press conferences
- Develop media content
- Pod casting
- Manage/support youth journalists

Advocacy

- Preparing youth to participate
- Use UNGASS consultation
- Online consultation
- Organize advocacy efforts
- Develop advocacy message
- Produce advocacy materials

Taskforces for YouthForce and Youth Programme

- Meeting next 2-3 weeks

Mila- anyone who needs info taskforces you can go to
www.youthaidscoalition.org/activities.html

Meeting this upcoming Thurs/Fri for the main conference taskforce

Sarah – when will information for upcoming meetings be available?

Alex- information will be sent out by the taskforce co-chairs in the next week

Criteria recommendations to taskforces- Alex

- For those who are applying to the Youth Pavilion, need criteria for selection
- Global Village and Youth Pavilion will both be developing criteria
- Example for youth pavilion is going to be needs to be youth related

Ben – should focus on participation should have a lot of interaction between youths

Mwansa – go back to the objective – youth advisory committee, for example dialogue, increase technology, looking at long term impacts

Alex – youth related forums, conference sessions – managed debates

Everyone should be welcome – with equal representation

Olga – Adult – Youth partnerships

Samia – building capacity, something different

Ryan- Concept piece – the more informal educational side, for example, peer pt peer model

Maulik – resource boards where youth can access information

Treatment for rural communities who don't have a lot of resources

Overview for Criteria

- Interactive – impact beyond the conference
- Greater involvement
- Non-judgmental

XVI International AIDS Conference

Youth Advisory Committee Meeting

February 21, 2006



- Lessons learned, why it didn't work, why they did work
- Peer to peer support
- Adult-youth partnerships
- Faith-based initiatives
- Diversity of languages

To be followed up with email discussion

Alex reminds everyone: For those who applied for scholarships you should have a reply by end of April, beginning of May

NEXT MEETING MARCH 21ST 2006

12:00PM-3:00PM North American Eastern Standard Time
7:00PM-10:00PM North American Eastern Standard Time

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