

## **Annual Report 2008**

At the beginning of the year the board of governors consisted of the following members:

Drs. ( M.D., psychiatrist) J. Lansen, chairman  
Ir. (civil engineer) T. van Popta, secretary  
Drs. (Doctor of Science) W. Grijpma, treasurer  
Mr. (Doctor of Law) O. Sollewijn Gelpke-Meijer  
Dr. (Dr. of Arts) M. Rutten-Saris  
Dr. (Dr. of Psychology) C. de Bode  
W. van den Broek

The chairman, the secretary, the treasurer and W. van den Broek are members of the executive committee.

### **Several changes in the board of governors took place in 2008.**

Due to a protracted illness of secretary Taco van Popta Mrs. Marielle Bous-Vocking was willing to take his place in the executive committee on an interim basis.

Mr. Cor de Bode resigned, due to emigration. He will remain available for advice if needed.

The number of advisers for the foundation has increased. Apart from Mrs. Fiety Meijer, Mrs. Marlies Mannesse, art therapist, Mr. Jaap Orth, music therapist and trainer, have been appointed as advisers.

In the course of the year the board met twice, whereas the executive committee convened 6 times.

### **Publicity.**

This year as well the website of the foundation helped to give greater publicity to the public.

A number of reactions from interested parties have been received. Some of these reactions have led to contacts about inquiry about training or to actual requests for training.

The level of interest for the training manual, written by Mrs. Fiety Meijer, remained the same. After the enthusiastic receipt following the publication of the book the demand remained at a stable 150 copies per annum. On December 31, 2008 the number of available copies was almost sold. That is why – in due time – a new, extended edition is planned.

Practice of the training has made it clear that it is desirable to add to the manual more non- verbal therapies. Interest for the trainings as well as the manual comes for the most greater part from third world countries. Applicants are mainly institutes or persons working in institutes. Seeing the circumstances of the applicants or applying centers the manual is usually sent to these countries free of charge.

The Hijman Degen Foundation is, unfortunately, not yet widely known in The Netherlands. The aim is to fill this gap by more information. The foundation will try to find support for efficient functioning and will look for substantial and financially supporting friends/patrons.

**Contacts, working visits, guest lectures in 2008:**

Oxfam/Novib

Impulsis

Hogeschool Arnhem and Nijmegen

Hogeschool Utrecht

The foundation wishes to extend the field of training with training in other non-verbal techniques in the future in addition to the art therapies for trauma treatment.

There has been contact with music therapists and drama therapists with some experience in that area.

**Facilitating projects.**

In 2008 Mrs . Fiety Meijer has been involved in several training programs abroad, such as trainings in Serbia and in Algeria (with Chairman J. Lansen, a.o.).

Trainings in Serbia will be continued in 2009 and 2010.

Preparations for training in Bangladesh were made, for which an important part of the financial means was made available by sponsors, although realization of the plan was far from being certain by the end of 2008. Contacts were made with the management of the Academy of Noertingen in Germany, where the members are very interested in the course for trainers. It is the intention to start a ten day European training Art Therapy & Trauma in cooperation with the Academy of Utrecht in the course of 2009.

**Research.**

As to research on the effects of Art Therapy in case of trauma there have been contacts with Mr. Jean Pierre Wilken of the "Kenniscentrum" (Centre of Knowledge) of Academy of Utrecht. The suggestion of close collaboration in the field of research has been met with enthusiasm by the Centre of Knowledge. To this end the Centre of Knowledge would gladly cooperate with the Hijman Degen Foundation in applying for financial aid from the "RAAK" Fund.