

TTEC April 2019 – Summary of Outcomes

■ Dialogue Theme - Increasing the diversity and inclusivity of our teacher training programs and Aquarian Trainer Academy

We had a good start to what needs to be an on-going conversation about increasing the diversity and inclusivity of our Trainer Academy. By not having the make-up of the ATA reflect the broader populations; we are not reaching as many students as we could be, and we are missing out on important creativity and perspectives. We talked about what a truly diverse Academy would look like, what benefits that would bring us all, and what individually we can do to help manifest that vision. This conversation will continue at the Summer Solstice Trainer Forum in June.

■ More Dialogue topics

We had breakout groups discussing the Role of a Teacher, the effects of money on the Teacher and Trainer roles, mentoring

■ Level 1 Redux report

The updated Yoga Manual should be complete in May. It will be available for sale shortly after that. Anyone with a digital copy through VitalSource will automatically get the updated version “pushed” to them. The new Yoga Manual will have photographs of models for all the poses, much improved descriptions for all the exercises, and will have the chapters from the textbook on Form & Alignment and Postures moved into it.

■ Level 2 Redux report

The new version of Vitality and Stress will be tried out in Espanola at the end of June. We will probably tweak the materials after that and then make them available, so if you are planning to do this module in the fall or Winter this year, you can try the new material out!

■ Collecting "gems of wisdom" from legacy teachers

If you had a personal teaching from Yogi Bhajan that would be applicable to others, please record yourself sharing that story or gem. Please send your voice or video recordings to gemsofwisdom@kriteachings.org.

■ Reports

The KRI board has nominated 4 new people to join their board. They are still subject to approval by the SSSC board, but these nominees are: Sangeeta Kaur (China), Guru Jiwan Kaur (Italy), Dharma Singh (Germany), and Vedyā Amrita Kaur (New York). Also IKYTA has a new manager, Puranjot Kaur, puranjotk@ikyta.org

■ Making TTEC truly global – proposal for holding meeting in Europe in April 2021, and maybe South America in 2022

This was approved. There was strong support for moving these meetings around. There were suggestions about the need for long term commitments to attending (to build strong, trusting, professional relationships), how to use more technology so people all over the world can participate. There was some concern about having a different group of trainers making decisions each year (losing continuity in order to broaden participation). It was also decided to make the Global TTEC meeting in March 2021 (rather than April) in Europe so that those that want to can still attend the Khalsa Council meetings in Espanola in April.

■ **Timing of Sept 2020 TTEC meeting** – 22nd and 23rd? Or 1-week sooner, the 15th and 16th?

It was decided to leave the meetings the same week as Khalsa Council, but maybe Monday and Tuesday, rather than Tuesday and Wednesday. We will take a vote to decide this on Sutra.

■ **Policy reviews**

- **Level Two certification policy (that one L2 is allowed before graduating from L1),**
This proposal was approved, with the caveat that it be rewritten to be more clear, with more explanations as to why.
- **Prohibition for teaching in non-KRI teacher trainings,**
This proposal was approved, with the caveat that it be rewritten to be more clear, with more explanations as to why.
- **Bridge programs for graduates of non-KRI teacher trainings**
A portion of this proposal was approved, and a portion was not approved. It was approved for the instances of an entire community of graduates “coming back to KRI” along with their trainer(s). It was not approved for the case of an individual student from a non-KRI training. They would need to retake a KRI Level 1 program.
- **Change entry interview to online videos, then a local one-on-one orientation and checking that the requirements are fulfilled.**
This proposal was not approved. It was recognized that the interview is an important, meaningful event for the applicants. Members of TTEC described the value of new members of the Academy meeting the KRI staff. Great to develop online videos to train and orient and welcome applicants – and then shorten the entry interview to say 15min.
- **Trainer Development Courses**
KRI will be developing trainer development courses to support all members of the Academy. We collected suggestions for what courses are most needed, and what courses the TTEC attendees would be willing to offer.

■ **Review of “Guidelines for Effective Mentoring”**

Everyone agreed that this document is a truly excellent start. Lots and lots of suggestions were also given – some of which will be integrated into this document, and others will support the broader work on mentoring that the Professional Development Committee is prioritizing right now. Once the document is reworked with this input, it will be made public and distributed.

■ **Pathway to become a mentor**

The highlights of the new proposed pathway to qualifying as a mentor were given the “thumbs up” as a good direction to continue going. The primary changes being envisioned are: competencies to be developed (using the document “Guidelines for Effective Mentoring” as the starting point) and used to determine qualification, a peer support group of new (and possibly experienced mentors as well) would be assembled, and specific training(s) in mentoring would be developed and delivered as part of a candidate mentor’s one-year trial period.

Reminder of Future TTEC dates:

24 & 25 Sept, 2019 (work day 23 Sept)

21 & 22 April, 2020 (work day 20 April)