INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

2018 Report to the General Meeting of the International Federation of Social Workers’ Archives Project

- Fiona Robertson IFSW Archivist
- Nigel Hall IFSW Archives Project Worker
In 2013 IFSW started the Archives Project

The original aim was for all archival material being preserved for future generations and to make the IFSW archives more accessible to social workers and researchers around the world. It was expanded to include all historical records.

From

- the stored material in the basement at the office of the Swiss Association of Social Workers in Bern,
- to plastic storage boxes and random shelves in the IFSW storage area in Basel
IFSW Basel
From Basel to IFSW Office Rheinfelden
IFSW Office in Rheinfelden
2017
IFSW Office in Rheinfelden

2018
Key Historical Treasures Shelves
- handle with care
- use white gloves!
Key Historical documents
-- list of folders 1926 – 1938

List of folders

1926 Industrial Social Work
1928 Norway
1932 All papers setting up International Permanent Secretariat of Social Workers
1930-33 Recordings of Correspondence
1930 Copy of newsletter Jahresbericht (1931)
1934 Book of 2nd International Conference on Social Work
1932 Strasbourg in Germany
1933 IPSSW moves to Switzerland
1934 IPSSW circulars
1936 Report of Police Woman
1936 Papers about 3rd International Conference on Social Work
1935-1938 Folder of Vera Vostrebulova
Phases of work 2016 to 2018

• Continued making archives and documents more accessible and available
• Building up the Archives electronic stored resources
• Moving to IFSW Office Rheinfelden
• Sorting and reviewing of documents
  • Country folders
  • Regional folders
  • Industrial Social Work Folders
  • Other folders
  • Filing contents of folders into date order
• Co-operation and networking
• Researching missing information
• Preparing information to be placed on IFSW Website
• To celebrate 90 years
Country folders
Sorting Country Folders involved:

• Immediate paper preservation – removal of rusty paper clips and staples (within the next 5-10 years some papers will require treatment to stop further disintegration)

• Copying papers at risk of further damage

• Merging different dated country folders
  • Making country folders more accessible
  • Sorting papers and historical information into date order
  • Cross-referencing where country information is located in different parts of the archives
The time consuming task of sorting and reviewing individual countries’ folders
1920 -1940 country files in archival storage boxes
Sorting Country Folders – (cont.)

• Celebrating and assessing historical documents
• Noted updated information - all member countries in the 1980’s were required to be re-assessed for membership of IFSW
• Large pile of scanning for eventual addition to IFSW Archives website (see appendix for examples)
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Significant literature found of the Study Group – including this 1949 Journal for Social Work - Netherlands
Co-operation, providing information and networking

- German Association of Social Workers (2016 > current)
- Austrian Association of Social Worker (2018)
- Visitors to IFSW Office
- Requests for information
Researching missing information

Third International Conference on Social Work held at Bedford College, London. July 1936
In Conclusion – celebrating our history

1928

1932
Recap History 1847 - 1930s

• 1847 to 1932 is the era of International Congresses (Conferences) which lead to the setting up of the International Permanent Secretariat of Social Workers (IPSSW) in 1932.

• International Conferences were being held since 1847 through to 1920 with the first more social work focused event in 1889.

• The 1st International Conference of Social Work was held in Paris in July 1928. This format brought together over 5000 delegates, representing 42 countries. This provides the framework for the current day IASSW, ICSW and IFSW.
Signatures of people who attended 1932 Meeting
1932 to 1950’s

• Period of significant turmoil for people in many countries and the profession of social work.

• The next International Social Work Conference was held in England 1936, and Conference for Prague 1940 did not proceed

• 1948 - meetings in New York lead to the development of plans for setting up the current IFSW. This was achieved in 1956 at the 8th International Social Work Conference when IFSW was constituted and legally incorporated 1957.
Papers held in the IFSW Office include:

• Copy of the Proceeding of the Conference 1956 including the meeting minutes setting up modern day IFSW

• Original copies of meeting documents

• Constitution
History 1956 - going forward: the modern era of IFSW

Golden Jubilee History
50 years of history by Nigel Hall

Archives website

http://cdn.ifsw.org/assets/ifsw_83941-9.pdf
Thanks for the support and ongoing commitment!
Appendix – a few examples of Country information/resources waiting to be electronically scanned
THE ETHICAL POSITION OF THE SOCIAL WORKER IN FACE OF THE NEW
SOCIO POLITICAL CONTEXT.*

Helena Iracy Junqueira **

PRELIMINARIES

The class of the Social Workers of Brazil, by means of its Federal Council of Social Workers, decided to carry out a
Chile 1978

GLOBAL VIEW OF CHILEAN SOCIAL WORK

Ana Luisa González de Díaz
María Ruby Rotondi de Ríos

1978 Chile
Global View of Chilean Social Work
Danish Association 1974

Organisation: Since 1970 the Danish Assoc. Workers has endeavoured to make the new's as regards democratization and efficiency.

The organisation has gradually become more ordered that the local organizations are of influence and new working fields concern therefore we have also begun to train in which was incidentally also necessary be development on the labour market, where joint committee agreements have been made between public employers and the staff makes increased demands on our local re

1974 Danish Assn of Social Workers

Report to IFSW Nairobi Meeting of the work of the Danish Ass
1970 Germany
Social Work in Germany - Planning and Procedure and the Professional Association.

Discussion: Social Work in the Federal Republic is in a state of acute change.

Germany 1970
Ireland 1972

1972 Ireland
No. 1 Newsletter Irish Assn of S/JW
Vol. I No. 2
Ghana 1974

Singapore 1972

1972 Singapore
Asia of Social Workers Newsletter: Social Dimensions
Vietnam 1970
Report from NZASW of high priority problems in New Zealand.