

IFSW Ambassador Update to the IFSW General Meeting 2014, Melbourne

First, I would like to express to the General Meeting, including all member associations, my continued appreciation and pleasure at being able to represent and work on behalf of IFSW's policies, mission, goals, and program priorities. The Ambassador serves at the request of the General Meeting within the policies set by this body and is accountable to it.

For background information, please know that the General Meeting first appointed me to the role of IFSW Ambassador in 1994. This followed 8 years of experience on the Executive Committee as a Member, Vice President for North America, and as President of IFSW. A role description was approved in 1996. The appointment, which has been renewed at each General Meeting, was established for the purpose of officially providing an opportunity for IFSW to continue to use existing networks and expertise to serve and benefit IFSW. The Ambassador carries out special assignments and representation on behalf of IFSW.

The Ambassador maintains awareness of opportunities to make the IFSW presence known, when and where appropriate. While advancing IFSW at the global, regional, or country level, the focus and relationship is a global perspective.

During the past twenty years, duties performed as Ambassador have included:

- serving as a member of the Subcommittee on Structure and Operations.
- serving as a member of the Task Force on Non-Dues Revenue/Income Development.
- serving as a member of the Election's Committee
- participating in the performance evaluation of the Secretary General.

- reporting on the role and function of the Officer's meeting.
 - reporting on the role and function of the Steering Committee.
 - representing IFSW in meetings, seminars, conferences, and events to promote IFSW's organizational presence i.e. advancing the grant status of the World Urban Forum.
 - providing information, marketing and public relations about IFSW via media, workshops, articles and public speaking to social workers, organizations, policy-makers, and the general public.
 - supporting activities to preserve and enhance IFSW Archives.
 - engaging in outreach and recruitment of persons and organizations to become "Friends of IFSW." This involves education, promotion and fund-development. I have been a member of the "Friends" Advisory Committee.
- "Friends of IFSW" was founded during my IFSW Presidency to position IFSW to nurture linkages with new and existing supporters and to develop additional sources of non-dues revenue.

My IFSW involvement has spanned more than twenty-eight years. Current communication and knowledge of IFSW has been maintained and enhanced through involvement at IFSW meetings (Executive, General Meetings, committees and conferences) and through documents, publications and consultation with IFSW leadership via e-mail, fax, and telephone.

It is a privilege to continue to serve IFSW in this meaningful role. All duties have been undertaken at no expense to IFSW.

Los Angeles, May 1, 2014

Suzanne Dworak-Peck
IFSW Ambassaor