



MESSAGE FROM THE ISC BOARD

International Shintaido College

January 12, 2018.

Dear members of the ISC community,

Happy New Year!

We, the Board of Directors, wish you a wonderful 2018. We hope that for each of you it brings joy, prosperity, plenty of keiko and opportunities to grow.

In that spirit, we wish to introduce ourselves to you. We are the Board as established by means of the online ballot in December. We are (in alphabetical order) Jean Louis de Gandt, Soichiro Iida, Lee Ordeman, Pierre Paraque and Pierre Quettier.

We would like to thank the previous Boards and particularly the members of this past year's interim Board (Charles Burns, Georg Mueller, Michael De-Campo and Lee Ordeman) for their work and leadership through the bylaws process and to this point.

A full complement of Board members would be seven, but there are only five of us. Despite the best efforts of the interim Board, we could not find enough candidates to make a full Board. We had particularly hoped some women would join us. As we set to work, we hope that some of you will be inspired to join us as we try to make a better, stronger ISC. If any of you have an interest in the work, or any questions in that regard, please inquire. Slots for regional Board members remain open for Japan and for North America / Australia.

We'd like briefly to introduce ourselves:

Jean-Louis de Gandt, Chairman

Jean-Louis has been teaching Shintaido since 2008. He's been involved in Shintaido administration at local, national and regional levels, and has been ESC chairman since 2013. He has helped manage numerous European and local events. Jean Louis has a strong legal, finance and administration background developed over 35 years in an international career at IBM. He was European Treasurer at IBM for 10 years. He has worked cross-culturally most of his life, lived overseas, and has had numerous experiences on the boards of companies as well as non-profit organizations in various countries.

Soichiro Iida, Knowledge management

Iida-san has been practicing Shintaido for 30 years in Japan. He managed the head office for Nihon Shintaido Kyokai (Japan Shintaido Association) as a full-time, salaried employee for 2.5 years, during which he managed a busy daily teaching schedule for two dozen instructors of all ranks while managing membership, class enrollment and tuition payment. He managed numerous regional and national events. Iida-san joined the ISC Board in 2016.

Lee Ordeman, Secretary

Lee began practicing Shintaido in 1986 in the U.S. He studied for 10 years in Tokyo, where he led a weekly class for Shintaido Kyokai for eight years and helped manage local and national gasshukus. He continues to teach in Washington, D.C., has been an ISC Board member since 2008, and was a Shintaido Northeast board member for several years as well. He has also lived in Europe and has ample experience working cross-culturally. He has worked as a journalist, a school teacher, a non-profit administrator, and an actor.

Pierre Paraque, Treasurer

Pierre has been practicing Shintaido since 2008. He's been involved in Shintaido administration on the local and national level. Pierre feels a strong determination to take care of Shintaido.

Pierre Quettier, IT, Exams

Pierre has been practicing Shintaido since 1976. Since 1981 he has contributed as a teacher and administrator. He served on the International Board from 1988 to 1996 and the International TC from 1996 to 2017. He's been a member of the European TC since 2007. As an assistant professor in digital humanities at Paris University, Pierre specialized in Knowledge Management and Organization of Information Technologies. He says, "According to my experience, the joyful development of Shintaido needs both a dynamic movement at the grassroots level and a cool central management. I wish to contribute these."

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On January 5 and 6, we held our initial meetings to establish our roles, express our hopes, and set some priorities. We want to share with you what we agreed and give you a sense of where, in these early and exciting days under new bylaws, we'd like to go. What you'll read below is a work in progress, as is our Board, as is our organization. We invite you to give plenty of feedback now and in the future.

You have noticed that we have chosen officers of the Board. While we have a chairman, treasurer and secretary, with responsibilities adherent to those roles, we have determined that for practical purposes duties and leadership will be shared also according to initiative and skill set, not necessarily as formally stipulated by the bylaws or official title. You may see the preliminary allocation of our roles and duties in an attachment below.

As we move forward, our priorities will be as follows, and not necessarily in this order:

- ❖ **Communicate with members / potential members, and to this end, consolidate, purge and update of our mailing lists.**
 - ❖ **Transfer old legal and financial obligations of past Boards to the new Board per the ISC Bylaws.**
 - ❖ **Establish a dues payment system for 2018 and through 2020. Communicate to membership the worthwhile benefits of membership.**
 - ❖ **IT: Inventory existing resources, define IT strategy, and establish collaborative working tools needed by the Board and ITEC, including websites, mailing lists, sharing of information, storage of information and archives.**
- ❖ **Clarify and coordinate activities under ITEC, including non-voting ITEC rep to ISC Board, ITEC vision for international gasshuku in 2020, establishment of codified exam process and diploma process, general budgetary needs ahead of 2020 (toward establishment of overall ISC budgets over the next several years).**
 - ❖ **Establish a budget for 2018 and projected budget through 2020.**
 - ❖ **Establish a place and time for the 2020 International. Invite proposals by local hosts. Determine local hosts. Support them.**
 - ❖ **Legal incorporation: Establish legal structure of ISC as a nonprofit organization. Open bank account.**

This list is just a sketch of what's ahead for the Board.

In the near future we will explain in detail our plans for collection of dues.

And we will update you regularly on our activities.

Best regards,

The ISC Board

Jean-Louis de Gandt (jean-louis@degandt.net)

Soichoro Iida (s_iida@mue.biglobe.ne.jp)

Lee Ordeman (leeordeman@gmail.com)

Pierre Paranque (pierreparanque@gmail.com)

Pierre Quettier (pierre@quettier.net)

Roles and offices: ISC Board 2018 – 2020

Chairman : Jean-Louis de Gandt

- Facilitation of governance by the Board, facilitation of Board meetings,
- Legal and tax matters including future registration of the ISC as a nonprofit organization
- Preparation and running of annual General Membership Meetings

Secretary : Lee Ordeman

- Membership management,
- Communication with members,
- Minutes of meetings,
- Archive management
- 2020 International event liaison

Treasurer : Pierre Paranque

- Banking, accounts, financial statements,
- Budgets

IT and exam process: Pierre Quettier

- ISC Sites, Shintaido name, mailing lists, all IT tools needed by ISC
- Interface with ITEC on their handling of exam process: Grade recording, issuance and control of diplomas, control of examination rules compliance

Knowledge Management: Soichiro Iida

- Standard operating procedure
- Documentation of all ISC processes, transmission

ITEC representative to the Board: To be named by ITEC

- Consulting role on all matters of common interest between ITEC and the Board