



International  
Social Role Valorization  
Association

## Third Annual Report December 2019

The purpose of the International Social Role Valorization Association is

***“To promote SRV development, education, assessment, and leadership to assist people and organizations to implement SRV concepts so that vulnerable people may have access to the good things of life”***

This is our 2019 annual report to our members, and it comes at the end of a successful third year of operations. The ISRVA continues to work towards its purpose, depending on a voluntary group of leaders to drive the activities. The leadership group includes Jo Massarelli, Betsy Neuville, Mary Kealy, Guy Caruso, Joe Osburn and Raymond Lemay, and the collaborative meets several times per year face-to-face, and through multiple video calls. Mary Kealy from Ireland joined the leadership group this year.

### **Membership**

ISRVA operates only with the support of our membership, who make financial contributions to meet our mutual goals of strengthening the global SRV community. 2019 membership consists of 71 members, at varying levels of contribution. We hope that readers of this Annual Report will renew their memberships or join to support the SRV and the work of the association. We rely on a few organizations who consistently make a significant pledge to this work, and a host of individual members as well.

## Financial Position

During this current year we have had expenses of \$9,138, and revenues of \$23,550. Our current bank balance is \$67,504, with \$8500 held in reserve as seed money for the 8<sup>th</sup> International SRV Conference, to be held in Ireland in 2021. The majority of funds were used for the new website design.

## International Initiative for Disability Leadership (IIDL) Match Event:



Along with SRVIP and Keystone Institute, ISRVA hosted the International Institute on Disability Leadership's Match Program in Harrisburg, PA. Six match participants attended, from New Zealand (2), Australia (3), and Canada (1); as well as, a number of other SRV savvy people from Georgia, and a host of attendees

from Keystone's SRV leadership group. Milt Tyree, Jo Massarelli, Guy Caruso, Tom Doody, Betsy Neuville and Thomas Neuville provided the content.

## New Website Launched

We are pleased to report a complete overhaul of the SRV website, with aesthetic and content changes, which is appreciated widely. The re-design went smoothly, and all seem very pleased with it. Several ISRVA members are keeping the Events Calendar up-to-date, and this effort is going well. Since the launch of the website in June, the site had 6663 visitors, and 16,500-page views over five months, with the most attention going to the following sections in descending order, with the majority accessing the sections on SRV theory, the resources section, and articles. Of course the website can be found at [www.socialrolevalorization.com](http://www.socialrolevalorization.com)

## New Facebook Group

ISRVA launched an ISRVA Facebook group in July 2019, intended to augment the existing two major Facebook Groups sites with the purpose as follows:



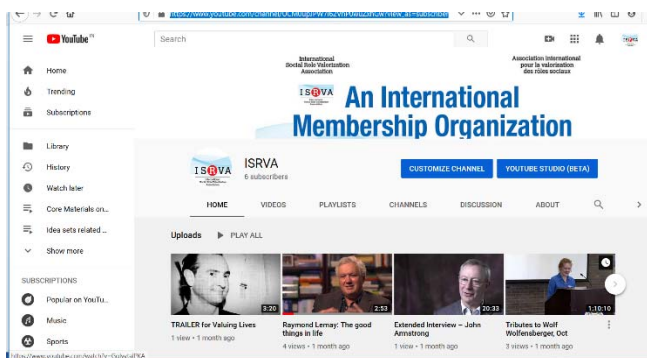
*The purpose of this group is for the international community of Social Role Valorization leaders, teachers, students, practitioners, and researchers to share our work, look for connections, learn about the events and activities happening worldwide, and assist each other in SRV use in a welcoming, supportive manner.*

There are several other active SRV Facebook groups, highly recommended for discussion and debate of specific detail, and we encourage members to join those groups as well.

Inclusion in this new private Facebook group is easily gained by request. There are currently 101 members, and the focus has been to share upcoming SRV events, and to report on such events as well. It can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/280067349420572/>.

## YouTube Channel

ISRVA launched a simple version of a YouTube channel in November of 2019. Only included at this time are straightforward SRV content videos, consisting of Jerry Smith’s extended interviews, Wolf Wolfensberger’s Temple University presentation on The Dilemmas of Serving for Pay, and several others. In the next months, we will detail the criteria for inclusion of other SRV content videos on the site. ISRVA members were relied upon for suggested videos to include, and Guy Caruso and a small group of members are leading efforts to categorize by theme.



## Scholarship

In an exciting initiative, ISRVA will develop and launch two new SRV related scholarships – one \$5000 (USD) scholarship for SRV related research, another \$5000 (USD) scholarship for SRV related leadership development. The intent of to foster leadership development for those wanting to study and teach SRV, and to encourage the publication of scholarly work on SRV. More details will be announced early next year.

In addition, we are pleased to report that we provided some financial assistance to a graduate student to study at the Wolfensberger Archives in Nebraska, resulting in recommendations for further study and research.

## The Institute for Applied SRV

Based on the results of our inaugural event in October 2017 in Ireland, the ISRVA has endeavored to develop a long-term vision to guide future development. As a movement, SRV has long been characterized by its teaching/workshop culture, an approach to dissemination and transmission that has remained modest and somewhat fragile. ISRVA was created with goal of developing a support infrastructure that might give a bit more robustness and scale to our activities. Guided by Joe Osburn, we have been conducting a model coherency analysis to design an SRV Academy. We have called this future entity the “Institute for Applied SRV,” with a focus on implementing the theory. We have spent a good deal of time (several days of planning) working out the details of such a structure and many details remain to be ironed out, not the least of which are questions about the

funding and leadership to take this forward towards any discussions of implementation. However, the “Institute for Applied SRV” design is currently being written up by the ISRVA leadership and will be worked on throughout this year. We are certainly interested in your input on this and any other of the ISRVA’s initiatives. We will post the design of the Institute for Applied SRV when finalized.

### **Valor Press**

In collaboration with **Valor/Solutions** throughout this year we have been working on two new SRV books that should be published in 2020. Ronda Held, John Armstrong and Raymond Lemay are the editors of a new book entitled “Ageing and the good things of life: The application of SRV to supporting people as they age.” The book includes two never published chapters by Wolf Wolfensberger. A second book that is currently in preparation is Dr Wolfensberger’s last book that he finished shortly before his death, entitled “Model Coherency : The Key to Human Service Quality.” It should also appear in 2020.

### **Wolfensberger Archives**

ISRVA continues to be involved with the Wolfensberger Archives team at the **University of Nebraska Medical Center’s McGoogan Library** to make Dr. Wolfensberger’s writings available on the digital commons. As the Archives secure copyright permissions, they are posting out-of-print publications on the digital commons. A few digital recordings of Dr. Wolfensberger giving speeches or lecturing will soon be added for downloading.

The ISRVA supported the further organization of the materials over the course of several days by engaging Susan Thomas to develop a plan for the further cataloguing of materials. The Library is currently undergoing significant renovations and the collection is temporarily unavailable for visits.

### **8<sup>th</sup> International SRV conference**

ISRVA supports the conference organizers for the International SRV Conference, held about every 3 years. An alliance of SRV aficionados led by Mary Kealy are planning the conference, and the conference website will be ready soon. The ISRVA serves as “interim banker” to the conference, providing accounting and payment services, as well as shepherding the “seed money” that is forwarded from past conferences to future conferences. The 8th International SRV conference will be held June 16-18, 2021 in Athlone, County Westmeath, Ireland. Preconference dates are 14-15 June.

In the meantime you can find some information at this page- We look forward to seeing you in Ireland.

<https://socialrolevalorization.com/hold-the-date-the-8th-international-srv-conference/>

### **Festschrift in honor of Dr Wolfensberger**

In collaboration with **McGoogan Library and the Wolfensberger archives**, we are in the preliminary stages of organizing a festschrift in honor of Dr. Wolfensberger's academic contributions <https://socialrolevalorization.com/festschrift-2022-honoring-the-work-of-dr-wolf-wolfensberger/>. Early in 2020, we will be putting together an organizing committee. The festschrift will be held at the University of Nebraska in May or June 2022 and will result in a publication of the presented papers.

### **Wikipedia page on Wolf Wolfensberger**

Joe Osburn and Guy Caruso have taken the lead and organized a team to rewrite the Wikipedia entry on Dr Wolf Wolfensberger. It is almost completed. At this point, Dr. Wolfensberger's Wikipedia entry contains brief essays on thirteen areas of his major contributions to the field. You can see the results at: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wolf\\_Wolfensberger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wolf_Wolfensberger)

### **A Brief History of ISRVA**

After the Canberra International SRV conference in September 2011, there was some concern that SRV might not survive Dr. Wolfensberger's recent passing (Feb 2011). A few of us (Elizabeth Neville, Guy Caruso and Raymond Lemay) on our way back home from Canberra imagined that a permanent international structure should be established to provide long term institutional support – something like an international association. We then prepared a position paper elaborating the idea and presented it to the North American SRV Council (NASRVC), and after a lengthy discussion set up a committee to further develop the idea. From the outset, it was clear that though members of the NASRVC were actively involved in the development of this project, any new entity stemming from our work would be separate from the North American Council.

The original committee included Jo Massarelli, Beth French (who has since passed away), Betsy Neville, Joe Osburn, Guy Caruso, PhD, and Raymond Lemay. John Armstrong, a senior leader in Australia, was also quite helpful in the early going and participated in early discussions and quite graciously transferred to the association the socialrolevalorization.com website that he had developed and managed for years.

The committee met a number of times, including multiple day meetings in Worcester MA and Kingston ON, reached out with a survey and interviews to SRV groups and aficionados around the world, and reworked and transformed the original position paper into statement of purpose and description of activities – the latest version of which is available on the socialrolevalorization.com website. After much discussion and some procrastination, we decided to move forward and start the ISRVA with a membership drive.

A number of organizations were instrumental in moving this project forward. They include:

Valor Institute, Plantagenet, Ontario, Canada  
Shriver Clinical Services, Wakefield, Massachusetts, United States  
Family Lives, Massachusetts USA  
Keystone Institute, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, United States  
Community Ventures in Living, Lafayette, Indiana, United States

ISRVA website: [www.socialrolevalorization.com](http://www.socialrolevalorization.com), and visit its sister website:  
[wolfwolfensberger.com](http://wolfwolfensberger.com)

We are pleased with the accomplishments thus far, and look forward to a full year of activities in 2020.

For ISRVA,

Jo Massarelli, Betsy Neuville, Mary Kealy, Joe Osburn, Guy Caruso and Raymond Lemay