



International
Social Role Valorization
Association

Fourth Annual Report December 2020

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 has been a most unusual pandemic-ridden year, and we are happy to report to members about how the ISRVA has fared over the past year. 2020 was our 4th year of operations, and this report comes at the end of another successful year of activities. The leadership group includes Jo Massarelli, Betsy Neuville, Mary Kealy, Guy Caruso, Joe Osburn and Raymond Lemay, and our collaborative met once in person, back in January 2020, and since then on a monthly basis through video calls.

Membership

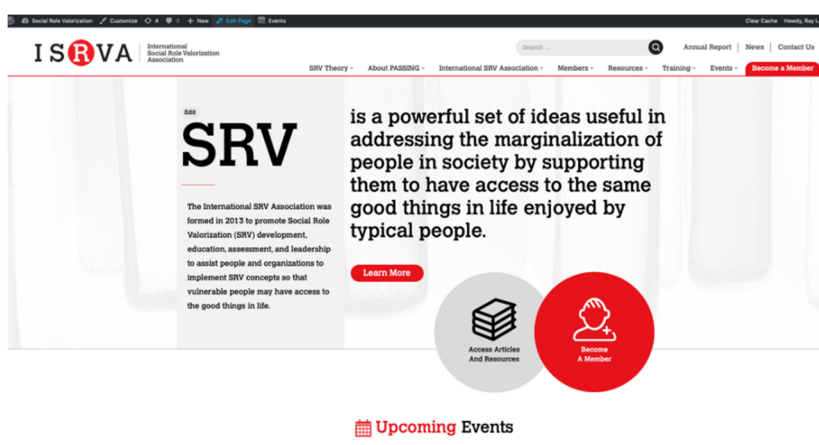
ISRVA operates only with the support of our membership, who make financial contributions to meet our mutual goals of strengthening the global SRV community. 2020 membership consists of 119 members from 8 countries and 4 continents, at varying levels of contribution, and that reflects an increase from 71 members in 2019. We hope that readers of this Annual Report will renew their memberships or join to support the work of the International Social Role Valorization Association (ISRVA). This past year 30 organizations made a significant pledge to this work. Thank you to all members for the support – SRV is an idea that has consequences, and your support does make a difference.

Financial Position

During this current year we have had expenses of \$3644, and revenues of \$17,605 USD. 100% of our revenue is from membership fees. Our current bank balance is \$85,766, including \$8500 held in reserve as seed money for the 8th International SRV Conference.

We are still a fledgling organization operating on a 100% voluntary basis and strive to make significant accomplishment towards our purpose. Ultimately, we recognize the need to develop a coherent vision of what needs to be done, and to identify sustainable funding sources that will make ISRVA and our below initiatives possible.

Social Role Valorization Website



The new website launched in mid-2019 has received a good amount of traffic. Over the previous 365 days, as of December 9, 2020, 22,282 visitors visited 54,557 pages of the site. Some of the interesting stats include:

The top 5 pages

The top 10 countries

Page visited	Number of Visitors	USA	5,388
Home page	11,960	Australia	3,733
SRV Theory	6,085	Canada	2,245
Contact us	4,050	Hong Kong	2,145
Articles	1,359	China	1,735
Trainers & Speakers Profiles	1,069	United Kingdom	1,607
		Singapore	1,510
		Germany	1,225
		Ireland	900
		Russian Federation	818

At year end, we are in the process of producing a mirror web site for our francophone colleagues in France and French Canada, which we hope to launch in early 2021. There are two French training groups in France. First, in the Southwest the le Comité

Européen Pour le Développement de l'Intégration Sociale (CEDIS), which has been in operation since the early 1980s. The second training group is The Association de Formation Régionale des Établissement et Service d'Aide par le Travail de Normandie (AFRESAT), which operates in the Normandie region. Both organisations participated in our Ireland get-together in 2017. Our association web site can be accessed by selecting the website link: www.socialrolevalorization.com

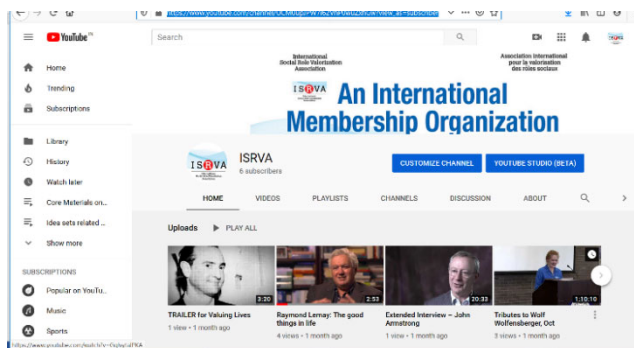
Social Media

ISRVA launched an ISRVA Facebook group in July 2019 with the following intent:

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.

The ISRVA group has 174 members. Inclusion in this new private Facebook group is easily gained by request. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/280067349420572/>.

There are several other active SRV Facebook groups that are administered by the ISRVA: “S.R.V.(social role valorization)” has over 700 members, “Social Role Valorization” has over 1,100 members and the French “Valorisation des Rôles Sociaux” that was started this year has 25 members.



ISRVA launched a simple version of a YouTube channel in November of 2019. This year, we expanded the channel a great deal, tripling the numbers of videos available. ISRVA members were relied upon for recommendations of videos to include, and Guy Caruso, Erica Tinsley-Baker and Betsy Neville are leading efforts to curate and categorize videos by SRV theme.

Annual Research Grant Launched

ISRVA recently launched a \$5000 (USD) scholarship for SRV related research open to students and members of faculty. The objective is to encourage the publication of scholarly work on SRV. Submissions must be received by January 31, 2021. More information is available at: <https://socialrolevalorization.com/international-srv-association/grant-opportunities/>. It is our intention to offer an additional grants in equal amount for leadership development in SRV teaching in 2021.

The Institute for Applied SRV (IAS)

Our work on the design of an “Institute for Applied SRV” has progressed as we apply, under Joe Osburn’s guidance, the model coherency process to the creation of a sustainable structure to support SRV dissemination and implementation. We now have a draft working paper that we have shared with a preliminary discussion group. We have more work to do to flesh out a change agency curriculum for developing experts in SRV implementation. There is much more work to be done and long-term funding will be a particularly critical. There will be yet more opportunities for seeking feedback.



Valor Press and Two New Books

Valor Press is administered by Valor/Solutions. At long last, we recently published the book on SRV and aging. Ronda Held, John Armstrong, Raymond Lemay and Susan Thomas 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 posthumous chapters by Wolf Wolfensberger.

Susan Thomas has completed the editing of the three volumes of the unpublished “Model Coherency.” It is the last book by Dr. Wolfensberger, and he completed a first draft shortly before his death. Its tentative title is “Model Coherency: The Key to Human Service Quality.” It has been submitted to an Academic publisher, and it is hoped that it will be out at the end of 2021 or early in 2022. In the meantime, the Southern Ontario Raining Group (SOTG) will pilot the Model Coherency design process under the tutelage of Joe Osburn and Tom Doody

Wolfensberger Archives

University of Nebraska Medical Center’s McGoogan Library is just now finishing major renovations and the Wolfensberger Archives will soon be available again. With ISRVA assistance, the Archives have made a few more publications available on the digital commons, including the seminal “Changing Patterns in Residential Services for the Mentally Retarded” edited by Kugel and Wolfensberger and published by the President’s Committee on Mental Retardation in 1969 - https://digitalcommons.unmc.edu/wolf_books/.

Recently, the University of Ottawa Press made available the 1999 “Quarter Century of Normalization and Social Role Valorization: Evolution and Impact,” edited by Flynn & Lemay. It can be downloaded at <https://ruor.uottawa.ca/handle/10393/19620>.

Festschrift in honor of Dr Wolfensberger

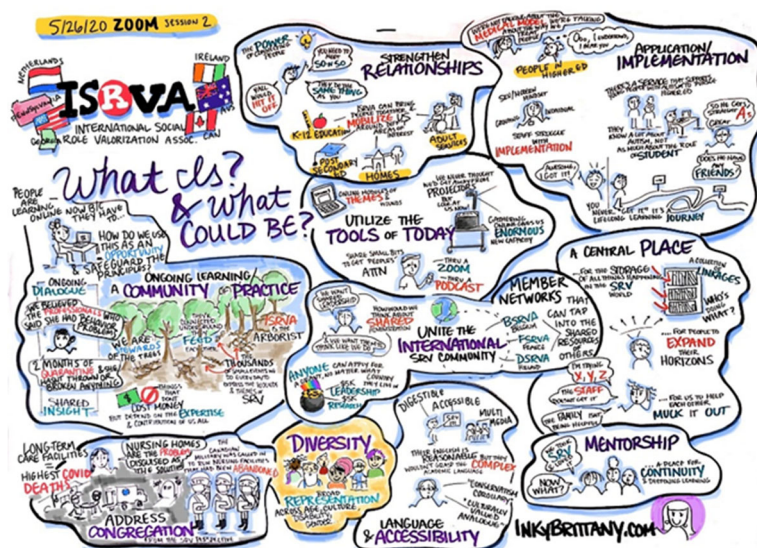
In collaboration with **McGoogan Library and the Wolfensberger archives**, we are well advanced in the planning of a Festschrift in honor of Dr. Wolfensberger's academic contributions <https://socialrolevalorization.com/festschrift-2022-honoring-the-work-of-dr-wolf-wolfensberger/>. Our organising committee includes Darby Reiners, Joan Wolfensberger, Margaret Wolfensberger Sager, Caroline Granger, Susan Thomas, Betsy Neuville, John Murphy, Marc Tumeinski, Robert Flynn, Guy Caruso and Raymond Lemay. Titled: "Wolf Wolfensberger: The Influence of the Person, his Presence and his Ideas Today," the themes for the Festschrift have been identified as well potential contributors. The Festschrift will be video recorded, and the contributions will be published in book form. This event is meant to be small scale, and COVID permitting we will gather in Omaha Nebraska on October 2 and 3rd 2021. If the event is virtual, we have set aside 5 days – September 29 to October 3rd for a 3 hour a day event. Festschrift details will be posted in early January 2021.

PASS/PASSING reports.

A small group of members met in October discuss a project to inventory the extant PASS/PASSING reports that have been written over time, and that a number of senior trainers have in their possession. Some of the reports were seminal on Normalization and SRV related issues, and though some described a few atrocious programs, it would be of interest to make available reports on positively assessed programs. Not all reports can be made public, but some can, and our ad hoc committee on evaluation reports will first try to inventory what is out there and categorize reports on the basis of simple categories. The feasibility of archiving reports will also be looked into.

The COVID Pandemic and ISRVA

Much of everyone's planning has been disrupted by the worldwide pandemic. With everybody else, we have attempted to adapt to the present circumstances and have become adept at keeping in touch and collaborating by electronic means. The ISRVA leadership has been meeting more often, at least once a month, and has been more expeditious in its decision-making. Over the past few months, we have experimented with a few virtual events that were well received.



We conducted two exploratory member sessions entitled *The ISRVA: What is, and What Could Be*, to discuss the needs of members and the contributions that ISRVA could make to promote SRV use, and support those who are trying to use it. The participation was excellent, and the discussions demonstrated the commitment and knowledge within our membership. The themes were captured graphically and shared with the membership.

A number of very successful Study Groups were held on Zoom as well, with available space filling almost immediately. We have offered the first two sessions at two different times to make it possible for people from widely different time zones to attend.

- May 5th and 18th, “*In Sickness and in Health*” was led by Jo Massarelli and Betsy Neville;
- September 18 and 21, Jack Yates and Katie Driscoll led a Study Group on “*Social Engagement in Times of Pandemic*”
- October 28, “*Aging and the Good Things of Life: The Application of Social Role Valorization to Supporting People as they Age*” was led by Ronda Held, Mike Rungie, and John Armstrong, bringing together participants from 4 continents.

For the moment, the 8th International SRV Conference is postponed, likely to occur in 2023 in Ireland, with the Irish SRV group still planning on hosting the event. We are saddened the 8th International Conference is on hold for another two years, however very excited about having the Festschrift next year, where there will be much talk about Wolf Wolfensberger’s work, as well as SRV.

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 (Betsy 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 Neuville, 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 founding 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, and visit its sister website: wolfwolfensberger.com

COVID 19 has made this a remarkable year where we continue to thrive. The long term purpose is still alive as we find new ways of promoting “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.”

For the ISRVA,

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