



International Academy of Mediators

Membership Committee Report June 2022

Jeffrey Hand - Membership Chair
Steve Paul - Vice Chair
Jody Sin - Recruitment Chair
Tat Lim - Recruitment Committee member

Current membership

Australia	4
Belgium	1
Brazil	2
Canada	31
Switzerland	3
Germany	3
Spain	1
France	3
Great Britain	14
Greece	1
Hong Kong	1
Israel	1
India	4
Italy	2
Kenya	2
Mexico	1
New Zealand	3
Russia	1
Singapore	1
United States	128
	207

Past three years comparison

2019 – 183 members (33 outside North America) from 15 countries
2020 - 184 members (32 outside North America) from 16 countries
2021 - 207 members (48 outside North America) from 20 countries

This past year has seen a steady intake of nominations from excellent mediators from around the world. Eleven Distinguished Fellows were approved this past year, with 8 of those from outside North America which has further enhanced our “international” reach. The new Distinguished Fellows came from the following countries:

United Kingdom	3
France	2
India	2
USA	2
Canada	1
Brazil	1

During the past year the Board approved of removing the Fellow designation and going forward all members are Distinguished Fellows. I am not aware of any negative feedback as a result of this change, so I believe this has been well received by the membership.

The use of better-defined membership criteria and the greater use of members to identify suitable candidates, which we adopted after the Zurich Board meeting in 2019, has proved to be successful. The Membership Committee regularly receives input from our members regarding potential candidates who they know to be leading mediators in a wide range of jurisdictions.

At the 2019 Zurich Board meeting, IAM had recently conducted a members’ survey which produced some valuable information about our demographics in terms of the age of our members. The high percentage of members in their 60s and 70s made it likely that IAM would experience a drop off in membership in the coming decade without a dedicated recruitment effort. While that demographic reality will play out in time, our efforts to identify leading mediators for potential recruitment has proved to be successful in balancing the inflow/ outflow in the past few years. Our overall membership numbers have increased in the past three years but at a sustainable rate in my view, all the while maintaining the collegiality that is so valued by our members. I suggest we consider another survey question to track the age brackets of our members whenever we next conduct a survey.

Previous Board discussions suggested that we require approximately 200 members to be financially viable. Our current membership numbers meet that target and in addition the increase in our members from jurisdictions outside North America ensures that IAM is a truly an international organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Hand
Membership Chair