



ISMETA

International Somatic Movement
Education & Therapy Association

Dear Leadership Council Representatives,

Please join us for our **March 13, 2024 Leadership Council Meeting from 12 – 1:30 pm Eastern Time**, [RSVP HERE](#). The Zoom link will be sent once you RSVP and it can also be found in the [Leadership Council portal](#). Please note: to register for the meeting, you need to be logged into the ISMETA website with your *organizational email address*, not the email address you use for your personal ISMETA account.

We will gather to continue an important discussion that started during the COVID-19 pandemic: to what extent does online learning in synchronous (live) and asynchronous (pre-recorded) formats play a role in your programs/organizations, and in our profession, now? And to what extent will online learning play a role in our profession moving forward?

ISMETA's Professional Standards Committee recently received its first proposal for a totally asynchronous program, and it seems that more are coming soon. The question of how much virtual training is appropriate for your programs and for our profession is a rich inquiry that will continue for months and probably years. However, we want to get a snapshot of where your programs/organizations are now, and how you foresee this issue evolving in the near future.

Please complete [THIS QUESTIONNAIRE](#) by Monday, March 11 so that we can collate your input and present it during the meeting on March 13. It will probably take less than 10 minutes to complete.

Here is some background information to consider before you fill out the survey:

- Benefits of online trainings, both synchronous and asynchronous:
 - increased accessibility to our programs in terms of geographical reach and perhaps reduced cost because students don't have to travel (drive/fly/pay for accommodations) and training programs may not have to pay for studio space. Therefore, the tuition might be lower.
 - Asynchronous trainings allow people in other time zones to learn somatic movement approaches that they would not have access to otherwise.
 - Some experienced teachers (i.e. training program faculty) have reported that although online teaching/learning is not optimal, they feel a substantial amount of transmission can occur via Zoom.



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- Questions about the limitations
 - In your experience, is the transmission of material “good enough” during live virtual sessions to include some percentage of them in your training programs/organizations?
 - In your experience, is the transmission of material “good enough” during pre-recorded videos to include some percentage of them in your training programs/organizations?

We look forward to hearing your input through the survey and in the meeting on March 13! The agenda for the meeting will include:

- Somatic Arrival
- Presentation of questionnaire results about the role of online learning in ISMETA Approved Training Programs and Affiliated Professional Organizations
- Breakout room discussions
- Harvesting the small group discussions in the main gallery
- Announcements, including the updated Approved Training Program Handbook and the Essential Elements video library project

The agenda is subject to change at the discretion of the Leadership Council ISMETA Executive Committee work group.

As always, we continue to update the [Leadership Council Roster](#) to ensure it is current. Please check your contact information if you haven't had an opportunity to do so recently and email any updates to info@ISMETA.org. Thank you for helping us keep this list updated with accurate information. Also, please use the ISMETA Logo wherever possible, especially on your website in a prominent place.

Approved Training Programs, we also invite you to review the updated [Approved Training Program Handbook](#), which contains all of the important ISMETA information in one place. It lives in the Leadership Council Portal under “Resources” and “More Support Materials,” so you will always have easy access to it. In particular, the “[About ISMETA](#)” curriculum has been revised to help you educate your students and members about the value of ISMETA membership.



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We look forward to welcoming you to the meeting on March 13th!

In service,

The ISMETA Leadership Council Team

Richard Sims, Board President

Kehinde Ishangi, Board Vice President

Maya Gayatri Andersson, Board Secretary

Elisabeth Osgood-Campbell, Executive Director

Nirvan Ananda, Managing Director