

SEXUAL RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Tommi Paalanen



Tommi Paalanen (MA, DSocSci) is a Finnish Philosopher and Ethicist, whose major interests are philosophical sexual ethics, professional ethics, philosophy of law, human & sexual rights and sexual politics. He works as the Executive Director in the Sexpo Foundation, which specialises in training sexologists, providing counselling and therapy and engaging in sexual politics in order to advance sexual wellbeing and freedom.

Tommi's other notable positions are the Chair of the Sexual Rights Committee of The World Association for Sexual Health, the Chair of the Ethical Committee of the Nordic Association for Clinical Sexology, and the Chair of the Committee on Sexual Ethics of the Finnish Association for Sexology among other positions of trust. Tommi is very fond of political activism to advance positive, open and liberal culture towards sexuality and diversity in society.

Yuko Higashi



Yuko Higashi is a full professor and the deputy director of Women's Studies Center at Osaka Prefecture University in Japan, teaching Social Work and Gender/Sexuality. She has devoted herself to studying issues surrounding sexual diversity, working with LGBTIQ communities in Japan, and providing sexuality education and consultation on SOGISC related issues. She also served as the head of a research team on HIV/AIDS and Sex Work in corporation with SWASH (Sex Work and Sexual Health) between 2006 and 2011 and continues to advocate sexual health and rights of sexworkers.

She has been a member of WAS Advisory Committee since 2009, a member of Asia-Oceania Federation of Sexology (AOFS) since 2010, and a board member of Japanese Federation of Sexology (JFS). She's a co-founder of the NGO Sexuality Education and Empowerment (SEE) and helped start Trans-Net Japan, served as a consultant for the Guideline Committee of the Japanese Association for Psychiatry and Neurology, and is also a board member of Japanese Association for Sex Education, Nijiuro (Rainbow) Diversity, Rape Crisis Network (RC-Net), and other domestic organizations in Japan.

Felipe Hurtado-Murillo



Felipe Hurtado-Murillo is a doctor of Psychology and specialist in Clinical Psychology and Sexology. He is a part of Sexual and Reproductive Health Unit and he is the Unit of Reference of Attention to Transsexual People and Unit of Reference Women With Genital Ablation. He is Professor at Faculty of the Psychology at University of Valencia and he is the President of the Association of Specialists of Sexology (AES). He was elected as a member of WAS Advisory Committee in 2017. He is a treasurer of the Latin American Federation of Sexology and Sexual Education (FLASSES).

Agata Loewe



Agata Loewe is a Polish psychotherapist, sexologist, sex educator and a sex positive/critical activist. She founded the Sex Positive Institute in Warsaw, Poland in 2014. She graduated from Warsaw School of Social Psychology (Clinical Psychology and Cross-cultural Psychology) and the Institute for Advanced Studies of Human Sexuality in San Francisco, where she obtained the title of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). In 2014, she also completed a 4-year post-graduate study in Systemic Family Therapy Training Center in Cracow, Poland.

Over the last 8 years, she has worked in NGOs dealing with equal opportunities for people at risk of social exclusion and the promotion of mental, sexual and reproductive health (KPH, Ponton, IGLYO, Trans-fuzja, YouAct). Her speciality is the education for professionals in GSD, gender and sexual diversities (sex, gender, sexual identity, sexual orientation, sexual preferences and gender identifications and alternative lifestyles). She is a member of the advisory of the scientific council of scientific for MSM at the Polish National Centre for AIDS. She has completed courses for specialists in London (Pink Therapy GSD) and Amsterdam (UvA Sexuality, Sexuality, Society & Culture). She conducts workshops and international training and translates foreign sexual novelties to Polish. (Eg. Publications "Ethical Slut" and "Anal Health and Pleasure") She has her private practice. She works under the psychological and sexological supervision. Currently, she is working on SexCoachU certificate mentored by Dr.Patti Britton and Dr.Robert Dunlap from Los Angeles.

Marcia Rocha



Marcia Rocha is a transgender businesswoman, and a lawyer graduated by Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo. She is a member of the OAB/SP's Sexual Diversity Commission and member of the Sexual Rights Committee of WAS. She graduated in Sexual Education by Universidade Salesianos. She is the Director of The ABRAT association and coordinator of the Transempregos Project. She has some published articles including an article published in the book *Sexualidade: Do Prazer ao Sofrer*. She is co-author of the book "Vidas Trans: A coragem de existir".

George Turner



Dr. Turner is a certified sex therapist (AASECT) and has an active private practice specializing in sexual health, personal wellness, and relationship enhancement. Dr. Turner has been an Associate Professor of Practice at the University of Kansas (KU) School of Social Welfare (2013-2016) and at Washburn University in the social work department (2012-2013). George teaches undergraduate courses (Human Sexuality, Practice) and graduate courses (Multicultural Practice, Psychopathology, Interfamilial Sexual Trauma). As a scientist-practitioner, George's research interests are focused on collaborative, interdisciplinary opportunities that investigate cross-cultural understandings, practice implications, and policy development as it applies to the intersection of public health and sexuality. Through an exploration of voice, George's goal is to illuminate the lived experiences of disenfranchised groups and expose meaning where little or none existed. His current research examines adults with intellectual disabilities and sexual voice.