



Minutes of the EAIR Annual General Meeting Valencia, 3 September 2010

Present: Bernard Longden, Chairman; Patrick Cashell, Secretary; Joke Snippe, Treasurer; Stephan Laske, Chairman Designate; Gerlof Groenewoud, Office Manager

Present: 59 members in total

1. Welcome by Chair, Bernard Longden

- 1.1 Bernard Longden, outgoing Chairman introduced the other Executive Committee members presiding at the Meeting, viz. Patrick Cashell, Secretary, Joke Snippe, Treasurer and Stephan Laske, incoming Chairman.
- 1.2 Chair paid tribute to the Secretary and the Treasurer for the support they provided during their terms of office, over the past number of years.
- 1.3 Election to Executive Committee: Chair announced that the following three members were elected, from an original nomination of 29 candidates:
 - Stephan Laske, (who is also the Chairman Designate)
 - Rosalind Pritchard
 - James Williams

Chair pointed out that two members of the Executive Committee, Bernard Longden and Patrick Cashell had served two terms, and hence were stepping down with effect from this AGM.

2. Minutes of 2009 AGM

The Minutes of the 2009 AGM, held 25 August 2009, in Vilnius, Lithuania were presented. The Minutes were approved on the proposal of Lee Harvey, seconded by Janis Stonis.

3. Annual Report

- 3.1 Chair, Bernard Longden presented the EAIR Annual Report for the preceding year. As the Report had already been circulated electronically, the Chair stated that he would take it as read, and would welcome questions and comments from the floor.
- 3.2 Chair outlined the extreme difficulties encountered by the Executive Committee in filling the position of Executive Director of the Association, after Ella Kruzinga's retirement and Hetty van Heeswijk's resignation in December 2009. The Association has now employed Gerlof Groenewoud to this position. The Chair wished him well in his new post and acknowledged his contribution to EAIR.

4. Financial Report

- 4.1 The Treasurer, Joke Snippe stated that while the previous year was fraught with great difficulties, the year now under review was not quite as bad and has seen



improvement. As agreed at last year's AGM to approach EAIE, to explore possible ways of cooperation, this has now been done, with the result that a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed.

- 4.2 The Association currently has a deficit of € 30,000 and our reserve fund is down to € 31,000; this figure is considered critically low.
- 4.3 Treasurer stated that the Association is now in financial control, resulting from back-office sharing with EAIE, and significant savings in secretarial costs.
- 4.4 Two members of the Finance Committee, Peter Hoekstra and Hans van Dommele are stepping down, and Treasurer thanked them for their valuable contribution.
- 4.5 Two new auditors Ton Kallenberg and Pieter Jan Aartsen have consented to take up the two positions. This was approved by AGM.
- 4.6 Membership fee to remain at € 150; this was approved by AGM.
- 4.7 Treasurer noted that a very large part of the Association's finances is dictated by the annual Forum. This year we budgeted for 300 participants (to produce a surplus of € 10,000); an attendance of only 261 was achieved. It is hoped that this will result in a small financial surplus.
In summary, the Treasurer stated that EAIR is making the best of a difficult time, and is hoping to become financially healthy.
- 4.8 Questions from Floor
 - What should EAIR's reserve be? (James Williams)
 - Treasurer stated that € 70,000 would be the correct level.

5. Publications

- 5.1 Chairman thanked Bjorn Stensaker for his sterling work as Editor-in-Chief over the past several years, and asked him to address the Meeting.
- 5.2 Bjorn Stensaker stated that publication of TEAM was moved from Springer to Routledge, with notable success.
- 5.3 TEAM now has prestigious authors from 15/16 countries; Bjorn thanked them and the members of the editorial team for their support and expertise.
- 5.4 Johanna Witte, editor of the Monographs informed the meeting that two further titles are in the pipe line.



6. Future Forums

- 6.1 2011 Warsaw (Poland); will take place 28 -31 August 2011. Jakub Brdulak made the presentation on behalf of Warsaw School of Economics, Forum hosts, inviting all to be present in Warsaw in 2011.
- 6.2 2012: Stavanger (Norway) possibly but it is still open depending on the evaluation of a number of applications.
- 6.3 2013: Erasmus University Rotterdam, to coincide with their centenary.
- 6.4 2014: no firm proposals as yet

7. Any Other Business

- 7.1 Noted that EAIR is currently in discussion with other organisations with a view to mutual benefit. For example ESMU and EAIE (which has a membership of 6,000).
- 7.2 Barbara Kehm observed that EAIR appears to be losing membership and attendances at Forums. The viability of the Association is dependant a good Forum with good attendance.
- 7.3 Chairman stated that a joint Conference with ESMU and EAIE, possibly to take place in Dublin in 2012, is under discussion
- 7.4 Chairman outlined the priorities as
 - To retain our membership, and acquire new members to join and stay in the organisation
 - Ensure the Forum is good value for money
- 7.5 Johanna Witte: to get a better attendance at the Forum, we need to get more paper proposals and the Forum must be marketed more vigorously in the autumn.
- 7.6 Johanna Witte complimented the Chairman on his editorship of TEAM.
- 7.7 Question from the floor regarding Stavanger University's bid to host the Forum in 2012; he understood that Stavanger had agreed to be host.
- 7.8 Anne Marie Delaney queried whether there was reciprocal attendance between EAIR and AIR; Secretary stated that he had received an invitation to attend AIR in Chicago but had been unable to attend due to personal reasons.
- 7.9 James Williams queried whether EAIR had confidence with the Cooperative Agreement with EAIE; Joke Snippe stated in reply that EAIE were quite happy to enter into the Agreement.



7.10 Stephan Laske thanked Bernard Longden for his excellent leadership as previous Chair. This was met with enthusiastic applause at the Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 12.40 pm

Bernard Longden
Chair

Patrick Cashell
Secretary