



Report EC meeting Gothenburg 14-16 October 2009

Present: Annamaria Campanini, Mona Fransèhn, Anke Beuck, Gunter Friesenhahn, Masun Martínez, Marju Medar, Violeta Gevorgianienè, Adéla Mojžíšová, Sanela Basic, Peter Hendriks, Jérôme Wenz, Jan Agten and Sue Lawrence

Wed 14/10 18:00 - 20:00 Hotel Vasa, Viktoriagatan 6, S-411 25 Göteborg, +46 31 173630

1. Minutes of the meeting of 29 April in Dubrovnik were approved.

1.1 President's Report

Annamaria outlined her activities since the last meeting in April in Dubrovnik.

Annamaria was Prime Mover for the workshop on Social Work Education in the Europe-China Forum, which met in Beijing in July. (Full discussion below)

Annamaria has also participated in national and regional associations in Norway, Slovenia and France, and discussed with Angie, President of IASSW how to make a more effective co-operation.

Annamaria participated in the regional meeting of Eastern European Schools in Lujibliana, Slovenia – in which she underlined the importance of the commonalities between the regional and European Association.

In Italy Annamaria has held meetings to raise the profile of EASSW and stress the importance of a European perspective.

1.2 Secretary's report

Minutes of the meetings in Dubrovnik are now on the website, as are bulletins from the ENSACT Congress in Dubrovnik in April and the China-Europe Forum from July.

Jan participated in the European Research Conference in Antwerp in September 2009. There were very few participants from practice.

Jan has received many requests to publish items on the EASSW website, but needs to receive more in order to update the website. The visits made by Annamaria (as above) always generate interest in EASSW and Jan urged EC members to use opportunities to publicize the Association in their own countries – using the new version of the flyer. Jan will circulate following this meeting. If members would like a flyer in another language, send the translated text to Jan, who will make a pdf version for printing.

Jan organises in cooperation with EASSW a seminar on the development of competencies for professional practice at K.H. Kempen – Geel Belgium- 19-20 April 2010. Partners who have experience in developing competencies for field practice are invited to participate. EASSW members

from B-countries have the opportunity to be financed with EASSW project money. All information on the website.

1.3 Treasurers report

Gunter reminded the EC of the introductory letter composed two years ago that he will circulate again to attract members. Letter to be sent to all EC-members.

Gunter has had a very successful meeting with the Head of Directorate of Social Cohesion in the Council of Europe. Gunter gave information on EASSW, representing 250 Schools. The Director is very interested in developing a joint module on Social Cohesion, probably at Master level, to be taught in member schools, under the responsibility of EASSW, Council of Europe and the School in which the module is run. The CoE has a number of reports containing useful information which could be used in developing teaching materials.

Gunter asked whether discussions could take place with the EC to look at future cooperation. The EC is invited to Strasbourg to meet together on 24-25 March during the next EC meeting. The CoE will provide a meeting room for the EC.

The CoE has many young interns and the CoE offers one placement for a young person nominated by EASSW, for a Master level student.

Gunter offered the EASSW as a body of experts for the CoE – who will contact the Secretary with requests on particular topics.

Active participation in CoE conferences is also offered to EC of EASSW.

Gunter has had another meeting with Head of Division of NGOs and Civil Society. All NGOs can join this body and have membership of this Council. EASSW is part of this Council, which has conferences twice a year for 3-4 days, but they are divided into sections which are very separate.

The CoE Social Cohesion Directorate is wanting to promote its activities and it is an opportunity for EASSW to be promoted, if it participates in the CoE activities. This topic will be discussed further later in this EC meeting.

Gunter attended a conference and had a meeting in Brussels regarding Jean Monet Chairs. The new Commission is starting to develop the new academic programmes to follow the Socrates and Erasmus programme for 2013-2014. Meetings are taking place with academics to identify proposals. Business people have been invited to a conference in order that their interests will be part of the programme – employability factors. EASSW should try to be party to this process.

A book on Social Professions has been completed, following a conference in Ostrava in 2008, with articles of Annamaria, Gunter and Jan. It will be published in November 2009. Many participants from Eastern Europe were able to contribute.

Gunter has discussed the Intensive Seminar Programmes at several events but the requirement for 10 days contact time is too long for many participants. A Benelux plus Germany seminar will be held in Koblenz in November 2009, with 2 days of seminar with ongoing virtual contact. This will not ask

for funding from EC, because of the 10 day requirement. Developing such new formats should be fed into EC.

Gunter had a meeting in Berlin with the former EASSW President on PhD in Social Work. This will be discussed later on the agenda.

Gunter has a seminar in Koblenz in German on Social Work & Research in German on 28&29 January 2010, to be reported under Projects. All information on the website.

Sue reported that a new book 'Introducing International Social Work' has been published by Learning Matters in June 2009, for social work students.

Jérôme reported that in France the discussion has just begun about placing Social Work in Universities rather than in High Schools.

Peter will take EASSW flyers to a conference in Lucerne to raise the profile of EASSW.

Sanela said she would represent EASSW at a coming conference in Bosnia.

Marju is pleased to offer Estonia for the 2013 ENSACT conference and she has, with colleagues, prepared a proposal to be submitted to ENSACT.

Thu 15/10

9:00 - 12:00 University of Gothenburg

2. Development of EASSW strategic plan for the next 2 years.

Knowing more about the expertise and the involvement of the EC-members and using the methodology of World café and Appreciative Inquiry around strategic development on 3 themes: support and dialogue with members, representation of EASSW , development of core issues for social education.

12:00 -13:00 lunch

13:00 -15:00 Seminar Service Users involvement in SW Education

15:00 -17:00 Resume meeting of EC, EASSW

3. Financial situation

Jan presented the accounts prepared by Miek, the EASSW salaried administrator.

4. Membership drive and website

Jan asked EC members to chase up former members who have yet to pay membership fees.

Miek has emailed lists to the EC of schools who need to be contacted.

EC members should check the list of Schools of Social Work on the website – get members to join by filling in the form on the website. Then, if the information about the School on the website is not correct, please get the School to correct the information and email Miek.

Members should send Jan information on international social work for the website.

Jan will profile the European Journal of Social Work (EJSW) on a left-hand button on the website.

Fri 9:30 – 12:30 University of Gothenburg

5. Europe-China Dialogue

Annamaria gave the background to the involvement of EASSW in the China-Europe Forum, funded by the Charles Leopold Meyer Foundation (see Bulletin on website of EASSW). Annamaria was a 'Prime Mover' for a workshop on Social Work Education, which took place in Beijing in July 2009 and involved ten participants from EASSW, IASSW and the EUSW Thematic Network. A member of UNICEF participated in the discussions in Beijing with the Chinese and European delegates. EASSW supported four members to attend and the Foundation funded six members to attend the workshop in Beijing.

Annamaria went on to a large Forum in Paris for Prime Movers (from over 100 workshops of different professional groups), but the Chinese Prime Mover did not attend.

Annamaria wanted the EC to discuss how to proceed with the contact. It was proposed that Annamaria write to the President of the Chinese Association of Social Workers to ask the Chinese delegates how they wish to develop the work done in July.

Jan & Gunter will finalise which budget heading will be appropriate for the travel expenses of the four European delegates supported by EASSW. It is currently in Projects, but this is an error.

6. Review of international definition of Social Work

IASSW and IFSW developed the international definition of social work in 2000 and agreed that the definition should be updated every ten years. An on-line questionnaire was launched in Dubrovnik for people to complete. The IFSW has also decided to use the same questionnaire. It is being launched in USA and Africa. Jan urged EC members to encourage people to complete the questionnaire. The deadline for completion is end of March 2010. Some cultural groups have difficulty with the current definition because of differing value bases (e.g. African, Chinese).

The results will be presented and discussed in Hong Kong.

7. Global SW Hong Kong Conference June 2010

(IASSW, IFSW) overall Topic 'Agenda for Social Work in the World'.

Katharin Kendall Award proposal from Darja (President of Central European Region) is Professor Silvia Staubb Bernasconi. There was discussion about the process of nomination for this award – it is open to all members of IASSW to nominate people. Annamaria will support the nomination above.

8. ENSACT Conference, Brussels 2011

Annamaria and Jan attended the last ENSACT conference organising meeting in Brussels 9-11 October 2009.

It was agreed that other members of EASSW should be involved in ENSACT to become familiar with ENSACT. Peter and Jérôme were nominated to attend with Annamaria to represent EASSW. Jan attends as local organiser. Sue was nominated for the Scientific Committee at the Dubrovnik meeting.

The Conference will be 11-13 April 2011 in Brussels. The EC agreed that the General Assembly should be on 12 April, as it will be an important meeting where the President and Secretary will be elected, as Annamaria and Jan reach the end of their 4 years term of office.

9. Projects: ongoing and new applications

Mona circulated a table indicating current projects supported by EASSW project funding.

Mona also circulated the current EASSW guidelines for Project applications and the IASSW guidelines – which are more detailed. The EC discussed the guidelines and Mona, Sue & Marju agreed to amend the current EASSW guidelines to clarify what is required.

Mona also said that we need a clear process for approving final reports, with criteria for acceptance and triggering payment. Mona and Sue are happy to work on this. We also need to specify deadlines for project proposals.

A project application was presented and discussed from Sharon Lambley on behalf of the Adult Community Care Network for a grant of €4000 to support a meeting in Barcelona in March 2010 in order to prepare a research funding application. Funding was approved on condition that all schools in the project are EASSW members.

10. Regional seminars

The regional seminars are supported by EASSW to encourage participation. Mona, Sue and Marju agreed to develop guidelines for members to apply for seminar funding. There is to be a regional seminar, in German, in Koblenz (Professionalisation of social work – What works? January 2010).

There is a proposal from Berlin for a regional seminar on PhD study in Social Work. Many Universities of Applied Science are not entitled to award Doctorates. In Spring 2010 there is a proposal for a conference on this topic from Christine Labonté (who is due to retire in January 2010). Christine will ensure payment for Keynote papers and social events. It is proposed to invite people holding Masters qualifications who may be interested.

The EC agreed that a formal proposal with budget be submitted and Gunter & Jan will consider the application.

11. ENQASP

There is still some money in the EASSW budget for ENQASP (an agency for quality assuring European programmes). This agency has not functioned since 2008. The money will be returned to the 4 ENQASP partners, who invested the seed money. A seed budget will be created for ENSACT expenses, as agreed by all the members in ENSACT. Each member of ENSACT will contribute €1000 to finance the Chair's travel expenses and the ENSACT website. Jérôme stated that the issue of quality assurance is very important for France, where common standards are required. Quality Assurance agencies are invited to be members of ENQA the European body.

Fri 12:30 – 13:30 lunch

Fr- 13:30 – 18:00 University of Gothenburg

12. Cooperation with Sub-regional Associations of Europe

It is important for EASSW to clarify its relationship with Nordic Association, British Association, Eastern Association Of Schools of Social Work, which are all on the board of IASSW. There is currently a German Association that has applied to be a sub-regional association of IASSW. There are contact persons on the EC of EASSW with each of the sub-regions.

There have been several meetings to create a more cooperative relationship between the associations. In Strasbourg we will discuss how to take this forward by inviting representatives and Chairs of the sub-regions to the meeting.

13. Cooperation with Council of Europe and next meeting in Strasbourg.

Should we proceed with the cooperation?

Should we develop a module on social cohesion in conjunction with CoE?

What should the agenda be for meeting the CoE?

A working group will develop the proposal for the Council of Europe module on social cohesion – Gunter, Marju, Peter, Adela, Masun and Sue volunteered. Gunter will Chair the group.

14. Conclusions and decisions from the world café and the discussion about all the ongoing activities and financial possibilities

The actions arising from the World Cafe Workshop were discussed.

They were internal actions for EC, external relations with other organisations and communications with membership.

The ENSACT conference is helping to realise some of the actions proposed. Practice is being prioritised, not only academic papers. Field workshops are to be organised related to papers submitted, discussed with practitioners, researchers, academics, service users and students. There will be sub-themes identified to help with the connections.

The conference will be inexpensive as it will take place in the University and the translation will be by students in the faculty who will be trained in advance in social work terminology. BBI will be engaged to organise the conference, and they work specifically for EC organising events in the social area, so have appropriate experience.

We need to work on how to attract more practitioners, students and service users to the conference.

Peter, Jérôme and Sanela will prepare a proposal for bursaries for service users and students to attend the conference, as well as the proposed yearly student award and bring proposals to the next meeting.

15. Reports of Dubrovnik meeting 1 and 2 where approved.

16. Italian situation on SW Education

Annamaria outlined the difficulties faced by social work as an academic subject in Italy. Annamaria will compose a letter to send to European Institutions and bodies, as well as IASSW stating that the situation in Italy is no longer sustainable. She asked the EC to sign the letter. Annamaria will email the draft to EC members for approval before sending it out. The letter will go on the website under the News button

17. Action list

- 1** Publicize EASSW in countries – noting the benefits of membership to encourage schools to join.
- 2** Gunter reminded the EC of the introductory letter composed two years ago that he will circulate again to attract members. Jan to sent promotion letter to all EC-members.
- 3** Peter will take EASSW flyers to a conference in Lucerne to raise the profile of EASSW.
- 4** Sanela said she would represent EASSW at a coming conference in Bosnia.
- 5** Jan asked EC members to chase up former members who have yet to pay membership fees and check the list of Schools of Social Work on the website
- 6** Jan will profile the European Journal of Social Work (EJSW) on a left-hand button on the website.
- 7** Annamaria write to the President of the Chinese Association of Social Workers to ask the Chinese delegates how they wish to develop the work done in July.
- 8** Jan & Gunter will finalise which budget heading will be appropriate for the travel expenses of the four European delegates supported by EASSW
- 9** Jan urged EC members to encourage people to complete the questionnaire about the global definition of social work. The deadline for completion is end of March 2010.
- 10** Peter and Jérôme were nominated to attend ENSACT with Annamaria to represent EASSW. Jan attends as local organiser. Sue was nominated for the Scientific Committee at the Dubrovnik meeting.
- 11** The EC agreed that the General Assembly should be on 12 April 2011 during the ENSACT Conference in Brussels
- 12** Mona, Sue & Marju agreed to amend the current EASSW guidelines to clarify what is required as well as a clear process for approving final reports, with criteria for acceptance and process for triggering payment
- 13** Mona, Sue and Marju agreed to develop guidelines for members to apply for seminar funding.

- 14 There is a proposal from Berlin for a regional seminar on PhD study in Social Work. The EC agreed to participate in this seminar in Spring 2010. It will be announced to the members. A date has to be agreed with Alice Salomon Hochschule.
- 15 The money in the EASSW budget for ENQASP will be returned to the Enqasp founders. A seed budget will be created for ENSACT expenses, as agreed by all the members in ENSACT. Each member of ENSACT will contribute €1000 to finance the Chair's travel expenses and the ENSACT website.
- 16 A working group will develop the proposal for the Council of Europe module on social cohesion – Gunter, Marju, Peter, Adela, Masun and Sue volunteered. Gunter will Chair the group
- 17 Peter, Jérôme and Sanela will prepare a proposal for bursaries for service users and students to attend the conference, as well as the proposed yearly student award and bring proposals to the next meeting.

Strasbourg EC Meeting

- 18 We will discuss how to take forward cooperation with the sub-regions by inviting representatives and Chairs of the sub-regions to the meeting
- 19 Jan to send names of participants to CoE
- 20 Jan will contact Patrick Penninckx (also to ask about an hotel)
- 21 Jérôme will invite French network (Fedalliance) for the Regional Associations meeting
- 22 Programme for EC Meeting Strasbourg:**

March 24 –	Travelling day – 16.00 – 20.00 First EC meeting
March 25	Morning - Half day for visit to CoE – Regional members invited Afternoon – meeting with EC and Regional Associations
March 26	Continue EC meeting
March 27	Travel Day
- 23 Newsletter – Violeta will send Jan an email message to send out to members about EASSW news – to remind members to check website
- 24 Increase Miek's hours – Jan & Gunter to make a proposal
- 25 If someone has tools/skills for video conferencing or Skype, initiate a small meeting
- 26 All EC members should use EASSW logo for powerpoints, flyers and use the EC picture as appropriate
- 27 EC members should translate flyer into other languages
- 28 Sanela offered to write a short news item, following this meeting, for EJSW – as this opportunity was offered by the Editor at our last meeting in Dubrovnik.