

## **MINUTES OF EASSW EXECUTIVE MARCH 17<sup>th</sup> 2006 Ankara**

### **Present**

Jan Agten, Ann Davis, Mona Fransehn; Gabor Hegyesi, Maria Asuncion Martinez-Roman; Mirka Necasova, Christine Labonte-Roset; Isidor Wallimann.

### **Apologies**

Anna Maria Campanini; Anna Metteri; Claude Noel; Inger Hjerrild; Nol Reverda; Answin Weissenborn.

### **1. Welcome and opening**

CLR welcomed everyone and reviewed and amended the agenda so that a new item 3 was introduced –the evaluation of the Ankara regional seminar. AD agreed to take the minutes for this meeting.

### **2. Minutes of the EC MEETING Weggis**

These were accepted and it was agreed to place them on the EASSW website for members.

In reviewing the TO DO list the following outstanding items were noted that:

- JA had not received a complete country address list with contact persons email and website addresses of Schools of Social Work as agreed at Weggis. The information JA has received comes from: Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany Netherlands Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and UK.
- the letters about renewing EASSW membership had not yet been sent out but would be sent next week.
- CLR has not been able to provide EASSW business cards for all those EC members who have requested them because she needs details of their titles. A list was circulated for members wanting a card to provide the missing details
- No EASSW bulletin had been produced from the Weggis seminar as IW does not have a complete set of abstracts to edit. As a result CLR has not been able to produce a short article for the European Journal of Social Work. It was agreed that AD will resend the abstracts she prepared in September for IW and remind AM that she had agreed to send her summary.
- CLR has contacted Hans van Ewijk, ICSW re participation in the Parma Conference but ICSW are already committed to holding an event in the Baltic states at this time.

### **3. Evaluation of Ankara regional seminar**

The regional seminar that had taken place on 16<sup>th</sup> of March in Ankara was discussed. It was agreed that it had been a very well organised and successful event in which participants fully engaged. JA was thanked by

CLR and EC members for all his hard work in ensuring that it took place. 120 people participated including academics and social workers from outside Ankara.

There were presentations in the morning from Turkey on social work as well as JA and GH who gave presentations on Bologna and global ethics. The afternoon session comprised discussion groups on ethics, Bologna and issues of social work practice. Members of EASSW EC took part in the discussion groups. It was noted that some of the issues raised by Turkish social workers and academics related to social work programmes not preparing individuals for practice outside an urban setting as well as issues of poverty and a lack of service provision. There was evidence throughout the event of enormous interest in lifelong learning, ethics and Bologna as well as developing theory, practice and research in the field. Many participants were very open to discussing new approaches and ideas and were positively engaged with the workshop topics.

It was agreed that JA and AD would prepare a short report of this event for the European Journal of Social Work as well as the next Bulletin.

#### **4. Website**

JA was congratulated on the current form and content of the EASSW website. He indicated that he would like to develop it further but this required progress on his request to be webmaster. It was noted that the new fee structure for EASSW needed to be posted on the website. JA agreed to do this. In addition EC members were invited to post information, papers etc that they thought would be of interest to members, in order to demonstrate that EASSW was responding to member's needs and interests. JA would filter these contributions before placing them on the website.

#### **5. EASSW Bulletin**

As reported under item 2 there has been no issue of the Bulletin since May 2005. It was agreed that the next edition would be sent out in June with reminder letters re subscriptions. This issue will comprise: a short account of the Weggis regional seminar edited by IW if he receives the still missing contributions i.e. from AM and a short account of the Ankara regional seminar based on the European Journal article which will be written by JA and AD with additions from GH. Copy for the Weggis part of the Bulletin to be sent to IW and the Ankara part to JA by April 1<sup>st</sup> 2006.

#### **6. IASSW**

IW reported on the last IASSW board meeting in Herefordshire, UK. It had set up procedures for the election of new officers. There are 3 candidates for the Treasurer's post including IW. Elections will be announced *end of* August. Restructuring of IASSW continues to be discussed. Next meeting is in Chile where the Conference is being held. It

was agreed that minutes of the IASSW meetings will be circulated amongst EC members for information.

## **7. ENQASP**

The unapproved minutes of the ENQASP meeting held in Barcelona were circulated for information and issues relating to its future direction, financing and registration as an organisation were discussed. The ENQASP expert list is being compiled and EC members are invited to suggest additions.

## **8.EASSW projects**

The criteria, funding and procedures for selecting those applying to the current EASSW schemes were discussed in the light of EASSW's experiences with the application for financial support for the Ankara regional seminar. It was agreed that:

- the criteria for the EASSW supporting social work scheme should be amended so that it was opened to member applicants in countries with established social work programmes as well as those in countries with developing programmes;
- that the front sheet of the application form be amended to inform people that if they are successful in their application and wish to be paid promptly they need to ensure that their application form is fully completed two months before the event/initiative takes place.
- that decisions on applications need to be made within six weeks by EC members and JA's name and address should replace CLR's on the form so that he can follow up;
- that regional workshops can also seek financial support from EASSW

## **Expert meeting in Flanders**

We agreed that members should remind the SW schools in their country about the initiative in order to receive more participants. And although very few participants have shown their interest so far, we decided that the EASSW will continue with this initiative and is prepared to bear partly (equally spread between EASSW and KHKempen) the costs of the event. And that participants from B-countries who are interested to participate and have little financial resources will be supported by paying their costs of living. The travel expenses have to be paid by themselves.

## **9.BUDGET issues**

IW presented an annual budget and report for 2005 for consideration by the committee. He reported there was a current surplus of around 6000euros

IW provided EASSW membership lists with details of which Schools had paid regularly and which ones hadn't. These were discussed country by country and the list amended to exclude schools that no longer exist. It

was agreed that EC members should take responsibility to follow up within their own countries and encourage membership renewal. In addition the countries without representation on the EC should be covered by EC members who had links with them. Following this decisions about final exclusion from EASSW membership should be decided at the next meeting.

IW reported that IASSW invested some of their surpluses and he thought this would be a good idea for EASSW. It was agreed that LR, IW and NR should consider the investment of the EASSW surplus and report back to the next EC meeting on their proposals for this.

### **10.Future management of EASSW and strategic developments**

The three EASSW officers finish in March 2007 at the Parma Conference. New officers are needed to be elected by the General Assembly and their names need to be circulated 40 days before the GA i.e. February 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. A Nominations Committee needs to be set up to arrange this election as well as the usual election for EC representatives. It was agreed that NR as Secretary will take the lead on this with GH and MN as members.

### **11.Revised EFSA mission statement**

The circulated draft was discussed. The issue was raised about the relationship between this development and the thematic network as well as other organisations working with similar aims. It was clarified that this development was of an umbrella for a range of organisations with similar interests.

### **12.Parma conference 2007**

CLR and IW reported on the steering group meeting for this event. NR is a member of the scientific committee. New flyers have been produced and will be put on the EASSW website. There will be a call for papers in September and an early bird rate until mid January with a reduction for EASSW members. It was agreed that EASSW will establish a solidarity fund of 3000 euros to aid early bird registration of members from B countries. Applications to this fund will need evidence from a Head of School that no funding is available. Applicants will also need to be submitting a paper to the Conference.

### **13. Next EC meeting Hungary**

*Where*

Lake Balaton- outside of Budapest. It will start on the *Friday (arrival on Thursday)* with a regional seminar followed by an EC meeting on the Saturday and Sunday.. The original dates 7-9 September may not now be convenient because of the IASSW Chile Conference. *GH* will enquire whether the following week will be better.

*Format*

Will follow the Ankara event there will be presentations in the morning about social work in Hungary as well as EASSW presentations on Bologna-JA and Global standards in social work and the implications of these issues for European social work. There will be discussion groups in the afternoon on Bologna, ethics and social work theory and practice. GH will apply for some financial support for this event from EASSW and will seek to define 'regional' as widely as possible i.e. beyond Hungary.

#### **14. EC meeting in Czech republic in September 2007**

MN reported that this event would take place in *Brno* and has the support of the three Czech social associations. Topics of interest have been identified as: the identity of social work and the practice and supervision of social work.

#### **15 AOB**

GH followed up on the ECOSOC organisation by contacting its president and the response was that EASSW sent details of our work and interests. CLR agreed to send what was required

#### **TO DO LIST**

- Lists of schools of social work and contact people from Denmark, Spain and Hungary should be sent to JA
- Membership renewal letters to be sent out to all Schools who are members of EASSW- CLR
- EASSW business cards to be provided to EC members who have requested them- CLR.
- Next Bulletin will be sent out in June with reminder letters for subscriptions. IW,JA,AD,MN,GH to contribute to this (deadline to send short contributions 1 of April)
- JA to post new subscription rates and the new flyer for Parma on the website
- All EC members to send JA items for the website
- JA and AD to prepare a short report on the Ankara Conference for publication in the European Journal of Social Work

- CLR to circulate IASSW Board minutes to all EASSW EC members for information
- JA and AD to amend EASSW supporting social work scheme proforma as agreed
- CLR, IW & NR to discuss and make proposals for investing EASSW surplus for sharing with EC members
- CLR to send requested EASSW details to president of ECOSOC