

MINUTES OF EASSW EXECUTIVE-MAY 21-22ND 2005 LIMASSOL

Present:

Jan Agten; Soren Bjorkman; Annamaria Campanini; Ann Davis, Anna Metteri; Anna Michalska; Mirka Necasova; Nol Reverda; Christine Labonte- Roset; Isodor Wallimann; Answin Weissenborn.

1. Minutes of Birmingham Meeting

The minutes for the last EC meeting in Birmingham were approved with some minor amendments noted by Christine Labonte.

2 Matters outstanding

Conference in Cyprus

- Free places : 6 EC members already have free places it was agreed that Ann Davis will ask for the 7th free place from the Conference organisers.
- EASSW stand: Materials have been prepared for the stand and a schedule of people to look after the stand was drawn up.
- General Assembly: EC members will introduce themselves at the beginning of the meeting. Nol Reverda will take minutes.
- The officer's reports will be available at the EASSW stand and the main points will be presented at the meeting.
- The item in the Treasurer's report re the proposed new fee structure will be presented focussing on its simplifying structure. The auditor's approval of the treasurer's report will be distributed.
- Christen Christensen will be commemorated.
- Answin Weissenborn and Ann Davis will run the Open Space item. The ideas about future directions for EASSW emerging from this session will be posted on the EASSW website for information. An invitation will be attached to the website inviting people to email Jan Agten with any further ideas/thoughts.
- Soren Bjorkman will lead on the nominations committee items and prepare the voting forms for distribution this part. One vote for each member school every participant from member school can speak the meeting is open but non members cannot speak.
- Elections of new EC members at General Assembly: 7 out of the 9 candidates need to be chosen. It was agreed that those present will be asked to introduce themselves for a few minutes before voting takes place. Candidate's cv's will be placed on the EASSW stall and then brought into the meeting.
- Christine Labonte to welcome new members and say farewell to those leaving the EC.
- 2007 Conference- Parma. Annamaria Campanini has posters and flyers for this event which will be distributed. She will mention it at the General Assembly. It will also be announced in the final session of the Conference.
- 2006 IASSW Conference, Chile. Christine Labonte will announce this event.
- Mirka Necasova shared her problems re lack of her University's ongoing support for her EASSW Executive Committee activities. She has used her own research funds to attend this meeting. It was agreed that if a candidate for EC election had difficulties retaining keeping support from their Universities for attending EC meetings EC members would consider them as a case for

financial support from the EASSW funds for Eastern Europe. It agreed that new candidates should make a clear statement that they had the full support of their Universities for EASSW EC work i.e. the costs of attendance and travel for two meetings in a year from whatever source.

ENQASP

Christine Labonte and Isidor Wallimann reported that the first pilot has been completed in Germany and was well received. The report is awaited. Next ENQUASP meeting is in Frankfurt June 18th. ENQASP has received an invitation from IFSW to attend a meeting in the UK about workforce recognition and accreditation in Europe. An Erasmus-Mundus application is being prepared for an action forum related to ENQASP..

3. Strategic Developments

- *EFSW*: Nol Reverda proposed that EASSW should work towards creating a European Federation of Social Work organisations to be signed up at the Parma Conference. A mission statement needs to be developed in order to interest other organisations.
ACTION: Nol Reverda will develop this into a short paper to be discussed at the next EASSW meeting in Luzern.
- *Subsidies*: Christine Labonte proposed that EASSW should consider making money available for projects from members to improve social work education. Discussion took place about whether such an initiative should focus on European countries alone or take a wider international remit. It was suggested that the IASSW scheme already covered this. Several EC members developed the idea that EASSW should focus such a scheme on those European countries that needed to strengthen social work education through making small grants available as well as EC expertise to hold regional seminars/events on key issues related to promoting social work education. The money could be used to support people financially so that a wide attendance was achieved.
- *Membership Drive*: It was noted that it is important to develop a strategy to increase membership and that the future internal organisation of EASSW should be discussed in Lucerne. It was agreed that following the elections EC members should put on the website a short list of their areas of expertise and provide a link to their own websites where further information could be obtained by EASSW members. The EASSW address list from 2001 is not complete because of school restructuring and so there have been problems in contacting current members.

It was agreed that EC members would provide Christine Labonte and Jan Agten with a complete country address list plus contact person email and website contact by September 1st. New EC members would also be asked to do this.

It was agreed that the website should list all European Schools of Social Work as a membership service.

It was also agreed that a letter will be written by Christine Labonte, Isidor Wallimann and Nol Reverda to non members inviting them to join and enclosing an application form.

- *Fee structure:* EASSW Members will be informed about the new fee structure –Isidor Wallimann & Nol Reverda will compose a letter about this during the meeting in Luzern.
- *Thematic network:* It is important that people understand the different aims of EASSW and the social work thematic network- because there is confusion about this. It was agreed that Jan Agten & Annamaria Campanini will prepare a text about this.
- *EASSW Project Scheme:* It was proposed that a project scheme was created to promote small projects that will get people together to create new ideas and be a preparation for application for attracting european money. The Turkey regional project could be the first project to be approved for this. Criteria for this scheme should be drawn up and grants of no more than 1000 euros should be made. Criteria should include:
 - o Objectives
 - o Outcomes
 - o Dissemination/Evaluation
 - o Outline budget.

Jan Agten and Ann Davis will draw up a proposal for this and Jan Agten should be asked to help the people he is involved with for the Turkey Regional event to apply for funding.

4. IASSW issues

Christine Labonte reported that next year's IASSW Conference will be in Chile and the next IASSW Board meeting is in Washington. Christine Labonte and Isidor Wallimann will attend.

5. Report of EC members of their respective tasks.

This item was covered in Birmingham.

6. Budget questions

Nothing to add to the earlier items.

7. Regional Seminar in Turkey

- Jan Agten will send out the date for this event as soon as it is decided. It is likely to be 31st March-April 3rd 2006.
- Jan Agten has put a power point presentation that he made for his work in Turkey on the website. He used Nol Reverda's information on Bologna and European Social Work. It provides a useful overview. Other members are encouraged to follow these examples as a resource to us all

8. Bulletin

- Ann Davis's proposed Bulletin from the UK regional seminar was discussed and it was agreed to issue it at the Conference following some minor amendments.
- Isidor Wallimann will edit the next Bulletin from the Luzern Seminar. All contributors are asked to produce a half page abstract of their presentation for this event.

9. EASSW Website

Jan Agten reported on the new digital logo design and proposed that EASSW developed an interactive website. This is not possible by using Pagemaker. It was agreed that Jan Agten would work on the needed changes and how it could be delivered in the future, including changing the server.

MEETING WITH IFSW

A short meeting was held with David Jones (President) and new and old members of the IFSW executive. The following items were discussed:

- The European Social Work Action Day is to be replaced in 2006 with a Global Action Day for Social Work probably on UN day and with formal recognition from the UN
- For the last European Action Day November 8th 2005 IFSW will be producing a paper on social work practice as it relates to social cohesion in each member country and the Council of Europe paper on social work
- Christine Labonte reported that communication between EASSW and IFSW could be improved if IFSW sent information more promptly. It was agreed that in future IFSW will email all EASSW EC members directly. The IFSW website will be changing to a more interactive one. It was agreed that links should be made with JA to ensure that both websites are linked.
- Nol Reverda proposed that discussions about forming a European Federation should take place. This will be discussed further.
- IFSW Munich conference 2006 want us to be involved in thinking on this as well as the dissemination of Conference information.
- September IFSW will send its newsletter in PDF file to EASSW EC members. EASSW will send IFSW the Bulletin.
- EASSW was invited to a proposed meeting of regulators organised by IFSW to present ENQASP.
- Joint Conference in 2009 –proposals for this have been received from Turkey and Utrecht. The will process of making a decision about venue will be started.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY: IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF EASSW ACTIVITIES

The following ideas were shared by members during the Open Space :

- Bologna process and social work education- EASSW should organise intensive seminar events re delivering the Bologna process. The events should include up to 20 people meeting over 2-3 days, to share ideas, experiences and innovations about how Bologna can be delivered.
- The Bologna process should be worked within terms of-
Curriculum development focussed on ‘producing’ research minded practitioners to undertake together:
Qualitative research into social work practice
Comparative research

Being a social worker in Europe at bachelor's level

- The role of practice in social work education-the participation of the field in social work education across Europe.
- Tracing common characteristics of social work education across Europe
Philosophies
Theory and Practice
- Researching/mapping the procedures that are being adopted in setting up BA/MA curricula in various countries
- Theorising international/European social work
What do we mean?
Is the same everywhere or different
What are the implications for the curriculum
Topic for an intensive seminar/symposium or research project
- Organise a forum e.g. on the website, to show the different programmes of BA social work from EASSW member schools, as well as MA courses sharing alternative solutions and standards of education for social work across Europe
- EASSW should organise the assistance needed from established schools of social work for newly found ones in terms of faculty exchanges seminars etc