

Executive Committee Meeting EASSW 19- 20 September 2007 Brno, Czech Republic

Minutes of the Meeting.

Present:

Mona Fransehn, Inger Hjerrild, Maria Asuncion Martinez-Roman, Jan Agten, Annamaria Campanini, Peter Hendriks, Gabor Hegyesi, Anna Michalska, Marju Medar, Günter Friesenhahn, Mirka Necasova, Sue Lawrence.

Apologies: Claude Noel

***Please see action list at the end of this document**

1 Welcome

Annamaria welcomed everyone to Brno and thanked Mirka for organising the meeting on behalf of the Committee.

2 Minutes of the meetings in Parma

Minutes of the meetings in Parma 13-14 March and 17 March 2007 were accepted.

3 Matters outstanding

Annamaria went through the to do list from 13-14 and 17 March.

Gunter reported that he had received a programme from the Council of Europe, but he has difficulty in trying to find out which other organizations are represented and the function of this body.

Matters arising will be discussed under the appropriate agenda items.

4 Reports from EC officers

4.1 Secretary & Administration

Jan has now taken over the work of Secretary from Nol Reverda. Jan has organized business cards for members of the EC on the eassw account. Four people have requested cards to date following Jan's offer. EC members can order their business card by sending back the card format.

A new flyer has been drafted advertising the EASSW. Jan circulated the draft for discussion and it was agreed that some phrases should be changed to reflect the new direction of the EC.

A newsletter has been produced and is on the website. Printed copies will be made and sent to all members. Copies of the Newsletter and the new EASSW-flyer will be distributed to all participants of the Brno Conference.

It has been agreed that we will try to publish as many versions of the flyer as possible in different languages. At all conferences organized on behalf of or with the help of EASSW the flyer will be made available for all participants. EC members should provide the translation of the flyer into their mother tongue, where requested. Translations should be sent to Jan Agten. He will apply the new lay-out to the text.

4.2 Treasurer

Mirka has discussed the bank transfer with Annamaria and Jan. It has been agreed that the bank will be in Belgium, as Jan has appointed an administrator 'Patricia Van Genechten' who will undertake the bookkeeping.

Budget

Mirka circulated the current EASSW financial spreadsheet. All figures were agreed and the EC thanked Mirka for her work. The transfer of the banking arrangements for EASSW will be arranged before the end of 2007. The new account will be opened in Belgium KBC-bank Lommel-Kerkhoven. All transactions can be made electronically.

- 2.2. Gunter to help Annamaria and Jan to draft a letter to invite Schools of Social Work to join EASSW.

3. Inform people of benefits of joining EASSW.

- 3.1. Inform members of EASSW that EC members own institutions or governments pay costs of attending meetings – this does not come from membership fees.
- 3.2. Members can apply for funding for projects.
- 3.3. Members have reduced bi-annual conference fees.
- 3.4. Members can apply for assistance with attendance at conference
- 3.5. EASSW provides a platform to exchange information, innovation.

4. To support bringing social work perspectives to European and national welfare policies.

- 4.1. To provide EASSW representation on European Union and European Parliament
- 4.2. To provide EASSW representation on Council of Europe.

5. Dialogue with the sub-regional groups and networks.

Nordic Committee, sub-regional network in Central & Eastern Europe, Baltic Network, Mediterranean Network, Thematic Network EUSW

The objective is enhancing mutual cooperation and exchange. EC members should try to get in contact with the networks and report back to the EC

7 Any other business

- 7.1. Mirka informed the committee about the arrangements for the conference of the next day: Identity of Social Work and Supervision. The Committee thanked Mirka for organizing the seminar.
- 7.2. As part of our strategic plan, Annamaria suggested a seminar series, for example one topic might be 'Methods of Teaching and Learning in Social Work' possibly in Italy. This could be done in association with a local organizations and with the thematic network EUSW. We could provide some financial support to facilitate and support such an initiative. Inge suggested we discuss this proposal at our next meeting.
- 7.3. Friedrich Seibel has had finance back from the EU for the final payment for the thematic network for the social professions. The proposal is to combine it with the TISSA conference and the date will be 24-26 August in Ostrava. Other suggested dates are 16-18 October 2008. Final decision: **ecspress conference in co-operation with eassw in ostrava/cz is now fixed for 03-04. october 2008 + 2 travel days**

8 Date and venue for next meeting

8-9 May 2008 with traveling days on 7th and 10 May. Jan will arrange the meeting in Belgium.

9 Action list

1. **EC members** can still order business cards from Jan
2. The text of the new flyer should be changed to reflect the new direction of the EC. **Sue will take initiative and help with the wording.**
3. The new flyer and newsletter will be made available in all conferences and seminars organized by or on behalf of or with the support of the EASSW. **All EC members are requested to take initiative.**
4. All EC members should consider a translation of the flyer in their mother tongue and **send the translation to Jan.**
5. **Jan will apply the new lay-out** to the translated texts.
6. The printed **newsletter** will be **sent** to all members **by the secretariat.**

7. **Banking arrangements for EASSW will be transferred to Belgium** by the end of 2007. Patricia Van Genechten is the new administrator for EASSW starting November 1st. She organize and maintain the EASSW banking and bookkeeping. Jan and Patrician together with Mirka as the Treasurer will visit the current secretariat in Berlin in order to facilitate a smooth transfer.
8. **Annamaria and Jan will participate in the next IASSW meeting in Osaka 8-12 January 2008** and in the international symposium on “Advocacy in Social Work: Bridging between Policy and Practice.”
9. EASSW will be represented on **ENSACT** by **Jan Agten & Peter Hendriks**, **ENQUASP** by **Annamaria Campanini & Inger Hjerrild**
10. **Mirka** will consider taking over the **representation of EASSW for this Congress at the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Social Work in Maribor**
11. **Spring meeting** to be dedicated to a full discussion of the **constitution, aims and strategy with input from the members and linked with an action plan. See document Strategic Plan EASSW 2007-2010**
12. Inform members by letter of the process for developing a strategy and invite them to give feedback. **Annamaria and Jan to draft a letter informing people** about developments and asking them to visit the website and Sue will help with wording.
13. **EC members will distribute the letter within their own country** as a way of attracting new members
14. Gunter to help Annamaria and Jan to draft a letter to invite Schools of Social Work to join EASSW
15. Jan will arrange the next meeting in Belgium: 7-10 May
16. A seminar series, for example one topic might be ‘Methods of Teaching and Learning in Social Work’ will be set up. All EC members are requested to take initiative.
17. **Ecspress conference in cooperation with EASSW in ostrava/cz 03-04. october 2008 + 2 travel days**