



Executive Committee Meeting 13-14 November 2008, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Minutes of the Meeting.

Present:

Mona Fransehn, Maria Asuncion Martinez-Roman, Claude Noel, Jan Agten, Annamaria Campanini, Peter Hendriks, Marju Medar, Mirka Necasova, Sue Lawrence.

Apologies: Inger Hjerrild, Gabor Hegyesi, Anna Michalska, Günter Friesenhahn,

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

1 Welcome

Annamaria welcomed everyone to Utrecht and thanked Peter for organising the meeting on behalf of the Committee. Coen van der Linden (Head of Faculty) introduced himself to the Executive Committee and welcomed the EC to Utrecht.

Mona will contact Inger about her return to work and whether she will be able to continue with the EC beyond April, when re-elections take place in Dubrovnik.

Claude will be in Dubrovnik and will try to encourage a French colleague to stand for election for the EC, as he will be standing down.

2. Reports of the Geel meeting

Minutes: Agreed

Report on action list

1. Jan organized the printing and distribution of the new flyers
2. A newsletter was prepared for IASSW conference in Durban by Annamaria, Jan, Mirka
3. Jan provided a membership list to each country representative to update information
4. Requests for fees were sent to all members on the database.
5. Each EC member was provided with a current list of schools of social work in their country who have paid fees and who have yet to pay.
6. Miek De Cuyper is now the EASSW administrator. Jan has provided an employment contract for her.
7. Mirka and Jan organized the sub accounts in line with international bookkeeping conventions.
8. EU – Gunter located a person or Department responsible for Social Services.
9. The Social & Economic Committee and the Social Platform were suggested as points at which EASSW could find influence – Gabor to report at next meeting.
10. Gunter approached his local MEP to have contact with the European Parliament (on agenda).
11. EC-Members agreed to use existing contacts to advertise and encourage membership of EASSW (on agenda)
12. Dubrovnik Conference: Chairs for sessions – Gunter and Peter offered to chair sessions 3 and 4 – to be discussed by Ensact at their next meeting.
13. Decision about funding projects that fulfill the criteria (on agenda)
14. Sinisa Zrinscak was appointed to the Editorial Board of the European Journal
15. Ostrava EXPRESS conference was held on 16-18 October 2008.

3. Report of EC members of their respective tasks:

3.1 President's Report

Annamaria reported that she went to the IASSW congress in Durban in July 2008 (see item 4 below).

Jan represented EASSW in Tours, France at the International Council of Social Welfare.

Annamaria went to a meeting setting up a Masters Course in Amsterdam.

There was a meeting of EUSW in Maastricht in September, which Annamaria chaired.

In Brindisi, Italy, at the Italian Association Annamaria, Masun & Jan gave presentations

Annamaria, Jan & Gunter gave a presentation at Ostrava Conference – Annamaria gave a very good introduction aimed at bridging the two organizations, along with Ensact. Gunter at the end of the conference summarized the questions and the challenges related to international social work.

There was a meeting in Berlin for the anniversary of Alice Salomon, which Annamaria and Peter attended.
15 November Annamaria was in Lisbon, where there are difficulties about social work education.

3.2 Secretary's Report

Jan reported on his work. Miek De Cuyper is the new administrator and Jan has organized her contract.
Bank transfer from Berlin—the money was transferred to Belgium in June 2008.

3.3. Financial Report by Treasurer

Mirka prepared the financial report herself as Patricia left and Miek was busy with the membership tasks. Mirka tabled the report. Tables and spreadsheets about finances to be completed by Miek.

Jan to contact an auditor according to the Belgian laws.

Jan has invested capital in 'safe' savings accounts. The budget for 2009 was decided. See attached file.

3.4. Congress Promotion Stipends

These could be for lecturers and/or students of B-countries and service users (A and B-countries) involved in delivering social work education with a member school of EASSW.

Applicants who want to apply for 50% of costs should

- o submit a budget,
- o a personal statement saying why they would like to attend the conference,
- o bank information

A sub-group of this EC will submit an abstract for a workshop 'involving service users in European social work education'

Jan to advertise Congress Promotion Stipends on the EASSW website. Similar procedure as for projects

3.4 Membership

List and membership database is not accurate – contact person details not up to date. Jan/Miek to provide membership list to each country representative to update information, so requests for fees can be sent out.

Each EC member to provide a current list of schools of social work in their country before the end of 2009.

4 Report of the IASSW Conference, Durban, July 2008.

Annamaria, Jan, Peter & Sue went to the IASSW congress in Durban in July 2008, where Angelina Yuen Tsang was elected President and Helle Strauss as Secretary. At the European Regional Meeting was hosted by EASSW and attended by around 50 people (see bulletin). Annamaria tried to strengthen links with other regional associations and IASSW. In January 2009 Darja Završek was appointed member-at-large to represent Central and Eastern Europe. Sue & Peter have written a bulletin of the Durban conference for the EASSW website.

There seems to be a shift to more sub-regional European groups, so it is difficult to speak with a common perspective.

The strength of Europe is its diversity – we need to find a way to represent this (see item 7 below). The next meeting of IASSW is in Parma – Angie wants to streamline decision making by having a small Executive Board.

Angie has created a possibility for EC-members of EASSW to become member in a discussion forum Asia-Europe Dialogue on Social Work Education.

Annamaria to send the information by e-mail. EC-members to inform Annamaria if they would like to participate in the discussion.

5. Dubrovnik Conference 26-29 April 2009.

There will be a pre-conference meeting on Human Rights on 26 April and a student meeting.

KHKempen Geel are coaching a student group for a presentation in Dubrovnik and paying for some students to host a student meeting and Jan asked for others to email him with contacts with students from other Universities.

Next meeting of EASSW EC will be in Dubrovnik 09.00 on 25 April then all day on 26 and after the conference on 29 April in the afternoon after the conference (Travel days 24 and 30).

The General Assembly will be on 28 April at 16.00 – 18.00.

16.00A short report on what the EC has done over the past 2 years.

16.20 – 16.30A topic should then be discussed to make the meeting interesting –

'Europe and its regional associations – how can EASSW represent a voice for Europe?'

There will be a flyer produced giving an overview of the topic. That will form the introduction.

16.30 – 17.15 The assembly will split into regional groups to discuss the topic to feed back to the Assembly.
17.15-17.45 Feedback from regional groups
17.45-18.15 The elections will be the final item on the agenda (15 Minutes).

6. Strategic development EASSW.

The meeting then considered the Constitution and it was agreed that the discussion at the general Assembly in Dubrovnik could contribute to proposals for any change.

Hungarian colleagues have proposed the following changes to the mission statement:

"The European Association of Schools of Social Work (EASSW) is a European NON-PROFIT PROFESSIONAL BODY of institutions of social work education, organizations supporting social work education and social work educators.

Its mission is to promote social development, TO SUPPORT BRINGING SOCIAL WORK PERSPECTIVES TO EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL WELFARE POLICIES, TO REPRESENT EASSW AT EU, COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND OTHER RELEVANT BODIES and develop high quality education, training and knowledge for social work practice, social services, and social welfare policies in Europe. In fulfilling its mission the EASSW adheres to all United Nations'

Declarations and Conventions on human rights, AND THE BASIC TREATY OF THE EU, recognizing that respect for the inalienable rights of the individual AND COMMUNITIES is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace.

Members of EASSW are united in their obligation to the continued pursuit of social justice and social development. In carrying out its mission EASSW fosters cooperation, collegiality, and interdependence AND PARTNERSHIP among its members and with SOCIAL ASSOCIATIONS AND others."

In discussing the purpose of EASSW we reflected on the points from the last meeting and suggested the following changes:

- ❖ Acting as a forum for European sub-regional networks
- ❖ Coordinating a voice for European activities in social work education
- ❖ Representing EASSW on European and international bodies
- ❖ Contributing to establishing common standards for European social work education (in light of global standards and the European agenda)
- ❖ Provide a platform for European critical reflection on topics (providing a political framework)
- ❖ Assisting with internationalization of the curriculum
- ❖ Encouraging development of European social work research
- ❖ Assisting with dissemination of pedagogic and practice developments
- ❖ Providing a forum for information exchange
- ❖ Support for European schools of social work

The EC broke into four working groups to work on the following topics relevant to the EASSW strategic development:

6.1 Abstract for ENSACT conference in Dubrovnik 2009: Involving service users in European social work. Sue will submit the abstract

6.2 Flyer for the EASSW General Assembly at the Dubrovnik Conference. Mona will send the text to Sue to be turned into a flyer. Sue will then send the pdf to Jan to get flyers and 2 posters printed. The letter to members about the General Assembly - Mona will send the letter to Jan – (Claude and Masun to translate the English text and send it to Jan). Jan will send out the letters to members with nomination information

6.3 Communication with members. Marju to send the document to Jan who will consider the impact for the web site. Mirka will make an allowance in the budget to pay for expert input on the website (contingency account). Jan will get an estimate for expert input on the web site

6.4 Nominating process for Executive Committee (see 9 below).

7. Matters outstanding:

7.1 Representation of EASSW in:

- Council of Europe – Gunter (not present – to report next EC meeting)

Communication per e-mail: Gunter developed

- ENSACT – Jan & Peter- Jan reported ENSACT was organising the Dubrovnik conference and an evaluation of ENSACT would follow the conference.
- ENQUASP – Contact with EUA – Sue reported she had met with Howard Davies of EUA – will contact Jan with details.
- ENQUA would welcome ENQUASP. Sue to send details to Jan.
- European Economic & Social Committee – Gabor (not present – to report to next EC meeting)

7.2 Website (covered elsewhere)

7.3 EASSW bulletins and PR (covered elsewhere)

8. Project Funding

Mona has received no project re-submissions from Christine Labonte (South Mediterranean region), the student project, the Hungarian project, therefore they will not be receiving funding at this time.

The project from Geel that was approved will be re-scheduled.

A project proposal: Research and social work in urban areas, submitted by Ward Govaerts, University of Antwerp, Belgium.

A project proposal: Adult care in Europe and the social professional curriculum, submitted by Sharon Lambley, London Metropolitan University.

A project proposal: The effectiveness of social work education in preparing practitioners within different European systems, submitted by Stefan Hojer, Gottenburg University, Sweden.

The EC received only the four applications listed above and they all met the criteria given on. The EC considered they were well constructed projects and would therefore receive the grants requested, subject to the conditions given on the web:

“EASSW funds projects that will contribute to its development and that of its members.

Funding Policy

EASSW funds projects only in part. Additional resources are expected to help fund and contribute to the success of a project.

EASSW funds may not be used to pay for applicant’s salaries or for overhead costs.

EASSW funds are limited to EUR 4000.—

Applicants must be members of EASSW member schools. “

9. Nominating Committee – preparing elections for Dubrovnik

The rules and the process were clarified. The Nominating Committee will comprise Jan, Mirka & Claude.

- Members reaching the end of their term and not for re-election are : Mirka (Treasurer), Claude, Anna.
- Members for re-election: Masun, Mona, Gabor and Inger. They have to present a profile for the General Assembly.
- Jan and Annamaria will be finishing their term of 8 years in 2011
- Sue, Marju, Peter & Gunter will be due for re-election in 2011

There are therefore 8 places for election including up to 4 people for re-election

Jan will contact Gunther to ask him if he would like to stand as Treasurer

Jan will send out the letters inviting nominations to the EC, with the rules:

Deadline: *March 16, 2009*

Agreement in hard copy by post AND by e-mail to the EASSW Nominating Committee with a CV, a short presentation and a letter with the following:

- motivation for wanting to be an executive Committee member
- contribution to the strategic developments of EASSW (see reports of EC on www.eassw.org)
- proof of support for the nomination by the university or association. A commitment form the university or association to support candidate financially with the expenses associated with this role.

10. Dates and places of next meetings

25 and 26 April (till 16hours) and 29 April 2009 after the conference 14:00-16:00 in Dubrovnik – Jan to inform the EC of the venue

Seminar in UK 15-16 October 2009 (travel days 14 and 17 October)

Action List

1. Mona will contact Inger about her return to work and whether she will be able to continue with the EC beyond April, when re-elections take place in Dubrovnik.
2. Claude will be in Dubrovnik and will try to encourage a French colleague to stand for election for the EC, as he will be standing down.
3. Jan/Miek to provide membership list to each country representative to update information, so requests for fees can be sent out.
4. Each EC member to provide a current list of schools of social work in their country before the end of 2009. All EC members to update membership lists in November 2008 and urge members to pay for 2008.
5. Jan/Miek will send out invoices for membership in January 2009 together with the flyer and the invitation to nominate candidates for EC-member.
6. Tables and spreadsheets about finances to be completed by Miek.
7. Congress Promotion Stipends for lecturers and/or students of B-countries and service users (A and B-countries) involved in delivering social work education with a member school of EASSW. Jan to advertise Congress Promotion Stipends on the EASSW website. Similar procedure as for projects.
8. Jan to contact an auditor according to the Belgian laws.
9. Jan to advertise Congress Promotion Stipends on the EASSW website. Similar procedure as for Project Funding.
10. Abstract for ENSACT conference in Dubrovnik 2009: Involving service users in European social work. Sue will submit the abstract
11. Annamaria to send the information by e-mail about Asia-Europe Dialogue via Discussion Forum. EC-members to inform Annamaria if they would like to participate in the discussion.
12. EC members to email Jan with contacts with students from other Universities participating in Dubrovnik Conference.
13. Jan will take to the Ensact meeting in Zagreb 23-24/11/2008: work group leaders Gunter and Peter, student participation, service users participation fee 180€ hotel for representatives of the 5 associations, new Ensact conference, information of Howard Davies of EUA for ENQUASP.
14. Flyer for the EASSW General Assembly at the Dubrovnik Conference. Mona will send the text to Sue to be turned into a flyer. Sue will then send the pdf to Jan to get flyers and 2 posters printed. The letter to members about the General Assembly - Mona will send the letter to Jan – (Claude and Masun to translate the English text and send it to Jan). Jan will send out the letters to members with nomination information in January 2009.
15. Communication with members. Marju to send the document to Jan who will consider the impact for the website.
16. Mirka will make an allowance in the budget to pay for expert input on the website (contingency account). Jan will get an estimate for expert input on the web site
17. Sue will contact Jan with details of contact with Howard Davies of EUA about how to proceed with ENQUASP in relation to ENQUA.
18. The EC decided 4 projects to receive the grants requested. Mona will inform the project contacts. Jan will transfer the grant according to the conditions given on the web.
19. The Nominating Committee will comprise Jan, Mirka & Claude. There are 8 places for election including up to 4 people for re-election. Jan to contact Guenter if he would like to stand as Treasurer
20. Jan will send out in January 2009 the letters inviting nominations to the EC, with the rules.

21. 25 and 26 April (09.00 all day) and 29 April 2009 after the conference 14:00 – 16:00 hours in Dubrovnik. (Travel days 24 and 30).
15-16 October 2009 in UK (travel days 14 and 17 October)