



e u r o p e a n  
a c c o u n t i n g  
a s s o c i a t i o n

# General Assembly

Rotterdam - Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2008

## MINUTES

The President, John Christensen, welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting.

### AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly 2007 – Lisbon
2. Report from the President
  - 2.1. Corporate Governance issues:
    - Presentation of revised EAA corporate governance
    - Approval of revised EAA statutes
    - Election of President-elect 2008/2009
    - Results of elections of new Management Committee Members 2008/2011
    - Results of elections of new Board Members 2008/2011
  - 2.2. Administrative issues:
    - Membership situation
    - Accounts 2007
3. Report on the EAR and AinE
4. Report on the EAA Congress 2008 – Rotterdam
5. Report on the EAA Doctoral Colloquium 2008
6. Report on the EAA Congress 2009 – Tampere
7. Future congresses
8. Any Other Business

The agenda was approved.

# MINUTES

## 1. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly 2007 - Lisbon

Neither questions nor comments were made. The minutes of the General Assembly 2007 in Lisbon were approved.

## 2. Report from the President

### 2.1. Corporate Governance issues

The President reported briefly on ongoing initiatives, and in particular:

#### Presentation of revised EAA Corporate Governance Approval of revised statutes

The President explained that the Management Committee had identified the need to simplify the administrative procedures of the association. Proposals for changes had been discussed and would be submitted after the Rotterdam conference to the approval of the Board before being submitted to the General Assembly 2009 in Tampere. This would result in a revision of the EAA statutes.

#### Election of President-elect 2008/2009

The President mentioned that the Management Committee and the Board had approved the nomination of **Aileen Pierce** for the position of EAA President-elect 2008/2009.

The General Assembly, which was asked to approve this nomination, did so unanimously.

Aileen thanked the EAA members. She felt honoured and proud for Ireland, Dublin, UCD and women in general.

#### Results of elections of new Management Committee Members 2008/2011

The President announced the new composition of the Management Committee which had been approved by the Board:

Re-elected Members:                   **Salvador Carmona**, Madrid Carlos III University  
  **Ann Jorissen**, Antwerp University  
  **Kari Lukka**, Turku School of Economics  
  **Marcela Zarova**, Prague University of Economics

New Members:                           **Frank Hartmann**, Erasmus University  
  **Stuart McLeay**, Wales University

The President explained that he had tried hard to come up with a democratic election procedure. He then asked the General Assembly whether they approved the nominees.

The new Management Committee members were unanimously approved by the General Assembly.

## Results of elections of new Board Members 2008/2011

The President announced the results of the elections:

Czech Republic:	<b>Ladislav Mejzlik</b> , Prague University of Economics
Finland:	<b>Marko Järvenpää</b> , Jyväskylän University
France:	<b>Nicolas Berland</b> , Poitiers University
Germany:	<b>Axel Haller</b> , Regensburg University
Greece:	<b>Apostolos Ballas</b> , Athens University of Economics
Spain:	<b>Araceli Mora Enguinados</b> , Valencia University
United Kingdom:	<b>Christopher Humphrey</b> , Manchester University

## 2.2. Administrative issues

### Membership situation

The following was reported regarding membership numbers:

Total number of members	Top 10 countries in 2008
2008 → 1.694 members 2007 → 1.419 members 2006 → 1.332 members 2005 → 1.565 members 2004 → 1.474 members 2003 → 1.271 members 2002 → 1.276 members 2001 → 1.232 members	1. United Kingdom (171) 2. Germany (139) 3. Spain (139) 4. USA (125) 5. Russia (120) 6. Italy (112) 7. The Netherlands (99) 8. Australia (90) 9. France (78) 10. Sweden (61)

A detailed breakdown per country can be found in Annex I.

### Accounts 2008

The President presented the following figures:

INCOME	2007	2006
Membership	72.750	77.400
Sponsoring Doctoral Colloquium	0	20.000
Royalties EAR 2007	64.168	50.542
Royalties EAR 2006	56.114	
Royalties AinE 2007	371	
Surplus conference	0	23.918
Interest, etc. (incl. funding AinE 2005-2006)	29.873	13.892
Total Income	223.276	185.752

EXPENDITURE	2007	2006
Doctoral Colloquium	25.859	21.275
Committees	14.680	11.256
Publications (EAR...)	47.030	30.509
Administration	20.560	41.280
Total Expenditures	108.129	104.320
Surplus	115.146	81.431

BALANCE SHEET	2007	2006
<u>Assets</u>		
Bank accounts	689.462	657.951
Miscellaneous	65.691	46.810
TOTAL	755.153	704.761
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Debt	40.949	25.904
Prepaid membership	1.050	55.950
Equity	598.007	541.476
Surplus	115.146	81.431
TOTAL	755.153	704.761

Neither questions nor comments were made. The accounts 2007 (full details in Annex II) were approved.

### 3. Report on EAR and AinE

In the absence of the EAA Publications Committee Chair, Kari Lukka, and of the Editors, Salvador Carmona (EAR) and Peter Walton (AinE), the President was happy to report that both EAA journals were doing well.

The number of submissions for the 'European Accounting Review' had increased, and so was the quality of the papers submitted. There were 191 submissions in 2007 (for comparison, 2006: 159; 2005: 127; 2004: 123 submissions) which means an increase of 20% in the number of papers submitted for publication consideration. Considering received submissions, EAR remained highly international: altogether 33 countries were represented by the submitting authors in 2007, the biggest submission volumes coming from Spain, the UK, USA, France, Germany and Canada.

The President also mentioned that there was an initiative to hold a pilot EAR Conference in Madrid in March 2009. The EAR editorial office had succeeded in raising 12.000€ from outside sources to fund this activity. The Management Committee was fully supporting the conference and was hoping that this kind of event would help to increase the citation index.

As to the journal 'Accounting in Europe', in 2007 the journal moved to full commercial status and was published as two electronic issues followed by a single annual hard copy. The 2007 volume consisted of four 'Issues' papers and five refereed papers. Amongst the issues papers the Editor was pleased to have an article by Stephen Cooper, a senior analyst at UBS, on user information needs.

#### **4. Report on the EAA Annual Congress 2008 - Rotterdam**

Frank Hartmann, the Chair of the EAA Congress 2008, welcomed all Board Members to Rotterdam and reported the following figures:

- 1.136 paying delegates
- 1.283 total delegates including guests and non paying delegates
- 47 accompanying persons
- 55 countries
- 63% male
- 37% female
- 816 full papers submitted of which close to 700 were accepted and 626 would be presented

He added that he faced the following challenges:

- Improve the academic quality of the conference by admitting only full papers
- Introduce sessions with discussants
- Introduce best paper awards
- Improve the networking (WIFI, drinks...)

Finally he was happy to report that they had been able to collect 250.000€ sponsorship.

On behalf of all EAA members, the President thanked Frank and his team for all the energy and time put in the preparation of this successful conference.

#### **5. Report on the EAA Doctoral Colloquium 2008**

Peter Pope, one of the two co-chairs of the Doctoral Colloquium, reported that this year's Doctoral Colloquium had been held from 19-22 April 2008 in the NH Hotel in Noordwijk aan Zee, at the Dutch seaside.

The Colloquium was attended by nine faculty members who had been invited, including three new members:

- David Cooper, University of Alberta
- Antonio Davila, IESE (**new**)
- Wayne Landsman, University of North Carolina
- Christian Leuz, University of Chicago
- Jan Mouritsen, Copenhagen Business School (co-chair) \*
- Fabrizio Panozzo, Venice University (**new**)
- Peter Pope, Lancaster University (co-chair)
- Michael Shields, Michigan State University
- Laurence Van Lent, University of Tilburg (**new**)
- Alfred Wagenhofer, University of Graz

\* Jan Mouritsen, being on sabbatical, apologized for not being able to attend.

Applications were received from 63 PhD students from across Europe. Including the nominee from the American Accounting Association, Radhika Lunawat (University of Minnesota), 26 out of the 27 selected students attended the Colloquium.

Based on her presentation, her contribution to discussion and the overriding criterion of expected benefits to be derived from attendance, the faculty selected Kathrin Van De Poel (University of Antwerp) to represent the EAA at the American Accounting Association Doctoral Consortium in Tahoe in June 2008.

Peter thanked all faculty members who had participated at this year's colloquium and announced that some new faculty members could be expected next year.

## **6. Report on the EAA Annual Congress 2009 - Tampere**

Salme Näsi, the Chair of the EAA Congress 2009, announced that the conference would be hosted by the University of Tampere and would take place from 12-15 May 2009 at the Tampere Hall, which is the largest congress centre in the Nordic countries. The Doctoral Colloquium would be held as usual prior to the congress from 9-12 May 2009.

A "first announcement" brochure including more detailed information, such as the programme outline, the key dates, practicalities, etc. had been put in the Rotterdam conference bag. The website would soon be online.

Salme was hoping that many scholars would submit their full paper by the deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008 and that 1.000 colleagues would find their way to Tampere next year.

## **7. Future congresses**

Ann Jorissen, the Conference Committee Chair, announced the future locations of the EAA Annual Congresses:

- Tampere, 12-15 May 2009
- Istanbul, 19-21 May 2010
- Rome-Siena, May 2011
- Ljubljana, May 2012

She reminded that the EAA conference guidelines had been posted on the EAA website and invited potential future hosts to look at them and to contact her if they were interested.

## **8. Miscellaneous**

The President, John Christensen, once again thanked Frank Hartmann and all the members of his team involved in the organisation of the EAA Annual Congress in Rotterdam.

As no further points were raised, the General Assembly was adjourned.

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